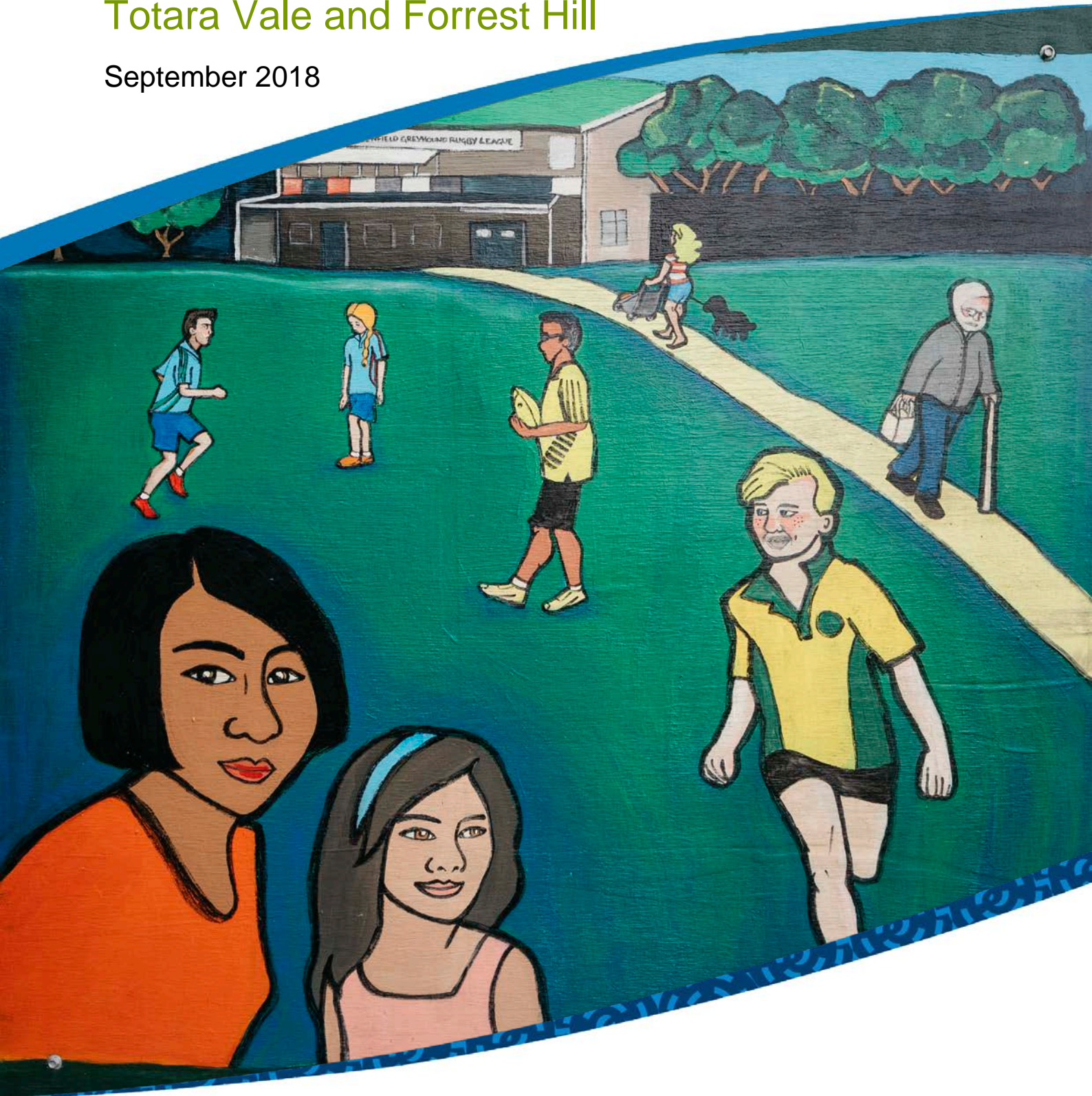


# Sunnynook Plan

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

September 2018



## Sunnynook Plan (September 2018)

*Cover image: artwork at Sunnynook Bus Station that was created as part of a Safe Growth Initiative between Murrays Bay School, the Sunnynook community and Auckland Transport.*

## 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,  
engari e kaikini tonu nei i ngā mahara  
i te ao, i te pō.  
Nga ōha 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.  
Koinā te tangi a Ngākau Māhaki,  
a Wairua Hihiri me Hinengaro Tau.  
Oho mai rā tātou ki te whakatairanga i ngā mahi  
e ekeina ai te pae tawhiti ka tō mai ai ki te pae tata.  
Tēnei au te noho atu nei i te mātārae  
te titiro ki runga o Ōrewa,  
ki te one e rere atu ana ki Te Whangaparāoa,  
ki te kūiti o te Puarangi.  
Kei waho ko Tiritiri Matangi,  
tomokanga ki te moana o Te Waitematā.  
Ki uta ko te Whanga o Oho Mairangi,  
ūnga mai o Te Arawa waka.  
Ka rere whakarunga ngā kamo ki Takapuna kāinga,  
Takapuna tupuna.  
Kia taka ki tua ko Maungaūika  
te tū hēteri mai rā i te pūwaha o Tāmaki Makaurau,  
Tāmaki herehere waka.  
Ka ruruku atu tātou mā te waitai kia puta ake  
ki te Awataha ki ngā mihi a te Kaipātiki  
me te Te Raki Paewhenua ki te uru,  
i reira ka whakatau te haere.  
E koutou mā ka ea, kua ea.  
Kia ora huihui mai koutou katoa.

Welcome to you all, let me greet you  
with the eloquent words  
of those who have long been taken by the hand  
of the unknown,  
but for whom we still mourn  
day and night.  
Let us connect the legacy they left  
to the hopes of this generation  
as our gift to them who will follow behind us.  
That is the pledge of the humble heart,  
the willing spirit and the inspired mind.  
Let us rise together and seek to do what is necessary

to draw distant aspirations closer to realisation.  
Here I sit on the headland  
overlooking Ōrewa  
to the stretch of sand that runs to Whangaparāoa  
along the Hibiscus Coast.  
Off land lies Tiritiri Matangi,  
gateway to the Waitematā.  
On land is Mairangi Bay  
landing of Te Arawa waka.  
Gazing southward lies Takapuna community,  
Takapuna the progenitor.  
Beyond there stands Maungaūika  
sentinel of Tāmaki Makaurau,  
anchorage of many canoes.  
Taking to the tidal waters we emerge  
at Awataha to the greetings of Kaipātiki  
and West Harbour,  
and there our journey ends.  
It is done.  
Greetings to you all.

## Foreword

[To be drafted for each Local Board Chairs' approval]



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# 1. Introduction

The purpose of this plan is to build on Sunnynook, Totara 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, Totara Vale and Forrest Hill, with Sunnynook town centre at the heart (Figure 1). 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.

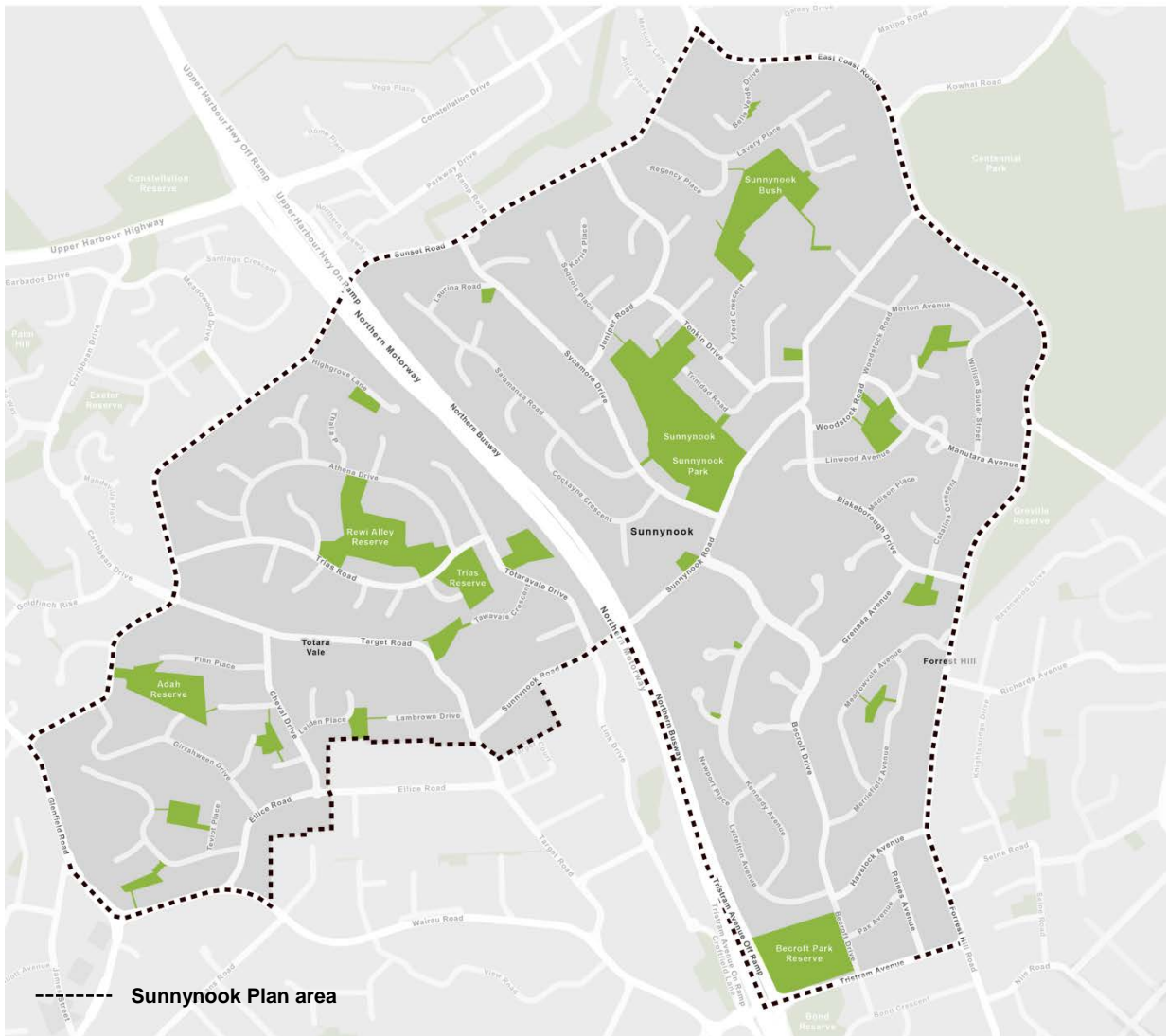


Figure 1: Sunnynook Plan area

## 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.

## 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

<b>Mayor’s vision</b>		
<b>Auckland Plan</b>		
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.		
<b>Auckland Unitary Plan</b>	<b>Long-term plan</b>	<b>Local board plans</b>
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.
<b>Place-based plans</b>		
Plans for geographical areas. The Sunnynook Plan supports the Devonport-Takapuna Area Plan aspirations with its vision and outcomes.		

## 2. What you told us

Over the past few years there have been several opportunities for the Sunnynook, Totara 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.

[The information below will be shown as an infographic]

September – October 2017 – initial consultation

Two drop-in sessions, three school workshops, one hui

Over 100 pieces of feedback received

### **Community feedback on draft plan**

June – July 2018

Four drop-in sessions

159 pieces of feedback

Display boards attracted more than 500 dots (votes)

Young Innovators Collective campaign

### **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

95% of respondents supported the vision

### **Quotes:**

“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.”

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

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

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

“Prioritise pedestrians in the town centre.”

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

## 3. Vision and principles

### 3.1 Vision

*Sunnynook, Totara 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.*

### 3.2 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, art works 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).

#### 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.

Quote for inclusion in this section:

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

## 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, Totara Vale and Forrest Hill communities.

### **Outcome 5**

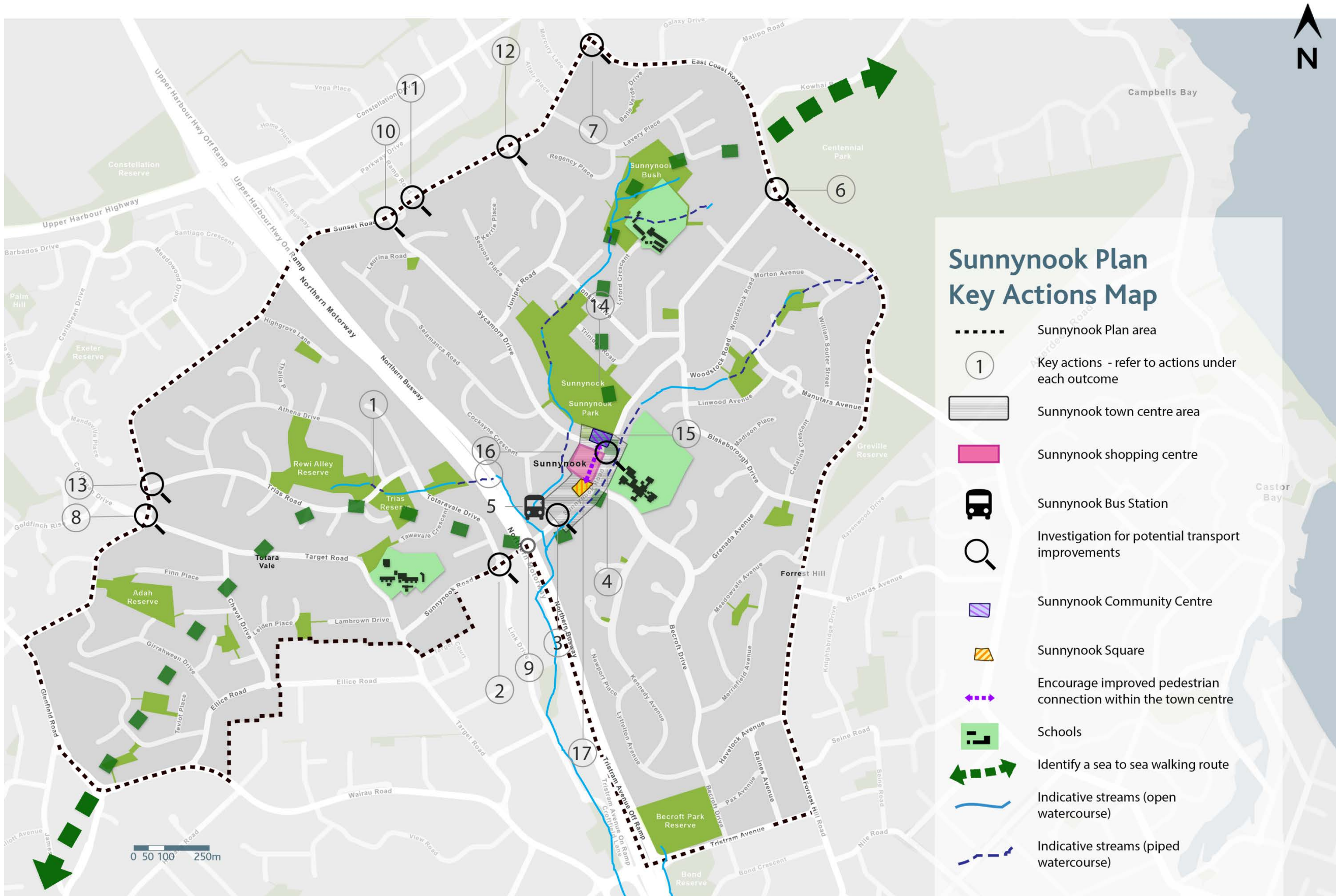
A quality built environment that caters for the diverse needs of the community.

### **Outcome 6**

Mana whenua are recognised as kaitiaki (guardians).



Key actions map



## 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 recontoured 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.

### Outcome 1 actions

*Note: For location-specific actions, refer to the numbered key actions map on page 15. 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)
<i>Ongoing</i>		
<b>1A. Restore natural environments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with mana whenua and the local</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Council*, local board, community groups, mana

Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<p>community to restore natural environments such as local bush areas and streams.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create and connect ecological corridors.</li> </ul>		whenua
<p><b>1B. Enhance native biodiversity</b></p> <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>		
<p><b>1C. Water quality improvements</b></p> <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
<p><b>1D. Wairau Creek catchment flood resilience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate opportunities to improve flood resilience in the Totara 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, Totara 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.

Quote for inclusion in this section:

***“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.”***

### 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 Totara 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.

### Outcome 2 actions

*Note: For location-specific actions, refer to the numbered key actions map on page 15. 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>		
<b>2A. On-street car parking</b> Advocate for an investigation into the management of on-street parking around Sunnynook Bus Station.	D-T, K	Local board*
<b>2B. Lighting and signage</b> Make ongoing improvements to information, signage, lighting and safety for pedestrians and cyclists as and when possible, in line with maintenance programmes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure walkways and footpaths are safe with quality footpaths, good lighting levels and well-maintained vegetation.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Auckland Transport*, council, local board



Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>		
<p><b>2C. New Network for the North Shore</b></p> <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>		
<b>2D. Sunnynook Road improvements</b>		
Improve pedestrian and vehicle safety along Sunnynook Road, in particular:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link Drive roundabout – investigate pedestrian safety and amenity improvements</li> </ul>	K ②	Auckland Transport*, local board
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sunnynook Road drop-off zones – investigate safety improvements.</li> </ul>	D-T ③	Auckland Transport*, local board
<b>2E. Sycamore Drive improvements</b>		
Investigate pedestrian safety and amenity improvements at the Sunnynook Road intersection and, in particular, between Sunnynook Shopping Centre and Sunnynook Community Centre.		
<b>2F. Pedestrian crossings</b>		
Investigate the need for new pedestrian crossings across East Coast Road, Forrest Hill Road, Sunnynook Road and Sunset Road.		
<b>2G. Sunnynook Bus Station</b>		
<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

Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<p><b>2H. Northern Connections walking and cycling path</b></p> <p>Commence investigations for the Northern Connections walking and cycling path parallel to State Highway 1, between Akoranga and Constellation Bus Stations.</p>	D-T, K	New Zealand Transport Agency*, Auckland Transport
<p><b>2I. Intersection improvements</b></p> <p>Investigate safety improvements at the following intersections:</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>East Coast Road/Sunnynook Road</li> </ul>	D-T ⑥	Auckland Transport*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>East Coast Road/Sunset Road</li> </ul>	D-T ⑦	Auckland Transport*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sunset Road/Target Road/Caribbean Drive.</li> </ul>	K ⑧	Auckland Transport*
<p><i>Medium to long-term (5-10+ years)</i></p>		
<p><b>2J. Sunnynook Road improvements</b></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>	D-T, K ⑨	Auckland Transport*, local board
<p><b>2K. Connections to Sunnynook Bus Station</b></p> <p>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.</p>	D-T ⑤	Auckland Transport*, local board
<p><b>2L. Intersection improvements</b></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> </ul>	D-T ⑩	Local board*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sunset Road/Ramp Road</li> </ul>	D-T ⑪	Local board*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sunset Road/Juniper Road</li> </ul>	D-T ⑫	Local board*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sunset Road/Trias Road.</li> </ul>	K ⑬	Local board*

### 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, Totara 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.

Quote for inclusion in this section:

***"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 15. 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>		
<b>3A. Sea to sea walking route</b> Identify a walking route between the Upper Waitemata Harbour and the East Coast Bays.	D-T, K	Council*, local board, Auckland Transport
<b>3B. More trees in parks, open spaces and along streets</b> In support of the Mayor's Million Trees programme and Auckland's Urban Forest (Ngahere) Strategy, plant more trees in public spaces. This will help protect the taiao (natural environment), while enhancing Sunnynook as a leafy green community.	D-T, K	Council*, local board, Auckland Transport

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Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<p><b>3C. Park maintenance</b></p> <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, drinking fountains, 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*
<p><b>3D. Shared facilities</b></p> <p>Encourage local schools and sports clubs to share spaces and facilities with the public to enable greater community use.</p>	D-T, K	Local board*, Council, Ministry of Education
<b>Short-term (0-5 years)</b>		
<p><b>3E. Dog exercise park</b></p> <p>Investigate opportunities for a dog exercise park and identify suitable off-leash areas for dogs.</p>	D-T, K	Council*, local board
<p><b>3F. Sunnynook Park</b></p> <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
<p><b>3G. New civic space</b></p> <p>Create a civic space next to Sunnynook Community Centre.</p>	D-T ⑮	Local board*, council, community groups
<p><b>3H. Sunnynook wheeled sports facility</b></p> <p>Investigate opportunities for new wheeled sports facilities (skate, scooter, BMX etc.) in the Sunnynook area.</p>	D-T	Council*, local board



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

The Sunnynook town centre is at the heart of the Sunnynook, Totara 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.

Quote for inclusion in this section:

***“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.

Quote for inclusion in this section:

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

### Outcome 4 actions

*Note: For location-specific actions, refer to the numbered key actions map on page 15. Actions in Outcomes 2 and 5 will also contribute to this outcome. Two local boards share responsibility for this area – Devonport-Takapuna (D-T) and Kaipatiki (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>		
<b>4A. Design guidance for the town centre</b>  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

Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<p><b>4B. Public environment improvements</b></p> <p>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.</p>	D-T	Council*, local board, Auckland Transport, landowners
<b>Medium-term (5-10 years)</b>		
<p><b>4C. Sunnynook Square</b></p> <p>Investigate opportunities to upgrade Sunnynook Square on Sunnynook Road to create an informal gathering place for all.</p>	D-T ⑰	Council*, local board
<p><b>4D. Community facilities assessment</b></p> <p>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.</p>	D-T, K	Council*, local board, community groups

## 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 well-being.

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.

### 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)
<i>Ongoing</i>		
<b>5A. Quality residential design</b> Encourage landowners and developers to use the residential and business design guidance in the Auckland Design Manual.	D-T,K	Council*, landowners
<b>5B. Public art</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage opportunities for community-led public art projects in the area.</li> </ul>	D-T, K	Council*, local board, mana whenua,

Action	Local board area and map reference	Lead agency* and delivery partner(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage opportunities for murals to enhance public places and reduce the dominance of blank walls.</li> <li>Work with the local community, Māori design community, schools and other creative groups to produce public art for the area.</li> </ul>		community groups
<p><b>5C. Clean and tidy public spaces</b></p> <p>Improve the maintenance of public areas including streets – 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.</p>	D-T, K	Auckland Transport*, council
<b>Medium-term (5-10 years)</b>		
<p><b>5D. Neighbourhood centres</b></p> <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 Rahopara Pa 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 Waiohua, 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.

**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)
<i>Ongoing</i>		
<p><b>6A. Te Aranga Māori Design Principles</b></p> <p>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).</p>	D-T, K	Council*, mana whenua*, developers
<p><b>6B. Mana whenua narratives</b></p> <p>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.</p>	D-T, K	Council*, mana whenua*, community groups
<p><b>6C. Improve water quality</b></p> <p>Improve water quality in streams and restore native bush in the area. Sunnynook, Forrest Hill and Totara 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.</p>	D-T, K	Council*, mana whenua, community groups

## 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, Totara 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.

## 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 to, the remaining principles cannot be authentically applied.

<b>Mana rangatiratanga: authority</b>	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.
<b>Whakapapa: names and naming</b>	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 practises, and enhancing our understanding of place.
<b>Taiao: the natural environment</b>	The natural environment and local flora and fauna are protected, restored or enhanced, and are key landscape elements in the urban and modified environment.
<b>Mauri tū: environmental health</b>	Community wellbeing is enhanced through developments which protect, maintain or enhance the environmental health (including water, land, trees, and air).
<b>Mahi toi: creative expression</b>	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.
<b>Tohu: the wider cultural landscape</b>	Mana whenua significant sites and cultural landmarks and their ability to inform the design of specific sites are acknowledged, managed, protected, and enhanced.
<b>Ahi kā: the living presence</b>	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.



## 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 minimized, 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 to 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.