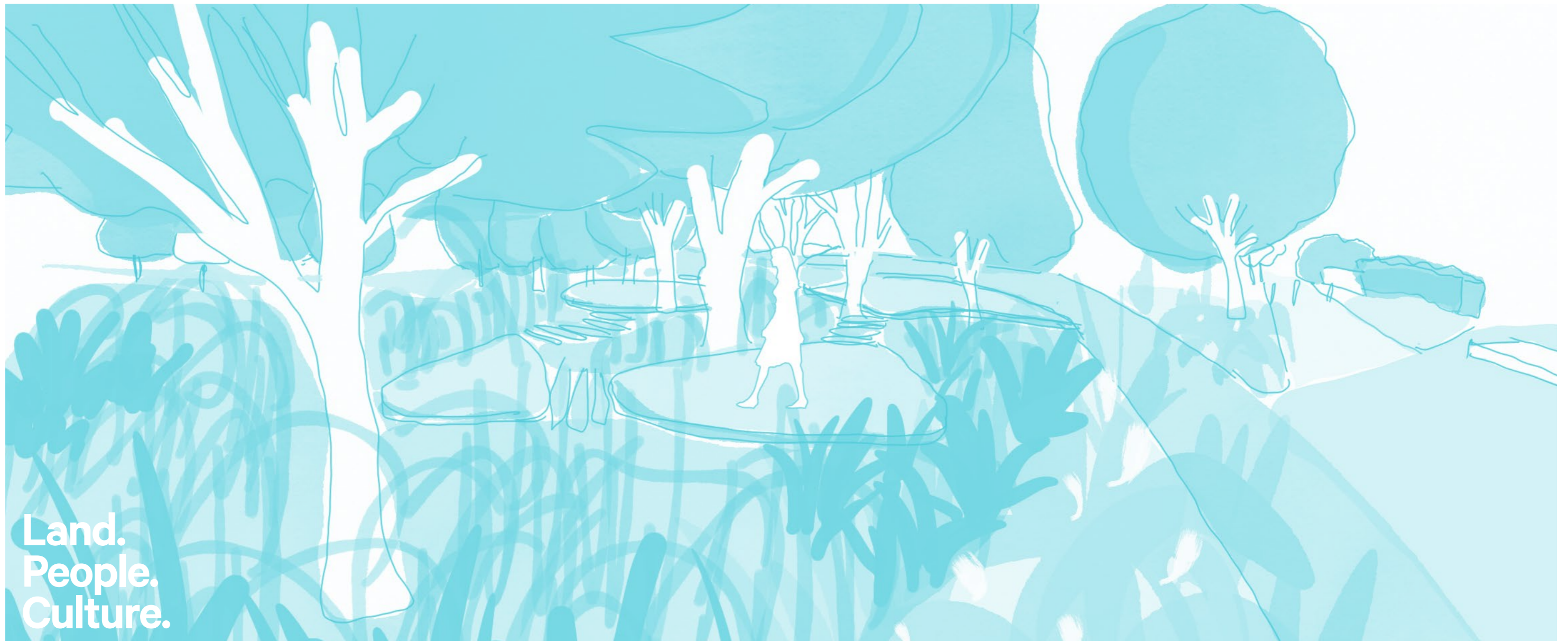


# Avon Park. Preliminary Design Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor.

22 December  
2022

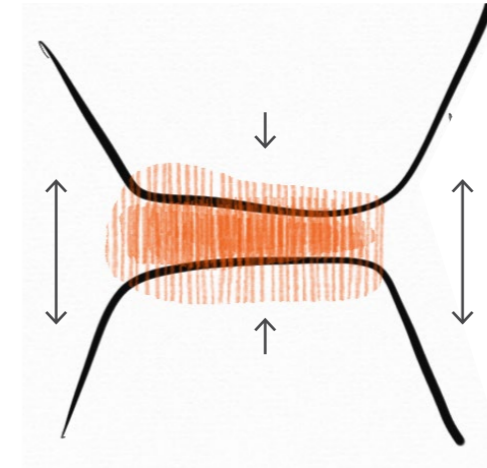
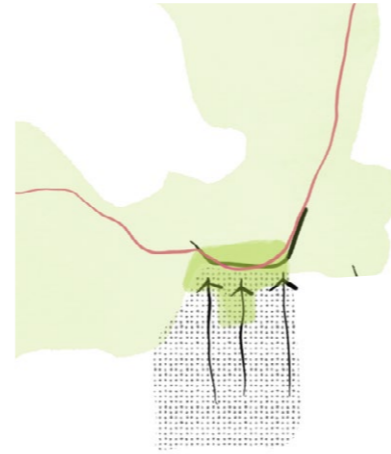
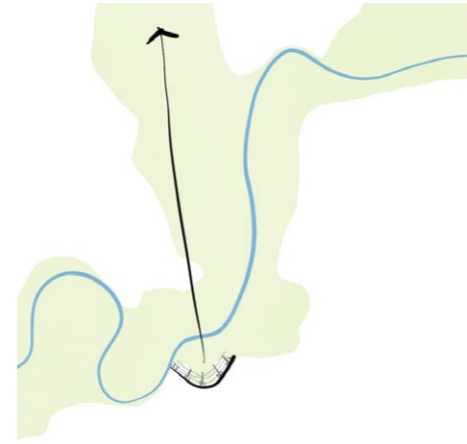
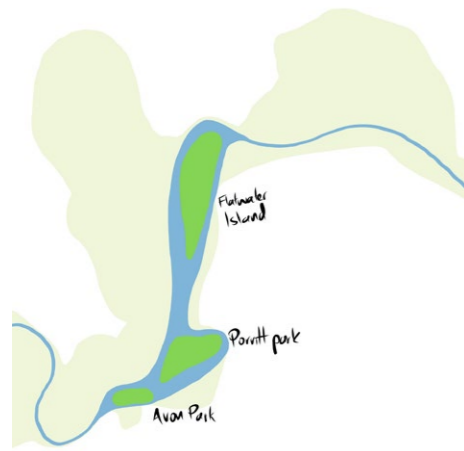
## Isthmus.



Land.  
People.  
Culture.

Draft for discussion only.

# Spatial Principles.



## Evolve toward an authentic ecosystem.

- Give space to the river, for the benefit of all.
- Look ahead to creation of a series of islands or refuges along this reach of the river.
- Lower terrace as a 'habitat island'. Humans and domestic animals discouraged here.
- Self-sustaining environment as a long term goal.
- Focus on moves which will accelerate the area in this direction.
- Integrate stopbanks into authentic ecosystem.

## An aspect to nature. A place for spectators.

- The park has a long view toward Te Oranga, Waikākāriki.
- Embrace the park's north facing aspect and its history as a river plain below a natural terrace
- Nod to the park's history as a centennial park.
- Look to draw attention to the wider landscape - explore options for both elevation above, and immersion within the landscape.
- Evolution from spectators of sport, to spectators of a self-sustaining ecosystem.

## Bind community, environment and visitors

- Avon Park is the interface between community and the river corridor.
- Park needs to turn from a back to a front.
- City to Sea Pathway will bring visitors, and is an attractive and accessible transport option for the community.
- Work with adjacent land owners to achieve great community connection, ownership and safety.

## Compress and decompress

- Decompress for a better ecological outcomes.
- Compress for a better human outcome.
- In creating space for nature, compress human activities and movement for a higher energy park environment.

## Nothing leaves the site

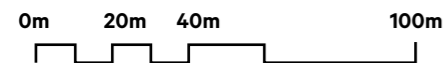
- Look to reuse all material currently on site.
- Re-purpose creatively to retain energy in this place, reduce transportation costs and carbon impact.

# General Arrangement Plan.







**Legend.**

01	Avonside Drive entrance and vehicle turnaround.
02	Traditional swing-play area.
03	Elevated walkway to existing bridge
04	Young children play.
05	Family exploration area.
06	Intermediate play
07	Quiet resting platforms with stepping stone access
08	Rest and BBQ area under established oak trees
09	Basketball court and viewing mound
10	Community kaitiaki area building on Whitau School programme.
11	Lower terrace with marshland planting and channel cut to allow temporary inundation in high water-level events.
12	kick-a-ball lawns
13	Viewing tower aligned to Kerr's Reach cut.
14	Carpark
15	Refurbished shared entrance from Kerrs Rd. Vehicle entrance to bowling club + park maintenance.
16	Viewing area in planting
17	Existing Avon Park Bowling club
18	Exploratory trails through native bush
19	Potential temporary carparking
	City to Sea Pathway
	Relocated Exeloo unit



# Site Design Intent. Character Zones.

**Legend.**

	Active zone.
	Community zone.
	Calm zone.
	River zone.



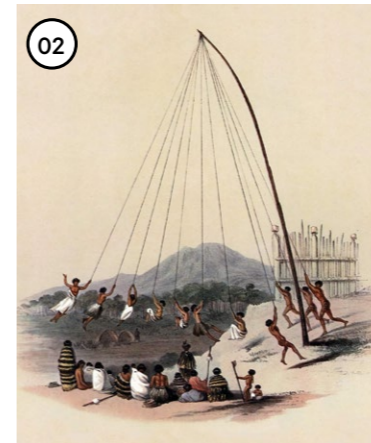
## Precedents.



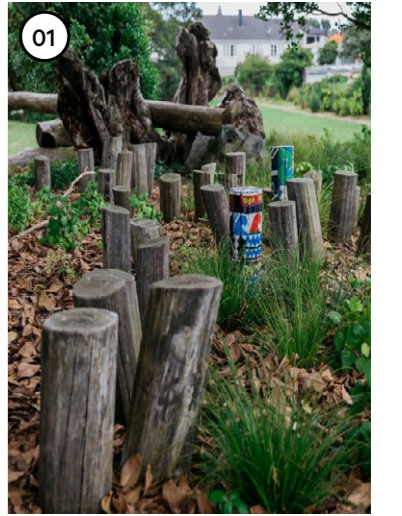
# Avon Park Play Elements.

## Key ideas:

- Designing play equipment with a strong and unique identity.
- Spaces for kai and whanau amongst play.
- interactive play for example; space for creating, artificial habitats and ability to engage with water.
- Recreating the pump track.
- Celebrating the interest in basketball shown by school kids in the area.



**River Swing** - A large bespoke swing referencing traditional Maori rope swings.



**Family Exploration Zone** - Designed for all ages an opportunity for co-design creating a sense of custodianship.



**Easy Scooter / Cycle Trail** - An all purpose asphalt track which follows the perimeter of the young play area



**Mounded Play** - An open play area on a contoured surface

**Young Play** - Swings, trampolines for younger aged children



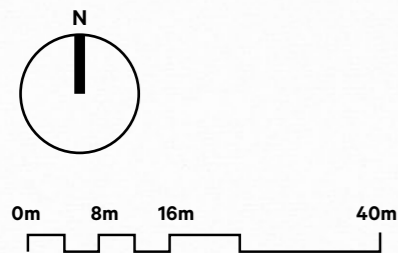
**Basketball Court** - Mounding for watching games sits adjacent



**Flying Fox**



**Rope Net Climbing Structure**



# Active Zone Planted Character.

Open canopy of Marbleleaf and Lancewood

Drifts of larger shrubs to help define space without impeding views to active areas

City to Sea Pathway



Confluence area marked by vertical elements

Clambering and exploratory meandering movement

Open visible character

Strong playful textures of the wet plains typology



## Precedents.



# Community and River Zone Section.

## Location Plan.



### Natural engagement space.



Nature play and discovery



Pockets of kai, foraging and rongoā planting

### Active Lawn.

Active Lawn space Located away from water habitat. Raised to provide better aspect and generate a cut/fill balance allowing site material to be kept on site.



Raised active lawn precedent.



Native lawn species.

### Potential Viewing Tower

### City to Sea Pathway

Existing Tree's retained with City to sea Pathway running between. Busy path located away from sensitive habitat and water logged soils.

### Wet/Dry areas.

Existing levels retained across majority of lower terrace, with full area planted to establish native vegetation cover.



Carex Secta

**Short term.**



Staged removal of exotic trees to maintain shade while indigenous trees are planted. Exotic trees to be drilled and filled with herbicide, with dead trees left standing. Hay bales placed provide spawning habitats

**Medium Term.**



Revegetation understory species grow up under existing exotics providing shade for the waterways. Exotic species start to die out in this time. Underplanting catches leaf fall, and shelters legacy trees.

**Long Term.**



Native tree and understory planting are fully established. The wide planting profile provides optimal shading for waterways



**Wet areas.**

Water level rise over time encouraged as a natural process. Gradual grading to allow water into the site.



Harakeke



Raupō

**Target Marsh Species.**

Trees retained to provide roosting habitat



Bittern



Marsh Crake

**Target Aquatic Species.**

Stop bank and road removed. Gradual grading creates a larger variety of habitat for flora and fauna.



Freshwater Mussel



Tuna

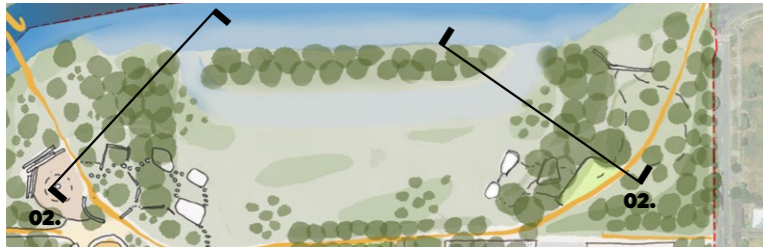


Inanga



# River and Calm Zone Section.

## Location Plan.



City to Sea Pathway

### Wet areas.

Entrance bringing water into the site. Graded to sit above water level creating wetter areas without flowing water.



Harakeke

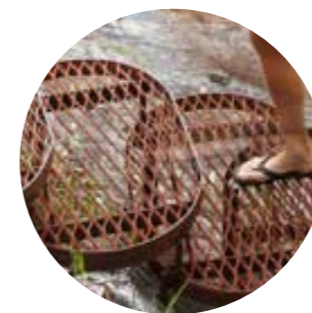


Raupō

### Quiet Space.



Simple raised platforms encourage quiet observation.



Stepped access slows movement, connects people with their environment and discourages domestic animals.

### Stopbank.



Subtle grading combined with regenerating vegetation.