

# Church Street Renewal

## CONCEPT DESIGN

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February 2017

Opus Landscape Architecture & Urban Design

# Church Street Renewal

## Concept Design

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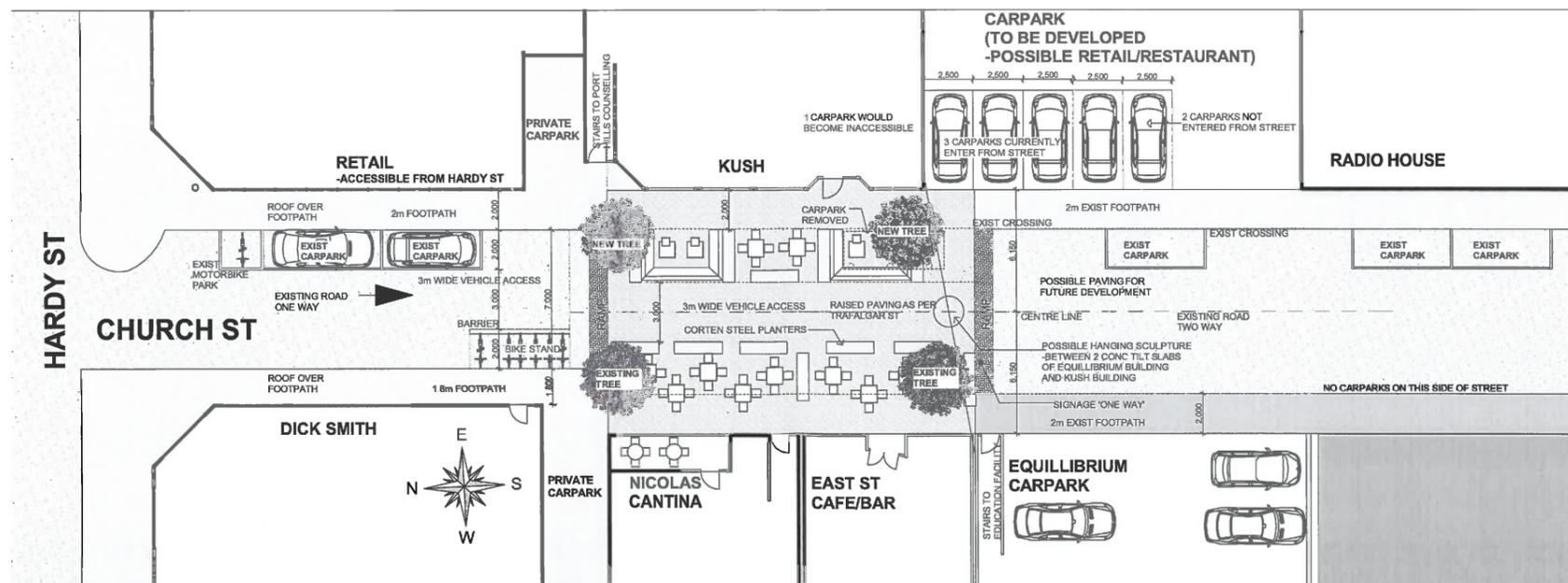
# BACKGROUND

In 2015, a concept plan (shown on right) was developed by the local businesses and property owners of Church Street. The vision was to reflect the mix of cafes/businesses through an improved streetscape design developed through a series of discussions with current tenants on the street.

The vision to improve the street environment for people also forms a part of the Heart of Nelson Strategy 2009 developed through an extensive consultation process with Council and the wider community. This strategy sought to improve the building facades, verandah provision, footpath / carriageway enhancement all with the aim of encouraging outdoor seating and a laneway precinct. It also noted the potential for improving the connection between the Rutherford Hotel / Conference venue and Nelson City.

The design prepared by the Church Street businesses and property owners, along with their presentations to Annual Plan hearings, resulted in Council setting aside funding for design and construction. Opus was contracted to further the design work, including working with the Church Street stakeholders to determine their desires and to develop a concept design for the street. This document presents that design which has evolved based on the initial ideas put forward and the results of a Stakeholder Workshop held on 7th November 2016.

This initial workshop had the important role of identifying issues, opportunities and design drivers for the project. These are presented within this document and formed the basis for the concept design discussed at the second Stakeholder Workshop held on 19th January 2017. This most current workshop allowed Church Street businesses and property owners the opportunity to provide further input into the concept design before it was finalised and presented to Council for consideration.



← NTS

## CONTEXT PLAN

Church Street connects Selwyn Place, which is the southern leg of the CBD ring road system, to Hardy Street. A short one-way system was installed in Church Street in conjunction with the Upper Trafalgar Street upgrade to prevent 'rat-running' through Church Street. This short one-way is at the northern end, with the majority of Church Street being a two-way road. The one-way system applies equally to vehicles and bicycles.

### Traffic Volume

The traffic volume on Church Street is 630 vehicles/day, Saturday (8 illegal movements against one-way system) and 760 vehicles/day on a weekday (21 illegal movements against one-way system).

### Pedestrian Volumes

The pedestrian volume on Church Street is 3,500 peds/day, Saturday (1,500 pedestrians between 7am to 1pm were identified as market shoppers) and 4,000 peds/day weekday.

There was an identified trend of pedestrians parking their vehicles in the wider Trafalgar Square area, and walking into the CBD. There was a strong pedestrian crossing demand outside Kush café and a high crossing demand across Hardy Street towards the Saturday Market and Montgomery Square.

### Cycle Volumes

The cycle volume on Church Street is 150 cycles/day, Saturday (12 illegal movements against one-way system) and 200 cycles/day on a weekday (25 illegal movements against one-way system).

The observations on-site showed that there is a modest cycle parking demand outside East Street Café, and that Church Street would benefit from dedicated cycle parking in this vicinity.

### Crash Data

A Search of the CAS crash database over the last 5 years showed 3 crashes within the Church Street area. This included a double serious injury pedestrian crash on the zebra crossing on Selwyn Place in 2016. There were no crashes on Church Street.

This crash on the Selwyn Place crossing highlights this zebra crossing's unusual alignment, and restricted visibility of the crossing to the high volume ring-road traffic.



### Legend

- Saturday Market
- The Ring Road
- Site



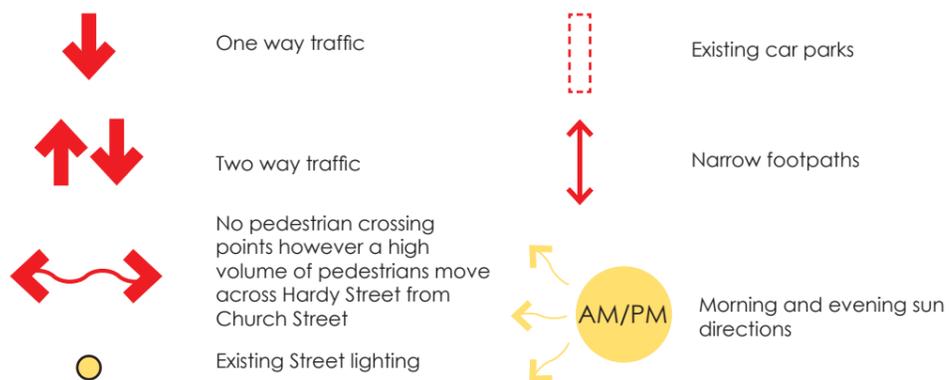
# ISSUES PLAN

The following issues were highlighted through an on-site visit, desktop analysis and a workshop on site with local business owners and other stakeholders. The workshop presented 4 urban design themes (activity, amenity, connectivity and identity) and groups discussed the issues associated with each theme relative to Church Street.

## Key issues

- Much of the street has been allocated for vehicles and creates the following issues:
  - Footpaths are too narrow.
  - Not enough space for outdoor dining.
  - Road perceived as a barrier.
  - Parking takes up potential pedestrian space.
  - Confusing vehicular circulation through half the street being one way and the other half being two way.
  - No pedestrian crossing points.
- There is a lack of street lighting resulting in perceived night time anti-social issues.
- The street needs more shade relief from the sun during extreme summer days.
- Pedestrian connectivity across both Selwyn Place and Hardy Street is poor.

## Legend



Low amenity and identity streetscape values



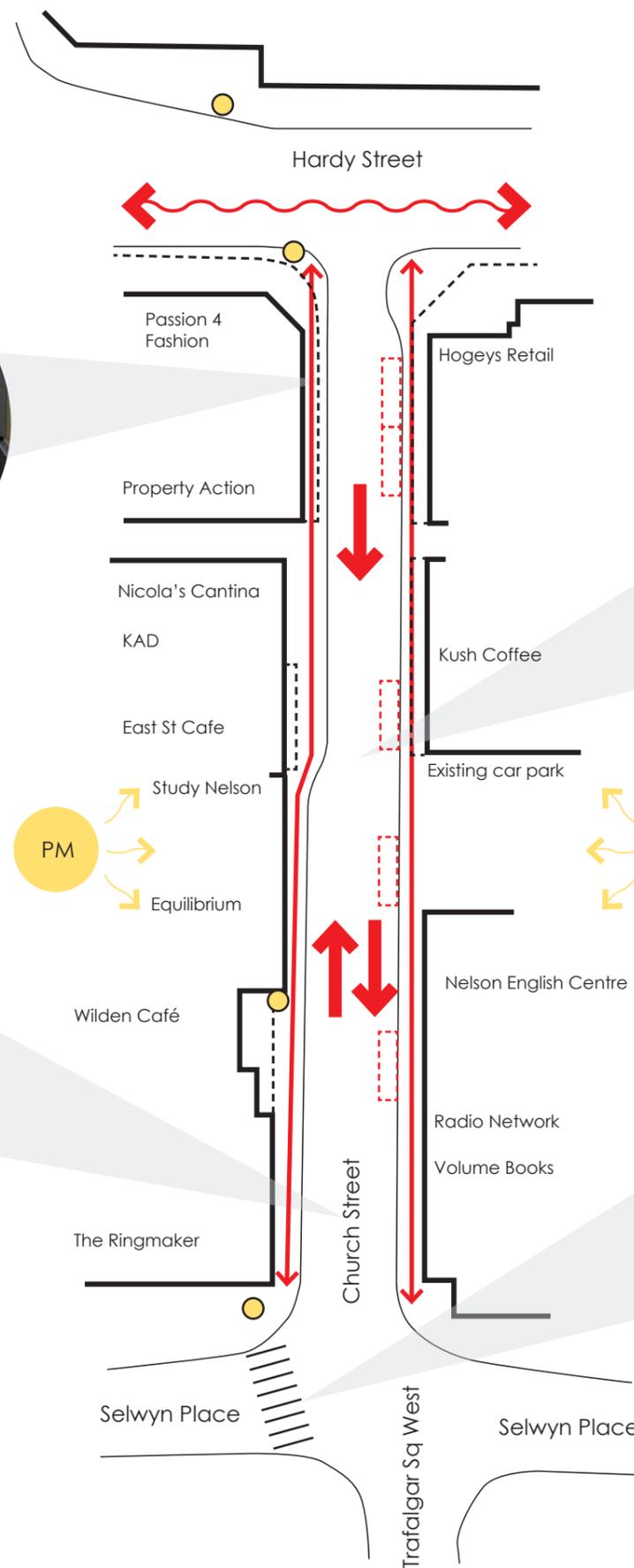
Illegal parking, wide road width and narrow footpaths



One-way section of road meets two-way section of road in a vehicle dominated streetscape



Relatively high pedestrian/vehicle incident rate at this pedestrian crossing point



Scale  
 1:200 @ A1  
 1:400 @ A3

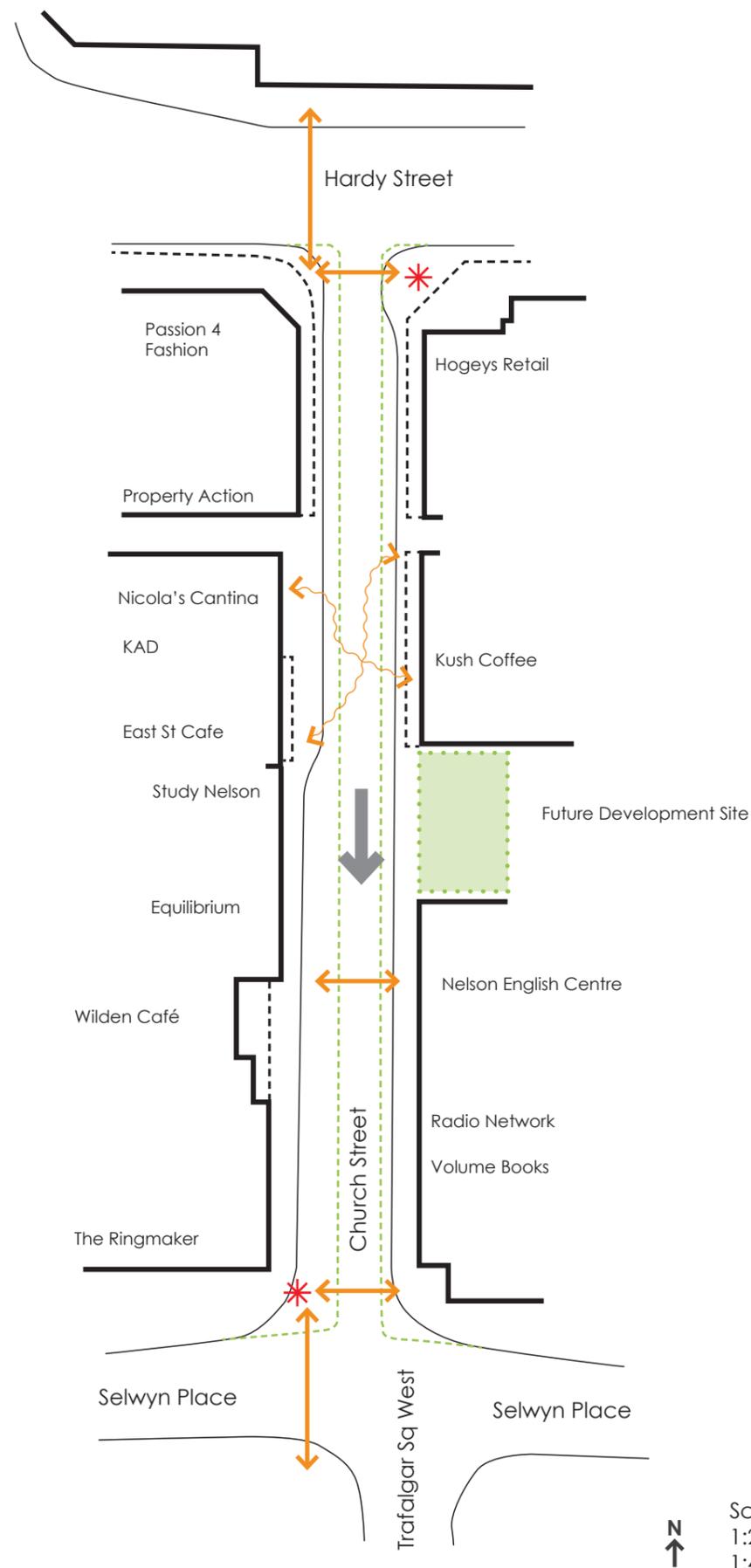
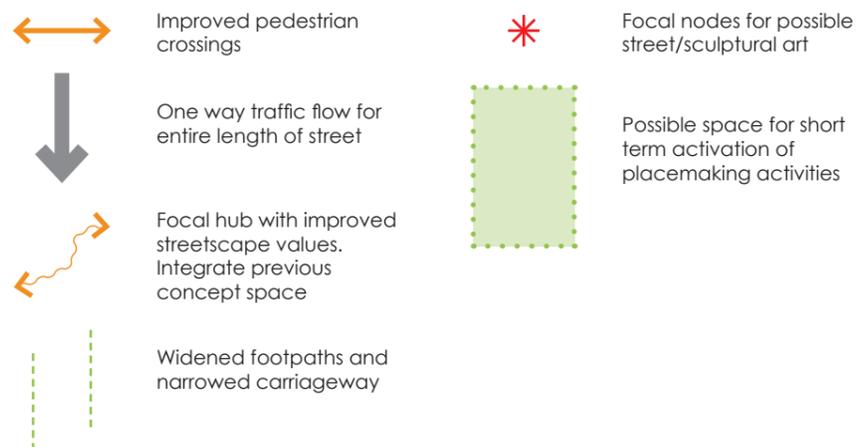
# OPPORTUNITIES PLAN

The following opportunities were recognised through an on-site visit, desktop analysis and a workshop on site with local business owners and other stakeholders. The workshop presented 4 urban design themes (activity, amenity, connectivity and identity) and groups discussed the opportunities associated with each theme in relevance to Church Street.

## Key opportunities

- Changing vehicular circulation through Church Street and reconfiguring the streets parking will free up space for the following amenities and activities:
  - Planted areas with street trees.
  - Seating, artwork, signage and outdoor dining opportunities.
- Improved pedestrian crossings in and out of the street.
- Improved pedestrian crossing points within the street.
- Gateway treatments with planting.
- Identify a range of flexible spaces for unique activities to take place within.
- Improve night time lighting within the street.

## Legend



N ↑  
 Scale  
 1:200 @ A1  
 1:400 @ A3

# DESIGN DRIVERS

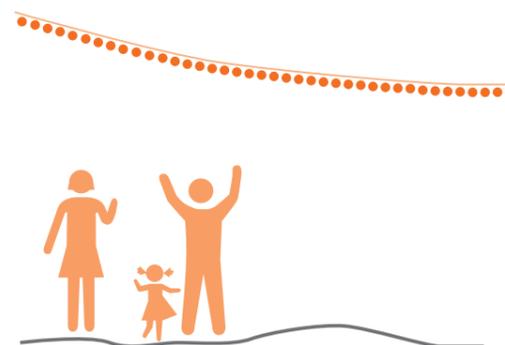
The Design Drivers guide the rationale behind the Concept Design. Each driver is unique to the issues and opportunities within Church Street and each driver represents one of the 4 Urban Design Themes (activity, amenity, connectivity and identity).

ISSUES - BLACK TEXT

OPPORTUNITIES - WHITE TEXT

## ACTIVITY

**LARGER PEDESTRIAN AREAS**  
 PLAY NO PEDESTRIAN SPACE  
**FLEXIBLE SPACES & FURNITURE**  
 ARTWORK  
 JOINT ACTIVITIES  
**ROAD IS A BARRIER**



**DRIVER:  
 ADAPTIVE, CREATIVE AND  
 ENGAGING**

To achieve an engaging, activity filled streetscape, with activities that encourage people into the street and to spend more time once there including participation in art, community and culture.

## AMENITY

**CURRENTLY OUTDATED**  
**MAKE STREET ONE WAY**  
 PLANTING NO CARS  
**LACK OF LIGHTING**  
 PARKING TAKES UP SPACE  
**MORE GREEN SPACES**



**DRIVER:  
 PEOPLE FOCUSED**

To identify opportunities for high quality public space for people to enjoy, relax and socialise in including the appropriate placement of elements and surfaces, the durability of materials and amenities reflective of the streets identity.

## CONNECTIVITY

**GATEWAY ENTRANCES**  
 PEDESTRIAN SPACE TOO NARROW  
 TREES BIKE PARKS  
**RAISED TABLE CROSSINGS**  
 MAKE ROAD ONE LEVEL  
 WIFI EVENTS



**DRIVER:  
 INVITING AND ACCESSIBLE LINKS**

To achieve a safer environment through design and the promotion of activities which activate public presence and surveillance of streetscape. This includes enhancing connections and pedestrian desire lines with important nearby land uses.

## IDENTITY

**TO BE A SAFE PEDESTRIAN  
 ORIENTATED PLACE**  
 EXPRESS INDIVIDUALISM  
**MORE SPACE FOR PEOPLE**  
 ARTWORK CURRENTLY  
 A CAR ONLY  
 ENVIRONMENT

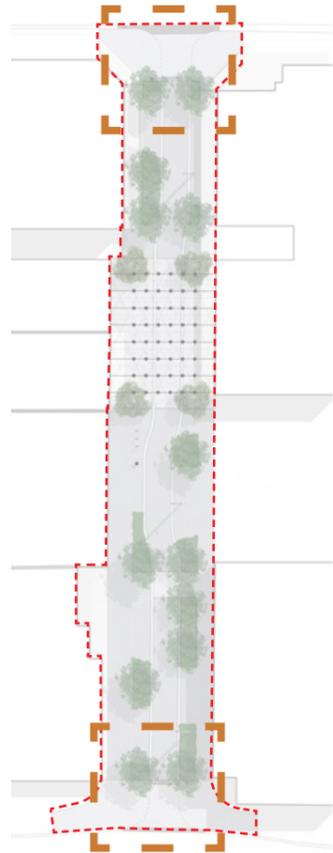


**DRIVER:  
 OF THE STREET, FOR THE CITY**

To identify and reinforce those elements that best express identity - to be of Nelson but unique to the character, businesses and people of Church Street.

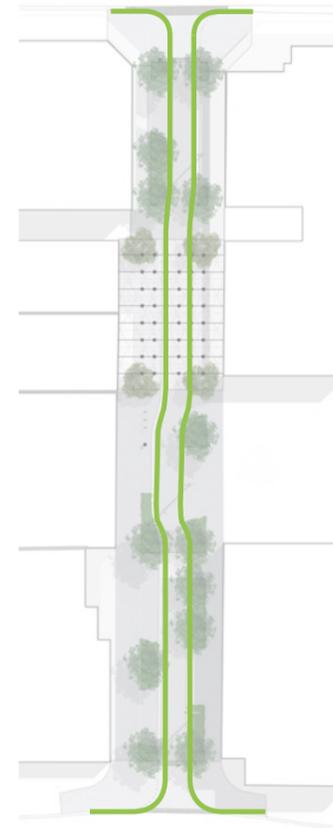
## KEY MOVES

The Key Moves are the major design decisions that reflect the Design Drivers and give form, function and identity to the Concept Plan.



### ACTIVITY: GATEWAY TREATMENTS

The gateways give the street a well defined edge that provides local businesses the opportunity to fill the balance of the street with their creative ideas. This may include the ability to close the entire street for events within a welcoming and unique environment.



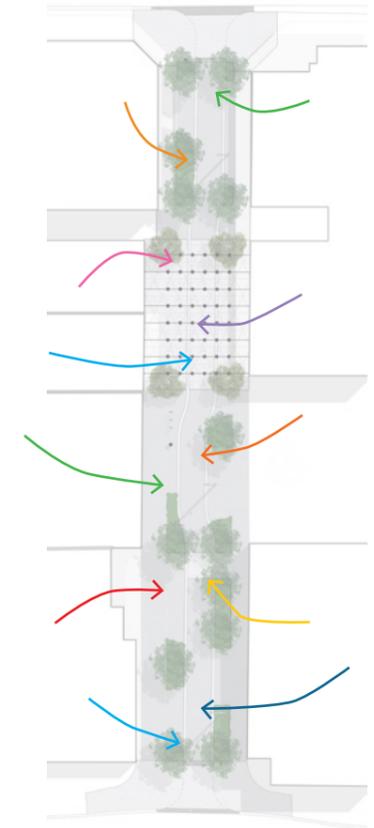
### AMENITY: ONE WAY ROAD

The catalyst for improved amenity is the narrowing of the road. This allows for trees, low planting and the creation of flexible spaces that the streets business owners can make their own.



### CONNECTIVITY: FLUSH KERB

The existing kerb is removed and replaced with a flush drainage channel that allows people to move more freely across the street and create a greater sense of a single public space.



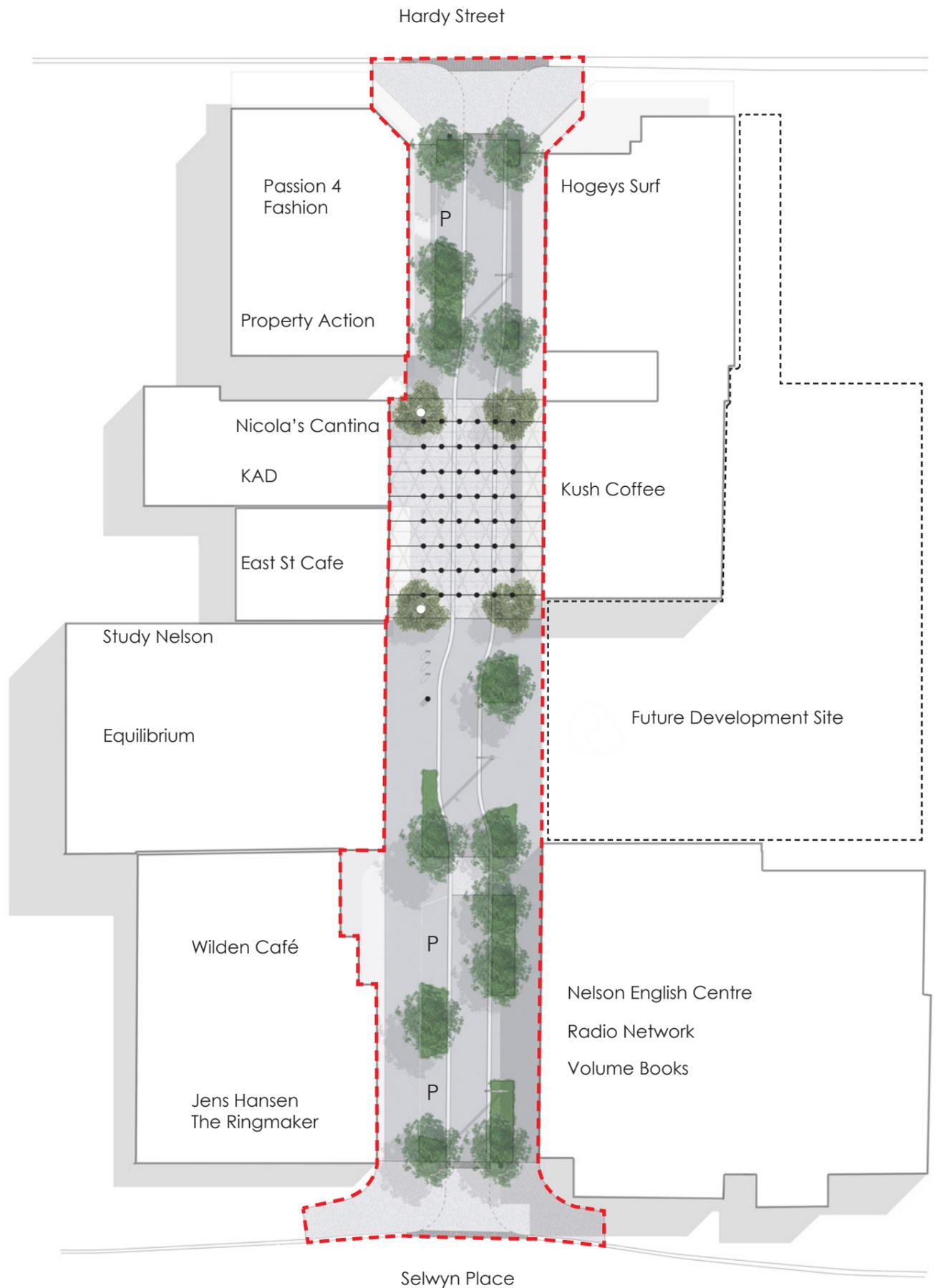
### IDENTITY: STREET FURNITURE

Pedestrian only space is maximised from an existing 40% up to 70% of the total area of space within the street. This space is to be a canvas for the local businesses to fill with their own outdoor furniture, pot plants and art.

# CONCEPT DESIGN

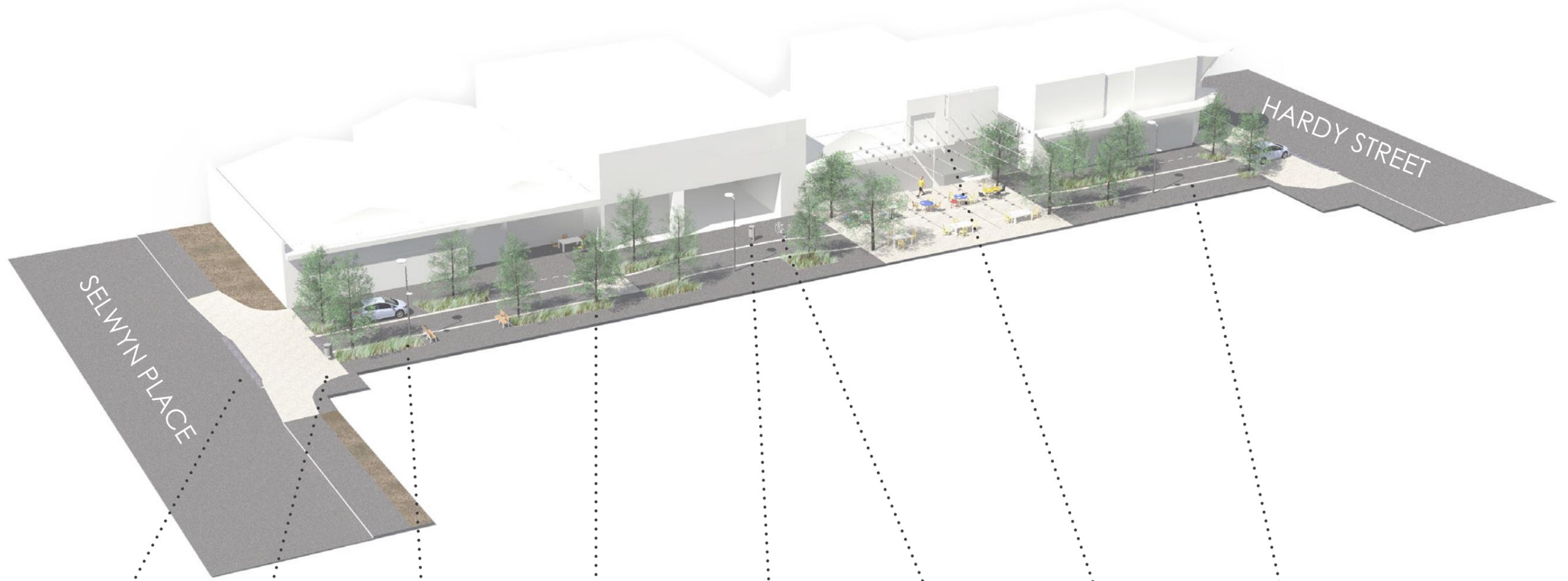
## LEGEND

-  Existing tree
-  Proposed tree to match existing tree
-  Proposed street tree
-  Proposed catenary overhead lighting
-  Proposed cycle racks
-  Proposed rubbish bin
-  Proposed street light
-  Proposed low planting (below 600mm high)
-  Proposed exposed aggregate surface
-  Proposed asphalt surface
-  Proposed granite setts
-  Proposed exposed aggregate with honed feature pattern
-  Proposed drainage alignment defines 3.5m wide one-way vehicle lane
-  Car parking

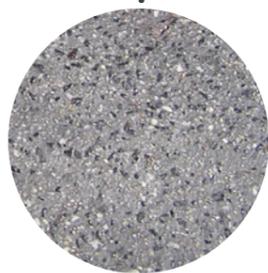


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 Scale  
 1:200 @ A1  
 1:400 @ A3

# CONCEPT DESIGN



Granite sets at street threshold



Exposed aggregate concrete using local stone



Street lights with vehicle and pedestrian luminaires



Tree and under planting



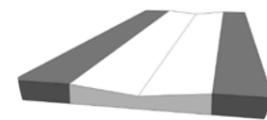
Bins



Cycle racks

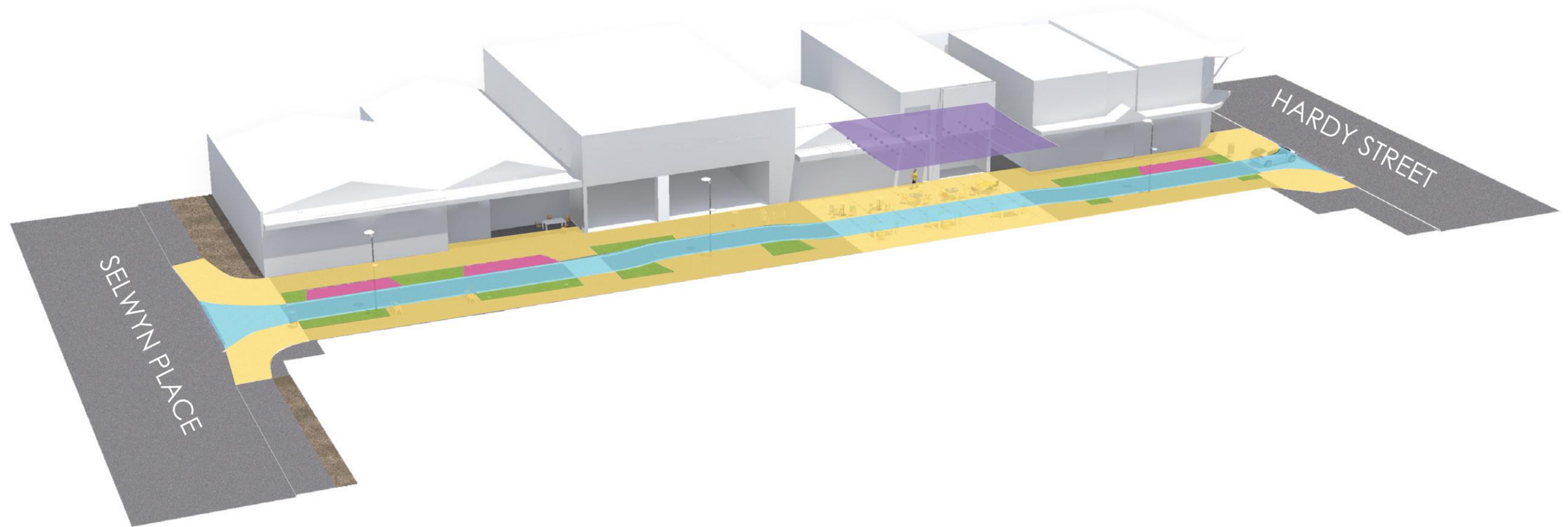


Catenary lighting



Low dish channel for stormwater drainage

# CONCEPT DESIGN



## LEGEND

**720m<sup>2</sup>**  
Pedestrian only space  
450m<sup>2</sup> existing

**330m<sup>2</sup>**  
Shared space 10kmph  
0m<sup>2</sup> existing

**x3**  
Parking spaces  
5 existing (excludes motorcycle park)

**95m<sup>2</sup>**  
Planted space  
0m<sup>2</sup> existing

**210m<sup>2</sup>**  
Overhead feature lighting

**18 trees**  
4 cycle racks  
**3 bins**  
3 street lights  
Other proposed totals

# CHURCH STREETS FLEXIBLE USE

Under local government legislation, Church Street can be closed for up to a maximum of 31 days per year or the equivalent of 744 hours.

This concept design proposes a streetscape 'canvas' of public space that the street's residents may use and be as creative as they can.

The real challenge will be to fully use the available street closure time for a diverse range of innovative events, activities and festivals.

The following images are examples of how other places have treated their spaces and includes both events and forms of street art.



**Street Arcade Christchurch**- [http://gapfiller.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/GFArcade-5814-Web\\_small-510x382.jpg](http://gapfiller.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/GFArcade-5814-Web_small-510x382.jpg)



**Street table tennis Christchurch**- <http://gapfiller.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/Kid-and-Grandad-1-510x382.jpg>



**Chalk board** - <https://s-media-cache-ak0.pimg.com/564x/c2/bf/7a/c2bf7a9ff4cf764bb58ede60f82dcda.jpg>



**Nelson murals**



**Street art**- <https://s-media-cache-ak0.pimg.com/564x/47/1c/62/471c62c6c3a530da89d3d09f5580620c.jpg>



**Dance games** - <https://s-media-cache-ak0.pimg.com/564x/55/09/78/5509782d89b738478b41c490f5d0b0b6.jpg>



**Street scrabble** - <https://s-media-cache-ak0.pimg.com/564x/a5/6e/3c/a56e3ccb69b9391e4d04212c39b7568a.jpg>



**Street into a playground** - <https://s-media-cache-ak0.pimg.com/564x/61/20/c0/6120c07dc93a52ce7ba85abf6d7a7df8.jpg>



**Street into a playground** - <https://s-media-cache-ak0.pimg.com/564x/43/0f/cf/430fcbe45f93e131c617c0ac41bf105.jpg>



ARTIST IMPRESSION ONLY - Daily use of the street looking north from middle of Church Street

Viewpoint





ARTIST IMPRESSION ONLY - Daily use of the street looking north from the Selwyn Place end of Church Street

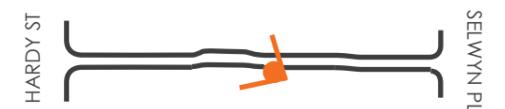
Viewpoint





ARTIST IMPRESSION ONLY - Evening event with road closure. Looking north from middle of Church Street

Viewpoint



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