

# Help shape the Harbourview-Orangihina draft masterplan

## The Henderson-Massey Local Board is gathering feedback on the draft Harbourview-Orangihina Masterplan.

Harbourview-Orangihina Park is a dynamic and sensitive coastal landscape, and a place of significant ecological, archaeological, cultural and recreational value. The park is home to outstanding geological formations, rare and endangered fauna, and its coastal saltmarsh environment is of regional importance.

The masterplan aims to develop an aspirational long term plan that provides a clear guide for future development and the ongoing use of the park, and ensures that future design and decision making reflects and enhances the unique values of the park.

This draft has been prepared in close collaboration with the Community Reference Group - a group of 19 members including representatives from community groups involved with the park and balloted community members - along with mana whenua and Auckland Council Biodiversity and Heritage experts.

### We want your help

This is your opportunity to have your say. We encourage you to read the following boards and provide feedback. You can provide your feedback online at [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/haveyoursay](https://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/haveyoursay), alternatively drop in at one of the following public open days:

- Te Atatū Peninsula Library Foyer, 595 Te Atatū Road, Saturday 18 August 2018, 10am - 12pm
- Te Atatū Peninsula Library Foyer, 595 Te Atatū Road, Thursday 30 August 2018, 5pm - 7pm

**Online feedback opens Monday 13th August and closes Sunday 9th September.**

Your feedback will be used to inform the final version of the Harbourview-Orangihina Masterplan



# 1

# Introduction and site context

## The site

Harbourview-Orangihina Park encompasses 85 hectares of pastoral and intertidal coastal land located on the eastern fringes of Te Atatū Peninsula, in the Henderson-Massey Local Board (HMLB) area.

The land has remained largely undeveloped over time. This is partly a reflection of many unrealised schemes for the peninsula including airfields, a port, a conference centre and an events superdome. In contrast, the development of residential homes on the northern and western sides of the peninsula went ahead. This led to the contrasting duality of an undeveloped south-east that residents enjoy today as Harbourview-Orangihina Park.<sup>1</sup>

The park provides for a range of recreational activities, mostly passive in nature including walking, bird watching, picnicking, running and dog walking. The Te Atatū Pony Club lease land at the southern end of the park, this is the only formal recreational activity on site.

Built structures within the park include paths, bridges, site furniture, carparks and a toilet.

<sup>1</sup> Turner, J.B. with historical essay by Cole G., 2015. Te Atatū Me: photographs of an urban new Zealand village

## Project scope

The intention of the master planning process is to develop an aspirational long term spatial plan that:

- establishes design principles to guide integrated development of the park,
- shows on a spatial plan the location of values to be protected, activities to be provided for, and connections to be made,
- identifies viable development opportunities, priorities and sequencing,
- aligns with the vision and objectives the Harbourview-Orangihina Open Space Management Plan and the Henderson-Massey Open Space Network Plan, and
- includes land held under the Local Government Act 2002, Reserves Act 1977 and land zoned for the development of an urban Marae.<sup>2</sup>

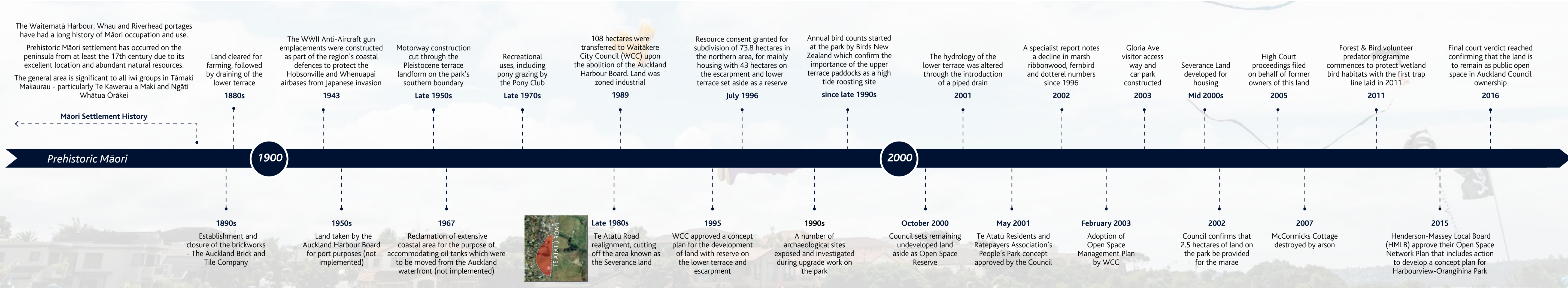
The plan will be used to inform the Henderson-Massey Local Board's decision making and funding allocation for future development

<sup>2</sup> Masterplan outcomes from the 2nd May 2017 report to the Henderson-Massey Local Board business meeting

## Location map



## History of the park



# 2

## Summary of the park's environmental values

Harbourview-Orangihina encompasses 85ha of lowland and intertidal coastal frontage. The park is a dynamic and sensitive coastal landscape and a place of significant ecological value.

### Vegetation

The park has a history of pastoral and horticultural development following subdivision in 1894. Approx half of the site at the southern end of the park remains in pasture.

Harbourview-Orangihina's coastline is part of a larger area of high ecological value extending south-east from the mouth of the Whau River, including Motu Manawa-Pollen island Marine Reserve, a nationally important reserve and the biodiversity hotspots of Pollen Island/Traherne Island. The coastline contains extensive high-tidal sandflats, mangroves, a prominent shell bank with healthy sedge, rush and glasswort saltmarsh on the shoreline. The intertidal area is a major wading bird feeding ground.

The Harbourview-Orangihina saltmarsh is the most significant ecological feature in the park and is recognised as the largest of its kind within the north-western portion of the Tamaki Ecological District.

Restoration planting has been carried out on hill slopes and areas of damp pasture throughout much of the northern half of the reserve to provide a buffer to the salt marsh and extend the amount of suitable habitat for fernbird. Much of the planting has been carried out by volunteer groups.

### Hydrology & topography

The topography comprises two terraces, the upper pleistocene terrace and the lower pleistocene terrace, separated by a scarp. The upper pleistocene terrace comprises of the upper portion and is predominantly in pasture with some exotic trees.

The lower pleistocene terrace comprises ground that is covered in salt marsh, swamp or pasture below the upper terrace. The scarp has a short to moderately steep descent seawards to ground that lies around one or two metres above sea level. The area of fresh and salt water wetlands and mangroves is one of the few examples of combined fresh and saltwater wetlands in the region.

The intertidal zone east of the park towards the Whau channel and Waitematā Harbour contains a broad island of mangroves around 1km in length. A small band of mangroves is also located at the southern end of the park, in the shelter of the motorway bridge.

Three small streams and a number of gullies enter the harbour and have created broad swampy zones in the lower terrace.

Sections of the coastline have been subject to coastal erosion.

### Estuarine fauna & birds

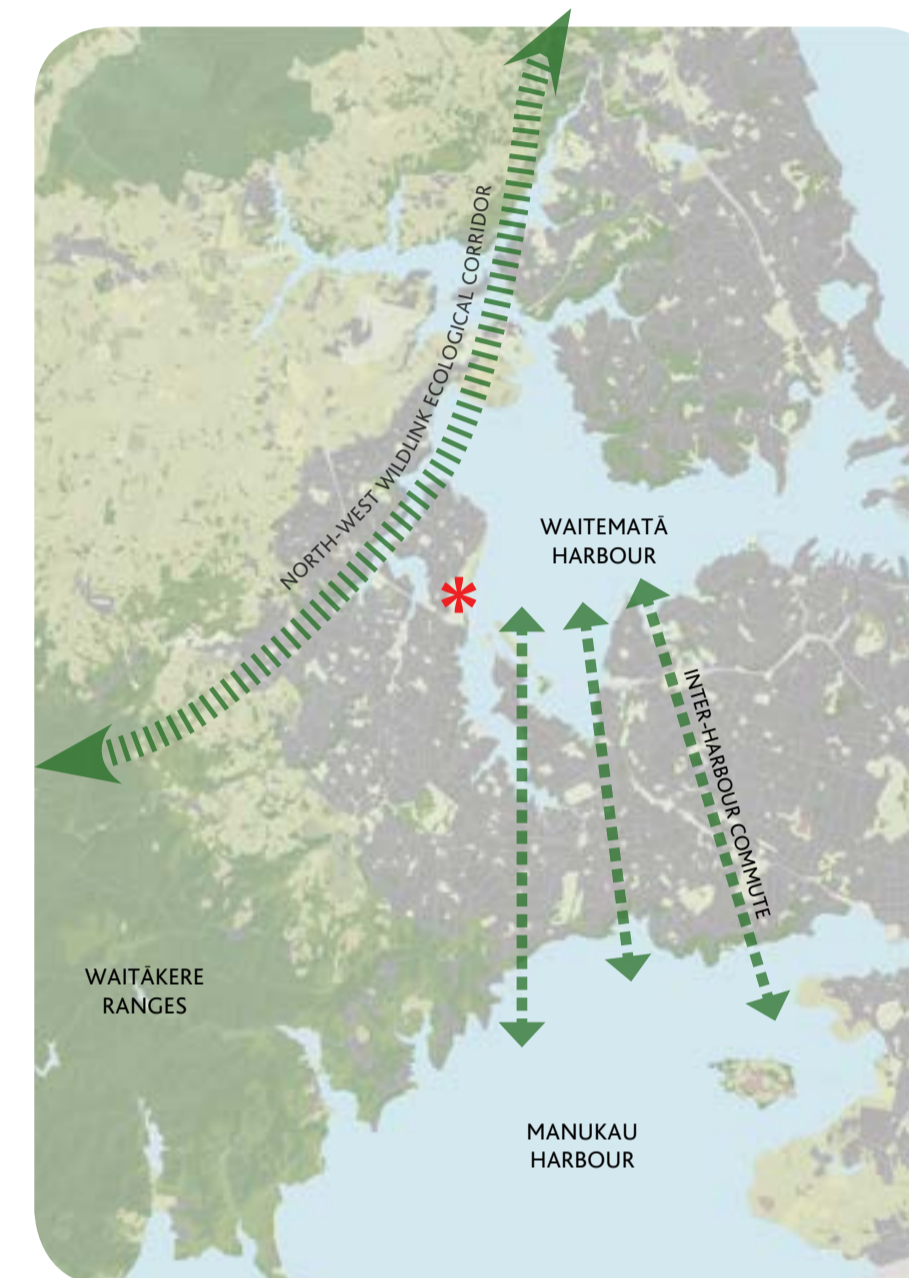
The mangrove, mud flats, marsh, semi-terrestrial wetland and salt marsh areas provide habitat for a range of estuarine fauna. The wetland provides suitable conditions for large numbers of common intertidal organisms such as mud snail, mud crabs, common smelt and mosquito fish which provide food for birds and fish on the sand flat areas.

Fish known to be present in the Harbourview-Orangihina wetland and stormwater pond are shortfin eel, common bully and gambusia, along with large orange fish (likely to be either goldfish or koi carp). Banded kōkopu and inanga appear to thrive in the freshwater streams including the farm drains created in past years.

The wide variety of vegetation types and habitats within the park support a range of bird species. Common native and introduced species include pukeko, white faced heron, eastern bar-tailed godwit, caspian tern, pied oystercatcher, welcome swallow and Australasian harrier.

The Te Atatū Pony Club's pasture on the upper terrace provides a valuable shorebird roosting area as the open grassy paddocks provide a reasonably safe high tide roosting and foraging area. These paddocks are home to many native and international migratory shorebirds including rare species like banded and NZ dotterels, lesser knots, South Island pied and variable oystercatchers, pied stilts and spur-wing plovers.

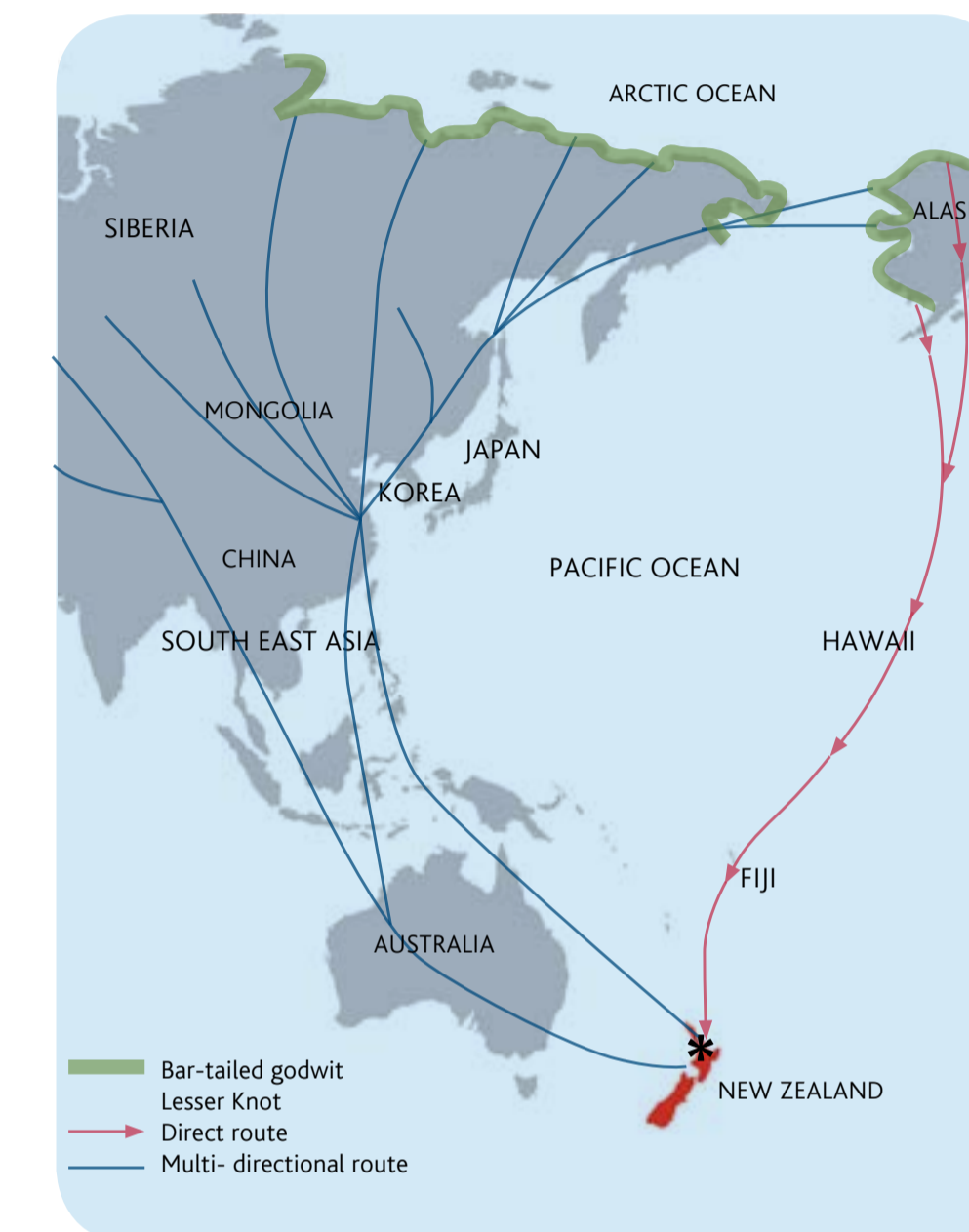
The lower terrace provides habitat for fernbird (a protected endemic species) and banded rail. Shorebirds, including spoonbills, herons, oystercatchers, stilts, godwits and dotterels feed and roost on the nearby mudflats.



Local ecological corridors

Harbourview-Orangihina is located on the important shorebird inter-harbour foraging route between the Manukau and Waitematā Harbours, with birds taking advantage of the extra feeding opportunities on the intertidal zone resulting from the three hour difference between the Tasman and Pacific tides.

The park is also within the North Auckland Seabird Flyway, which links the Tasman Sea with the Hauraki Gulf. This flyway is used by petrels which nest on the Hauraki Gulf islands but feed in the Tasman Sea.



East Asian-Australasian flyway

The lesser knot and the eastern bar-tailed godwit breed in Siberia and Alaska during the northern summer. On the northern journey they migrate via the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, stopping to feed en route in the Yellow Sea. On the return journey to NZ, the godwits fly directly across the Pacific in the longest-known migration of any shorebird.



Aerial view of saltmarsh environment



Wetland and saltmarsh species



Coastal erosion at the southern end of the park at the historic brickworks site



Top: banded kokopu, cockle. Bottom: eastern bar-tailed godwit, NZ dotterel



Aerial view of the park with stormwater pond in the foreground and saltmarsh environment in the background

# 3

## Summary of the park's cultural heritage values

Harbourview-Orangihina Park is a place of archaeological and cultural heritage value. The range of buildings and structures serve as reminders of the history of settlement and occupation in the region. Visitor experience can be greatly enhanced by learning about the stories attached to these locations.

### Maori heritage

Te Atatū Peninsula has a long history of occupation and use by Māori thanks to its excellent location and abundant natural resources. Ngāti Whātua ki Tamaki established themselves on the Auckland Isthmus in the mid 17th century and Te Kawerau A Maki settled in the area with whanaunga (relatives) after relocating from Kawhia.

The peninsula is well located on the Waitematā Harbour and is notable for its close proximity to waka transport routes. The Whau River is significant as it is the northernmost of three historic portage connections between the Waitematā and Manukau Harbours. The peninsula is also close to the Riverhead portage which is the main route between the Waitematā and the Kaipara Harbours. The wide views from the Harbourview-Orangihina park area would have afforded good visibility of other iwi approaching.

The harbour and adjacent land was used extensively, particularly during the summer months, for fishing and gathering of natural resources. The natural resources included bounty from both the land (fruit, medicine, birds and their eggs, weaving materials, dyes and timber) and the sea (shellfish, fish, seaweeds, eggs and occasionally seal). Iwi have occupied the area both permanently and seasonally, with settlement focused on headlands jutting into the harbour and at the entrance to major estuaries or creeks. The middens found in Harbourview-Orangihina Park show us the likely areas of some of those occupations.



■ Archaeological / Historic Site

### Cultural heritage sites

The Cultural Heritage Inventory (CHI) identifies the following archaeological sites and recorded historic structures within the park boundary:

- several shell middens,
- an ensilage pit,
- McCormicks Cottage site,
- historic drains, and
- Auckland Brick and Tile Company brickwork remains.
- a brick villa,
- WWII anti-aircraft gun emplacements

### Coastal shell middens

- There are several known middens around Harbourview-Orangihina
- These show evidence of both prehistoric Māori settlement and early European activities.

### McCormicks Cottage Site

- Likely one of the earliest European house sites in the area
- Built in the 1890s by Henry McCormick, this small wooden square-fronted cottage was orientated to the east, overlooking the harbour and Auckland City.
- The house served briefly as a post office in the 1920's, in connection with a yoghurt factory in the 1950s-70s, and as the residence of the pony club grazier.
- The property was destroyed by fire in September 2007.

### Auckland Brick and Tile Company Site

- Located at the entrance to the Whau River.
- Formed in September 1883, taking advantage of the large quantities of accessible clay as well as the location near the harbour allowing transport by sea.
- The company only operated until the early 1900s when the last of the buildings on site were demolished.
- The kiln foundations and floor are still present, together with what was probably a lean-to at the western end. The clay working and brick production processes associated with the kiln are represented by various features on site such as waste bricks, pipe remains and kiln floors.

### Brick Villa

- The Victorian brick villa at 19 Long Bush Road is dated approximately 1890-1910
- The villa has significant architectural values, being a rare example of a brick villa in the district.
- Most likely constructed of bricks from one of the local brickworks.

### World War II anti-aircraft gun emplacements

- The Anti Aircraft Battery was constructed in 1943 as part of the region's coastal defences to protect the Hobsonville and Whenuapai airbases from Japanese and German invasion.
- The octagonal battery consists of four sunken concrete emplacements and a sunken command post
- By the time the gun emplacements were completed the Japanese were in retreat and the guns were never installed.



Midden site at the northern end of the park



Timber deck showing the McCormicks cottage original floor plan



Manuka lined historic drains



Bricks scattered along foreshore



View of brick villa from the park



Gun emplacements

# 4

## Engagement summary

Auckland Council has committed to a process of community and stakeholder engagement for the development of the draft Harbourview-Orangihina Masterplan and input has been sought from many voices within the community.

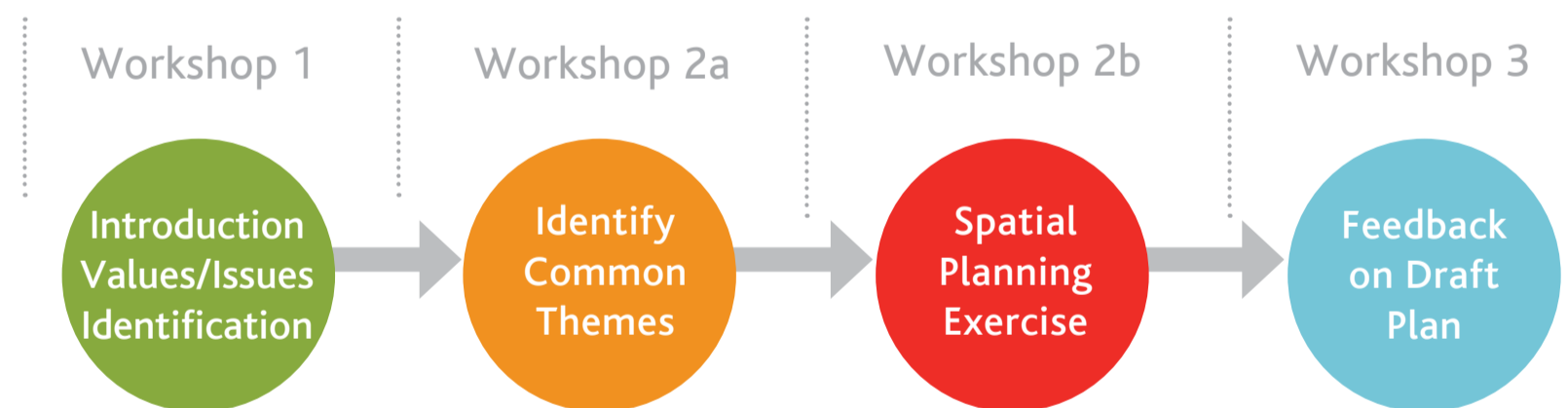
Engagement to date has been carried out with mana whenua, and with key stakeholders and the public through the community reference group. These groups have been instrumental in the development of the draft masterplan.

### Mana whenua

Mana whenua worked with council in the shaping of this masterplan. Te Kawerau a Maki provided cultural input in key stakeholder workshops, and together with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei provided input into the cultural values of the park and the wider area.

These values run wider than specific stories or histories associated with parts of the park to encompass the environmental values and significance of the wider area to mana whenua. These connections to the land have informed the design principles of the masterplan, and the intention is for the cultural values and narratives to be woven throughout the design of the masterplan.

### Community reference group



The community reference group (CRG) was formed to help develop ideas for the draft masterplan prior to wider consultation. A series of collaborative pre-design workshops were held with the group in March and April 2018.

The aim of these workshops was to identify the values of the site, identify aspirations, opportunities, constraints, and potential design solutions. Three key themes emerged from the CRG workshops; **environment**, **heritage** and **people**.



Spatial planning exercise at CRG Workshop 2B - March 2018

### Key values and moves

The community reference group identified the following key shared values that will be used to underpin the development of the masterplan:

#### KEY VALUES:



The unique ecology (flora and fauna) and cultural history of the park



The park as a significant shorebird habitat



The open, unmodified and pastoral character of the park

#### KEY MOVES:



Protect and enhance ecosystems and habitats of high value - a strong conservation focus is to guide all improvements on site



Educate and engage park users on the parks unique ecological values and cultural history



Provide unstructured, natural and informal play opportunities for park users of all ages and abilities



Support for long term lease for the pony club



Support for a kaitiaki role for the marae within the park

# 5

## Design principles

The following design principles will underpin and guide all development on the park. This will ensure the park provides for appropriate access, recreational use and education, whilst celebrating, enhancing and protecting the parks ecological, archaeological and cultural heritage values for future generations.

These principles and key proposals capture key feedback from consultation with the community reference group and mana whenua.

The principles are also in alignment with the vision statement of the Open Space Management Plan:

*'To create a park which retains the natural open space character of all the park land at Harbourview for the perpetual enjoyment of the people of Waitākere City and the Auckland region.'*

### Key design principles:

Protect
Celebrate
Educate
Engage
Play

### Key proposals:



## Environment

1. Protect and enhance the natural environment, including the use of eco-sourced native planting, riparian and wetland planting, and providing protected areas for bird nesting and roosting
2. Protect the panoramic views across the Waitematā Harbour to Auckland city and Rangitoto Island
3. Progressively remove and/or control plant and animal pests
4. Provide opportunities to connect with nature, te ao Māori and Māori matauranga relating to the natural values and area in association with mana whenua
5. Preserve the open, pastoral qualities of the park
6. Increase public understanding of the site's unique ecosystems, flora and fauna



## Heritage

1. Provide opportunities for education and engagement of park users around the significant cultural heritage values of the park
2. Work with mana whenua to interpret and enhance Māori cultural heritage sites
3. Maintain, protect and enhance historical cultural heritage sites, including consideration of the effects of climate change on significant sites



## People

1. Improve connectivity to the park and to key features within it
2. Improve the park as a recreation and event destination without impacting on its natural character
3. Provide for nature-themed play including bringing artistic, sculptural or symbolic elements into the park in association with mana whenua
4. Provide opportunities for mana whenua to express whakapapa such as the story of Rangihina and the wider cultural landscape
5. Improve wayfinding throughout the park including bilingual signage
6. Provide safe walking and cycling tracks, including areas for dog walkers, that do not compromise park values
7. Set park infrastructure back from the coastal edge where possible
8. Manage parking, roading and park facilities so as to not compromise the park's natural character, environmental and heritage values
9. Develop hides for birdwatching with appropriate interpretation
10. Provide a cohesive and unified park furniture suite based on natural materials where possible



Kite day



Aerial view of saltmarsh vegetation



View across the Waitematā Harbour and Motu Manawa-Pollen Island Marine Reserve to the Auckland Isthmus

**KEY**

- 1 Potential lower wetland boardwalk, incorporating a wading bird viewing hide / platform for fernbird and banded rail
- 2 Investigate use of brick cottage as a community space / information centre
- 3 Improve pedestrian connections through gun emplacements to village centre and RSA. Investigate providing access into gun emplacements
- 4 Possible fernbird viewing hide with seating and interpretation within mangrove and mudflat habitat, with views of open sea
- 5 Temporary overflow carparking area for use during major events
- 6 Investigate creation of open areas simulating shell bank roosts in conjunction with returning area to wetland. Requires ongoing weed control. Subject to feasibility
- 7 Proposed location for shorebird information
- 8 Watercare access road relocated as part of shared path to consolidate vehicle entrances into park
- 9 Future vehicular access to marae complex and pony club facilities. Investigate incorporating parking along marae access road should parking demand increase
- 10 Proposed relocation of pony club facilities and indicative extent of lease area (TBC)
- 11 New footpath connection to Te Atatu Road footpath
- 12 Proposed location for shorebird information with possible incorporation of viewing tower
- 13 Proposed heritage boardwalk along foreshore to historic brickworks, in conjunction with the stabilisation and enhancement of the brickworks
- 14 Possible path connection under / across SH16 to Te Whau path

**KEY CONCEPT DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS**

**SITE WIDE:**

- Educational signage for sites with heritage and Māori culture values
- Investigate incorporation of bird hides (location TBC) with educational / interpretation material for children and families. Hides to be placed to capitalise on different habitat types. Subject to consenting / engineering constraints
- Retention of pony club to maintain pastoral character and provide suitable habitat for shorebirds
- Proposed play-along-the-way nature trail utilising natural materials. Opportunity to incorporate art, sculpture and educational elements
- Proposed specimen / lawn trees to provide shade
- Improve pedestrian crossings across Te Atatu Rd to Gloria Ave and Old Te Atatu Rd (in conjunction with AT)
- Proposed fitness circuit around southern paddocks
- Return exotic grassland on lower terrace to wetland
- Ongoing plant and animal pest management
- Revegetation and enhancement of stream corridors
- Proposed street trees along Te Atatu Road

**GLORIA AVE ENTRANCE:**

- Retention of large open grass area for informal sports, picnicking and community events
- Improve pedestrian connection to Danica Esplanade
- Improve path connections within park
- Bollards and / or planting along Te Atatu Road to restrict vehicle access into park
- Specimen / lawn trees to provide shade
- Additional park furniture including cycle racks, picnic tables, seats, bins, and drinking fountains
- Potential to enlarge existing carpark in similar location should parking demand increase
- Proposed toilet near existing carpark

**LEGEND**

**AMENITIES**

- ★ Interpretive signage
- Play-along-the-way / activity station
- Fitness station
- Viewing platform
- Paddock / grazed land
- Bird hide
- Lookout point
- Picnic table
- Toilet
- Carpark
- Temporary carpark
- Boat ramp
- Pylon
- Watercare site
- Indicative pony club extent

**ECOLOGY**

- Open water
- Pond
- Stream
- Existing street trees
- Proposed street trees
- Proposed specimen trees
- Enhancement native trees
- Native low planting
- Ecological restoration area (2012 Wildlands report)
- High priority wetland restoration zone
- Low amenity planting
- Grassland / pasture
- Riparian planting
- Wetland
- Salt marsh
- Proposed bird roosting island
- Indicative location of coastal escarpment
- CMA boundary

**CIRCULATION NETWORK**

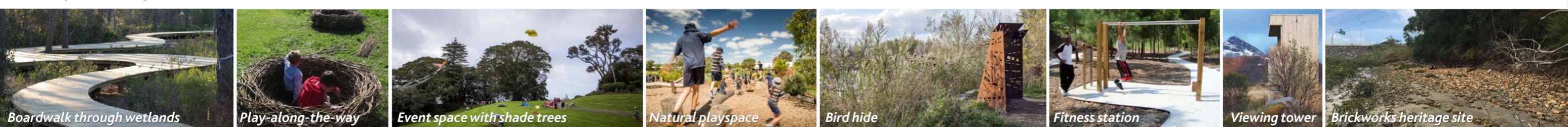
- Park main entrance
- Park secondary entrance
- Improved pedestrian connection
- Existing primary path\*
- Proposed primary path\*
- Existing secondary path
- Proposed secondary path
- Existing tertiary path
- Proposed tertiary path
- Existing boardwalk
- Proposed boardwalk
- Informal path
- Existing vehicular network
- Proposed vehicular network

**HERITAGE**

- Significant park viewshaft
- Heritage viewshaft overlay
- Heritage / Archaeological area

\* Walking and cycling connection

**PRECEDENT IMAGERY**



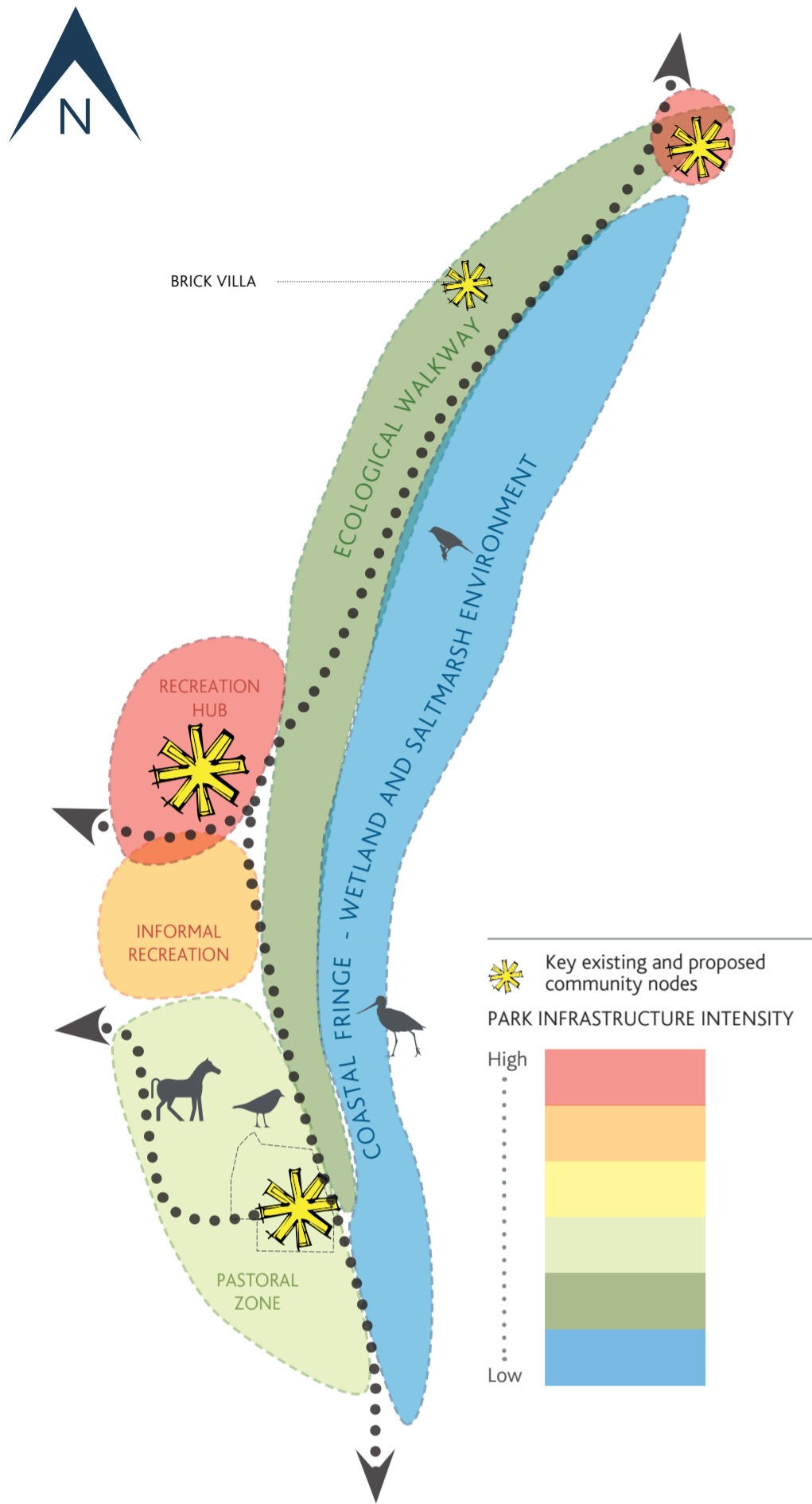
# Harbourview-Orangihina Park

4.2 . Draft masterplan . 1:5000 @ A2 . August 2018 - Revision D

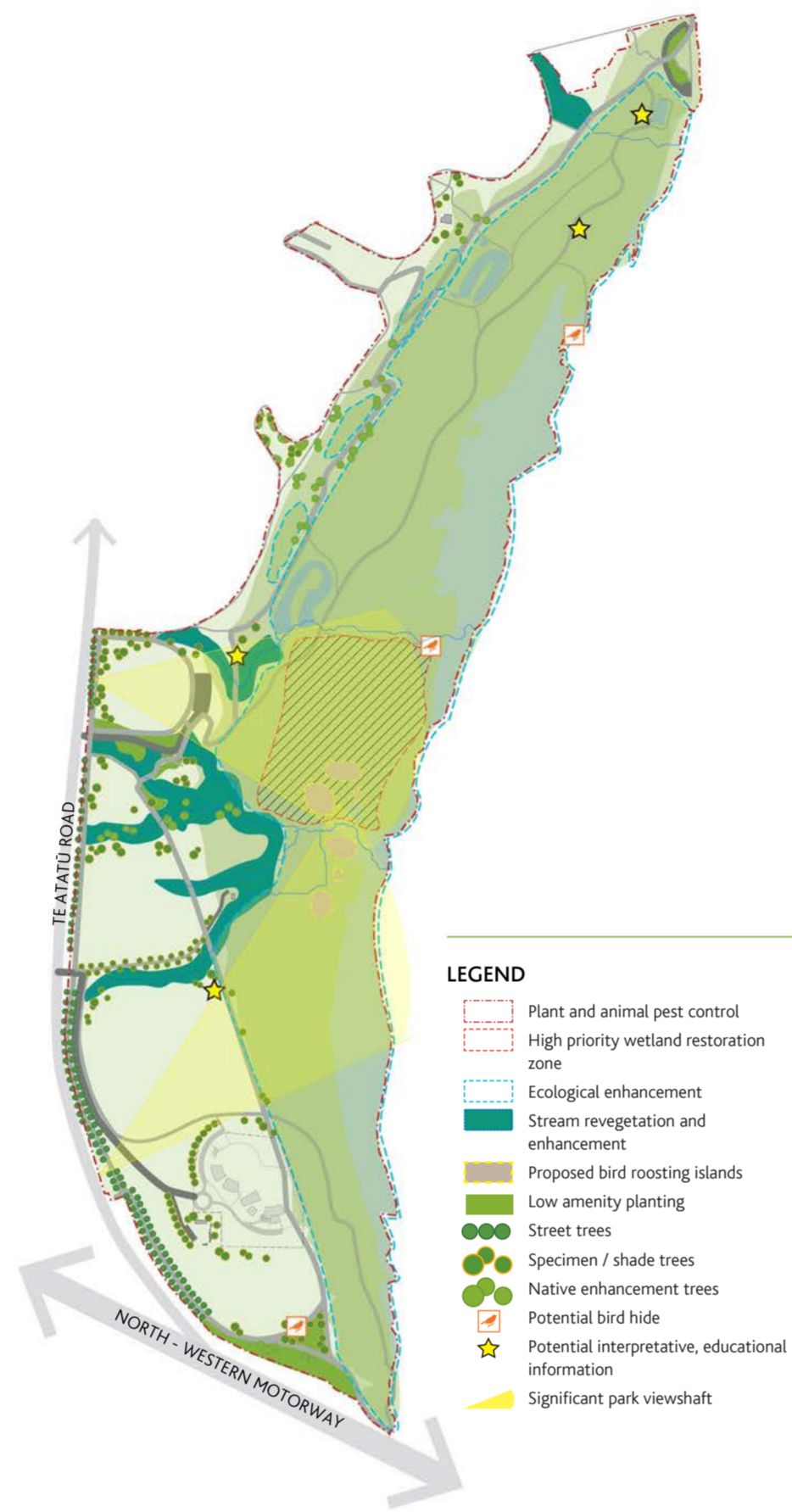
draft for consultation

**TE ATATU MARAE**  
The proposed marae layout is conceptual and shown for context only. It sits outside the scope of this masterplan.  
Proposed connections and circulation within the marae are shown where they meet existing and/or proposed park paths.  
The Marae Coalition supports an open interface with the park. Boundary treatment and location dependent on adjacent land use.  
The marae will be open to all and aspires to a kaitiaki role over the area including space for visitor education on te ao Māori and park environmental and heritage values.

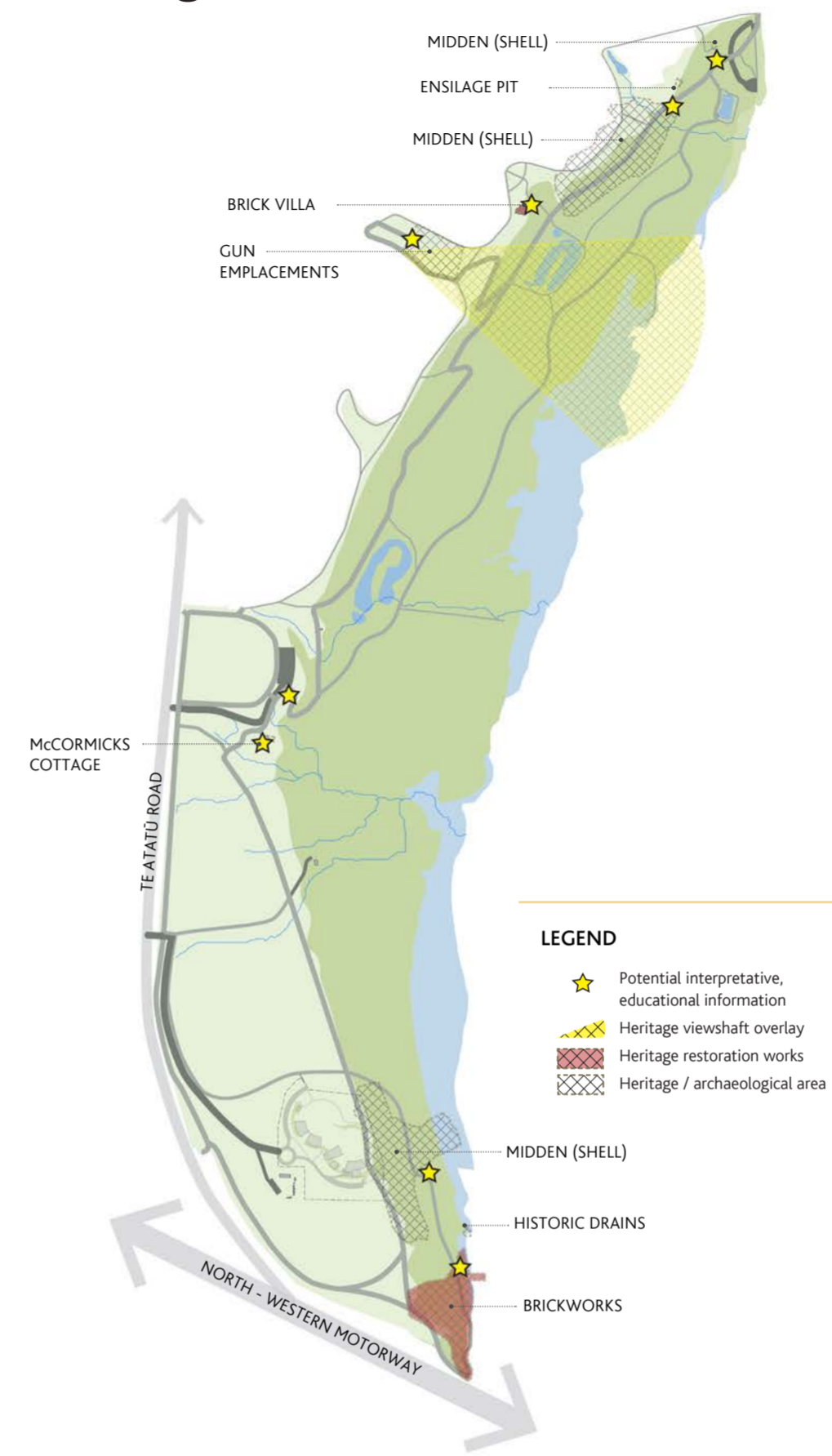




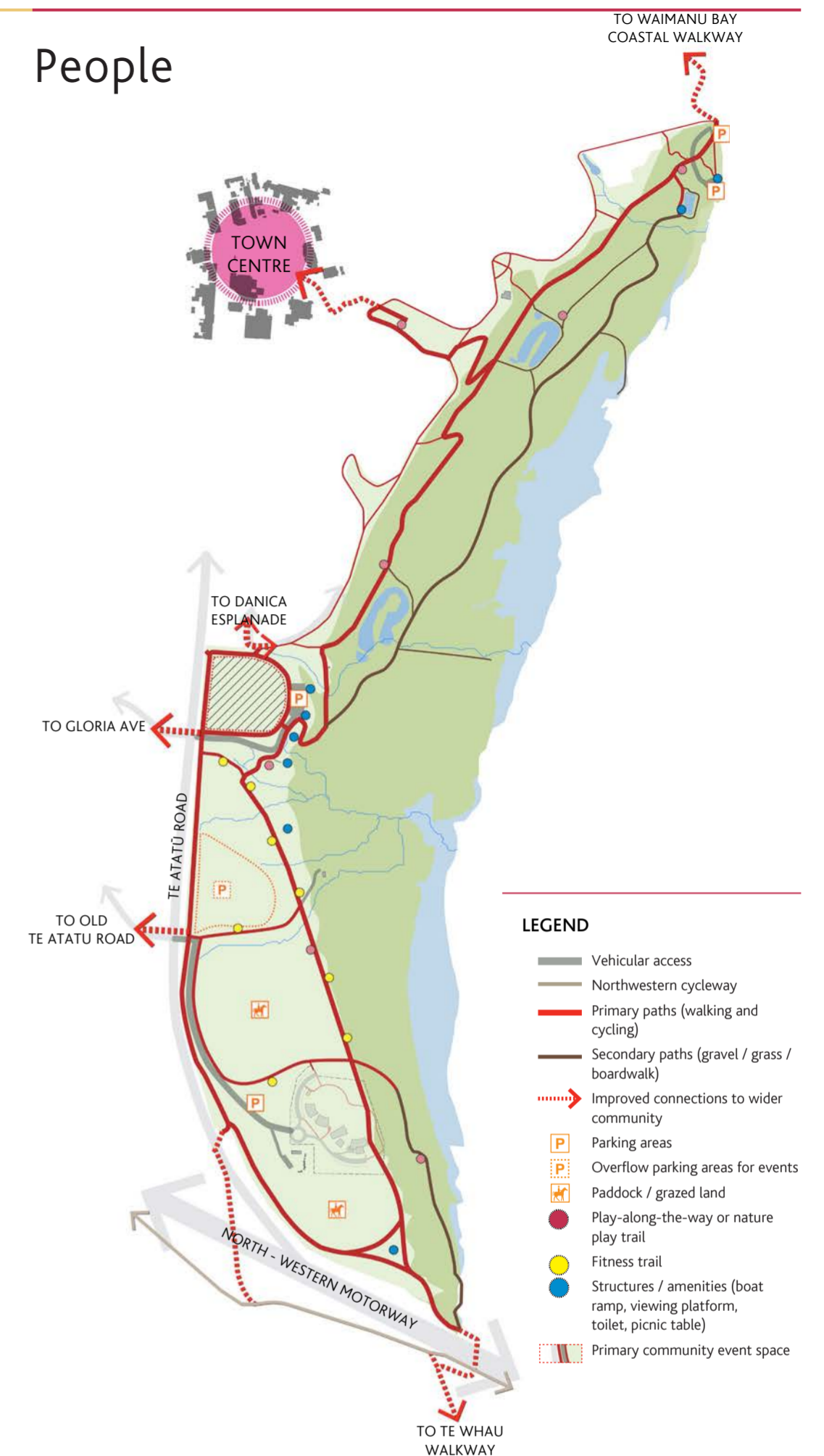
## Environment



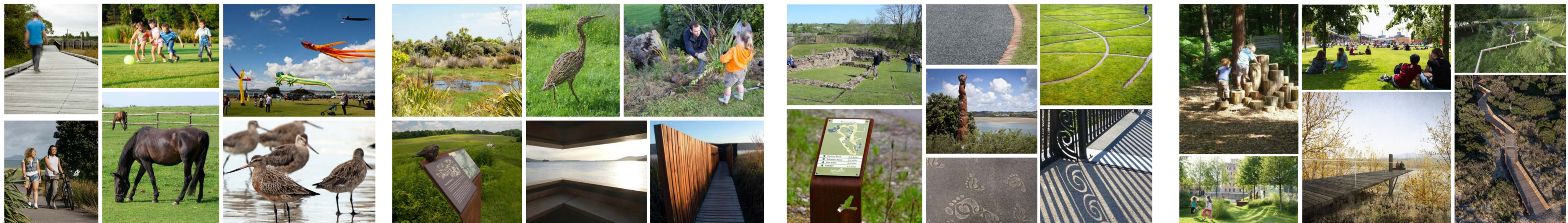
## Heritage



## People



### PRECEDENT IMAGES



# Harbourview-Orangihina Park

4.3 . Draft masterplan analysis . NTS . August 2018 - Revision D

draft for consultation