

From Quay to Mile

Building resilient streets through partnership and persistence



Transportation Conference 2026: Resilience for the Future

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The journey from early concept to delivery

- The practical realities of advancing complex urban transport projects in a climate of limited resources.
- How urban design and placemaking elevate transport infrastructure beyond movement into creating destinations.
- The critical role of collaboration and trust between agencies and mana whenua in delivering projects that reflect shared values and aspirations.
- Coordination of multiply underground utility operators and their assets to avoid costly utility clashes and to future proof our city's vital underground infrastructure.

The two projects

A city fit for the future

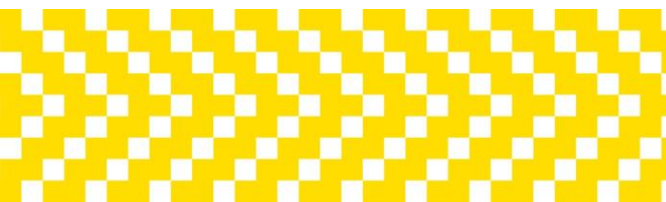
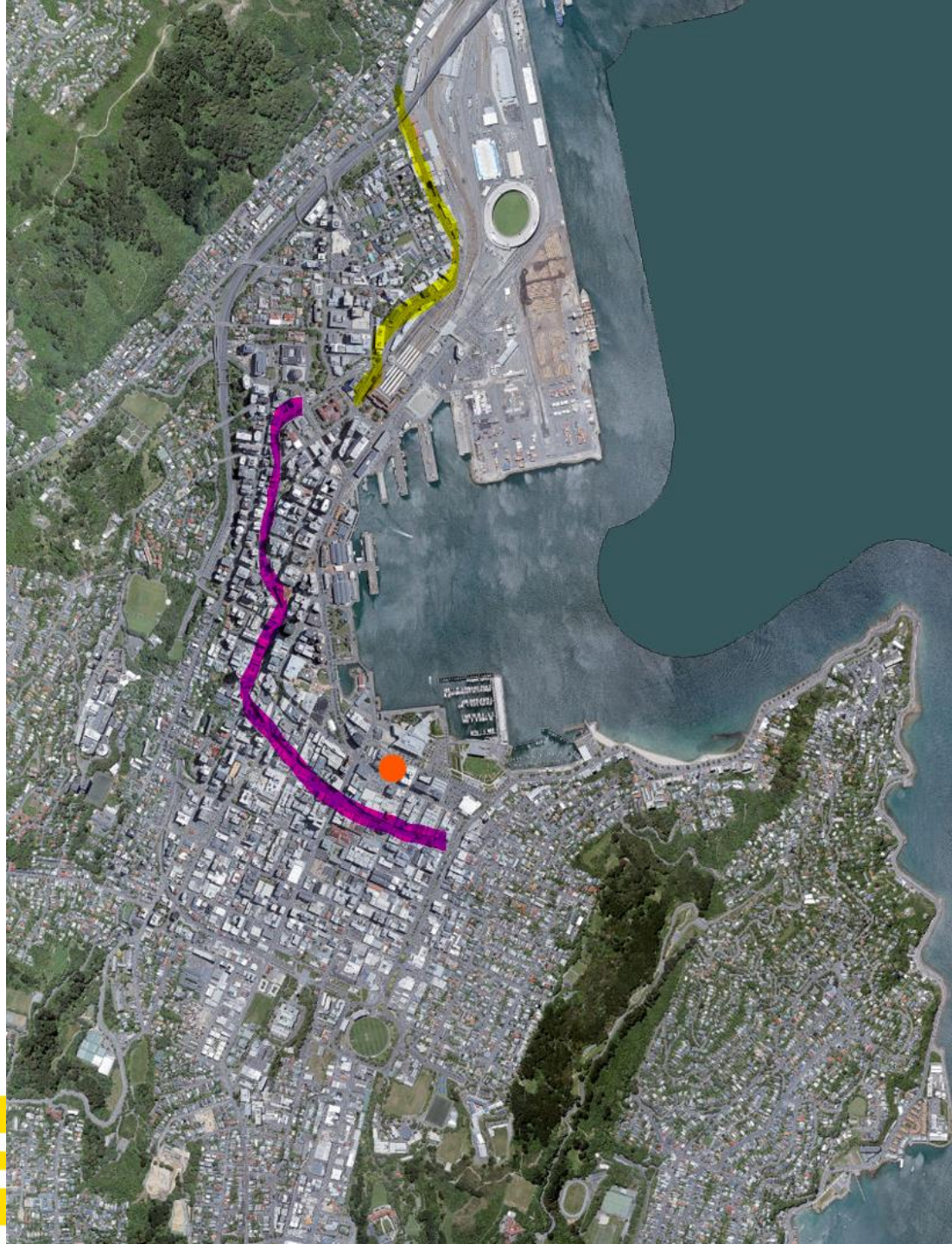
Aotea Quay - Thorndon Quay

- Connecting the northern suburbs to the city
- Making it safer & easier for people to walk, bike, scoot or use public transport

Golden Mile

- Wellington's main retail and commercial strip
- Improve traffic flow and bus reliability
- More space for pedestrians, waiting bus passengers & dedicated bike lanes
- Cultural design elements, refreshed streetscape assets, greening the corridor

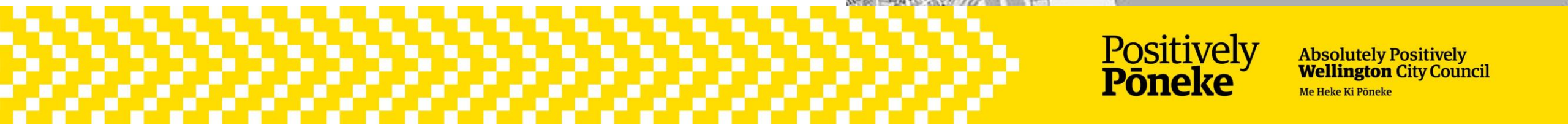
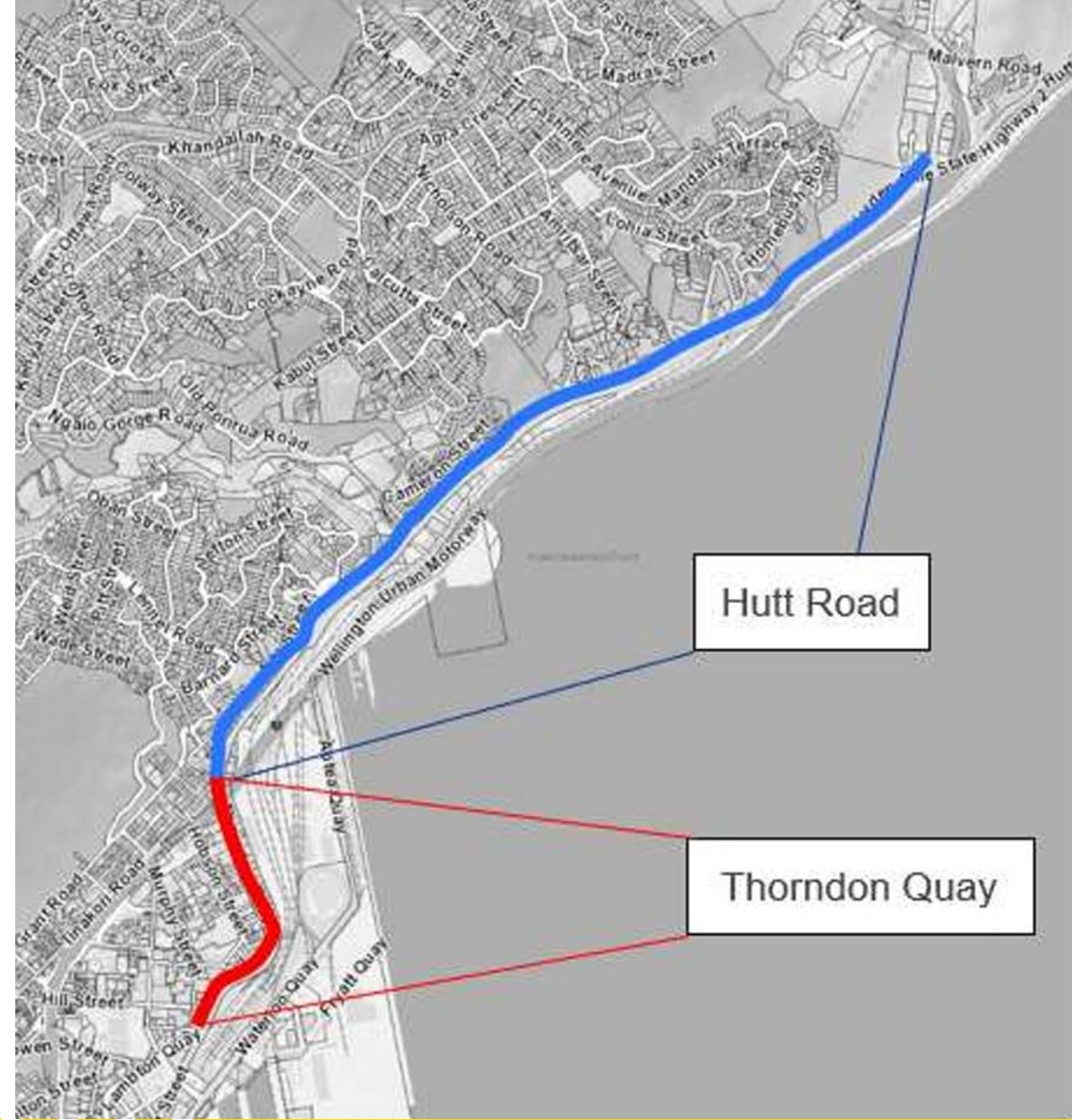
Locations



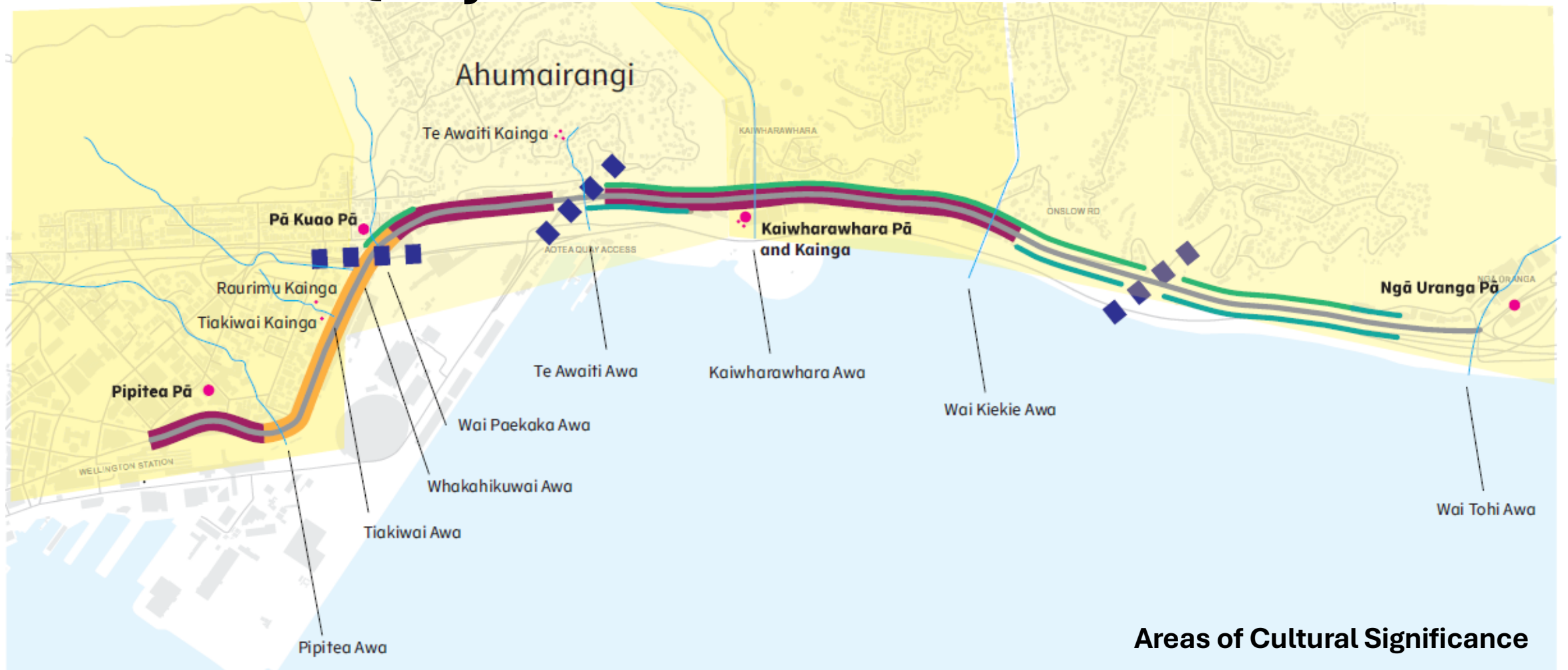
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Thorndon Quay



Areas of Cultural Significance

Thorndon Quay



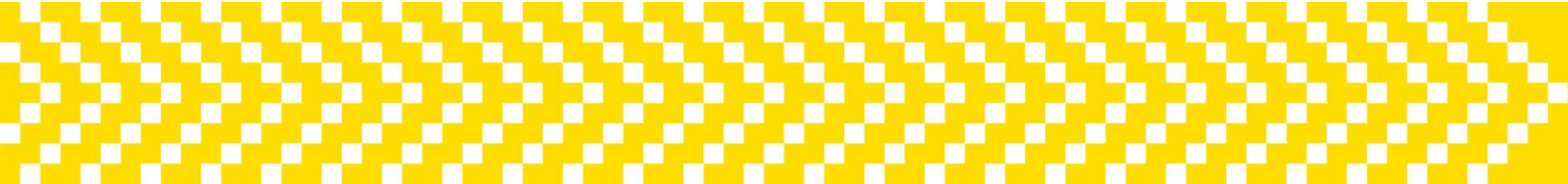
Aotea Quay

More than a roundabout

- Critical part of the road network in Wellington, key northern connection to State Highways 1 and 2 from the city center, as well as being the main access route to CentrePort.
- New roundabout to make it safer and easier for people to walk, bike, scoot or use public transport along Hutt Road and Thorndon Quay.
- Redirects freight and ferry traffic onto the State Highway.



Aotea Quay - karakia



Thorndon Quay – art as storytelling



Left: Wellington Design Manual seating – prototyped and installed as part of TQ works.

Above: Applying sealer to the awa markings

Thorndon Quay



Thorndon Quay – placemaking beyond movement



Thorndon Quay – people and place



Thorndon Quay – team and recognition



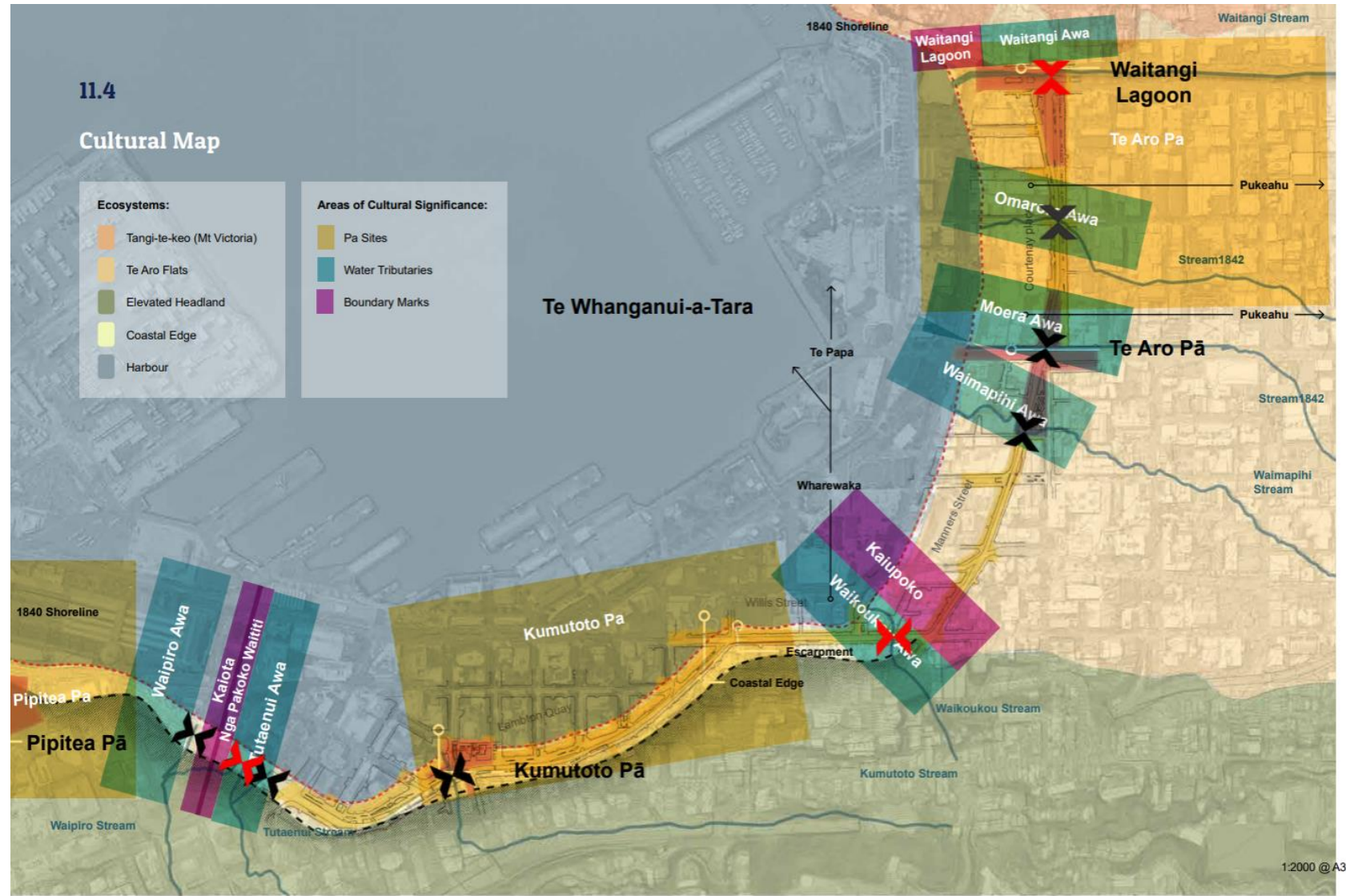
Thorndon Quay – teamwork



Golden Mile



Golden Mile



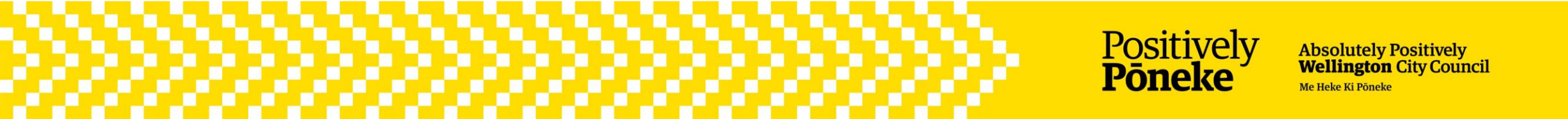
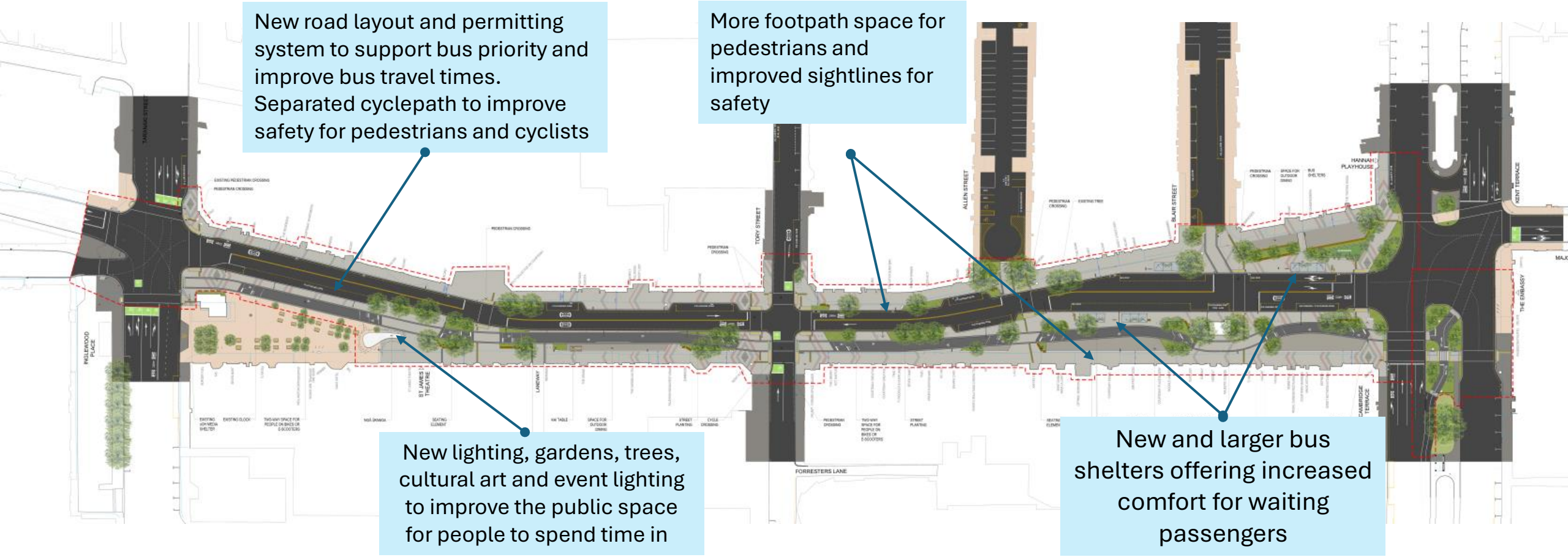
Design intent for Courtenay Place

New road layout and permitting system to support bus priority and improve bus travel times. Separated cyclepath to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists

More footpath space for pedestrians and improved sightlines for safety

New lighting, gardens, trees, cultural art and event lighting to improve the public space for people to spend time in

New and larger bus shelters offering increased comfort for waiting passengers

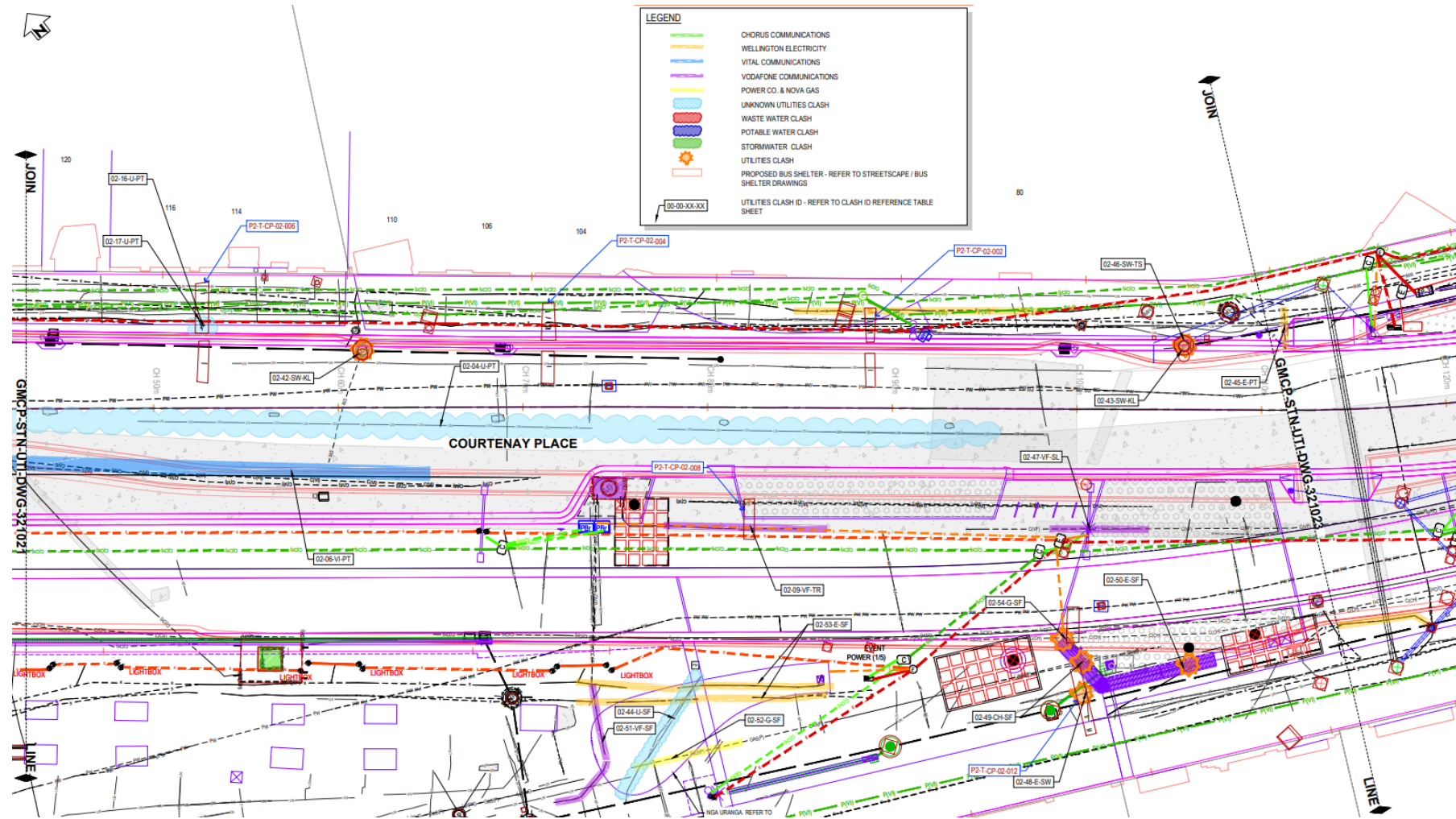


Design processes and multi-organisational outcomes



The underground world

- Collaboration with multiple NUO's
- Dig once - upgrade opportunities, fix most critical assets for growth potential, capacity and asset condition while the street is disrupted for other works



Pipes

Wastewater pipes Capacity upgrade

Stormwater Renewals Capacity upgrade, alignment & relocation, resolve conflicts with existing infrastructure in the ground by moving things and careful placement on new infrastructure



Figure 3. 58 - 134 Courtenay Place WW and SW Renewals (WW - Red, SW - blue, Manholes - orange)

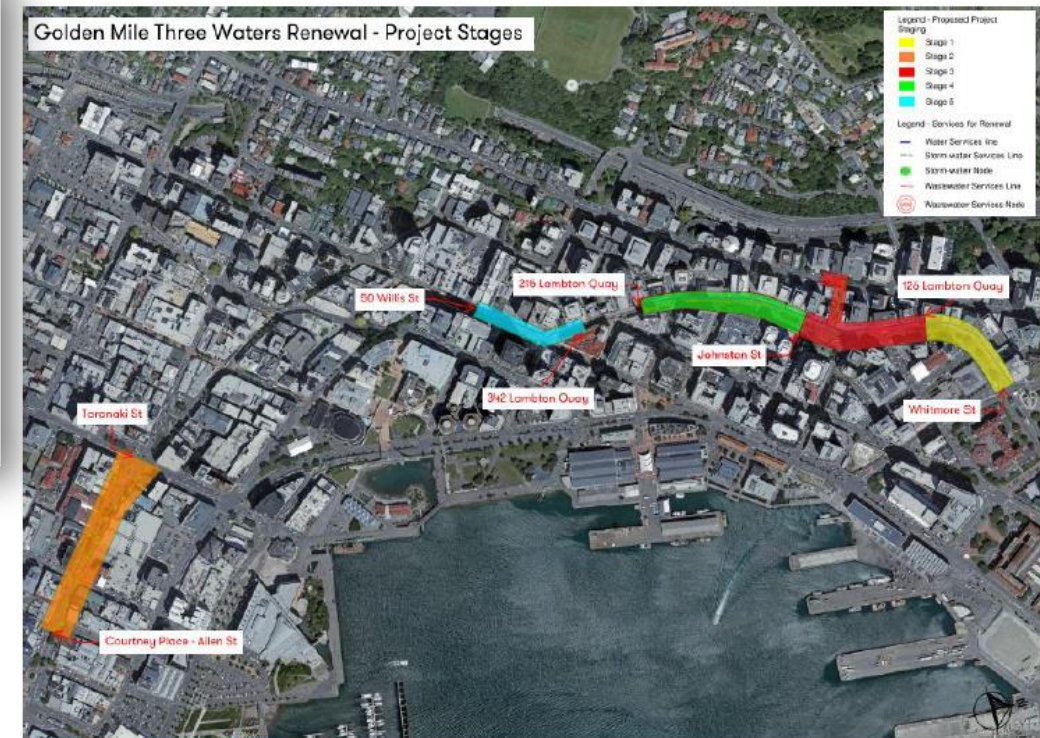


Figure 3. 59 - Project Stages

Golden Mile – the people – the place



Golden Mile – the people – the place



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Golden Mile – the people – the place



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Golden Mile – Stage 1 construction completed



Golden Mile



Golden Mile



Original layout

Golden Mile



New layout