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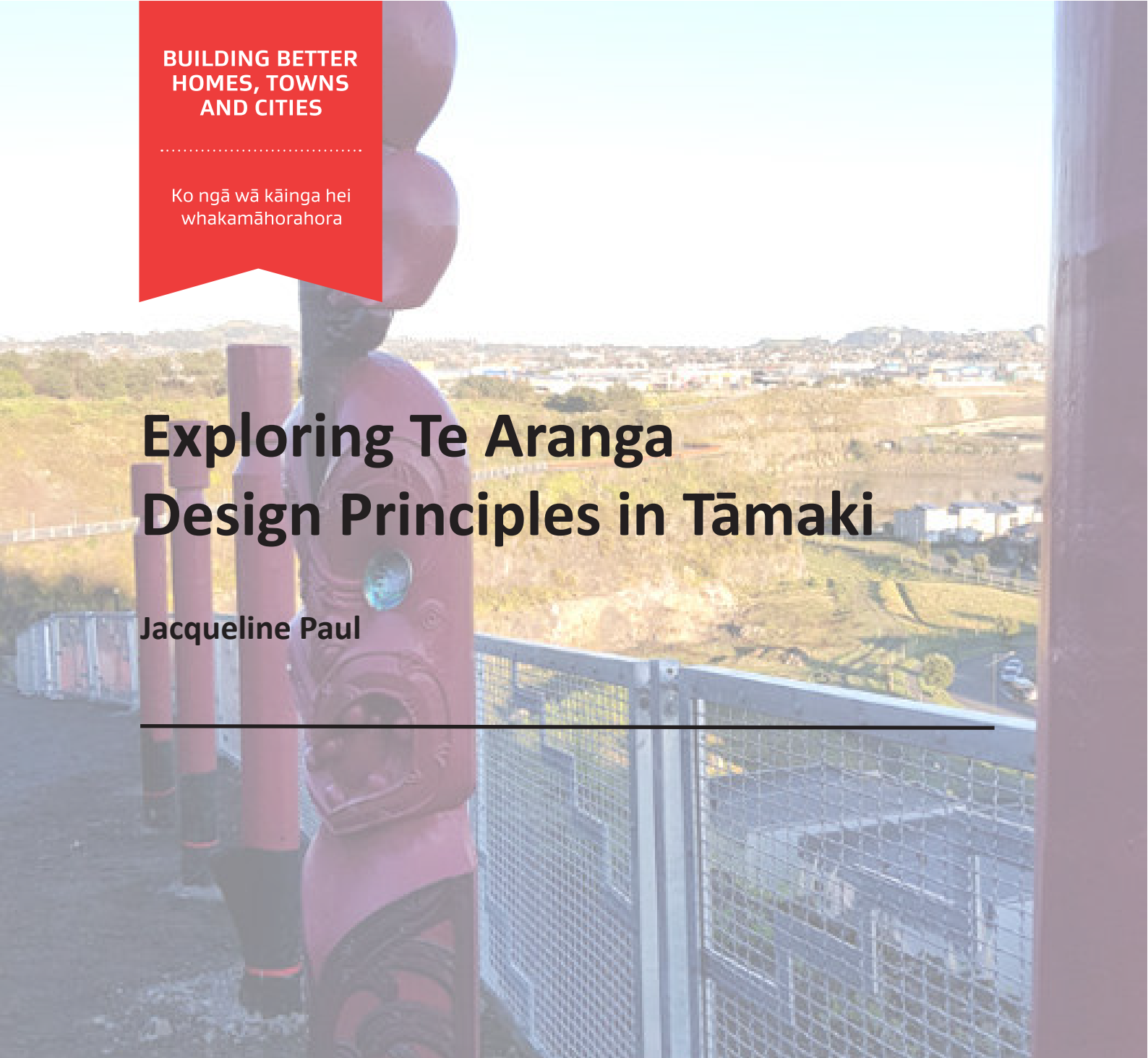
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Ko ngā wā kāinga hei  
whakamāhorahora

# Exploring Te Aranga Design Principles in Tāmaki

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## 1. Introduction

Te Aranga Design Principles are a cultural landscape strategy/approach to design thinking and making which incorporates a series of Māori cultural values and principles. These include; Mana, Whakapapa, Taiao, Mauri Tu, Mahi toi, Tohu and Ahi Kā. The Te Aranga Design Principles address the processes of economic, social, environmental and spatial development changes. They are a set of outcome-based principles founded on Māori cultural values and formulated to provide practical guidance for enhancing outcomes for the design environment. The principles have arisen from a widely held desire to enhance mana whenua presence, visibility and participation in the design of the physical realm<sup>1</sup>. This enables the development community to understand how all can positively engage with mana whenua and shape our built environment.

The scope of this study, is to strive towards a better understanding of the Te Aranga Design Principles, and the ways in which they might be useful and applicable in the development of policy and design for residential development in the Tāmaki Area. In what ways will this approach demonstrate how Tāmaki might express Māori place, place attachment, and community cohesion? What methods or approaches might be used to recognise Māori and community values?

This study will also suggest how the Te Aranga Design Principles can be embedded through procurement, and develop a framework to translate into the design process and contracts for Tāmaki Regeneration Company.

## 2. Context

The Tāmaki area is currently in the process of regeneration. This area includes Glen Innes, Point England, Waiotaki Bay and Panmure. The focus area was developed in the 1930s as a large state housing area. It consists of businesses, industries, schools, marae, neglected open spaces, run-down housing stock on large areas of land, valuable coastal properties and has a significant amount of Māori and Pasifika residents. There are a lot of challenges in the area which have developed into some special opportunities which the stakeholders aim to

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<sup>1</sup> Auckland Design Manual. (2016). Te Aranga Principles - Auckland Design Manual. Retrieved September 1, 2016, from [http://www.aucklanddesignmanual.co.nz/design-thinking/Māori-design/te\\_aranga\\_principles](http://www.aucklanddesignmanual.co.nz/design-thinking/Māori-design/te_aranga_principles)

address. These stakeholders include Auckland Council, the local community board, Ngāi Tai, Ngāti Paoa, Ngāti Whatua and the Tāmaki Regeneration Company who are involved in the design and development projects within the area. The community has encountered significant changes due to a number of houses that have been removed, and families have been displaced.

### 3. Te Aranga Design

This purpose of this strategy is to support local iwi to demonstrate cultural approaches and perspectives in terms of how to manage and build on land.

*“Te Aranga seeks to foster culturally appropriate responses to the built environments of Aotearoa/New Zealand, that are strongly grounded in the concepts of place and belonging intrinsic to Te Ao Māori, the Māori world”<sup>2</sup>.*

This means recognising cultural connections through this strategy in order to demonstrate the significance of land and identity. Māori methods and ideas have a more traditional approach to how things should be done. It provides an opportunity for iwi to engage and contribute to projects. This enables them to develop relationships with authorities and developers and designers. Iwi are able to share narratives and knowledge about the surrounding environment in order to influence design and inform others how to function within their rohe effectively. This model ensures iwi and community engagement occurs throughout the process and works towards creating beneficial outcomes on all levels.

For Māori this means that their identity and wellbeing is being enhanced, they are able to participate in decision making processes that affect the community and environment, spiritual connection and sense of belonging is preserved, reassertion of Māori voice in the landscape, and many other contributing beneficial outcomes which through Te Aranga Design they are able to develop.

For Tauīwi (non-Māori) this means connection with tangata whenua, education on alternative models of conservation and sustainability, encountering smoother development processes, working towards a better future for all parties, economic gain through marketing of identity and establishing a sense of unity for indigenous and western cultures.

So how might Te Aranga Design Principles be a useful tool for landscape planning and design for the Tāmaki area? What methods might be used to recognise Māori values of Ngāti Paoa, Ngāi Tai and Ngāti Whatua as well as those of Tauīwi?

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<sup>2</sup> Development of Te Aranga. (2016). *TE ARANGA MĀORI CULTURAL LANDSCAPE STRATEGY*. Retrieved from [http://www.nzila.co.nz/media/65262/te\\_aranga\\_Māori\\_cultural\\_landscape\\_strategy\\_pq\\_20072009.pdf](http://www.nzila.co.nz/media/65262/te_aranga_Māori_cultural_landscape_strategy_pq_20072009.pdf)

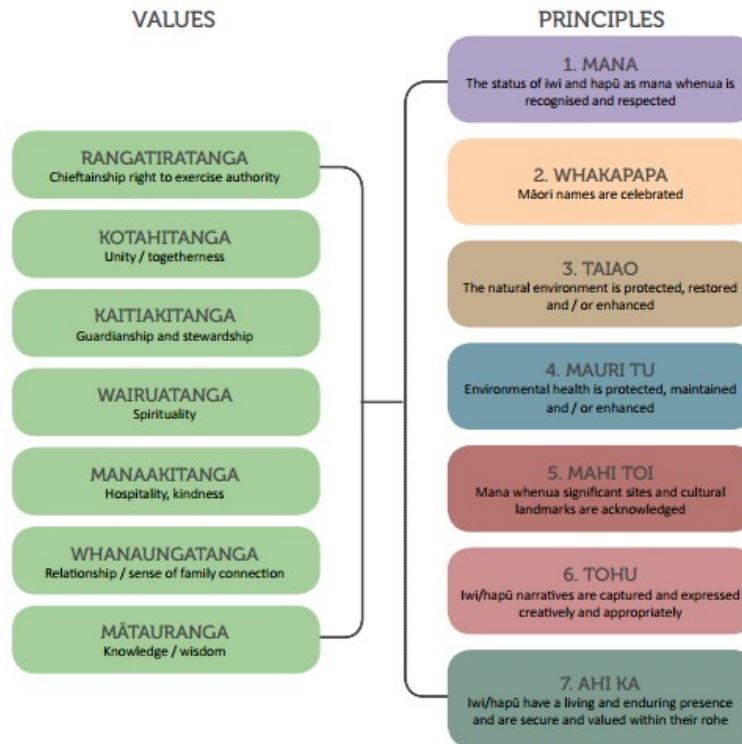
#### **4. Tāmaki Regeneration Company**

The Tāmaki Regeneration Company is a the first community regeneration programme in Aotearoa. It is a joint entity with the Crown and Auckland Council with four key mandate areas Social Transformation, Economic Development, Placemaking and Housing Resources. TRC aims to enable the locals to build on the things they value and strives to identify and maximise the region's potential. Tāmaki has a rich, diverse community and a strong cultural identity. The regeneration program works in partnerships with local residents and businesses, mana whenua, local and central government agencies, the Maungakiekie, Tāmaki and Orakei local boards, local service providers, the community and private sectors.

The relationships Tāmaki Regeneration Company, with mana whenua and stakeholders, have been influenced by the Te Aranga Design model. “Embedding the Te Aranga Design principles within our programme and co designing with mana whenua the process and protocols,” is described by community engagement manager Mihi Tibble. This suggests that TADP is a useful tool that has been implemented into their landscape planning and design strategy for the Tāmaki Region.

The Te Aranga Principles are recognised in the Tāmaki Regeneration Plan - Version 0.17. They are identified in the ‘Shaping Tamaki section’ under design principles. These are useful tools which provide guidance on how Māori cultural considerations should be integrated into projects within New Zealand. The Principles provide cultural perspective and add value to the project. The Tāmaki Reference Plan acknowledges the Te Aranga Design Principles in order to reflect how iwi and Tamaki Regeneration Company see the application of these principles in the Tāmaki context. By setting this framework it allows for other parties to have an open minded approach to how they apply these principles into their projects.

The diagram below defines Māori values and the Te Aranga Design Principles and is shown for discussion and input of all relevant parties.



**Figure 1. Te Aranga Design Principles** (Tāmaki Regeneration Company, 2016, p. 60)

This framework is an interpretation of built form, public art, experiential purposes, and signage wayfinding. This diagram provides direct links, which demonstrate the significance of Māori Values and Māori Design Principles. These principles are a reflection of Māori culture values. By recognising this framework it acknowledges Māori perspective and refers to the traditional approach when working with land. It gives the developers and designers guidelines of what they need to integrate into their design process and intentionally use these principles to preserve Māori culture within built environment. It may have an approach in terms of how can you embed and withhold that influence of Mana (respect) within the process of development of built environment? How do you recognise whakapapa of the existing development and embed that into the design process? What methodology might you use to demonstrate Taiao, Tohu or Mauri Tu? How can we show Ahi Ka is valued and interpreted into the design project? It's about identifying these opportunities that the

values provide and encouraging the design by using the principles as motives to shape and form a project. The demonstration of spiritual values into built and physical environment is vital for local mana whenua.

## **5. Application of Te Aranga Design Principles for Tāmaki**

The TADP are tools to facilitate relationships, co-design and collaborations for developers and Māori. So how might the TDAP be applied in change making? What methods might be used to recognise Māori values of Ngāti Paoa, Ngāi Tai and Ngāti Whātua Orākei and other Mana Whenua in the area through these principles?

Setting the framework is one thing, applying and implementing them is another. In the diagram below you will see the seven principles in relation to a description as to how these will be implemented in the Tāmaki Regeneration Programme.

This is the set of design principles and how the Tamaki Regeneration Company have interpreted the demonstration of principles within the project. However, there are questions to be addressed.

- How is it relevant to the context area?
- How will it be integrated into the design process?
- What are the possible outcomes in demonstrating these principles?
- How are mana whenua recognized?
- How are the community going to get involved?
- What needs to be preserved and protected?

These are the types of questions the Tamaki Regeneration Company have thought about but not currently gone too far into detail, though they have suggested practical, relevant and realistic approaches.

<p><b>MANA</b> Rangiratanga Authority</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mana whenua and iwi from all marae in the area contribute to the decision making process for the design in order to maximise design outcomes</li> </ul>
<p><b>WHAKAPAPA</b> Names &amp; naming</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mana whenua consultation and research on the use of correct ancestral names, including macrons</li> <li>• Use of appropriate names to inform design processes</li> <li>• Recognition of traditional place names through signage and wayfinding</li> </ul>
<p><b>TAIAO</b> the natural environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect, restore and enhance the coastline, Omaru Creek and other waterways in Point England and Panmure - both aquatic &amp; terrestrial ecology</li> <li>• Natural environments are protected, restored or enhanced, and provision made to allow sustainable mana whenua harvesting</li> <li>• Preference endemic flora and fauna significant to mana whenua wherever practical</li> <li>• Seek to protect, restore and enhance both physical and ecological connectivity particularly through reserves and waterways</li> </ul>
<p><b>MAURI TU</b> environmental health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restore and enhance both aquatic and terrestrial ecology through water-sensitive design, stream daylighting, riparian planting and stream bank stabilisation</li> <li>• Kaitiakitanga- ecological reporting in the development and implementation of initiatives for sustainable water environments in the rohe. Actively foster a community approach to the design, use, measurement and monitoring of the site.</li> <li>• Explore the use of materials which are locally sourced and of high cultural value</li> </ul>
<p><b>MAHI TOI</b> creative expression</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage design teams to create homes and spaces that are appropriate to cultural needs, and diverse family and whanau groups</li> <li>• Celebrate local and wider unique cultural heritage and community characteristics that reinforce a sense of place and identity</li> <li>• Include interpretive signage and integrated cultural design element, particularly in reserves, along coastlines, and in sites of cultural interest</li> <li>• Opportunities for integration of iwi / hapū narratives and themes into built elements such as appropriate building areas, paving surfaces, bridges, walls, murals, etc.</li> </ul>
<p><b>TOHU</b> the wider cultural landscape</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognise and celebrate views of Maungarei, the Tāmaki River and other significant areas allowing visual connection to be created, preserved and enhanced in key locations</li> <li>• Promote enhancement and sustainable management of waterways</li> <li>• Potential of further recognition of tohu through heritage trails, markers and interpretation boards</li> <li>• Archeological sensitivity during construction works</li> </ul>
<p><b>AHI KĀ</b> the living presence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to natural resources for the community (weaving species, mahinga kai, waterways, etc) facilitates, maintains and /or enhances mana whenua ahi kā and kaitiakitanga</li> <li>• Civic / iwi joint venture developments ensure ahi kā and sense of place relationships are enhanced through participation in design process, interaction with the water and future maintenance and monitoring (links with mauri tu).</li> <li>• Engage and align with community programmes</li> </ul>

**Figure 2. Place Application of The Te Aranga Design Principles For Tāmaki (Tāmaki Regeneration Company, 2016, p. 61)**

Tāmaki Regeneration Company has addressed how TDAP be can be applied in change making as a result of these principles, and what approaches are in place which recognise Māori values and mana whenua aspirations.

Key methods such as focussing on connecting the mountain and the centres to the river, using public open spaces and streets to function as conduits, orient community and education facilities, increasing housing density and improving pedestrian/cycling routes in order to make significant changes in Tāmaki.

These key moves (*see figure 3*) demonstrate how Tāmaki expresses Māori place, place attachment, and community cohesion. The collaboration of parties and groups work together effectively in order to ensure that there is community cohesion, things run smoothly and that resources are maintained. This model encourages that expression of Māori place and attachment through the TADP.

From this process of embedding and integrating TADP into the Tāmaki Regeneration Project, Māori place-making and identity through design is enabled. In order to assist the development towards achieving the identified objectives, TRC takes a regeneration approach to place-making which is very significant in the success of making Tāmaki a great place.

Some of the place-making taking place in the Tāmaki region include;

- activating public spaces,
- supporting existing community and future residents,
- school holiday programmes,
- community events and youth and family days for new settlers.

#### **CELEBRATE THE RIVER**

Create a connected web of green streets and reserves, linking Maungarei (Mount Wellington), town centres, key community facilities and housing to Tāmaki Estuary.

#### **DIVERSIFY JOBS & LAND USES**

Encourage greater mixed use development that caters to a wider employment base and is more complimentary to housing, people and places.

#### **SITE RESPONSIVE DESIGN**

Celebrate and enhance the cultural and natural assets of the site and surroundings.

#### **ACTIVE COMMUNITY SPACE**

Create vibrant, safe and memorable civic spaces in centres which are flexible for a range of activities and users at various times of the day and night.

#### **CONNECTING TO COMMUNITY**

Link Tāmaki with adjacent communities through centre revitalisation, new employment uses and community programs.

#### **ACTIVE STREET LIFE**

Reinvigorate centres and neighbourhoods by upgrading streetscapes as well as easing controls on outdoor trading and land use changes to encourage more complimentary development.

This strategy is not limited to just TRC, but extends to partners. These strategies are derived from the TRC objectives.



**Figure 3. Unlocking Tāmaki’s Potential  
(Tāmaki Regeneration Company, 2016, p.62)**

## **6. Procurement**

Long term partnerships with private sector through procurement of development and community partners for redevelopment are key to the regeneration project. In relation to this study, this provides an opportunity for the initiative to implement how the Te Aranga Design Principles can be embedded through procurement, and develop a framework to translate into the design process and contracts for Tamaki Regeneration Company.

Through procurement the Te Aranga Principles can be fully embedded into the contract process, normalizing TADP as a standard practice for all design projects participating in the Tamaki Regeneration. This move should aim to integrate TADP throughout the design process from initiation right through to completion stage, which can be formalised in contracts.

Phil Wihongi (Auckland Urban Design Panel) has suggested that there is a need to: Articulate an expectation, provide processes and connection, to enable and have robust means for assessing through procurement, by implementing this at all levels and setting the foundation. This will require efficient resource use and upskilling a working party to engage in the process. This will also encourage other aspects such as the idea of how developers will contribute to the community etc. This is how TADP will enforce that approach so that it is not optional to implement these principles. This means seeking expressions of interest from mana whenua and relevant stakeholders and co-designing and collaborating so that they carry out meaningful, sustainable practices in development and management. This will encourage a sense of unity between Iwi, design and development professionals, local and central governments in order to demonstrate core tikanga through TADP.

### **TĀMAKI BUSINESS CENTRE**

Safeguard the potential for a new mixed use development around the former Tāmaki station.

### **DIVERSE HOUSING CHOICE**

Provide a diverse mix of quality housing types that cater to a broad range of demographics and incomes.

### **EMBEDDED PARTNERSHIPS**

Foster business partnerships between private industry and Government that will help deliver the Tāmaki Implementation Plan vision and provide opportunities for innovative and prosperous development.

### **SAFER GREEN SPACES**

Ensure all green spaces are safe and activated by opening up sight lines and fronting housing to open spaces.

### **TRANSPORT CHOICE**

Connect Tāmaki and the wider context through strong public transport links, additional rail crossings and legible pedestrian and cycle networks.

## **8. Conclusion**

As an overview, this study discusses how TADP have been integrated into the TRC programme at design levels, but need to be applicable at the policy level in order for development to be enhanced on different scales. This would be achievable by embedding the TADP into the procurement process and will need to be further developed as a set framework so that it is translated into the entire design process and formally implemented into contracts. This will need to be assessed, monitored, and reviewed over the process in order to make sure the TADP is used efficiently and consistently in projects. This process will also influence the Tāmaki region by ensuring Māori place and community is taken into consideration throughout the project, and will initiate co-design and collaboration from diverse groups working together to ensure community cohesion in Tāmaki.

Through procurement of the regeneration programme it will encourage consistency when TADP are a concrete framework where transformation of the physical environment will be delivered by a small set of developers who will aim to provide opportunities and beneficial outcomes for the local community.

We can ensure that through co-design there will be alternative methods and approaches that will be used to recognise Māori values and identity but also allowing Tauīwi to have an input too. This will demonstrate how Te Aranga Design principles are useful tools for landscape and planning and will have a significant influence on the Tāmaki transformation.

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## Acronyms

TADP Te Aranga Design Principles

TRC Tāmaki Regeneration Company