



# USING BIOPHILIC DESIGN TO ENHANCE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

## Stormwater 2018 Conference

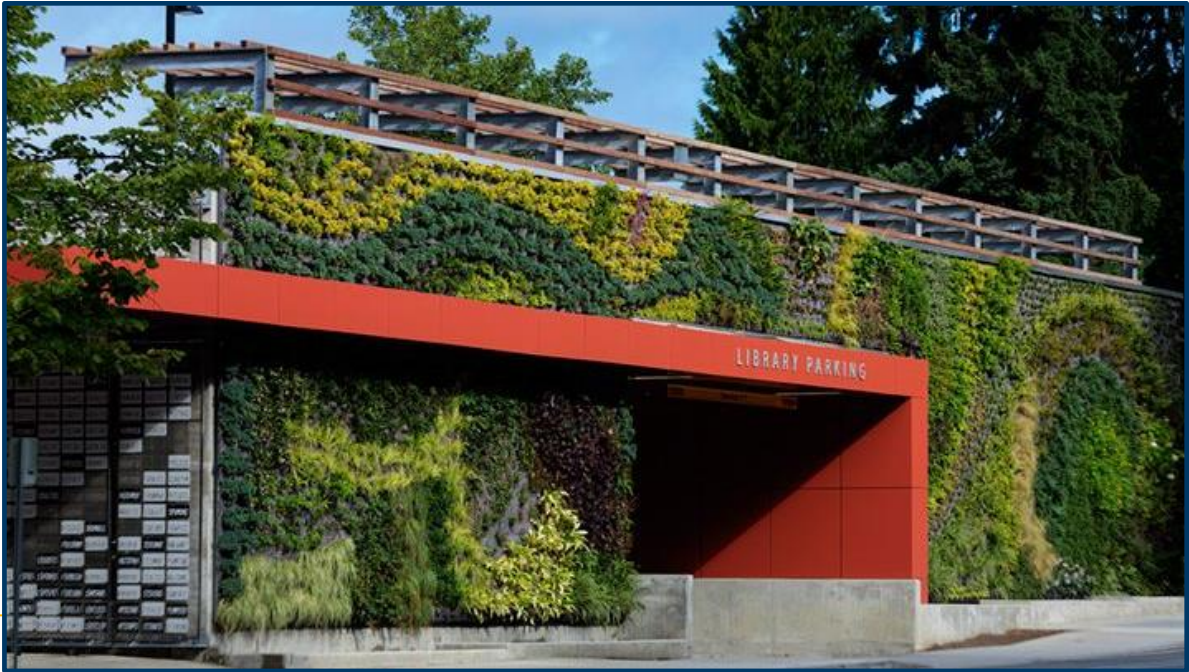
Brendan Oversby  
Calibre Consulting  
Manager – Water and Environment

# BIOPHILIC DESIGN

*Using nature to enhance the urban form*



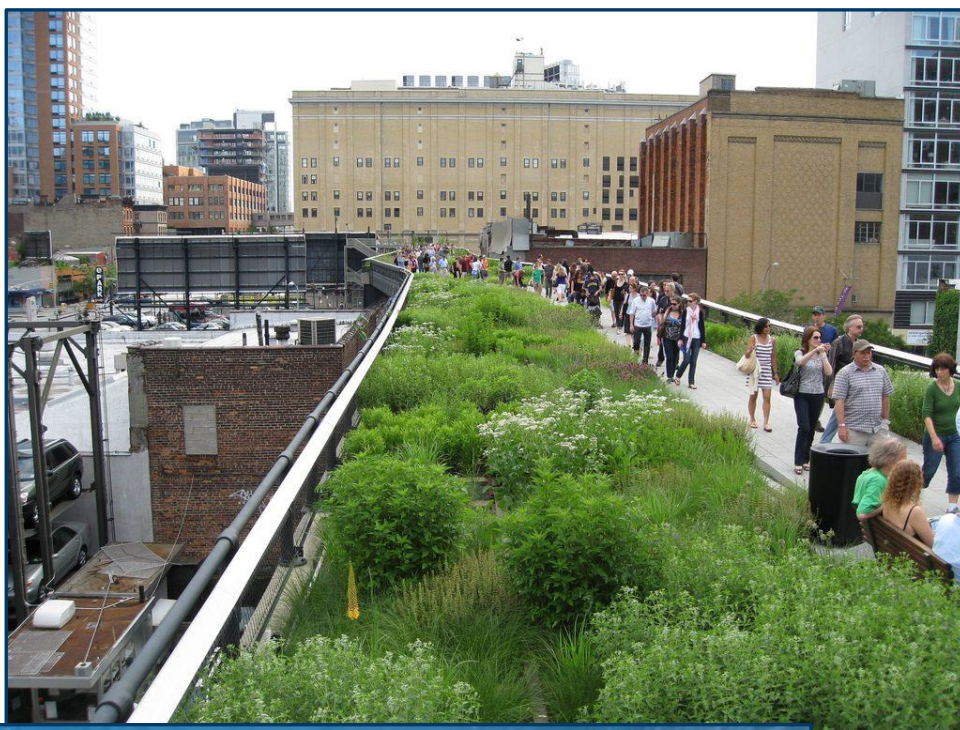






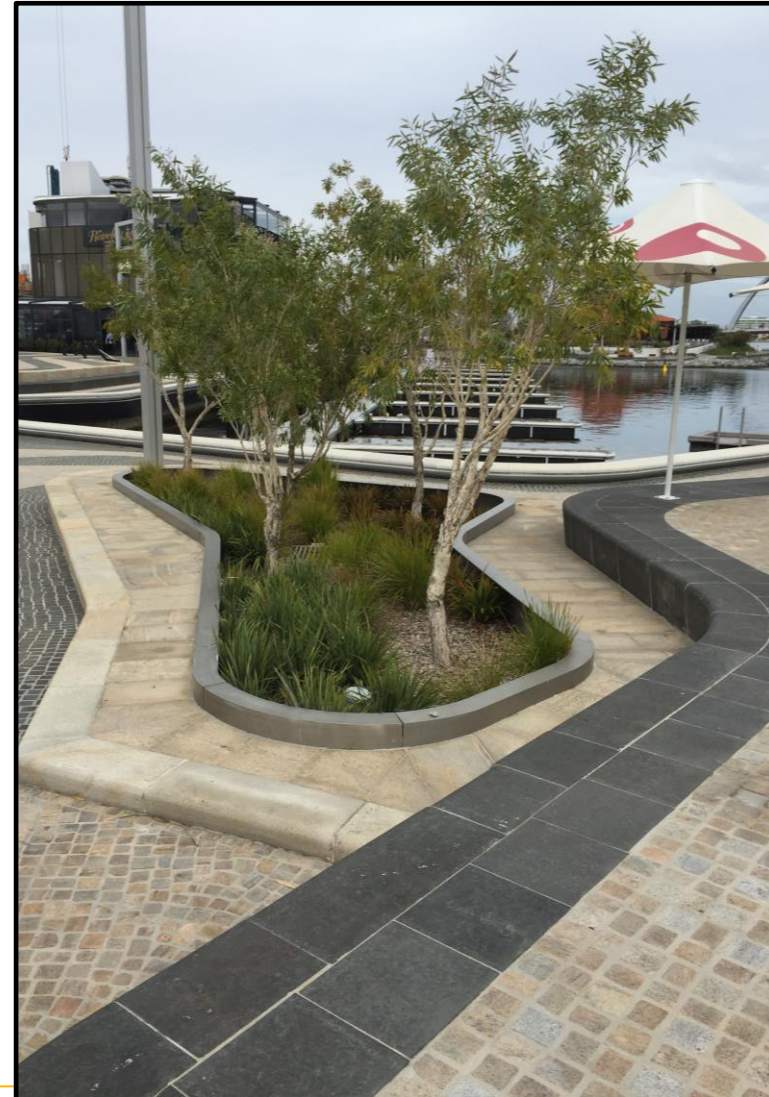








# *Using nature to enhance the urban form – and manage our stormwater????*





# BIOPHILIC DESIGN

*Using nature to enhance the urban form*





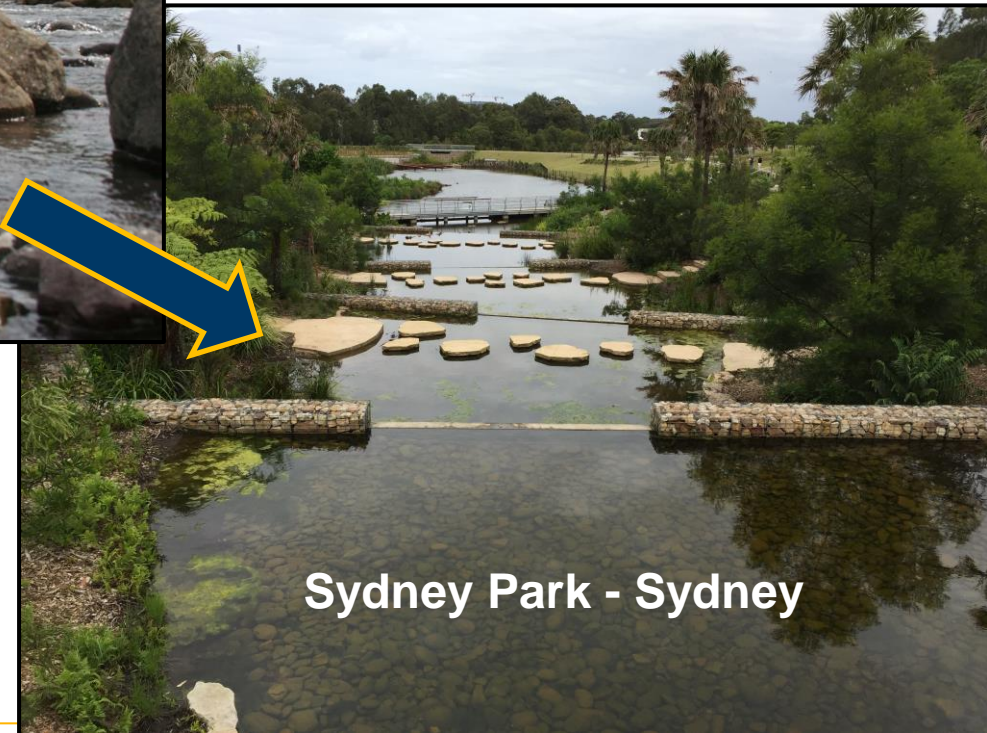
# HISTORY OF BIOPHILIC DESIGN..... FROM 3M YEARS AGO



Tugela River - South Africa

Evolution of upright walking apes  
adapting to savannah landscape

Hardwired into us to be  
attracted and respond to  
elements of nature



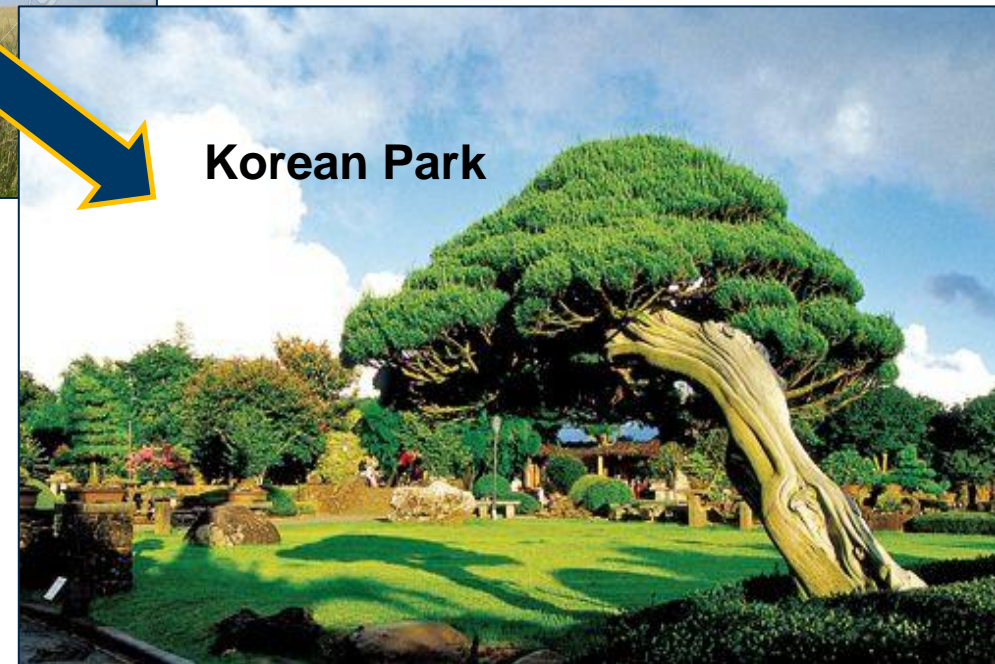
Sydney Park - Sydney



# CARRIED INTO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD



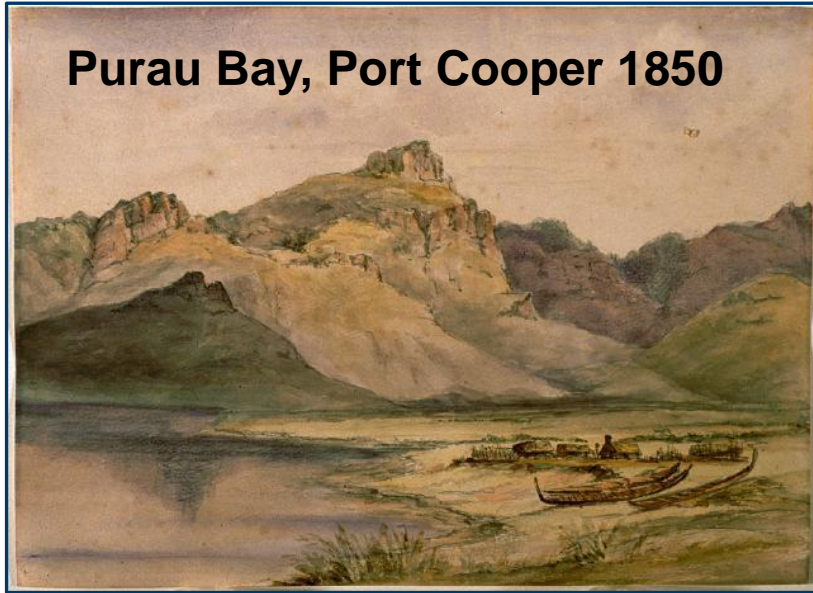
**African savannah**



**Korean Park**

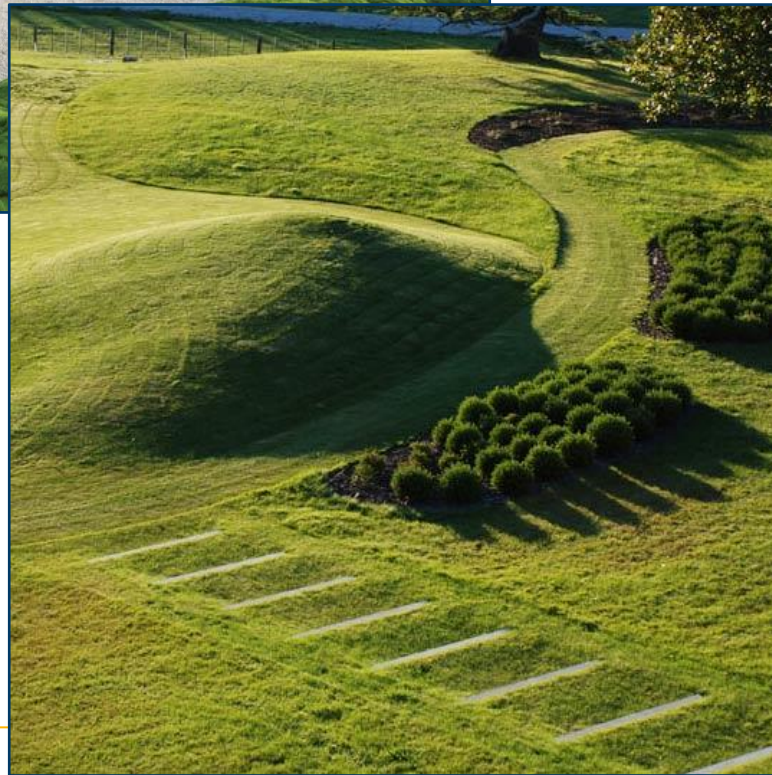


# EVEN NEW ZEALAND, BOTH THE ORIGINAL LAND MANAGERS ....





# AND POST EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT





# RECENT HISTORY

- Biophilia termed first used in 1964
- 1960/70's research and practice
- Initial focus on buildings
- 1984 termed became widespread through the book 'Biophilia'
- Last 2 decades widespread research into the benefits of incorporating natural elements into the built environment
- Wellington has been Biophilic Cities Partner since 2013



Reservoir and office complex, Indian Desert

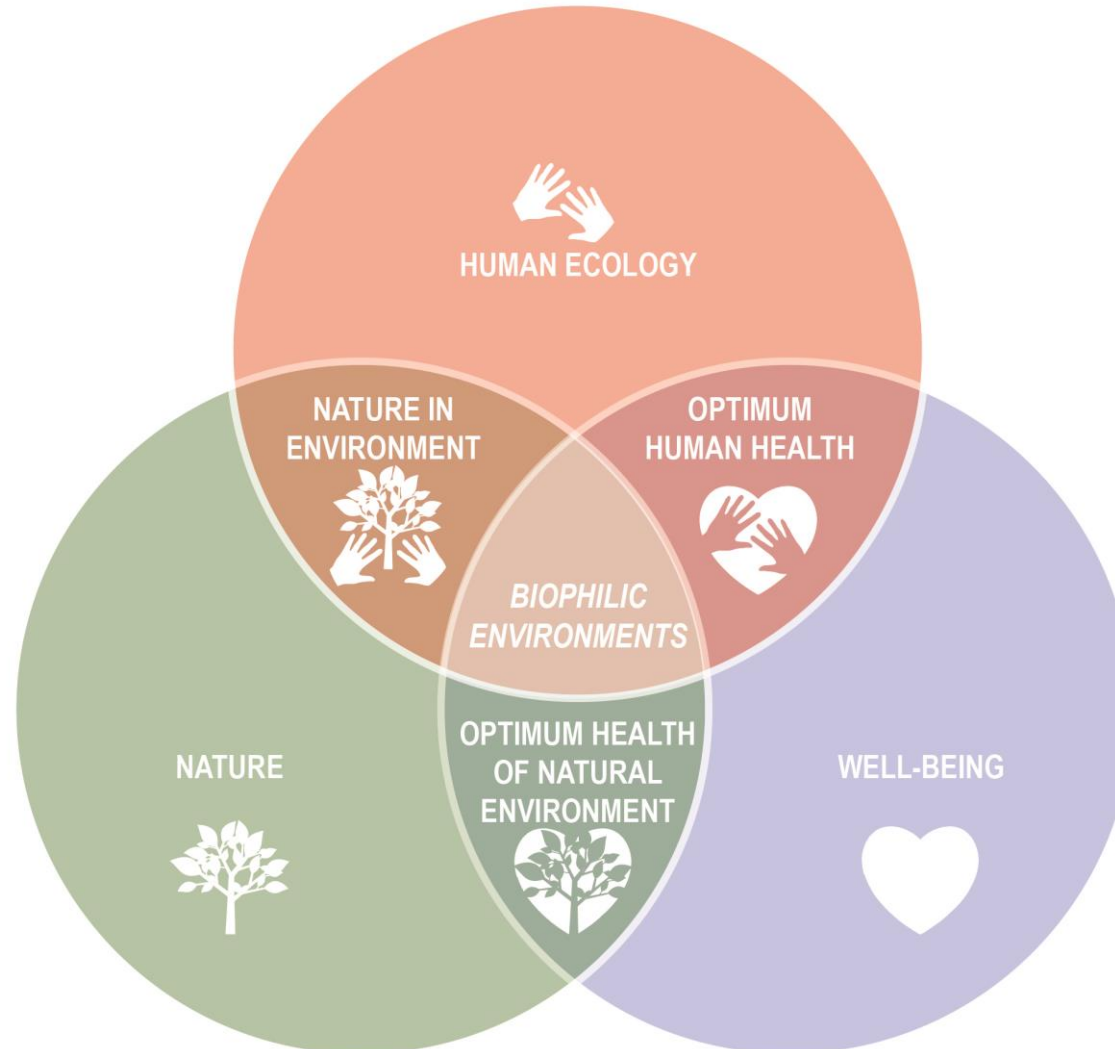


Bosco vertical, Italy



# BIOPHILIC DESIGN

*Incorporation of specific natural elements to enhance the urban environment*





# RESEARCH OUTCOMES

## Scientific studies showing:

1. Reduced stress/depression/illness
2. Improved productivity
3. Enhanced learning comprehension
4. Improved recovery rates from illness
5. Increase land value
6. Reduced crime
7. Increased sales in retail areas
8. Urban cooling and water management





# MISSING COMPONENT TO CURRENT SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

- People appreciate and work on those things they value
- Being immersed in natural processes builds appreciation of the local space and wider environment





# APPLICABLE AT ALL LEVELS

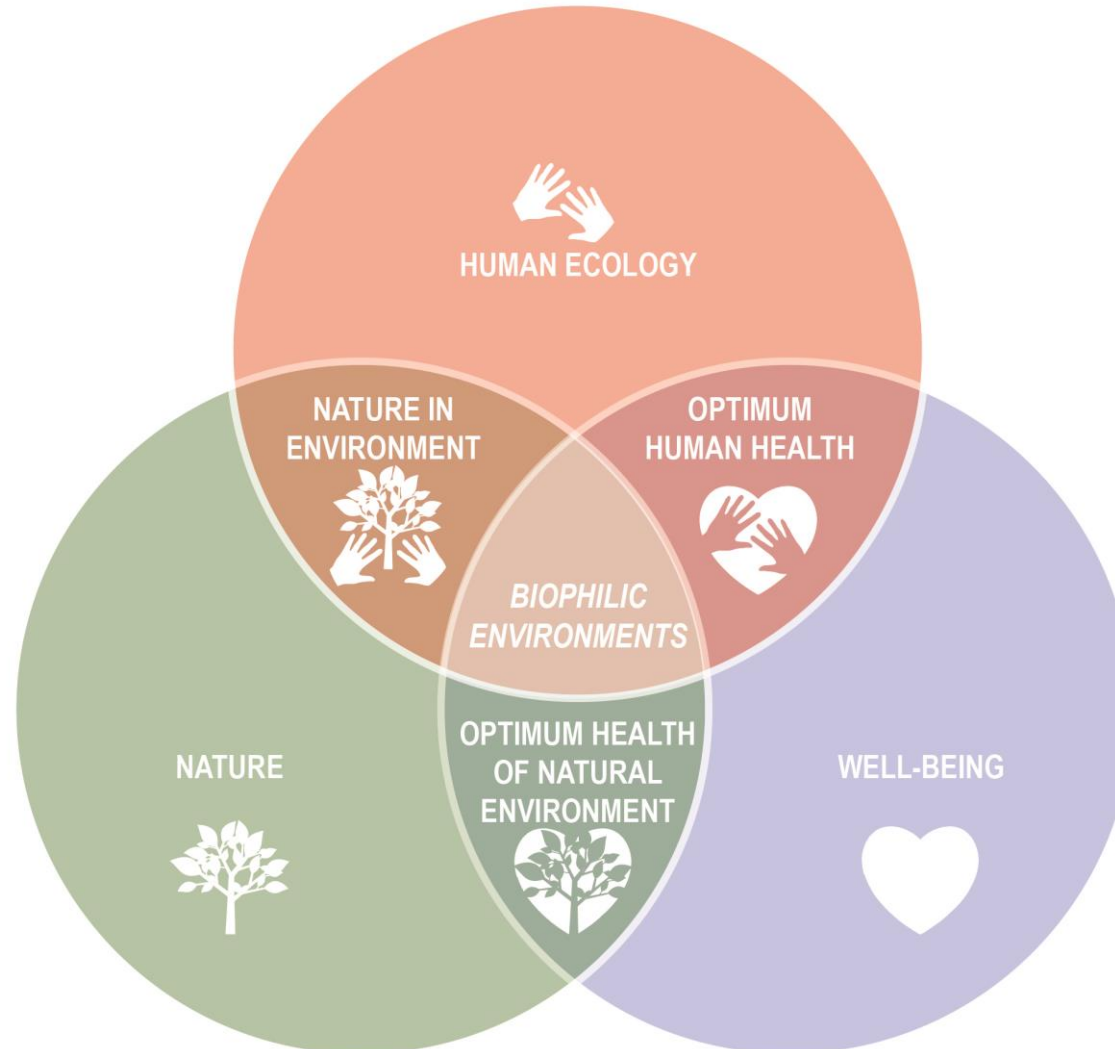
... *Just Another Way Of Thinking*





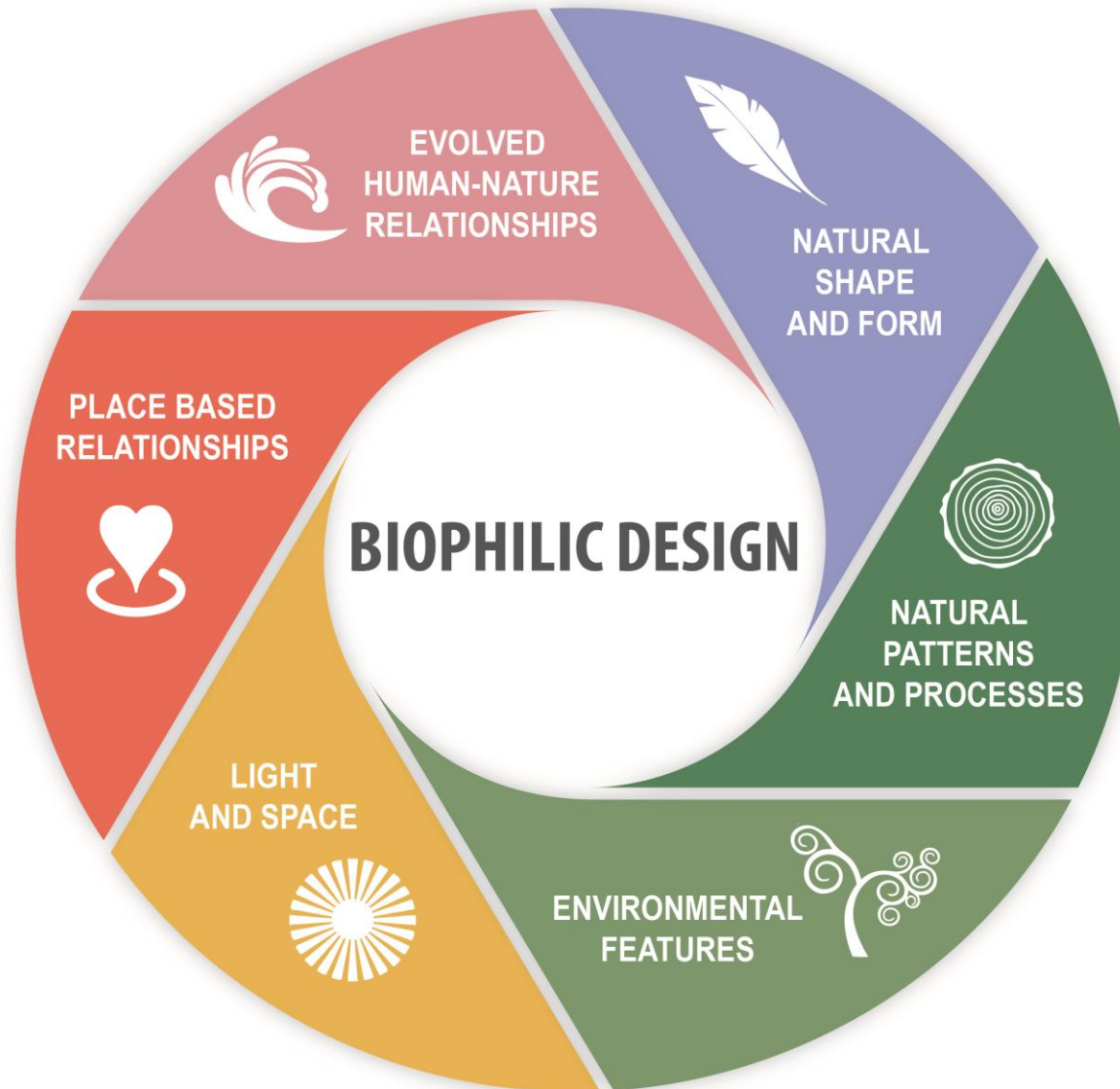
# BIOPHILIC DESIGN

*Incorporation of specific natural elements to enhance the urban environment*





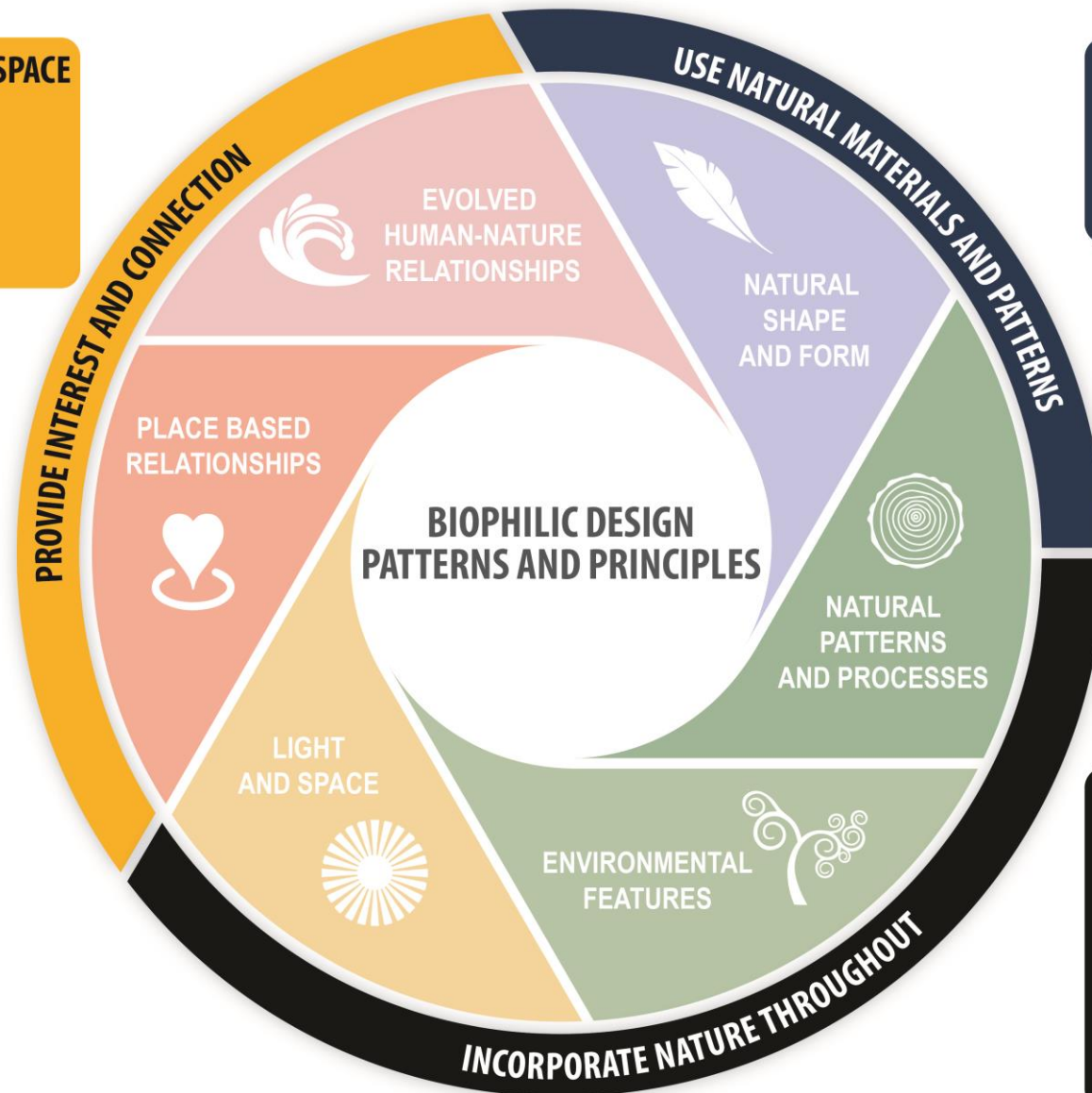
# BIOPHILIC DESIGN





# PATTERNS AND PRINCIPLES

- NATURE OF THE SPACE**
- Prospect
  - Refuge
  - Mystery
  - Risk / Peril

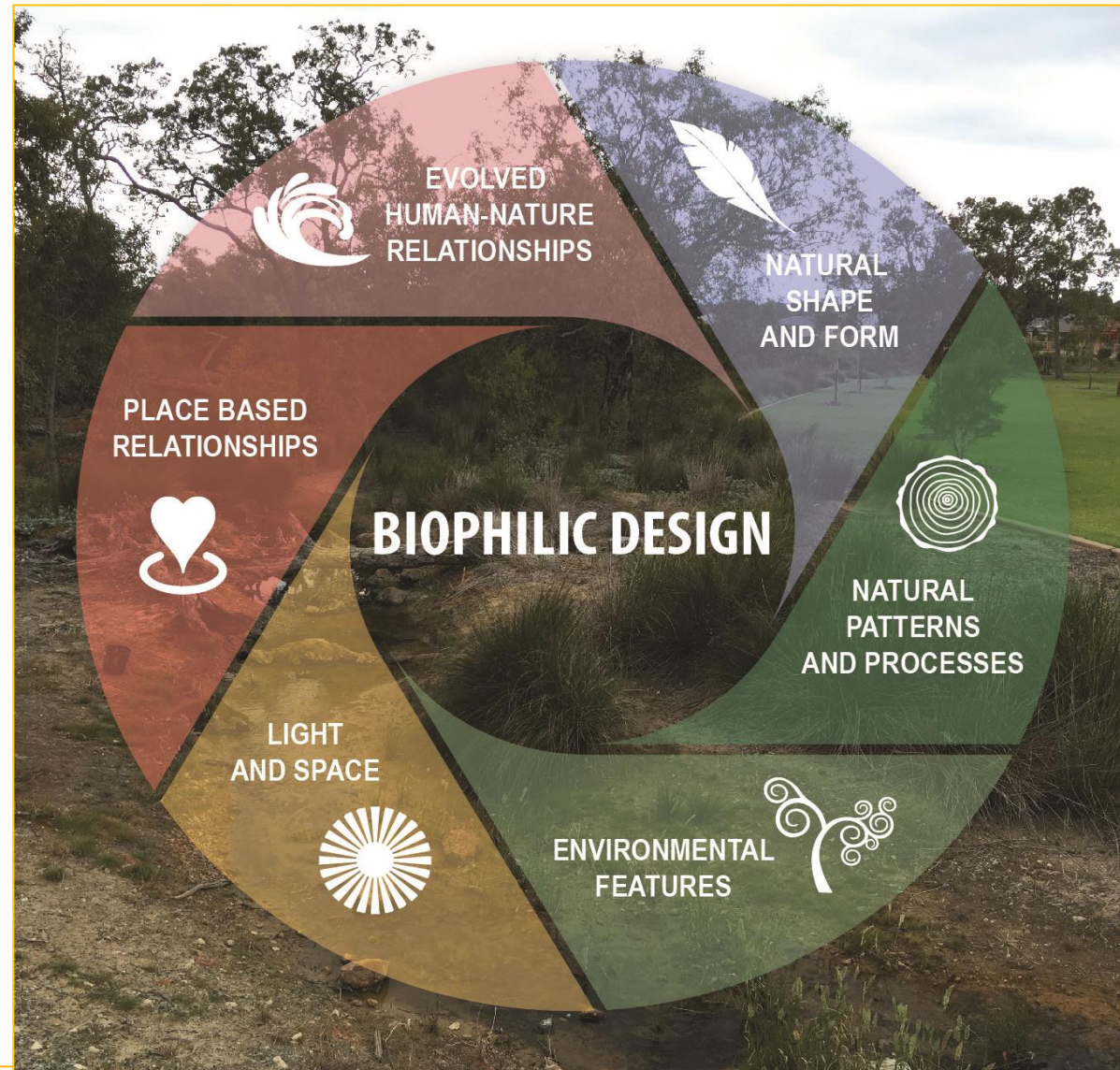


- NATURAL ANALOGUES**
- Using natural material
  - Biomorphic shapes / forms
  - Mix of complexity and order

- NATURE IN THE SPACE**
- Connection to Nature (visual and non visual)
  - Sensory Stimuli
  - Thermal and Airflow Variability
  - Presence of Water
  - Light



# WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN NZ?





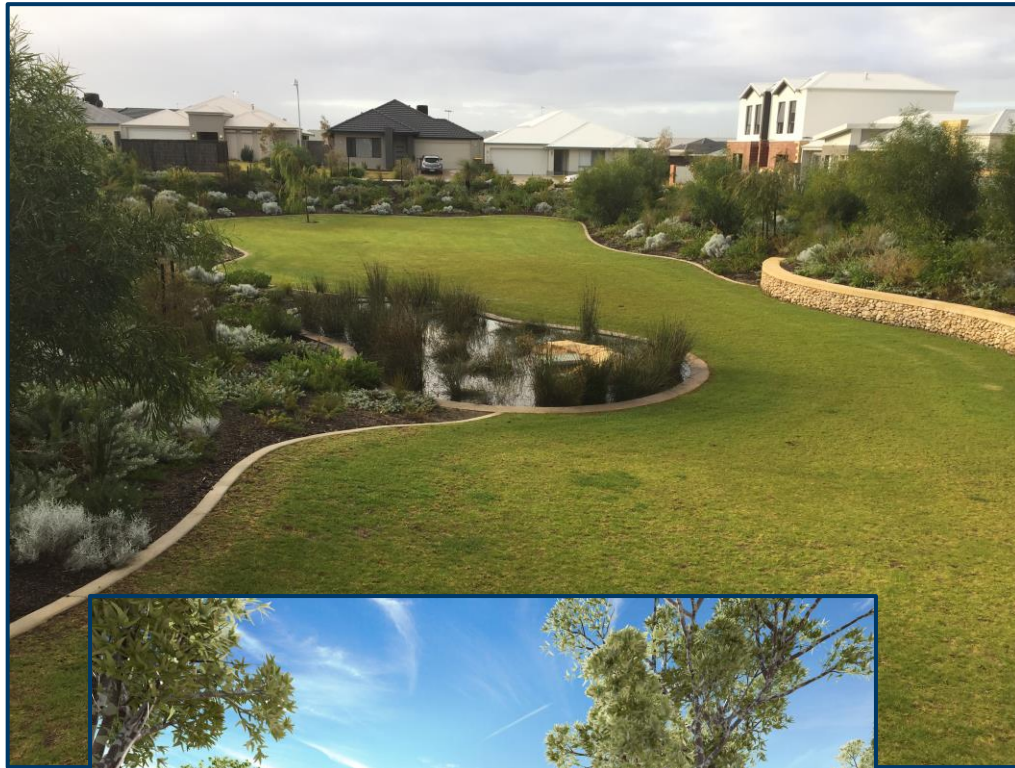
# NATURE IN THE SPACE: CREATING NEW 'NATURAL AREAS AND CONNECTIONS

*Visualisation: Cape Rise Living Stream  
and 1:100 Basin*





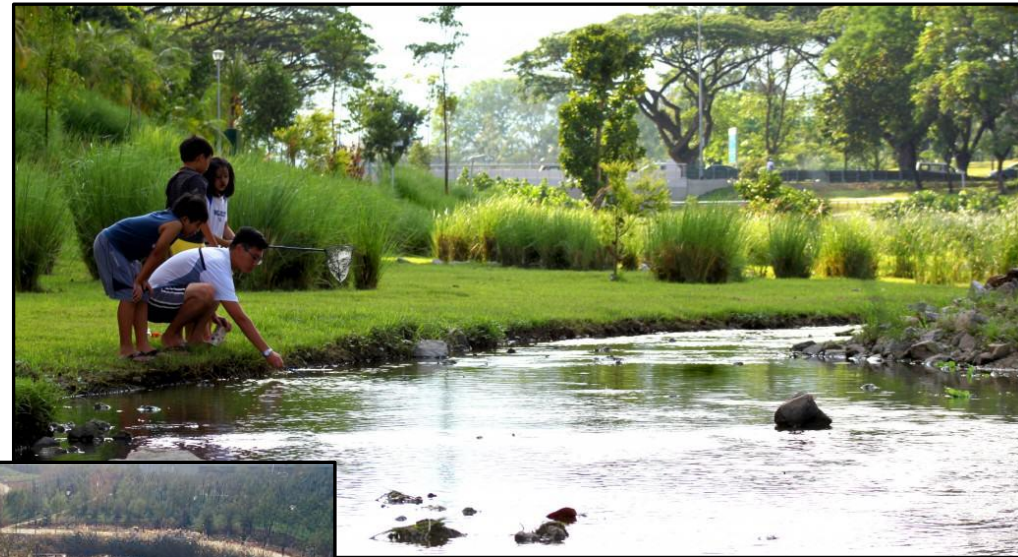
# WATER MANAGEMENT AND LANDSCAPING – MAXIMISE THE LINK





# MULTIPLE USE CORRIDOR OPTION

- Use Multiple Use Corridor to link urban areas/ town centre /schools etc
- Provide pedestrian/cycle link
- Include living stream with wetland chain for habitat
- Flood control





# URBAN TRAILS

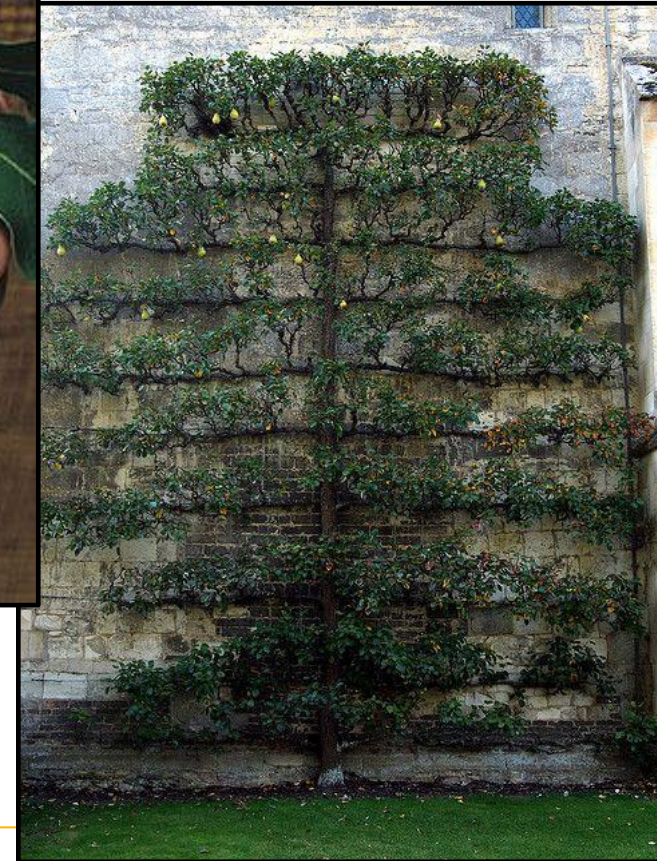
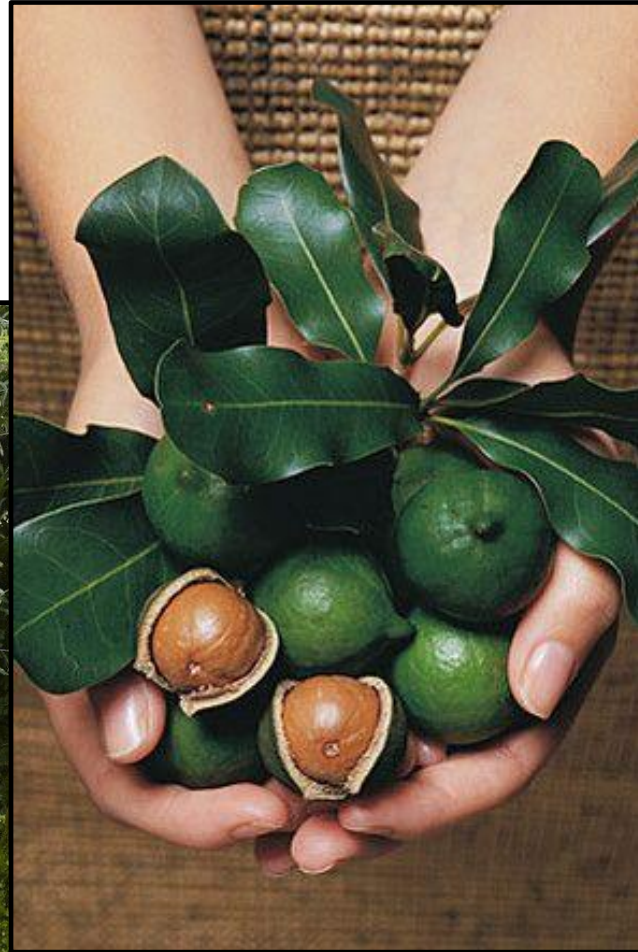
**Link houses  
directly to green  
spaces ...**



**....then use trails/MUC to  
link to onsite/offsite  
vegetation**



# BRING USEFUL AND EDIBLE PLANTS INTO THE MIX





# .....INCLUDING NATIVE FOODS



**Local flavour and interest**



**Hardy and provide sense of place**



# ESPECIALLY INTO THE STREET

- 11-25C cooler under shade
- 1-5C cooler overall through evapotranspiration





# LOCAL SENSE OF PLACE AND TRAFFIC CALMING ...WITH STORMWATER MANAGEMENT





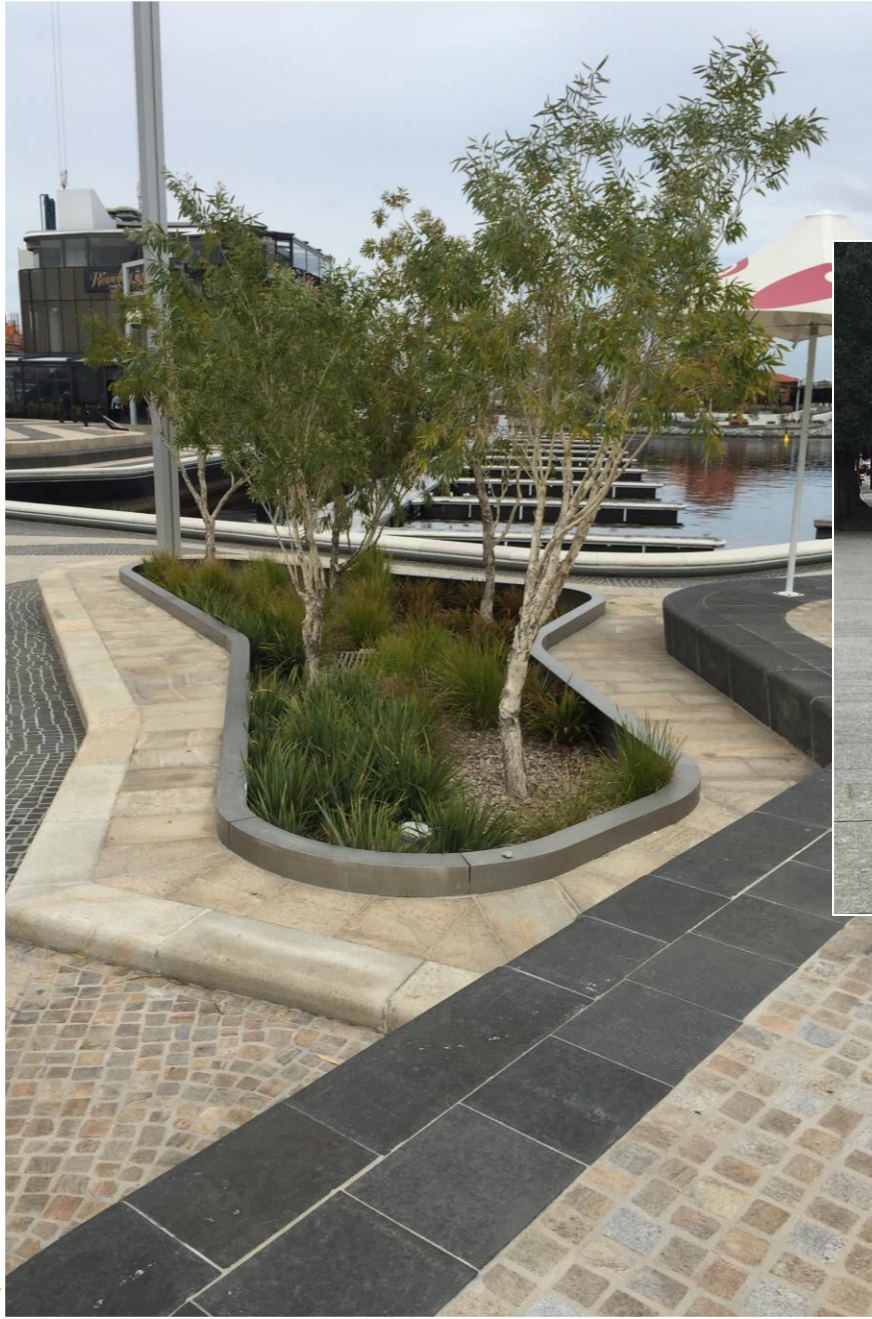


# STREET VERGES





# CBD STREETS AND SPACES





# BIODIVERSITY AND LANDSCAPING





# LANDSCAPING AND OVAL WATER TREATMENT



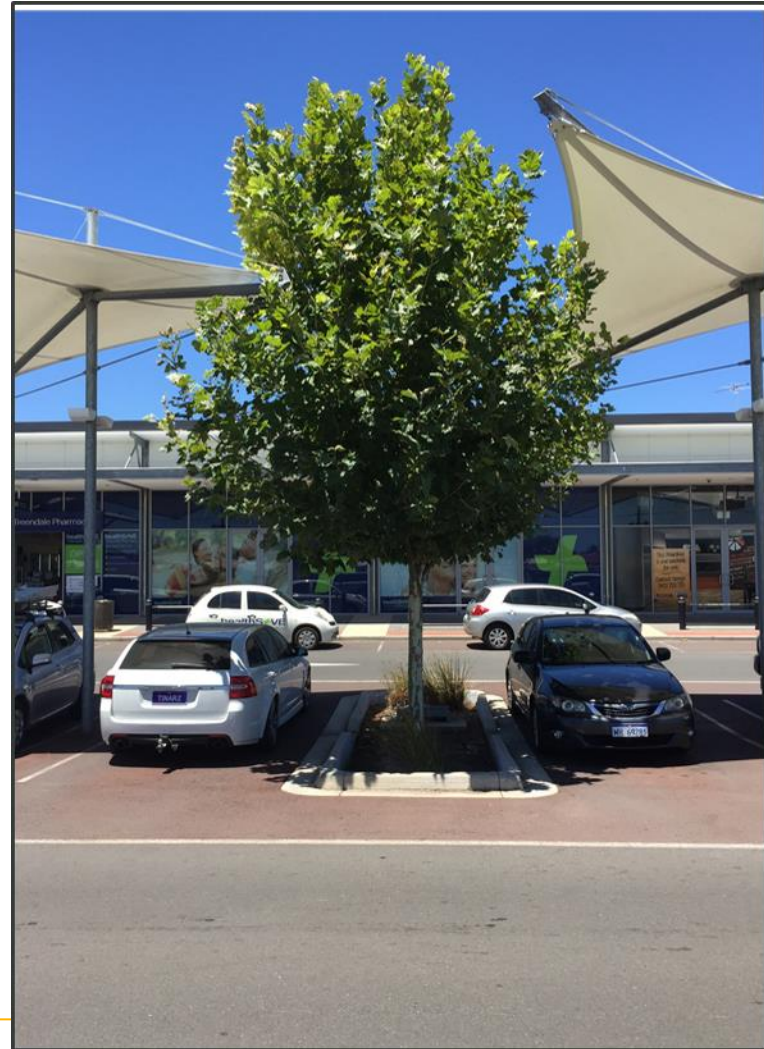


# DEMARCATON AND SAFETY





# MIDDLE OF THE STREET WITH PARKING





# AT THE STREET LEVEL

**BEFORE: 12m road, 8m wide lots, with 6m garage frontages**





## AFTER:

- Traffic calming, using vegetation and rocks instead of bollards
- Pocket gardens to treat water and provide interest and shading.





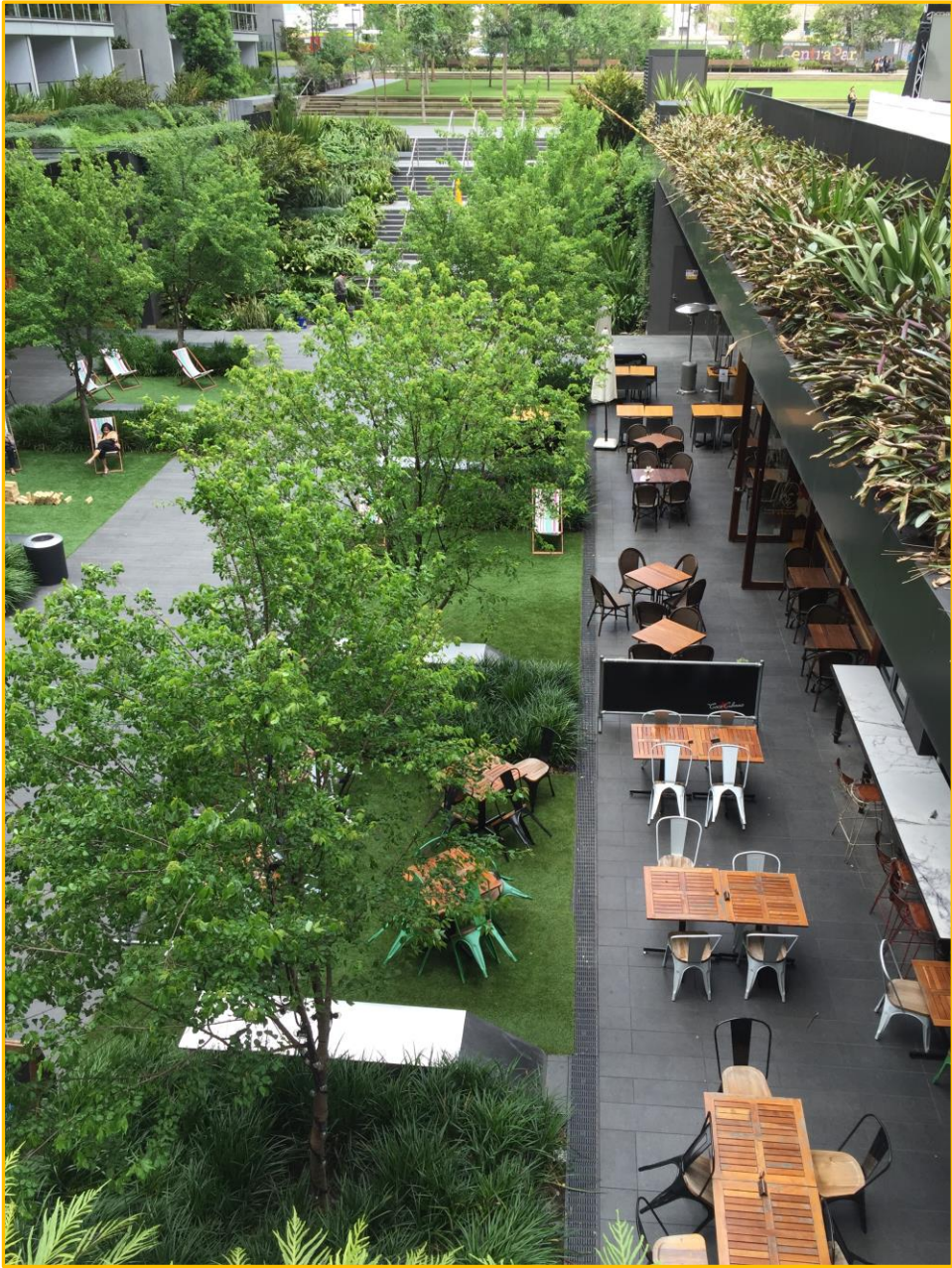
# AND AT A BUILDING SCALE

CENTRAL PARK BUILDING-  
SYDNEY





CENTRAL PARK BUILDING-  
SYDNEY





# CENTRAL PARK EXAMPLE – TREATMENT IN BASEMENT





# CENTRAL PARK EXAMPLE – TREATMENT IN BASEMENT





# DRY CLIMATE OPTIONS





## INCLUDE

- Shade
- Native plants
- Interaction with water
- Natural material





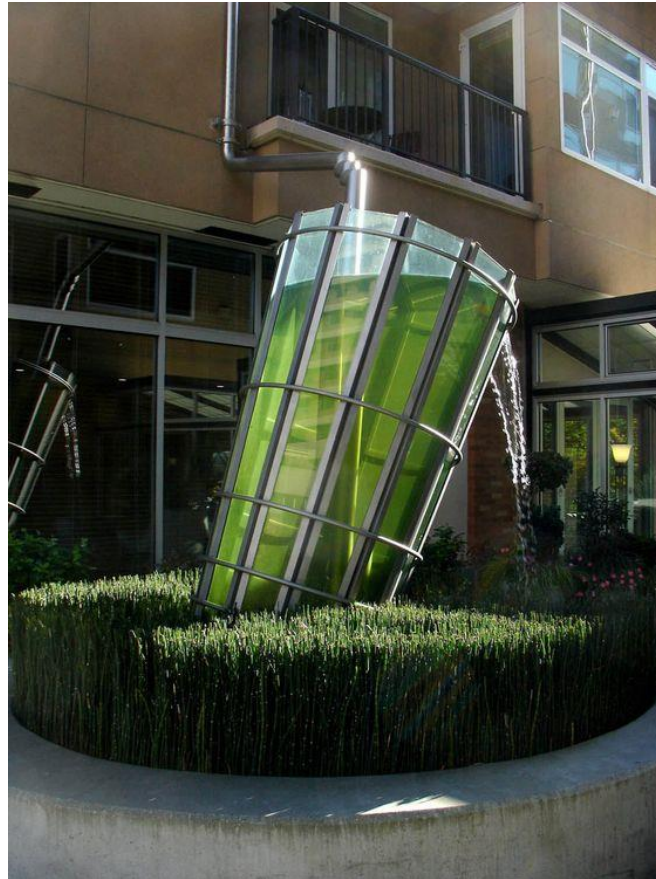
# DIFFERENT WAYS TO BRING WATER MANAGEMENT INTO A LOT



Meets best practice from latest DoW guidelines

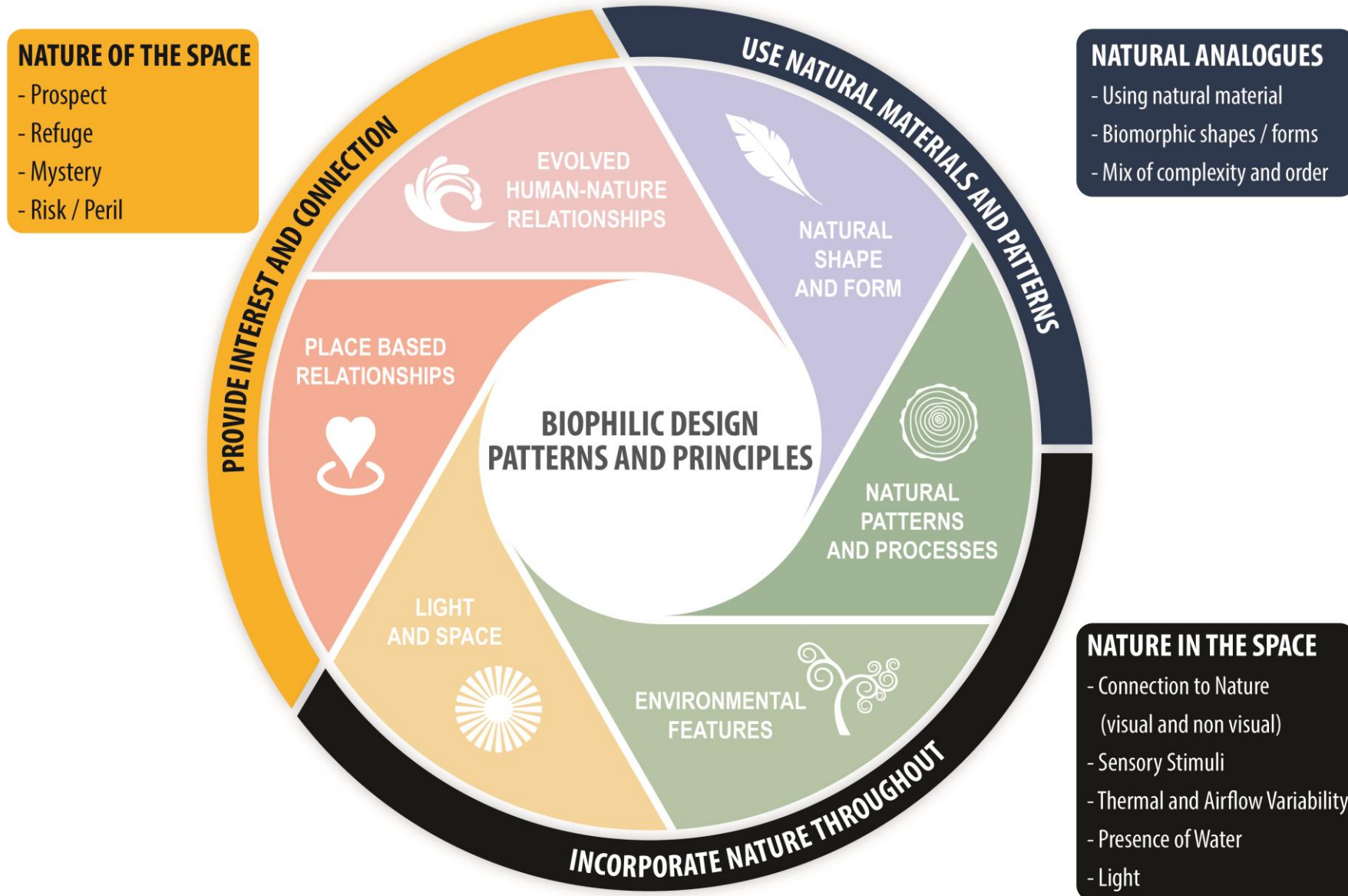


# OR TO REALLY STRETCH THE THINKING....





# PATTERNS AND PRINCIPLES – NATURAL ANALOGUES





# USE OF NATURAL MATERIALS



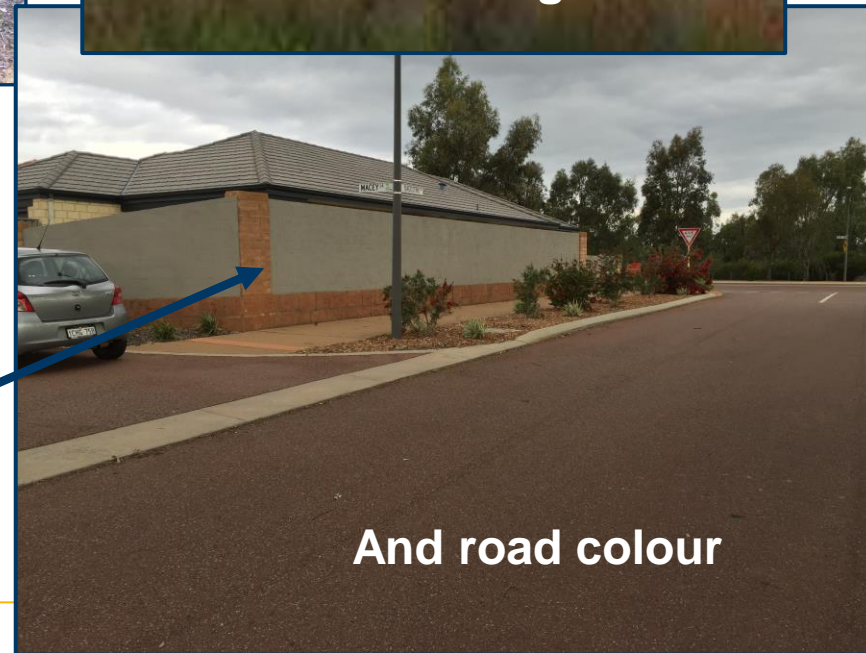


# MIX NATURAL MATERIALS INTO URBAN FORM





# AND A LOCAL EXAMPLE.... LATERITE



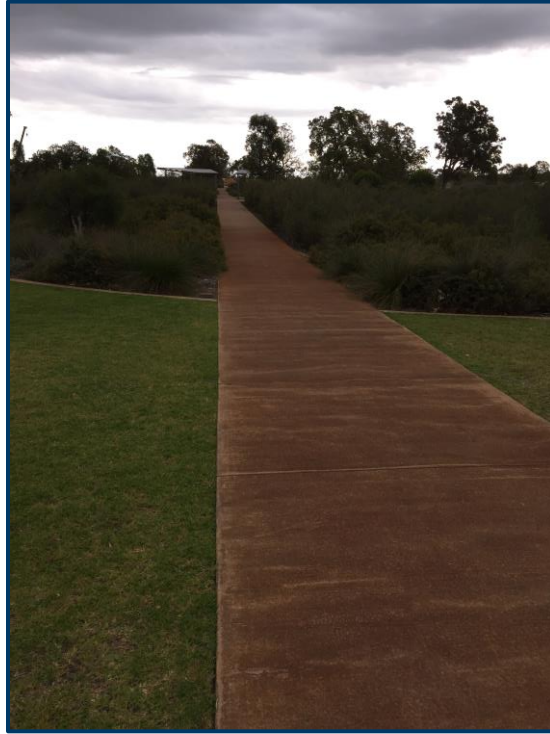


# AND A LOCAL EXAMPLE.... LATERITE





# PLACE BASED RELATIONSHIPS

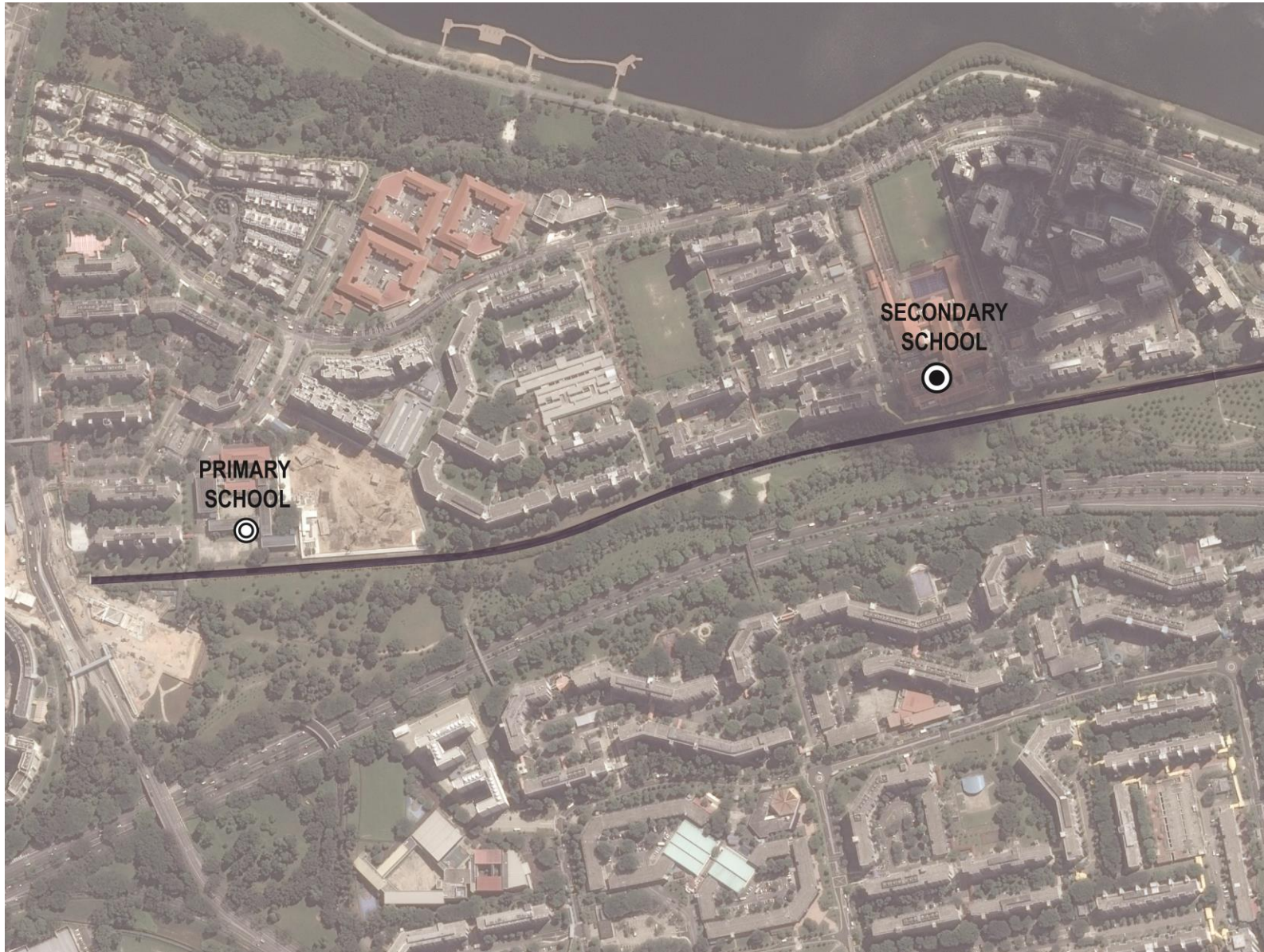


- **Geographic, Historical and Ecological connection to place**
- **Use of indigenous materials**
- **Landscape influence on built forms**
- **Integration of culture and ecology**



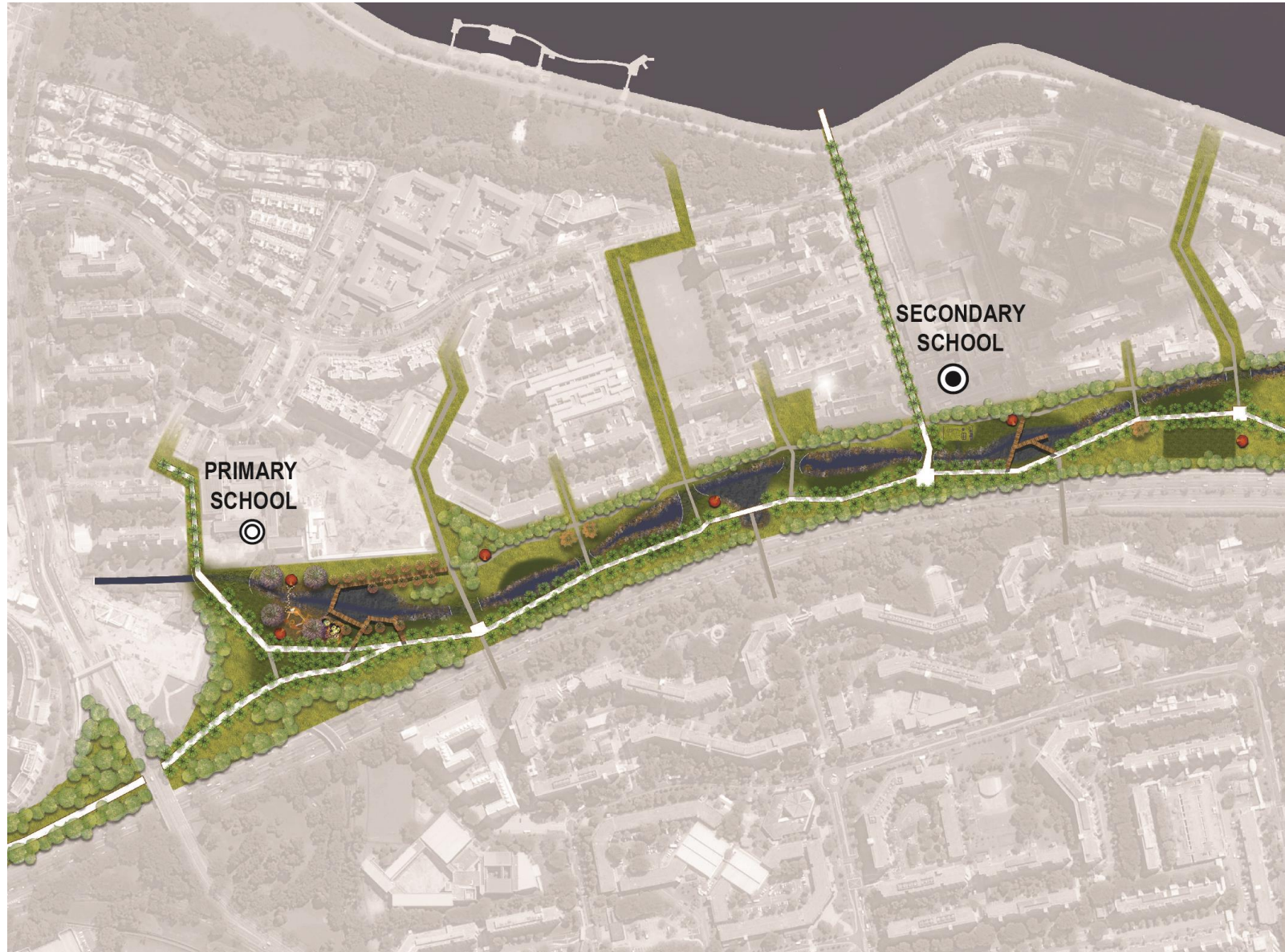


# WATER – EDUCATION -PLAY



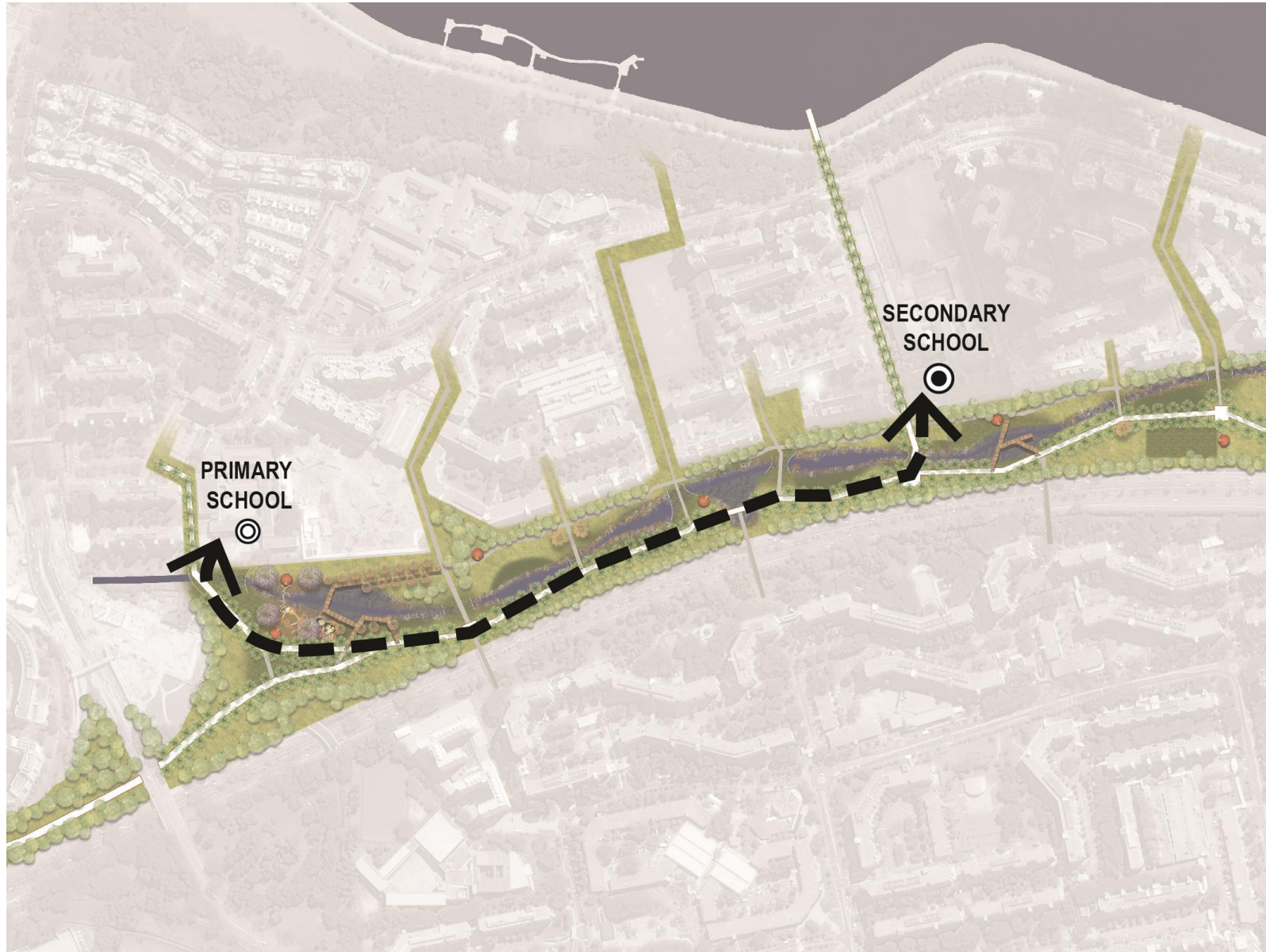


# WATER – EDUCATION -PLAY





# WATER – EDUCATION -PLAY





# WATER – EDUCATION -PLAY



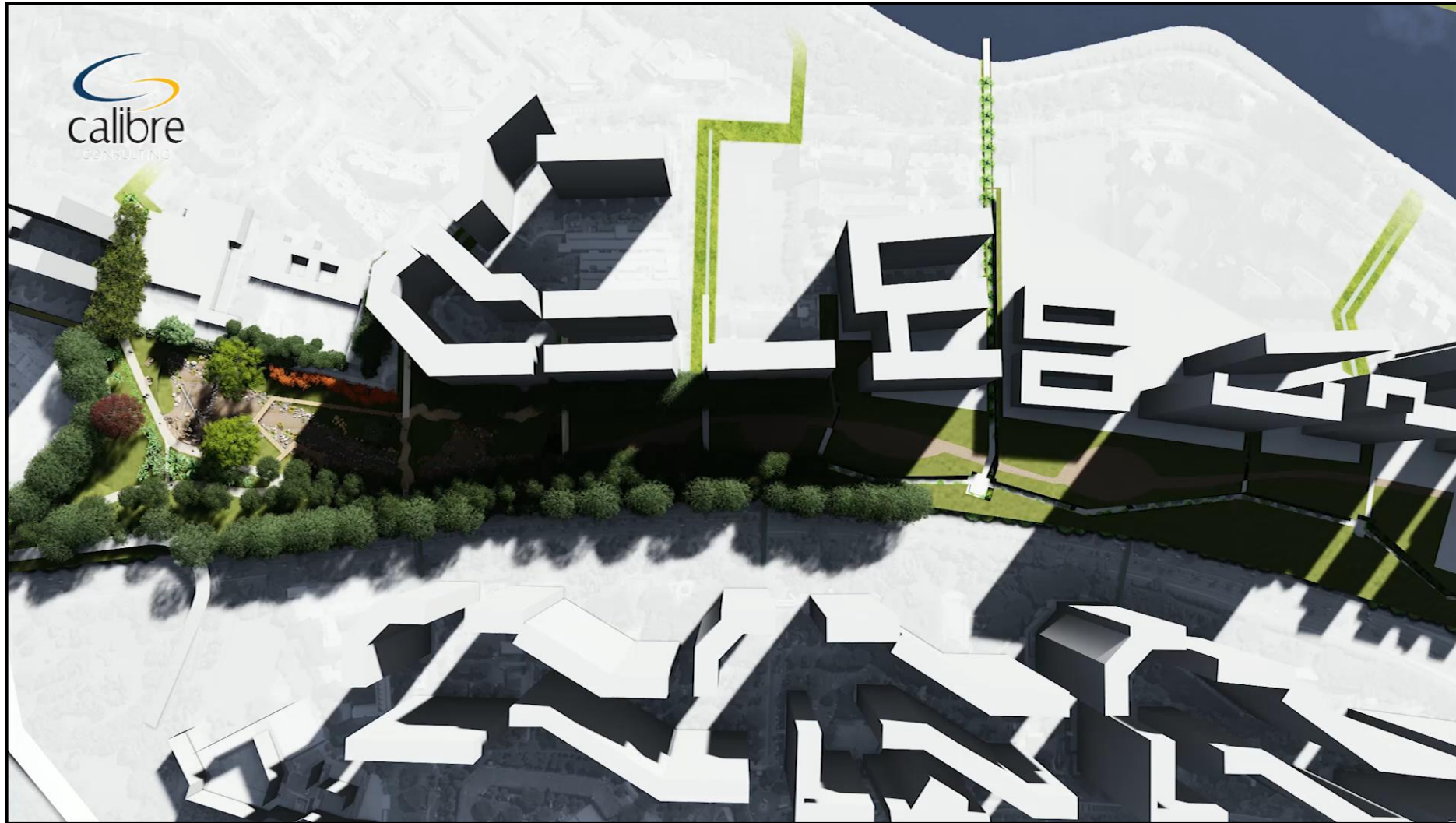


# WATER – EDUCATION -PLAY





# WATER – EDUCATION -PLAY





# WATER – EDUCATION -PLAY





# WATER – EDUCATION -PLAY





# WATER – EDUCATION -PLAY





# A LOCAL DRAINAGE EXAMPLE -



# PUNCHBOWL



**CONCEPT**



# CONCEPT – A LINK TO WATER





# CONCEPT – A LINK TO WATER





# CONCEPT – A LINK TO WATER





# CONCEPT – A LINK TO WATER





# IN SUMMARY.....

- Biophilic design options can be tailored to current and future sites.
- Provide a better quality lives for the local community while achieving environmental and economic outcomes.
- Well suited to enhancing WSUD in NZ

