

# Sunnynook Plan

A 30-year plan for Sunnynook,  
Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill

September 2018



Devonport-Takapuna  
Local Board

Kaipātiki  
Local Board

Auckland  
Council  
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau







## Mihi

E toko ake rā e te iti. Whakatata mai rā e te rahi,  
kia mihi koutou ki ngā kupu whakarei  
a te hunga kua tīpokotia e te ringa o te wāhi ngaro.  
Ngā oha i mahue mai i tērā whakatupuranga  
kia āpitihia e tātou ki ngā tūmanako o tēnei reanga,  
hei mouna waihotanga ki te ira whaimuri i a tātou.  
Koina te tangi a Ngākau Māhaki,  
a Wairua Hihiri me Hinengaro Tau.  
Kia tōtika te takahi a tō wae  
i runga i aku mahara o ngā tau kua hori.  
E toko ake ana koe i ngā kōpua o  
Mata-Kamokamo rāua ko Mata-Kerepō,  
e whai haere ana i ngā tapuwae o Mataaho.  
Kia tūpato e hīkoi ana koe mā te urunga tapu o Tainui  
- i meinga ko Ngā Huru-a-Taiki.

Kia poto te whakatau a tō haere hei tohu rangatira.  
Toko ake rā tō haere mā Te Awataha  
ki te Puna-wai-a-Tene.  
I konā, kapua ō ringa kia inu ā-wairua koe  
i ngā wai whakanoa e puta ai  
tō haere ki te whei ao, ki te ao mārama.  
Ka rere whakarunga ngā kamo ki te Waiwharariki o mua  
Takapuna kāinga, Takapuna tupuna.  
Kei waho rā ko ngā tai piringa o  
Tikapa Moana me te Waitematā  
Tērā koe te tū nei ki te Tōtara-hā-tahi i Te Ōnewa.  
Titiro atu rā koutou te pahure pēnei mai ka mīharo ai.  
Haere mai te toki a Haumi e, hui e, tāiki e!

Welcome to you all. Let me greet you  
with the eloquent words  
of those, lost long ago to the unseen hand of eternity.  
Let us enjoin the legacy they left  
to the hopes and aspirations of this generation  
as our gift to those who will follow after us.  
That is the pledge of the humble heart,  
the willing spirit and the inspired mind.  
Tread carefully as you walk  
on my memories of yesteryear.  
You are entering by way of the twin pools,  
Mata Kamokamo and Mata Kerepō  
and you follow in the footsteps of Mataaho.  
Be cautious as you walk on sacred ground  
- the landing of Tainui waka at Ngā Huru-a-Taiki.

Pause there for a moment in respect.  
Continue your travels by way of Te Awataha  
to the wellspring of Tene.  
There, cup your hands, take a transcendent drink  
of its waters and journey  
to the world of light and life.  
My eyes gaze northward to former Waiwharariki  
now Takapuna community, Takapuna the progenitor.  
Out there are the watery havens of  
Tikapa Moana and Te Waitematā.  
You may find yourself at the solitary Tōtara at Ōnewa.  
Look on it in wonder as you pass by.  
The hewer's axe falls, all things are connected!



# Whakapuakitanga

## Foreword

The Devonport-Takapuna and Kaipātiki Local Boards are delighted to present the Sunnynook Plan, a 30-year local plan for our Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill communities.

The Sunnynook Plan has been developed in collaboration with the Sunnynook Plan working party which included representatives from the two local boards and the Sunnynook Community Association. We received valuable feedback from the community, school students and mana whenua during initial consultation in late-2017 and consultation on the Draft Sunnynook Plan in mid-2018. The ideas and views gathered have helped shape the vision and contents of this plan.

You have told us that you value the natural environment and waterways and the desire to see them improved. You value the area’s green spaces, walkability and accessibility. However it is important that those spaces and the roads and walkways are well-maintained and safe for everyone, especially access to and around Sunnynook Bus Station, the shopping centre and the Sunnynook Community Centre.

The Sunnynook Plan identifies a number of actions to achieve six outcomes over the next 30 years. We are committed to working with council staff, the community and mana whenua to deliver the actions in this plan.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Sunnynook Plan. We look forward to seeing it benefit our Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill communities through the plan’s vision of being one of Auckland’s most attractive, connected, walkable, social and liveable neighbourhoods for a diversity of cultures and ages.



**George Wood**  
Chairperson, Devonport-Takapuna  
Local Board, April 2018 – September 2019



**John Gillon**  
Chairperson, Kaipātiki Local Board,  
March 2018 – September 2019

# Ngā upoko kōrero

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*Cover image and image on pages 2-3: taken from artworks at Sunnynook Bus Station that were created as part of a Safe Growth Initiative between Murrays Bay School, the Sunnynook community and Auckland Transport.*



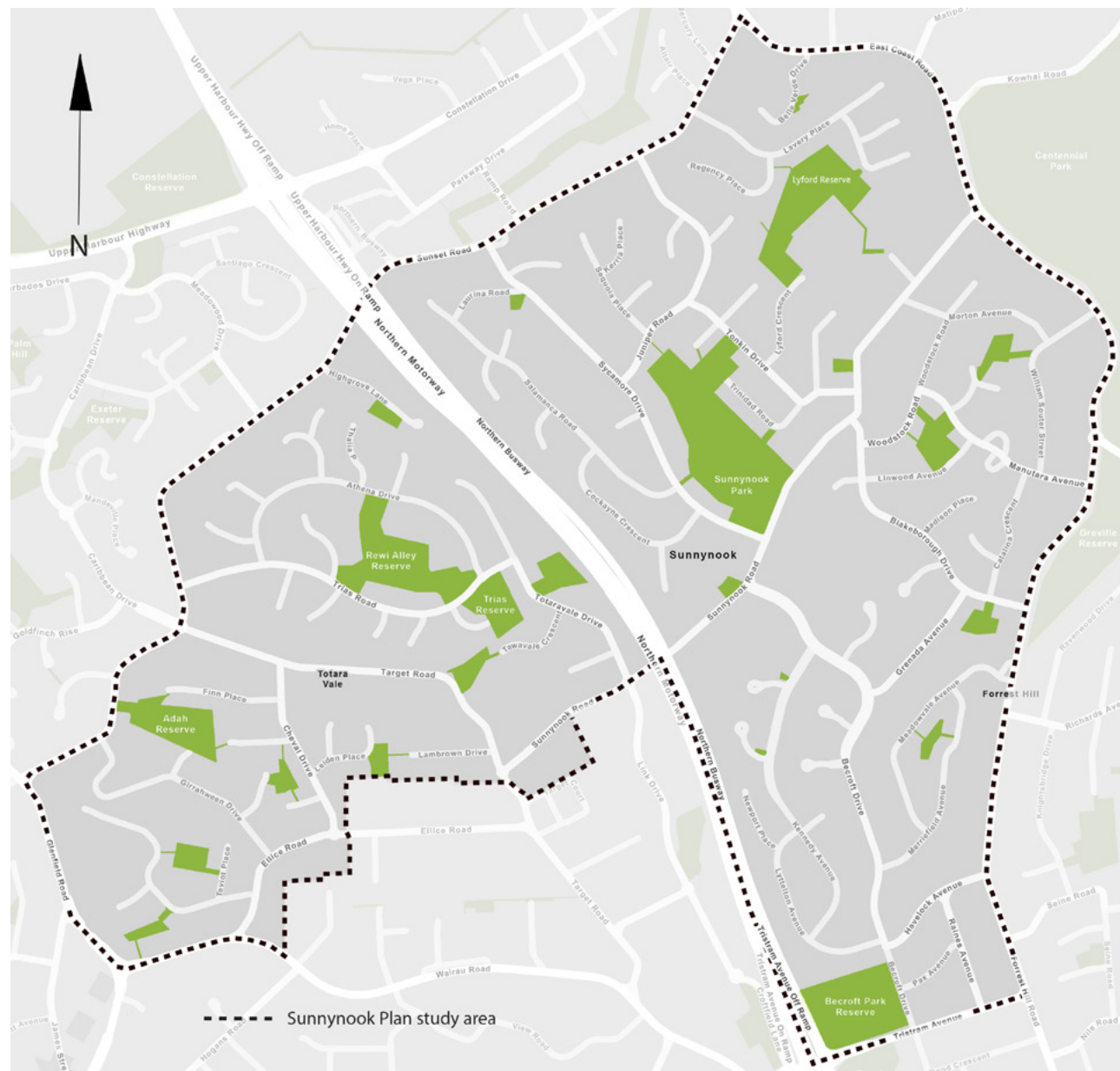
# Kupu whakataki

## 1. Introduction

The purpose of this plan is to build on Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill's many attractive and valued qualities to ensure the area prospers in the future. The Sunnynook Plan recognises that significant change is likely to occur over the next few decades. This plan will help prepare the area and the community for the changes that will come with growth.

### 1.1 The plan area

The plan area encompasses Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill, with Sunnynook town centre at the heart. These suburbs are located in the headwaters of the Wairau Creek catchment and are defined by East Coast Road, Forrest Hill Road, Tristram Avenue, Wairau Road, Glenfield Road and Sunset Road. The Northern Motorway and Northern Busway bisect the area.



The Sunnynook Plan study area

### 1.2 Working together

The plan was developed by the council under the direction of the Devonport-Takapuna and Kaipātiki Local Boards and in collaboration with the Sunnynook Community Association. Through the preparation of this plan, there have been opportunities for the community to participate in shaping their environment. In the future, it will be essential to draw on volunteers, schools and others to participate in the delivery of projects and programmes identified in this plan. Partnerships between the community, the two local boards, Auckland Council, council-controlled organisations, schools and community groups will expand the scope of what can be delivered.

Partnering with Māori in creating and implementing this plan is part of Auckland Council's responsibilities under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the council's broader legal obligations to Māori. There are several mana whenua groups with an interest and kaitiakitanga obligations in the area. Early and ongoing engagement will help grow relationships with mana whenua.



Workshop with students at Sunnynook Primary School



### 1.3 How the plan works

Central to the plan is a vision supported by a set of principles. The vision will be realised through six outcomes. Collectively, the vision, principles and outcomes will guide actions, projects and development undertaken by the council, local boards, Auckland Transport, the community and the private sector. Each outcome is delivered through a series of actions.

The actions have been grouped into the following timeframes for implementation:

- Short-term (0-5 years)
- Medium- to long-term (6-10 years)
- Long-term (11-30 years).

Short and medium-term actions will be implemented as funding becomes available. Longer term projects will rely on funding from the council's future long-term plans as well as partnering with other agencies and the community for resources.

In addition to the outcomes and actions in the Sunnynook Plan, both local boards have a range of projects they are implementing in the area. This includes projects and programmes to reduce sedimentation in waterways, carry out pest control and ecological restoration in local parks.

### 1.4 How the plan fits – the strategic context

Mayor's vision: For Auckland to be a world-class city		
Auckland Plan		
A 30-year plan for the whole of Auckland that is led by the mayor, and delivered by the council, central government and external stakeholders.		
Auckland Unitary Plan	Long-term plan	Local board plans
The principal statutory planning document for Auckland. It sets the regulatory framework through zoning and rules for land use and development.	A 10-year budget for the council and delivered by the council and council-controlled organisations. It outlines how we will invest in Auckland over the next decade.	Three-year plans for each of the 21 local boards that set out the aspirations of the communities which they represent.
Place-based plans		
Plans for geographical areas. The Sunnynook Plan supports the Devonport-Takapuna Area Plan aspirations with its vision and outcomes.		

## He ai ki a koutou 2. What you told us



Consultation event at Sunnynook Shopping Centre

Over the past few years there have been several opportunities for the Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill communities to share their thoughts and ideas about the future of their area. Community feedback on plans to date has helped inform various plans and programmes to guide the future of the area. This includes the Community-led Visioning Report 2016, prepared by the Sunnynook Community Association, which included a series of proposals for the Sunnynook town centre area.

Three iwi groups – Ngāti Maru, Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua have expressed their ongoing kaitiakitanga obligations for the area. A hui was held with these iwi groups in November 2017 to discuss their aspirations for the area and how they would like to be involved in the decision-making process for the plan. Their priorities were water quality and restoration of natural stream environments in the Wairau Creek catchment and incorporation of Māori language, cultural and spiritual values in the design of places.



**Initial consultation** September – October 2017

**2** drop-in sessions **1** hui

**3** school workshops 

Over **100**   
pieces of feedback

**Community feedback on draft plan** June – July 2018

**4** drop-in sessions

**159** pieces of feedback 

Display boards attracted more than

**500** dots (votes)

**95%** of respondents supported the vision

Young Innovators Collective online campaign attracted over **50**  responses

**TOP FIVE ACTIONS:**

1. Improve water quality in streams and restore native bush in the area
2. Improve water quality within the plan area which contributes to the Wairau Creek catchment
3. Restore natural environments
4. Improve pedestrian and vehicle safety along Sunnynook Road
5. Upgrade Sunnynook Square on Sunnynook Road



“Put a bike lane beside the motorway for bike-commuting to Takapuna and Albany.”

“It is a great vision. I hope that we will see more of the connectedness, social and liveable aspects come through with the implementation of this plan.”

“Very much like the idea of a dog off leash area and schools sharing their facilities.”

“Prioritise pedestrians in the town centre.”

“A sea to sea walking route seems to be a really good idea for this region. It creates space for different people to come and explore the Sunnynook area.”

“Street lighting in Sunnynook and Forrest Hill is very poor. There are large stretches of footpath not illuminated by street lights.”





## Te tirohanga whānui me ngā mātāpono

### 3. Vision and principles

#### VISION

Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill will continue to develop as one of Auckland's most attractive, connected, walkable, social and liveable neighbourhoods for a diversity of cultures and ages.



Artist impression of Adah Reserve in Tōtara Vale (illustration by Neil Coleman ASAP)



### 3.1 Principles

The vision is supported by the following principles. These will guide the design and implementation of plans, projects and programmes.

#### Natural and cultural heritage are valued

- Integrate natural, geological, cultural and heritage stories into the design of local projects such as signage, artworks and landscaping.
- Connect natural environments throughout the area for public access.
- Increase the amount of trees and vegetation throughout the area.

#### Mana whenua as kaitiaki (guardians)

- Recognise and express Māori values and cultural heritage in projects.
- Work with iwi on projects that restore the mauri of the area.
- Reveal the traditional stories that iwi wish to share about the area.
- Apply Te Aranga Māori Design Principles in projects (refer to Appendix 1).

#### A strong, healthy and safe community

- Recognise that a quality public realm is important for achieving a vibrant town centre.
- Incorporate civic art in the design of public spaces.
- Recognise parks and open spaces as social places for people to enjoy, and connect with the natural environment.
- Ensure the provision of additional community services and resources as the population grows.
- Ensure the environment is one where everyone feels safe, day and night.
- Apply the Design for Safety Principles (refer to Appendix 2).



Sunnynook Bus Station

#### A quality built environment

- Encourage a mix of shops, offices, services and recreational activities that contributes to a vibrant town centre.
- Encourage a range of housing types and sizes to accommodate a diversity of households.
- Design the built environment so that it meets the needs of a diverse community of all ages, income levels, cultures, ethnicities and lifestyles.
- Encourage human-scaled architecture with safe and attractive surroundings.
- Design the built environment to encourage a greater use of alternative transport modes on a regular basis.

#### A well-connected, walkable and accessible place

- Design pedestrian and cycle-friendly streets, with special regard for people with limited ability.
- Design streets that are safe and community-focused.
- Ensure access to the bus network is pleasant, safe and convenient for all users.
- Manage vehicle movements and parking to optimise safety for all.

#### Sustainable Sunnynook

- Encourage the use of eco-friendly technologies.
- Respect the value of natural systems.
- Protect and enhance waterways to ensure natural ecosystems are supported.
- Work towards a carbon-neutral neighbourhood with more tree planting in streets and parks.
- Encourage energy efficiency.
- Aim for zero waste.

“A celebration for the wide range of cultures and ages in the area is definitely needed.”



Playground in Sunnynook Park



# Te whakatinanatanga – ngā hua me ngā mahi

## 4. Making it happen – outcomes and actions

Six outcomes have been identified to help achieve the vision and guiding principles.

### Outcome 1

The natural environment and waterways are attractive and healthy.

### Outcome 2

An area that is accessible, safe and easy to get around with a range of transport choices and a strong focus on walking and cycling.

### Outcome 3

Attractive and well-maintained parks and open spaces that are connected by leafy green streets to cater for a wide range of activities for everyone.

### Outcome 4

Sunnynook town centre is the lively retail and social heart of the Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill communities.

### Outcome 5

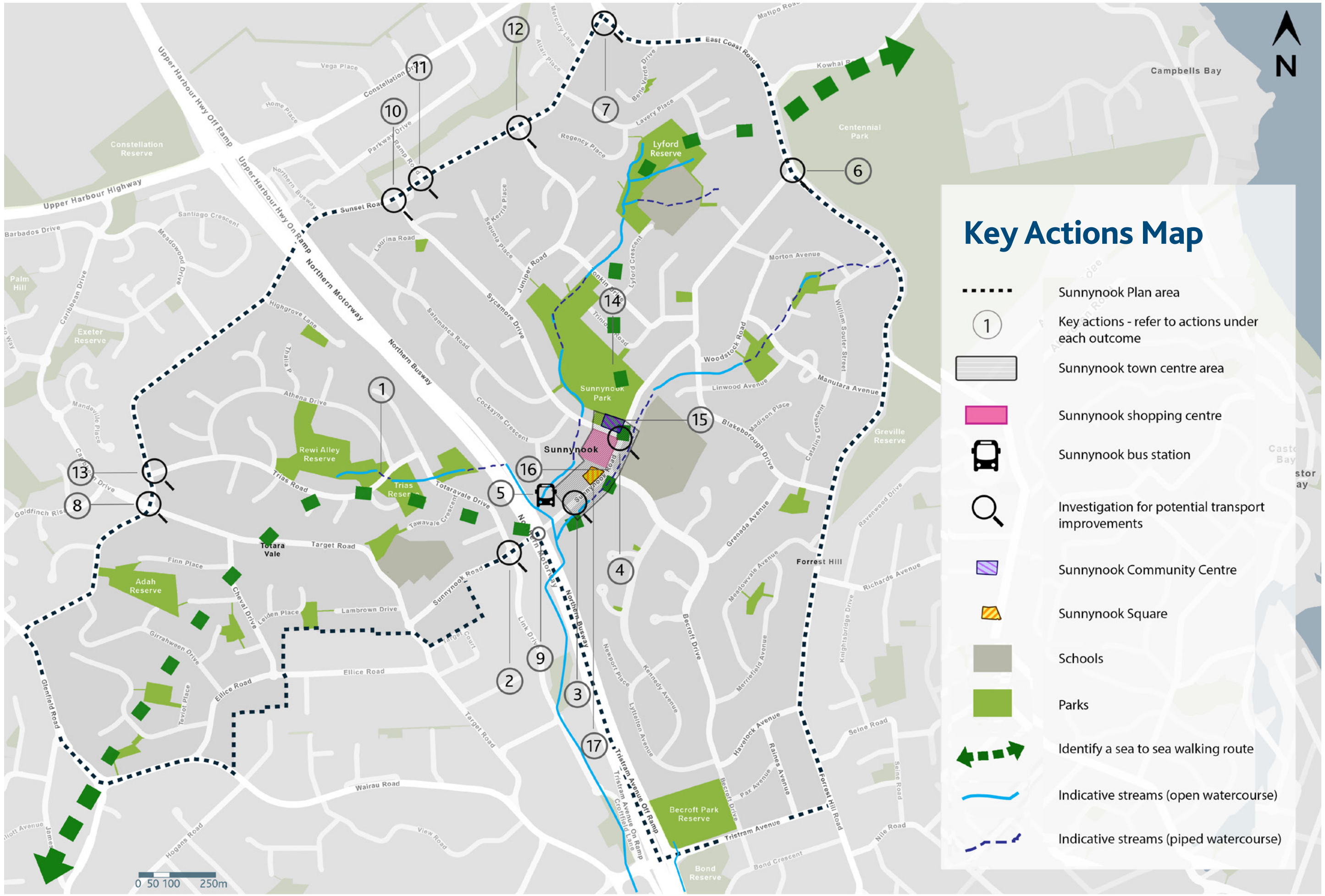
A quality built environment that caters for the diverse needs of the community.

### Outcome 6














Mana whenua are recognised as kaitiaki (guardians).







## Key Actions Map

-  Sunnynook Plan area
-  Key actions - refer to actions under each outcome
-  Sunnynook town centre area
-  Sunnynook shopping centre
-  Sunnynook bus station
-  Investigation for potential transport improvements
-  Sunnynook Community Centre
-  Sunnynook Square
-  Schools
-  Parks
-  Identify a sea to sea walking route
-  Indicative streams (open watercourse)
-  Indicative streams (piped watercourse)

0 50 100 250m



## Outcome 1: The natural environment and waterways are attractive and healthy

Located in the headwaters of the Wairau Valley, the area takes its identity from the landform, views and settlement pattern that have emerged over time. The area's natural heritage is expressed through the streams, valleys and ridgelines with areas of native bush that are home to a range of native birds and other fauna. Suburban areas have also developed a wealth of native and exotic trees and vegetation to create a leafy green landscape. The Wairau Creek itself is seen by mana whenua as a significant body of water.

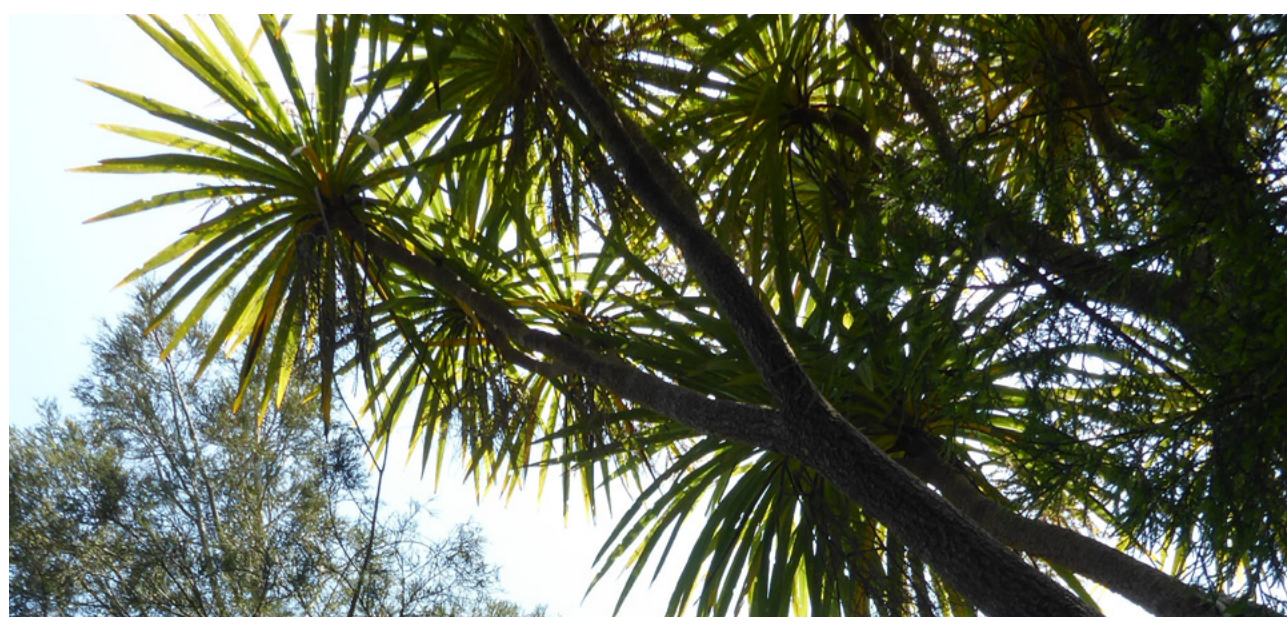
The natural environment, and the ability to use it for recreation, is highly valued by the community and mana whenua. Protecting and enhancing the natural environment and waterways while balancing the need for growth is important as this positively contributes not only to the wellbeing of the community but also helps the overall health of Auckland's biodiversity.

### Why this needs to be achieved

Improving water quality is considered the highest priority by the community. All the streams in the area flow into the Wairau Creek and beyond to the Wairau Estuary and the coast. The Wairau Creek catchment has been heavily modified by development for decades. Many of the streams are now in underground culverts or constrained within a concrete-lined channel designed to move water efficiently through the catchment.

Improvements to the waterways will help meet wider community and mana whenua aspirations to enhance the ecology, water quality and biodiversity of the entire Wairau Creek catchment. For example, during heavy rainfall, the area can experience flooding which also causes pollution in the waterways. To help address localised flooding issues, Sunnynook Park has been re-contoured to improve the stormwater drainage of the area. This will also allow the sports fields to be used more frequently throughout winter. Further flood resilience and projects to target pollution are being investigated by the council for the Wairau Creek catchment.

There are opportunities to support native biodiversity by providing space for wildlife to travel and breed safely. Parks and stream corridors have significant value as ecosystems linking between coastlines.



Native bush in Lyford Reserve

### Outcome 1 actions

Note: For location-specific actions, refer to the numbered key actions map on page 18-19. Two local boards share responsibility for this area – Devonport-Takapuna (D-T) and Kaipātiki (K). An asterisk (\*) signals the lead agency for each action.

Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<b>Ongoing</b>		
1A. Restore natural environments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with mana whenua and the local community to restore natural environments such as local bush areas and streams.</li> <li>Create and connect ecological corridors.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Council*, local board, community groups, mana whenua
1B. Enhance native biodiversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify places where a range of native biodiversity can be enhanced or introduced.</li> <li>Ensure native biodiversity is prioritised in all open space projects.</li> <li>Undertake pest control programmes to protect biodiversity. This will feed into work underway as part of Pest Free Kaipātiki.</li> <li>Select tree and plant species as seasonal markers and attractors of bird life.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Council*, local board, community groups, mana whenua
<b>Medium-term (5-10 years)</b>		
1C. Water quality improvements <p>Improve water quality within the plan area which contributes to the Wairau Creek catchment, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigating opportunities to collaborate with local groups and mana whenua to enhance the amenity and quality of the Wairau Creek catchment.</li> <li>Continuing to monitor water quality in the catchment and make improvements where possible.</li> <li>Undertaking a community education programme and initiatives on how to avoid pollution in the waterways.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Council*, local board, mana whenua, community groups, businesses, local schools
1D. Wairau Creek catchment flood resilience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities to improve flood resilience in the Tōtara Vale area, including Rewi Alley Reserve and Trias Reserve.</li> </ul>	K ①	Council*



## Outcome 2: An area that is accessible, safe and easy to get around with a range of transport choices and a strong focus on walking and cycling

Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill are well-connected neighbourhoods with their proximity to the Northern Busway via Sunnynook Bus Station and the Northern Motorway. This is complemented by a network of walkways that connect people to key destinations such as parks, shops, schools and bus stops. In the year 2016-2017, over 384,000 passenger trips were made from Sunnynook Bus Station.

“ Pedestrians and cyclists need more priority on road designs due to schools and bus station. Motorists should not expect to be able to ‘drive fast’ in the area around shopping centre and bus station. It should be a ‘pedestrian first’ area.”



Walkway through Lyford Reserve



Sunnynook Road near Sunnynook Bus Station

### Why this needs to be achieved

As the area develops, there will be opportunities to improve accessibility, safety and pedestrian amenity by enhancing existing connections to encourage further use of alternative transport modes to the private vehicle.

Sunnynook Road is a key route connecting the Tōtara Vale, Forrest Hill and Sunnynook communities to the busway and the town centre. Improving pedestrian and cyclist safety and enhancing connections along Sunnynook Road and around the bus station will make it easier for everyone to get around.



Sunnynook Bus Station



## Outcome 2 actions

Note: For location-specific actions, refer to the numbered key actions map on page 18-19. Two local boards share responsibility for this area – Devonport-Takapuna (D-T) and Kaipātiki (K). An asterisk (\*) signals the lead agency for each action.

Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<b>Ongoing</b>		
2A. On-street car parking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for an investigation into the management of on-street parking around Sunnynook Bus Station.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Local board*
2B. Lighting and signage <p>Make ongoing improvements to information, signage, lighting and safety for pedestrians and cyclists as and when possible, in line with maintenance programmes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure walkways and footpaths are safe with quality footpaths, good lighting levels and well-maintained vegetation.</li> <li>Continue ongoing rollout of LED streetlamps.</li> <li>Routes accessing key destinations such as schools, Sunnynook Bus Station, bus stops and town centre should be a priority</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Auckland Transport*, council, local board
2C. New Network for the North Shore <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement the new Bus Network for the North Shore.</li> <li>Make ongoing improvements to service frequency and facilities as and when budgets allow.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Auckland Transport*
<b>Short to medium-term (0-10 years)</b>		
2D. Sunnynook Road improvements <p>Improve pedestrian and vehicle safety along Sunnynook Road, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link Drive roundabout – investigate pedestrian safety and amenity improvements.</li> <li>Sunnynook Road drop-off zones – investigate safety improvements.</li> </ul>	K ② D-T ③	Auckland Transport*, local board Auckland Transport*, local board

Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
2E. Sycamore Drive improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate pedestrian safety and amenity improvements at the Sunnynook Road intersection and, in particular, between Sunnynook Shopping Centre and Sunnynook Community Centre.</li> </ul>	D-T ④	Auckland Transport*, local board
2F. Pedestrian crossings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the need for new pedestrian crossings across East Coast Road, Forrest Hill Road, Sunnynook Road and Sunset Road.</li> </ul>	D-T	Auckland Transport*, local board
2G. Sunnynook Bus Station <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate improved pedestrian facilities and connections to and within Sunnynook Bus Station, in particular in the accessways to Sunnynook Bus Station.</li> <li>Investigate opportunities to lengthen the bus station platforms to ensure bus services can stop without queuing.</li> </ul>	D-T, K ⑤	Auckland Transport*, local board
2H. Northern Connections walking and cycling path <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commence investigations for the Northern Connections walking and cycling path parallel to State Highway 1, between Akoranga and Constellation Bus Stations.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	New Zealand Transport Agency*, Auckland Transport



Artist impressions of accessway to Sunnynook Bus Station (illustration by Neil Coleman ASAP)



Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<p>2I. Intersection improvements</p> <p>Investigate safety improvements at the following intersections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East Coast Road/Sunnynook Road</li> <li>• East Coast Road/Sunset Road</li> <li>• Sunset Road/Target Road/Caribbean Drive.</li> </ul>	<p>D-T ⑥</p> <p>D-T ⑦</p> <p>K ⑧</p>	<p>Auckland Transport*</p> <p>Auckland Transport*</p> <p>Auckland Transport*</p>
<b>Medium to long-term (5-10+ years)</b>		
<p>2J. Sunnynook Road improvements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate opportunities to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety on the Sunnynook Road SH1 overbridge</li> <li>• Investigate opportunities to establish east-west cycle connections to integrate with planned Northern Connections walking and cycling facility.</li> </ul>	<p>D-T, K ⑨</p> <p>D-T, K</p>	<p>Auckland Transport*, local board</p>
<p>2K. Connections to Sunnynook Bus Station</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the potential for upgrades to the station, including a new pedestrian bridge and lifts, as part of any future upgrade to the Northern Busway.</li> </ul>	<p>D-T ⑤</p>	<p>Auckland Transport*, local board</p>
<p>2L. Intersection improvements</p> <p>Advocate for the inclusion of the following intersections in future Auckland Transport programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunset Road/Sycamore Drive intersection</li> <li>• Sunset Road/Ramp Road</li> <li>• Sunset Road/Juniper Road</li> <li>• Sunset Road/Trias Road.</li> </ul>	<p>D-T ⑩</p> <p>D-T ⑪</p> <p>D-T ⑫</p> <p>K ⑬</p>	<p>Local board*</p> <p>Local board*</p> <p>Local board*</p> <p>Local board*</p>



Artist impression of potential upgrade to the Sunnynook Road, Totaravale Drive and Link Drive intersection (not a final design and subject to investigation)



Artist impression of potential upgrade to the Sunnynook Road and Sycamore Drive intersection (not a final design and subject to investigation)



Artist impression of potential upgrade to Sycamore Drive (illustration by Neil Coleman ASAP)



### Outcome 3: Attractive and well-maintained parks and open spaces that are connected by leafy green streets to cater for a wide range of activities for everyone

The Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill area has a well-connected street network, with inviting public spaces and parks. The greenway walking network and large number of parks are particular features of the area. The walkability of this area will be an asset as the area intensifies, enabling people to walk rather than drive to destinations such as the town centre, bus station, parks and schools.

#### Why this needs to be achieved

More people are visiting or moving to the area to live, work and play so public spaces need to cater for an increase in use for a wider range of activities and groups. Enhancing existing parks and public open spaces with more activities, for all, in the future, is a priority. The community suggested improvements to existing open spaces, as well as developing open spaces for new activities to help meet the community's changing needs.

The community values well-maintained and enhanced open spaces. This includes parks used by the public as well as the less defined natural environments. With more trees and planting in the area, there will be incremental health and wellbeing benefits for residents.

“ Thanks for the adult gym units in Sunnynook Park.  
A good skate area would be great.  
Look forward to many activities on the park when finished. ”

#### Outcome 3 actions

Note: For location-specific actions, refer to the numbered key actions map on page 18-19. Two local boards share responsibility for this area – Devonport-Takapuna (D-T) and Kaipātiki (K). An asterisk (\*) signals the lead agency for each action.

Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<b>Ongoing</b>		
3A. Sea to sea walking route <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify a walking route between the Upper Waitematā Harbour and the East Coast Bays.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Council*, local board, Auckland Transport
3B. More trees in parks, open spaces and along streets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In support of the Mayor's Million Trees programme and He Rautaki mō te Ngāhere ā-Tāone o Tāmaki Makaurau A Strategy for Auckland's Urban Forest, plant more trees in public spaces. This will help protect the taiao (natural environment), while enhancing Sunnynook as a leafy green community.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Council*, local board, Auckland Transport

Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
3C. Park maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain parks and open spaces to a high standard.</li> <li>Ensure that existing footpaths, lighting, rubbish bins, drinking fountains, barbeques, seats, picnic tables, art, playgrounds and fitness equipment are well-maintained to improve the quality of the experiences shared in the public spaces.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Council*
3D. Shared facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage local schools and sports clubs to share spaces and facilities with the public to enable greater community use.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Local board*, council, Ministry of Education
<b>Short-term (0-5 years)</b>		
3E. Dog exercise park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities for a dog exercise park and identify suitable off-leash areas for dogs.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Council*, local board
3F. Sunnynook Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade the north-eastern walkway.</li> <li>Improve amenities in Sunnynook Park.</li> </ul>	D-T (14)	Council*, local board
3G. Sunnynook wheeled sports facility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate opportunities for new wheeled sports facilities (skate, scooter, BMX, etc.) in the Sunnynook area.</li> </ul>	D-T	Council*, local board



Rewi Alley Reserve





Sunnynook Park

## Outcome 4: Sunnynook town centre is the lively retail and social heart of the Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill communities

The Sunnynook town centre is at the heart of the Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill communities and extends beyond the shopping centre to include retail and services along Sunnynook Road, Sunnynook Community Centre and Sunnynook Square.

Significant redevelopment opportunities are possible for the town centre. The Auckland Unitary Plan enables a range of residential and commercial developments of up to six storeys. The majority of the town centre is in private ownership so change will occur only when owners collectively agree that redevelopment is worthwhile. Improving public spaces, places and streets will make the centre more attractive for social activities.

“A focus on making the Sunnynook Centre more visually appealing and safer for pedestrians would be great... make it the focal point where people can catch up.”

### Why this needs to be achieved

The town centre will continue to improve as businesses either build new premises or upgrade existing shops and services. Sunnynook Community Centre and Sunnynook Square can be enhanced to create attractive, safe and friendly hubs for a diversity of groups and people to enjoy social, sports and recreational activities. The close proximity of Sunnynook Bus Station, local bus services, easy walkability of the area and generous car parking are all factors that make the town centre very accessible.

“Some kind of creative space / a place for young people to hang out.”



Sunnynook Community Centre



Tai chi outside Sunnynook Community Centre



Artist impression showing possible development of Sunnynook Town Centre enabled by the Auckland Unitary Plan (illustration by Neil Coleman ASAP)



### Outcome 4 actions

Note: For location-specific actions, refer to the numbered key actions map on page 18-19. Two local boards share responsibility for this area – Devonport-Takapuna (D-T) and Kaipātiki (K). An asterisk (\*) signals the lead agency for each action.

Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<b>Short-term (0-5 years)</b>		
4A. New civic space Create a civic space next to Sunnynook Community Centre.	D-T ⑮	Local board*, council, community groups
4B. Design guidance for the town centre Prepare design guidance for improving the town centre. Council will continue its advocacy role by highlighting the benefits of high quality development to both developers and the public.	D-T ⑯	Council*, landowners
4C. Public environment improvements Improve the public environment in the town centre including simple actions such as installing rubbish bins and regular maintenance to ensure that the area is clean and tidy. This helps demonstrate respect for the town centre as a social and retail heart of the community.	D-T	Council*, local board, Auckland Transport, landowners
<b>Medium-term (5-10 years)</b>		
4D. Sunnynook Square Investigate opportunities to upgrade Sunnynook Square on Sunnynook Road to create an informal gathering place for all.	D-T ⑰	Council*, local board
4E. Community facilities assessment Investigate needs for community facilities in the area and potential improvements to existing facilities such as the Sunnynook Community Centre. This ensures that the council is investing wisely in facilities that reflect the community's changing demographics. As well as delivering its own projects, the council may work with external providers to deliver services or projects.	D-T, K	Council*, local board, community groups



Artist impression of a new civic space next to Sunnynook Community Centre (illustration by Neil Coleman ASAP)



Artist impression of Sunnynook Square (illustration by Neil Coleman ASAP)



## Outcome 5: A quality built environment that caters for the diverse needs of the community

The low density subdivision and street pattern developed in the 1950s to 1970s has had a strong influence on the form of residential development in the area. The area has good amenities for families with a local supermarket, several schools, community facilities and many parks. The area continues to attract families with around 75 per cent of residents under the age of 50.

The Auckland Unitary Plan enables a considerable increase in housing development to occur in the area. This means that at least 50 per cent of residential sites could be redeveloped to accommodate an additional household and many sites could cater for three or more new homes. In the future, the area will provide more intensive residential development to meet a range of housing needs for a diverse and growing community.

New development, whether residential or commercial should be high quality and enhance the local neighbourhood. Incorporating sustainable building practices will also be important. Opportunities to incorporate public art and landscaping features will make the area more attractive and distinctive. Another priority is for the area to be attractive, safe and well-maintained because this affects how a place feels and encourages community pride.

### Why this needs to be achieved

As the area grows, enhancing the quality of the built environment and keeping the area well-maintained are important for health and wellbeing.

A greater range of housing choices will help support a diverse and changing community. It will enable people to upscale or downscale their housing to meet their needs and stay living in the area for longer. To keep pace with population growth and change, there will also be more investment in local amenities and services.



Proposed development at 198-200 Sunnynook Road (image courtesy of Ozac Architects Ltd)

### Outcome 5 actions

Note: Two local boards share responsibility for this area – Devonport-Takapuna (D-T) and Kaipātiki (K). An asterisk (\*) signals the lead agency for each action.

Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<b>Ongoing</b>		
5A. Quality residential design Encourage landowners and developers to use the residential and business design guidance in the Auckland Design Manual.	D-T, K	Council*, landowners
5B. Public art <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage opportunities for community-led public art projects in the area.</li> <li>Encourage opportunities for murals to enhance public places and reduce the dominance of blank walls.</li> <li>Work with the local community, the Māori design community, schools and other creative groups to produce public art for the area.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Council*, local board, mana whenua, community groups
5C. Clean and tidy public spaces Improve the maintenance of public areas including streets to ensure the area is clean, tidy and well-maintained. This has a strong influence on how people feel about a place. It includes management of the public realm and streets as well as maintaining facilities and infrastructure.	D-T, K	Auckland Transport*, council
<b>Medium-term (5-10 years)</b>		
5D. Neighbourhood centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve the public environment around neighbourhood centres.</li> <li>Identify places that would benefit from streetscape, open space or local safety improvements.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Council*, local board, businesses



## Outcome 6: Mana whenua are recognised as kaitiaki (guardians)

Māori cultural heritage and identity is integral with the area’s natural heritage. The North Shore area has been home to Māori for many centuries. Information on Māori occupation in the area dates back to the late-1700s. However, Māori occupation was low due to warfare and the landforms being difficult to defend. This can be seen by the abandonment of Rāhopara Pā near the entrance of the Wairau Estuary in Milford around the 1820s after tribal warfare.

Recent tribal history refers to the 1841 Crown land purchases, which saw the land in this area pass from Hauraki iwi to the Crown. There is evidence that ridgelines in this area were used by Māori as walking tracks. The coasts and Lake Pupuke are particularly significant to Māori.

Fourteen iwi groups hold connection to this area. The iwi groups are Ngāti Maru, Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua, Te Kawerau a Maki, Ngāti Manuhiri, Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara, Ngāti Te Ata, Ngāti Tamaterā, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, Ngāti Paoa, Te Patukirikiri, Te Ākitai Waiohū, Ngāti Whanaunga and Ngāti Tamaoho.

In the 2013 census, seven per cent of the population within the plan area were of Māori descent.

### Why this needs to be achieved

The council is committed to meeting its responsibilities under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This commitment is formalised through the council’s Māori Responsiveness Framework. This was developed through the Auckland Plan and 10-year budget (Long-term Plan) processes.

As part of this, this plan continues to reinforce this commitment by ensuring mana whenua are involved throughout the plan and decision-making processes.

Recognising mana whenua as kaitiaki acknowledges the cultural heritage of Māori in the local area. Working with iwi on projects to weave these values and mātauranga Māori (knowledge) throughout the plan will contribute to restoring the mauri of the area. This addresses and contributes to the needs and aspirations of Māori such as providing and supporting Treaty settlement outcomes and strengthening Treaty-based relationships with Māori.

Mana whenua are seeking a more active role in projects. They want to engage on matters that may have cultural, spiritual or environmental value to them. Early involvement to define project scope, design and development will be essential.



Harakeke (New Zealand flax) in Trias Reserve

## Outcome 6 actions

Two local boards share responsibility for this area – Devonport-Takapuna (D-T) and Kaipātiki (K). An asterisk (\*) signals the lead agency for each action.

Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<b>Ongoing</b>		
6A. Te Aranga Māori Design Principles Incorporate Te Aranga Māori Design Principles where possible. Te Aranga Māori Design Principles are a set of outcome-based principles founded on intrinsic Māori cultural values and design to provide practical guidance for enhancing outcomes for the design environment (see Appendix 1).	D-T, K	Council*, mana whenua*, developers
6B. Mana whenua narratives Encourage public art and incorporate mana whenua narratives where appropriate. This outcome also supports Outcome 5. It ensures the plan represents Māori as the kaitiaki of the area.	D-T, K	Council*, mana whenua*, community groups
6C. Improve water quality Improve water quality in streams and restore native bush in the area. Sunnynook, Forrest Hill and Tōtara Vale ridgelines are the source for the Wairau Creek and estuary. Improving water quality in streams and restoring native bush will ensure the taiao (natural environment) and mauri (life force) are protected, restored and enhanced.	D-T, K	Council*, mana whenua, community groups



Native planting in Lyford Reserve



# Te rautaki whakatinanatanga

## 5. Implementation strategy

The Sunnynook Plan identifies a range of key actions that work towards achieving the identified outcomes. Partnerships and collaboration between the two local boards, stakeholders, residents, community groups, landowners, developers and businesses will help to deliver the actions.

While some actions are already underway, new projects and initiatives will require further investigation and investment. The actions in the Sunnynook Plan will be achieved through:

- strengthening the links and coordination of projects with council departments and council-controlled organisations
- recognising the role that local boards play in realising the vision for the area through investment in projects and advocating for positive change
- forming partnerships with mana whenua
- continuing to engage and connect with local community organisations, businesses and residents when implementing this plan.

The Devonport-Takapuna and Kaipātiki Local Boards, council departments and Auckland Transport will have a critical role to identify, prioritise and provide funding for actions in the Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill area.

A detailed implementation and monitoring programme for the Sunnynook Plan will be in place to provide guidance to key council stakeholders, the local boards and delivery partners.



Playground at Sunnynook Park

# Tāphirihanga 1: Ngā Mātāpono Hoahoa Māori o Te Aranga

## Appendix 1: Te Aranga Māori Design Principles

Te Aranga Māori Design Principles are a set of outcome-based principles based on intrinsic Māori cultural values. The principles have been developed to assist mana whenua to enhance their presence, visibility and participation in the design of the physical realm.

The principles seek to:

- ensure that mana whenua are embedded within processes and outcomes that influence design occurring within their cultural landscapes
- guide culturally appropriate design processes/responses that enhance our appreciation of the natural, landscape and built environment
- provide stakeholders and the design community with a clearer picture as to how iwi/hapū are likely to view, value and wish to participate in the design and development of the built environment within their ancestral rohe
- be a strategic foundation for iwi/hapū to adopt, customise and further develop in response to local context.

The principles:

The principles function as a cohesive suite, with mana being the key and catalysing principle that enables access to the remaining six. Unless the principle of mana is given meaningful effect, the remaining principles cannot be authentically applied.

Mana rangatiranga: authority	The status of iwi/ hapū as mana whenua is recognised and respected. A working relationship is developed where mana whenua values, world views, customs, narratives, and identity can be appropriately and authentically explored and expressed through design.
Whakapapa: names and naming	The significance of mana whenua ancestral names are recognised and celebrated. Ancestral names are recognised as entry points to exploring and honouring tūpuna, historical narratives and customary practices, and enhancing our understanding of place.
Taiao: the natural environment	The natural environment and local flora and fauna are protected, restored or enhanced, and are key landscape elements in the urban and modified environment.
Mauri tū: environmental health	Community wellbeing is enhanced through developments which protect, maintain or enhance the environmental health (including water, land, trees and air).
Mahi toi: creative expression	Iwi/hapū narratives (including names, landmarks and narratives) are captured and expressed creatively and appropriately into the design environment features like landscape, architecture, interior design and public art. Iwi/hapū mandated design professionals and artists are appropriately engaged.
Tohu: the wider cultural landscape	Mana whenua significant sites and cultural landmarks and their ability to inform the design of specific sites are acknowledged, managed, protected and enhanced.
Ahi kā: the living presence	Iwi/hapū have a living and enduring presence and are secure and valued within their rohe. A mana whenua presence is manifest, and may include customary, cultural and commercial dimensions.



# Tāpirihanga 2: Ngā Mātāpono Hoahoa kia Āhurutia

## Appendix 2: Design for Safety Principles

### 1. Connected streets

A safe route is one that is direct, has unobstructed visibility, and is legible to users. This becomes increasingly important when it is dark and visibility decreases. Routes should have multiple entrances and exits and no dead ends, allowing people to move through freely without being channelled by their surroundings. Environments that cause users to feel restricted may be perceived as unsafe.

### 2. Navigation and wayfinding

A safe environment is one in which people are confident finding their way around. If they are not, disorientation may lead a person to feel or appear vulnerable or unsafe. Improving navigation and accessibility – for locals and visitors alike – can help to increase the safety of a space for everyone.

### 3. Mix of activities

The right combination of businesses and activities has the power to activate a neighbourhood day and night. This effect is more likely to happen in mixed-use environments – places that have a variety of residential areas, restaurants, offices and shops in close proximity to one another.

### 4. See and be seen

A safe public space is one where there is passive surveillance, meaning it is a place where people can easily see and be seen. This visibility helps visitors to identify safety issues quickly and increases the chance of assistance if there is any trouble. Opportunities for crime are therefore minimised, giving the users of the space greater confidence and sense of safety.

### 5. Active building facades

The point where a building meets the street (either physically or visually) provides a great opportunity to enrich – or activate – surrounding public spaces. The design of these frontages with doors, windows, balconies, porches, courtyards and gardens can be used to smooth the transition between private and public areas and increase social interactions – an ideal opportunity to build passive surveillance.

### 6. Lighting

The use of good lighting throughout an environment lets people see further and more clearly, especially in the dark. Better visibility increases a sense of safety in the space by allowing people to keep an eye on each other, giving them the confidence to participate in activities for longer.

### 7. Local pride

Environments that bring people together and give the community something to be proud of not only enrich the neighbourhood, but are safer for everyone. These spaces are likely to have more visitors and build a close community that are likely to keep an eye out for each other – both important factors in cultivating passive surveillance.

### 8. Quality environments

Designs that are enjoyable and of decent quality will provide opportunities to attract people to public places. By bringing people together, quality environments can also help to build communities that take pride in their space. More people and a close community both contribute to a sense of neighbourhood watch, where neighbours are more likely to get to know each other and look after one another, making it a safer environment for everyone.

### 9. Protecting the premises

This is the last option for making an environment be and feel safe. Specialised security methods need to be considered only if the previous design elements cannot provide the level of safety required. Even in those instances, it is critical to strike a balance, otherwise the security elements can become counterproductive and make people feel less safe.









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