# CONNECTIONS

### Social Connectivity

Intentional open spaces encourage social interaction and community engagement, strengthening relationships and a sense of belonging among users.

### **Ecological Integrity**

Interconnecting natural features such as parks, waterways, and green corridors helps preserve ecological integrity while promoting diversity and enhancing natural environment.

### Cultural Integration

Incorporating cultural elements into landscape design fosters a deeper connection to place, celebrating local identity and history.

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# ENVIRONMENT

### Nature

Engaging with nature provides individuals the opportunity to immerse themselves in diverse natural environments, fostering tranquility and encouraging reflection on the interconnectedness between the built and natural worlds.

### Reflection

Landscape design creates intentional spaces that provide opportunities for retreat and reflection, fostering mental clarity and deeper engagement with nature.

### Green Corridors

A connected and diverse green network that links the roading system with the greenway riparian edge and extending to open recreational spaces.



# DISTINCTION

### Sense of Place

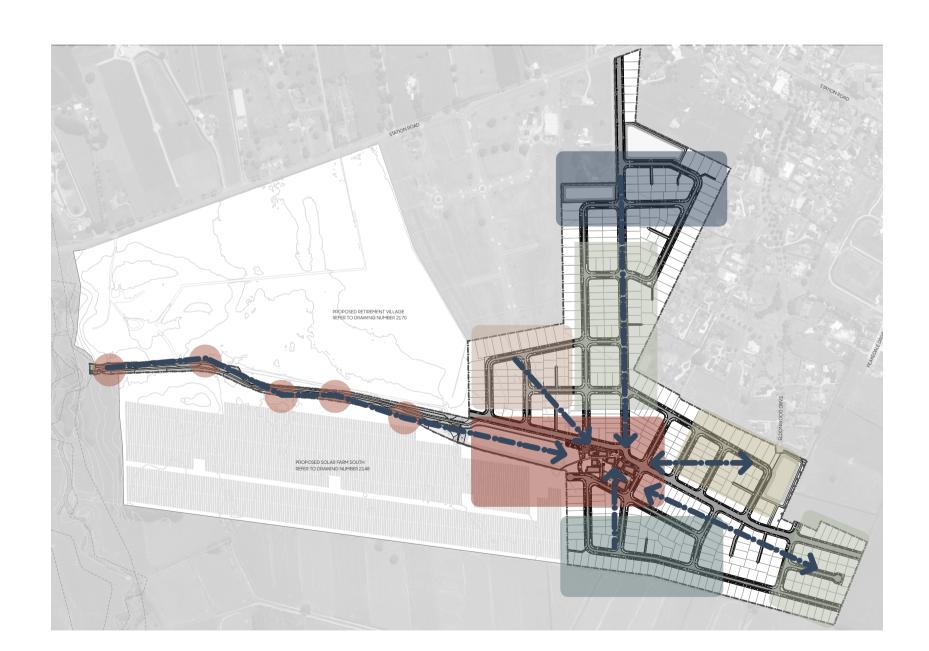
Emotional attachment to places is shaped by personal experiences, lasting memories, and meaningful relationships, fostering a deep bond that influences our sense of identity and belonging.

### Cultural Significance

Cultural significance is vital in shaping our connection to the land, with traditions, histories, and community narratives influencing how we perceive, engage with, and find identity within our environment.

### Place Making

The physical characteristics of a location — its landscape, architecture, and atmosphere — are essential elements of placemaking, shaping how we experience, interact with, and form emotional connections to a space.



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# NEIGHBOUR CHARACTER

### SPINE ROAD

The spine road runs through the development, ensuring strong connectivity to the surrounding road network. Proposed street tree plantings of native pūriri, tānekaha, rewarewa, and tītoki will enhance biodiversity and attract birdlife.

### PRIMARAY RESIDENTIAL AREA - NATIVE

A key natural feature of the development, the primary residential streets encircling the site offer opportunities for continuous native street tree planting with miro and houhere, complementing the Spine Road.

### PRIMARAY RESIDENTIAL AREA – EXOTIC

Exotic street trees along the Spine and Primary roads will enhance biodiversity and reflect local character. Upright Hornbeam, Maple, Ornamental Pear and Oak specimens provide seasonal interest, habitat diversity, and a cohesive streetscape.

### SECONDARY RESIDENTIAL AREA

Secondary street tree planting includes kōwhai and manatu, enhancing biodiversity with seasonal flowers, supporting pollinators, and attracting native birdlife, creating a vibrant and resilient streetscape.

## COMMERCIAL | OPEN SPACE | GREENWAY

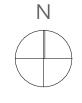
This area serves as the heart of the development, seamlessly connecting spaces through a continuation of native and exotic trees. Complementary plant palettes enhance biodiversity and celebrate the site's cultural identity.





Project
Ashbourne Development, Matamata

Drawing 2149/03 Neighbourhood Character Plan



Scale 1:2500@A1 1:5000@A3 Issue Date
28/05/25
Issue

Drawn SW Checked CC



# **CULTURAL ELEMENTS**

### Whakapapa-Inspired Features

Incorporate features reflecting Ngāti Hauā and Ngāti Hinerangi pūrakau (stories), representing ancestral connections, maunga (mountains), and awa (rivers).

### Pā Harakeke

Establish areas planted with harakeke, symbolising whānau (family) and traditional weaving practices, connecting to both cultural identity and biodiversity.

### Cultural Naming

Use te reo Māori names for streets, parks, reserves, and significant features — ensuring each name tells a story of the whenua (land), wai (water), or tūpuna (ancestors).

# INTERPRETATION

### Integration

Integrating te reo Māori and English in street naming to reflect and celebrate Aotearoa New Zealand's bicultural identity.

### Pou Whenua

Erect carved pou whenua (carved posts) that acknowledge local iwi, historical pā sites, and the significance of the Waitoa River.

### Architectural Patterns

Integrate traditional patterns into pathways, furniture and features – drawing on tukutuku (woven panels) or whakairo (carving) motifs.

# **FLORA**

### Ecological Greenway Restoration

Reintroduce culturally significant plant species like kahikatea, tōtara, pūriri, and manuka to support taonga species and strengthen biodiversity corridors.

### Mahinga Kai Gardens

Incorporate edible and medicinal plant species into communal spaces to reflect cultural and ecological priorities, including plants traditionally used for rongoā (medicine) and food, supporting connections to traditional cultural practices.

### Biodiversity & Water-Sensitive Planting

Use riparian buffer planting along waterways with species like harakeke, tī kōuka (cabbage tree), and toetoe to enhance water quality and restore waiora (life-giving essence of freshwater) and include diverse nectar-rich native species to attract manu (birds) like tui, korimako (bellbird), and kererū, acknowledging the spiritual connection between birds and atua (deities).



