Maru Streets for People

Project Update

19/06/2023



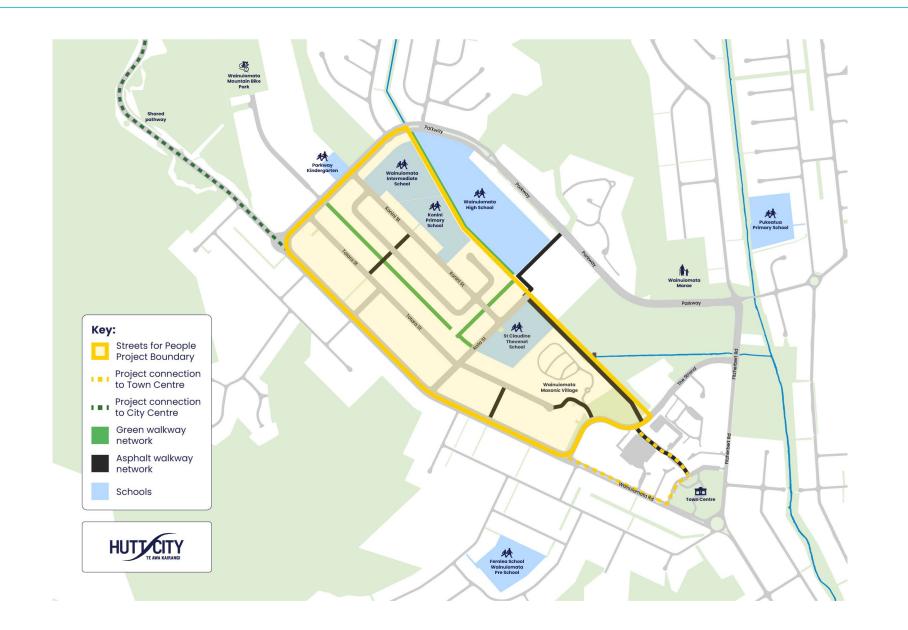


Maru in Te Reo Māori is a term expressing protection.

The Maru project aims to make it **feel safer, more inviting and more accessible** for residents of all ages to walk, skate, scooter or bike through the area and to spend time in public spaces.









What's happened?

On-road trial 10-17 May

- Raised courtesy crossings and kerb ramps for improved visibility and accessibility
- Narrowed intersections to reduce turning speeds and improve safety
- Lowered speeds within the project area to 30km/hr









What's happened?

Laneway trials

- Installation of planters in place of metal barriers
- Addition of seating
- Wayfinding and artwork









What the community said

Positive feedback centred on the observed improvements in safety and awareness, while negative feedback expressed concerns about road design, congestion, aesthetics, and resource allocation.





Trial feedback

- Intercept interviews conducted face-to-face in the project area were far more likely to support the changes, and find them effective.
- Online survey responses were more negative overall, and focused on the negative aesthetics of the trial rather than the project objectives. Other negative themes included the questioning of spending and higher priorities in the area.



Trial feedback

- The majority of people were not aware of the existing issues around speed, congestion, and driver behaviour and therefore did not understand what the trial aimed to achieve. Many people did not understand this was only a temporary trial.
- Many people did not understand how the changes would increase safety, or saw altered driver behaviour as a negative outcome (for example, only equating slower speeds with increased congestion).
- The main negative feedback was around the look of the temporary materials, the amount of road cones, the roads being too narrow/not being suited to bigger vehicles, and the use of astro turf.
- People are generally positive about the access ramps, aside from some concern about temporary materials. Quite a few people believed education is the answer, and hope students are being educated on road safety.

AR



Tohu

Tohu (symbols) in the area connect to the Te Whata Kai o Māui -Wainuiomata (Cultural Narrative).

CA





What's next?

June 2023

 Semi-permanent layout designed based on road data and community feedback

July 2023

- Design of semi-permanent layout released out to the community for feedback
- Continuing development of tohu and local artwork

October/November 2023

• Installation of semi-permanent layouts

• CA







Figure 2: examples of materials used in non-permanent pilot projects