OLYMPIC PARK, NEW LYNN

PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN



03.06.26
Revision 03



OLYMPIC PARK, NEW LYNN
PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN

Client: Auckland Council

Prepared by

EGIS NZ LTD
Phone: +64 27 240 7668
Website: www.egis-group.com
Address: Level 13 - 34 Shortland Street - Auckland Central

Document	Issue	Date	Document	Drawn	Reviewed
J005557	00	20.10.25	DRAFT	AB	CB
J005557	01	10.11.25	DRAFT	AB	CB
J005557	02	01.05.26	CONCEPT DESIGN - DRAFT	AB	CB
J005557	03	03.06.26	CONCEPT DESIGN	AB	CB

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

TABLE OF CONTENTS. 3

SITE ANALYSIS

- CONTEXT PLAN. 4
- SITE PHOTOS. 5
- SITE ANALYSIS. 6
- PROPOSED RETAINED AND REMOVED EQUIPMENT. 7

CONSULTATION

- CONSULTATION SPATIAL PLAN. 8
- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - DESIRES. 9

CONCEPT DESIGN

- DESIGN PRINCIPLES. 10
- CIRCULATION AND SIGHTLINES. 11
- PROPOSED EQUIPMENT PRECEDENTS. 12
- REFINED SPATIAL PLAN. 13

CONCEPT PLAN. 14
WAIATA WHENUA. 15
EXPLORERS' VILLAGE. 16
LAUNCHPAD. 17
PINNACLE. 18

CONTEXT PLAN.



KEY

- Park Extent
- Wai Tahurangi Stream
- Existing Playground
- Local Schools
- Local Parks / Reserves
- Local community centres

SITE PHOTOS.

1



View at entry.
The view from the Wolverton Street entry provides a view of the existing space nets. The space is dominated by the extensive cushionfall area.

2



Youth area.
An existing piece of senior play equipment and 3 on 3 basketball court is surrounded with a variety of seating - rocks and formal timber benches.

3



Flying fox.
Disconnected from the formal pathway is a flying fox. Drainage is poor, resulting in a lack of safety surfacing.

4



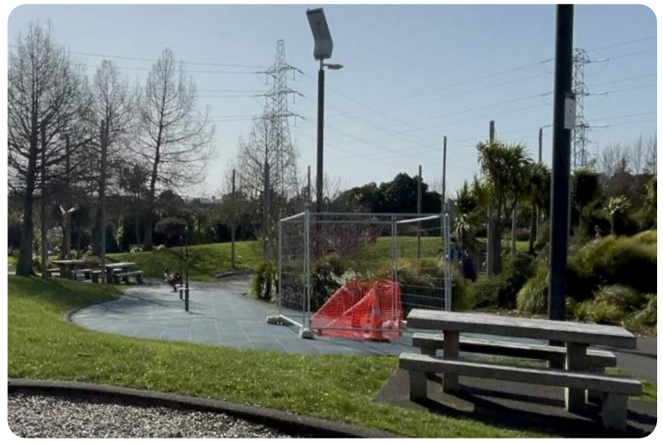
Swinging area.
The equipment and safety surfacing in the existing swinging area has come to the end of its serviceable life.

5



View from northern entry.
The existing space nets, stage, specimen trees and lighting poles dominate the view of the horizon from this location. The path provides a direct link to a central area of the play space.

6



Spinning area.
The area has provided for spinning equipment in the past. The equipment has come to the end of its serviceable life and the area lacks excitement or adventure. Tiled safety surface is in good condition.

Location Plan.



Site Context.

Olympic Park in New Lynn is located around the Wai Tahurangi Stream, feeding into the Whau River. The park hosts multiple sporting facilities, open green space, walking tracks, and playgrounds. The large playground is made up of multiple elements which cater for different age and mobility ranges. The existing junior sand play area was recently refurbished, with an Archaeological Aotearoa theme. The connecting play space is to be updated, with a concept plan to provide better connection and play value for the wider community.

Existing equipment is in various stages of life and conditions. The existing surfacing (matta tiles and cushionfall) are in various conditions, with some matta tiles uplifting and causing hazards.

The playground is heavily used.

SITE ANALYSIS.

Environment / Sun

While Olympic Park has a good range of mature trees for shade and wind protection, there is a large gap in canopy for afternoon sun and prevailing winds.

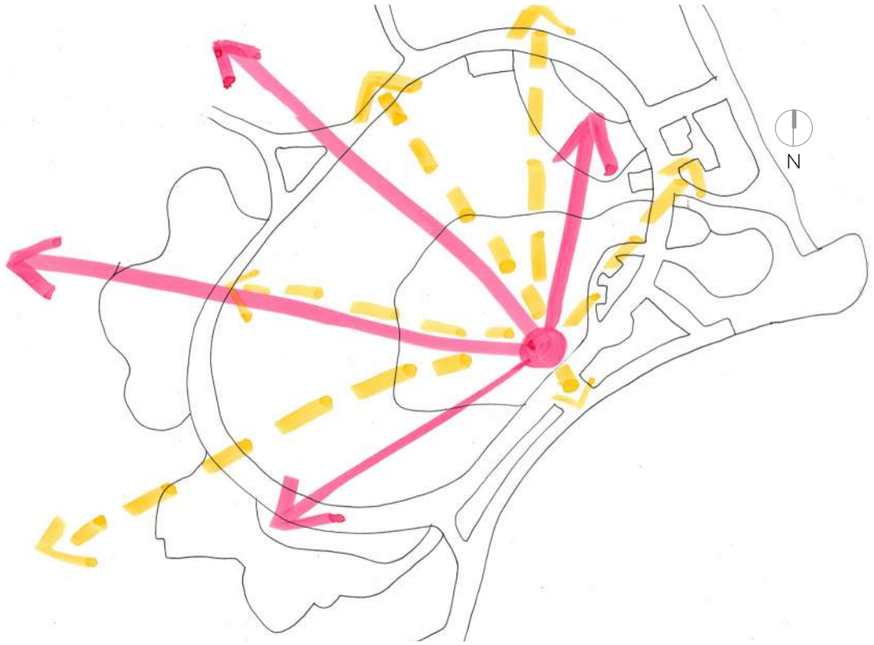
There is an opportunity to provide further shade through trees or shade sails, and an opportunity to utilise trees as a wind break to the north-west.



Viewshafts

The location at the Wolverton Road entry (pink dot) provides a vista across the whole play space, with the contours falling to the north/west towards the Wai Tahurangi Stream.

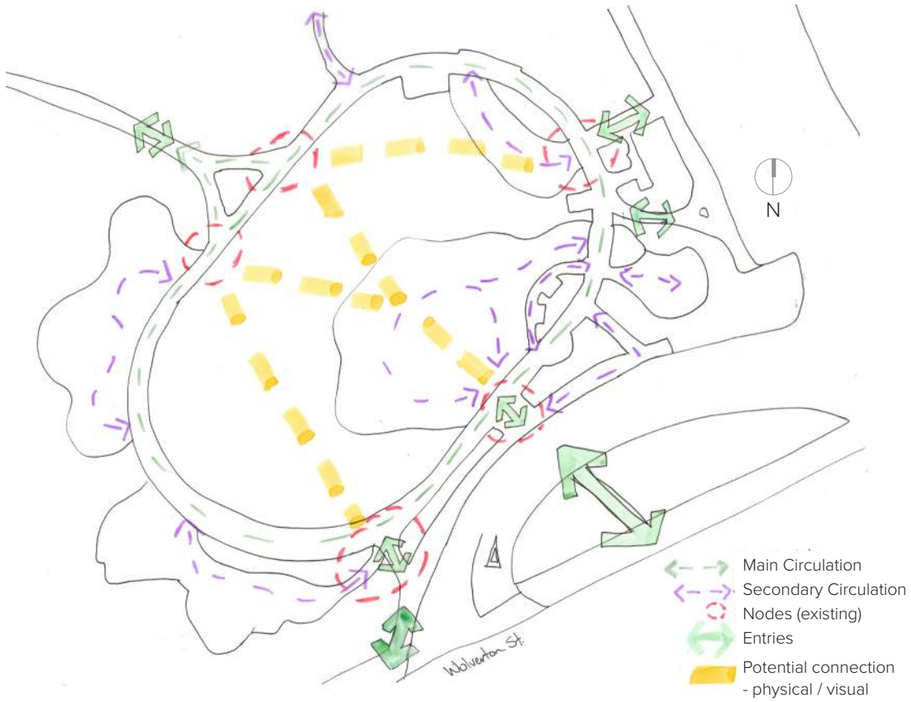
This point needs to facilitate clear views across the playground to encourage adventure and progression of discovery. This clear viewshaft also supports the principals of CPTED.



Circulation

The existing perimeter path, supported by the site contours, provides connection between all play spaces. It also provides a learn-to-ride opportunity and seating areas.

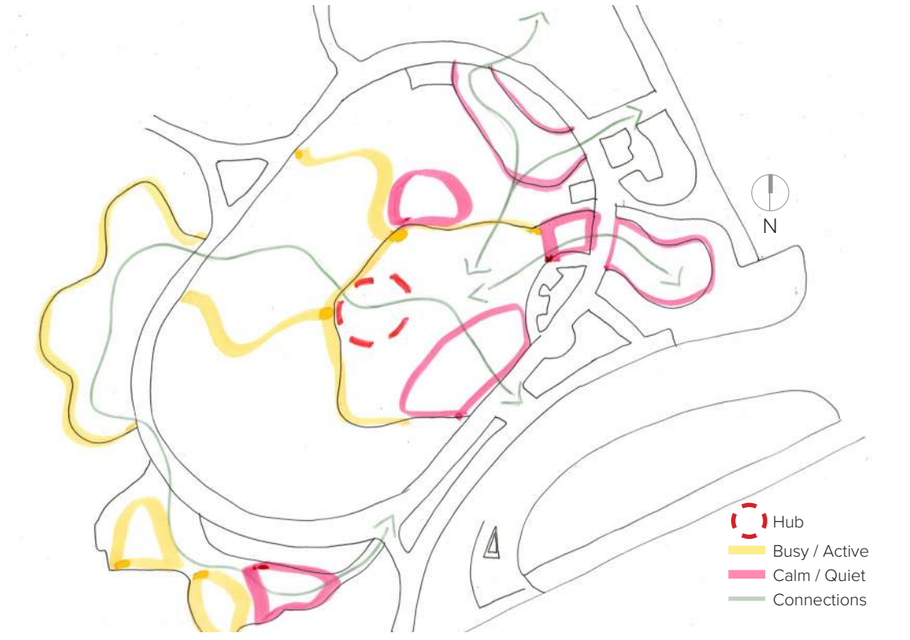
There is a lack of connection across the site, leading to a feeling of disconnection between the different playspaces.



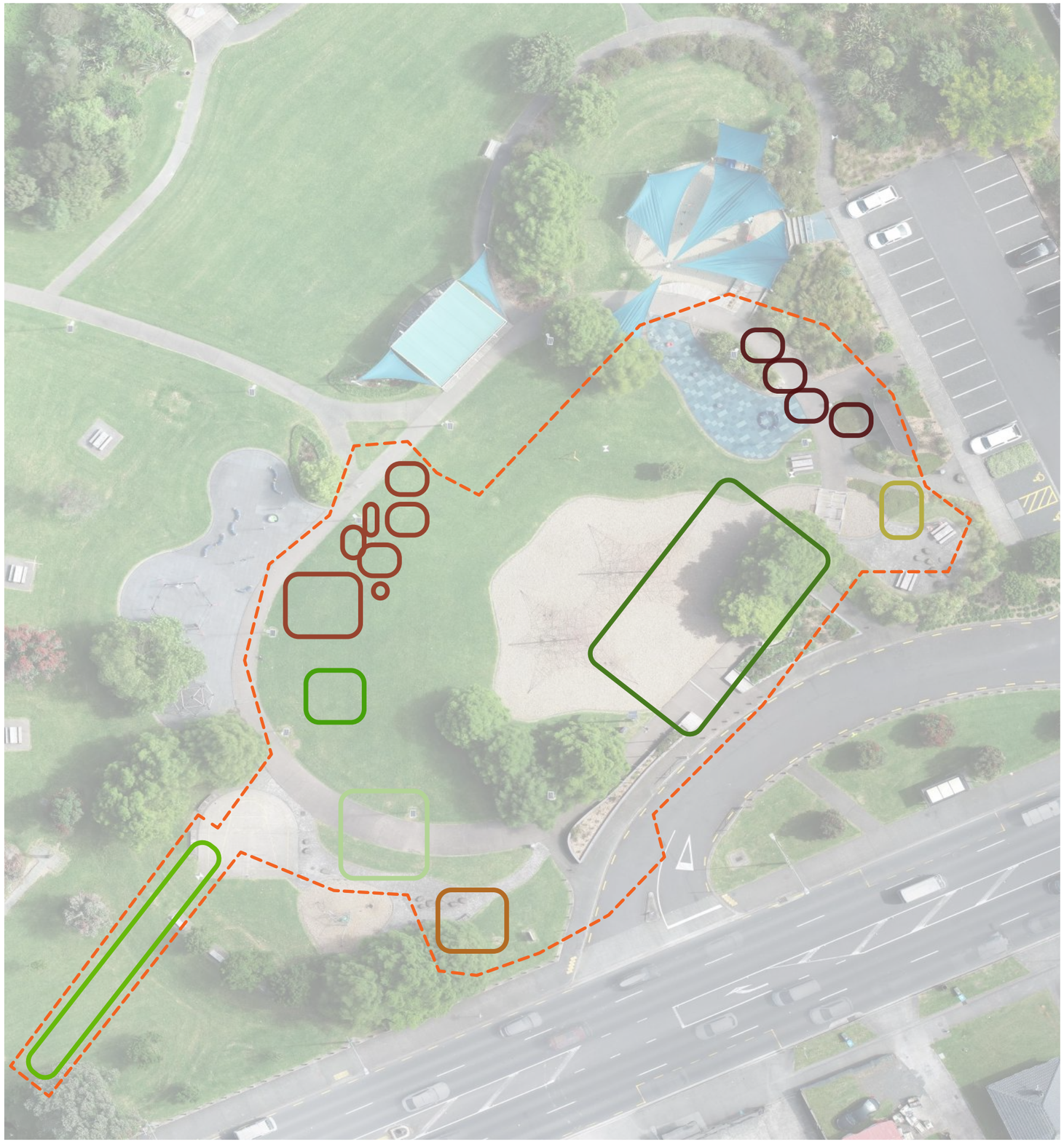
Zones

A balance between active-quiet needs to be provided within the park. Currently the area is predominantly active, with small seating areas creating quiet zones.

There is limited accessible equipment around the playspace.



PROPOSED RETAINED AND REMOVED EQUIPMENT.

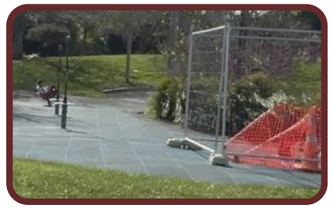


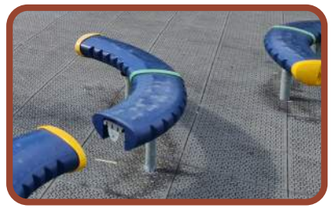
KEY

- Extent of works
- Existing space nets to be retained.
- Existing climbing frame to be retained.
- Existing flying fox to be retained.
- Existing half court to be retained.
- All equipment inside spinning area to be removed.
- Equipment in swinging area to be removed.
- Existing equipment to be removed.
- Existing bridge to be removed. Concrete path to replace.



















Scale:
1:500 @ A3

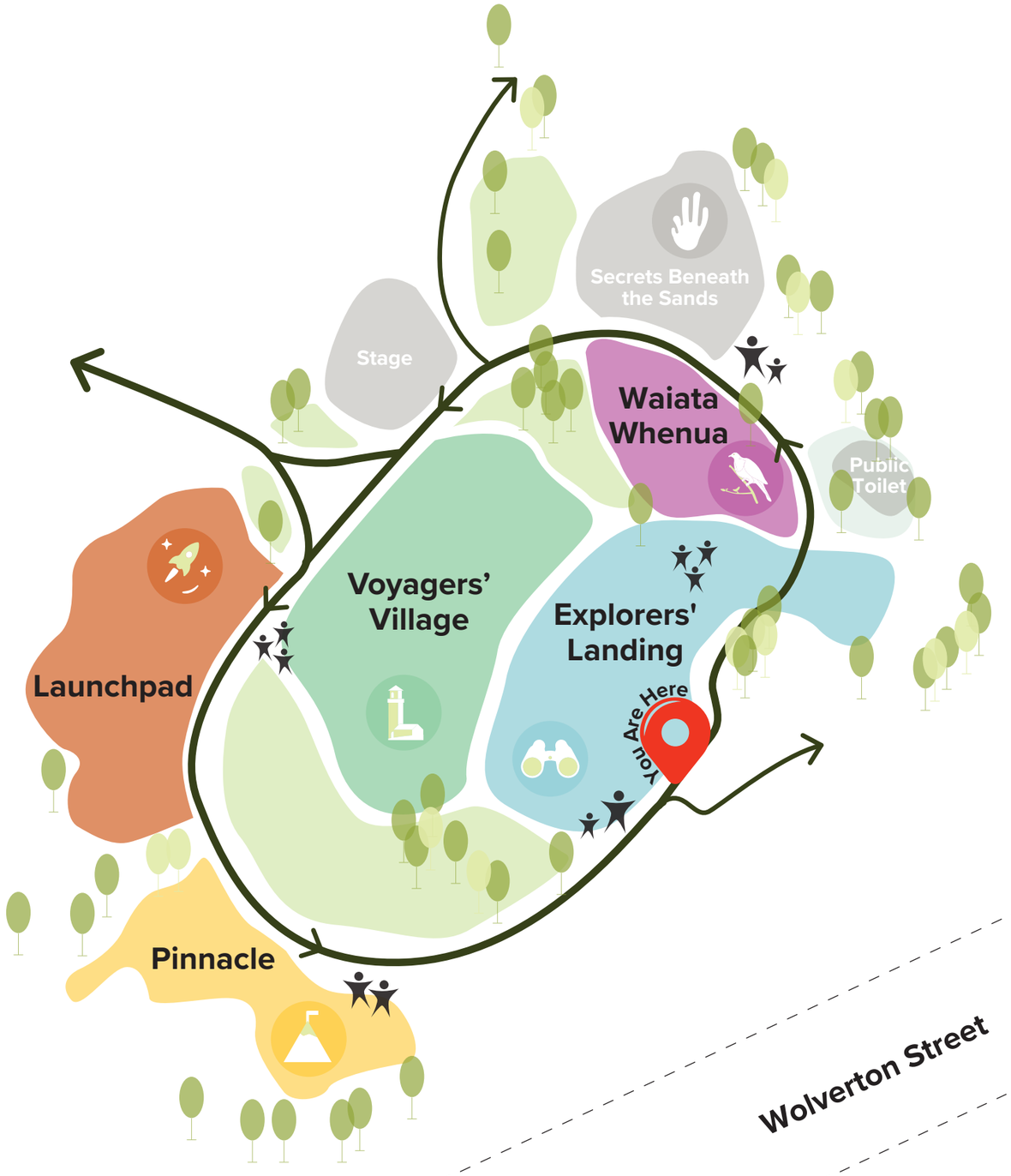
OLYMPIC PARK, NEW LYNN
PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN

Auckland Council
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau

DRAFT

Date: 03.06.26 | Rev: 02
Drawn: AB | Reviewed: CB

CONSULTATION SPATIAL PLAN.



Key

Existing Perimeter Path
Provides ‘Learn to Ride’ and races with distance markers

Explorers' Landing
Your adventure starts here! Explorers arrive at the Landing - a safe place to pause, look around, and prepare for the journey ahead.

From the landing, explorers move inland, where the land begins to hum with life and sound.

Waiata Whenua
The land speaks through sound and movement. Listen, touch, and connect with the living rhythms of Aotearoa.

Following the song of the land, explorers are drawn to the sand, where stories are waiting to be uncovered.

Secrets Beneath the Sands - Stage 1 development
Beneath the sand lie stories of the past. Fossils and hidden shapes wait to be uncovered by curious hands.

After discoveries are made, explorers are drawn toward a lively gathering place ahead.

Voyagers’ Village
The heart of exploration. Children climb, balance, and move together - guided by teamwork and discovery.

With energy building, the path opens up to spaces made for motion and flight.

Launchpad
Energy builds and the wind carries explorers onward. Swing, spin, and soar into the open air.

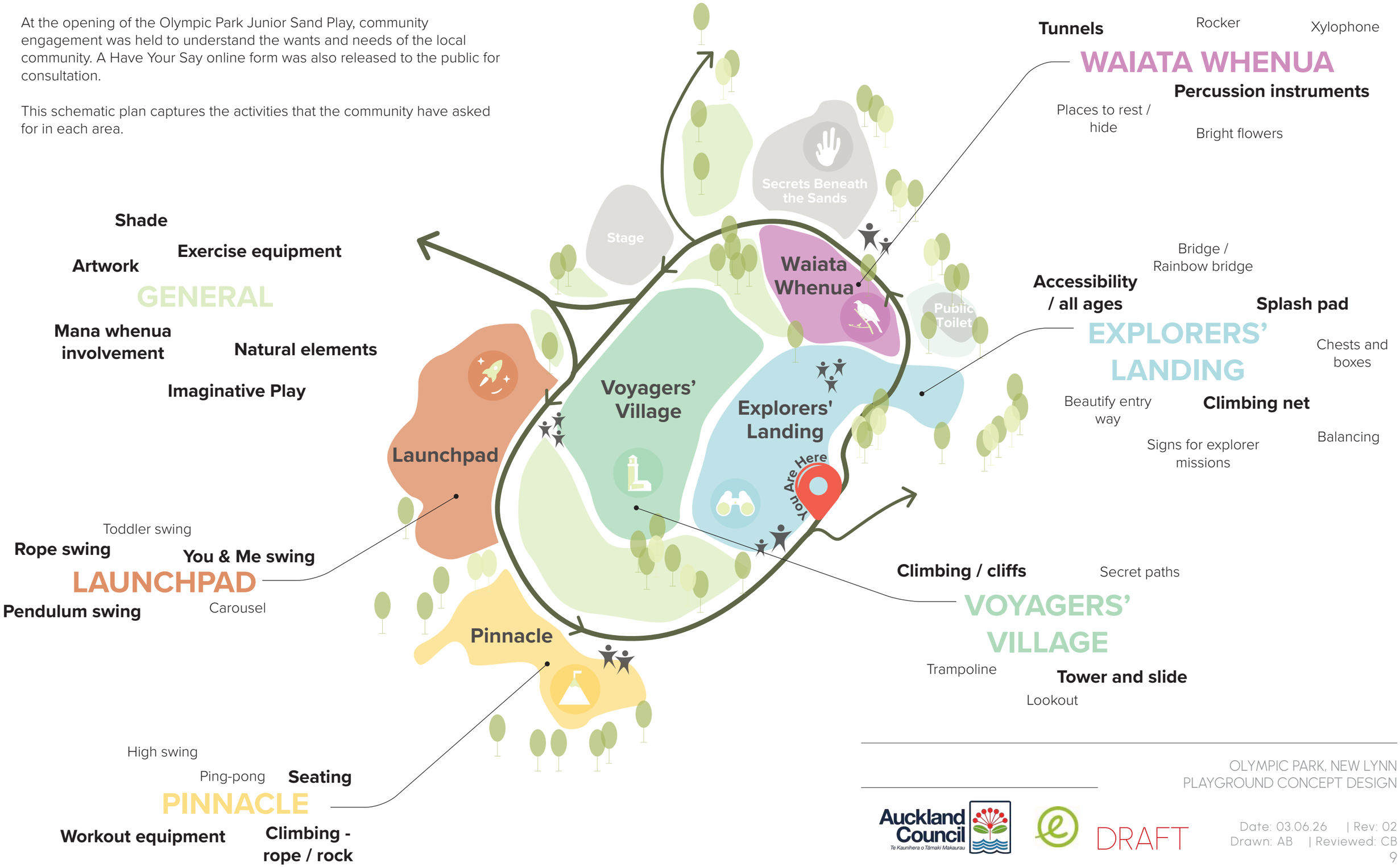
High above, the final challenge awaits - a place to climb, test, and see it all from new heights.

Pinnacle
The journey’s peak. Older explorers climb higher, test their limits, and see the world from above - a view earned through adventure.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.

At the opening of the Olympic Park Junior Sand Play, community engagement was held to understand the wants and needs of the local community. A Have Your Say online form was also released to the public for consultation.

This schematic plan captures the activities that the community have asked for in each area.



OLYMPIC PARK, NEW LYNN
PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN

Auckland Council
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau

DRAFT

Date: 03.06.26 | Rev: 02
Drawn: AB | Reviewed: CB

DESIGN PRINCIPLES.

Design Intent

The Olympic Park Destination Playground in New Lynn is envisioned as a vibrant, inclusive, and imaginative community hub - a place that celebrates play in all its forms. Set within the heart of an existing urban recreation reserve, the design brings together energy, creativity, and connection to nature. Each zone has its own seperate story to tell with all of the zones connected by the theme of ‘Discovery’.

The playspace uses movement, colour, and imaginative themes to encourage play and learning.



Play for Everyone

The playground is designed to welcome all ages and abilities, creating a place where every child can participate, belong, and play side by side. Inclusive design underpins the layout, ensuring diverse sensory, physical, and social experiences that encourage connection between children, families, and generations.

Urban Energy, Natural Heart

Reflecting New Lynn’s bold urban character, the design embraces colour, creativity, and eclectic expression while staying grounded in nature. Play structures, planting, and materials will weave together art and landscape, creating a vibrant space that feels both contemporary and connected to its park setting.



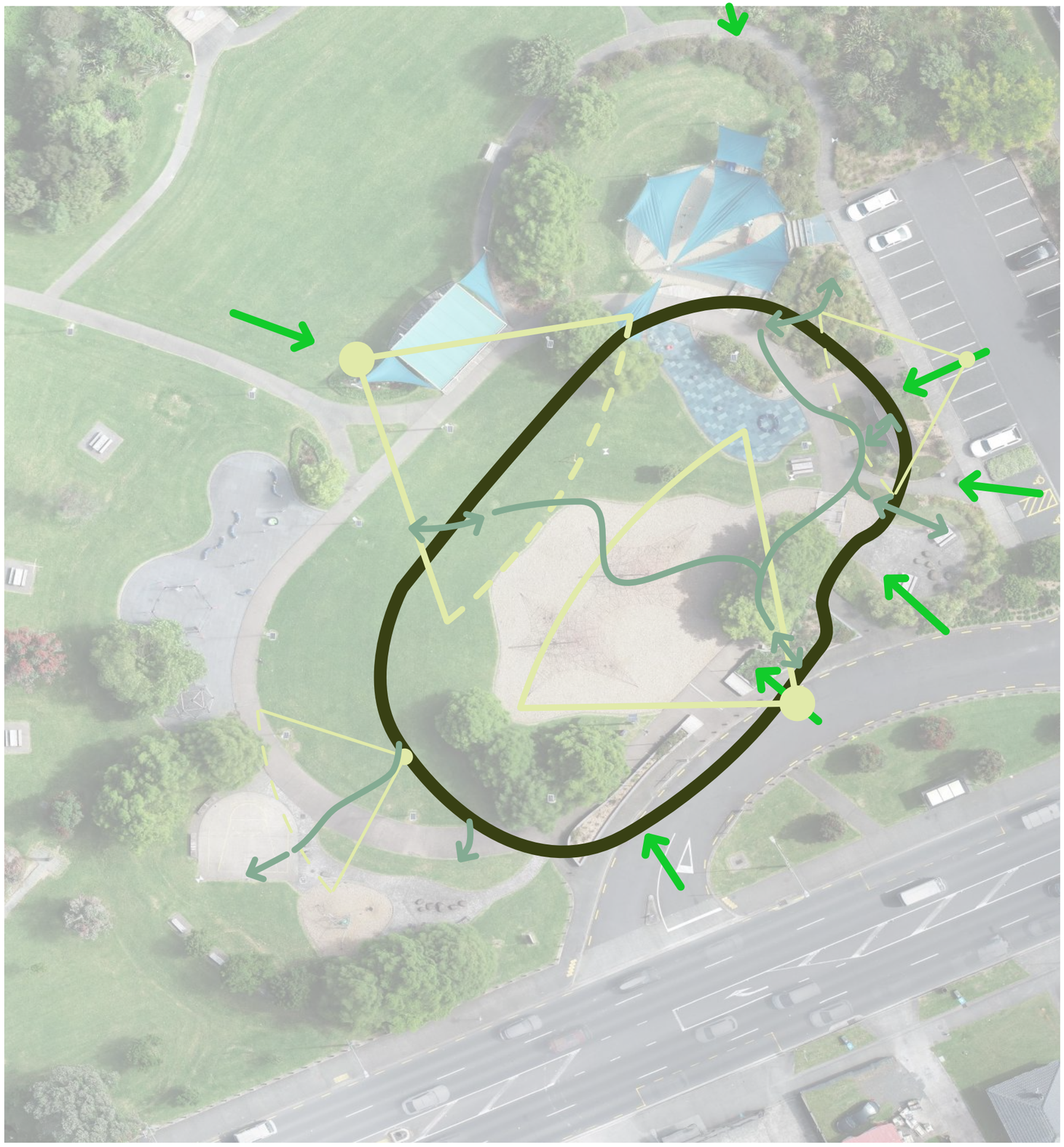
Wonder, Movement, and Moments of Pause

Movement becomes a catalyst for joy, curiosity, and sensory play. Play elements include climbing, spinning, swinging, and balance to create an environment full of energy, exploration, and moments of discovery that invites children to return again and again.

Local Identity and Storytelling

The design can include the integration of local stories, materials, and art. Inspired by the area’s history of clay, creativity, and community, the playground becomes a place that feels distinctly ‘of this place’.

CIRCULATION AND SIGHTLINES.



KEY

Existing Perimeter Path - provides ‘Learn to Ride’ and races with distance markers

Existing playground entry points

Connectivity and access to the different play areas.

Internal Playground Journey

Main sightlines

Maintaining open and intentional views from the northern approach helps draw people toward the playground, creating a sense of invitation and curiosity from a distance. Clear sightlines from entry points are equally important, ensuring the space feels welcoming and legible for people of all abilities, while encouraging them to enter and stay.

From a safety perspective, unobstructed views - particularly from higher vantage points - allow caregivers to easily supervise children across the site.

Visual connections between play elements also help guide movement, subtly directing users through the space and reinforcing a sense of journey and discovery.

To support this, circulation should remain clear and intuitive, with alternative paths around play items that both maintain flow and enhance the exploratory experience.



PROPOSED EQUIPMENT PRECEDENTS.






Spinning



Seating





Swinging



Rocking



Crawling





Climbing

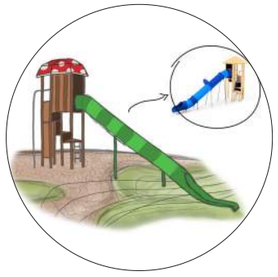



Exercise





Imaginative




Sliding





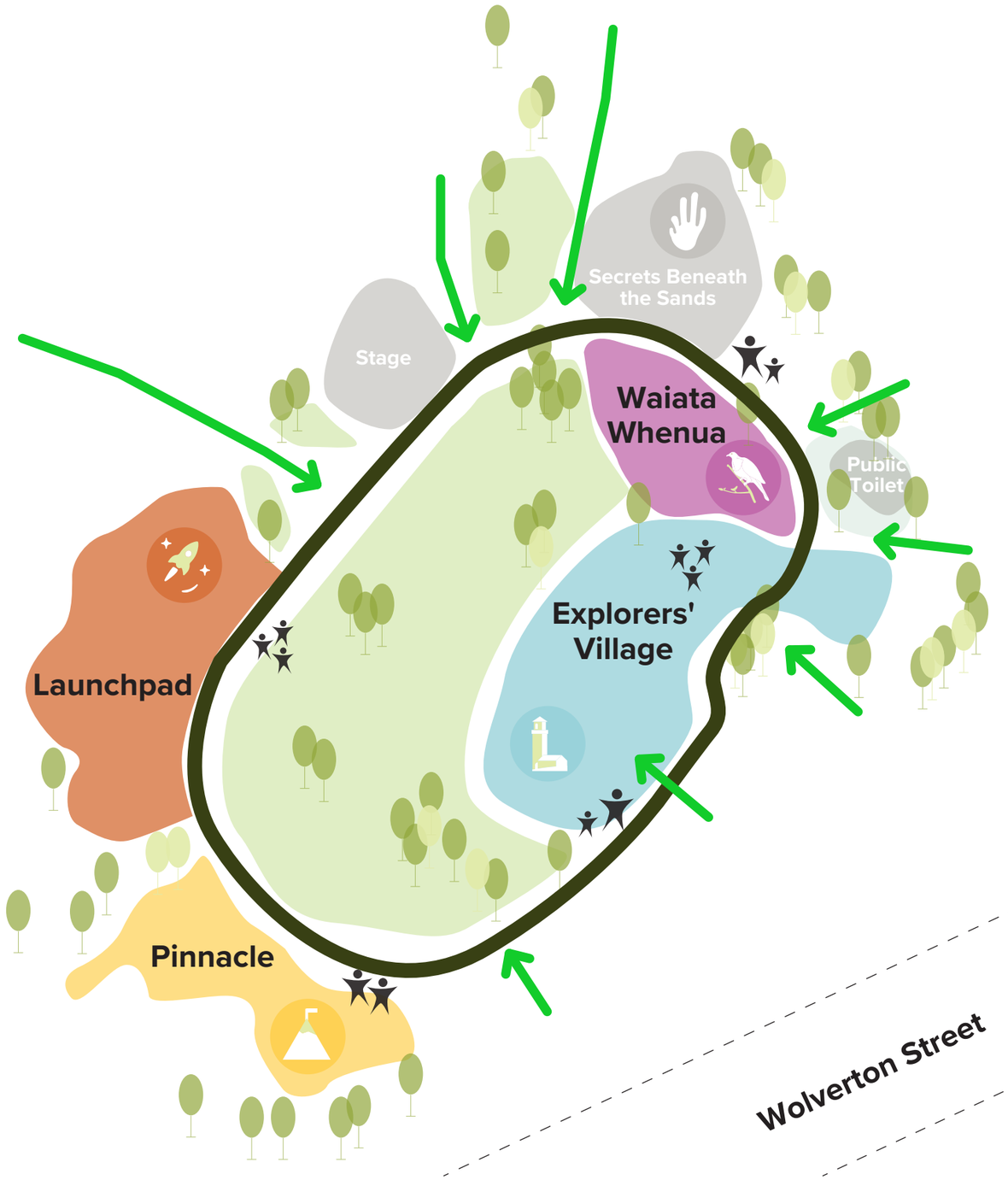

Sensory & Sound






Balancing

REFINED SPATIAL PLAN.



Key

Existing Perimeter Path
Provides ‘Learn to Ride’ and races with distance markers

Existing Playground Entry Points

Secrets Beneath the Sands - Stage 1 development
Beneath the sand lie stories of the past. Fossils and hidden shapes wait to be uncovered by curious hands.

After discoveries are made, explorers are drawn inward to the sounds of the forest.

Waiata Whenua
The land speaks through sound and movement. Listen, touch, and connect with the living rhythms of Aotearoa.

Following the song of the land, explorers are drawn to the sand, where stories are waiting to be uncovered.

Explorers’ Village
The heart of exploration. Children climb, balance, and move together - guided by teamwork and discovery.

With energy building, the path opens up to spaces made for motion and flight.

Launchpad
Energy builds and the wind carries explorers onward. Swing, spin, and soar into the open air.

High above, the final challenge awaits - a place to climb, test, and see it all from new heights.

Pinnacle
The journey’s peak. Older explorers climb higher, test their limits, and see the world from above - a view earned through adventure.

CONCEPT PLAN.



WAIATA WHENUA

A secret path lined with activities either side.

Bordered with planting and hidden nature trails, the area provides a natural forest transition between the junior sand play, and Explorers' Village.

Principles Activated:

Play for Everyone

Wonder, Movement, and Moments of Pause

Target Age: Early Childhood

EXPLORERS' VILLAGE

The hub of activity.

A coastal crash leads to the space net mountains. A natural tag trail borders the area, evoking imagination and inclusive play.

Principles Activated:

Play for Everyone

Urban Energy, Natural Heart

Wonder, Movement, and Moments of Pause

Local Identity and Storytelling

Target Age: Junior (up to 14yr)

LAUNCHPAD

An area of active movement - flight and spinning.

Different equipment allows for independent and team play, with seating areas to provide caregivers space to rest.

Principles Activated:

Play for Everyone

Urban Energy, Natural Heart

Wonder, Movement, and Moments of Pause

Target Age: All Ages

PINNACLE

Balance between active and rest.

Fitness equipment, flying fox, and a half court provide active spaces, surrounded with a multitude of seating options for rest.

Principles Activated:

Urban Energy, Natural Heart

Wonder, Movement, and Moments of Pause

Local Identity and Storytelling

Target Age: Young Adults

Scale:
1:500 @ A3

OLYMPIC PARK, NEW LYNN
PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN

Auckland Council
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau

DRAFT

Date: 03.06.26 | Rev: 02
Drawn: AB | Reviewed: CB

WAIATA WHENUA.



KEY			
1	Tulip Spinner	5	Play Panel - Design TBC
			
2	Butterfly Play Panel	6	Daisy Petal Drum
			
3	MusicBall	7	Harmony Bells
			
4	Bee Springer	8	Marble Run - final design TBC
			
Proposed Seating		Proposed Tree	
			

MATERIALS	
	Concrete pathway
	
	Wetpour
	
	Planting
	
	Concrete edging
	

Consultation:

- Percussion instruments
- Rocker
- Bright flowers
- Places to rest / hide

Scale:
1:200 @ A3

OLYMPIC PARK, NEW LYNN
PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN

Auckland Council
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau

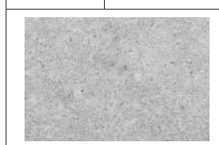
DRAFT

Date: 03.06.26 | Rev: 02
Drawn: AB | Reviewed: CB

EXPLORERS' VILLAGE.



KEY			
1	Mound with handholds, tunnel, and slide	6	Wobble bridge
			
2	Tower - Village themed with binocular outlook	7	Village shop themed climbing boxes
			
3	TreadMobil	8	Forrest Boat
			
4	Triple Tight Rope	9	Ocean See-saw
			
5	Arc ladder	10	Existing Spacenet
			
	Proposed Seating		Proposed Tree
			

MATERIALS								
	Concrete pathway		Wetpour - themed designs		Planting		Concrete edging		Cushionfall
								

Consultation:

- Tower and slide
- Signs for explorer missions
- Climbing / cliffs
- Accessibility / all ages
- Lookout
- Trampoline
- Balancing
- Secret paths

Scale:
1:200 @ A3

Auckland Council
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau

DRAFT

OLYMPIC PARK, NEW LYNN
PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN

Date: 03.06.26 | Rev: 02
Drawn: AB | Reviewed: CB

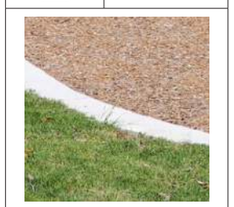
LAUNCHPAD.



KEY

1	Accessible Carousel	3	3-bay Swing - basket swing, fully backed swing, you & me swing, 2x strap swings
			
2	Rocket Roller	4	Rope Pendulum Swing
			
5	Existing climbing frame		
			
Proposed Seating		Proposed Tree	
			

MATERIALS

	Concrete pad below seating
	
	Wetpour
	
	Concrete edging
	
	Cushionfall
	

Consultation:

- ✓ Toddler swing
- ✓ Rope swing
- ✓ Carousel
- ✓ Places to rest

Scale:
1:200 @ A3

OLYMPIC PARK, NEW LYNN
PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN

Auckland Council
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau

DRAFT

Date: 03.06.26 | Rev: 02
Drawn: AB | Reviewed: CB

PINNACLE.



MATERIALS	
	Concrete path
	
	Scuff mats
	
	Concrete edging
	
	Cushionfall
	
	Proposed Palms
	

KEY					
1	New pathway connection to flying fox area	2	Existing half-court to be re-painted	3	New seating area
					

4	New seating for half-court	5	Fitness combi	6	Climbing Bloqx
					

Consultation:

- Workout equipment
- Seating

Scale:
1:200 @ A3

OLYMPIC PARK, NEW LYNN
PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN

Auckland Council
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau

DRAFT

Date: 03.06.26 | Rev: 02
Drawn: AB | Reviewed: CB