



TE KARARO QUEENSTOWN GARDENS



STAGE 1

DESIGN PACKAGE FOR FEEDBACK
30 JUNE 2020

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INTRODUCTION

Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens is a significant public space within the town centre, serving the needs of residents and visitors. It is a central, thriving public space and well used by many people for various purposes.

The high use, diverse activities, and some previous ad hoc development, present challenges which Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) aims to resolve. At the same time, the premier location presents an ideal opportunity to emphasise past, present and future local values.

QLDC intends to upgrade Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens through a multi-stage project to enhance connection to the town centre and surrounds and to improve circulation within the grounds.

The concept design retains the informal passive recreation qualities of Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens, while improving public safety and wayfinding through improvements to lighting, signage and pathways. Culture, heritage and the place values of Lake Wakatipu and surrounding mountains, are weaved into the design.

2018 DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A development plan for Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens was prepared in 2018 by Reset Urban with the following strategic objectives:

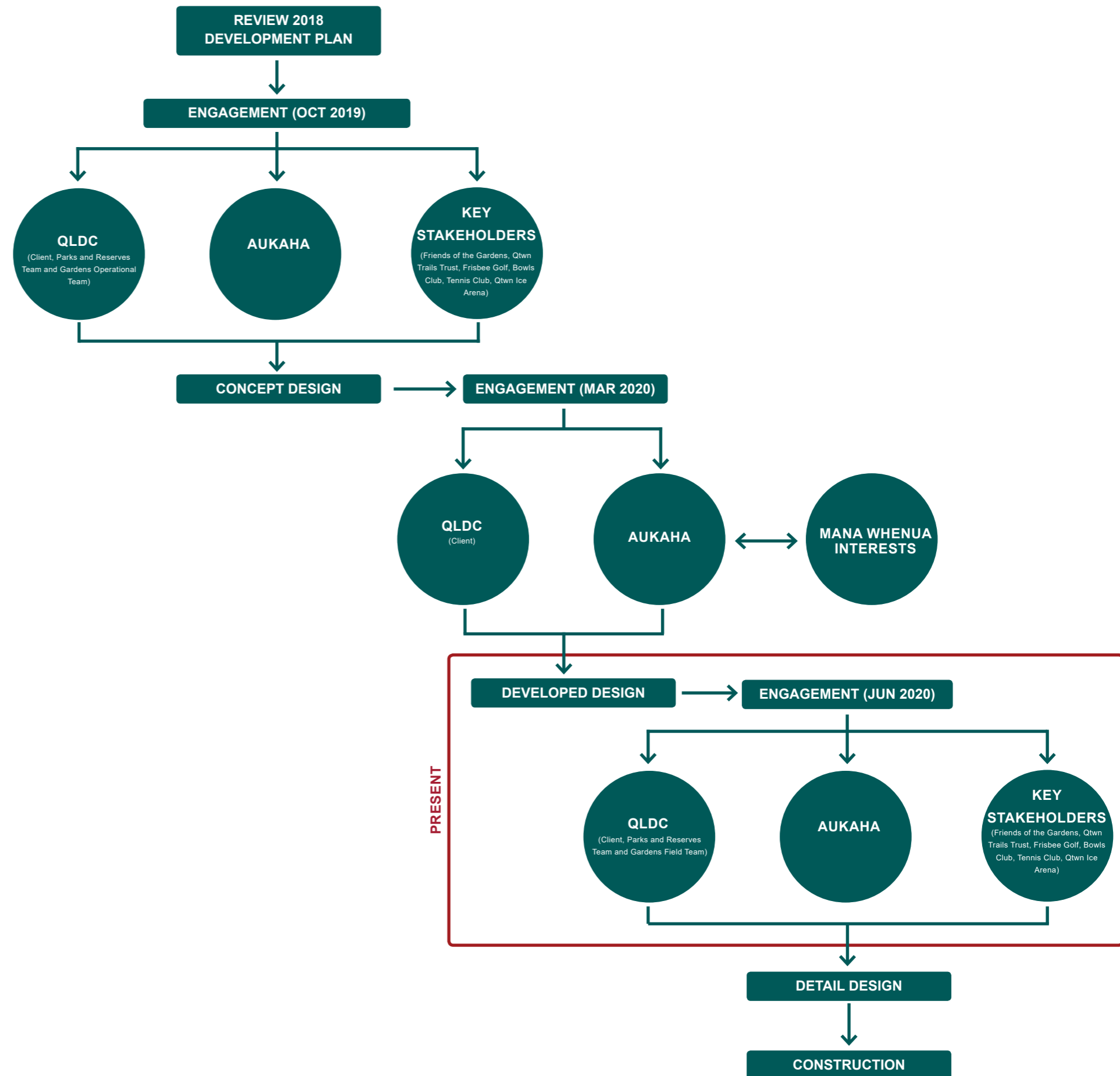
- Manage growth
- Outline a costed staged capital investment
- Increased accessibility
- Manage conflicts with different uses
- Preserve heritage
- Rationalise layout and facilities

CURRENT WORK

The 2018 Development Plan broke the scope down into three stages. This piece of work focuses on Stage 1 which looks at developed design for the following elements:

- Pathways
- Signage
- Lighting

METHODOLOGY



COMPREHENSIVE MASTERPLAN OVERVIEW

DESIGN VISION

- Improve connectivity between Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens and the town centre
- Enhance circulation where people can efficiently and easily move through the space with minimal conflict between user groups
- Design will allow for a variety of activities with heightened public safety and wayfinding
- Work with mana whenua to capture their cultural values as part of the design

Refer to pages 5-20 for more detailed information for the masterplan

Refer to page 8 for information on the wāhi/focal areas



Wāhi / Focal Area 3
(see page 16)

Wāhi / Focal Area 2
(see page 15)

Wāhi / Focal Area 4
(see page 17)

Wāhi / Focal Area 5
(see page 18)



Notes: All existing trees have been captured where possible. Trees for removal are identified on the plan. If existing trees are not shown this does not mean they are proposed for removal

A photograph of Queenstown Gardens in Te Kararo, New Zealand. The image shows a wide, paved path leading towards a white gazebo in the distance. The path is flanked by lush green lawns and numerous trees, including large, mature deciduous trees on the right and tall, thin evergreens on the left. A street lamp stands on the right side of the path. The scene is captured in a slightly desaturated, teal-tinted color palette. The text 'TE KARARO' is overlaid in white, uppercase letters, centered horizontally above the path.

TE KARARO

QUEENSTOWN GARDENS

ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK

	QLDC	FRIENDS OF THE GARDENS, FRISBEE GOLF, BOWLS & TENNIS CLUB, ICE RINK, QTWN TRAILS TRUST	AUKAHA	QUEENSTOWN GARDENS FIELD TEAM
Pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of connection around the gardens with the existing pathway network and between upper and low pathways • No hierarchy of pathways • Pinch points along the pathways especially around the playground and gardens entrance and native garden area • Existing pathways abruptly end and discourage people from exploring the gardens • Asphalt doesn't work due to tree roots and issues with limestone in winter with freezing and summer with dust • Existing toilet block is off the main pathway and hidden from users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desire to divert the commuters away from the gardens • Importance of path layout hierarchy • The path stopping at the Rose Gardens should continue along the edge of the Douglas Fir and create a loop • Pathway ends abruptly near the depot • Need a better link between upper and lower paths • Toilets in poor condition and located where garden users are not aware of them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paved areas similar to the streetscape concept but different narrative • Paved whariki design • Incorporate values into the pathway network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grass is damaged near the pond where people feed the ducks, possibility for a cleared access path • Access conflict at the depot where the pedestrian path connects to the road access to the depot. Currently minimal signage and insufficient • Utes must be able to access the pathways for site clearance and maintenance. Current pinch point along the pathway behind the ice rink • Width of the Peninsula Loop pathway is generally sufficient however it could be wider along the western edge • Path width pinch point near the playground • Ponding of rain water on the pathways due to drainage and gradients • Stumps and roots present a trip hazard along the peninsula pathway • Lime chip pathways are more maintenance however aesthetically look much better than the asphalt paths
Entrances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrances into the Gardens are lacking definition, information and presence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to enhance the entrance ways but not supportive of the current design shown in the 2018 development plan as don't see the need for seating right at the entrance, instead we want to draw them into the gardens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrances to create a sense of arrival and welcome people to the gardens and then how do we farewell those people • Opportunity to include ancestral elements • Entrances could be a point of difference • Suggest considering the marae entrance experience, including thresholds, ātea, māhau • Entrance gate could reference land features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict of users at the entrances to the gardens from the bathhouse entrance by the fern sculpture. Spill over of parents/kids and prams from the playground onto the pathways and conflicting with cyclists along the Peninsula Loop and pedestrians accessing the Gardens
Lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues with safety at night due to lack of lighting • Not enough power points and utilities for events such as Luma • Looking at feature lighting ie up-lighting under trees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certain areas of the gardens feels unsafe at night time due to a lack of lighting. Pathways in the native area currently have no lighting and with the canopy of the trees is a dark area at night. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the design for the streetscape and look to see if we can incorporate a similar lighting strategy to keep the look and feel cohesive • Simple lighting with opportunity for some sort of feature for lighting at entrances and significant areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of lighting especially around the Peninsula Loop • Lighting along central path too far apart • No lighting on the pathway leading to the internal carpark near the toilets • Only one power connection near the pathway between the Bowls and Tennis (club) for events such as Luma
Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of signage with existing signage located in obscure places or orientated the wrong way • Opportunity to include technology into the signage • Ice skating and frisbee golf need clearer directional signage • Important for signage to reflect the character of the Gardens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical / heritage style signage preferred • More signage needed and it might help resolve the conflicts between different users • Supportive of the use of technology especially in regards to translating text into other languages • Need a better location for the defibrillator and better signage as to where this is 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural wood with artistic design incorporated • Sympathetic to the kaupapa • Embedding mana whenua names 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough signage however don't want to see the gardens cluttered with signs • Lots of memorials and areas of interest in the gardens that are currently not signposted / lack of information • Signage to toilets is critical
Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to open up views along the northern side of the peninsula to gain views of the lake, Earnslaw and Bobs Peak / Ben Lomond • Permanently incorporate some of the lighting installations from Luma • Area between the Gardens entrance and the resort college could be a good place for a cultural garden • Confusing pathway network through the native area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connection to the lake should be improved • Jetties and interaction with the water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate the mana whenua history and values into the site • Opportunity to reference the landmarks and significance through structural/spatial change, and/or through to inclusion of new elements. • Bilingual signs are supported by QLDC and strongly encouraged by Aukaha 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase connectivity to the western lake edge to allow people to sit down along the rocks and take in the view. This side is also more sheltered • Bike racks needed • More drinking fountains required • Seating opportunity along western edge by the playground • Free wifi through the gardens

UARA KĀI TAHU / KĀI TAHU VALUES

We engaged with Aukaha (a consultancy who advocate for mana whenua interest), to understand the cultural importance and values of Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens to iwi. The following is summary of the significant values that have been identified by mana whenua as significant to the project.

Of course these values are interconnected, and we understand that Aukaha suggest the tāhuhu (the primary value) to be Ara Tawhito.



HURITAOHAKA UARA / REFLECTING VALUES

The following provides our initial thoughts on opportunities to reflect the above values in the design of Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens and Tāhuna Marine Parade projects. These should be viewed as conversation-starters.

ARA TAWHITO

Traditional trails and networks

- Queenstown is an important intersection and resting place located within a network of converging trails within the interior of Te Waipounamu. It was en route to the pounamu source of Te Koroka at the head of the lake and the trails to Te Tai Poutini (the West Coast). The trails provided access to the abundant mahika kai resources associated with Whakatipu Waimāori. The maintenance and protection of this network was critical as it linked these resources with the main Kāi Tahu settlements within Otago, via the Kawarau and Mata-au (Clutha) Rivers, and Murihiku (Southland), via the Mataura and Ōreti Rivers.
- Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens was a site of seasonal occupation; a place of refuge, shelter and rest for those travelling through the area.
- Design should respond to both land and water-based routes
- Consider not only visual and physical connections out from the site, but also views and connections in (ie when viewing from the water, Skyline), acknowledging that the area was, and still is, viewed in both directions.
- Connections to traditional routes should be made through structural/spatial design. This may be through visual links or physical connections.
- The site should be well-connected to existing and planned routes, with an emphasis on the restorative, restful and sheltered nature of the site, contrasting the busy urban environment adjacent

WHAKAPAPA

Genealogy or lineage

- Acknowledgement and respectful celebration of surrounding wāhi tūpuna and their importance as part of whakapapa and oral history
- Reference to Tuwiroa and the narrative of Hākitekura through a variety of means. This may include spatial design connecting people to the water and surrounding landmarks, design of new elements and/or interpretation installations

MAHIKA KAI

Resource harvesting areas, species and practices

- Planting design to celebrate the abundance of traditionally harvested resources, and encourage a resurgence in this practice
- Link to materials used locally for shelter, transport, kai, warmth etc
- Link to materials referenced in the narrative of Hākitekura
- Planting design to reference rokoa (medicinal plants)
- Pick up on forms such as mōkihi, wharerau. This could occur on an elemental basis (structures, furniture etc) and through spatial and planting design

AHI KĀ ROA

Fires of continuous occupation

- Interpretation celebrating Kāi Tahu's ongoing presence here
- Use of lighting as a more literal reference to ahi kā
- Connection to Te Ahi o Hākitekura

MANAAKITAKA

Acknowledging others, raising up the mana of visitors

- At a high level, the welcoming of all people into Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens could take a number of forms, from creation of obvious and logical entry points, to accessible and safe routes, to providing all with a sense of comfort, familiarity and peace in this place regardless of background, age, gender or ability.

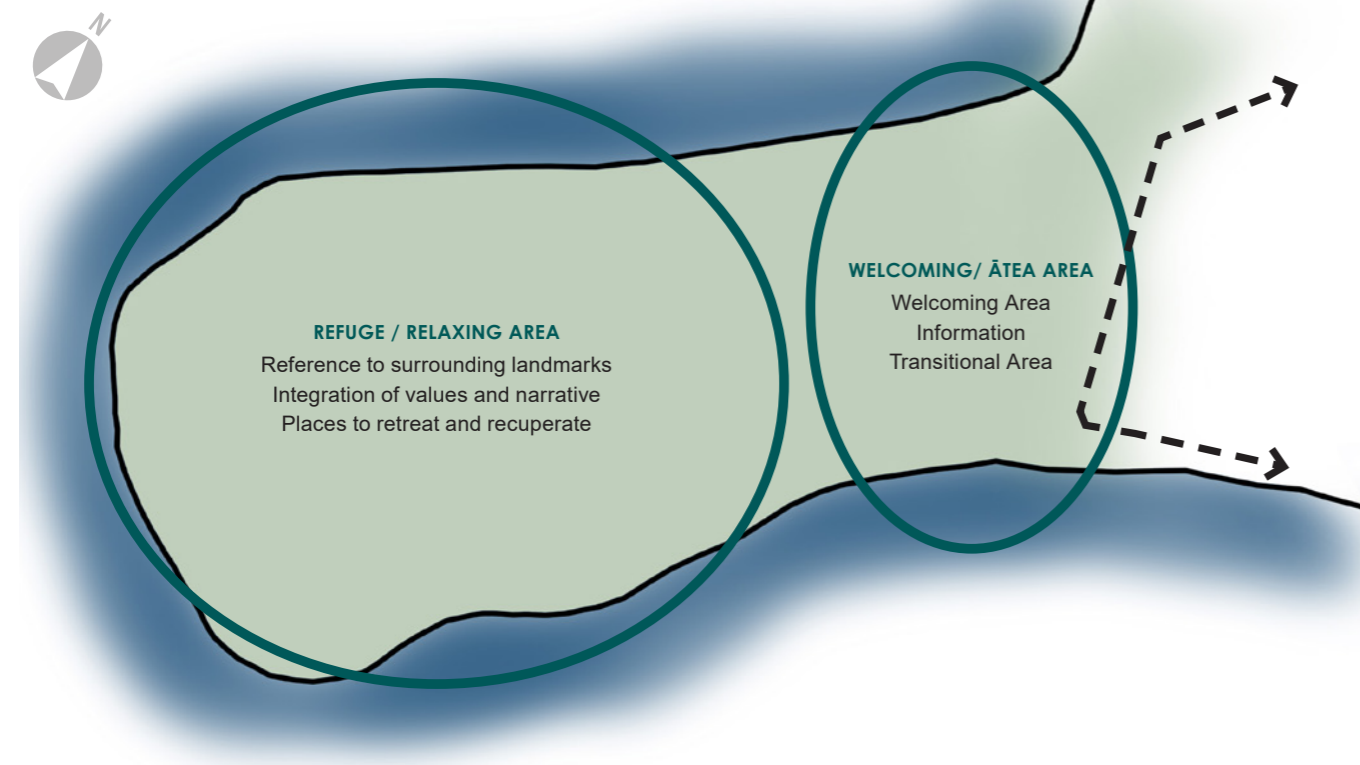
MANA WHENUA HISTORY

The first fires of occupation on the shores of Whakatipu Waimāori were those of Rākaihautū from the Uruao waka. Subsequent generations of Rapuwai, Waitaha, Kāti Mamoe and Kāi Tahu occupied and passed through Wakatipu. Ancestors are known to have travelled vast distances upon established routes (ara tawhito) to access, harvest and trade the multitude of resources. Numerous settlements (Kaika) and temporary encampments (nohoaka) were scattered along these routes. Tāhuna contains a number of these settlements and resting places, of which, Te Kararo is one.

The following is a list of uses and activities that occurred at Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens:

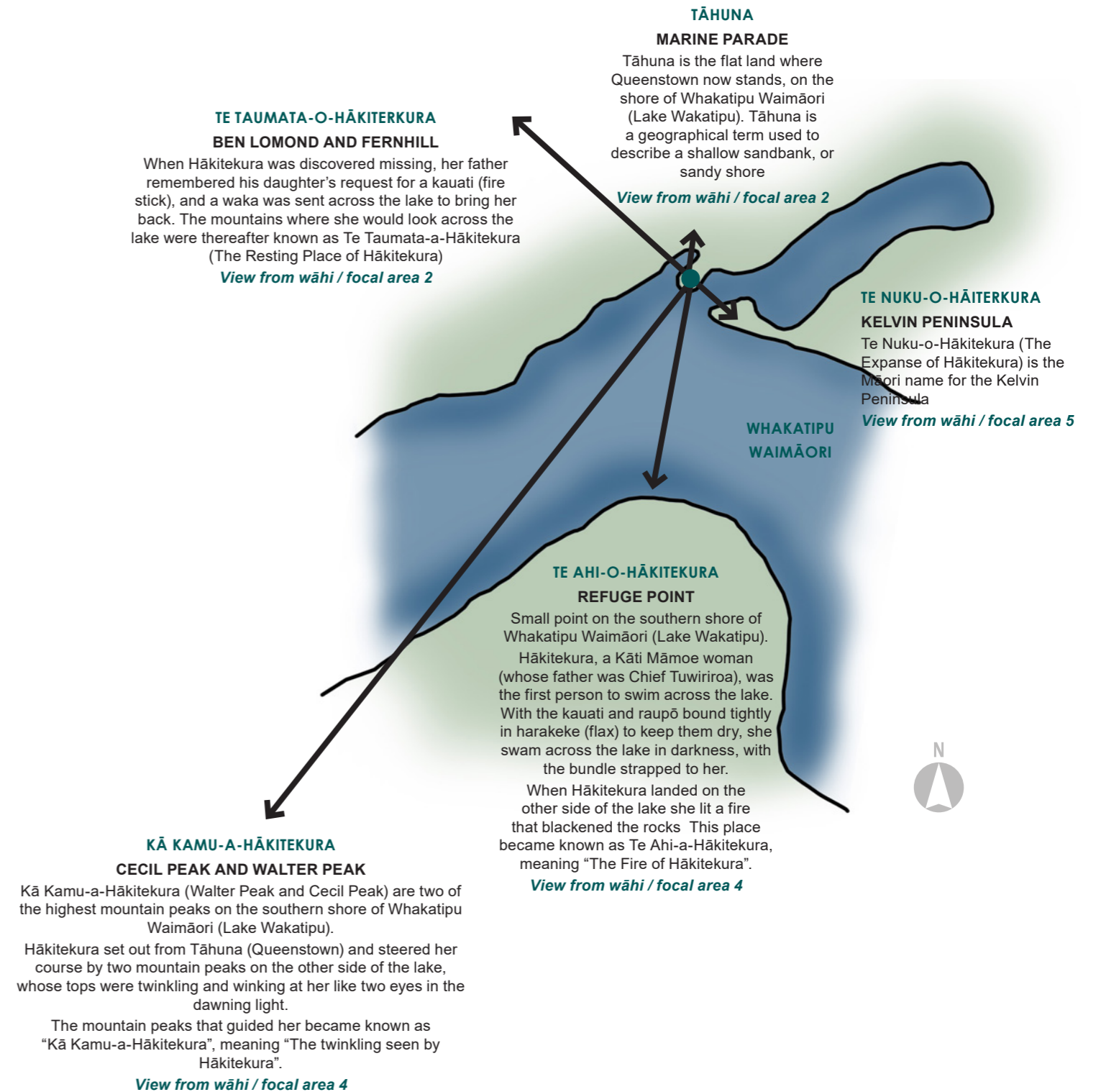
- Seasonal kaika made up of wharerau (temporary shelters)
- Site on the greenstone route which drew parties up and down Whakatipu Waimāori
- Food and resource gathering on and around the area
- Beach was a landing point and there would have been Tauraka Waka here (landing/mooring point)

DESIGN APPLICATION



VIEWSHAFTS TO WĀHI TŪPUNA

Wāhi tūpuna are landscapes and places that embody the relationship of Ngāi Tahu and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga. The term refers to places that hold the respect of the people in accordance with tikanga. In addition to urupā, physical resources such as landforms, mountains and ranges, remaining areas of indigenous vegetation, springs, and waterways are examples of wāhi tapu.



For more information please refer to the Ngāi Tahu Atlas : Kā Huru Manu

<http://www.kahurumanu.co.nz/atlas>

TE KARARO QUEENSTOWN GARDENS CONCEPT MASTERPLAN



Notes: All existing trees have been captured where possible. Trees for removal are identified on the plan. If existing trees are not shown this does not mean they are proposed for removal

PROPOSED HARDSCAPE

The pathway network has been redesigned to ensure that there are consistent materials and widths across the site, that will assist with creating a clear hierarchy within Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens.

A central loop has been created that will carry on past the rose garden and around the eastern side of the gardens, before connecting back to the rotunda.

The proposed pathway, along the western edge of the site, will provide a second connection point between the central pathway and the Peninsula Loop (refer to page 14 for more design information). Due to gradient, wheelchair accessibility is not achievable, however access to both pathways is still possible via the main entrance.

The 5m wide Peninsula Loop and central gardens loop will provide sufficient space for different user groups. Realigning and widening entrance points will ease congestion and reduce conflict between pedestrians as they move through the spaces.

Materials have been selected for durability and visual appearance within the surrounding landscape.



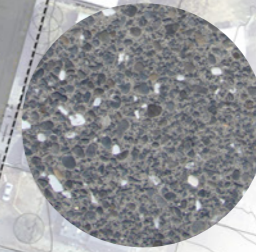
**Local Compacted Gravel
(5m wide)**

The Peninsula Loop connects the Queenstown Trail to Tāhuna Marine Parade and is a popular trail for all user groups. Surface material will encourage bikers to go slowly and a consistent pathway width will provide room for groups, strollers and various active modes to pass each other safely.



**Broom Finished Concrete
(2.5m - 5m wide)**

Surface treatment for steep pathways such as the Tāhuna Marine Parade to Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens entrance and the pathways leading up to Park Street. Material ties in with the adjacent streetscape project



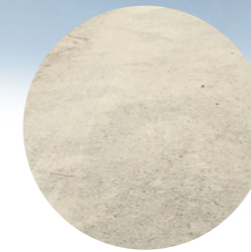
**Exposed Aggregate
(or similar)**

Paving feature to signify an arrival area, a trail junction and lead people around the trail



**Informal Pathways
(2.5m wide)**

Existing informal pathways retained through the fir trees providing access to the frisbee golf and walking connections. Trees are limbed up well and provide good visibility of the frisbee golf course. Some additional signage would be beneficial to provide additional safety warnings.



**Lime Chip
(3.5m - 5m wide)**

Aesthetically lime chip is a very soft and natural look for the pathways through the gardens and still allows ease of movement for prams, kids bikes and wheelchairs.



0 60m

1:2,000 @ A3

MAIN ENTRANCE

The majority of people that visit the gardens enter the site from town, via Tāhuna Marine Parade. Currently the entrance there is a confusing selection of pathways that lack hierarchy. A large amount of people and different user groups move through this space which causes congestion and conflict.

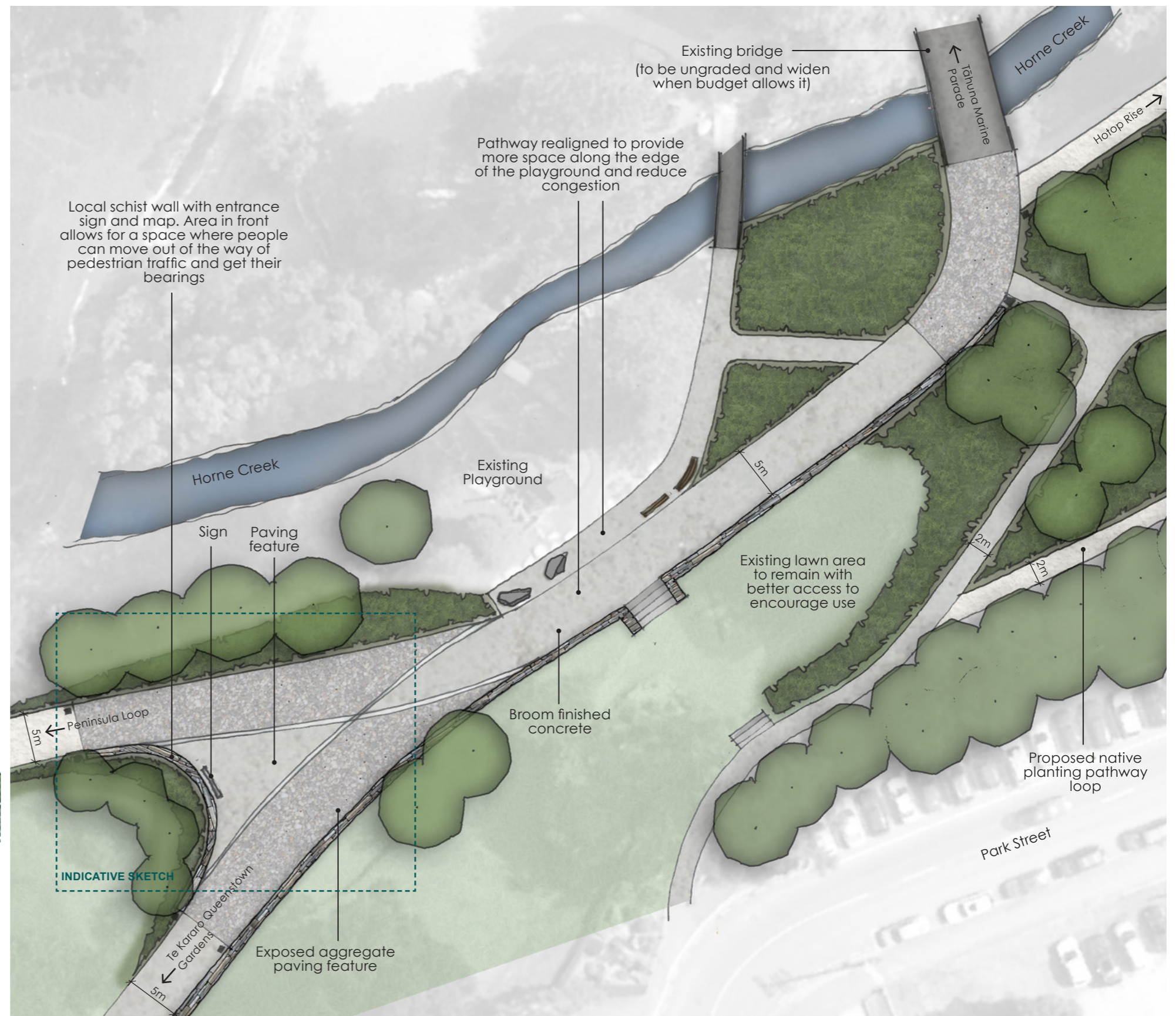
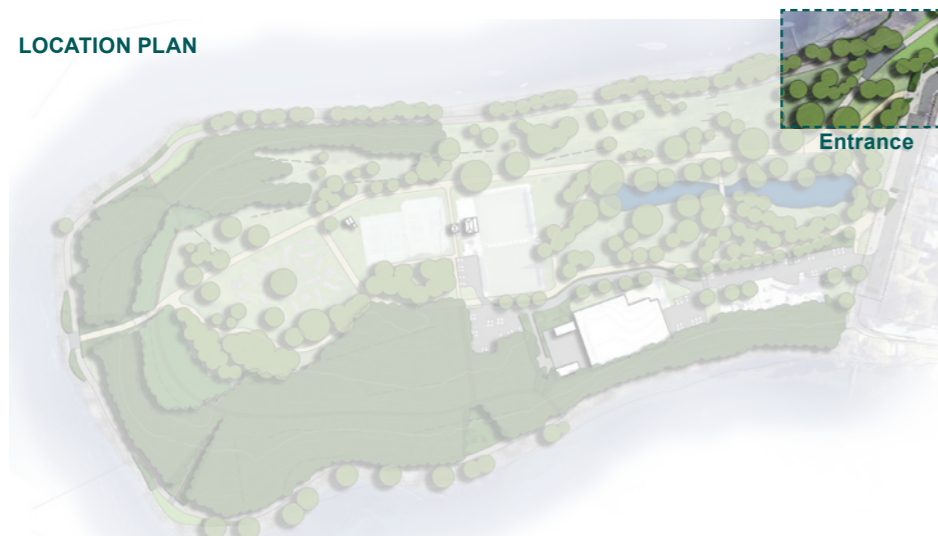
The proposed design includes the following:

- Opportunity to design a significant welcoming area
- Realign pathway to create a larger arrival area and provide an open space between the playground and the pathway (current congestion issue around this area)
- First point for users to make a decision to either follow the path up into the gardens or follow the path around the peninsula
- Maximise opportunities for Te Reo
- Upgrade bridge and increase width (if budget allows it)
- Create an area where people can look at a map out of the way of main movement pathways. This will allow them to get their bearings on whether they want to follow the Peninsula Loop or carry on up into the gardens without being in the main pedestrian flow

INDICATIVE SKETCH



LOCATION PLAN



ROTUNDA

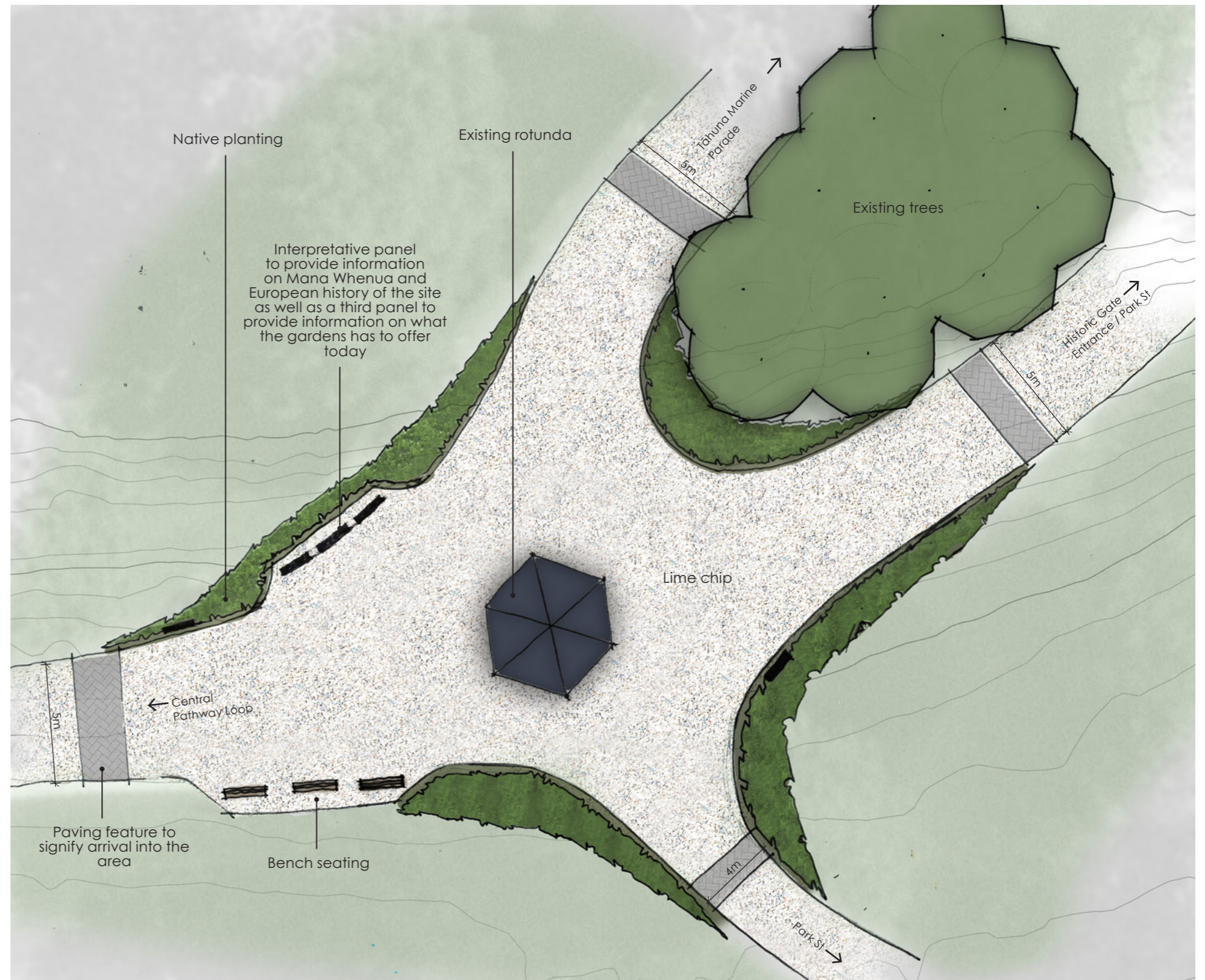
Arriving at the rotunda, people are provided with their first view of the gardens. From this location you can look right down the central pathway and see all the beautiful flowers and pond off to the side and catch glimpses of the stunning view out towards the lake. Currently the area is a large lime chip space with the rotunda located in the middle with a mix of signage located off to the sides. The proposed design looks to create a grand arrival area that integrates this space into the surrounding gardens. The space will begin to tell the story of the gardens and how it developed into what it is today, as well as showcasing what it has to offer with seasonal garden beds and native planting.

The proposed design includes the following:

- Retain the existing gated entrance as a historic entrance
- Integrate native planting into the gardens as a edge treatment to the pathways and showcase what is special to New Zealand by incorporating native planting
- Three specially designed sculptures / interpretive panels that acknowledge and provide information on the Mana Whenua and European history and their relationship with the site as well as a third panel to provide information on the gardens today and what it has to offer.



LOCATION PLAN



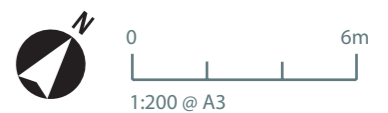
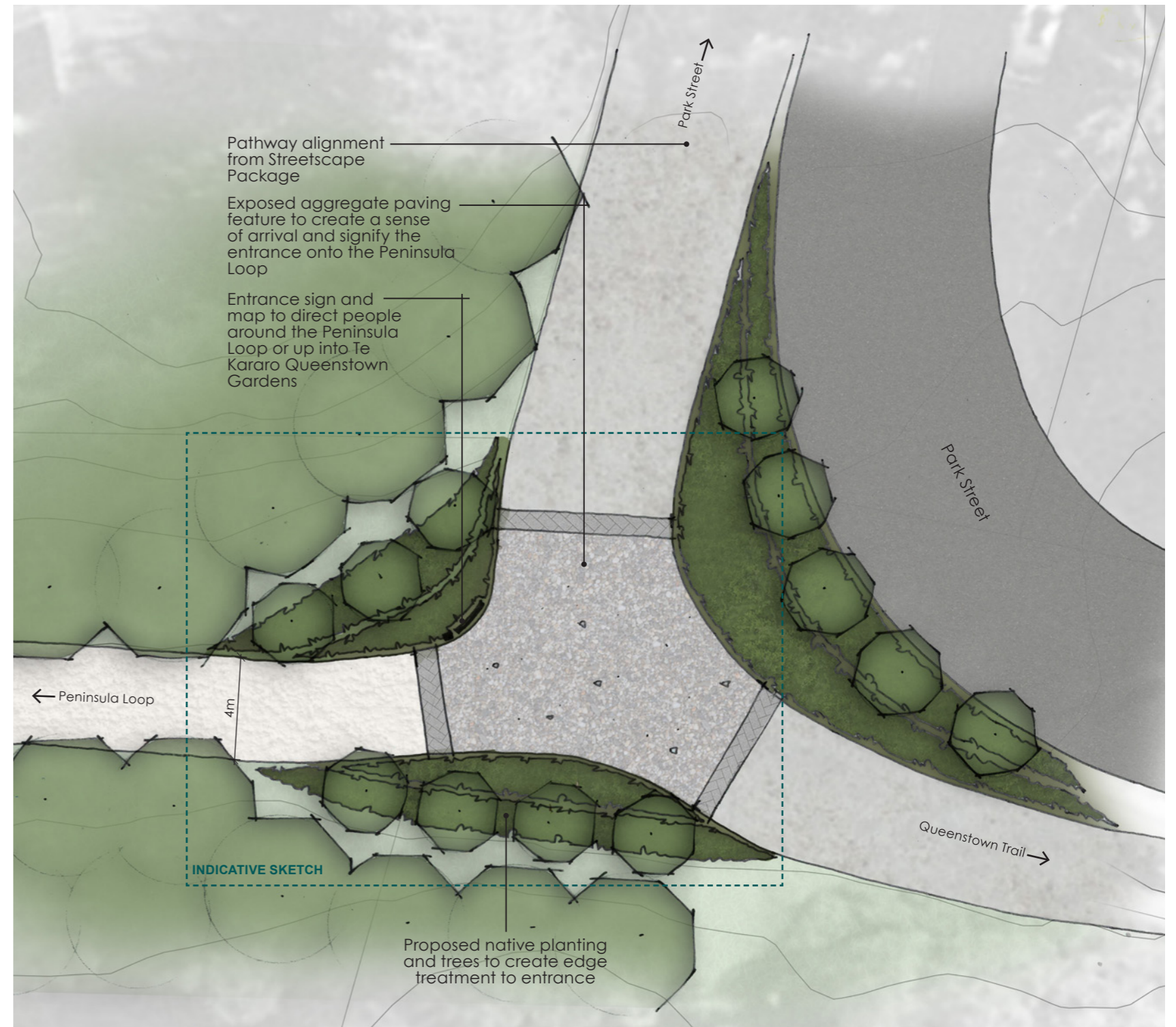
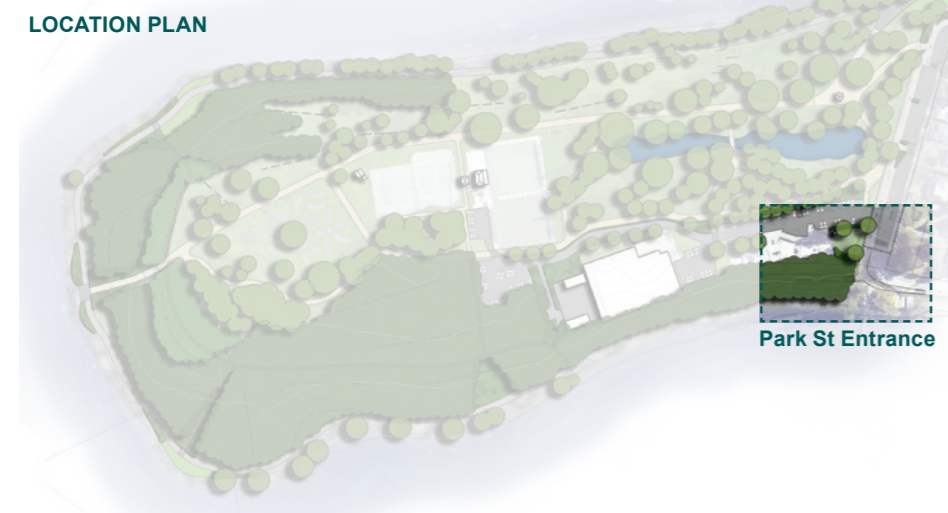
PARK ST ENTRANCE (SECONDARY)

The entrance onto the Peninsula Loop from Park St is a popular yet under used entrance. It provides connection to the Queenstown Trail, and for a lot of users is the first experience of the Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens.

For those that have walked around the Peninsula Loop this appears as a bit of a dead end that lacks direction on how to get back to the gardens other than returning on the same path.

The proposed design includes the following:

- Connects into the streetscape pathway design
- Creates a grand entrance that signifies an area of arrival and welcome
- Exposed aggregate paving feature helps to delineate a sense of arrival
- Signage and maps will provide direction for different user groups
- Remove some trees at the entrance to provide clear sight lines and creates areas to showcase some native planting and small native trees

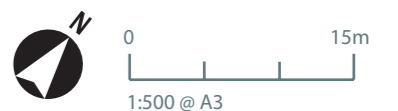
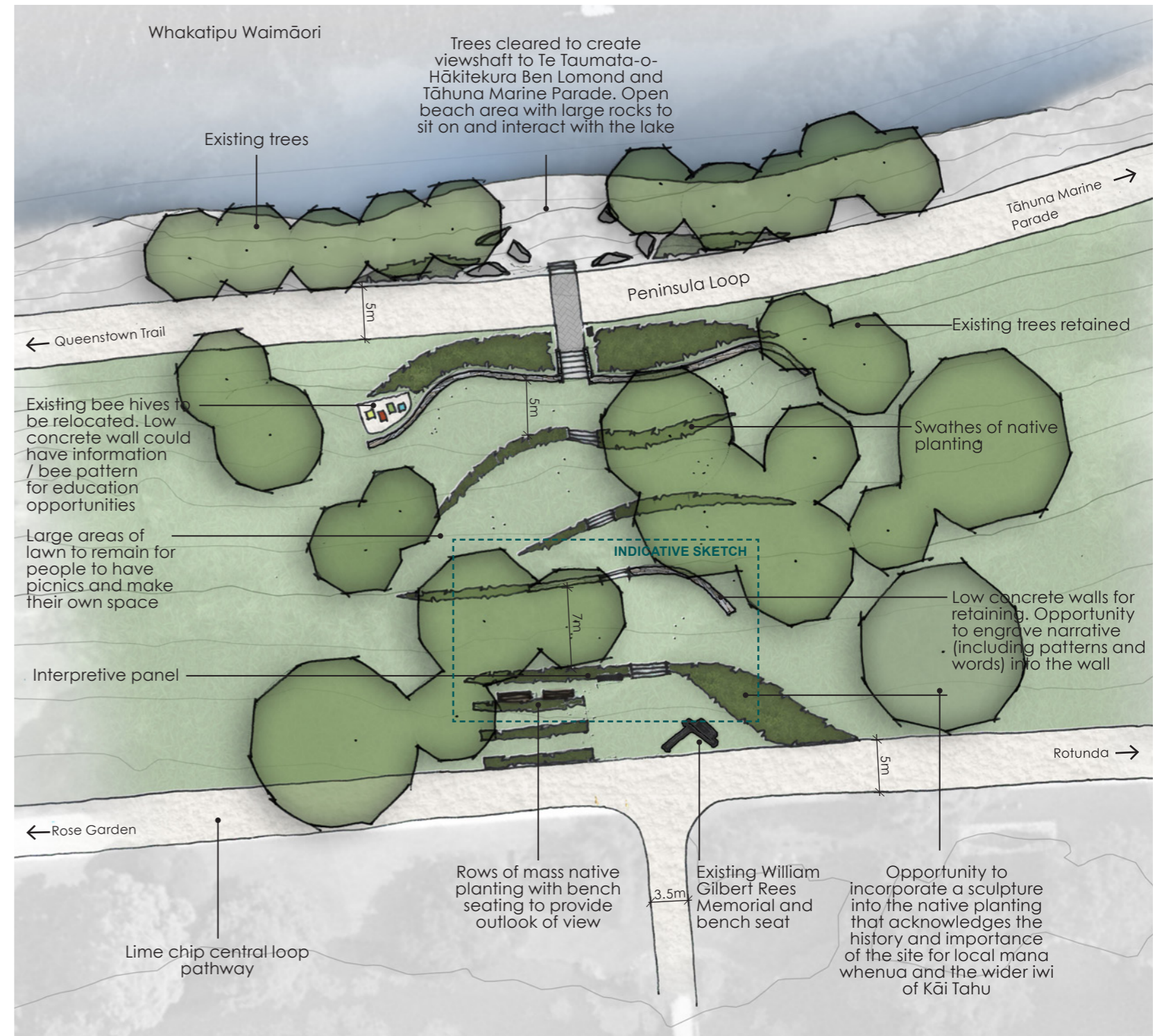
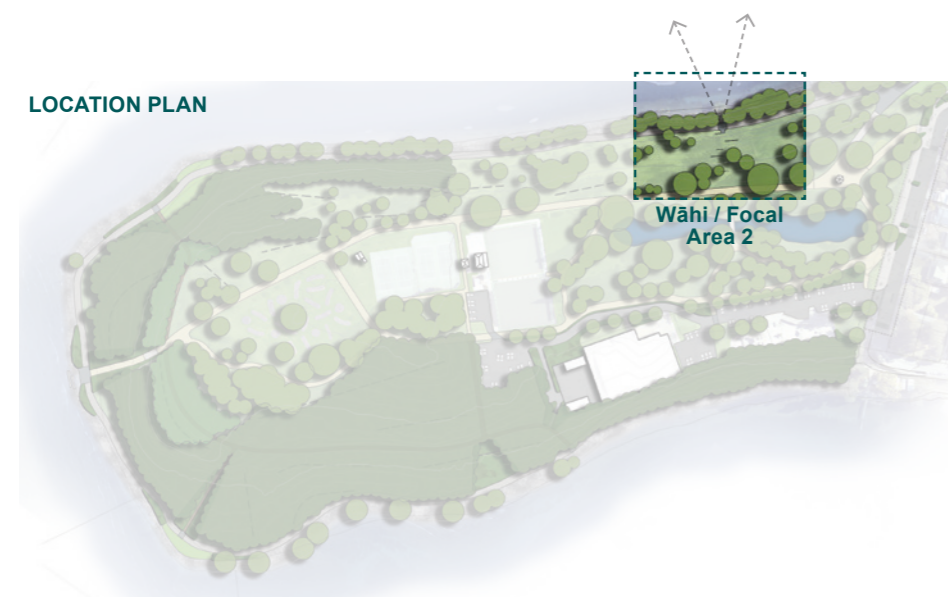


NEW PATHWAY CONNECTION & WĀHI / FOCAL AREA 2

The proposed pathway from the central loop to the Peninsula Loop provides an opportunity to weave historic and cultural and narrative through the design and reflect the surrounding landscape. The landform is steep but provides an opportunity to terrace the area creating different spaces that people that explore and use as they choose. The shape of the terrace reflects the ripples seen in the lake as the tide moves in and out (a feature that is special to Whakaitpu Wāimaori).

The proposed design includes the following:

- Visual and physical link to Te Taumata-o-Hākitekura Ben Lomond and Tāhuna Marine Parade
- Provides opportunity to expand on the memorial of William Rees and incorporate and integrate mana whenua history
- Connects to an area along the lake front where people can touch and interact with the water



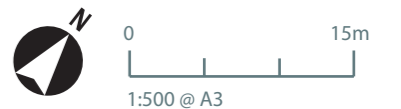
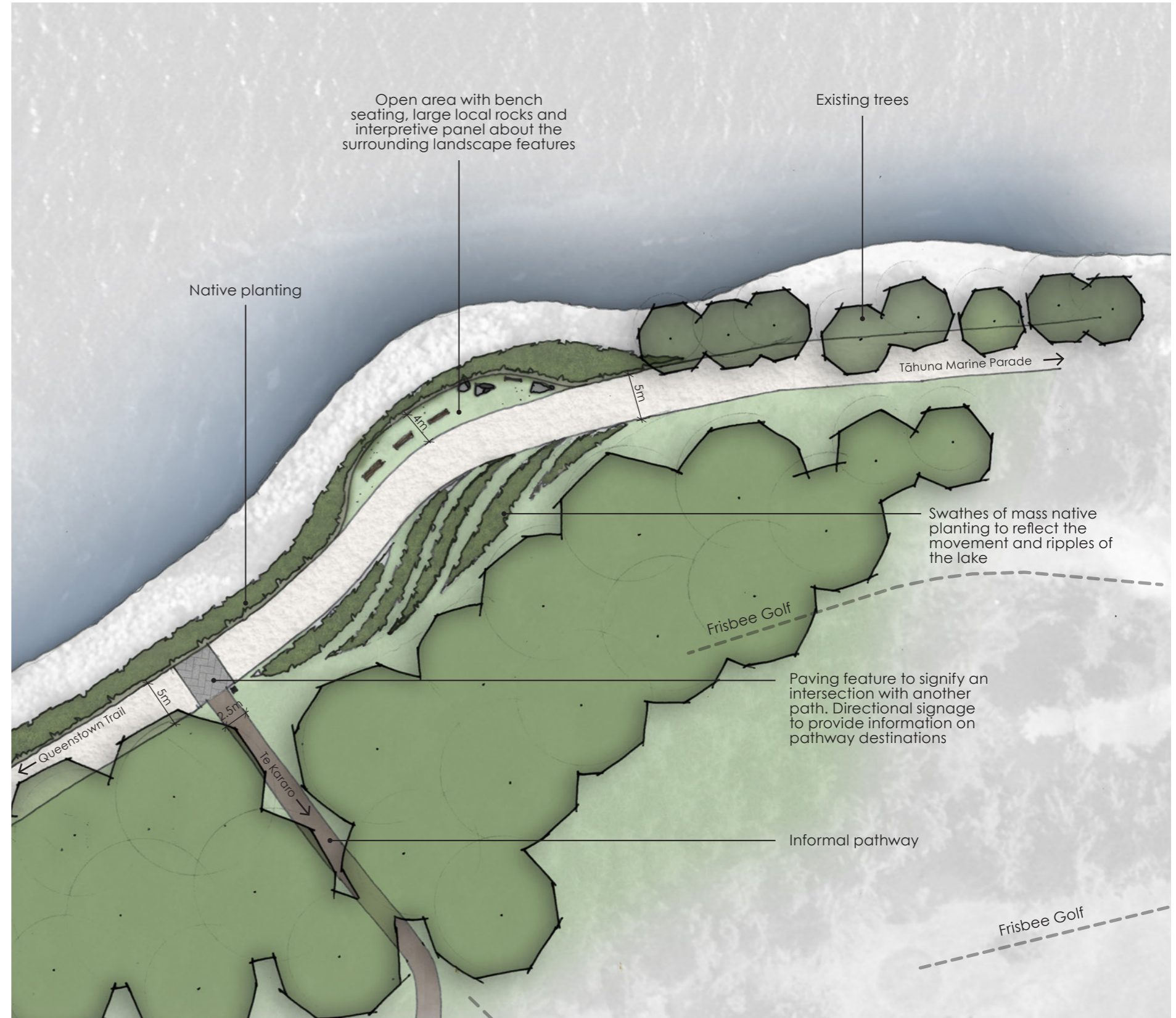
WĀHI / FOCAL AREA 3 - WESTERN POINT

This area has stunning views of the surrounding mountain ranges, views back towards Queenstown and is a great place to watch the Earnslaw and other water based activities go by. The intent of the proposed design is to provide a space connected to the Peninsula Loop where people can take a minute and to reflect and soak up the surrounding views that make Queenstown special.

The proposed design includes the following:

- Visual links to Te Taumata-o-Hākitekura Fernhill and Ben Lomond and town
- Open area connected to the Peninsula Loop with opportunity to create a place of rest and reflection
- Opportunity to strengthen the planting around the peninsula by incorporating large swathes of native planting
- Possible area to provide information on the black-billed native seagull in the interpretive panel and surrounding wāhi

VIEW FROM WĀHI / AREA 3



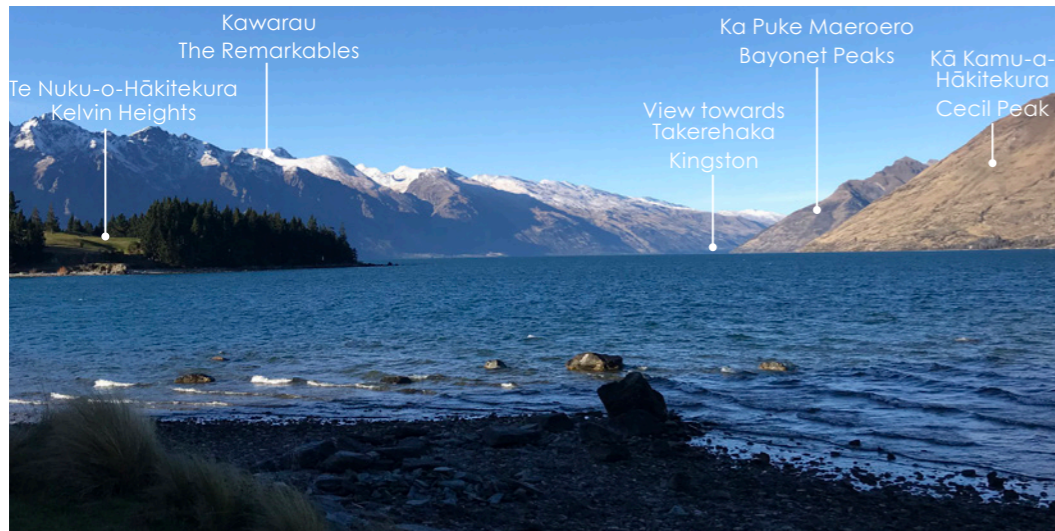
WĀHI / FOCAL AREA 5 - NORTH EAST EDGE

Focal Area 5 is similar to area 3 in that the intent of the proposed design is to provide a space connected to the Peninsula Loop where people can take a minute and to reflect and soak up the surrounding views. From this area, views all the way down the lake towards Takerehaka Kingston can be gained and showcase the dramatic shape of Whakatipu Waimāori.

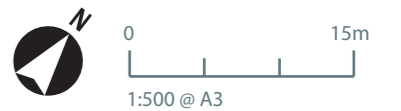
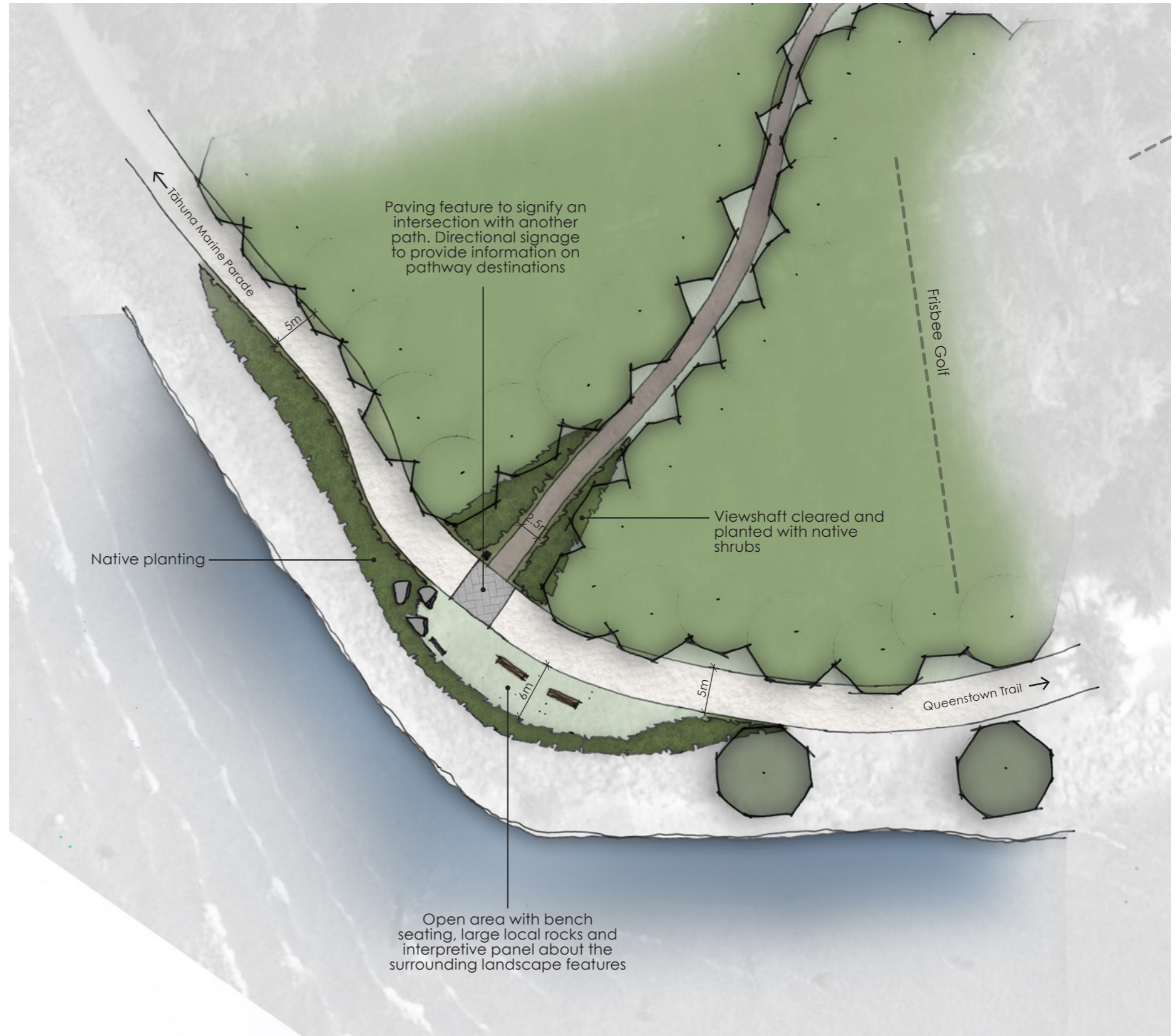
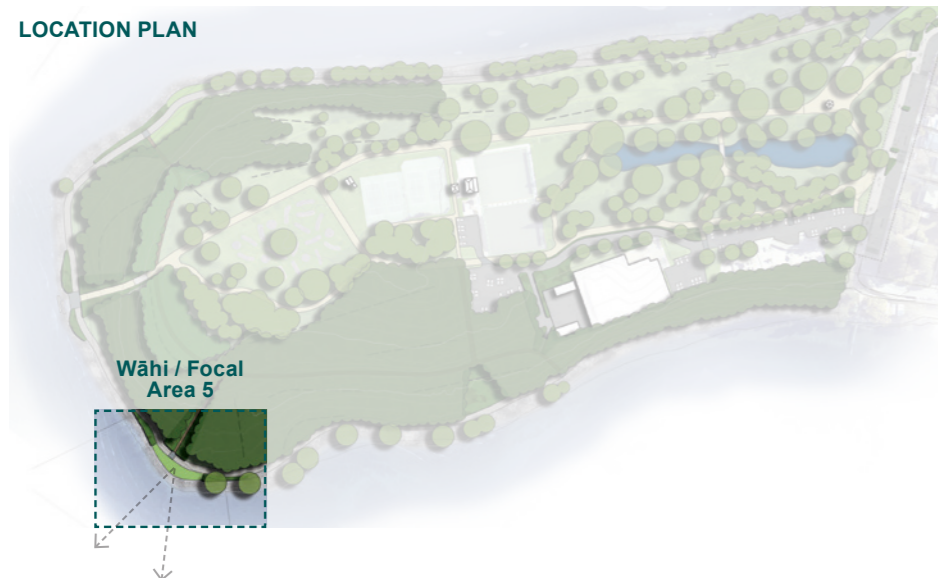
The proposed design includes the following:

- Connections and or view shafts to The Remarkables, Te Nuku-o-Hākitekura Kelvin Heights and down the lake towards Takerehaka Kingston
- Open areas connected to Peninsula Loop with opportunity to create a place of rest and reflection
- Strengthening native planting along the edge of the peninsula

VIEW FROM WĀHI / FOCAL AREA 5



LOCATION PLAN



PROPOSED PLANTING PALETTE

Proposed planting provides an opportunity to showcase and integrate native planting throughout the gardens.

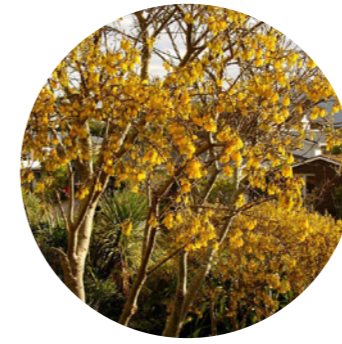
The proposed planting includes (and not limited to) a mix of trees, shrubs and grasses to provide different scales that are suitable for different areas.

Native planting will support the wider ecosystem, attracting birds and bees the gardens.

Refer to pages 11-17 for detailed locations of proposed planting



Fuscospora cliffortioides
Mountain Beech



Sophora microphylla
Southern Kowhai



Cordyline australis
Cabbage Tree



Hoheria angustifolia
Lacebark



Hebe albicans
Koromiko



Phormium tenax
Mountain Flax



Corokia cotoneaster 'Little Prince'
Korokia



Pachystegia insignis
Marlborough rock daisy



Coprosma propinqua
Mingimingi

Succession planting to start replacing the fir trees around the peninsula

Clearing of existing trees to create a viewshaft. Planted with native low shrubs

Introduce native planting around entrances

Infill native planting



Chionochloa rubra
Red Tussock



Festuca novae-zelandiae
Hard Tussock



Poa cita
Silver Tussock

SIGNAGE

DESIGN INTENT

- Natural signage that reflects the essence of the garden, European and Mana Whenua history and becomes a sculpture in its own right
- Reference the following:

Rākaihautū and his kō (named Tūwhakaroria)

Whakapapa and signifying the four iwi:

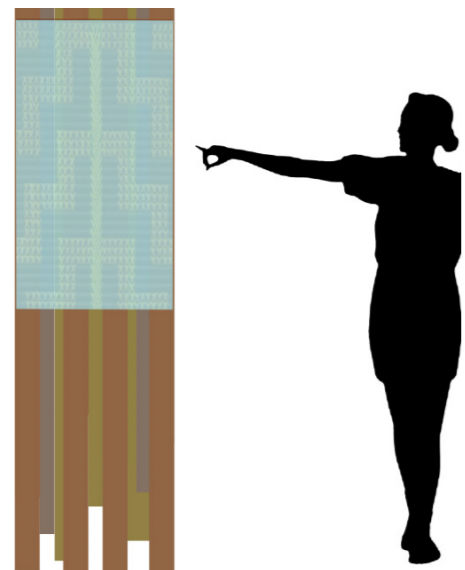
- Te Rapuwai
- Waitaha
- Kāti Mamoe
- Kāi Tahu

TIMBER POSTS

- Use of native timber posts to reference the local iwi
- Remaining timber posts to be exotic timber and represent those that have migrated to the district
- Three notches at the top and bottom of the end timber posts to represent whakapapa and associated iwi of the area and the three main lakes in the district
- Place name could be incorporated along the side edge of the timber post i.e Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens

SIGNAGE PANEL

- Poutama pattern that represents māturaka, attaining knowledge and understanding to be etched into panel
- Shape of panels inspired by kākahu (woven cloak) which were made from local natural materials from the area for warmth and protection.
- Blue tinge to the panel to represent the lake

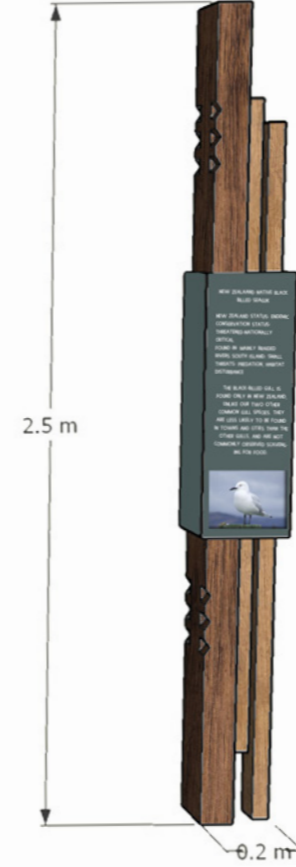


Poutama Pattern

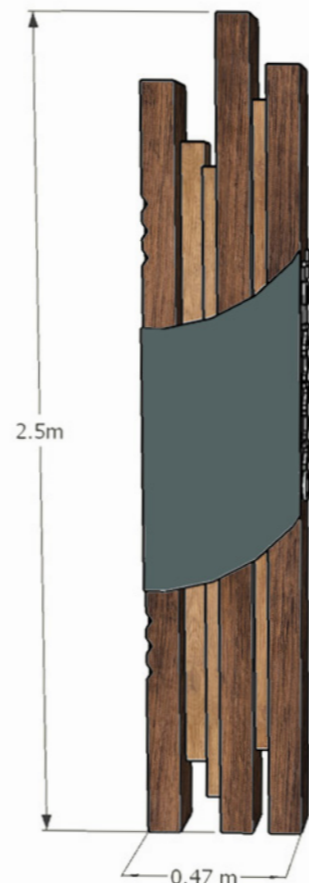
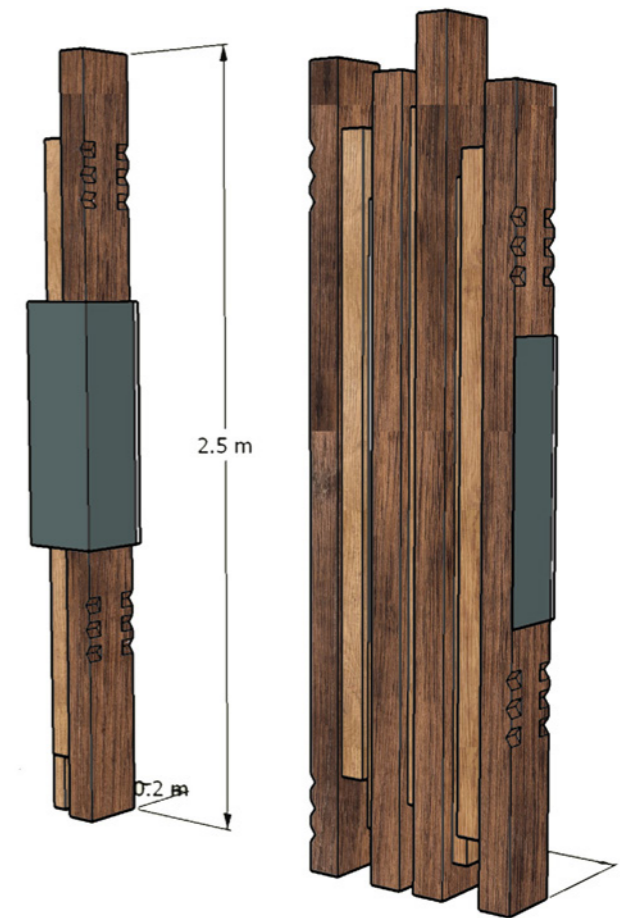
S1 : ENTRANCE SIGN



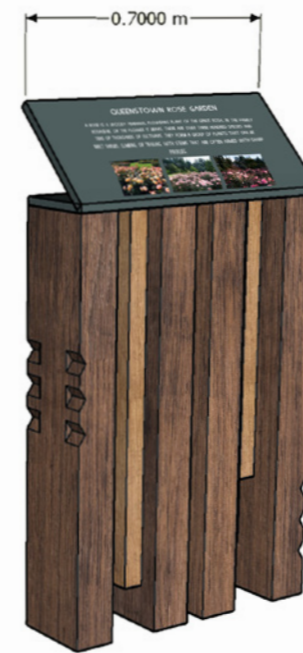
S2 : DIRECTIONAL AND INFORMATION SIGN



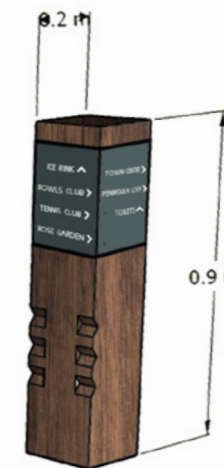
BACK VIEW OF S1 AND S2



S3: INTERPRETATIVE PANEL



S4 : SMALLER INTERPRETATIVE PANEL



S5 : DIRECTIONAL BOLLARD

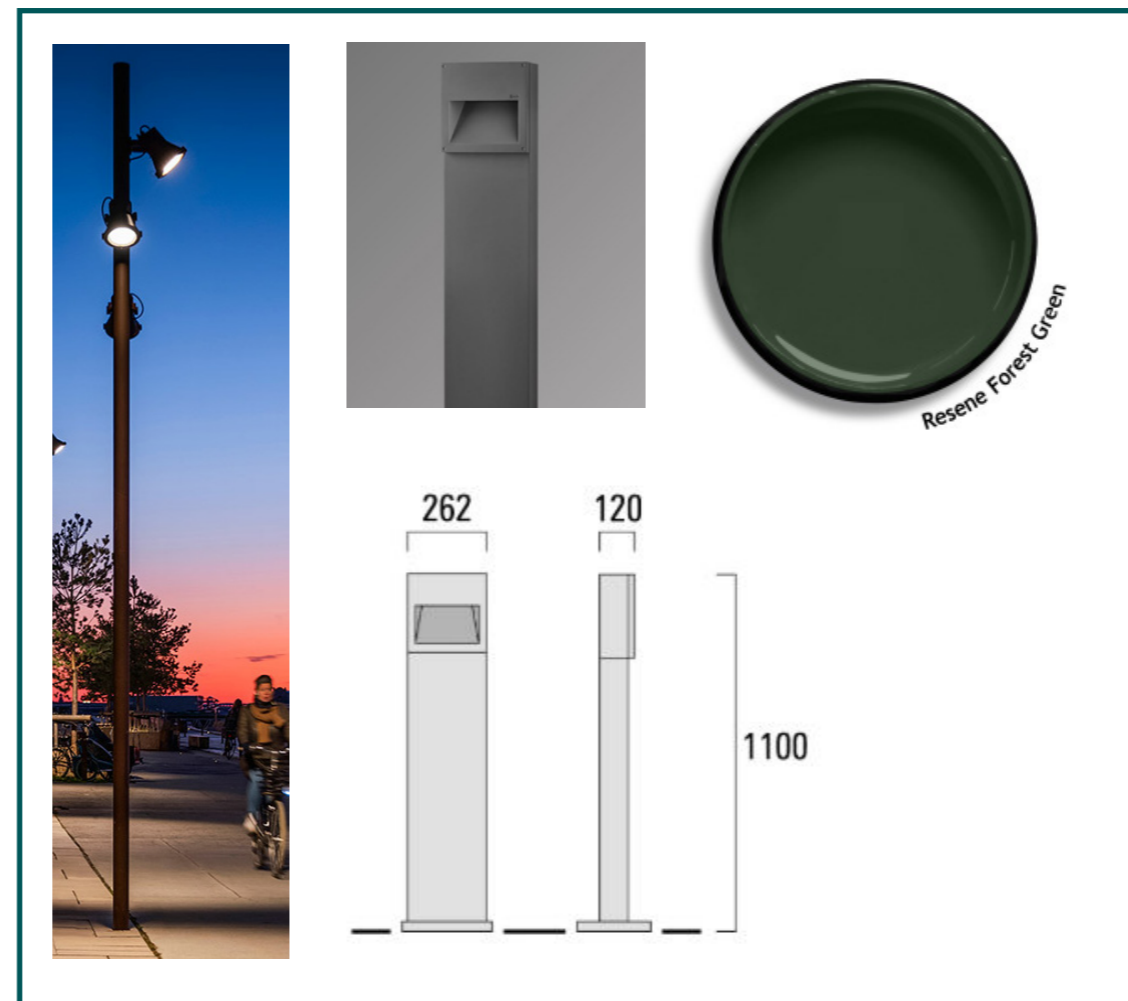
LIGHTING

The Tāhuna Streetscape project is currently being undertaken by QLDC and includes Brecon Street, Rees Street, Beach Street and Park Street. Due to the close proximity of this project to Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens, it was vital that we reviewed the proposal to see how design elements could be integrated throughout Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens. Using consistent design elements will create a cohesive design that will flow through Queenstown and effectively create a link from the base of Skyline right through town to Park Street.

LIGHT POLES

The same light fixture and overall style of the street light has been selected to use throughout the gardens. We have adapted the design to create two different designs that would be used at various places around the garden:

- **Simple Lighting:** Plain light pole and light fixture, powder coated forest green to blend in with the surrounding landscape. These light poles would be located throughout Te Kararo Queenstown Gardens, especially along the central loop to illuminate the pathway for safety during the evening.
- **Feature Lighting:** The feature light pole consists of a forest green sleeve that would attach to the front of the gun metal light pole. The sleeve would be laser cut with some sort of pattern. This pattern could change from location to location and reflect the essence of the area or be a consistent design. This light pole would be used at entrances and main features where the lighting would become part of the design.



LIGHTING DESIGN AND COLOUR

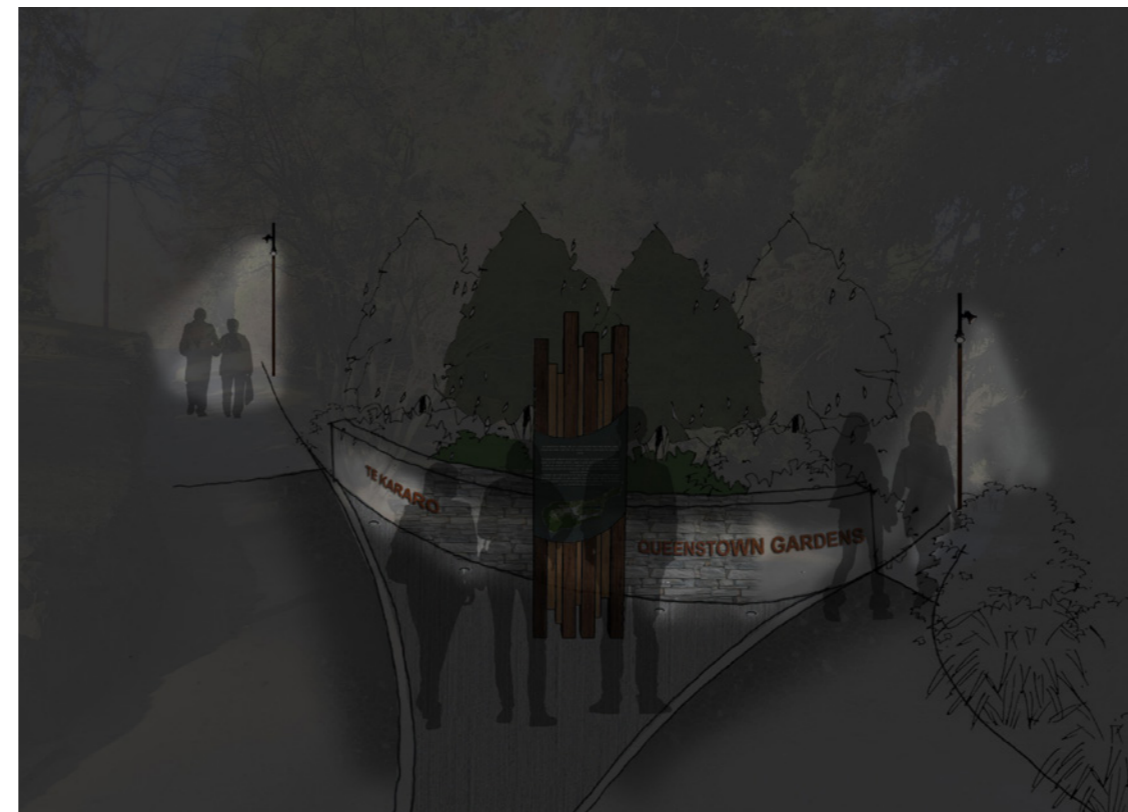
BOLLARD LIGHTING - Peninsula Loop

To direct people around the Peninsula Loop, and provide a higher level of safety, light bollards will be located around the pathway. They will be located on the lake side of the pathway facing in towards the pathway to ensure that light spill is contained within the gardens.

The design of the light bollard is a sleek, non-intrusive design that will be powder coated forest green so that it blends in with the surrounding landscape.

The light bollards will sit in amongst the native planting that has been proposed throughout that package so that visually doesn't become a dominant feature.

Note that lighting design is subject to input from a lighting engineer



INDICATIVE SKETCH OF ENTRANCE AT NIGHT TIME



INDICATIVE SKETCH OF THE PENINSULA LOOP AT NIGHT TIME