



Liam Foster, 2018

# BLUE – GREEN HORIZONS: SECURING OUR COASTAL CITIES.

KAI TAHI, KAI ORA: WEAVING WATER INTO RESILIENT  
FUTURES FOR COASTAL ŌTAUTAHĪ AND BEYOND

Liam Foster | 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025



# Our Past

## Solved : Infectious diseases

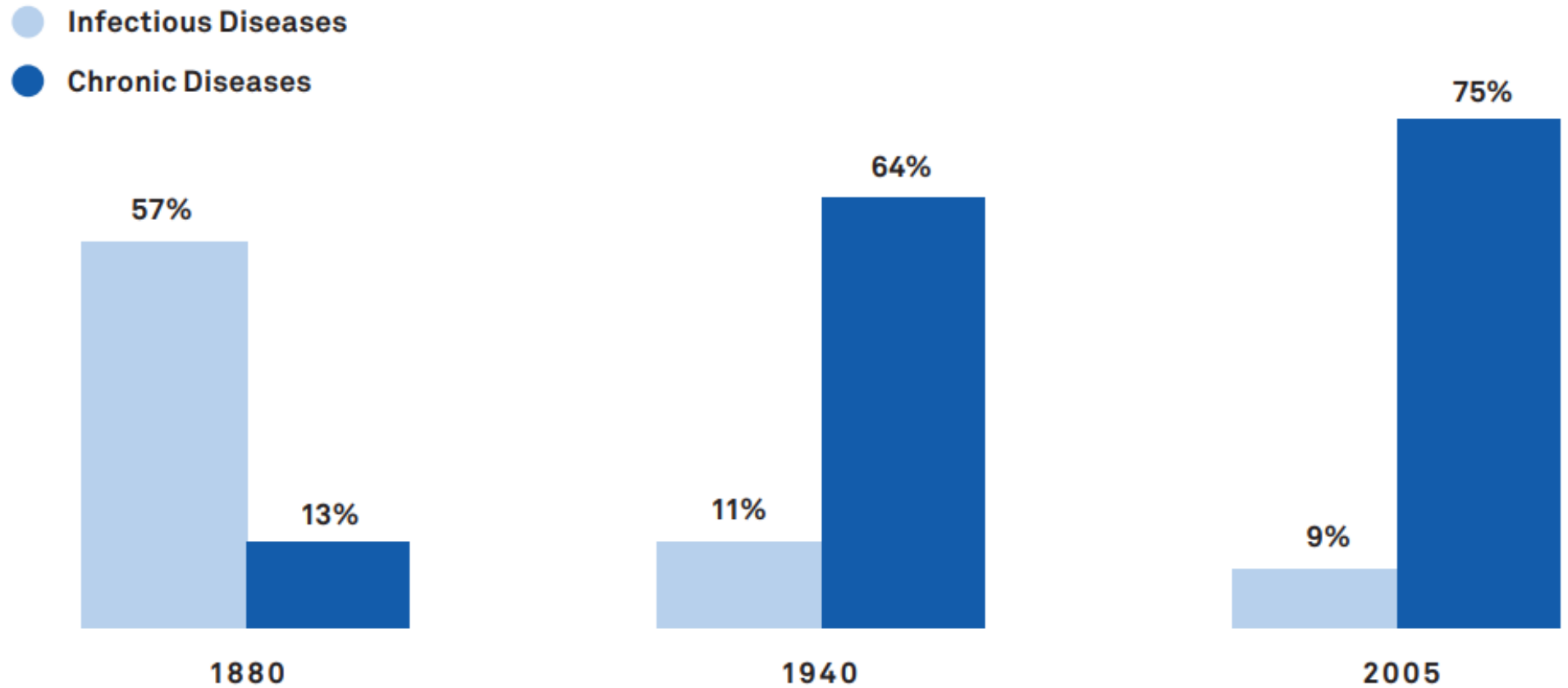


## Created:

- Flooding
- Cities of Loneliness
- Species eradication
- Pollution
- **Low resilience**
- Landfills
- Take - make – waste economy
- Unaffordable rates

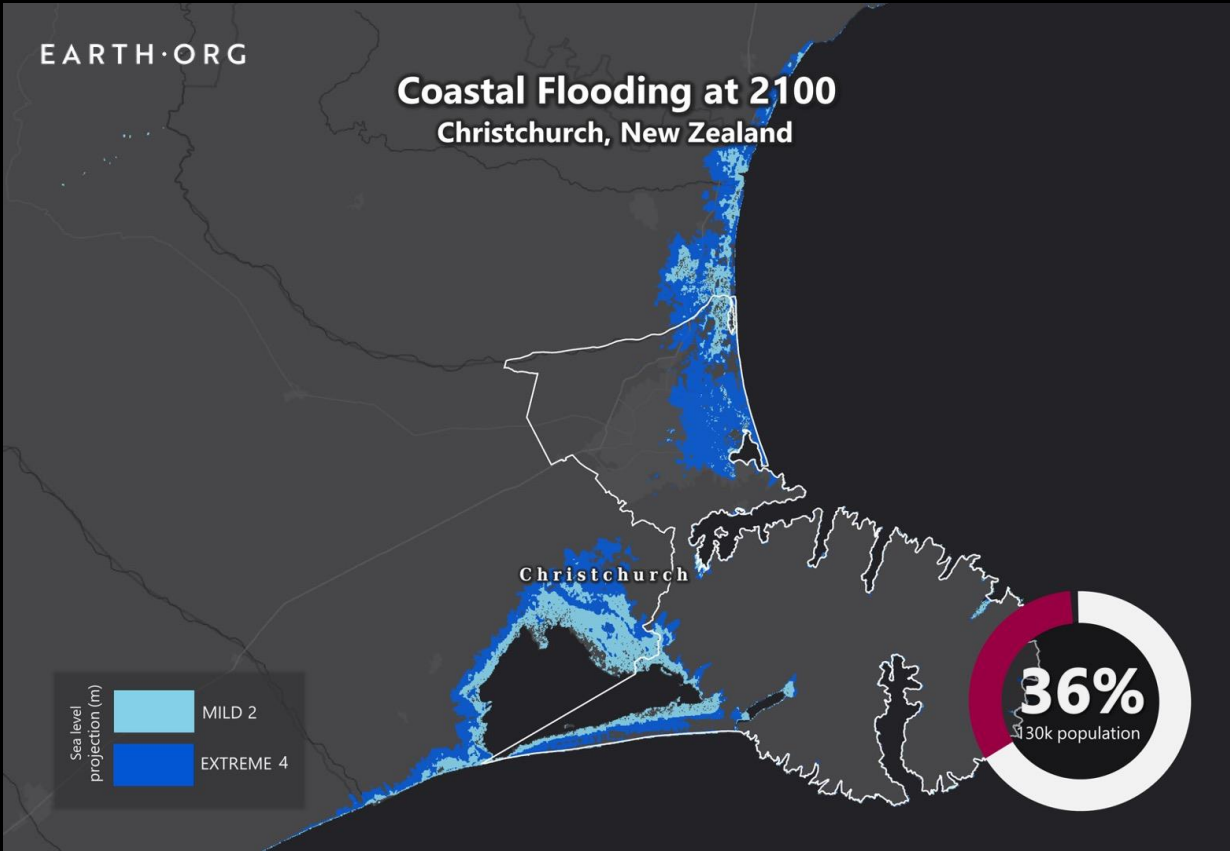
# Our Past

## CHANGING PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS IN NYC ATTRIBUTED TO INFECTIOUS VERSUS CHRONIC DISEASES, 1880 TO 2005



*Source: The City of New York Summary of Vital Statistics 2005*

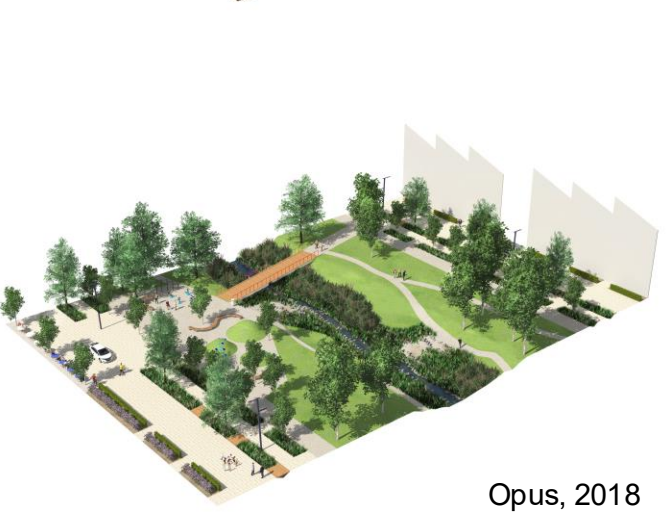
# The Challenge







# The Opportunity







# Water Weaving Exciting Futures







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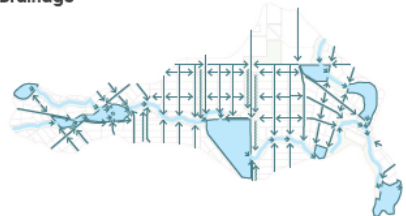


# Securing our Futures: A Foresight Call to Action

## Waterway Values - Opportunities

Addressing the issues associated with all 6 waterway values across the Catchment provides opportunities to realise significant enhancements in economic, social, environmental and cultural values.

### Drainage

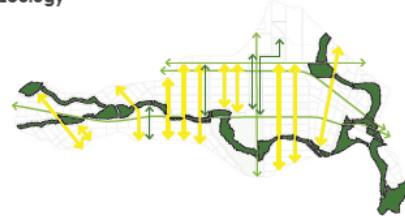


**Discussion:**  
Drainage values are enhanced through: greater permeability; stream naturalisation and connectivity; increased stormwater storage and capacity within catchment; reduced outflow into the Heathcote River; a focus on improved water quality entering and leaving Jacksons Creek; and by increasing the base flow which currently is almost non-existent.

**Legend:**

- Jacksons Creek - storage capacity
- Run-off direction
- Retention basins

### Ecology



**Discussion:**  
Enhanced ecological values, improved in-stream & riparian habitat, strong connectivity, improved water quality, improved habitat, plant and animal diversity and reduced contaminant and sediment loads.

**Legend:**

- Pollinator Path
- Eco Corridors
- Open space network
- Ecological naturalisation of Jacksons Creek

### Landscape



**Discussion:**  
A multi-functional and diverse catchment dominated by a connected linear park focussed along Jacksons Creek and enhanced streetscapes with increased visibility and awareness of natural processes.

**Legend:**

- Open space
- High amenity streetscapes

### Recreation

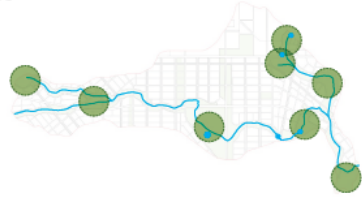


**Discussion:**  
Open space area to be increased by over 400% to provide diverse recreation opportunities within a multifunctional highly connected series of linear park spaces along a healthy and accessible waterway.

**Legend:**

- Well connected cycle/pedestrian paths
- Recreational activities/spaces
- Linear park

### Culture



**Discussion:**  
Improved opportunities for Ngāi Tahu Rūnanga to exercise rangitiratanga and kaitiakitanga of the enhanced natural environment, recognition and protection of sites of cultural significance, enhancement of mahinga kai, natural spring and wetland sites. Accentuate stories of the land, drainage and vegetation patterns

**Legend:**

- Day lit waterways
- Celebration of springs
- Cultural hubs within the park

### Heritage

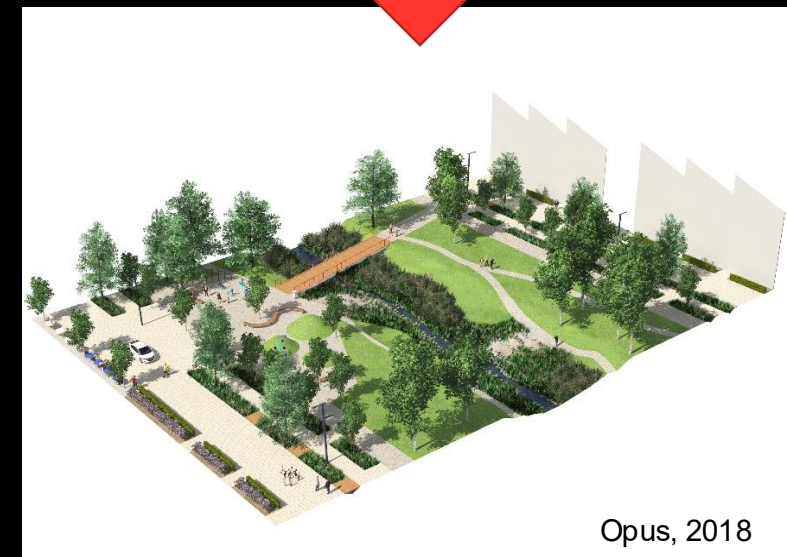
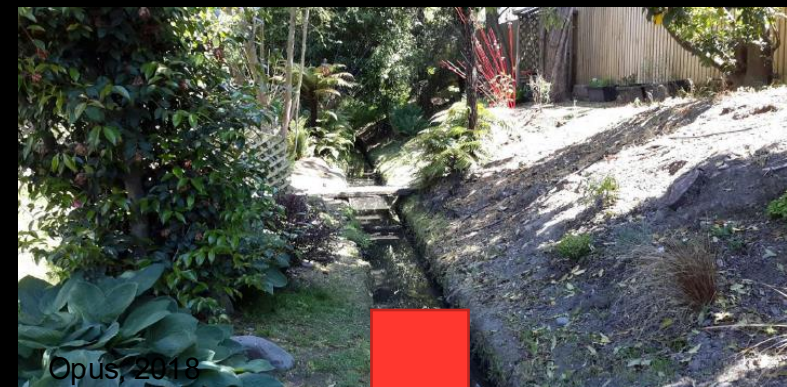


**Discussion:**  
Recognition and enhancing of natural and cultural heritage features, patterns and values throughout the catchment.

**Legend:**

- Retained significant arterials
- Day lit Jacksons Creek and its tributaries

Opus, 2018

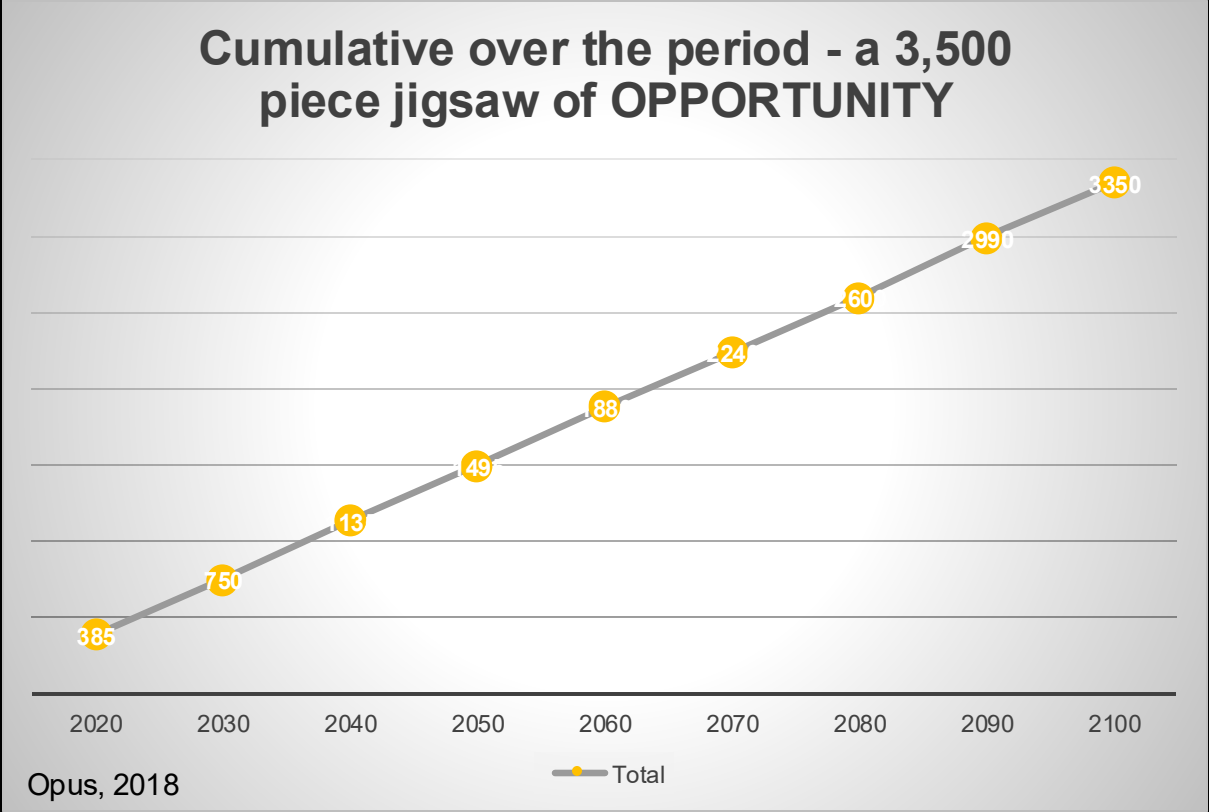
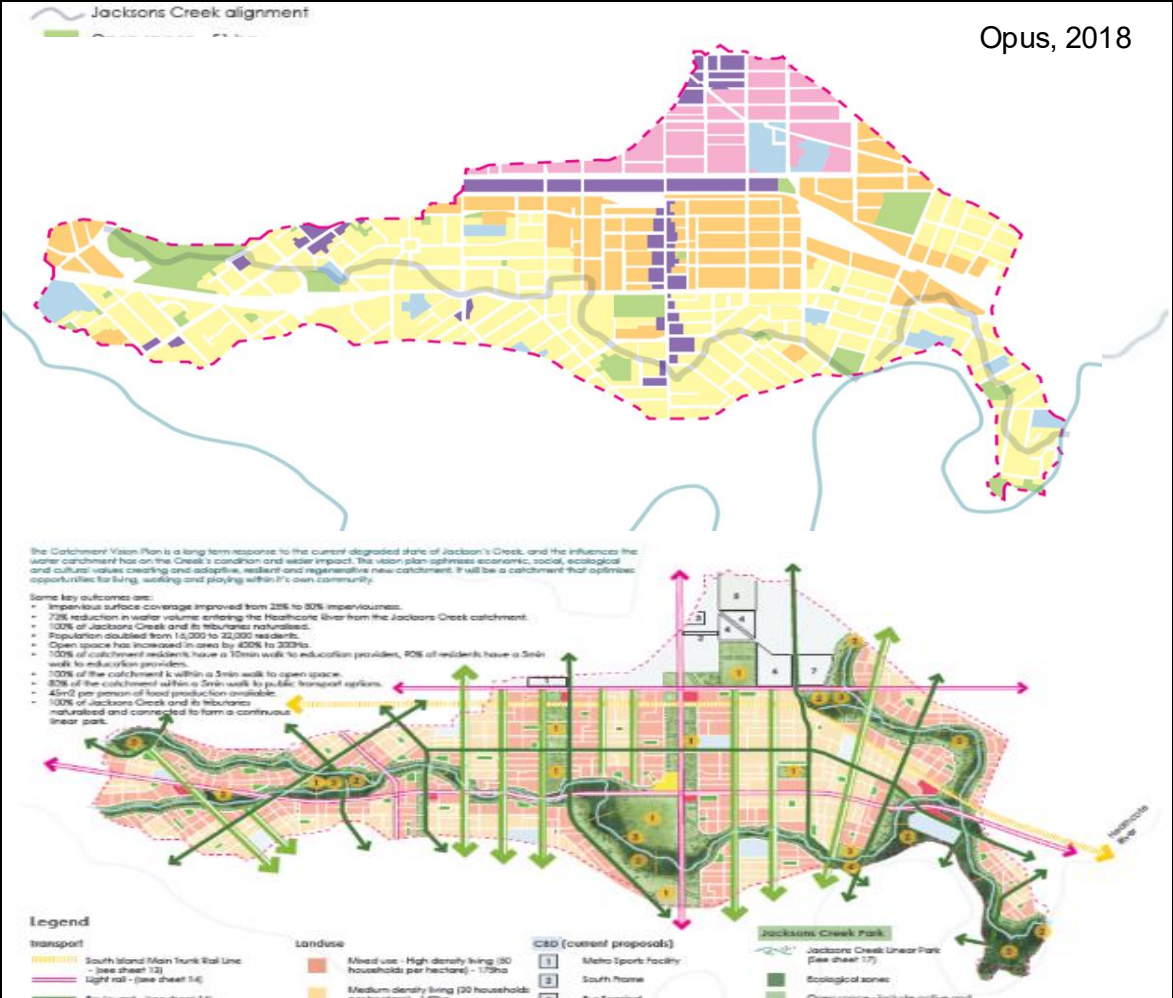


Opus, 2018

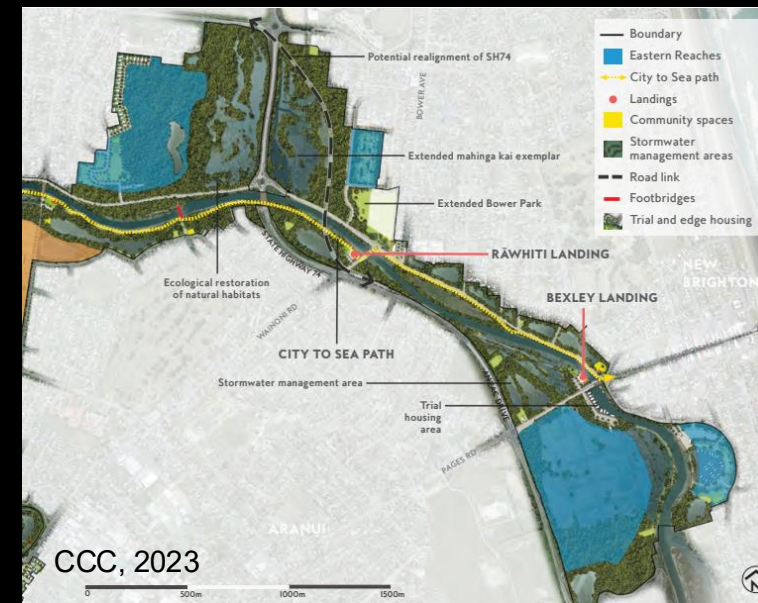
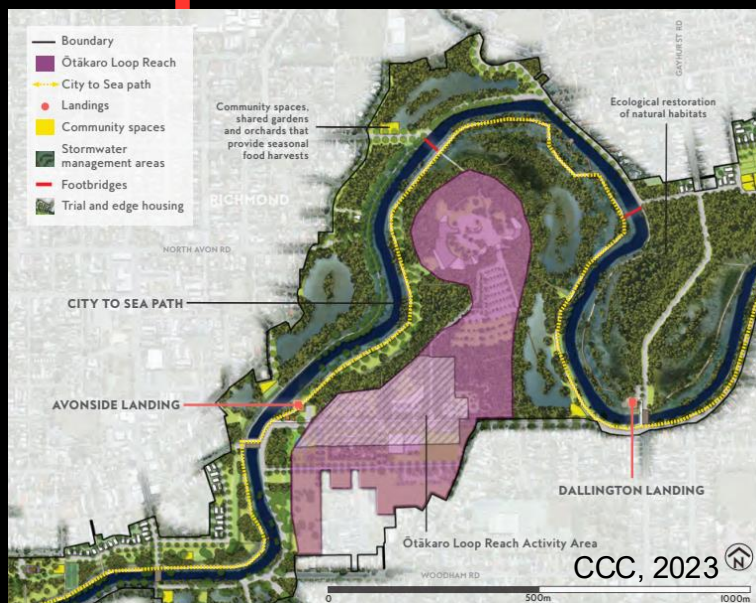




# Securing our Futures: A Foresight Call to Action







*“E ngā ringa raupā o te anamata, tēnā koutou katoa. Ki te pūtake o ngā wai o te whenua, me pēhea tātou e whiriwhiri i ngā moemoeā mo ngā taone taha moana, kia ora ai te whenua, kia ora ai te wai, kia ora ai te tangata, mō ngā uri whakatupu?”*

*To the hands that shape the future, greetings. Considering the very source of the land's waters, how might we, as futures practitioners, weave our dreams for coastal cities to ensure the thriving of the land, the water, and the people, for generations yet to come?*



## The Wero !

*What if every urban waterway was treated as an ancestor, not a utility ?*

*What if there was a 100 year vision and strategy for delivering this for each urban catchment ?*





**MĀ WAI E TIAKI TE WAI?  
KO TĀTOU KATOĀ.**

***WHO WILL CARE FOR THE WATER? ALL OF US***

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