idc

Imagining Decolonised Cities

Decolonised [dē-kōl'e-nīz'ed]

verb

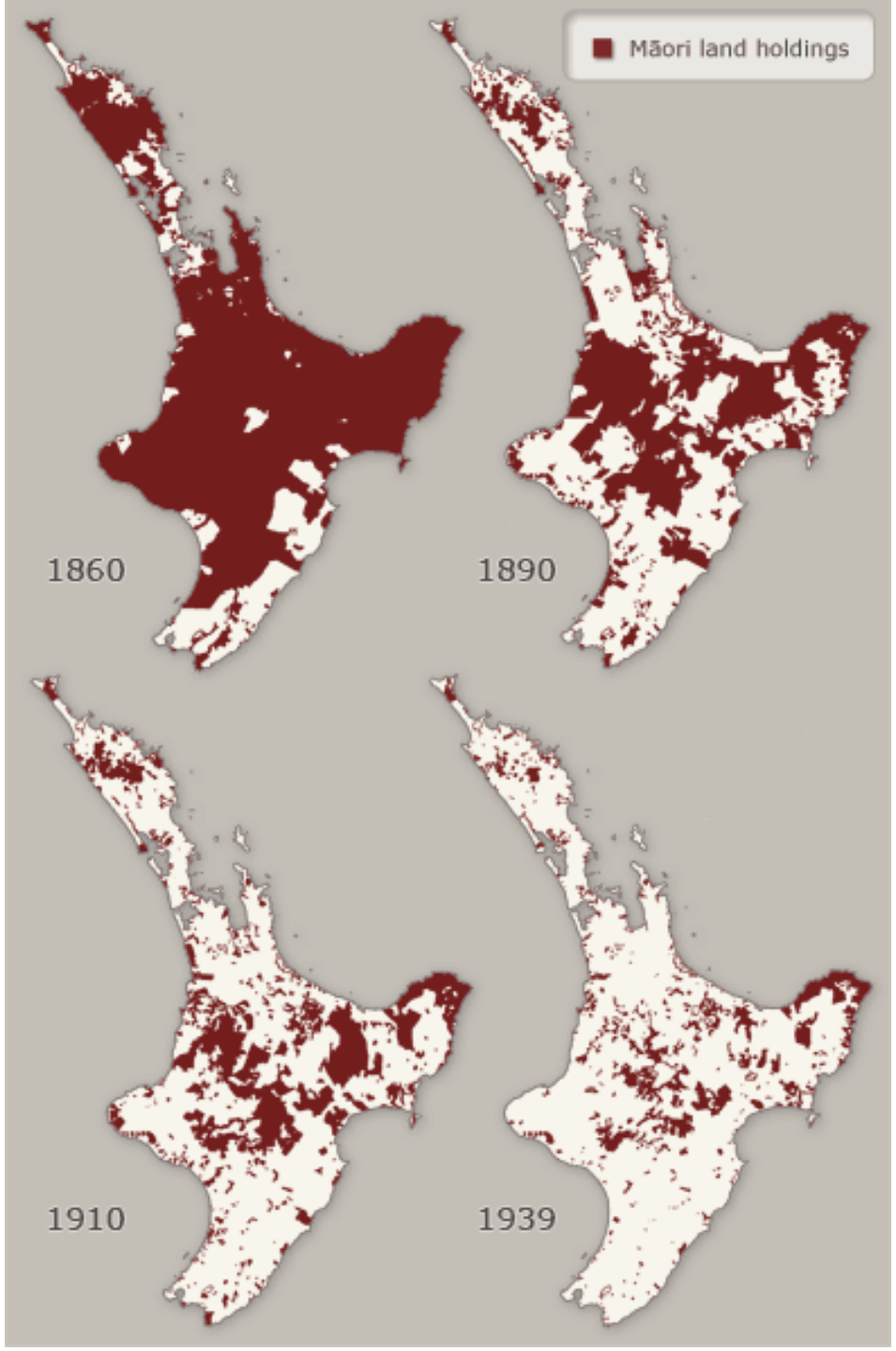
Cities that are *just* places for all whānau, reflecting Māori values and identity.

TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI
VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO
Te Kōmihana Matua o Aotearoa mō UNESCO

Encroachment of private property ownership



PLAN OF

TOWNSHIP OF MARTINBOROUGH

FOR SALE.

Apply to

R. O'CONNOR,

FEATHERSTON STREET, [illegible] WELLINGTON

BASTION POINT
MAORI LAND

PAKAITORE
(MOUTOA GARDENS)
IS MAORI
LAND!

Aims to identify utopian ideas for decolonising urban form.

WHY?

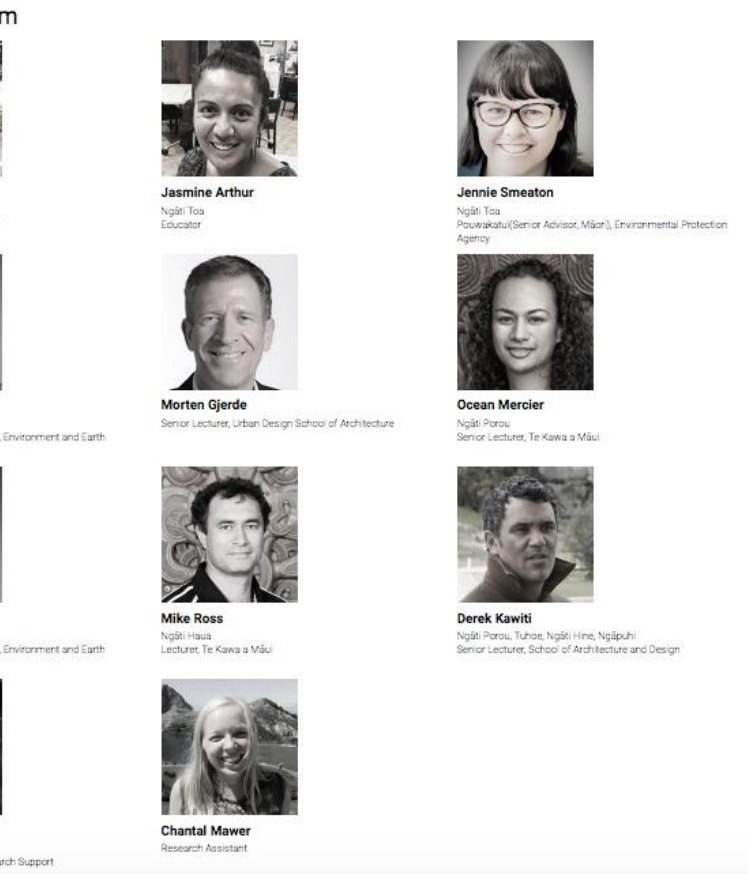
- Bring Māori values and mātauranga into city making
- Empowering people and young people, in particular, to engage with city making processes
- Pragmatically – how might Ngāti Toa use settlement land
- Provoke, disrupt, start the conversation…..

What do mean by decolonising?

- Ngāti Toa values
- Social Justice - just for all whānau

Research Team

- Māori led (but not Ngāti Toa led) + non-Māori
- Co-production of knowledge – iwi researchers + academic researchers
- Aims to build capacity amongst young Māori and non-Māori



How?

- Young people's workshop: 1- 3 March 2017 + 3 – 4 May 2017
- Urban Design Ideas competition: Launch 3 April – Closed 9 May 2017
- Imagining Decolonised Cities Symposium: 13 May 2017

The politics of decolonisation

Utopianism

- Utopia = eutopia meaning good place + outopia meaning no place
- Hopeful in orientation – counter to TINA discourses
- Draw on the collective imaginary to go beyond the “possible”

“When I first read this what went through my mind was this - then give me back my pre-settlement language, way of thinking and a people free of oppression. If you want me to design a pre-colonised city return me to my original place in society as a Chief with sovereignty over my own lands and I will show you what an imagination free of 200 years of racism and oppression can conceive. Bring me the unpolluted soils from home that I may weep over them. What you will get then is a shadow of what could be. Gosh, this makes me very emotional.”

New mātauranga?

- Need new knowledge around this
  - Due to impact of colonisation much Māori knowledge has been lost
  - Tendency to only look to the past and overlay on the present
- Politics around “who” develops mātauranga/controls knowledge/empowered to make knowledge

Māori Women In Solidarity With Idle No More by Robyn Kahukiwa

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10 Replies

Dan Wayman Why not imagine what a pre- human city looks like - why are these people discriminatingly selecting to ' decolonise ' selected ethnic and racial groups AFTER Maori only ? - Sounds like one of Hitlers ideas.
Like · Reply · 22 April at 13:45 · Edited

Hannah Hadlow I suppose it wouldn't be a city without people? I think they're interested in what the original settlements looked like, rather than pre-human landscape. It's cultural as opposed to topographical.
Like · Reply · 1 · 22 April at 13:51

Dan Wayman Sure - my issue is why are they calling it a ' decolonised city ' then - but at the same time seeking to restore or protect evidence of Maori colonisation ?
Like · Reply · 22 April at 14:05

Ron Kjestrup Oh, FFS. Relax. It's just an interesting idea
Like · Reply · 4 · 22 April at 16:17

Marisa Pene Jog on if you don't wanna play Dan...
Like · Reply · 3 · 22 April at 17:14

Hannah Hadlow Hmm... I think the most widely used definition of colonisation is to establish control and settlement over land where native people already live. It goes hand in hand with migration and the idea of claiming territory. Imperialism etc.
Like · Reply · 1 · 22 April at 17:44

Hannah Hadlow So to decolonize would be to return the township's CULTURE to what it was before the indigenous people assimilated, I guess. Note, it's not about genocide, it's just about renewing lost culture.
Like · Reply · 8 · 22 April at 17:46

Dan Wayman If you can't handle differing opinions Marisa then jog off yourself you fascist
Like · Reply · 1 · 22 April at 19:53

Jason Mihaere Also the maori which is a general term given to the people of the land by the settlers theres no recognition of the different Polynesian races here at the time also those the settlers called maori surplanted another lot of people.
Like · Reply · 1 · 22 April at 20:21

Dan Wayman Exactly my thought Jason

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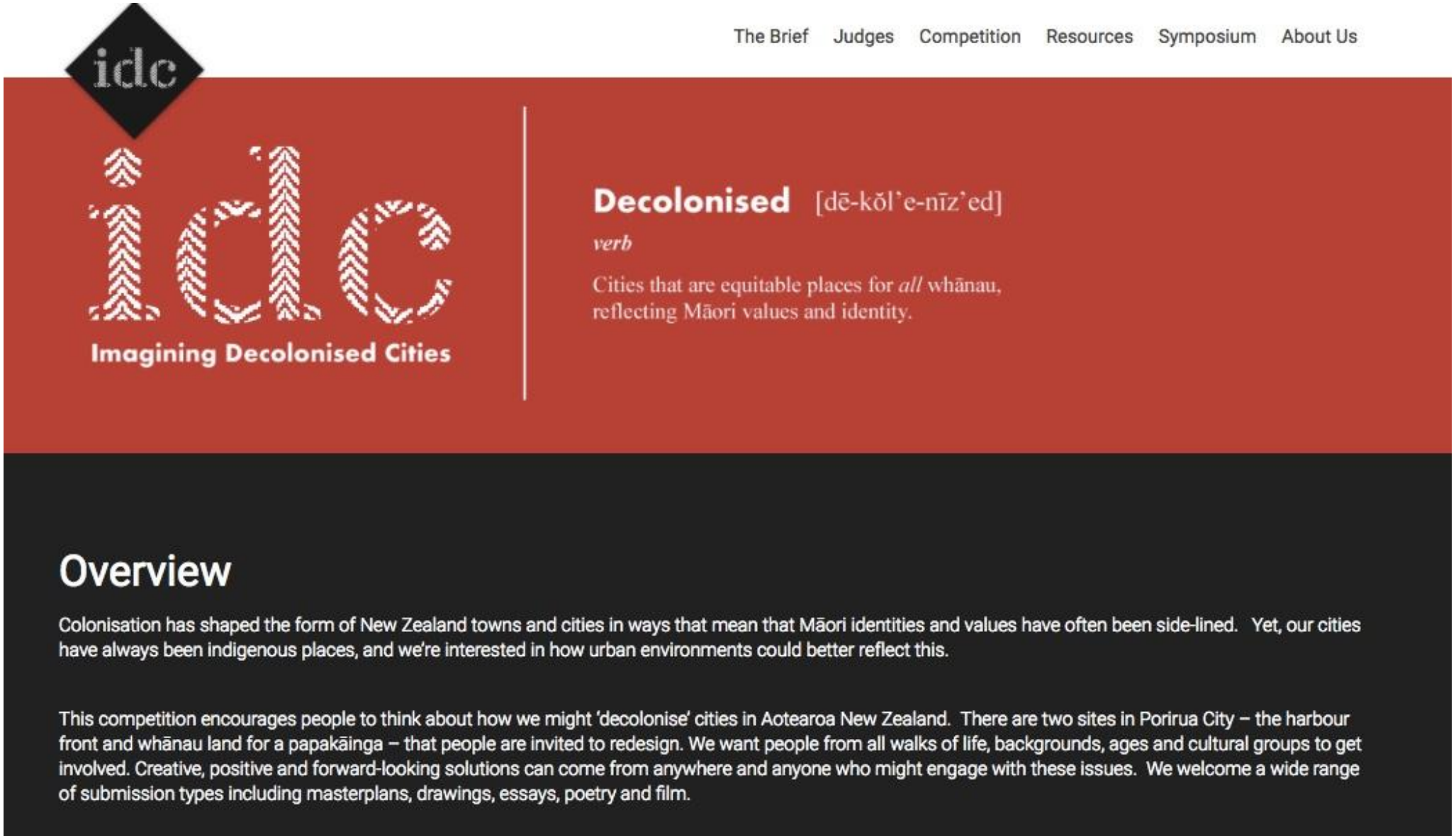


Early Analysis

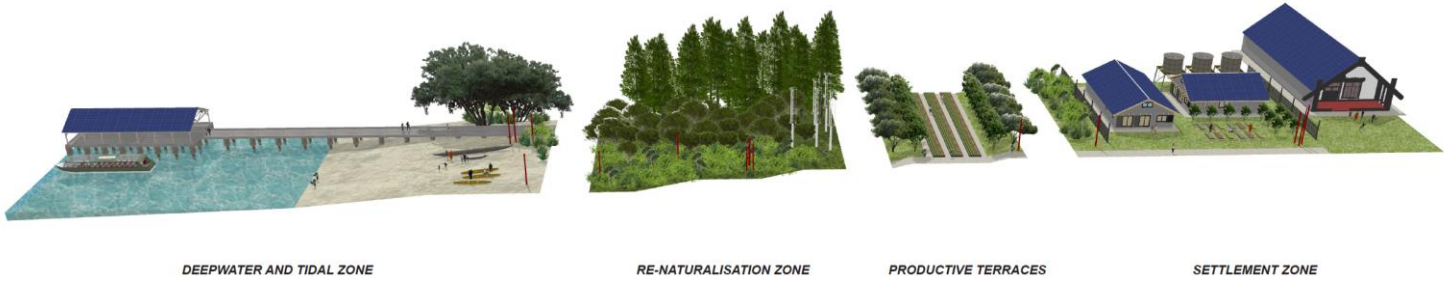
Professional category entries

Looking for common themes

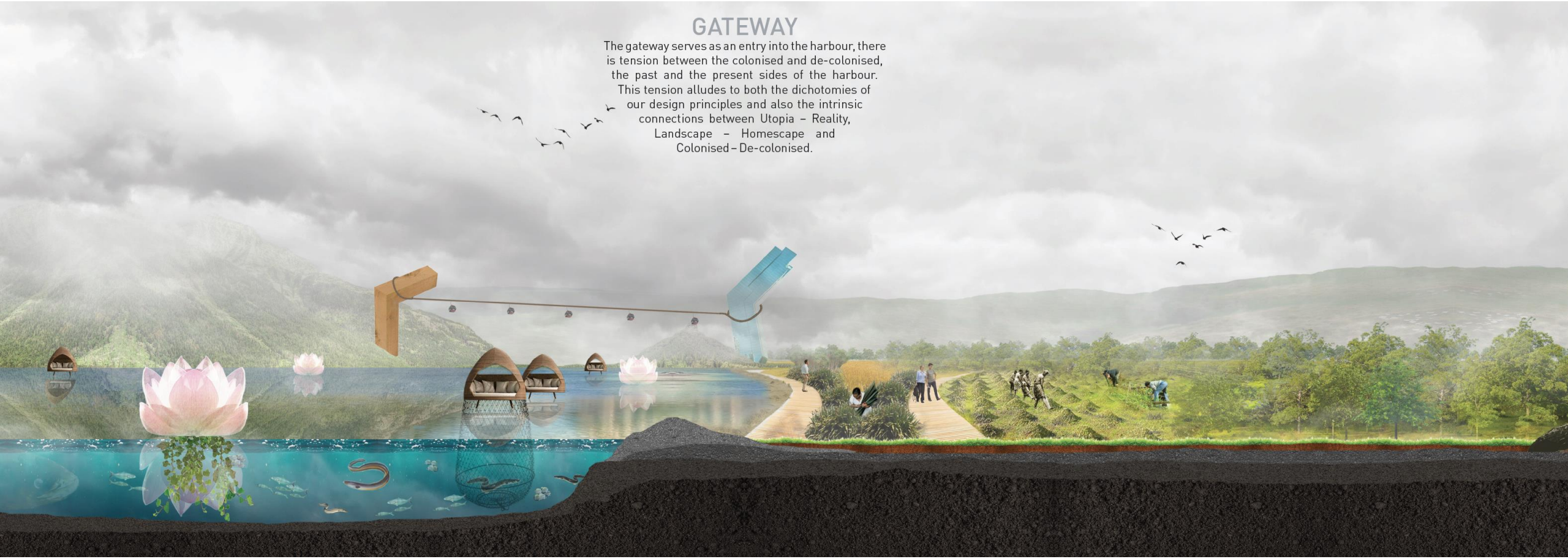
Two entries took clean slate approach

Others put down new layers on existing conditions

Image source: Clynt White, Lei Chen, Emma Erasmus



Use of Narrative



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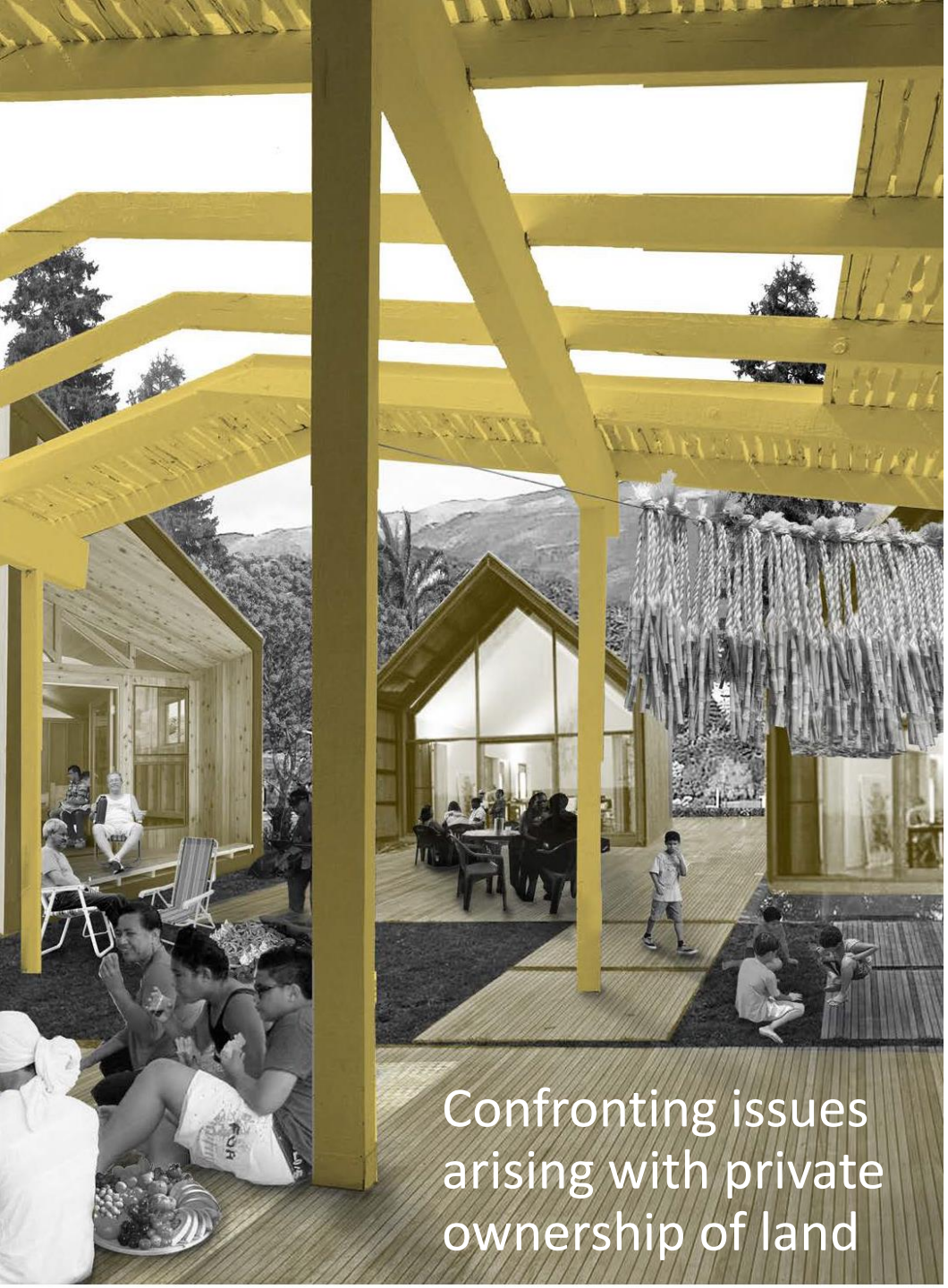
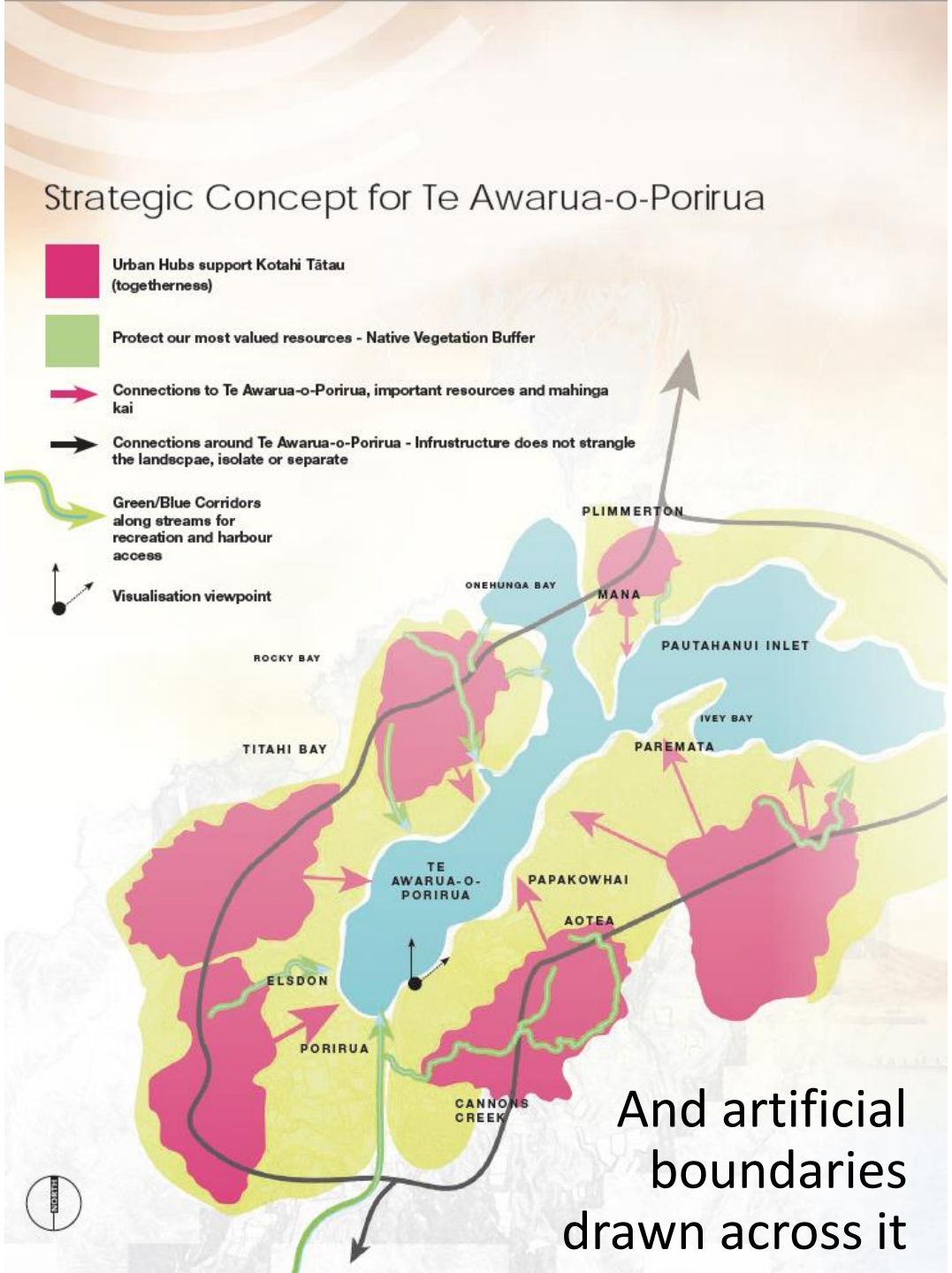


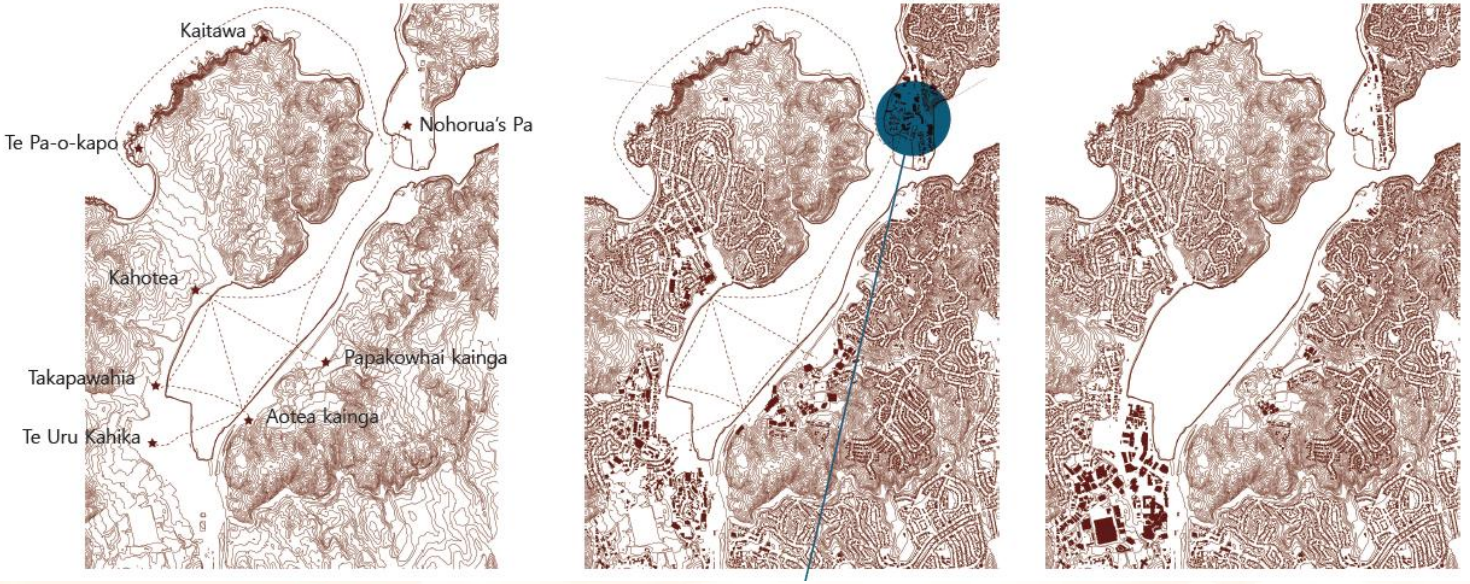
Source: Lizzie Yarina

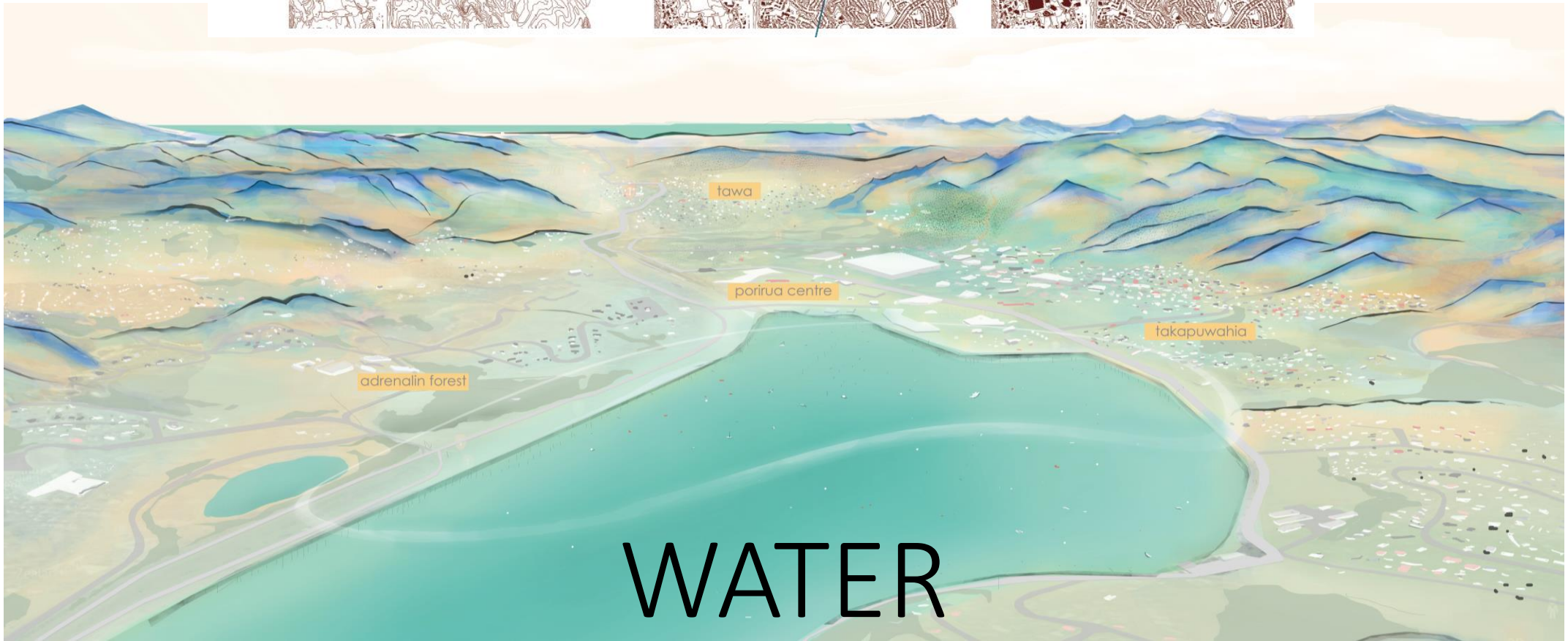
Confronting issues arising with private ownership of land



Source: Fiona Whyte

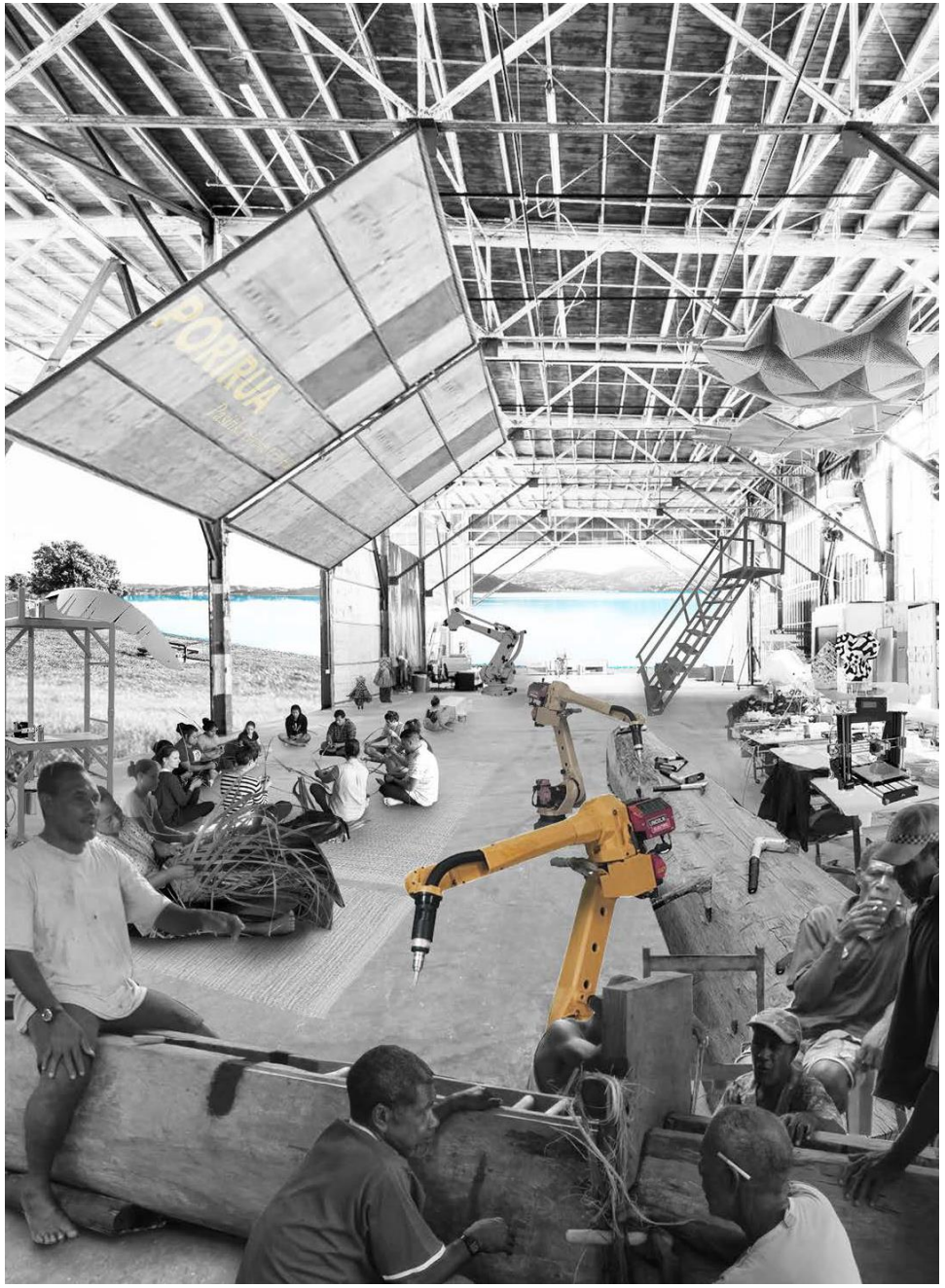
And artificial boundaries drawn across it





WATER

Source: Norman Wei

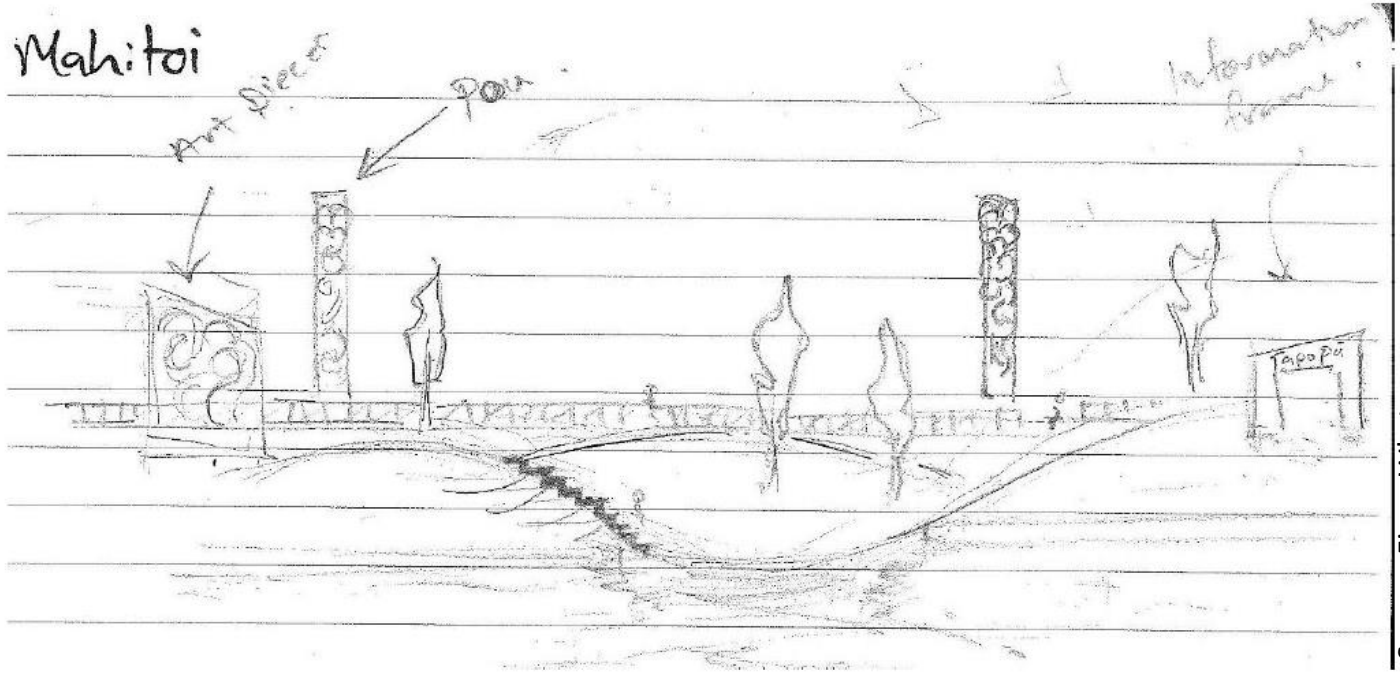


Source: Lizzie Whyte

Moderated utopias

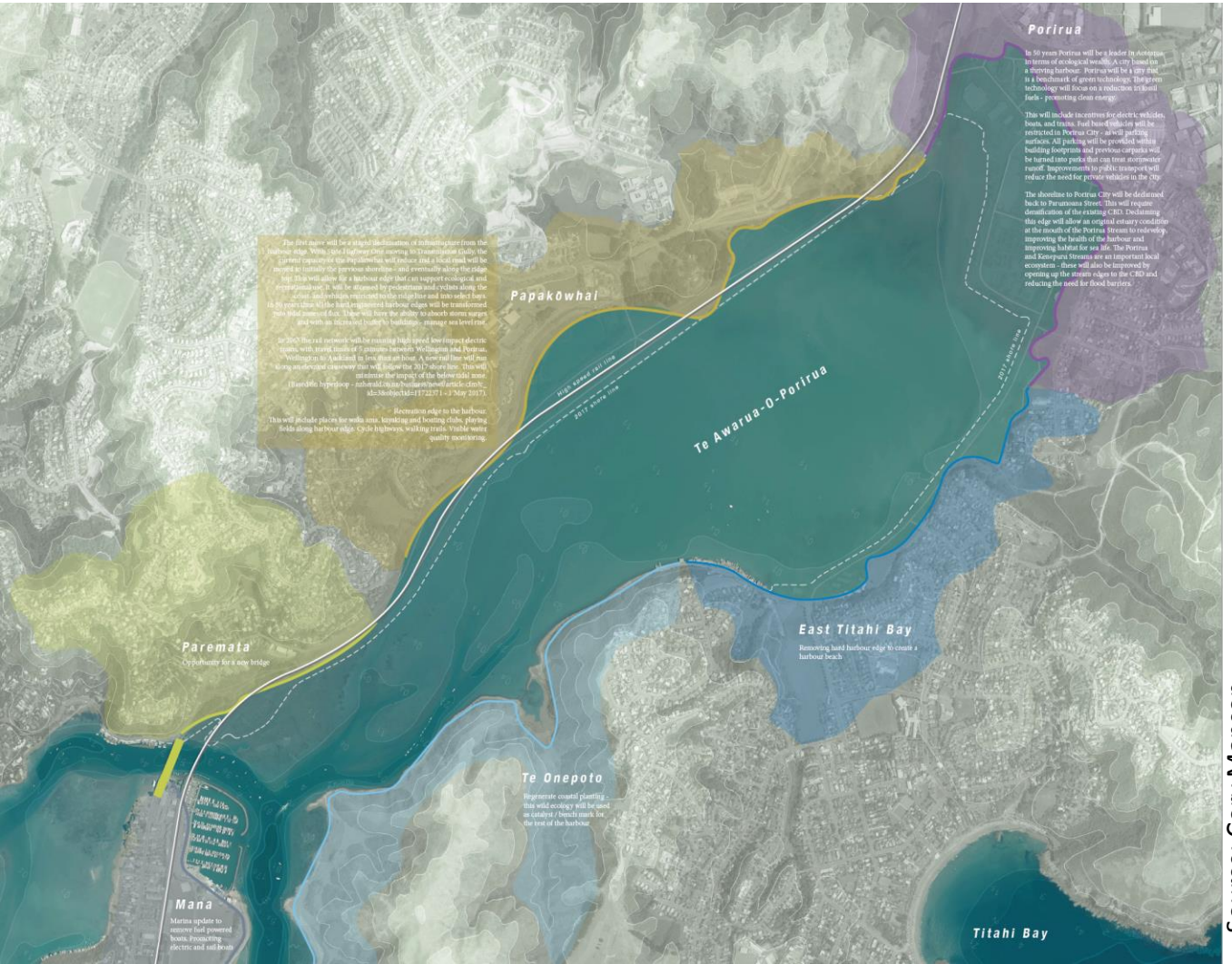
- Pragmatism
- engagement with economic and other contextual issues

Perspective of "Tuaiwi highline" and allowing locals engagement with the coast



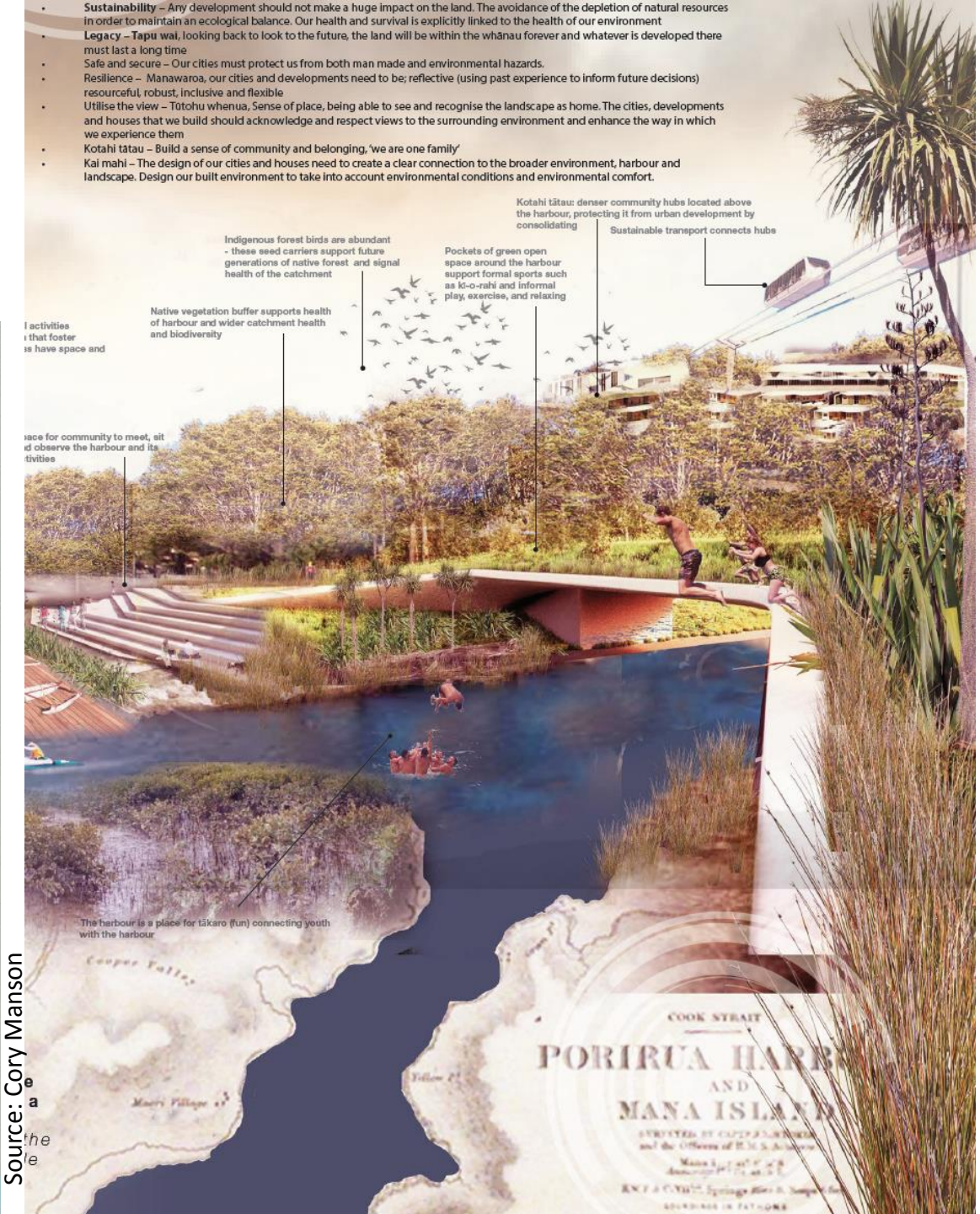
Source: Fiona Whyte

Embracing technology



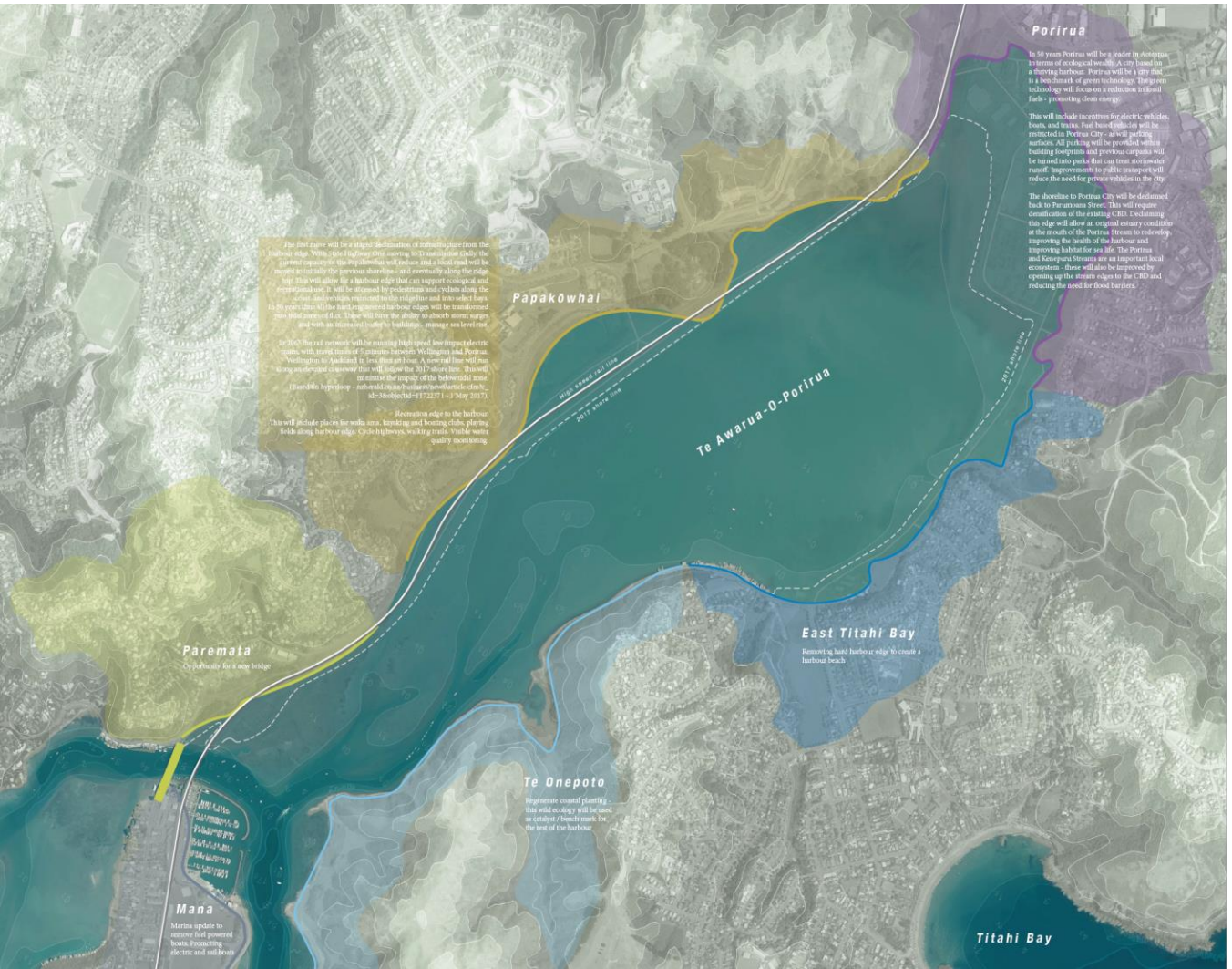
Source: Cory Manson

- **Sustainability** – Any development should not make a huge impact on the land. The avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance. Our health and survival is explicitly linked to the health of our environment
- **Legacy – Tapu wai**, looking back to look to the future, the land will be within the whānau forever and whatever is developed there must last a long time
- Safe and secure – Our cities must protect us from both man made and environmental hazards.
- Resilience – Manawaroa, our cities and developments need to be; reflective (using past experience to inform future decisions) resourceful, robust, inclusive and flexible
- Utilise the view – Tūtohu whenua, Sense of place, being able to see and recognise the landscape as home. The cities, developments and houses that we build should acknowledge and respect views to the surrounding environment and enhance the way in which we experience them
- Kotahi tātau – Build a sense of community and belonging, 'we are one family'
- Kai mahi – The design of our cities and houses need to create a clear connection to the broader environment, harbour and landscape. Design our built environment to take into account environmental conditions and environmental comfort.



Source: Fiona Whyte

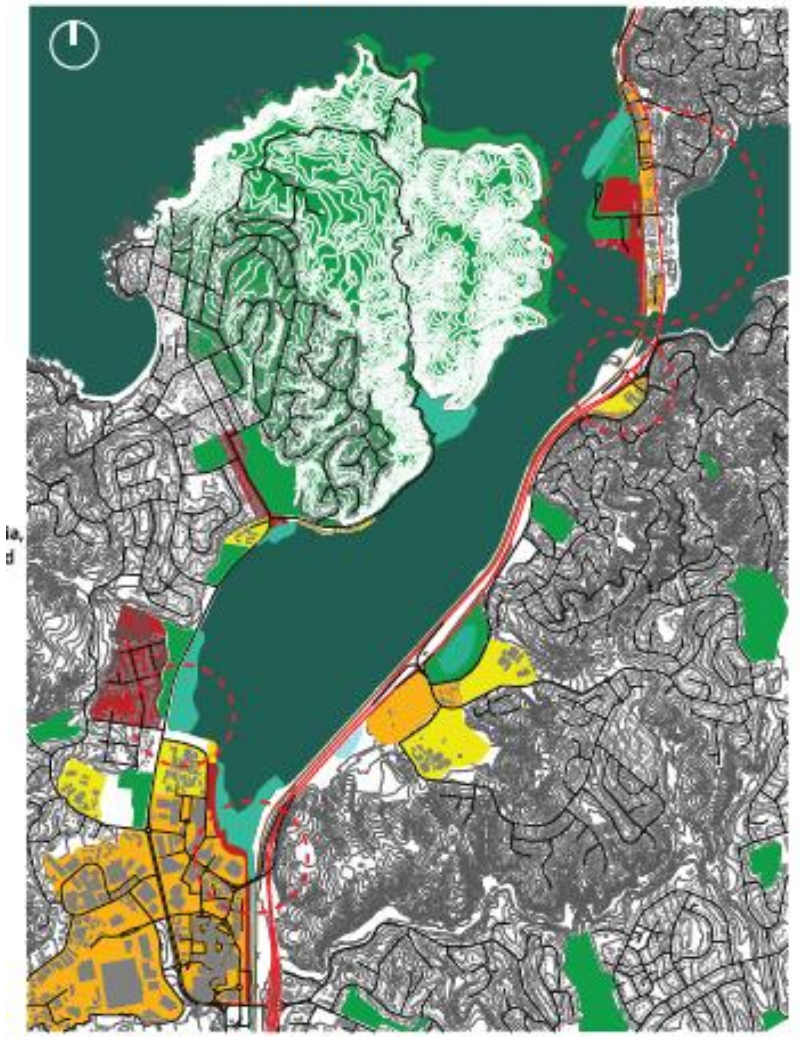
Addressing wider issues such as climate change and housing



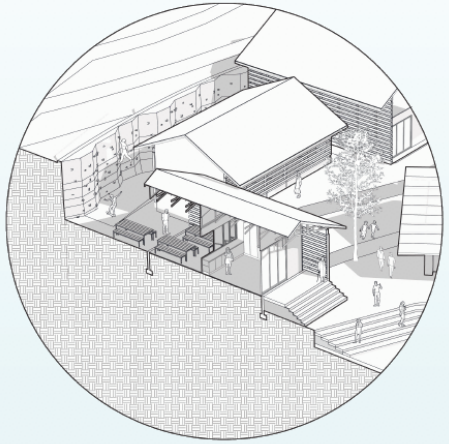
Source: Cory Manson

INCREMENTAL HOUSING CONCEPT

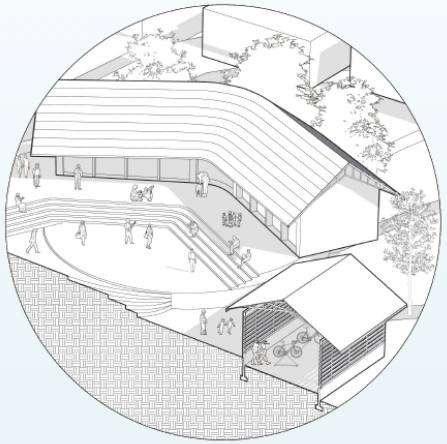
MASTER PLAN OF PORIRUA HARBOUR



Source: Haroun Barazanchi

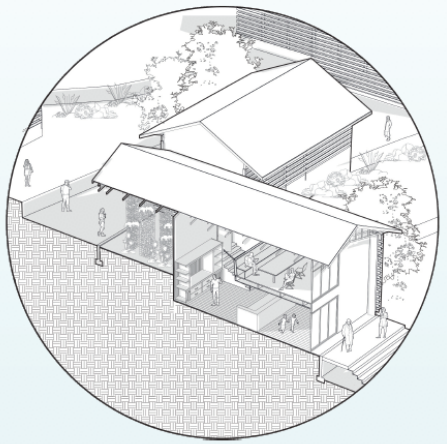


Kame House / Food House
Scene - Community 'Tuck Shop'
Housing Unit with indoor seating area for public occupation as community cafe - openning to community plaza & secluded rock climbing wall

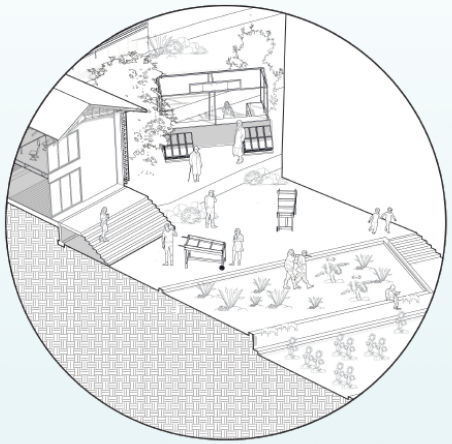


Whare Tapere / Community Plaza
Scene - Community Plaza
Shared public seating & plaza at the heart of the village as communal meeting point for entertainment, education & cultural events

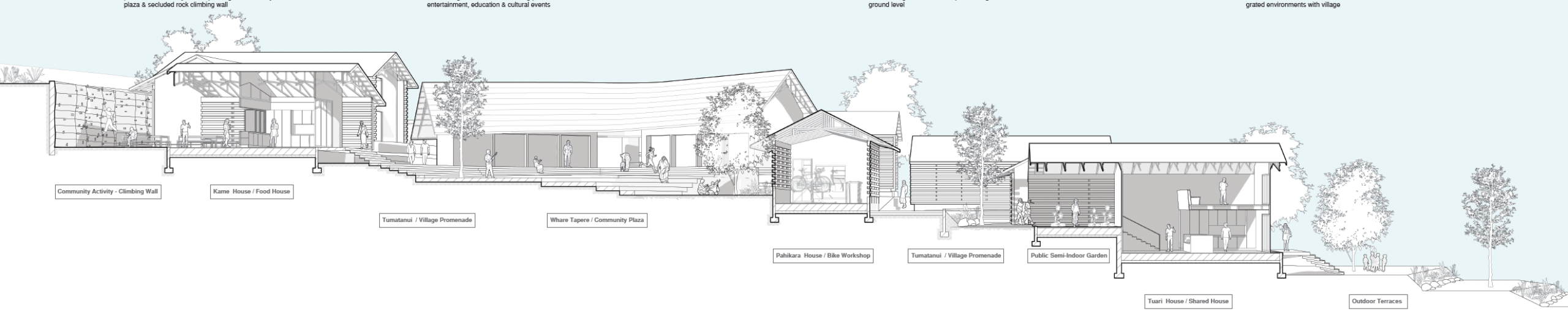
Pahikara House / Bike Workshop
Scene - Public Bicycle Workshop
Workshop area for bicycle serive & repair



Tuari House / Shared House
Scene - Food Production
Indoor vegetable garden for sharedfood supply
Private living mezzanine with public living area at ground level



Makete / Community Market
Scene - Terraces & Market Stall
Communally accessible terraces for food production with market stall for sale & distribution. Integrated environments with village

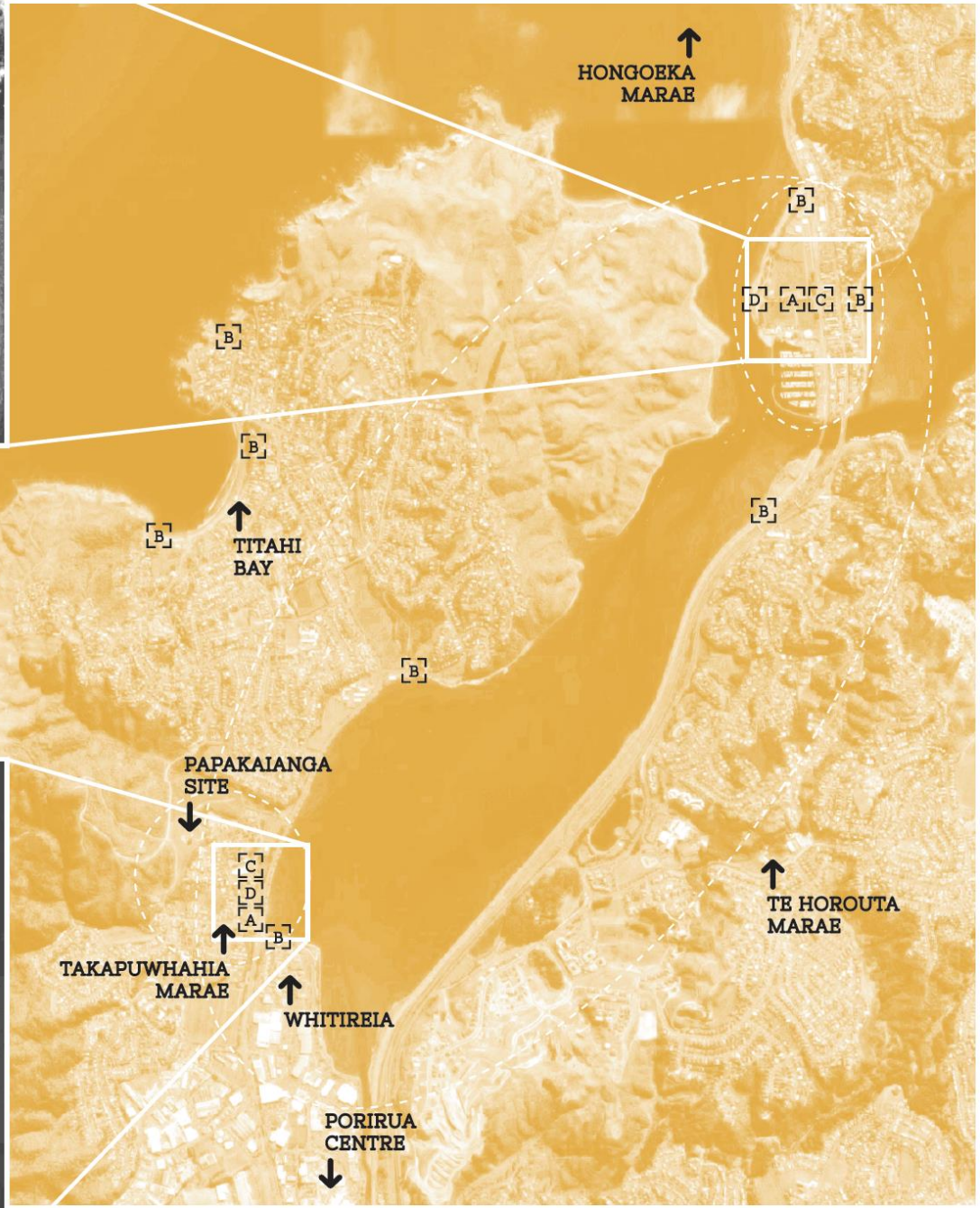


Connections

People to each other

People to environment

Reconnecting broken links in environmental systems



Source: Field

Connections

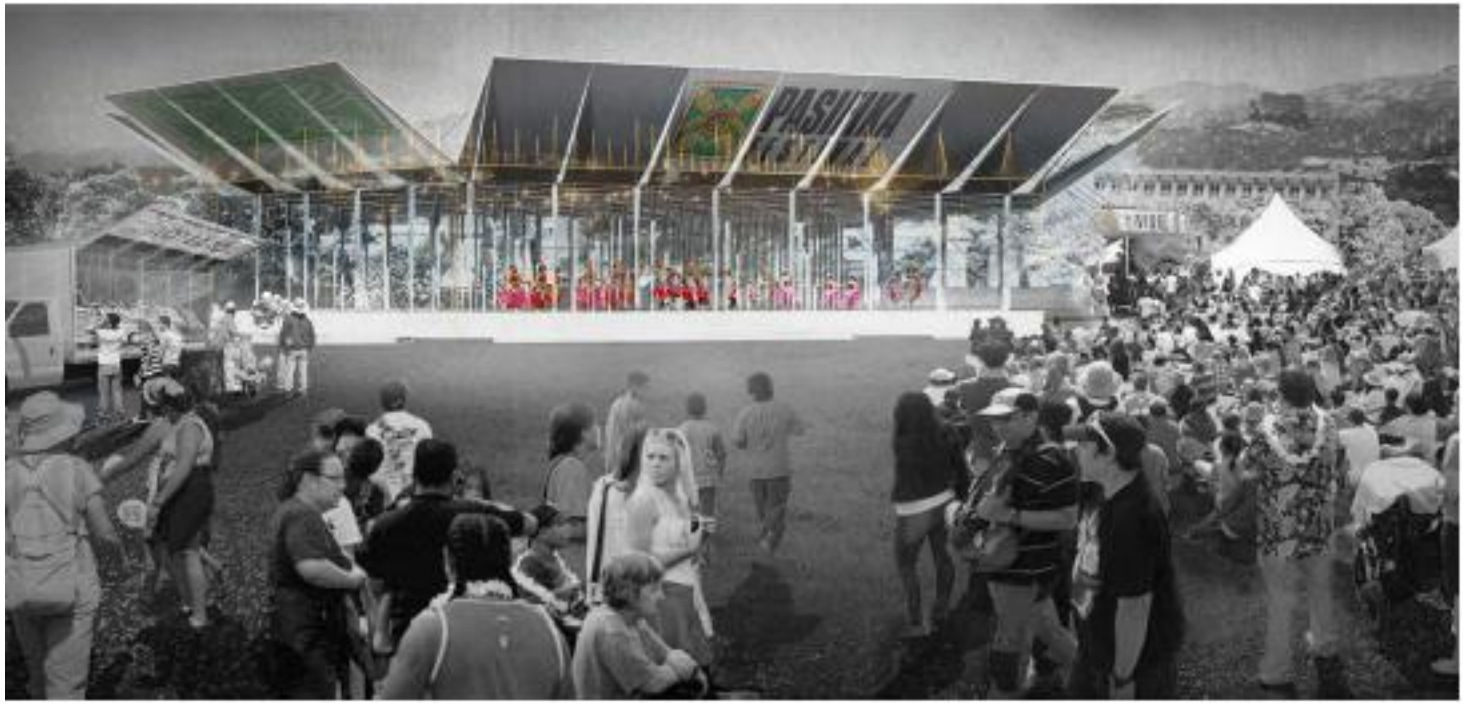
People to each other

People to environment

Reconnecting broken links in environmental systems

Source: Elyjana Roach

Source: Lizzie Yarina



A new form of colonisation?

Pasifika overlay

The discussion continues……

Summary

- Bring Māori values and mātauranga into city making
- Empowering people and young people, in particular, to engage with city making processes
- Pragmatically – how might Ngāti Toa use settlement land
- Overdue conversations
- How do we do that ethically?
- Provoke, disrupt, start the conversation…..