

**NELSON
URBAN
WORKSHOP
2023**

PURPOSE

FORMAT

THE BRIEF

**What does a vibrant Whakatū Nelson city centre look like
in 2035?**

BRIEF

The Nelson Long Term Plan (LTP) is a strategy that outlines what Nelson City Council aims to achieve over the next 10 years. The next LTP is being prepared for issue in 2024, which raises the question...

...in 10 years time, what could Nelson look like?

BRIEF

Teams are to develop creative ideas and visions to respond to the question of **what does a vibrant Whakatū Nelson city centre look like in 2035?**

- This can be from a macro level, such as developing future precincts, identifying where new civic buildings may be located, or contemplating the impact that major projects such as 'Bridge to Better' will have on the shape and layout of Nelson.
- Or, it could be from a micro level, and focus on a particular location or intervention such as a building, street or public space that could change how Nelsonians interact with our city

This is a competition, so compelling ideas and creative thinking are strongly encouraged!

THEMES TO CONSIDER

Themes to consider for the 2023 Whakatū Nelson Urban Workshop could include:

- Civic precinct
- Library/Community Hub/Ideas Factory
- Council facilities
- “Bridge to Better”
- Arts Hub and Performance venues
- Mobility and transport
- Plan Change 29 and the impact of residential intensification
- Inner city green spaces
- Nelson 10ths

THE OUTCOMES

2023 Whakatū Nelson Urban Workshop

**What could a vibrant Whakatū Nelson city
centre look like in 2035?**



Tuia Pito Ora
New Zealand Institute
of Landscape Architects



Te Kāhui
Whaihanga
Nelson &
Marlborough

TEAM 1

Green space and the Nelson coastline are the heart and soul of Nelson and the fundamental design considerations for team 1. This scheme celebrates our existing recreational open spaces and coastal edge. The design proposes an expansion of recreation space, absorbing Buxton and Montgomery squares establishing a strong open heart. Areas of our town that are threatened by sea level rise are used to help protect our town while connecting our city center with the coast. Development opportunities sit alongside open space creating recreational opportunities for inner city living.

Team members:

Helena Alexander
Will Morrison
Marijke Ransom
Heidi Stewart



Tuia Pito Ora
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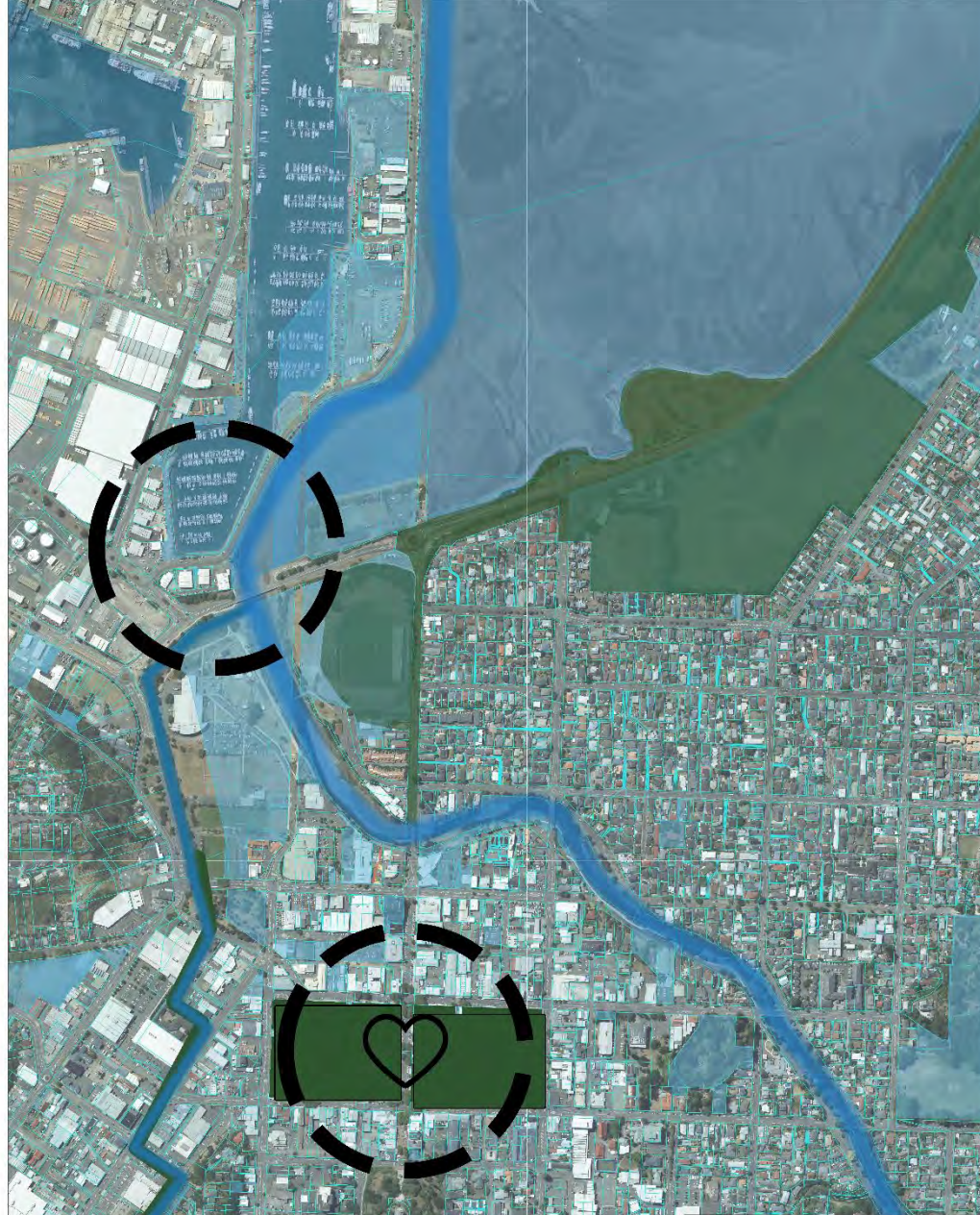


HEART TO SOUL

A 50 YEAR VISION FOR NELSON







2023 Whakatū Nelson Urban Workshop

Scale: 1:5000 (A) © Crown Copyright 2023

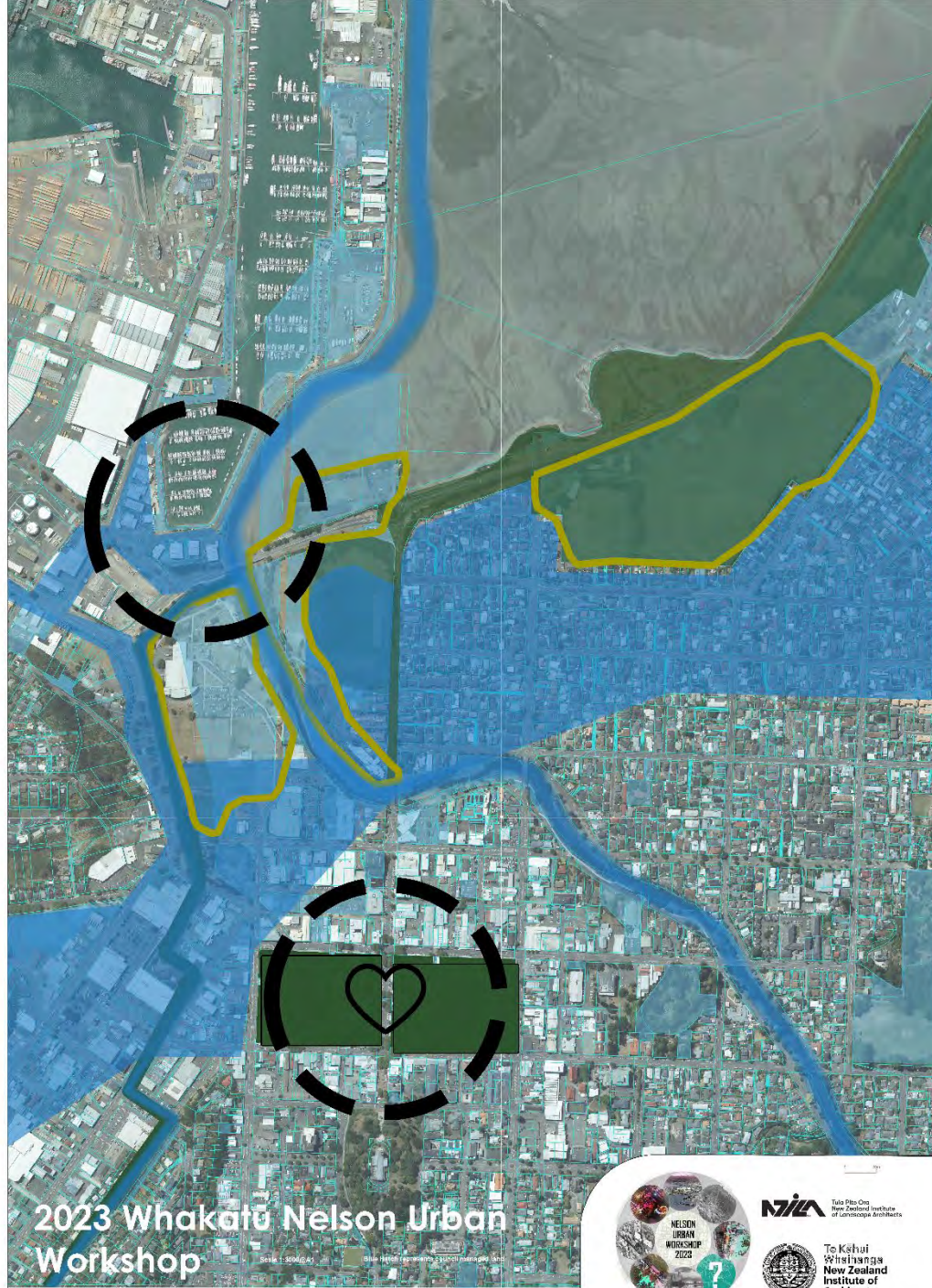




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2023 Whakatū Nelson Urban Workshop

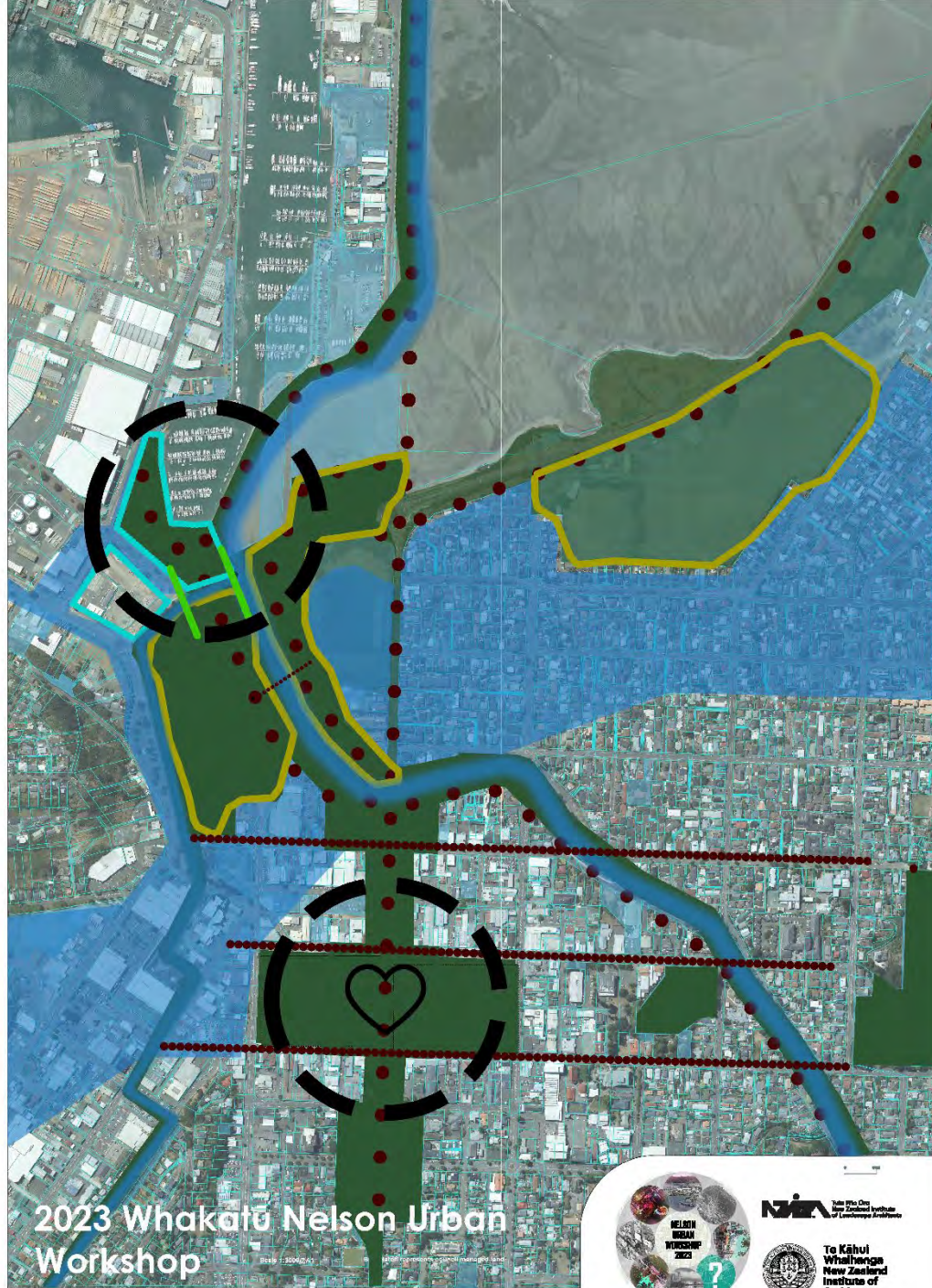
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NIA Tūāwhiri Raukawa Institute of Landscape Architects



Te Kōwhiri Whaitangi
New Zealand
Institute of
Architects



2023 Whakatū Nelson Urban Workshop

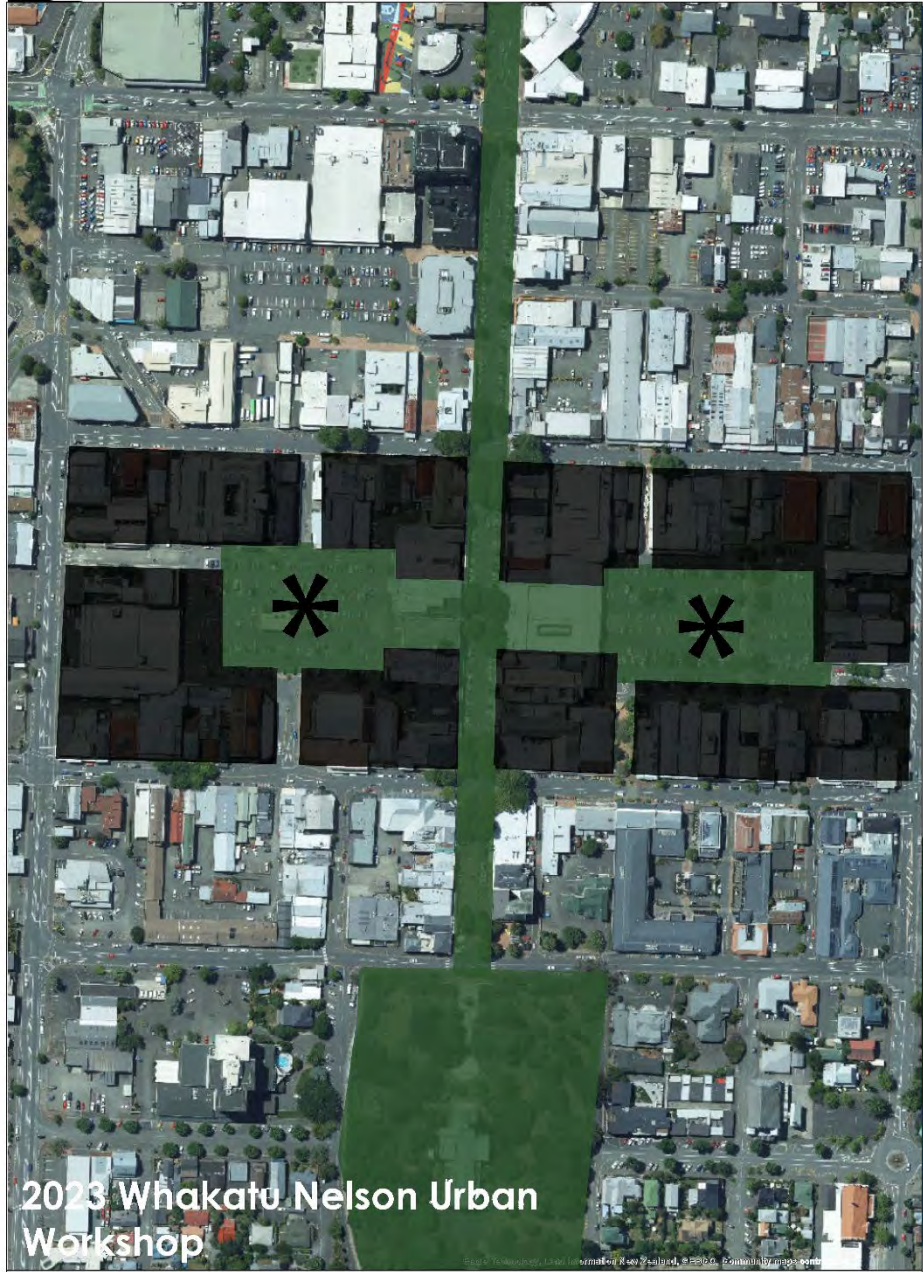


NZIA New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects

To Kāhū Whaitonga
New Zealand Institute of Architects

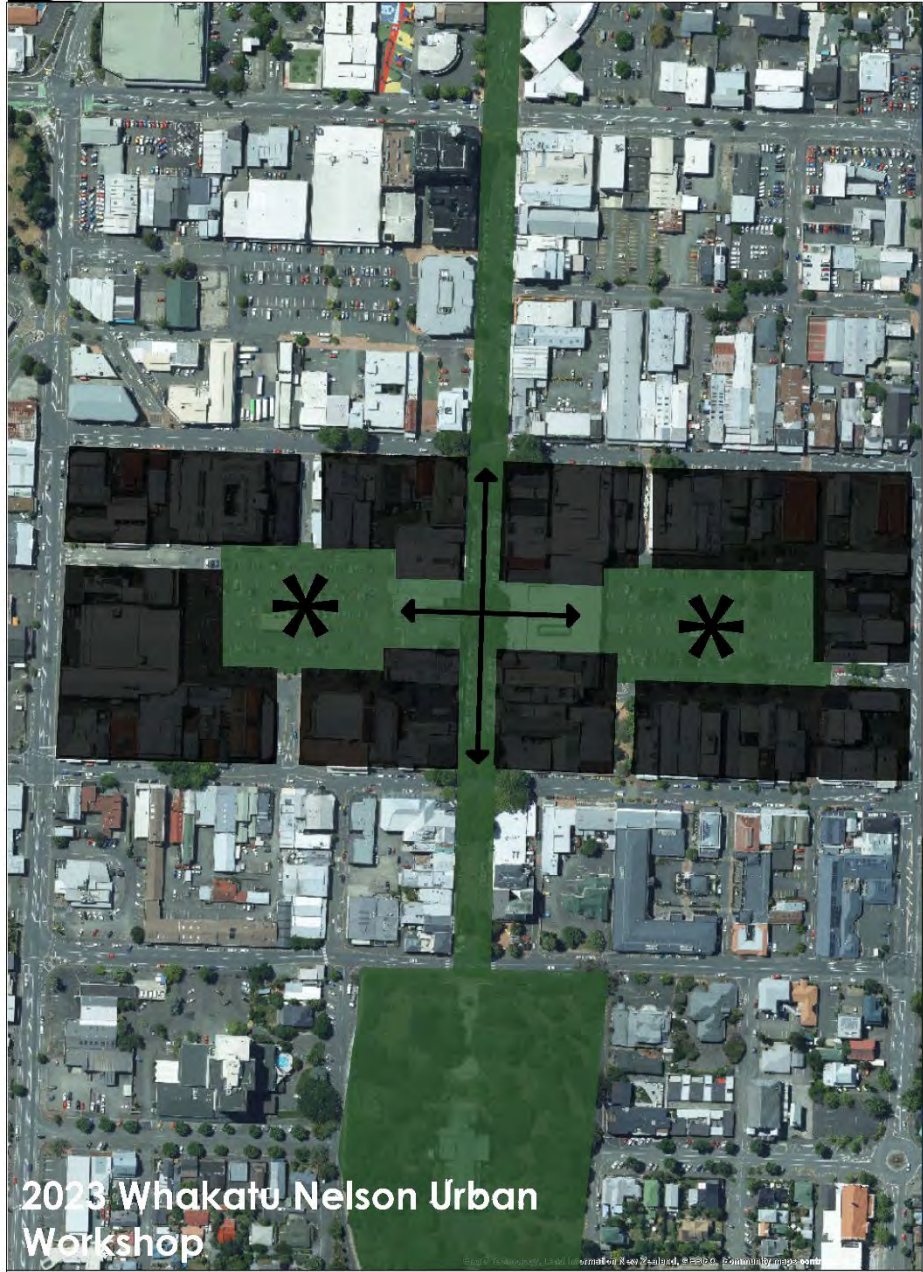
IN 10 YEARS...

A 50 YEAR VISION FOR NELSON



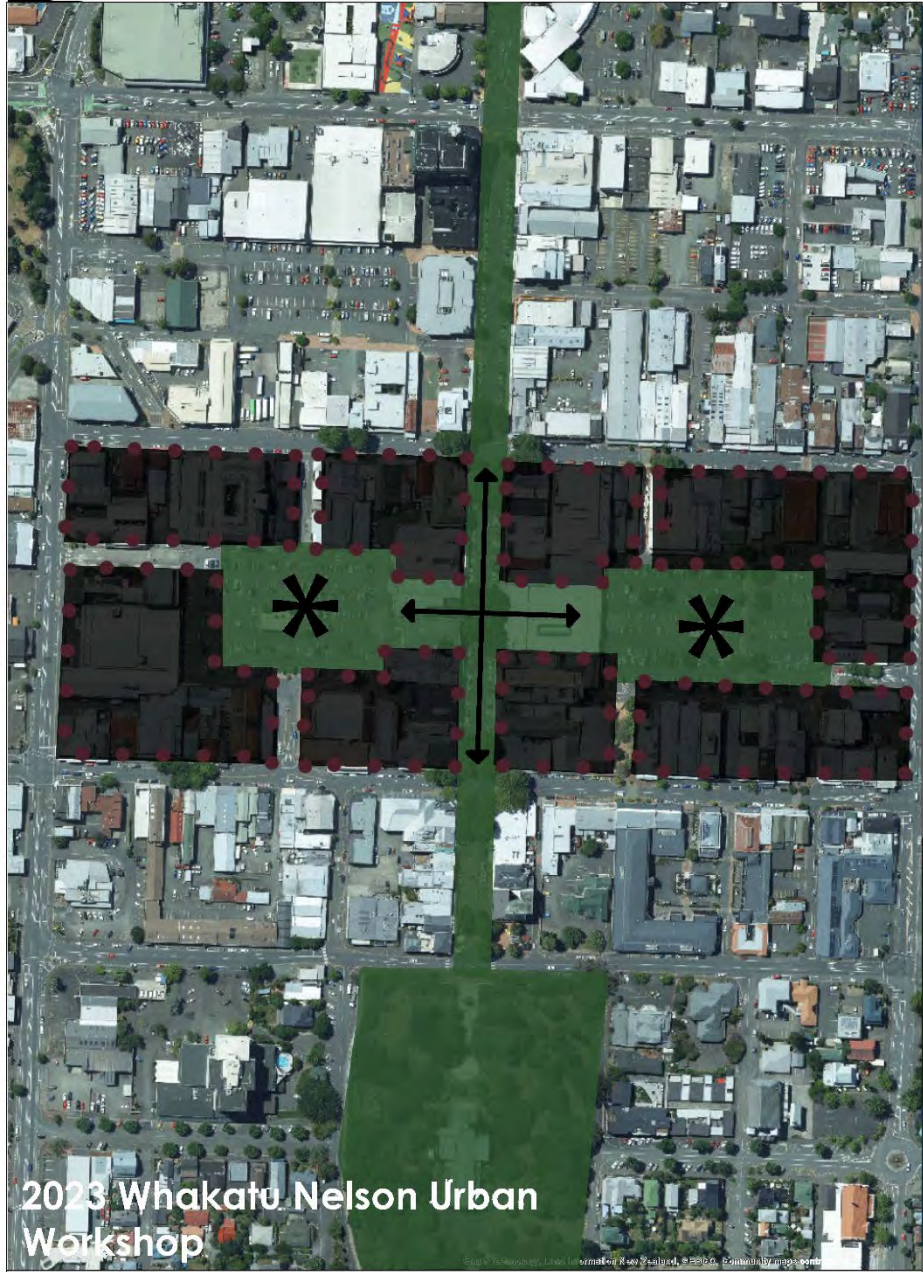
2023 Whakatu Nelson Urban
Workshop

Image: Whakatu Nelson Urban Workshop, © 2023. All rights reserved.



2023 Whakatu Nelson Urban Workshop

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2023 Whakatu Nelson Urban Workshop



city square - public green



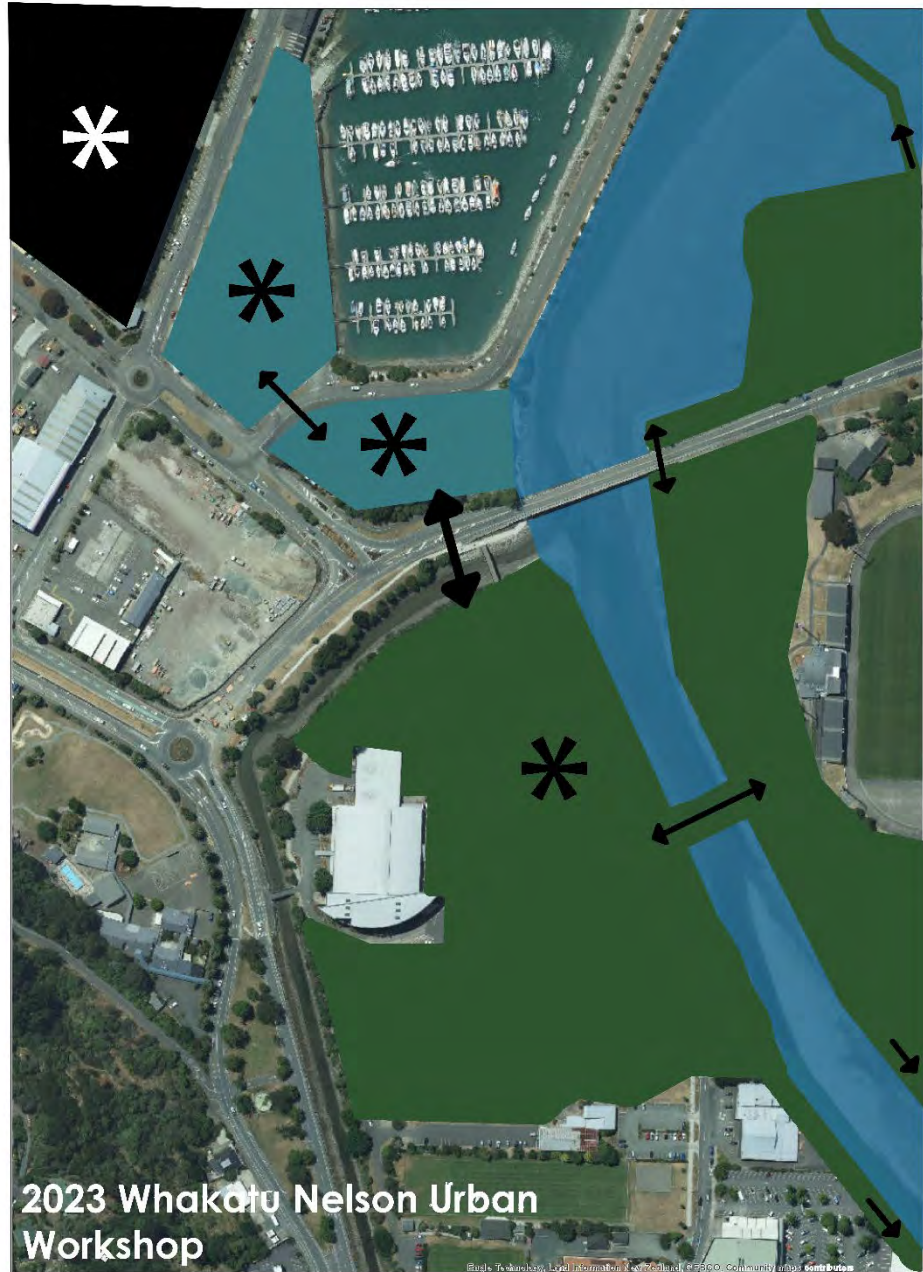
shared streets



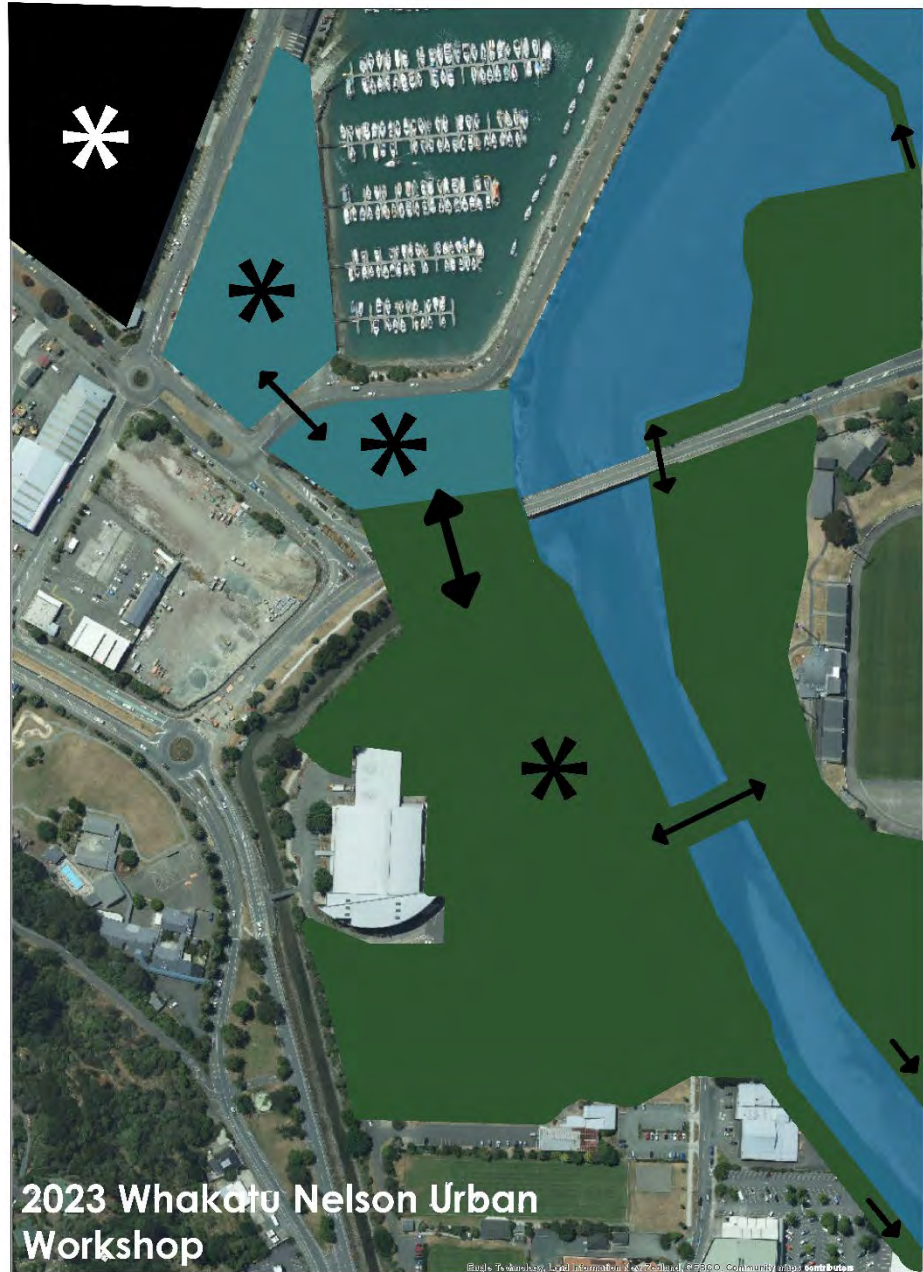
laneways & active edges



urban residential intensification - multi-use



2023 Whakatū Nelson Urban Workshop



2023 Whakatū Nelson Urban Workshop







PHIL HARDBERGER PARK



TEAM 2

Team two imagines what Nelson could become if we rethink our urban design strategy, replacing traditional grid designs with a 'super nature' approach. The design looks to Increase density, reduce road and increase nature. The super nature approach uses an aggregate of cells to guide development patterns, open space and roading. The cell structure is malleable and responsive, helping to create a more resilient city.

Team members:

Shea Gillison
Leona deRidder
Winston Dewhirst
Stephanie Phillips
Juan Carlos Ortiz Torrenova



Tuia Pito Ora
New Zealand Institute
of Landscape Architects



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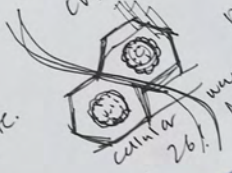




Creating the future of Nelson
 Bio planning
 Connect people with nature through built environment.
 Structural support system - Quador
 Re-imagining of built environment - address urban challenges
 impact of climate change.

SUPER-NATURE
 ADAPTATION

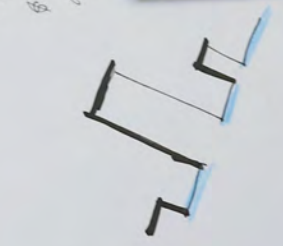
Calling on the global community of designers.
 Aggregate.
 →
 Natural Area



26%
 Natural Area

Maintain Density.
 Promote Walkability
 Resilience. $> \frac{1}{4}$ it.

+ Increase inclusivity
 \$950,000,000 million
 developing urban env.



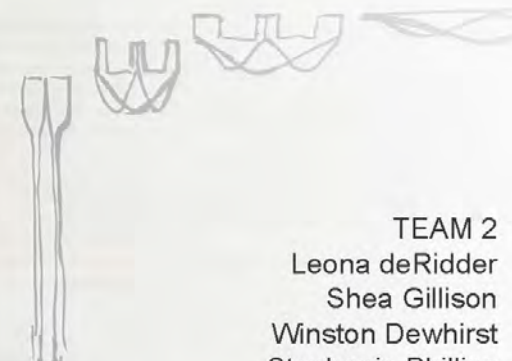
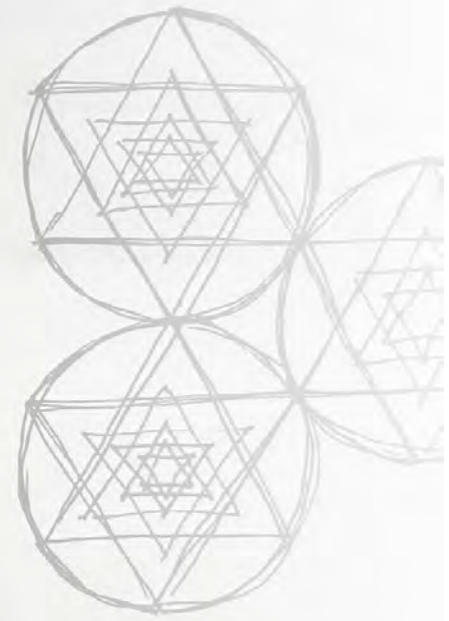
Trees-structure
 Soil | Mycelium - interconnect

Harmony.





Plot
Aug 2017 12/150



TEAM 2
Leona deRidder
Shea Gillison
Winston Dewhirst
Stephanie Phillips
Juan Carlos Ortiz Torrenova

SUPERNATURE ADAPTATION

2. Urban challenge - 27,000 pop increase by 2035
increase density.

Problem - Ecological disharmony
DIS CONNECTIONS

Challenge - 27,000 pop. increase 2035

- 1/1. Natural Area.
 - Increase density
 - Reduce roading
 - Increase nature.

3.

Re-imagining of the built env thru the lens of ecology

Solution - Supernatural Adaptation

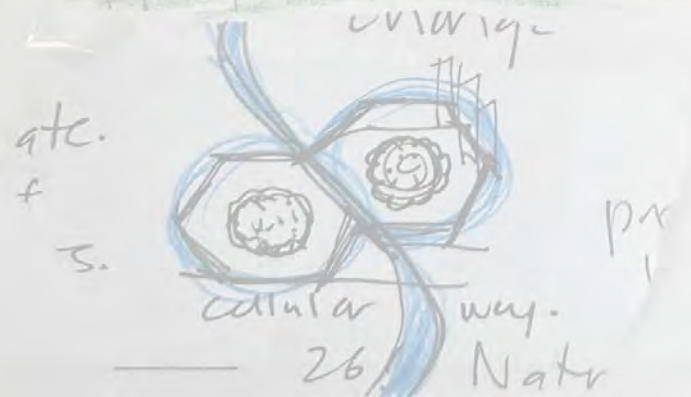
DESIGN CITIES LIKE NATURE DOES

HOW?

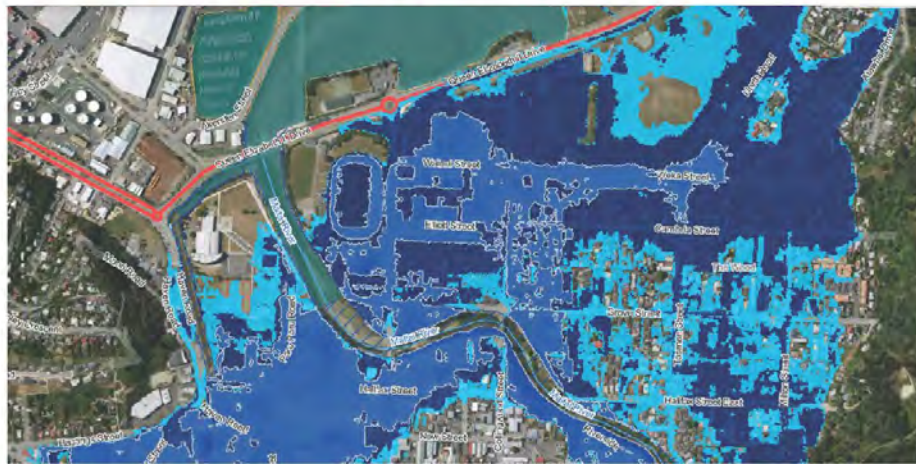
Bioplanning Design Principles

1. We Call on the global community of designers to progress to Design cities like Nature does

Aggregate of cells - formed from a mass of fragments



Ecological



CATALYST FOR CHANGE



OPPORTUNITY

BIOPANNING DESIGN PRINCIPLES

ONENESS - Design with Life @ center

GROUNDING - Connect everything to the Earths Natural Energy

FLOWING - Embrace Natural cycles to create balance

BELONGING - Be present. Be Local. Be Inclusive

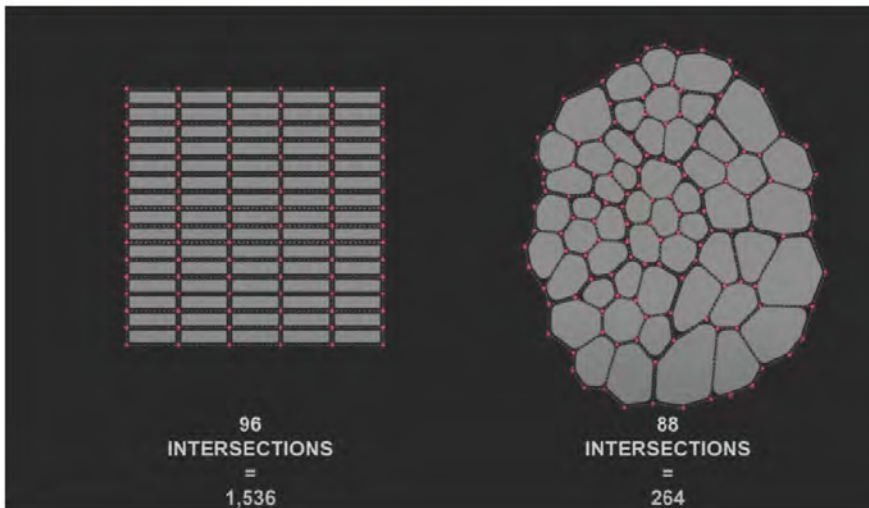
FLOURISHING - Co-create as community at every scale

www.supernaturelabs.com



AGGREGATE OF CELLS

- Disrupting the grid
- Reducing intersections
- Increasing Green Areas by 25%
- Reducing roading by 30%
- Increasing Density



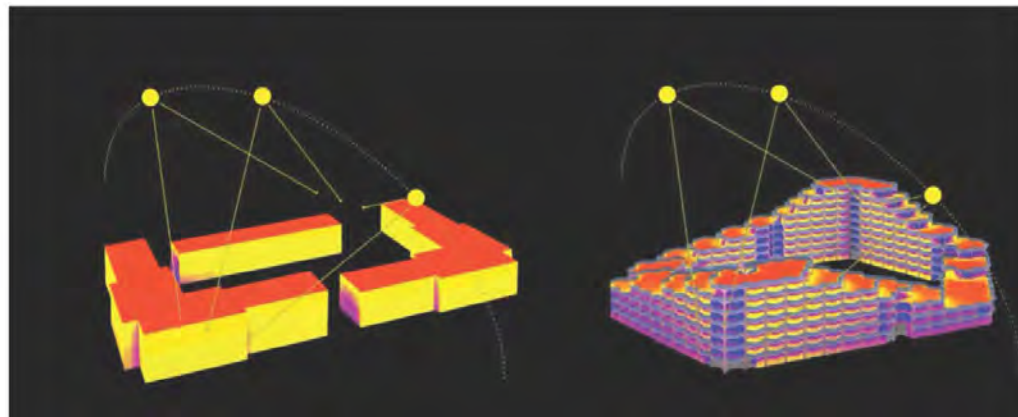
56% BUILT FORM
43% ROADING
1% NATURAL AREA



56% BUILT FORM
18% ROADING
26% NATURAL AREA



RESILIENT WATER
MANAGEMENT



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

SUPERNATURE WHAKATŪ





Green Cell (Public)



Residential Cell



Historic Coastline



Entrance to the City



Flood hazard



ECOLOGICAL HARMONY











TEAM 3

Team three acknowledges the success of our Saturday market exploring how future inner-city development might expand upon its successes. Celebrating ideas fundamental to good urban design such as public interaction, multi-functionality and protected outdoors spaces, the design proposes areas for public discourse, space for play and cultural expression to further enhance our place.

Team members:

Jimmy King
Richard Sellars
Dylan Shearer
Don Poole



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The Market Place as *catalyst*



Historical centre - public square




An aerial photograph of a city block. A central area, including a large open square and surrounding buildings, is highlighted in yellow. The rest of the block shows a grid of streets, various buildings, and parking lots.

**What's working well?
Build on its strengths**

Public interaction

Multi-functional

Outdoor protected square

An aerial photograph of a city street grid. A central area, roughly rectangular with a vertical extension at the bottom, is highlighted in a solid red color. This red area is filled with a dense, colorful collage of various national flags from different countries. The surrounding city is composed of numerous buildings, streets, and parking lots, typical of an urban environment.

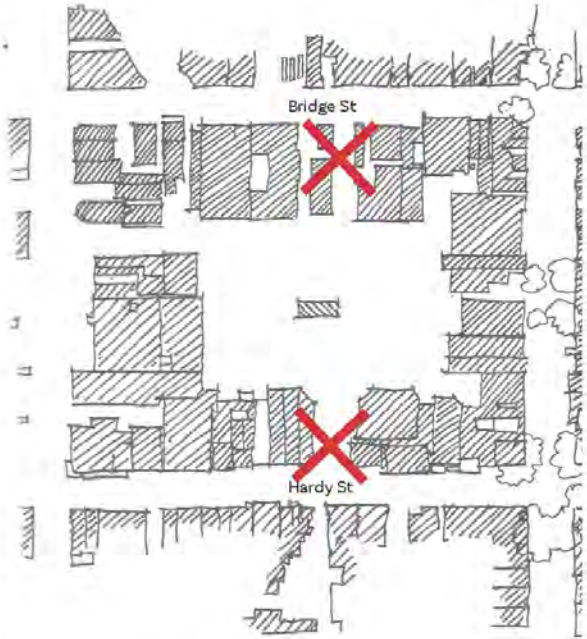
What's missing?

Public discourse

Space for play

Cultural expression

Design intervention



Limit vehicle access



Reclaim parking space



Improve pedestrian thoroughfare

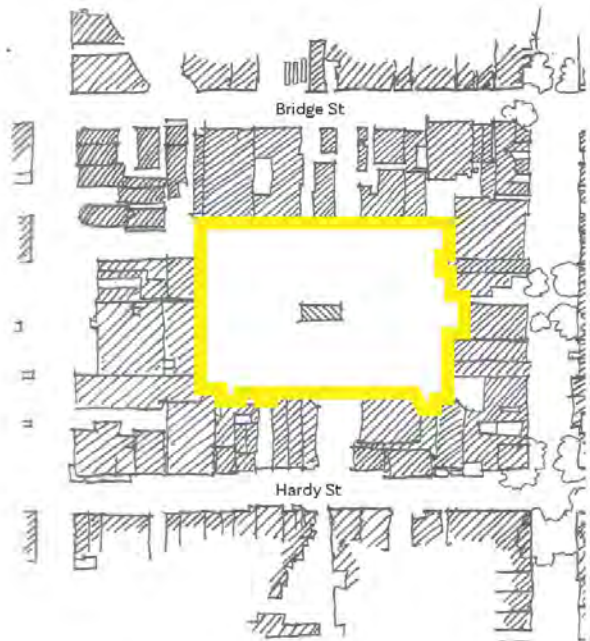
Catalyst for:



Creating green space & public amenity



Encouraging further development



Activating edges

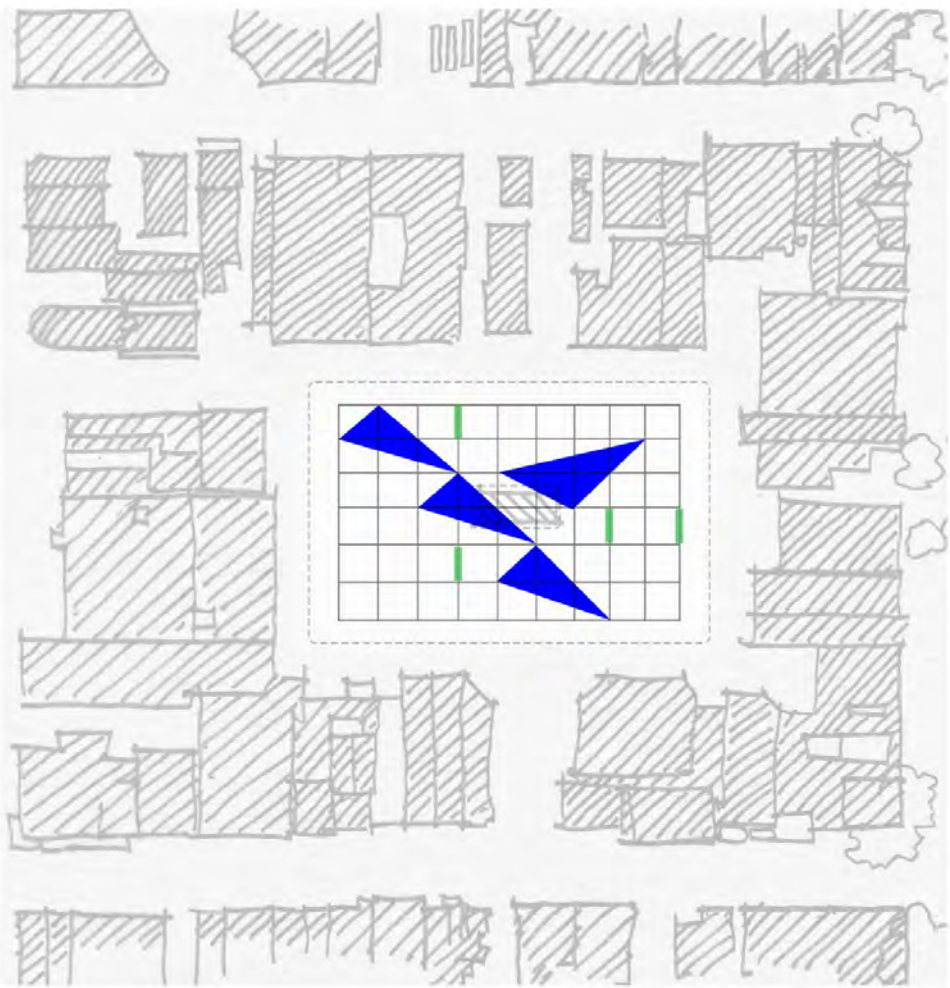
Low intervention - tactical urbanism →

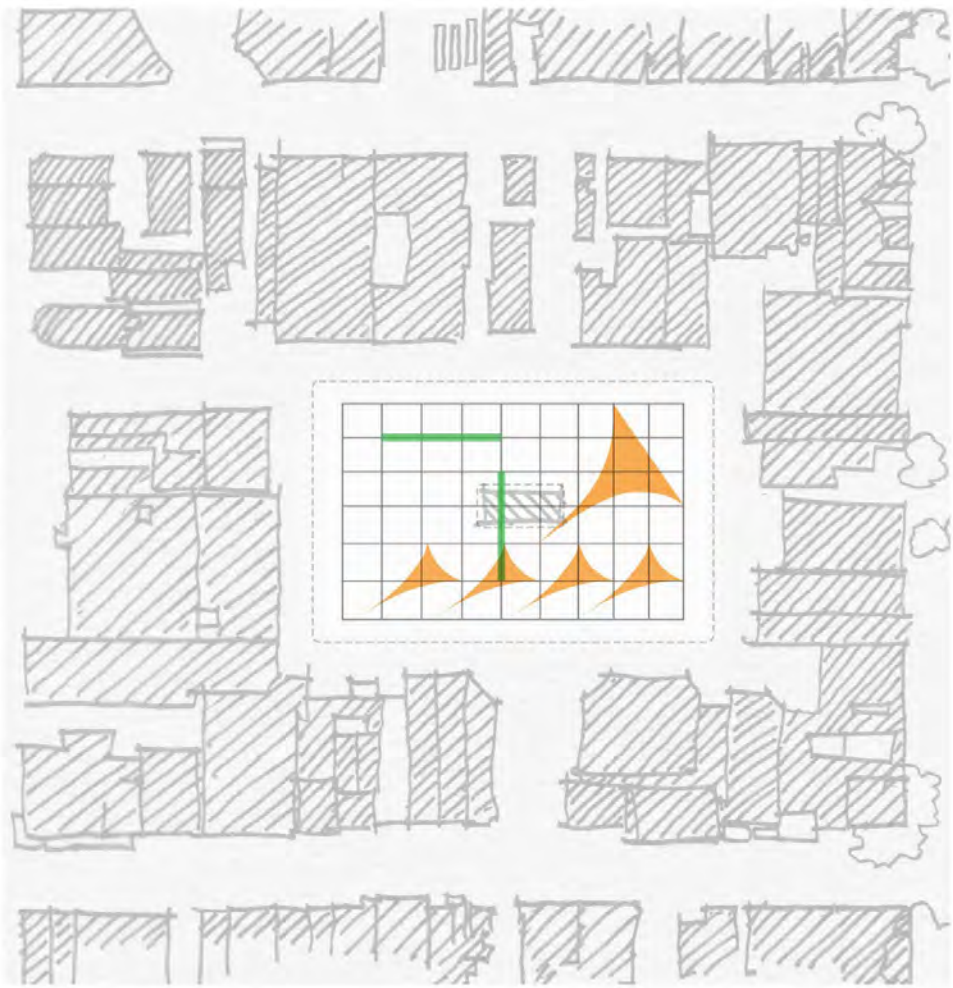
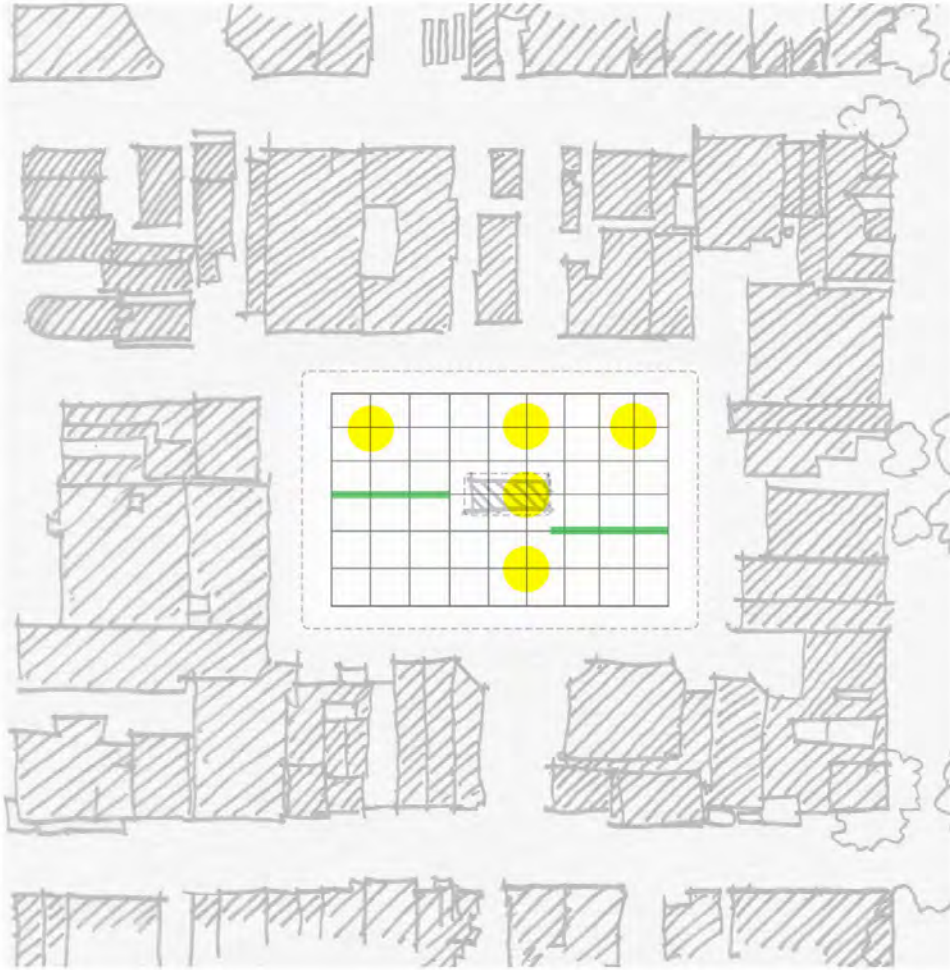


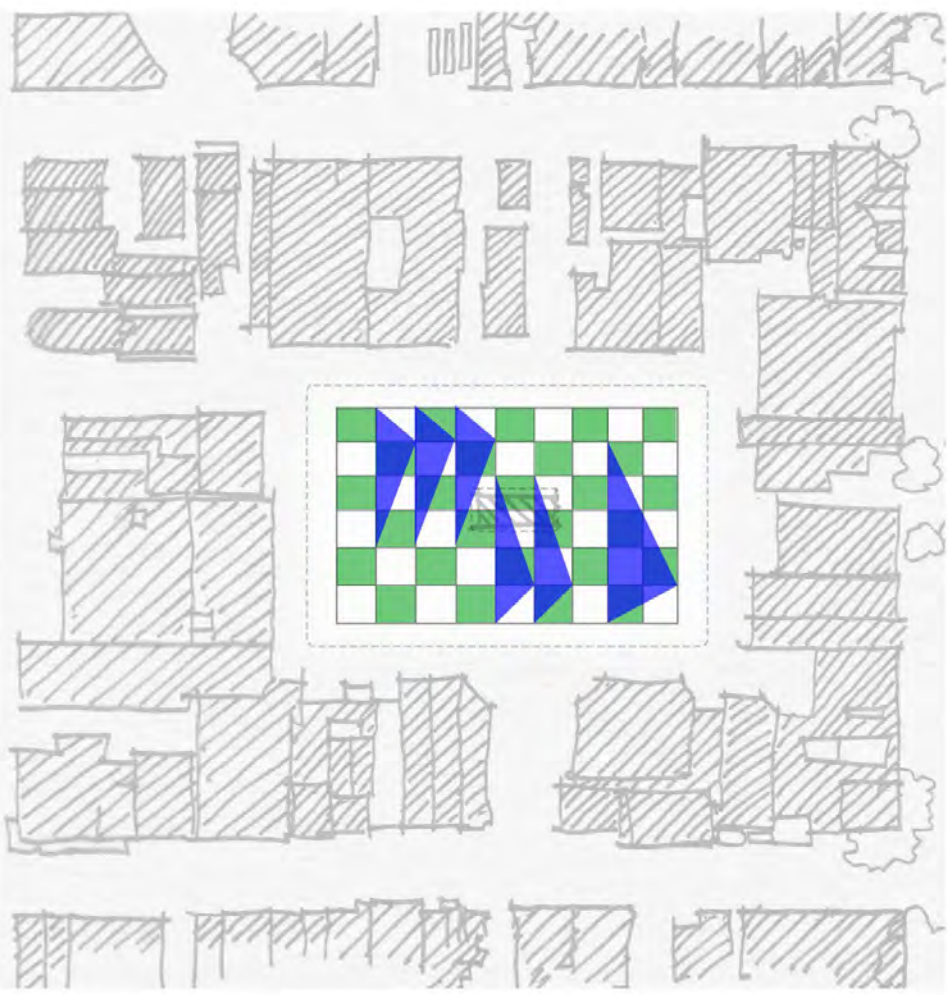
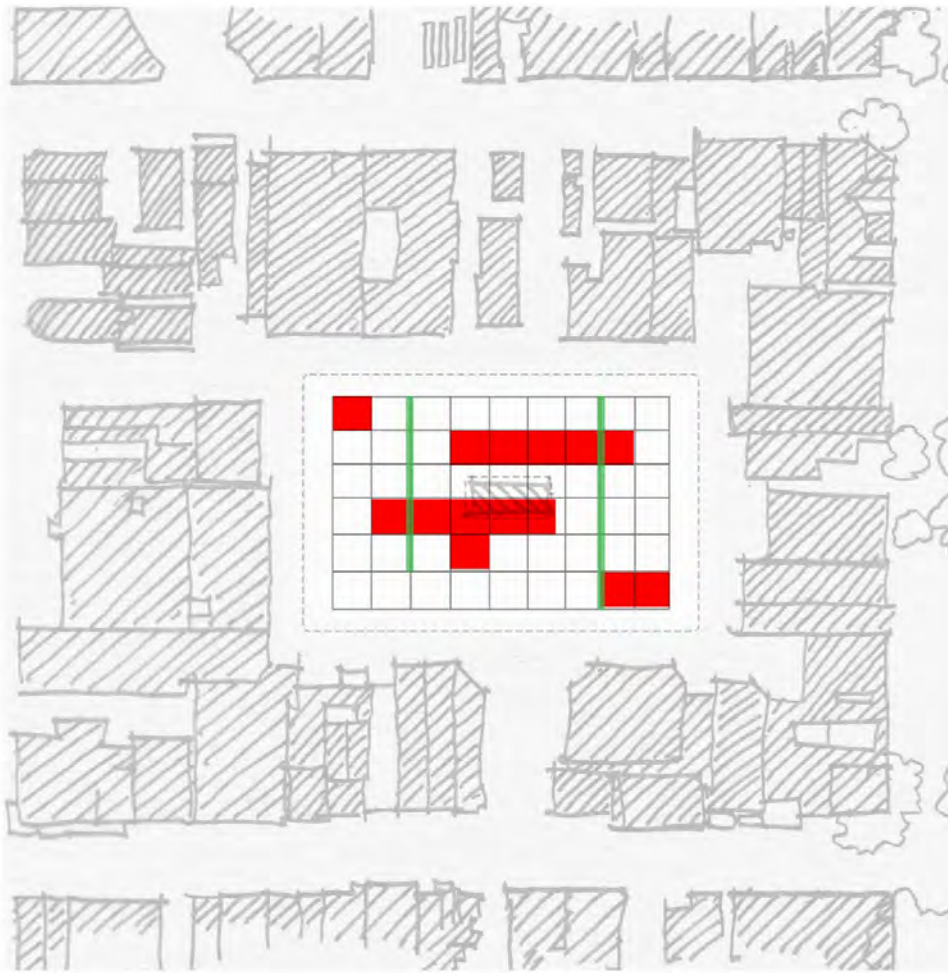
towards new possibilities

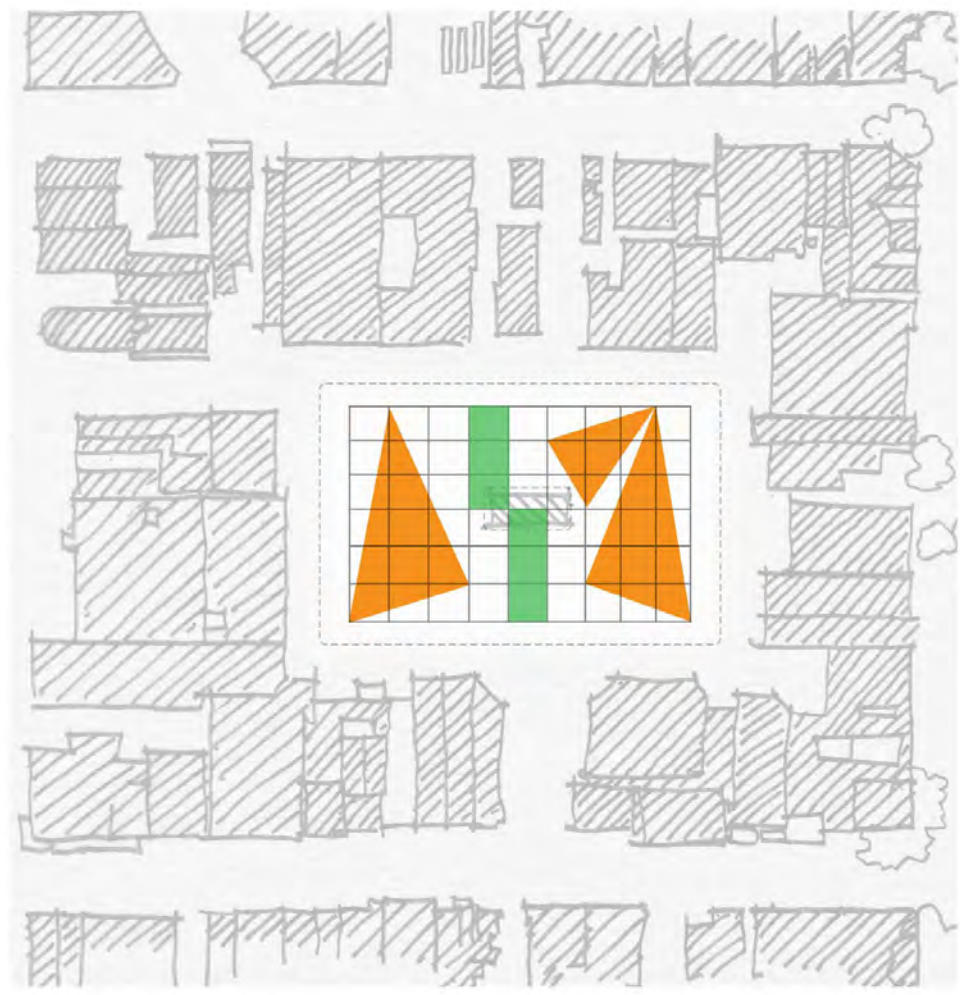
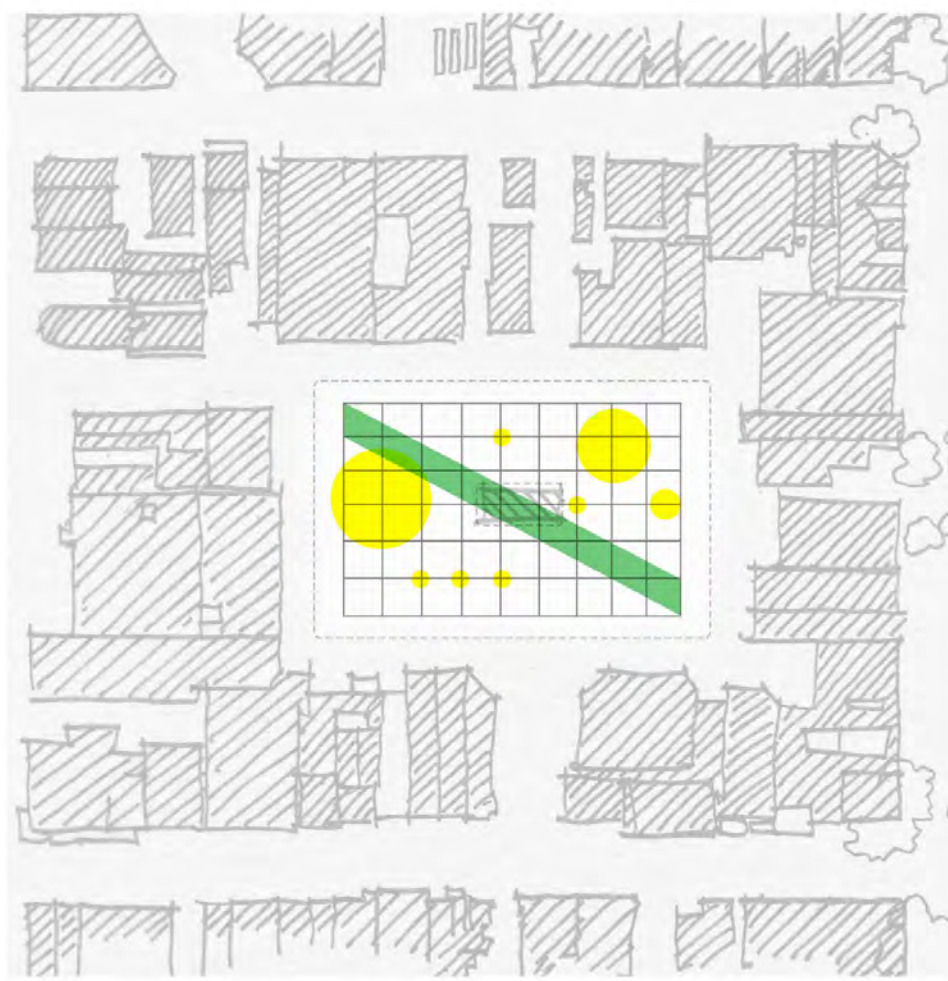


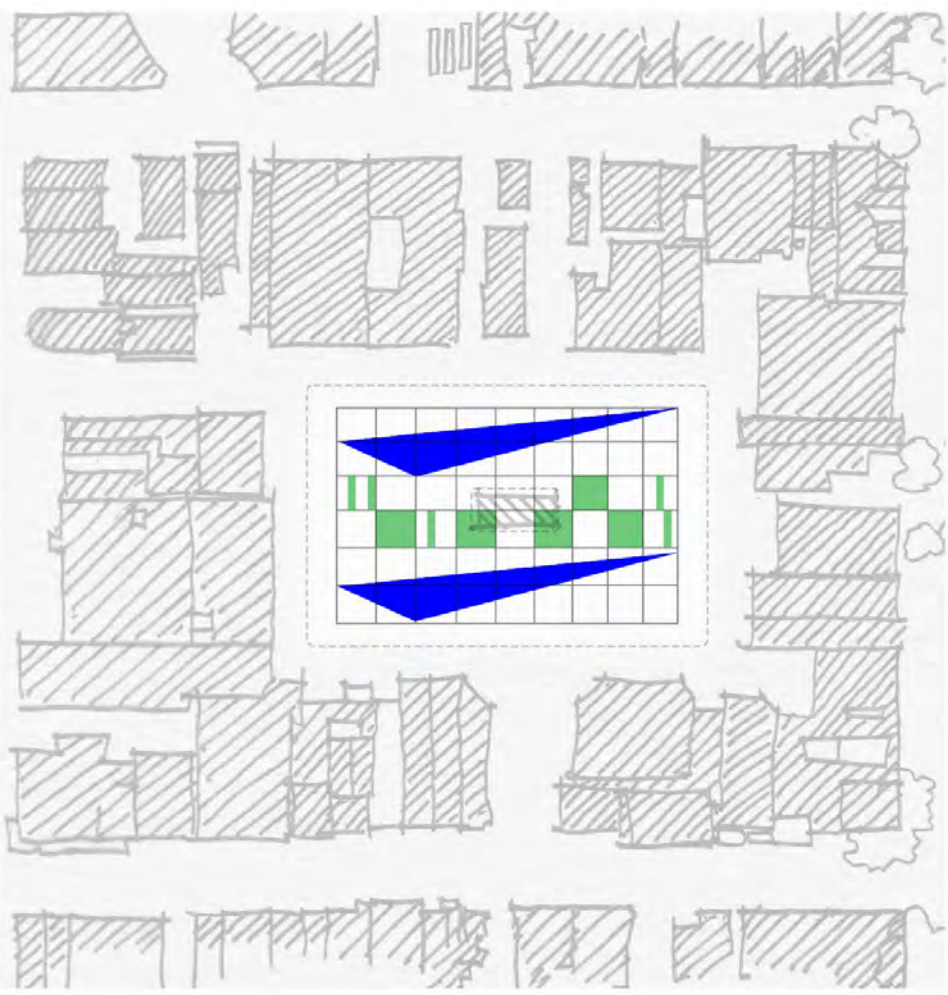
Design studies

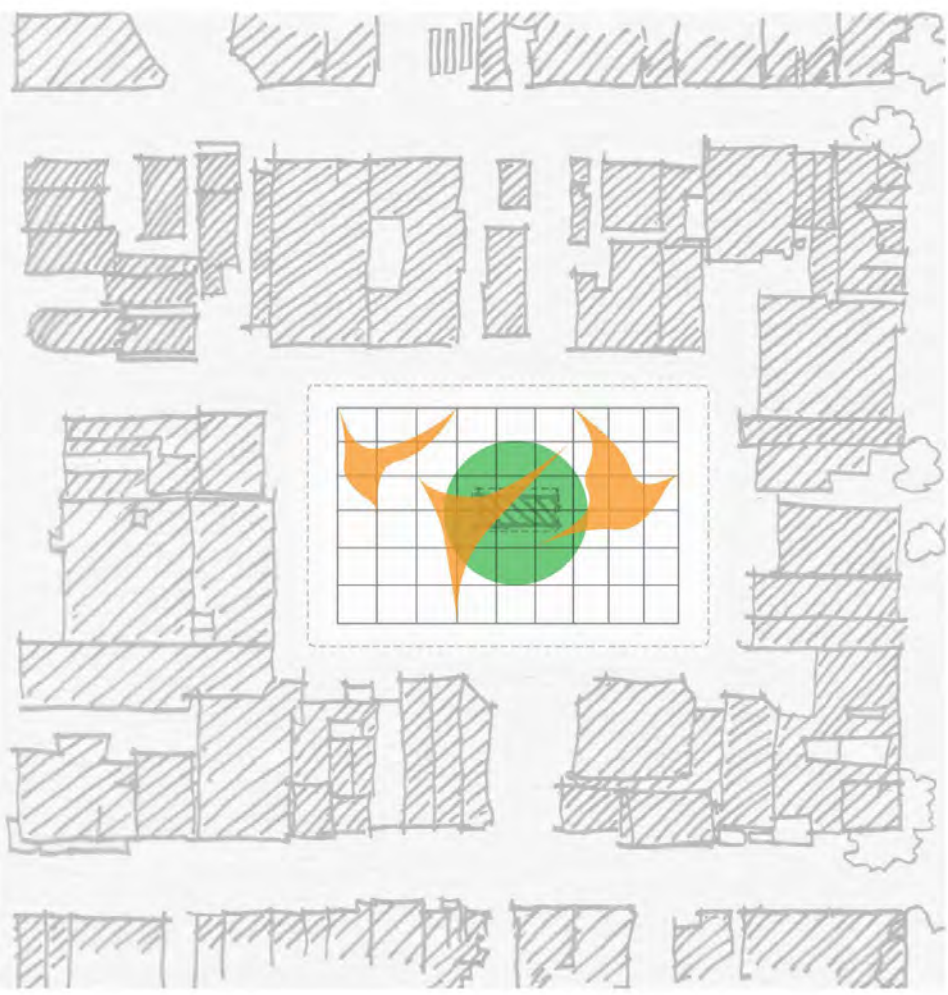
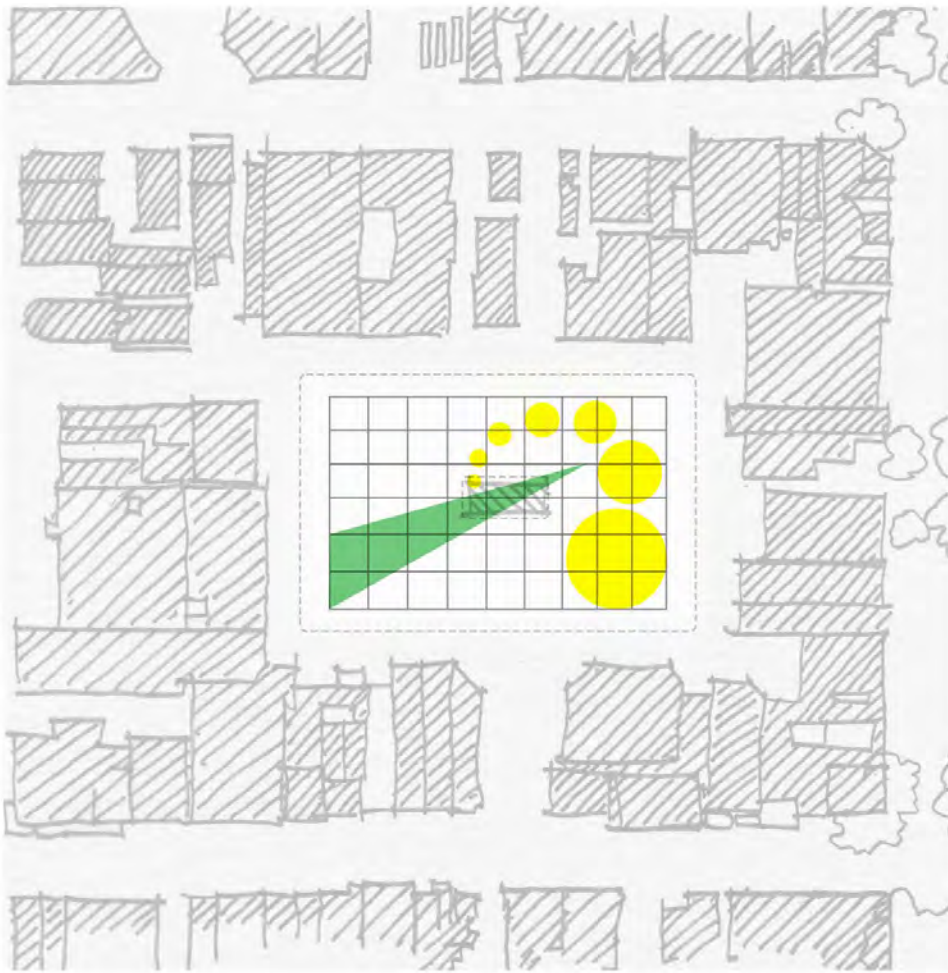






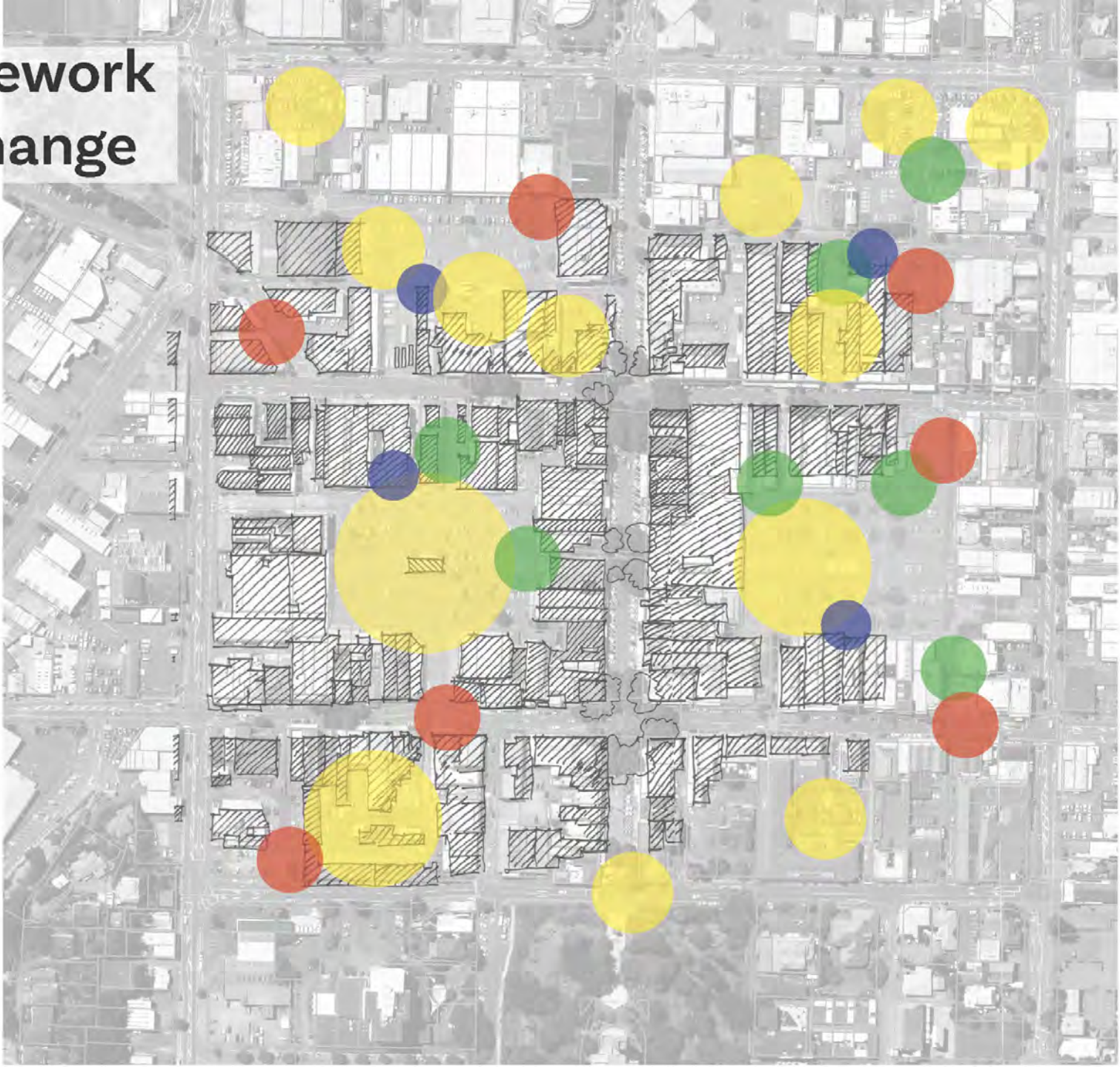








Framework for change



TEAM 4

Three questions inspired the design process for team 4. What if Whakatū decolonised the planning, design & management of our 'place'? How might that approach alter the way we place value on our social, cultural, environmental & economic context? How might that help to mitigate the many challenges facing our place? The resulting design reimagines our open space network, celebrates our river and reconnects Nelson central with the coastline.

Team members:

Claire McAuley

Anne Rush

Brad Beazley

Den Aitkin

Quan Nguyen



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DE- COLONISE WHAKATŪ

What if Whakatū de-colonised the planning, design & management of our 'place'?

How might that approach alter the way we place value on our social, cultural, environmental & economic context?

How might that help to mitigate the many challenges facing our place?

An aerial photograph of a coastal city, likely Wellington, New Zealand. The image shows a harbor with several industrial buildings and docks along the waterfront. The city extends inland, showing a mix of residential and commercial buildings. The water is a deep blue-green color. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

A Would we create disconnect with the natural realm (harbours, forests, riverways etc.) or priorities connectivity between these places and the city?

B Would our open spaces exist for singular purposes (Trafalgar Park) or would we ensure these spaces are flexible, multi-functional & intergenerational?

C Would we celebrate only colonialism in our public spaces (Rutherford Playground, Anzac Park, Queens Gardens, Albion Square) or would we allow cultural narratives to inform development?

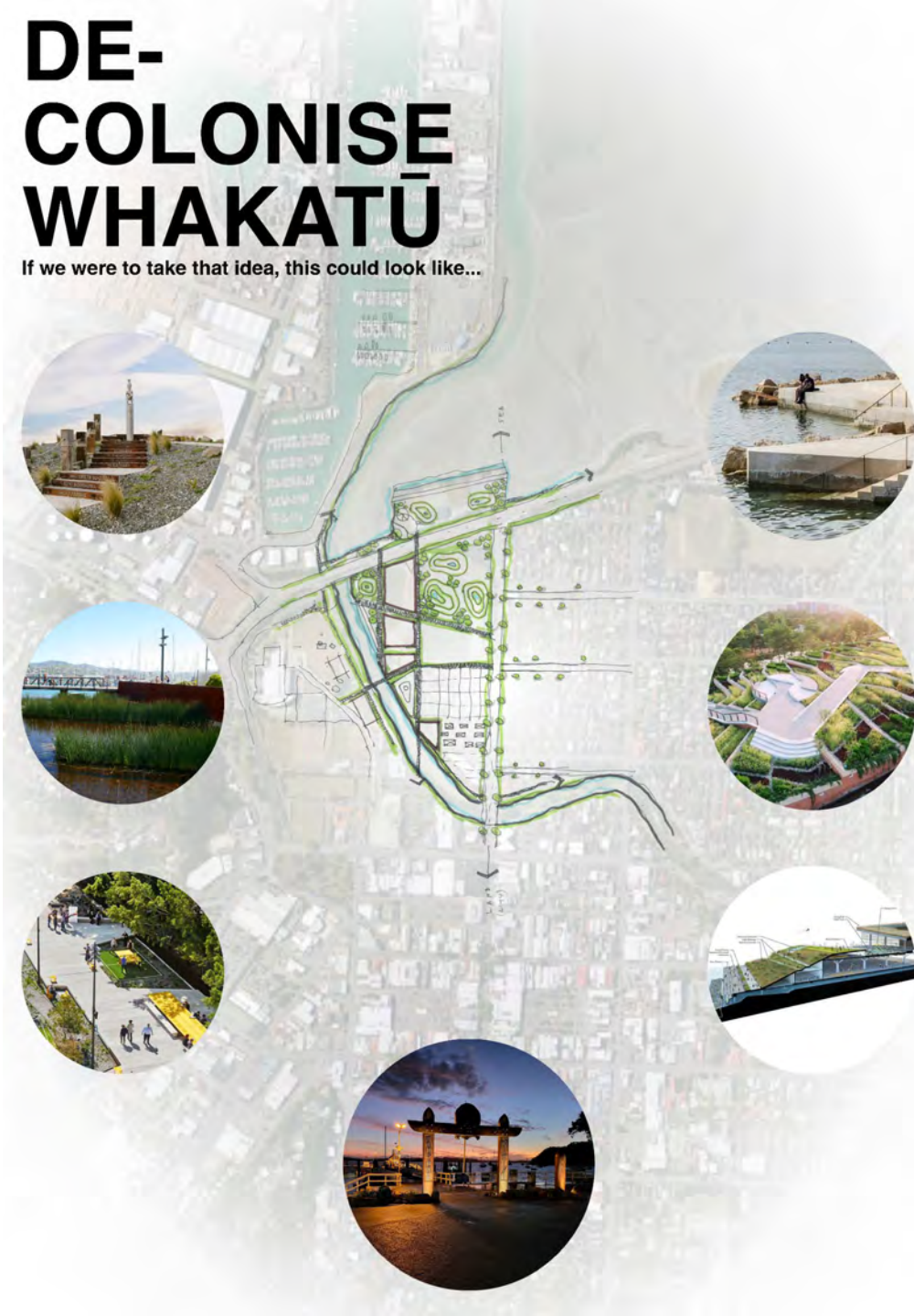
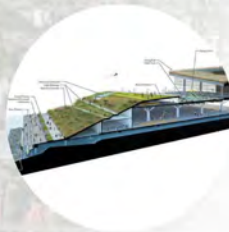
D Would we privatise our riparian land/margins or use these to help manage natural ecological processes in response to climate change?

E Would our city centre be dominated by roads for cars or would they be places for people?

F Would our public spaces be generic or would they celebrate local character, identity & cultural diversity?

DE-COLONISE WHAKATŪ

If we were to take that idea, this could look like...



TEAM 5

The effects of a single drop of vitality ripple through inner city Nelson. Key areas of the city are changed by 'the ripple effect' confirming a range of precinct opportunities introducing inner city living, a performing arts hub, a library and community hub and connection to the river. The city would become a greener place, with park-like nodes celebrating our place creating a social destination.

Team members:

Alan Gray
Achini Samarasekara
Agathe Porlier
Nikau Adams



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Drop of Vitality



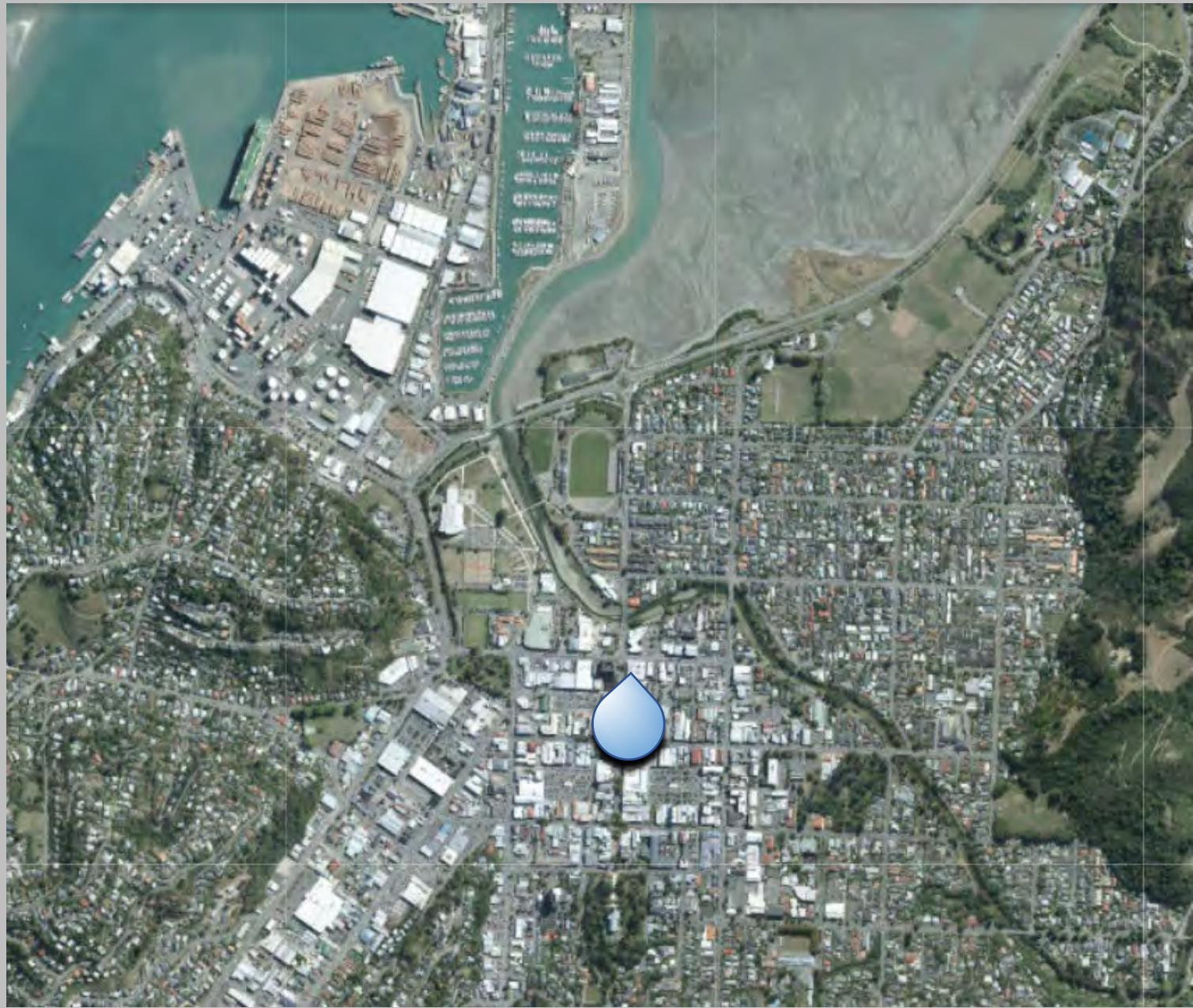
- Revitalization of Nelson's urban heart

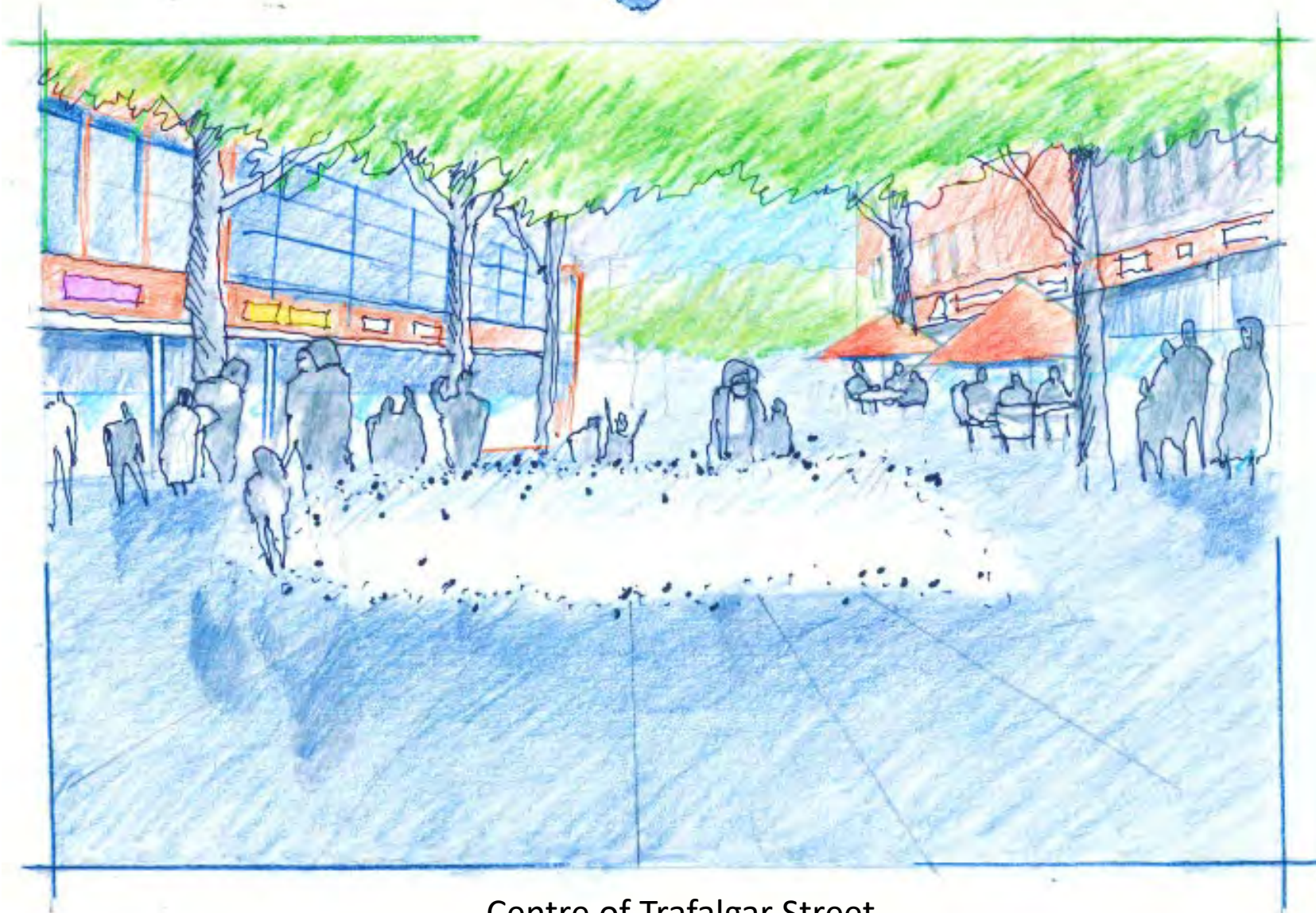
Agathe Porlier - Architect

Alan Gray – Landscape Architect/Urban Designer

Nikau Adams – Student/Potential aspiring planner

Achini Samarasekara - Planner



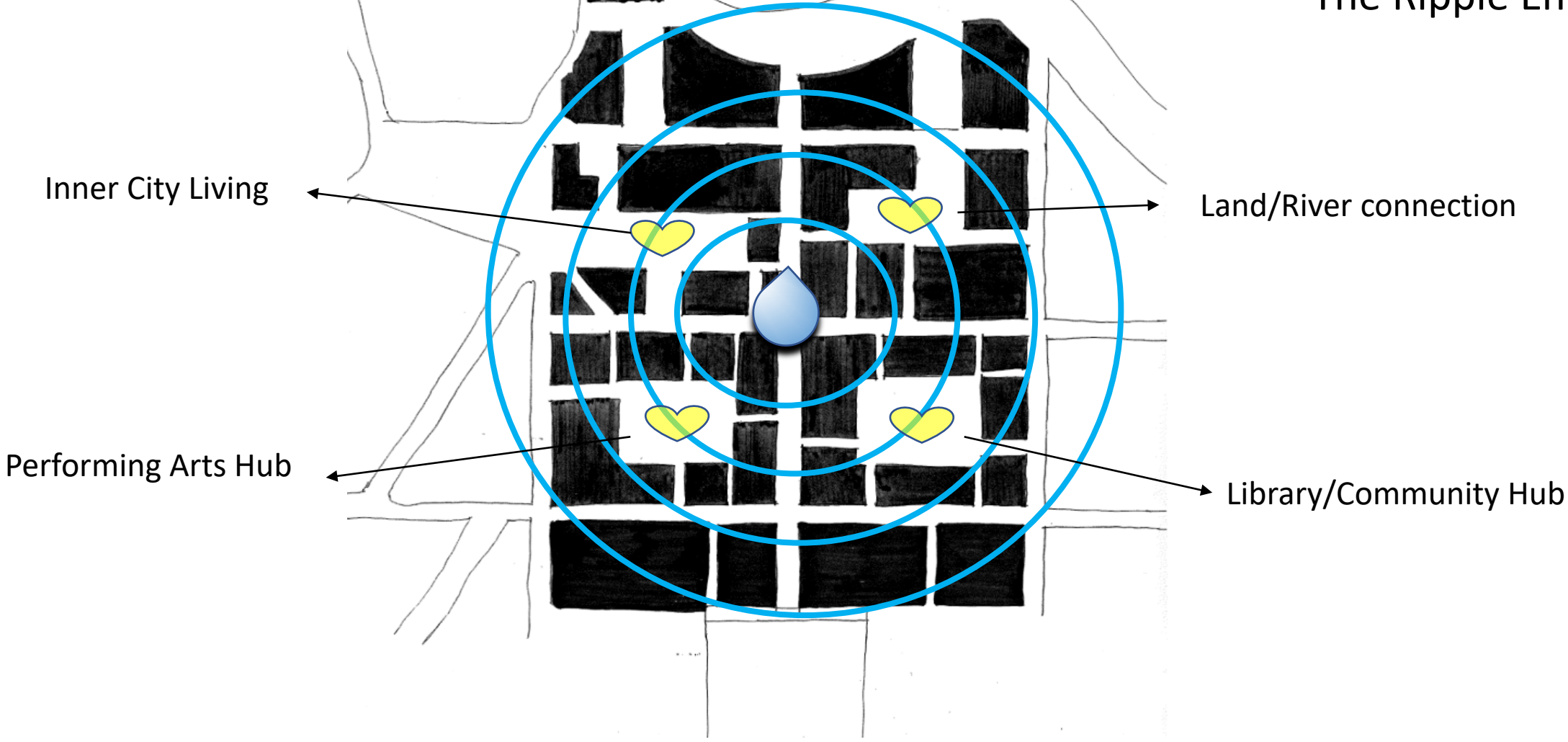


Centre of Trafalgar Street



PROPOSED REVITALIZATION PROJECTS

'The Ripple Effect'





Trafalgar Street

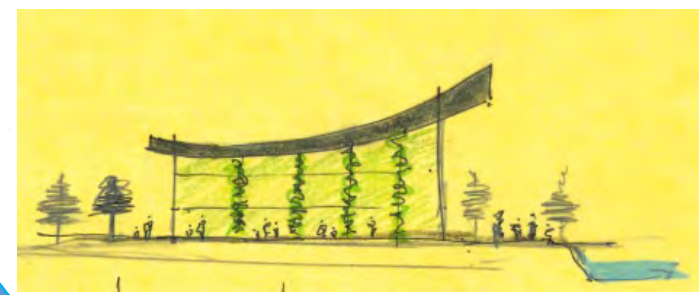


Trafalgar Street

KEY PROPOSED LANDMARKS/SPACES



Climatorium/Innovation Hub



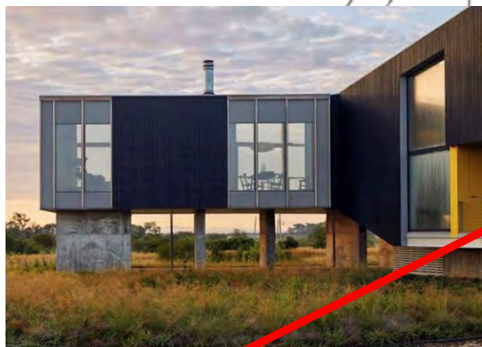
Community glasshouse/garden



Inner-city apartments

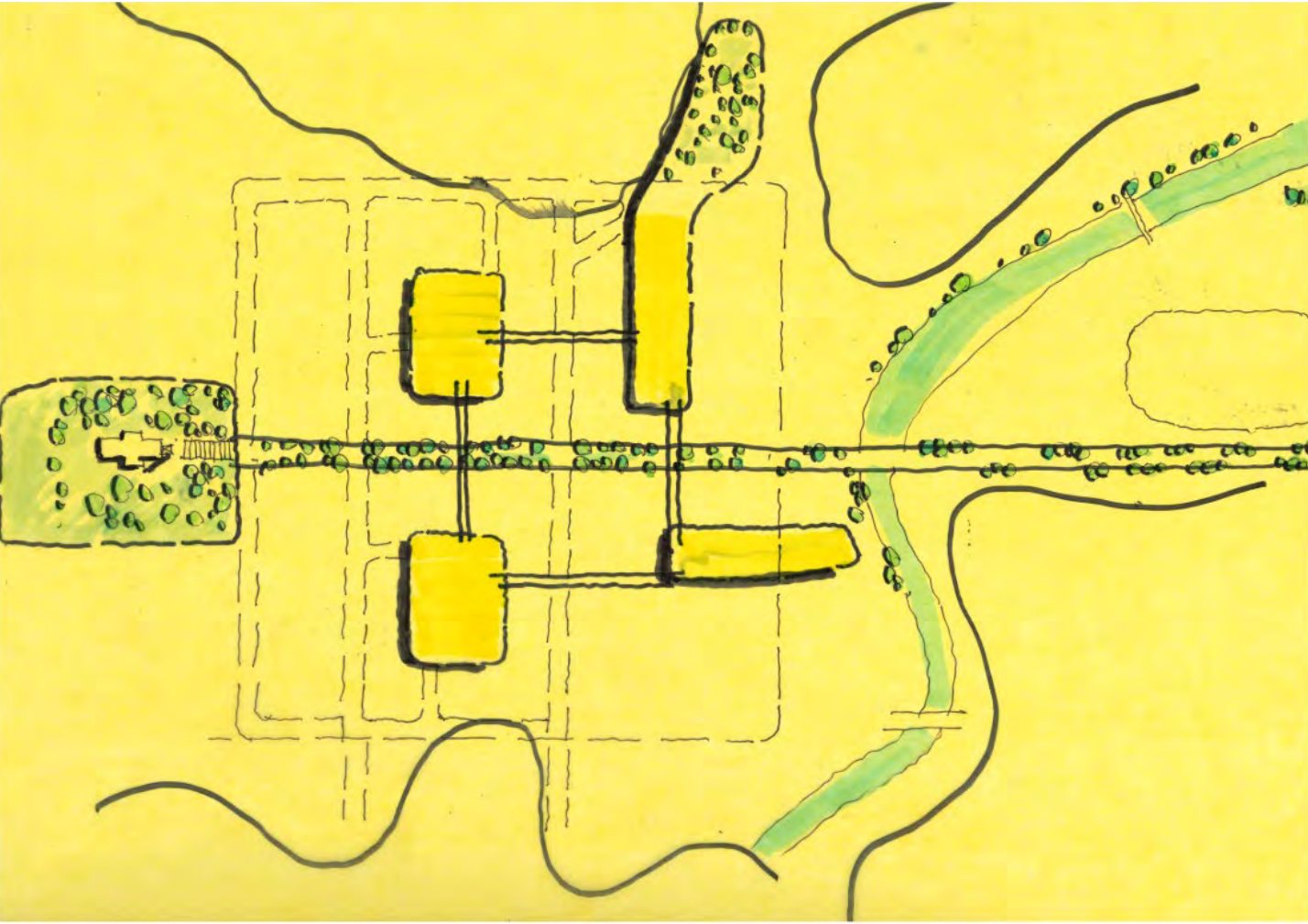


Kauri Performing Arts Centre

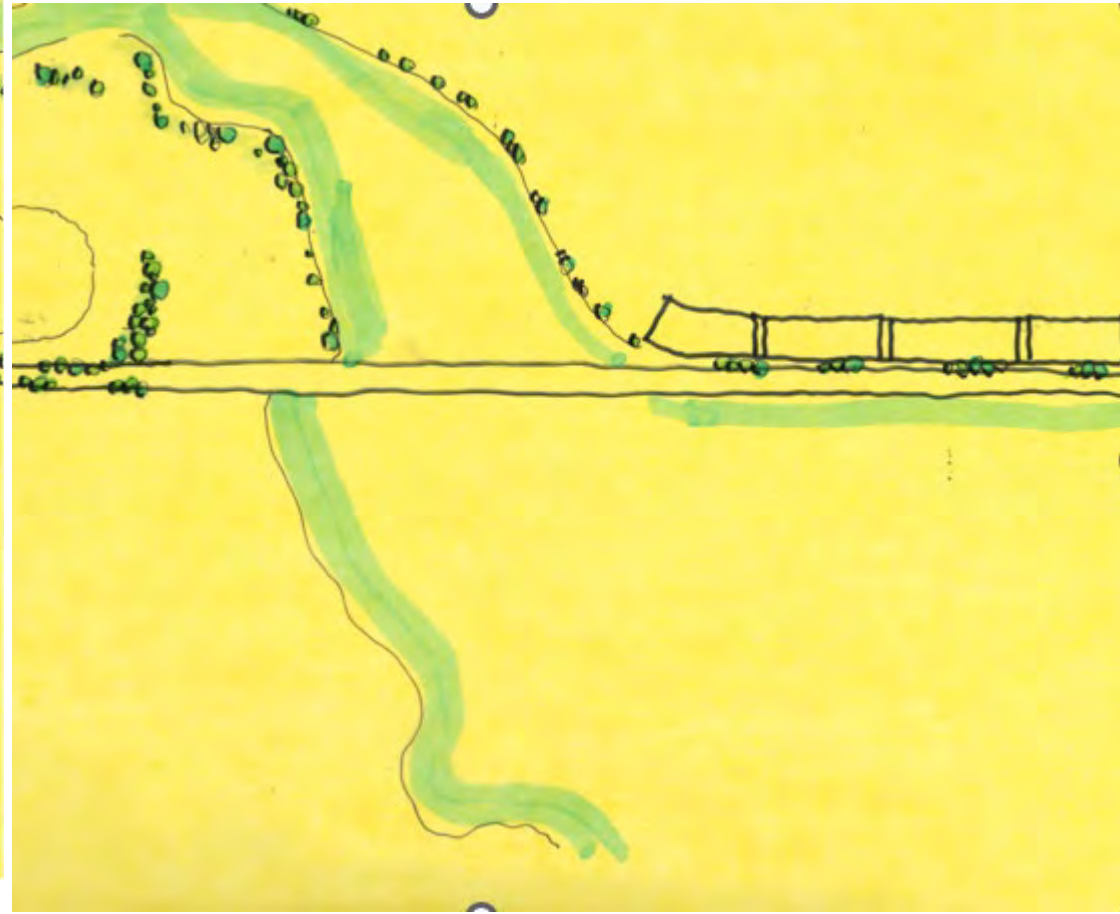


Library/Community Hub





The wider picture: Connection from the heart of the city to the port



TEAM 6

Where do you eat your lunch? This simple question inspired team six to explore how central Nelson could create spaces for relaxation, rejuvenation and play. Key areas such as the Maitai riverbank and our central city parking squares provide opportunities to reconnect with nature and allow people to linger, enjoy, and eat lunch. Montgomery Square becomes an urban plaza, complete with underground parking facilities, that faces a new central city library building.

Team members:

William Samuels
Olivia Price
Jo Kearney
Lee Woodman
Tyler Hutchinson



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**Where do you
eat your lunch?**

**LUNCH =
SPACE FOR
REJUVINATION**





Key
Lunch
Spots

**“BRIDGE TO
BRUNCH”**



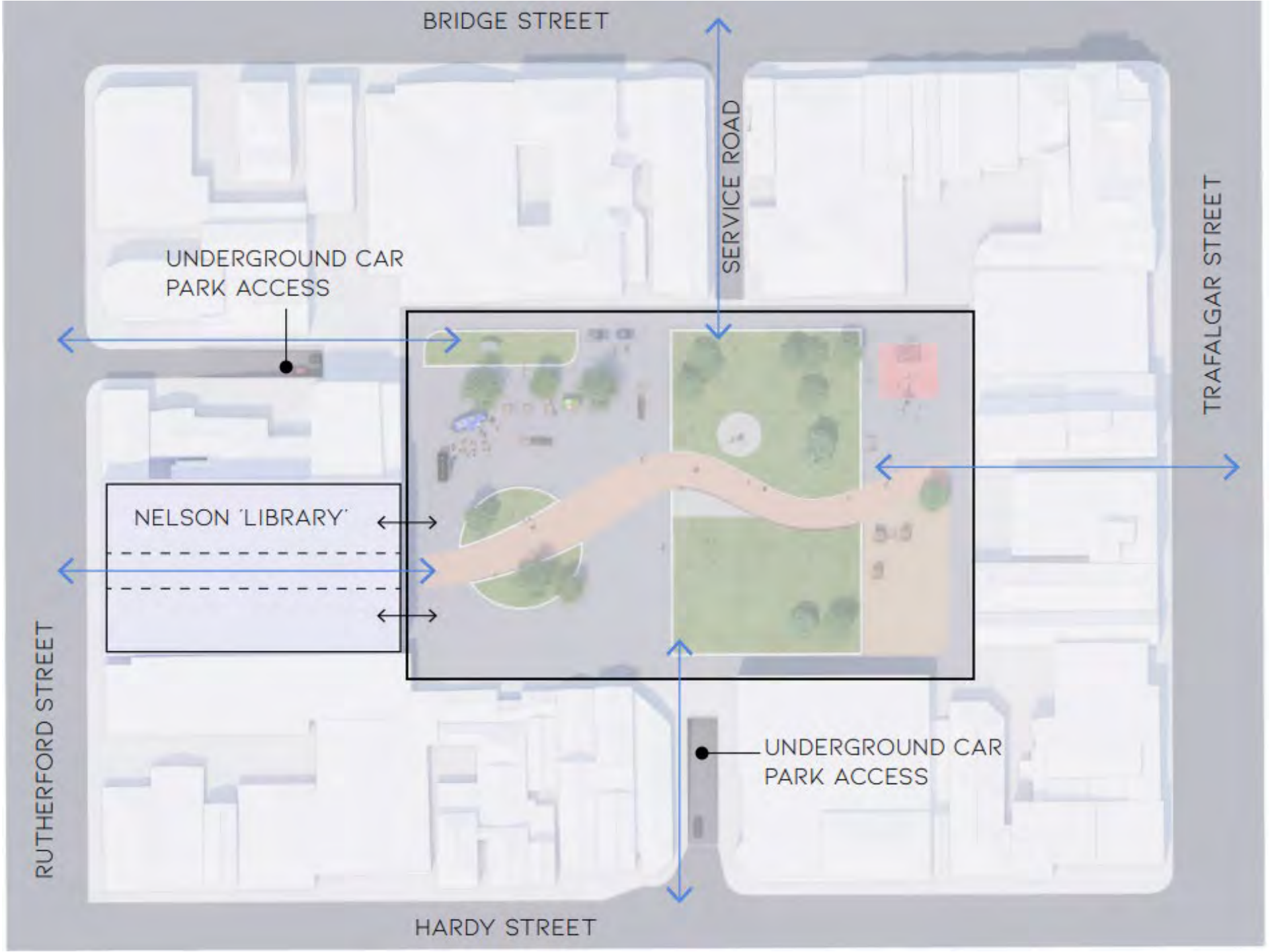
LIBRARY RELOCATION

**OPPORTUNITY FOR GREEN
SPACE AND LINKAGES**

MONTGOMERY SQUARE

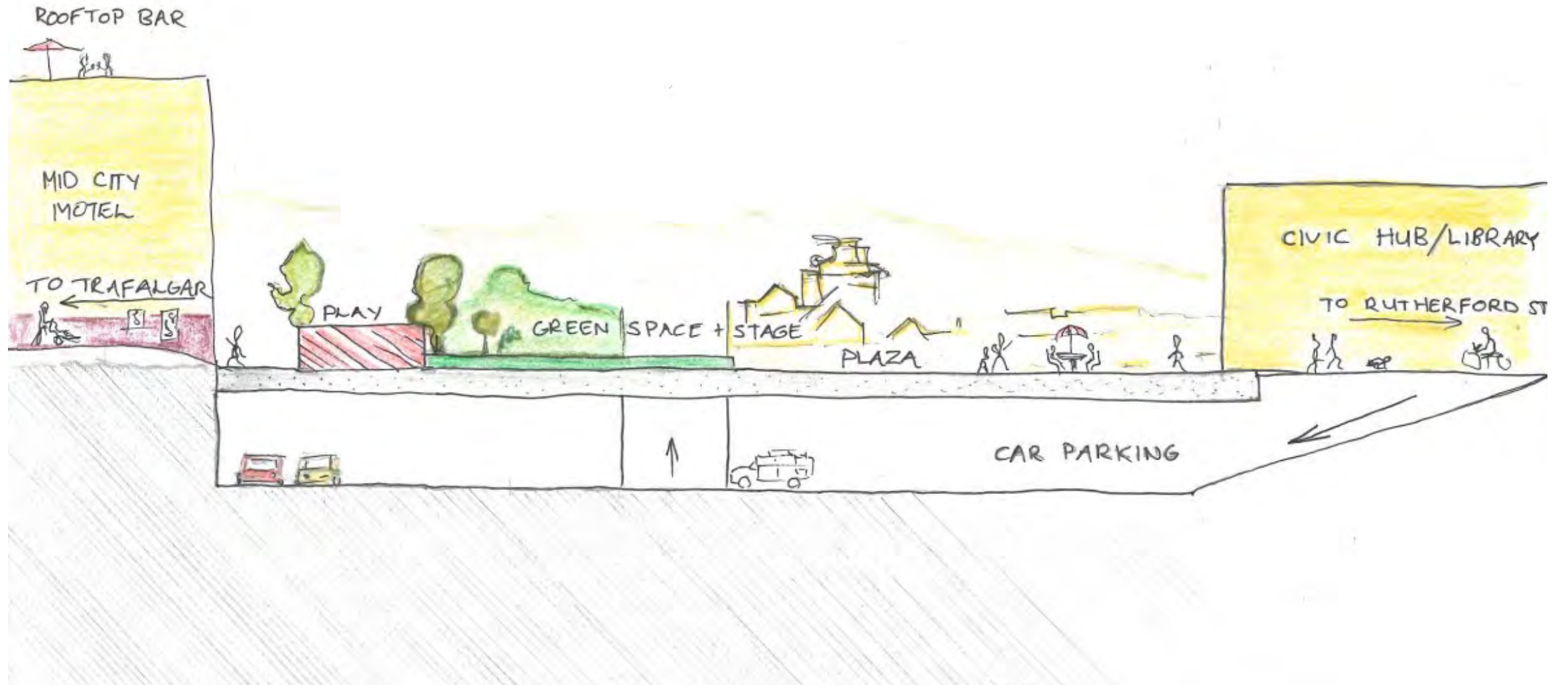
'FIRST TABLE'



















NELSON LIBRARY

TEAM 7

Bringing life back into the city was the goal of team seven design. The teams design celebrates Nelson key strengths such as, beer, wine and fish; the arts; our built heritage and our sunshine. The strategy proposes a stop to urban sprawl, intensification of our existing urban and residential centers, introducing better amenity opportunities while considering climate change and managed retreat. Careful planning introduces a fish market and new civic buildings, a new library and urban parks, and environmental restoration of our rivers and coastal edge

Team members:

Lance Roozenburg

David Wallace

Timo Neubauer

Tony Bartley



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TEAM 7 –EVOLUTION OF NELSON TO FUTURE-PROOF OUR SMART LITTLE CITY

DAVID WALLACE, TONY BARTLEY, TIMO NEUBAUER, LANCE ROOZENBURG

INNOVATIVE

THE BEST
VIBRANCY
REJUVENATION
SEXINESS

LIVEABLE

AFFORDABLE



ACTIVE

GOALS

- Bring life back into the city / vibrancy
- Celebrate Nelson's strengths
 - - beer, wine & fish
 - - the arts
 - - built heritage
 - - sunshine

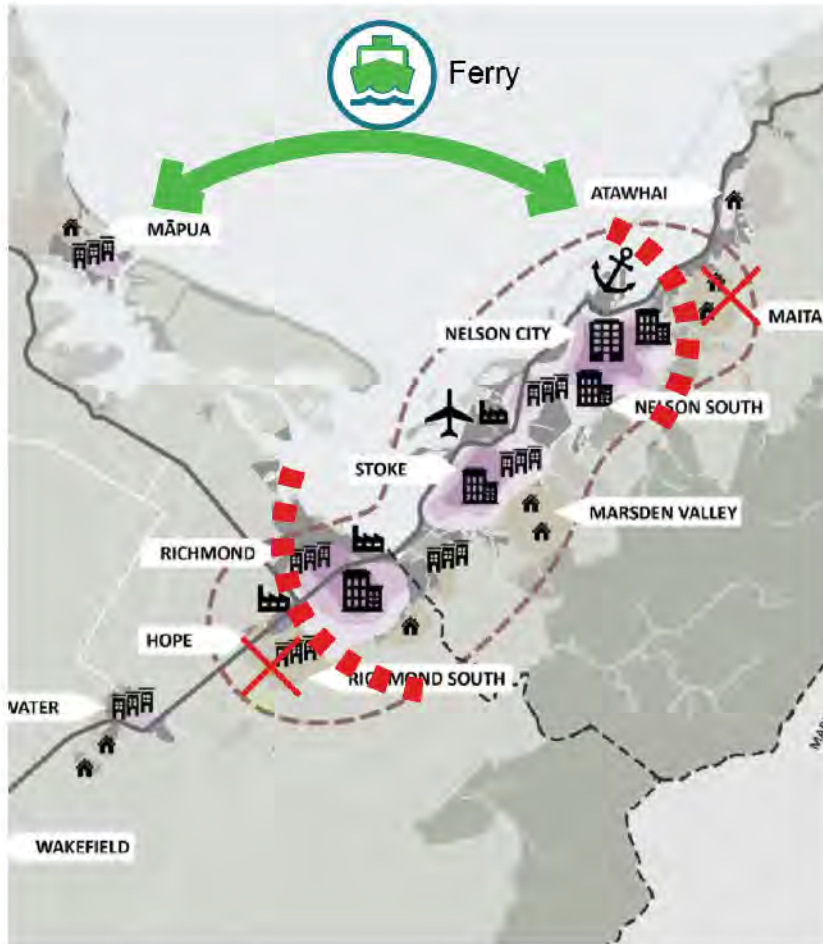


The background of the slide is a photograph of several large, white icebergs floating in a deep blue ocean. The icebergs are of various shapes and sizes, with some showing jagged edges and others appearing more rounded. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, and the overall scene is serene and cold.

CONSTRAINTS

- Climate change / sea level rise
- Rising cost of fuel & transportation
- Aging population
(how do we attract young people to live in town?)

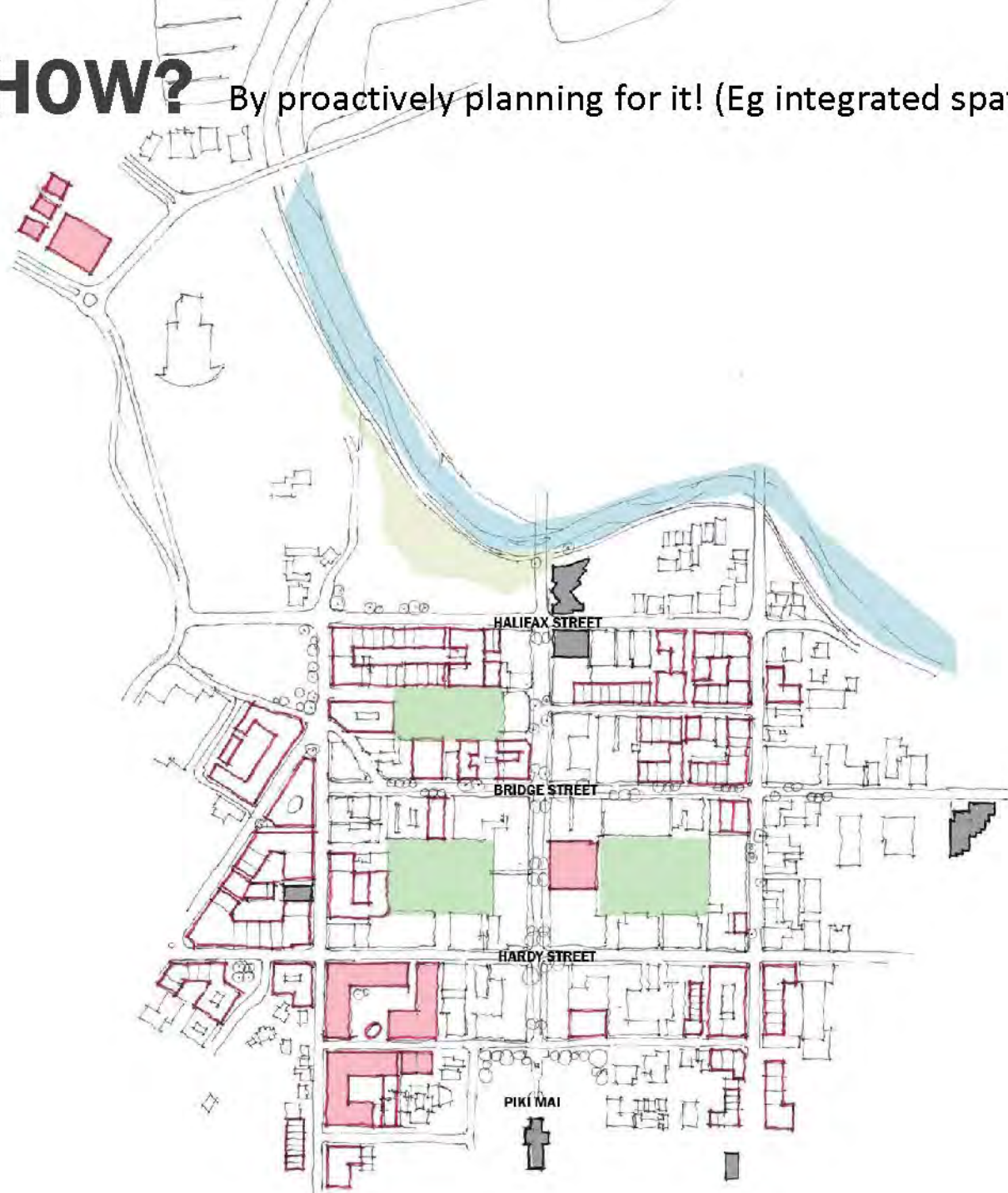
STRATEGY



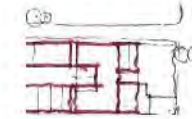
- Stop the sprawl
- Refocus development industry on intensification
- Allow people to live in town (more, smaller and more affordable units)
- Build up while respecting and celebrating our built heritage
- Balance increased density with better amenity
- Organised retreat

HOW?

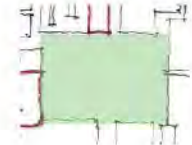
By proactively planning for it! (Eg integrated spatial masterplan)



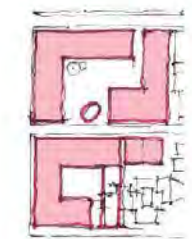
FISH MARKET



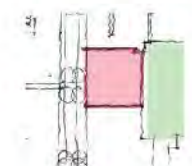
POTENTIAL MIXED USE/UNDERDEVELOPED SITES



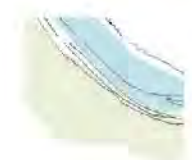
URBAN PARK DEVELOPMENTS



NEW CIVIC BUILDINGS: ARTS CULTURE AND CIVIC PRECINCT



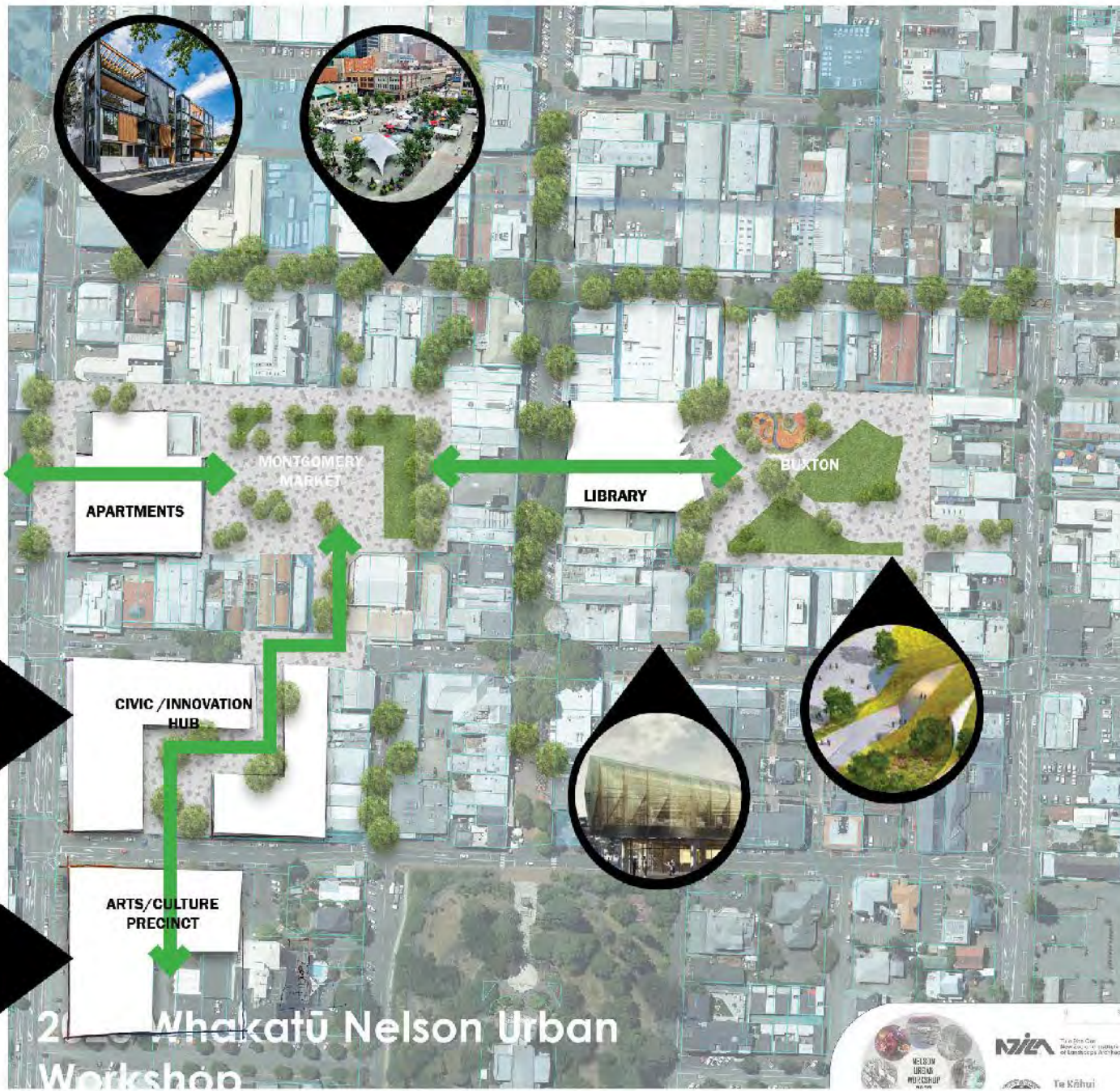
NEW CITY LIBRARY



MAHITAHU MARSHES (ORGANISED RETREAT)

IMAGINE

↔ LANEWAYS



2020 Whakatū Nelson Urban Workshop



BUXTON



MONTGOMERY MARKET



TIMO'S FISH MARKET



TEAM 8

Play as a strategy for the development and revitalization of Nelson. Rather than concentrating on the built form, team eight flips this idea better utilising the space around built form. The design proposed strong green connections to our existing open spaces, including Montgomery square, Buxton Squares and Wakatu square. Connections are created to the Maitai river and the coastal edge, with layers of play used as a design element binding our place together.

Team members:

Magda Garbarczyk

Rory Langbridge

Ben Mackie

Catherine Allwright

Tom Guthrie



Tuia Pito Ora
New Zealand Institute
of Landscape Architects



Te Kāhui
Whaihanga
Nelson &
Marlborough







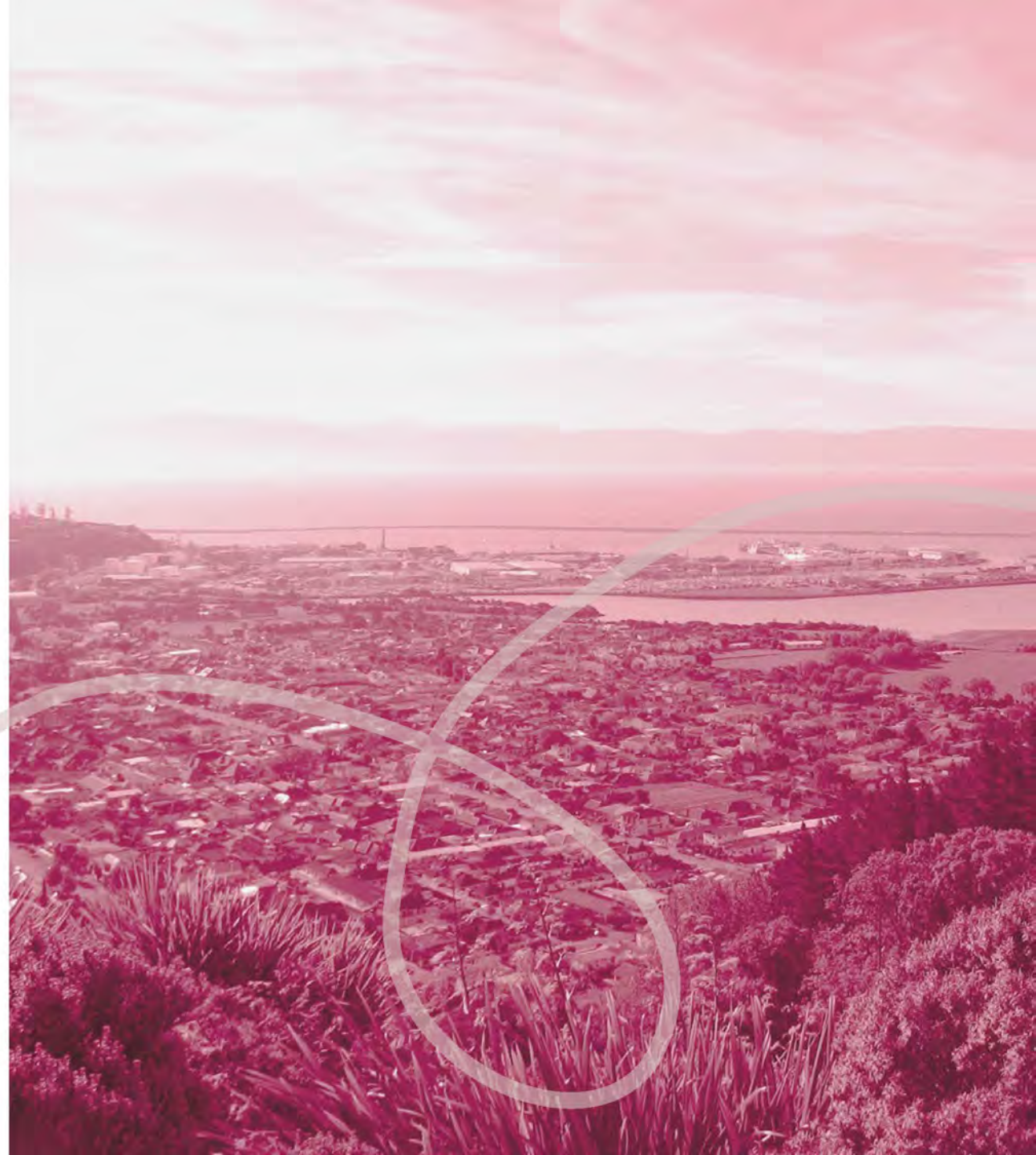
PLAY

A **SERIOUS** STRATEGY FOR
DEVELOPMENT IN NELSON

Magdalena Garbarczyk | Finline Architecture
Rory Langbridge | RMM
Ben Mackie | Design Base
Catherine Allwright | Nelson City Council
Thomas Guthrie | Boffa Miskell

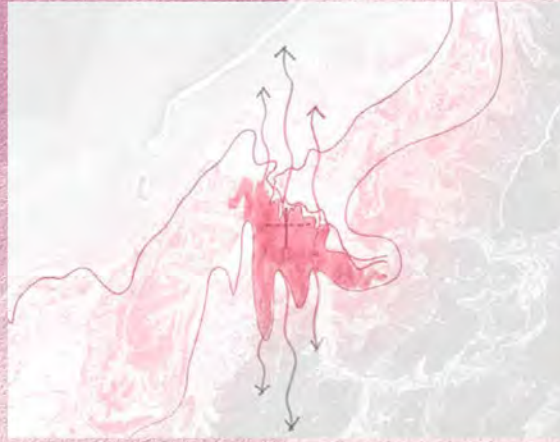
Conversations about urban development in Whakatū Nelson often take a serious turn, occasionally feeling a bit disheartening. While ideas abound, a cohesive strategy might be lacking.

We propose **PLAY** as a serious strategy for positive future development. How can 'play' and a spirit of playfulness in our urban context become a genuine and effective strategy to guide the city's growth and investment, promote community wellbeing and ecological health, and elevate the arts as a driver of city life?



2023

Before diving into a 10-year plan, let's not overlook the importance of considering longer-term horizons—50 years, 100 years, even 400 years ahead. Whakatū Nelson took the lead in declaring a climate emergency. But what progress has been made since then?



2123?

The city finds itself at the crossroads of two natural forces: water on one side and mountains on the other. Our vision is that we learn to evolve with these natural elements rather than in opposition to them. We envision a future where we collaborate with the water, seamlessly weaving it into the very fabric of our city.



THE PLAYPATH

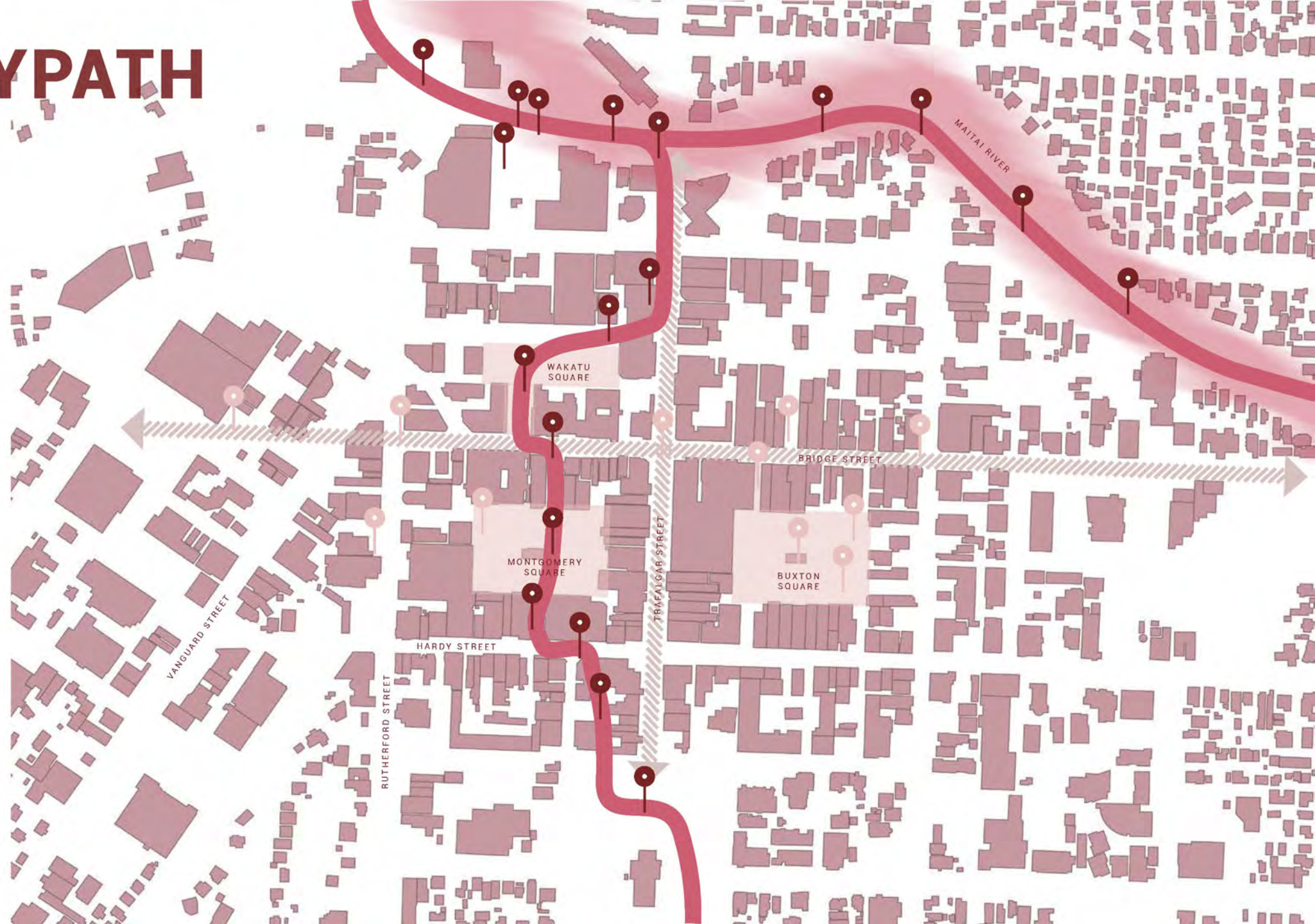
Proposed Playpath

Proposed possible locations of activations along playpath

Activations along 'Bridge to better' and Trafalgar Street

Identified locations of development that can contribute to activating Nelson city centre

'Bridge to better' and Trafalgar Street axes



A journey through Whakatū
Nelson's waterways tracing
the fluid connections between
the city, the winding Maitai
river, and the embrace of the
ocean.





An intertwined Playpath celebrating community and cultures, embracing diversity, and showcasing Whakatū's uniqueness.



An inclusive oasis accessible to all, regardless of means or abilities. A space for nourishment, tranquility, and rejuvenation (and to eat your lunch!).



Can we shake up
the status quo of
development by
incorporating **PLAY** as
a tangible strategy to
breathe new life into our
city?

Magdalena Garbarczyk | Finesse Architecture
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PLAY

A SERIOUS STRATEGY FOR
DEVELOPMENT IN NELSON



CONCEPT ILLUSTRATION GENERATED BY THE TEAM USING AI

**NELSON
URBAN
WORKSHOP
2023**

