HAMILTON CBD REVITALISATION

Package 1 - Central Gray Street
Concept Design Report

Prepared for Southern Grampians Shire Council
Date: March 2026

Southern Grampians
SHIRE COUNCIL

GROUPGSA

GroupGSA acknowledges First Nations peoples and their continuing connection to land, waters and culture, because we strongly believe in reconciliation and collaborative engagement for a better future.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present, whose knowledge, traditions and stories guide custodianship on what will always be their ancestral lands.

Rev.	Purpose of Issue	Date	Prepared By	Checked By
1	Package 1 Draft Concept Design Report	13/12/2024	HZ	LF
2	Package 1 Draft Concept Design Report_v2	15/01/2025	HZ	LF
3	Package 1 Draft Concept Design Report_v3	22/01/2025	JV	LF
4	Package 1 Draft Concept Design Report_v4	05/02/2025	JV	LF
5	Package 1 Concept Design Report_v5	26/03/2025	LF	LF
6	Package 1 Revised Concept Design Report_v6	03/03/2026	JM, CX, ZC	AH, EG, JK

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GROUPGSA

1.0

INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

Southern Grampians Shire Council is planning significant streetscape upgrades to improve the quality of the public realm within Hamilton CBD. This is a major investment in the town centre, providing a more walkable and inviting place for locals and visitors to work, shop and socialise.

Purpose

Council has engaged GroupGSA to lead the design of public realm improvements to key streets in the city centre including Gray Street, Thompson Street and Brown Street, as part of the **Hamilton CBD Revitalisation Project.**

The project will deliver improvements to footpaths, furniture, lighitng,signage, planting and trees, making it easier and more pleasant to walk around the town centre, which in turn will promt local and visitors to linger for longer in this key regional hub.

Approach

The town centre footpaths are currently dominated by red brick paving, which; in combination with brown brick raised planters and older-style green timber furniture; presents an outdated aesthetic. The pavement is very difficult to clean and many of the planter boxes and furniture elements are in poor condition and overdue for replacement.

Proposed upgrades include replacing existing paving and street furniture with contemporary, robust and sustainable elements that will be aesthetically pleasing and easy to maintain, giving the town centre a much-needed face lift.

Where possible, locally sourced materials such as Grampians sandstone and Port Fairy bluestone will be used. Where practical, the streets will be de-cluttered by removing redundant bollards, poles and other elements to free up footpath space. Garden beds with flowering plants will also be a feature of the revitalised streetscapes.

Context + Daily Use

Street lights throughout the town centre are no longer fit for purpose and will be replaced with modern light poles and lamps that are more energy efficient and provide better lighting for the safety of both drivers and pedestrians.

Attractive Streetscape

Proposed upgrades include replacing existing paving and street furniture with contemporary, robust and sustainable elements that will be aesthetically pleasing and easy to maintain.

Where possible, locally sourced materials such as Grampians sandstone and Port Fairy bluestone will be used. Garden beds with flowering plants will also be a feature of the revitalised streetscapes.

Cultural Heritage

The design team have also investigated opportunities to integrate artistic elements into the streetscape that celebrate the historic cultural heritage (European and Indigenous) of Hamilton. These elements will be incorporated into the design through paving, seating and tree grates where possible.

There is also a desire to highlight and celebrate existing artworks, historic buildings and other heritage items within the CBD, to help tell the story of Hamilton's rich agricultural history. This may has been considered through the inclusion of interpretive and/or directional signage, and potentially with interactive QR codes that visitors can scan to find out more information.

Street Trees

The current street trees throughout the town centre are a single species of London Plane, which were planted some 40 years ago. This type of tree at maturity is not suited to a confined urban environment. The roots cause issues with footpaths, road pavements and underground services. Both roots and fallen leaves can also cause damage and flooding to adjacent buildings.

For these reasons, it is proposed to incrementally replace all plane trees in the CBD with semi-mature trees of a more appropriate species.

More information about the rationale for tree removals, and potential replacement strategy, refer to Section 1.2 Rationale for Replacing Existing Plane Trees.

Staging

Due to the scale of the upgrades proposed , the project will be delivered in three stages ("work packages") over multiple years.

This staged approach:

- Minimises disruption to businesses and visitors
- Allows construction to be managed efficiently
- Enables budget allocation across financial years

This Concept Design Report focuses on Package 1 — the central block of Gray Street, including the roundabouts at Thompson Street and Brown Street (Refer to Section 1.3 Staged Delivery for the full staging diagram).

Existing Gray Street seating node

Existing raised planted with brick walling

Existing Gray Street between Thompson Street and Brown Street

1.2 RATIONALE FOR REPLACING EXISTING PLANE TREES

Street Trees – Existing London Plane Trees

The streets within the city grid are planted entirely with London Plane trees (Platanus x acerifolia). Planted in the 1980s, they have thrived in the cool Hamilton climate and grown very large. Despite the beauty of their impressive size and dense green foliage, these trees are causing serious maintenance issues and other hazards.

Infrastructure Damage & Root Impacts

Plane trees have an aggressive roots system that seek out water, often breaking through compacted ground and concrete. Their roots can invade underground pipes and pits, causing blockages and damage to drainage systems and other services.

At the surface, the roots are lifting brick pavements, creating uneven surfaces that:

- Become tripping hazards
- Cause water pooling
- Accumulate debris

Council maintenance staff frequently patch these areas, placing ongoing strain on resources and budgets.

Roots are also damaging roadside pavements and kerbs, reducing water flow into drains and causing water to pool in parking spaces. This degrades the asphalt surface and creates safety hazards. In extreme cases, roots extend across footpaths, damaging nearby shopfronts and building facades.

Some trees planted in brick or timber planters have outgrown their confines, cracking and destabilising the surrounding structures.

Maintenance Burden

Plane trees shed large volumes of leaves in autumn, which accumulate on roads and footpaths, blocking stormwater drains and leading to slip hazards. Managing this leaf litter significantly burdens Council maintenance teams for several months each year.

Health and Comfort Issues

In spring, Plane trees release thousands of small, hairy seeds that irritate the eyes, throat and nose, causing discomfort for many residents, business owners and visitors. This recurring seasonal issue contributes to ongoing community dissatisfaction with plane trees in urban areas.

Arborist Assessment (2017)

An arborist was commissioned by Council in 2017 to assess the condition of the existing Plane trees. The report findings can be summarised as follows:

1. Health and Structure

While many trees are in fair to good health, a notable percentage exhibit poor structure, including epicormic regrowth and a history of limb failure. This compromises their long-term viability and safety.

2. Useful Life Expectancy (ULE)

Some trees have a Useful Life Expectancy of less than five years due to declining health or structural issues, warranting removal for safety and management efficiency.

3. Infrastructure Conflicts

The trees have caused ongoing damage to roads, footpaths and kerbs due to root growth. These conflicts pose safety hazards and increase maintenance costs.

4. Sustainability Goals

The revitalisation of Hamilton's CBD prioritises a sustainable urban landscape, including improved stormwater management and reduced infrastructure conflicts. Retaining problematic trees may hinder these long-term urban planning objectives.

Proposed Replacement Strategy

Many municipalities in Victoria, including Warrnambool City Council and the City of Melbourne, have begun replacing Plane trees in town centres with more suitable species to avoid similar long-term issues.

This further supports the proposal that the Plane trees in Hamilton's CBD should be replaced with a mix of more appropriate and manageable species that will provide greening, biodiversity and amenity for the foreseeable future.

Removal and replacement of the existing Plane trees will occur incrementally over 3–5 years, as each work package is delivered.

Detailed Tree Investigations

Between January and December 2025, Southern Grampians Shire Council undertook a staged and increasingly detailed investigation into the condition and impacts of the London Plane trees within Hamilton's CBD.

Following the release of an earlier version of this Package 1 – Central Gray Street Concept Design Report in late January and subsequent public and business consultation, Council resolved in April 2025 to slow the project and seek further expert investigation into the trees, particularly their impact on surrounding infrastructure. This included a direction to revise designs to retain all but the most problematic trees, prepare a long-term maintenance strategy, and establish a CBD Project Advisory Group to guide the process.

In mid-2025, detailed arboricultural investigations were undertaken, including non-destructive hydro-excavation to expose root systems at selected sites. These investigations confirmed significant structural root conflicts and impacts to kerb and channel, footpaths and underground services. Two trees Hamilton (99 Thompson Street and 70 Brown Street) were subsequently approved for removal based on arborist recommendations.

A Project Advisory Group was formally established in June, with members appointed in August, and a newly commissioned Tree Impact Audit was reviewed over several months.

After considering detailed engineering and arboricultural evidence, the Advisory Group advised in December 2025 that none of the London Plane trees in Gray Street (Stage 1) be retained.

Tree roots protruding more than 30cm above the surface

Tree that has outgrown its planter box

Brick pavers lifted by tree roots

Tree that has lifted the road surface creating drainage issues

1.3 STAGED DELIVERY

The approximate extent of works for each package is shown on the aerial photograph in figure 9.

The west side of Brown Street between the library and the Church will be upgraded as part of other upcoming separately tendered projects including the new Art Gallery and Government Hub, and is therefore excluded from this Design Report.

The number of each package denotes the order in which it will be designed and constructed, i.e. Package 1 is the first package which is currently being designed. Delivery timing of the upgrade works for each package is yet to be determined.

PACKAGE 1 - CENTRAL GRAY STREET

The proposed design for the central block of Gray Street aims to create more space for people to sit and gather, and to safely cross the street, without any major impacts to traffic movements or existing of on-street parking. A preliminary concept for this area was presented to the community at a public meeting held on 16 September, 2024. The feedback was largely positive and has helped shape the current design.

The design includes high-quality stone paving on the footpath, plenty of shade trees and places to sit, and garden beds to help green the street, as well as supporting infrastructure such as bins, bike racks and drinking fountains. Refer to pages 11 - 17 to see the proposed concept.

In addition to the upgraded street lighting, there is an opportunity to include some decorative lighting in garden beds and seating areas, to facilitate Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) that help make the centre of town feel safe and welcoming particularly at night time.

High level ideas were tested during the concept design stage and have been further developed during the process.

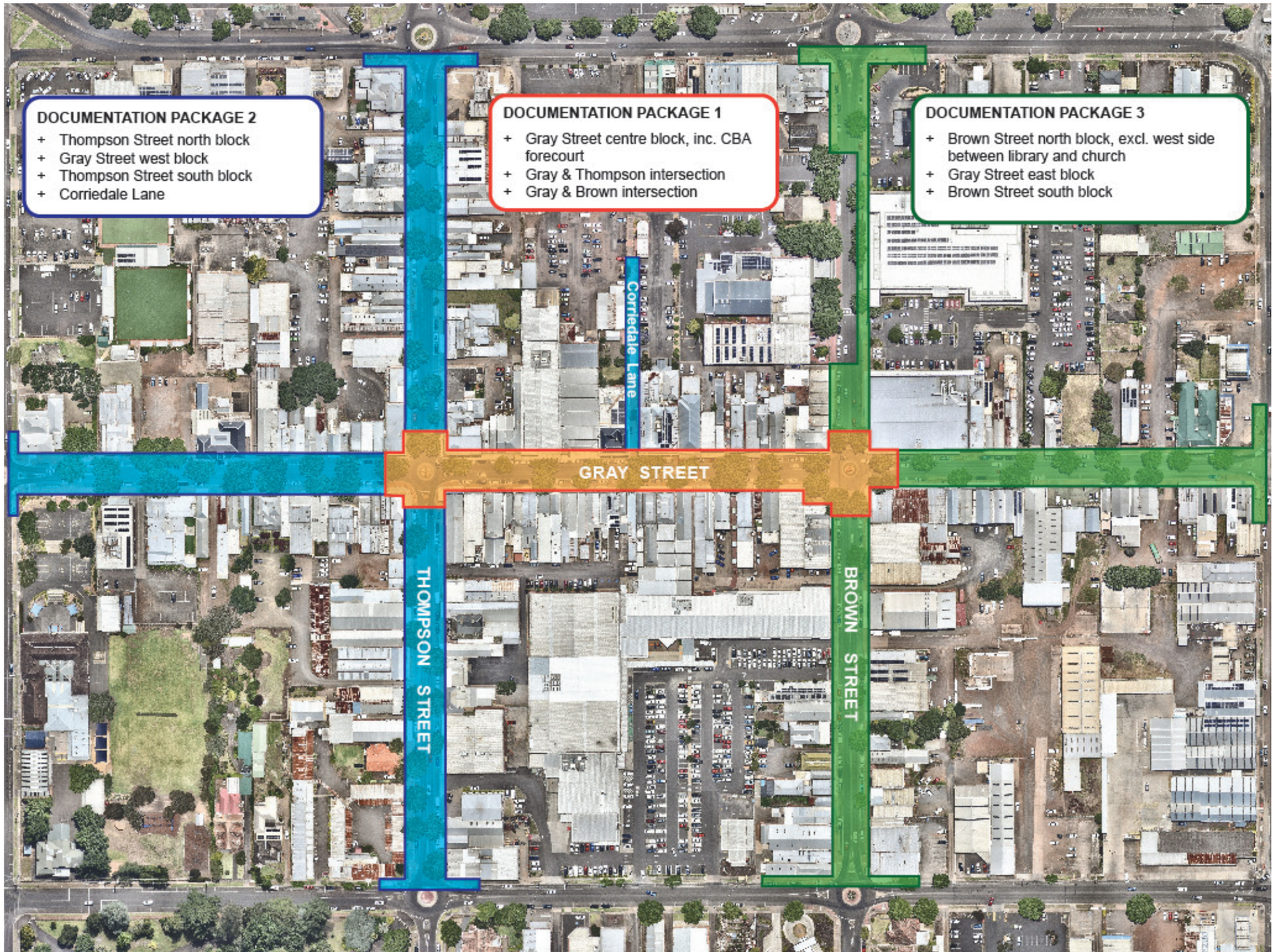


Fig 9

1.4 PROJECT TIMELINE

Issues & Ideas

01

Rough sketches show ideas and concepts. Tree placement is for illustrative purposes only.

Concept Design

02

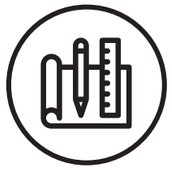
Confirmation of the types of plantings, surfaces, seating and finishes to be used in the project.

We are here

Detailed Design

03

This is where the design is confirmed and formal plans are prepared.



Preparing for Construction

04

Construction documentation and costings are confirmed before the project is released for tender.

Tendering and Construction

05

2.0

SITE ANALYSIS

2.1 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Key Plan

Gray Street operates within a relatively flat central block, where subtle crossfalls direct stormwater toward outlets located near roundabouts and intersections.

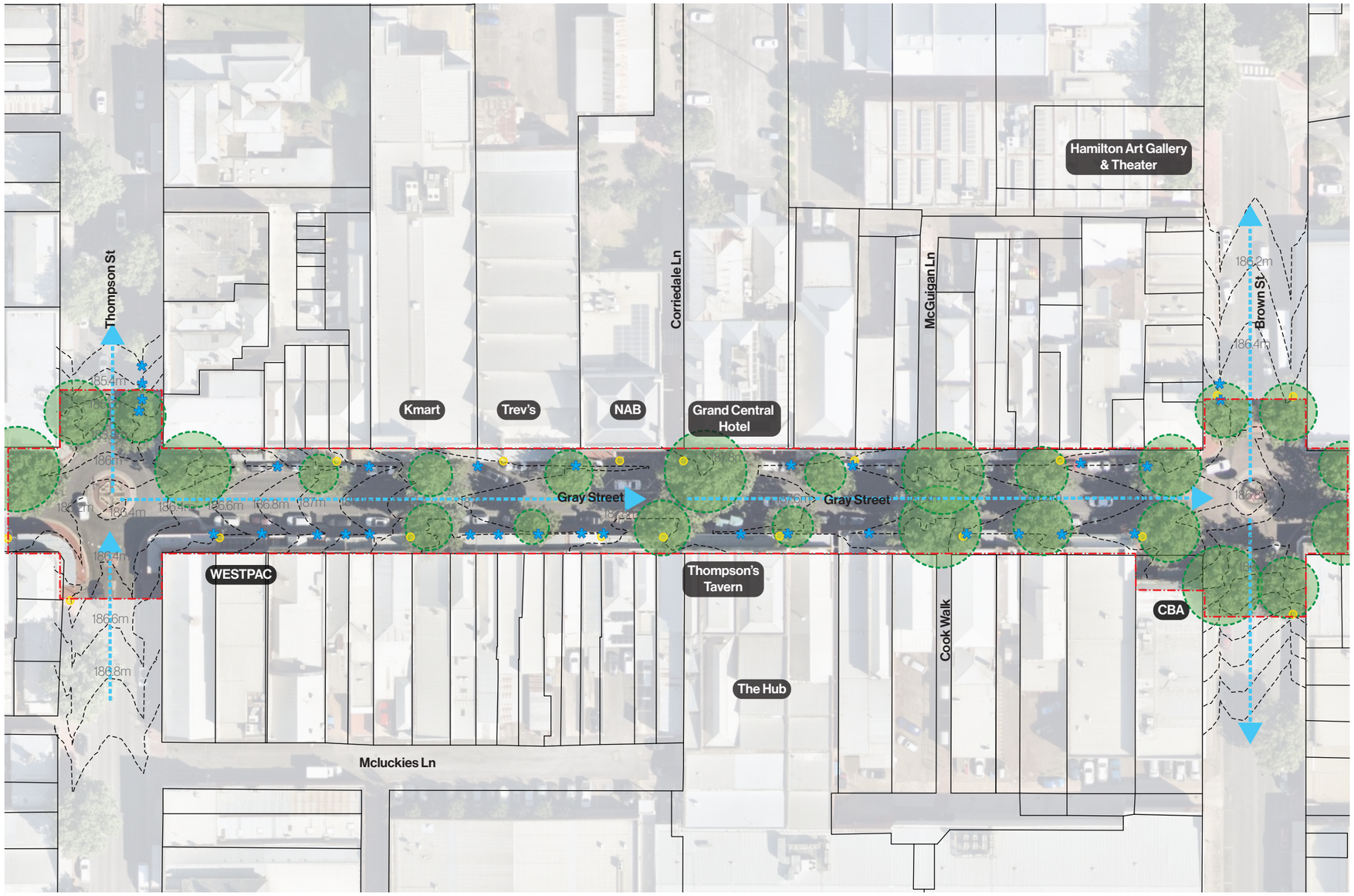
Mature London Plane trees line both sides of the corridor, contributing shade and established character. However, expansive root systems have displaced pavements and altered surface levels, affecting pedestrian comfort and drainage performance. Several trees are positioned close to stormwater pits, where seasonal leaf accumulation reduces inlet efficiency and contributes to localised ponding along the kerb.

Lighting is provided primarily by standard pole-mounted fixtures, supplemented by decorative tree-mounted string lighting. While functional, the current approach offers limited enhancement to pedestrian experience or night-time activation.

Overall, the existing infrastructure establishes a functional but fragmented streetscape framework, where canopy, drainage, lighting and pavement systems operate independently rather than cohesively. This condition presents clear opportunities for integrated canopy renewal, improved stormwater performance and a more considered night-time public domain strategy.

Drainage issues identified on the streetscape

Existing streetlighting with feature lighting on trees



LEGEND

- Extent of Works - Stage 1
- Overland Flow
- Contour
- Stormwater Outlet
- Exsting Tree Canopy
- Light Pole

Tree Analysis – Stage 1 (Gray Street)

Total Trees:25 existing street trees
Botanical Name:Platanus xacerifolia
Common Name:London Plane

Scale 1: 15,000 @ A3

0m 60 120 300 600

2.2 VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT

Key Plan

Hamilton CBD operates within a compact urban grid where Gray Street functions as the primary east–west movement corridor.

Gray Street forms the principal vehicular spine of the town centre, connecting Thompson Street and Brown Street via roundabouts at either end of the central block. Substantial on-street parking lines both sides of the corridor, supported by nearby public off-street carparks, reinforcing direct vehicle access to retail frontages and short-stay visitation.

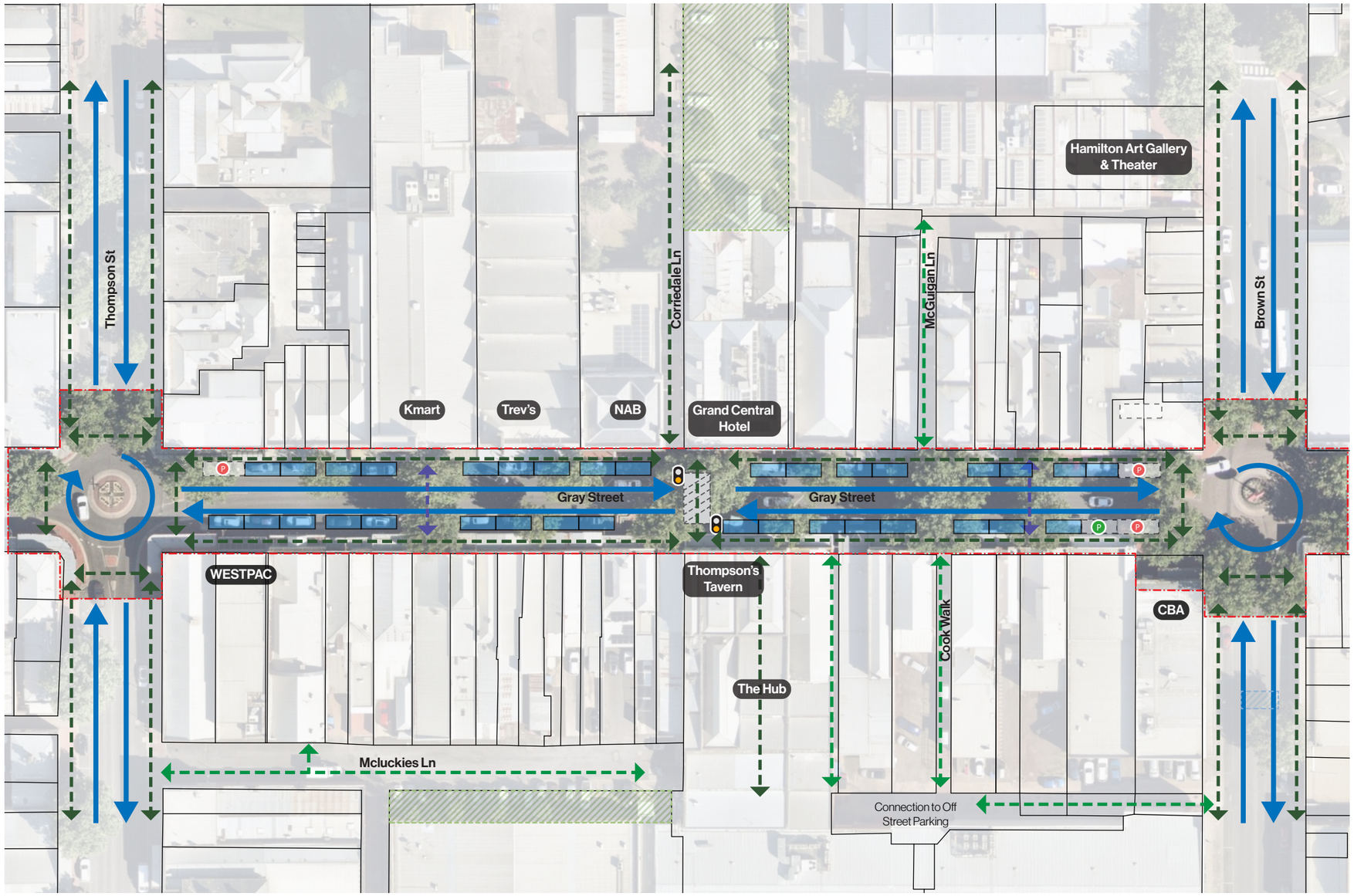
The existing 50 km/h speed environment supports through-movement while reflecting Gray Street's dual function as both a regional connector and a main street within the civic core.

Pedestrian movement is concentrated along continuous footpaths on both sides of the street, with activity intensifying at zebra crossings and key intersections. Strong north–south permeability is provided by Corridale Lane, McLuckie's Lane and Cook Walk, reinforcing the fine-grain structure of the CBD and enabling cross-block connectivity.

Movement nodes are most active where crossings, laneways and anchor tenancies intersect — particularly at prominent corners and hospitality frontages, where pedestrian flow and vehicular circulation overlap.

Zebra crossing with flashing beacon on Gray Street

On-street parking along Gray Street within the CBD



LEGEND

- Extent of Works - Stage 1
- Vehicle Circulation
- Primary Pedestrian Circulation
- Secondary Pedestrian Circulation
- Pedestrian Zebra Crossing
- Informal Pedestrian Crossing
- Pedestrian Crossing Signal Light
- Off Street Parking
- Public Car Park
- Loading Zone
- DDA Car Park (non-compliant)

Parking Analysis

Parking Rules:
1P Mon - Fri: 9:00 AM - 5:30PM
1P Sat: 9:00AM-12:00PM
No restrictions applied to any other periods

Parking bays (general use): 34
Loading bays: 3
Accessible bays: 1
TOTAL: 38

Scale 1: 15,000 @ A3
0m 60 120 300 600

2.3 LAND USE AND ACTIVITY

Key Plan

Hamilton CBD functions as the commercial and civic heart of the town, accommodating a diverse mix of civic, community, retail, entertainment and commercial uses.

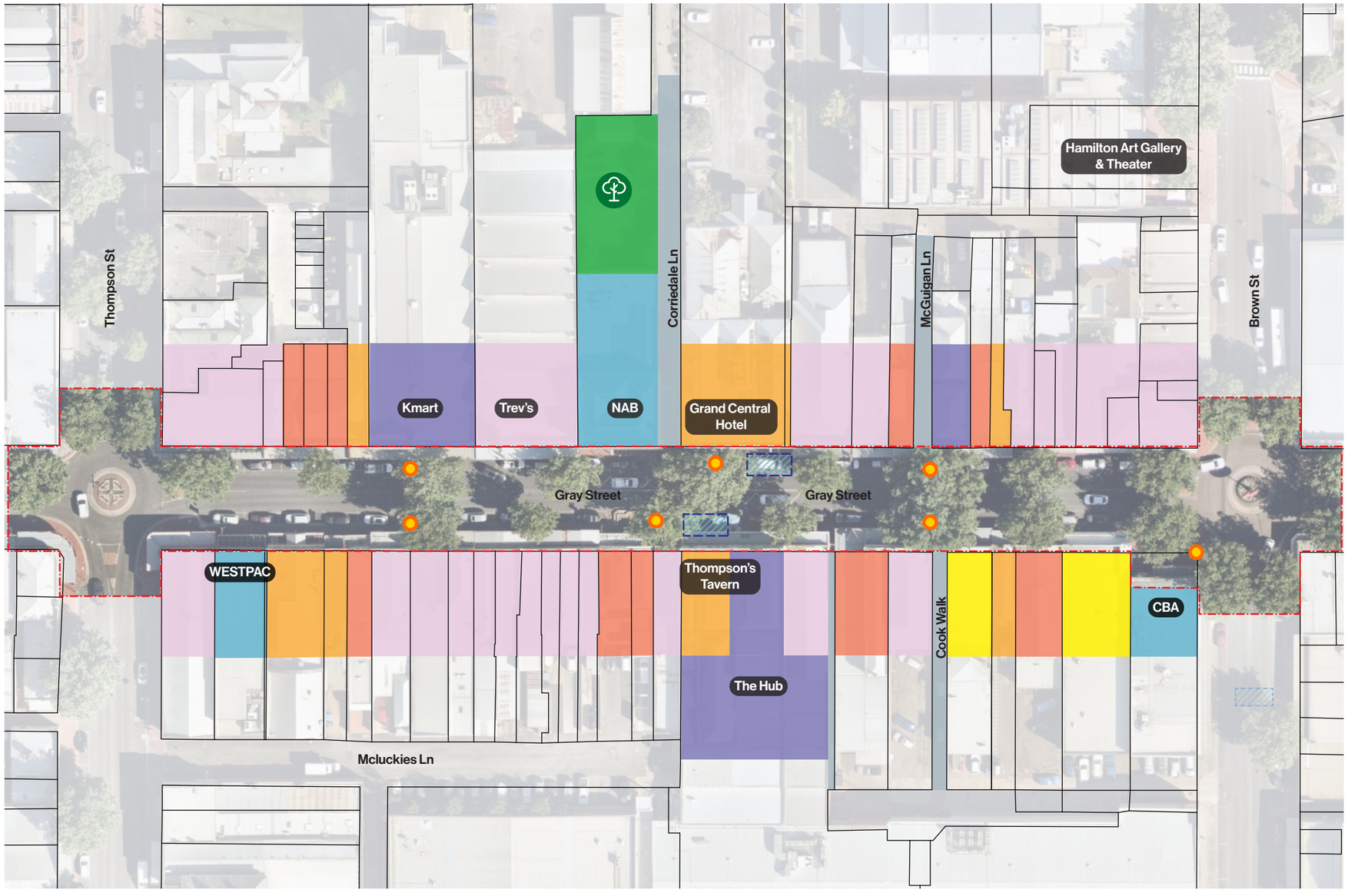
Gray Street forms the core of this activity centre, with a concentrated mix of small retail, hospitality, financial institutions and essential services within a compact urban grid. Continuous ground-floor frontages establish a strong retail spine and reinforce its role as the primary commercial corridor.

Anchor tenants and hotels generate consistent foot traffic, while banks and medical services support steady daily visitation. Activity and seating nodes cluster around laneway interfaces (Corridale Lane, McLuckie's Lane and Cook Walk), pedestrian crossings and prominent corner sites such as CBA, where movement and active frontages intersect. The frontages of the Grand Central Hotel and Thompson's Tavern, both incorporating licensed outdoor dining areas, operate as key social nodes and potential focal gathering spaces within the central block.

Overall, the land use pattern demonstrates a concentrated commercial core, with activity closely aligned to hospitality uses and movement intersections, confirming Gray Street as Hamilton's principal retail and social spine.

CBA – Prominent Corner Seating Node

Thompson's Tavern – Licensed Outdoor Dining



3.0

DESIGN FRAMEWORK

3.1 PROJECT VISION & KEY THEMES

A Strategic Foundation

The following themes represent the core principles of the Hamilton CBD Revitalisation project. They are the driving force behind the planning, design, and delivery of the public domain, ensuring that every element contributes to a cohesive and high-quality landscape character.

These themes are deeply rooted in community feedback and align with the strategic objectives of:

- The Hamilton Structure Plan
- The Southern Grampians Shire Arts and Culture Strategy
- The Southern Grampians Shire Council Plan

Transforming the Experience

Our placemaking approach will revitalise the experience of residents, businesses, and visitors alike. By activating the streetscape and laneways, along with the establishment of a new town square as part of the Hub project, we are positioned to create a vibrant, engaging environment that celebrates Hamilton's unique identity and rich cultural history.

The Three Key Theme

1. Strengthening Heritage & Character

This theme prioritises sensitive design that honours Hamilton's multilayered history. By incorporating authentic materials and narratives, the project connects contemporary urban life with the past. The goal is to create resilient, culturally significant places that are cherished by the community for generations to come.

2. Local & Creative

This theme interprets Hamilton's distinct character through the fine grain of the streetscape. We aim to celebrate the stories of the Traditional Owners – the Gunditjmara, Djab Wurrung, and Bungandidj peoples – alongside the post-settlement history of the region since the late 1830s. This is achieved through:

- Use of local materials and endemic ecologies.
- Integrated public art that reflects cultural and industrial narratives.
- Design elements that foster social interaction and human comfort.

3. Bringing the Community Together

Success relies on creating a sense of belonging and pride. This theme focuses on delivering welcoming, flexible spaces with amenities for all ages and abilities. By integrating nature and diverse local stories into the urban fabric, the design should promote well-being and ensures the CBD truly reflects the needs and aspirations of the Hamilton community.

Strengthening Heritage & Character

Local & Creative

Bringing the Community Together

3.2 DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

This project will contribute to the overall vision in sustaining Hamilton as the ‘heart’ of the Western District and a vibrant destination to live , work and play

Strengthening Heritage & Character

Local & Creative

Bringing the Community Together

01/

Greening the Grey

Enhance Urban Green Infrastructure

Objective:
Increase canopy cover, biodiversity and climate resilience across the CBD.

Focus Areas:

- Expand tree planting and stagger canopy layout
- Integrate WSUD and rain gardens
- Introduce native and regionally appropriate species
- Improve soil volumes and long-term tree health

02/

Geological Narratives

Celebrate and Express Local Geomorphology and Hydrology

Objective:
Embed Hamilton’s volcanic plains and water systems into the public realm.

Focus Areas:

- Dark basalt-inspired material palette
- Linear paving bands reflecting lava flows
- Curvilinear forms referencing Grange Burn
- Wetland planting recalling lava-dammed swamps

03/

The Cultural Weave

Celebrate Community, Culture and History

Objective:
Reveal Hamilton’s layered stories — First Nations, settlement and industry.

Focus Areas:

- Interpretive elements referencing Country
- Integration of local materials and craftsmanship
- Subtle references to wool industry patterns and rhythm
- Opportunities for public art and storytelling

04/

Social Anchors

Create Inviting and Comfortable Gathering Spaces

Objective:
Support social interaction, flexibility and everyday community life.

Focus Areas:

- Comfortable seating with backrests and armrests
- Accessible layouts and inclusive design
- Shaded seating areas
- Support for Outdoor Dining and Street Life

05/

Seamless Connectivity

Prioritise Safe, Accessible and Legible Movement

Objective:
Improve walkability, safety and accessibility for all users.

Focus Areas:

- Raised crossings
- Wider footpaths
- Clear sightlines at roundabouts
- Accessible parking integration
- Decluttering streetscape elements

4.0

DESIGN INSPIRATION - HAMILTON'S STORY

4.1 VOLCANIC PLAINS – A LIVING LANDSCAPE

The Western District Volcanic Plains form the geological foundation of Hamilton. Ancient lava flows from sites like Mount Napier and Mount Rouse created expansive basalt fields – the 'Stony Rises' – that define the region's horizon and enduring material character. Over millennia, weathered basalt supported nutrient-rich native grasslands and wetlands, shaping a resilient ecology that predates and supported colonial settlement. This geological system establishes a profound sense of ground, openness, and permanence that continues to influence Hamilton's identity.

Design Response

Geological Materiality: The dark, vesicular character of local basalt (bluestone) can serve as the primary material palette. By using varying finishes – from honed blacks to textured "floater" greys – the design will reflect the raw, weathered state of the Western District's stony rises.

Ecological Weaving: The planting palette can utilise a 'Wet Tussock-Grassland' palette – characteristic of the Hamilton region. This includes structural, medium-height grasses such as Themeda triandra (Kangaroo Grass) and Poa labillardieri (Common Tussock-grass) to provide a soft, rhythmic movement against the rigid urban basalt landscape.

To mimic the biodiversity found between grass tussocks, the design can incorporate a tapestry of flowering herbs and lilies. Species such as Chrysocephalum apiculatum (Common Everlasting), Burchardia umbellata (Milkmaids), and Wahlenbergia communis (Tufted Bluebell) will provide seasonal pops of gold, white, and blue, enhancing the sensory experience for pedestrians.

By selecting endemic plant species, the streetscape benefits from plants evolved for the local climate, making it easier to maintain.

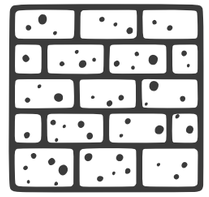
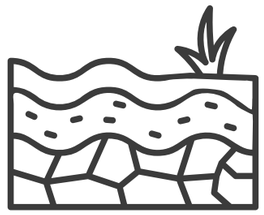
Hydrological Resilience: Integrated rain gardens can utilise hardy wetland species (such as Carex tereticaulis) to treat urban runoff. These biophilic "pockets" manage stormwater while providing micro-habitats for local fauna, bringing the biodiversity of the plains into the heart of the CBD.

Functional Sustainability: Prioritise locally sourced stone to reduce the project's carbon footprint and ensures the streetscape ages with a patina consistent with Hamilton's heritage buildings.

Basalt material (dark stone reference)

Basalt stone walls & settlement

Grasslands of the Victorian volcanic plains

Inspiration	*Extraction*	*Translation*	*Application*
	Colour & Texture		– Basalt paving – Basalt walling – Locally sourced stone to reduce carbon footprint – Weathered stone aesthetic reflecting the "Stony Rises"
	Natural Materials & Local Geology		– Integrated rain gardens – Carex tereticaulis for stormwater treatment – Biophilic planting pockets – Locally sourced stone elements
	Native Planting & Seasonal Interest		– Wet Tussock Grassland planting palette – Endemic species suited to local climate

4.2 WATER SYSTEMS – A LIVING CULTURE

Water has shaped Hamilton's identity through both natural processes and long-standing Indigenous knowledge of water management. The Grange Burn represents the natural, meandering rhythm of the land, while the Gunditjmara aquaculture systems represent one of the world's oldest examples of human hydraulic engineering. These systems – comprised of channels, weirs, and stone traps – demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of water as a resource to be guided and shared, rather than merely drained.

Design Response

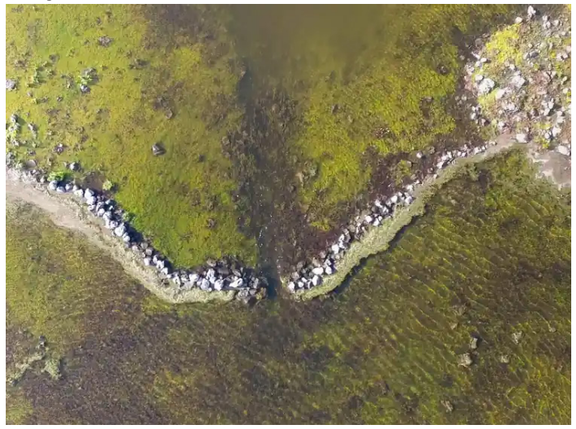
Fluid Geometries: The organic meandering curves of the Grange Burn can be used to inform the profiles of concrete seating edges and planter walls, encouraging a flow of pedestrian movement that mimics the natural flow of water across a flat landscape.

Structured Flow: With inspiration from the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape and its weirs, the paving layout can use 'banding' to suggest channelled water. These bands will act as tactile cues, directing pedestrians toward nodal points and gathering spaces.

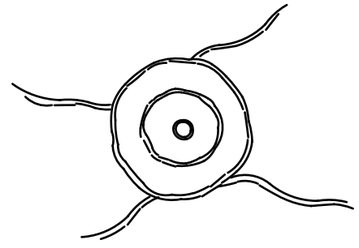
Passive Irrigation: Design levels are to be engineered to direct water into tree pits and planters, echoing the functional principles of indigenous water management where water is treated as a visible, life-sustaining asset rather than a problematic waste product.

Abstraction: Rather than literal replication, the design should use rhythmic gaps in furniture and paving joints to evoke the gaps in stone eel traps, embedding cultural logic into the physical infrastructure. The inclusion of basalt rocks within these spaces will also change appearance when wet, deepening in colour and creating a dynamic surface that connects the community to the rhythm of rainfall events.

Grange Burn


Gunditjmara aquaculture systems


Budj Bim Cultural Landscape

Inspiration	*Extraction*	*Translation*	*Application*
	Meander & Flow		– Curved concrete seating edges – Meandering planter walls – Pedestrian movement – Paving layout reflecting water flow
	Guide & Redirect		– Planting edges / raised planters – Integrated planter inlets (WSUD) – Channelled paving patterns
	Gather & Grow		– Circular gathering spaces – Raised planting beds – Rhythmic paving joints

4.3 WOOL PRODUCTION – A LIVING INDUSTRY

The “Wool Capital of the World” – Hamilton’s proudly self-proclaimed identity is inextricably linked to the pastoral industry. This legacy is not just historical; it is a story of texture, craft, innovation and connection.

From the vast grazing landscapes to the industrial geometry of the wool bale and the intricate microscopic structure of the wool fibre itself, this industry provides a rich library of forms for the urban realm to be inspired by.

Design Response

Angular Forms: The iconic, angular geometry of the wool bale can be translated into the design of bespoke street furniture. These bold forms would be a nod to Hamilton’s agricultural prowess and legacy.

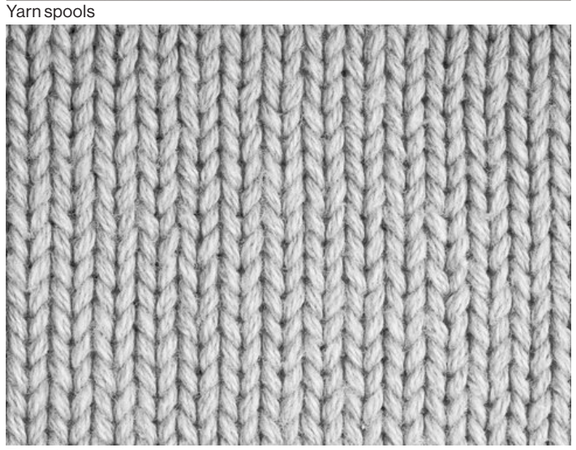
Linear Narratives: The concept of yarn and spinning can be integrated into the paving design. Interwoven ribbons of stone or metal inlays run through the streetscape, acting as threads that stitch different spaces together.

Tactile Textures: Potential to use perforated metal screens and sandblasted paving patterns to mimic the weave and crimp of wool fibres. These textures provide visual interest and slip-resistance while celebrating the tactile nature of the industry.

Integrated Signage: Interpretive motifs derived from historic wool bale stencils and shearing patterns can be etched into timber seating or bespoke shade shelters, offering subtle reference points for visitors to discover.

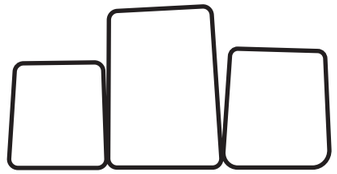
Hamilton Icon - Big Wool Bales


Yarn spools


The art of weaving

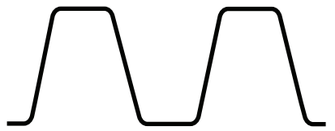
Inspiration ***Extraction*** ***Translation*** ***Application***

Stack & Form



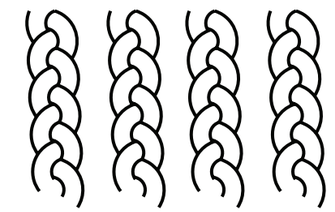
- Bespoke angular street furniture
- Bold seating forms referencing wool bales
- Shelter structures reflecting bale geometry

Roll & Undulate



- Interwoven paving bands
- Stone or metal inlay ribbons
- Flowing pavement patterns

Link & Weave



- Perforated metal screens
- Etched timber seating motifs
- Wool-pattern surface detailing

4.4 FIRST NATIONS RECOGNITION & DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

Acknowledge and Respect

The Hamilton CBD sits on the traditional lands of the **Gunditjmara**, **Djab Wurrung**, and **Bungandidj** Nations – lands that have been nurtured by their Traditional Owners for over 60,000 years.

We recognise their deep, unceded connection to this Country and pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

In revitalising Hamilton CBD's streetscapes, we acknowledge that this settlement historically caused disruption to these communities and commit to a future that honours their enduring presence and resilience.

Deep Connection to Place

This project views the Hamilton CBD not just as a commercial hub, but as a cultural landscape where indigenous heritage continues to permeate the modern environment.

Our design approach is guided by the principle of 'Designing with Country', moving beyond symbolic gestures to embed authentic First Nations narratives into the physical fabric of the city.

By doing so, we aim to create a space that fosters a sense of belonging and "healing" for all members of the community.

Commitment to Collaboration

True recognition requires active engagement, including opportunities for:

- Meaningful Collaboration: Working alongside Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) and local organisations to ensure design outcomes are self-determined and culturally safe.
- Cultural Visibility: Increasing the "daylighting" of Indigenous history through public art, dual-naming, and interpretive signage that reflects the unique identities of the three Nations.
- Lasting Connections: Using local materials and planting palettes that restore ecological and spiritual links between the people and the land.

The Goal

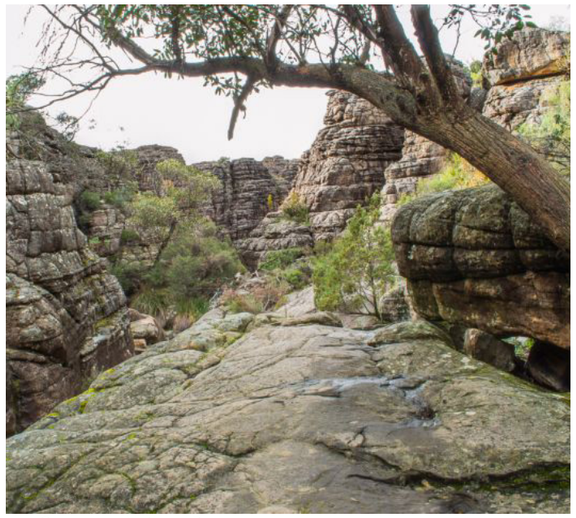
To deliver a revitalised Hamilton CBD that serves as a living bridge between the past and the future – a place where the stories of the Gunditjmara, Djab Wurrung, and Bungandidj peoples are told, respected, and woven into the everyday experience of the street.

Action

At the time of this Concept Design Report preparation, discussions with Council's Traditional Owners Representives have identified that a future meeting with the Yarning Circle Mob will need to be undertaken, together with the Consultants for the Hamilton Gallery and Hub Projects.

Gunditjmara Aquaculture

The Glenelg River



The Grampians National Park

The Gunditjmara People

The Gunditjmara (or Dhauwurd Wurrung) are the Traditional Owners of the volcanic plains and stony rises of Western Victoria.

Their primary language is Dhauwurd Wurrung, with several dialects associated with specific clan groups.

Specialisations:

They are world-renowned for their sophisticated aquaculture systems (specifically eel traps) at the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Budj Bim Cultural Landscape.

They are master stone-builders, having historically lived in permanent stone dwellings—a rarity in pre-colonial Australia.

Potential Design References:

- Aquaculture Motifs: Use of stone-lined swales or "eel trap" patterns in paving to reference the Budj Bim water systems.
- Volcanic Materiality: Incorporating local basalt (bluestone) in street furniture or feature walls to reflect the "Stony Rises" country.
- Dreaming Narratives: The story of Bunjil the Eagle can be integrated through sculptural elements or overhead lighting motifs.

The Bungandidj People

The Bungandidj (or Boandik) people's Country spans from the South Australian border across to the Glenelg River and Hamilton region.

Their language is Bunganditj, currently undergoing a significant community-led revival.

Specialisations:

They are known as the "People of the Reeds," specialising in intricate weaving using river reeds and fiber. Their culture is deeply tied to the limestone landscapes, underground water systems, and the volcanic history of the Mount Gambier/Casterton region.

Potential Design References:

- Weaving Patterns: Tactile "woven" textures in concrete finishes or custom metal screens inspired by traditional basketry.
- Water Connections: Interpretive elements referencing Culla Culla (the creation of water) or the movement of water through limestone.
- Floral Motifs: Native flora such as the Red Flowering Gum, which holds cultural significance, can be prioritised in the planting palette.

The Djab Wurrung People

The Djab Wurrung (meaning "Broad Language") people occupy the plains and foothills of the southern Grampians (Gariwerd).

Their language is Djab Wurrung, a member of the Kulin nation language family.

Specialisations:

They are known for their deep spiritual connection to Gariwerd (The Grampians) and are expert navigators and land managers of the mountainous and wooded terrains. They have a rich tradition of rock art and "Directional" sand markings.

Design References:

- Songlines/Waterlines: Utilising linear "pathway" patterns in the CBD paving to represent the Songlines that connect Gariwerd to the surrounding plains.
- Scar Trees: Sculptural totems or "marker" trees that mimic the appearance of Cultural Scar Trees, used historically for canoes or shields.
- Mountain Silhouettes: Using the profile of the Dunkeld (Mt Sturgeon/ Mt Abrupt) ranges as a silhouette for custom street signage or laser-cut seating.

5.0

CONCEPT DESIGN

5.1 KEY DESIGN MOVES

Key Themes (Project Foundation)

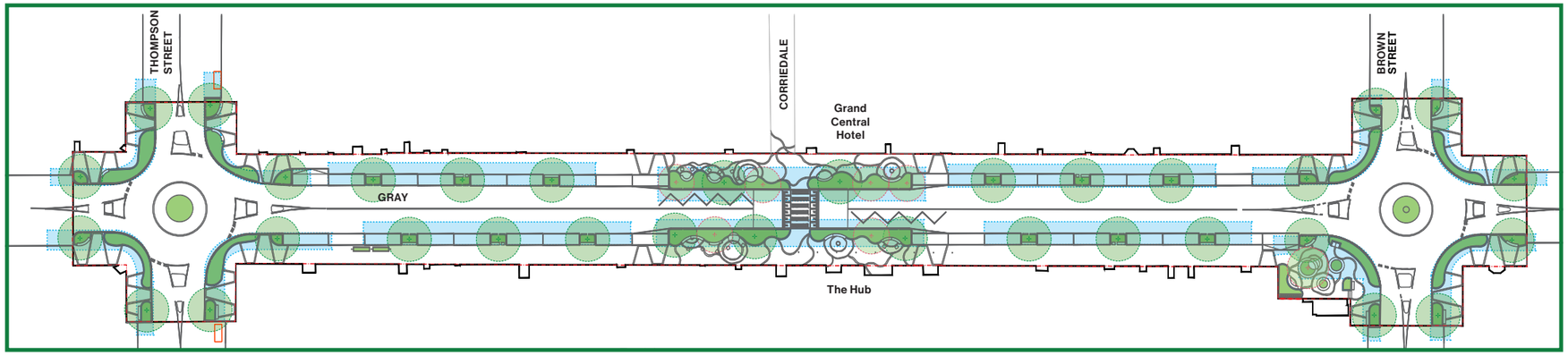
1. Strengthening Heritage & Character
2. Local & Creative
3. Bringing the Community Together

Design Principles (The Response)

01/ Greening the Grey
02/ Geological Narratives
03/ The Cultural Weave
04/ Social Anchors
05/ Seamless Connectivity

Key Design Moves (Implementation)

In the proposed Concept Design, Central Gray Street transforms into a high-performance civic spine. By deconstructing the design into three functional layers, the idea is to ensure that every square metre of the streetscape works to support Hamilton's heritage, environment and community.



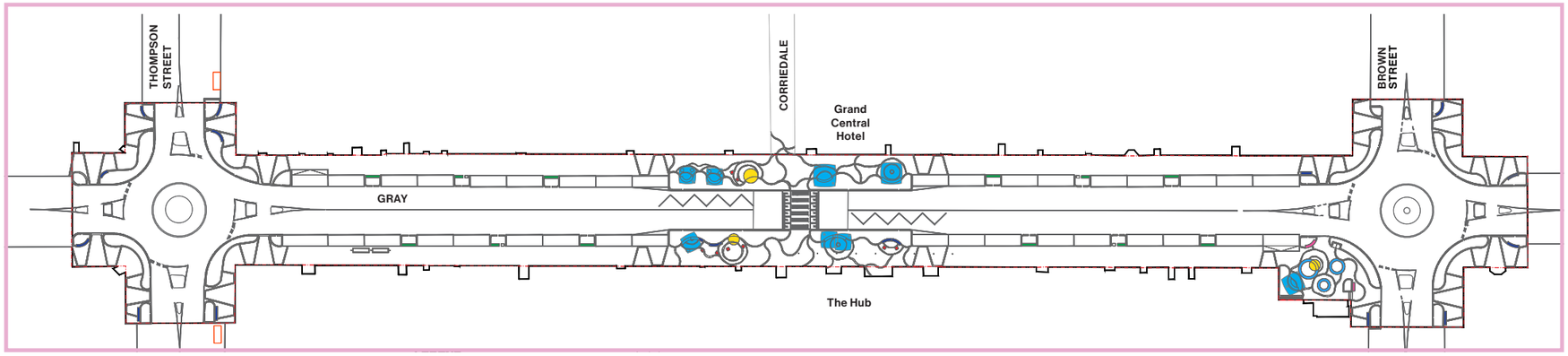
The Resilient Edge (Ecological Layer)

Endemic Cooling:

- Reinstate the urban forest canopy
- Enhance roundabouts with feature planting and rockery.
- Introduce Vertical Greening

Bio-filtration:

- Introduce bioretention and rain gardens.
- Incorporate WSUD



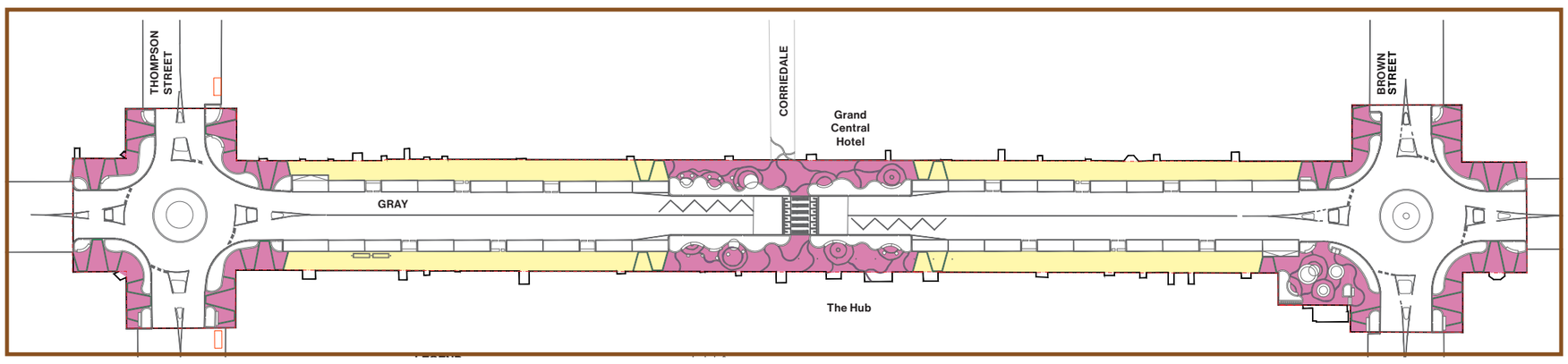
The Social Thread (Cultural Layer)

Stitching the Street

- Introduce raised pedestrian crossing
- Introduce feature seating as gateway treatments
- Introduce garden beds with raised edges to direct pedestrians to formal crossing points
- Introduce shelters and seating nodes
- Provide additional/new lighting

First Nations Presence

- Incorporate First Nations motifs and artwork
- Design spaces for yarning and gathering



The Basalt Foundation (Ground Layer)

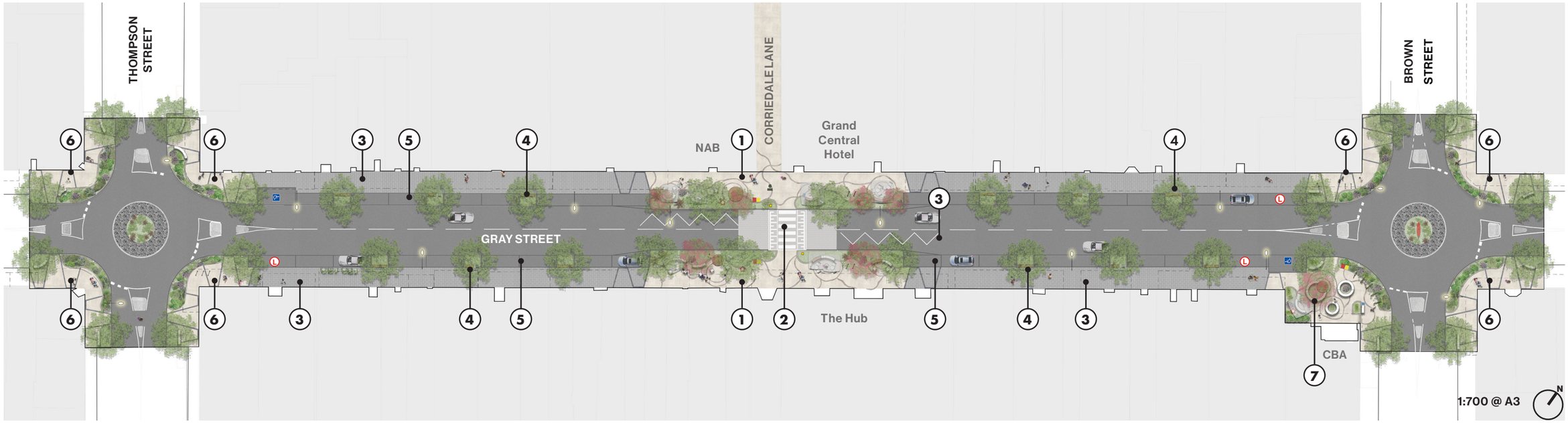
The Stony Rises Palette

- Upgrade footpath pavement with robust material
- Introduce feature paving as gateway treatments
- Introduce feature paving bands to weave together heritage and history

Tactile Navigation

- Introduce textured pavement to create slow zones
- Upgrade crossing with accessible tactiles

5.2 CENTRAL GRAY STREET - CONCEPT DESIGN PLAN



LEGEND

1. Widened/expanded pedestrian zone with feature paving and stone banding, increased seating opportunities, feature planting in garden beds, canopy shade trees, shade structures and opportunity to integrate artwork. Creating a refreshing and welcoming space to bring the community together.
2. Raised pedestrian crossing to improve access and safety for the city's residents and visitors.
   Paved road surface treatment on both sides help reduce vehicle speed through a combination of tactile, visual and audible cues.
3. Large-format and high-quality paving to the main pedestrian corridors.
4. Canopy trees planted in garden beds between on-street car parking bays.
   Passively irrigated and includes accessible seating adjacent to the footpath, enhancing pedestrian amenity throughout the streetscape.
5. Formalised parallel on-street parking bays with the parking meter located nearby for convenience.
6. Feature paving with banding to the corners of the roundabouts, including landscape enhancement through feature planting (low level understorey) and seating opportunities where appropriate.
7. Revitalised Commonwealth Bank of Australia forecourt space with enhanced seating, planting and feature paving. A feature canopy tree provides shade and visual interest to this special space for the local community and visitors to gather and enjoy.

On-street Parking Provision

Standard parking bays = 31

Loading bays = 3
(Reverts to standard parking bays after 6pm)

Accessible parking bays = 2

Total parking bays = 36

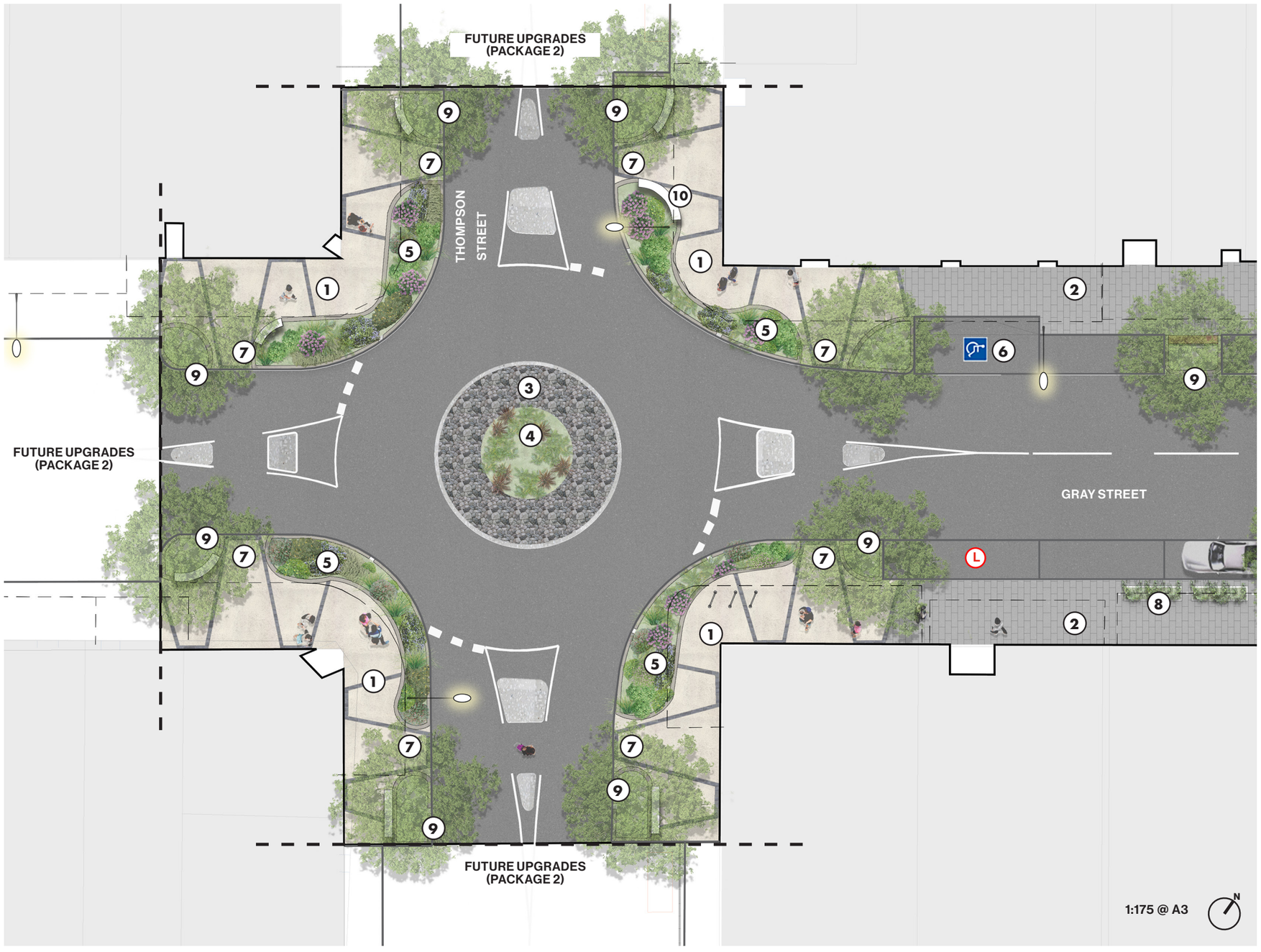
Proposed Canopy Tree Provision

Primary Street Trees = 33

Feature Street Trees = 7

Total proposed canopy trees = 40

5.3 THOMPSON STREET ROUNDABOUT - ZOOM-IN



Key Plan

LEGEND

1. Feature paving (with banding) to corners of the roundabout
2. Large-format pavers to footpaths
3. Proposed rock pavement at the outer ring of the roundabout
4. Refreshed garden bed at the centre of roundabout (potential location for future public art)
5. Garden beds with low understorey planting contained within raised edging (opportunity to incorporate WSUD)
6. Accessible parking bay with DDA compliant kerb ramp (max 1:8 gradient)
7. DDA compliant Pram ramp with tactiles
8. Opportunities for additional urban greening through raised planters and climber plants
9. Passive irrigation to street trees
10. Opportunities for seating

Proposed canopy street trees

Seating walls

Seating with backrest and armrest

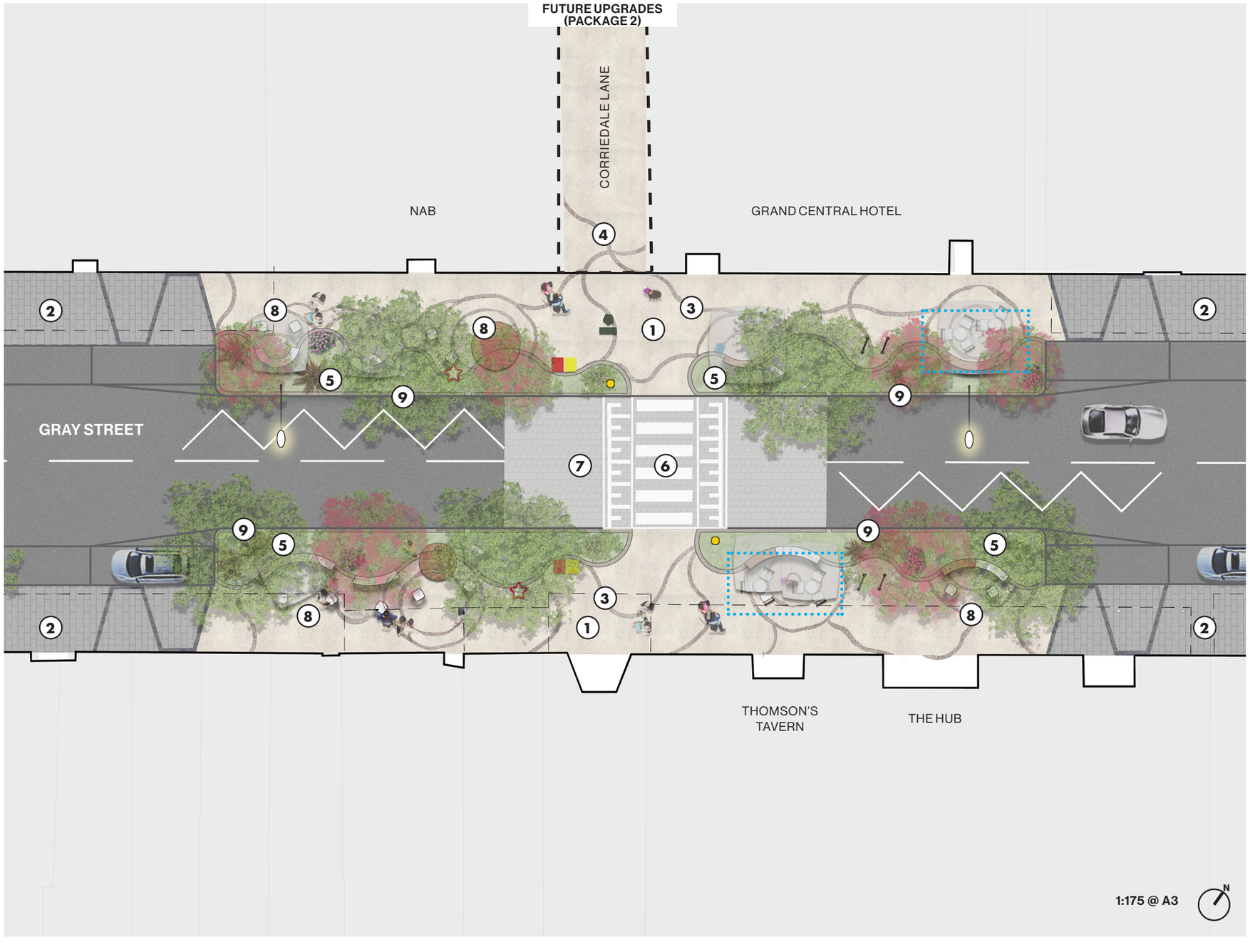
Bike racks

L Loading bay

Proposed streetlight

Refer to *Chapter 6.0 Streetscape Design Considerations* for further information relating to each of the above streetscape elements.

5.4 GRAY STREET MID-BLOCK - ZOOM-IN



Key Plan

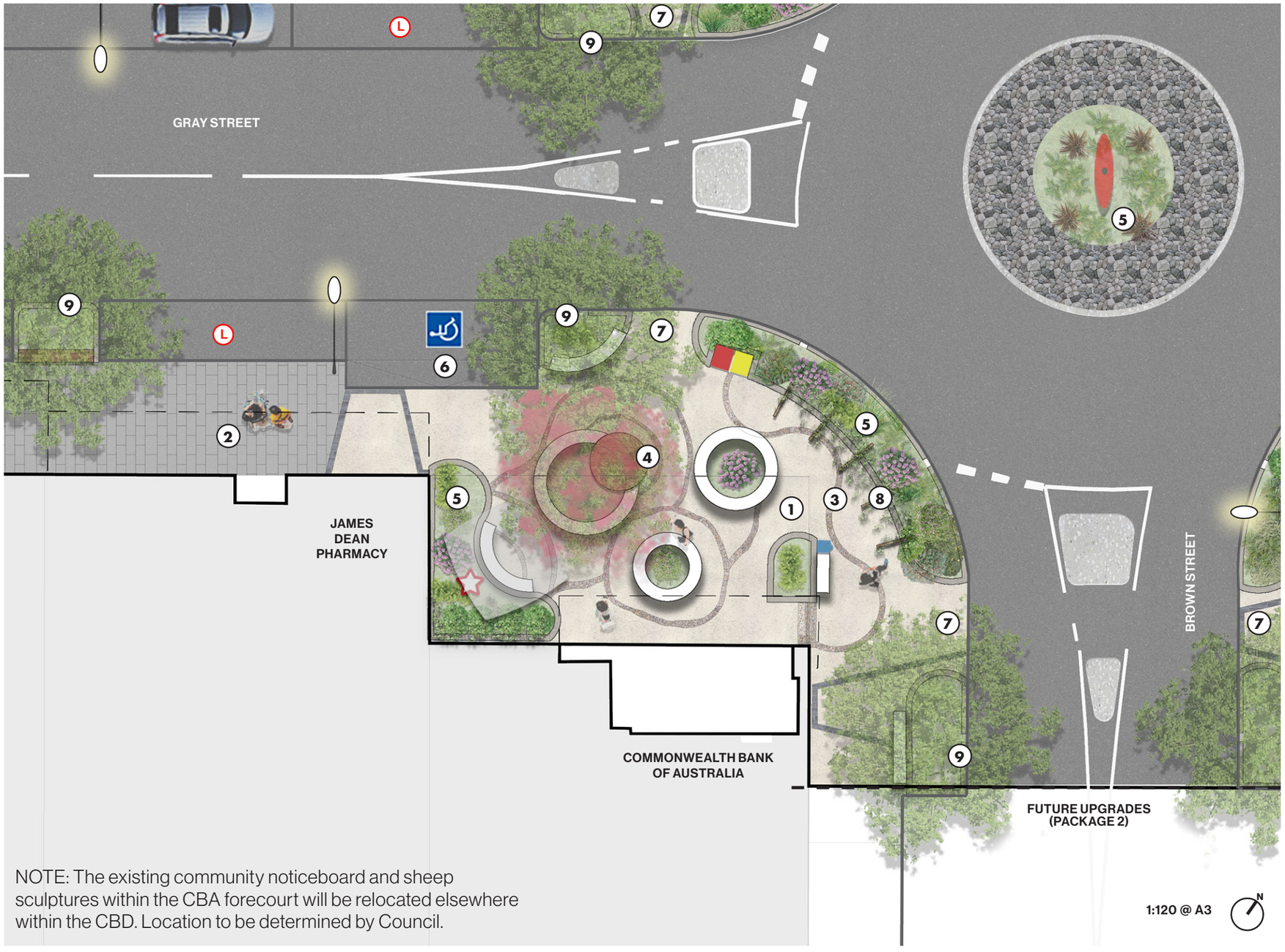
LEGEND

1. Expanded pedestrian zone with high-quality feature paving and stone banding
2. Large-format pavers to footpaths
3. Feature pavement banding
4. Future extension of feature paving into Corriedale Lane
5. Feature garden beds with low understorey planting contained within raised edging (opportunity to incorporate WSUD)
6. Raised pedestrian crossing
7. Paved surface treatment to slow vehicles and increase pedestrian safety
8. Gathering space with various seating arrangements
9. Passive irrigation to street trees

- Proposed canopy street trees
- Proposed feature trees
- Dual bins (general waste & recycling)
- Accessible drinking fountain
- Bike racks
- Licensed outdoor dining zone
- Proposed streetlight
- Potential location for future public art
- Shade shelters with opportunity to integrate artwork
- Relocated Heritage Lamp Post & Plaque
- Existing flashing pedestrian crossing light

Refer to *Chapter 6.0 Streetscape Design Considerations* for further information relating to each of the above streetscape elements.

5.5 CBA FORECOURT - ZOOM-IN



NOTE: The existing community noticeboard and sheep sculptures within the CBA forecourt will be relocated elsewhere within the CBD. Location to be determined by Council.

Key Plan

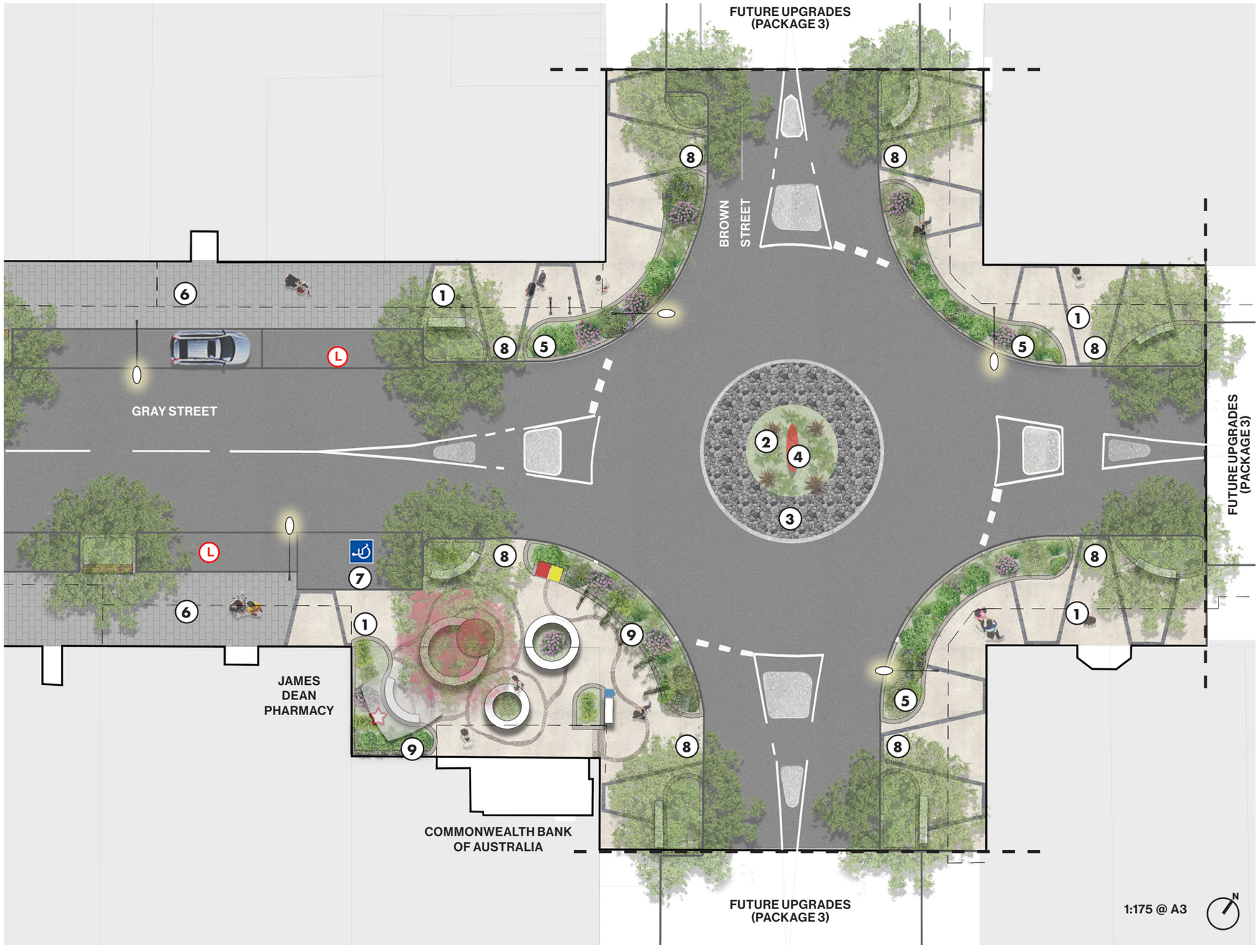
LEGEND

1. Expanded pedestrian zone with high-quality feature paving and stone banding
2. Large-format pavers to footpaths
3. Feature pavement banding
4. Acivated gathering space with bespoke, integrated seating walls and raised garden beds with feature planting
5. Garden beds with low understorey planting contained within raised edging (opportunity to incorporate WSUD)
6. Accessible parking bay with DDA compliant kerb ramp (max 1:8 gradient)
7. DDA compliant Pram ramp with tactiles
8. Vertical Greening - climbers on structure with openings considering safety and sightlines
9. Passive irrigation to street trees

- Proposed canopy street trees
- Proposed feature trees
- Seating with backrest & armrest
- Dual bins (general waste & recycling)
- Accessible drinking fountain
- Bike racks
- Loading bay
- Proposed streetlight
- Potential location for future public artwork
- Shade shelters with opportunity to integrate artwork
- Existing “Nucleus” sculpture to be retained and protected

Refer to *Chapter 6.0 Streetscape Design Considerations* for further information relating to each of the above streetscape elements.

5.6 BROWN STREET ROUNDABOUT - ZOOM-IN



Key Plan

LEGEND

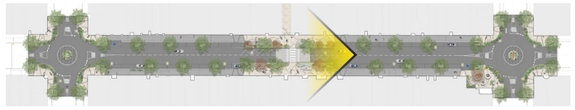
1. Feature paving (with banding) to corners of the roundabout
2. Large-format pavers to footpaths
3. Proposed rock pavement at the outer ring of the roundabout
4. Refreshed garden bed at the centre of roundabout
5. Garden beds with low understorey planting contained within raised edging (opportunity to incorporate WSUD)
6. Accessible parking bay with DDA compliant kerb ramp (max 1:8 gradient)
7. DDA compliant Pram ramp with tactiles
8. Passive irrigation to street trees
9. Vertical Greening - climbers on structure with openings considering safety and sightlines
10. Opportunities for seating

- Proposed canopy street trees
- Proposed feature trees
- Seating with backrest & armrest
- Dual bins (general waste & recycling)
- Accessible drinking fountain
- Bike racks
- Loading bay
- Proposed streetlight
- Potential location for future public artwork
- Existing “Nucleus” sculpture to be retained and protected

Refer to *Chapter 6.0 Streetscape Design Considerations* for further information relating to each of the above streetscape elements.

5.7 GRAY STREET MID-BLOCK - PERSPECTIVE 01

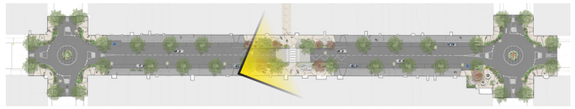
Key Plan



NOTE: The above is an artistic render of the proposed streetscape revitalisation based on the concept design.
Trees depicted above are for visual and spatial reference only, reflecting potential mature sizes but are not indicative of the future outcome, nor represent their true dimensions immediately after planting.

5.8 GRAY STREET MID-BLOCK - PERSPECTIVE 02

Key Plan



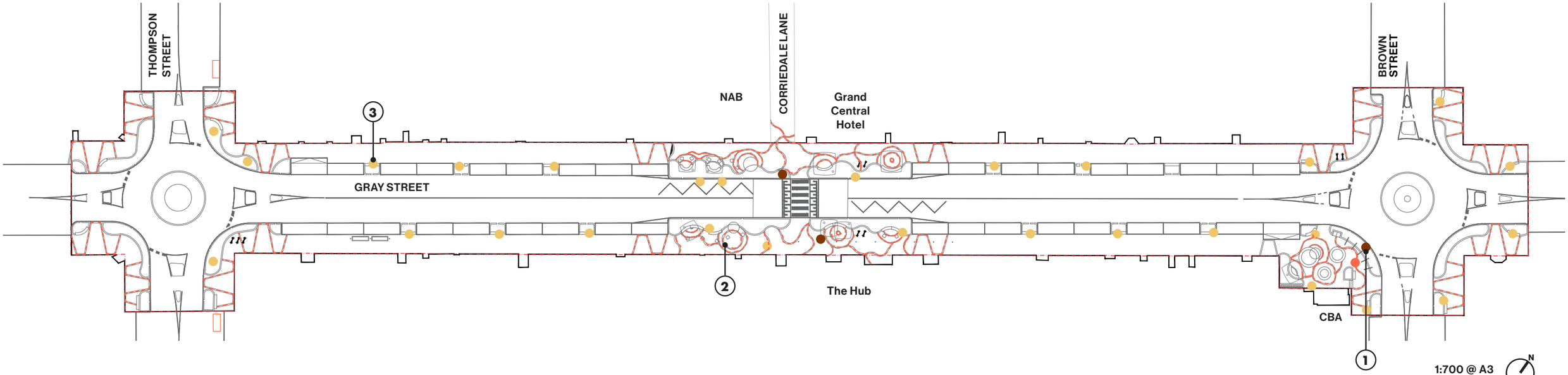
NOTE: The above is an artistic render of the proposed streetscape revitalisation based on the concept design.
Trees depicted above are for visual and spatial reference only, reflecting potential mature sizes but are not indicative of the future outcome, nor represent their true dimensions immediately after planting.

6.0

STREETSCAPE DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 INCORPORATION OF CULTURAL STORYTELLING

Applicable Key Themes



LEGEND

1. **Macro** - Feature dedicated artwork
2. **Meso** - Feature integrated artwork in streetscape furniture and paving
3. **Micro** - Subtle integrated artwork & patterns on seating modules and engraved pavers

Country is expressed through design at different scales, from intricate patterns and details, to medium-scale installations, to landmark artworks, bringing stories, culture, and connection to place into public spaces, in recognition of the Gunditjmara, Bungandidj and Djab Wurrung people as the traditional custodians of this land.

This project offers a framework for engaging respectfully with First Nations and community, supporting open dialogue and collaborative design that reflects cultural knowledge and connection to Country.

The above plan depicts locations where cultural storytelling can be embedded into the everyday cityscape through a series of scales and formats.

EXAMPLES OF CULTURAL STORYTELLING INCORPORATED INTO THE STREETSCAPE AT DIFFERENT SCALES

MACRO - Feature dedicated artwork

Country is celebrated at a large scale through landmark feature sculptures within public spaces, creating a strong and enduring cultural presence

Image Credit: Birrarung Wilam (River Camp) art installation, Birrarung Marr, along the Yarra River, Melbourne

MESO - Feature integrated artwork

A celebration of Country is achieved through medium-scale artwork applied to streetscape furniture and paving, bringing cultural presence into everyday public spaces

Image Credit: Decorative balustrade by Urban Fountains & Furniture featuring artwork by Pamela Denise, commissioned by Brisbane City Council

MICRO - Subtle Integrated artwork& patterns

An immersion of Country is created through subtle design details, from engraved paving to artwork woven into infrastructure

Image Credit: Stainless steel bollards with Indigenous designs at Redfern Station, Sydney, co-designed by Balarinji and the local Redfern Aboriginal community to celebrate local culture and Country

6.2 MATERIALITY & CONSTRUCTABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

Applicable Key Themes

Hamilton's character is etched in its stone and forged in its industry; a city built from the basalt beneath our feet and the timber of the plains.

Project Design Statement

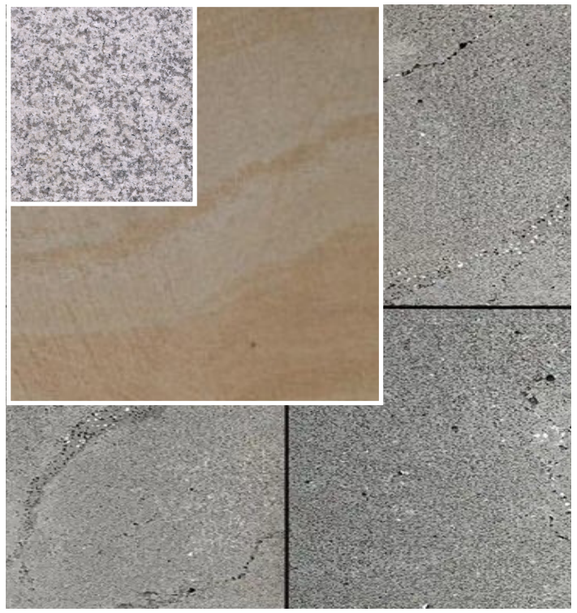
Materiality and constructability considerations are critical, interconnected aspects of modern construction project management, focusing on how material selection drives the efficiency, cost, and feasibility of construction, as well as factors of environmental impact, connection to place and durability.

Key Considerations

- Materiality and Design: Material selection affects the construction logic, influencing the speed of construction, sequencing, and overall quality of the outcome.
- Performance and Sustainability: Material choices impact environmental, social, and governance factors, requiring assessments from each of these standpoints.
- Functionality and Aesthetic Integration: Materiality involves balancing functional requirements with aesthetic goals.
- Constructability Drivers: Materiality is a key factor influencing constructability – including availability and construction methodology. This is significant for public realm projects which cause real and immediate impact on the local businesses and residents.
- Maintenance and Sustainability: Material selection and use within the project needs to consider the maintenance requirements. Use of durable, low maintenance materials means less frequent maintenance and better sustainability. Consideration of vandal resistant materials is also crucial for projects in the public realm.
- Environmental Factors: Materials selection can impact environment factors such as the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect. The use of light-coloured and low-heat materials could reduce UHI and improve the streetscape environment for visitors.

Key Aspects of Constructability

- Sequence: The order in which different elements of the project are installed is crucial for efficiency.
- Material Selection: Choosing materials that are easy to procure and install reduces project risks. Local materials may not necessarily mean being more available.
- Prefabrication and Modularisation: Using prefabricated elements can improve constructability and reduce onsite labour requirements.
- Construction Impact: Consider minimising the use of concrete slabs where appropriate to decrease construction time – in consideration of the impact of the construction works to local businesses.



Historic & Lithic Foundations (Bluestone, Granite & Sandstone)

Design Narrative: Hamilton's Spirit;
Geological Foundation and First Nations History

Materials:

- **Basalt (Bluestone):** The primary driver in the project. High durability, local heritage link, and excellent slip resistance. Construction: Mortar-set on concrete base for high-traffic zones.
- **Grampians Sandstone:** To be used as a feature material. Historically significant to Hamilton's civic buildings and Traditional Owner "grinding groove" sites. Can be used for feature paving, seating walls or interpretive markers.
- **Pink Granite:** Can be used for kerbing and feature paving bands. It has extreme compressive strength and is resistant to salt/acid.

Pros/Cons:

+ Timeless aesthetics
+ Low maintenance
+ Local connections
– Higher initial capital costs

Industrial & Performance Framework (Concrete, Asphalt and Steel)

Design Narrative: Hamilton's Bones;
Pioneering Industry, Durability and Efficiency

Materials:

- **Concrete:** To be used for structural sub-bases or utility zones to reduce costs while maintaining 50+ year durability. Crushed recycled brick or locally sourced basalt used as aggregate to provide a weathered look that hides stains.
- **Asphalt:** Used for rapid-install areas or temporary works to minimise disruption to Hamilton CBD businesses.
- **Steel:** Used where durability and low maintenance are key considerations; Streetscape elements could include light poles, shelters, feature artwork and parts of street furniture.

Pros/Cons:

+ High durability
+ Faster construction
+ Lower initial capital costs
– Asphalt and concrete prone to damage and may require repairs

Tactile, Permeable & Recycled (Gravel, Timber and Aggregates)

Design Narrative: Hamilton's Skin;
Environmental Sustainability and Comfort

Materials:

- **Crushed Brick/Gravel:** Can be used as a decorative, vibrant and permeable mulch in the planting areas. Lighter toned gravels can reflect heat away from shopfronts at non-traffic areas.
- **Permeable Pavement:** Can be used near planting areas to allow oxygen and wa-ter to reach plants and tree roots, reducing the Urban Heat Island effect.
- **Timber:** Hardwood can be used for seating, and part of the street furniture.

Pros/Cons:

+ Comfort & aesthetics
+ Flexible use
+ Local connections
– Regular maintenance required to retain performance and durability

6.3 FOOTPATHS & PAVEMENT

Applicable Key Themes

Design Logic

The pavement design uses texture and finish as a functional language to guide pedestrian behaviour and improve safety.

Active Zones (Honed/Sawn):

Smooth, slip-resistance finishes are to be used for the primary pedestrian footpath areas, to ensure accessibility for all abilities (universal access).

Passive Zones (Exfoliated/Blasted):

Medium textures and finishes are to be used at gathering spaces and pocket parks to emphasize that these are slow zones, for visitors to linger and provides tactile contrast to the Active Zones.

Thresholds & Edges (Rough Sawn/Cobbles):

Highly tactile surfaces can form visual edges and incorporate permeable zones for passive irrigation to garden beds.

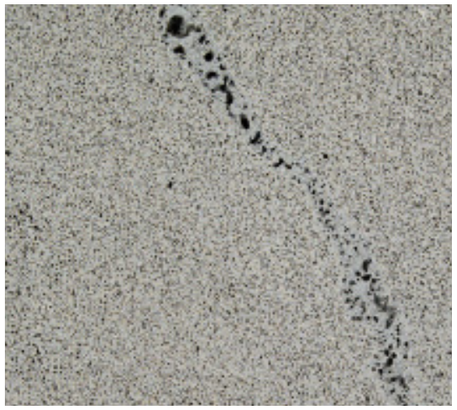
PAVING PRECEDENTS

Unit pavers define mid-block crossing points, providing visual contrast and reinforcing pedestrian priority within shared road environments.

Bluestone pavement with granite feature stone paving

Granite paving and banding engraved with text / artwork

PROPOSED PAVING MATERIALS



Basalt (Bluestone)

Basalt (bluestone) is widely used across the region for its durability and strength. It informs primary paving surfaces and structural elements within the streetscape.

Bluestone paved in uniform arrangements draws references from the Historic Heritage of Hamilton's industrial past.

Application:

Pavers for the main footpath areas (Active Zone)

Typical kerbing for the streetscape

Crushed basalt (eg, blue metal) at roundabout surrounds

Finishes:

Honed/sawn to achieve P5 slip resistance at footpath areas

Rough/natural for all other applications

Construction Considerations:

Option 1: Sand/gravel base - for light pedestrian areas (Faster, less labor-intensive, flexible, immediate use)

Option 2: Concrete mortar bed - high-traffic areas (Slower, more precise, better for high traffic areas, requires curing time)

Alternative Material Substitution:

Concrete paving with brick aggregate, framed by bluestone banding

Exposed aggregate engineered concrete pavers with basalt or brick aggregate mix

Grampians Sandstone

Grampians sandstone is a regionally significant material, characterised by warm tones and a softer texture. It is used to introduce tactile and human-scaled elements within the public realm.

Grampian sandstone used in the key activity areas represent the Indigenous Heritage present in Hamilton's identity.

Application:

Pavers for the key activity areas (Active Zone & Passive Zone)

Permeable pavement using rough-sawn cobbles with larger permeable joints for passive irrigation

Finishes:

Honed or similar to achieve P5 slip resistance at footpath areas

Rough/cobbles with permeability near garden beds areas

Construction Considerations:

Option 1: Gravel base - for light pedestrian areas (Faster, less labor-intensive, flexible, immediate use)

Option 2: Concrete mortar bed - high-traffic areas (Slower, more precise, better for high traffic areas, requires curing time)

Alternative Material Substitution:

Coloured concrete paving, framed by sandstone banding

Exposed aggregate engineered concrete pavers with coloured aggregate mix to match sandstone

Pink Granite

Pink granite appears across the broader regional landscape and historic civic structures. It is used selectively for feature elements, thresholds and fine-grain detailing.

Pink Granite used as organic paving bands draws inspiration from the Indigenous Heritage and is symbolic of a thread which weaves through the fabric of the streetscape.

Application:

Feature paving band in an organic pattern at the key activity areas (Active Zone & Passive Zone)

Raised kerb at garden beds at feature locations.

Finishes:

Honed or similar to achieve P5 slip resistance at footpath areas

Rough/cobbles with permeability near garden beds areas

Construction Considerations:

Option 1: Gravel base - for light pedestrian areas (Faster, less labor-intensive, flexible, immediate use)

Option 2: Concrete mortar bed - high-traffic areas (Slower, more precise, better for high traffic areas, requires curing time)

Alternative Material Substitution

Concrete paving with crushed pink granite aggregate

Exposed aggregate engineered concrete pavers with crushed pink granite aggregate mix

Cost Management

Whist the preference of using locally significant stone as the premium material for the project, we are cognisant of the reality of project funding and budgets. Should there be any value management required to meet budget constraints, the design's modular approach enables ease of substitution without compromising on the unique Hamilton Character of this design. Below are a number of strategies to manage this aspect of the project going forward:

Hybrid Paving strategy: use the premium stone paving at key node locations to reinforce the cultural and heritage significance. Footpaths with general through traffic can be substituted with high quality, large format concrete paving instead.

Tone and texture matching: if Concrete is to substitute stone paving

Framing: stone paving can be used to frame concrete paving to give a premium feel with significantly lower cost

Storytelling Inlay: apply individually etched accent pavers or precast concrete pavers where the cultural heritage elements can be applied.

Consider the life cycle cost of the paving: Whilst concrete paving would be more cost effective to build, it can become patchy if utility works are to occur after the streetscape is completed, degrading the visual quality of the streetscape overtime. Using pavers would alleviate this as it can be lifted during works and replaced if damaged to preserve the streetscape character and aesthetic.

Maintenance Considerations

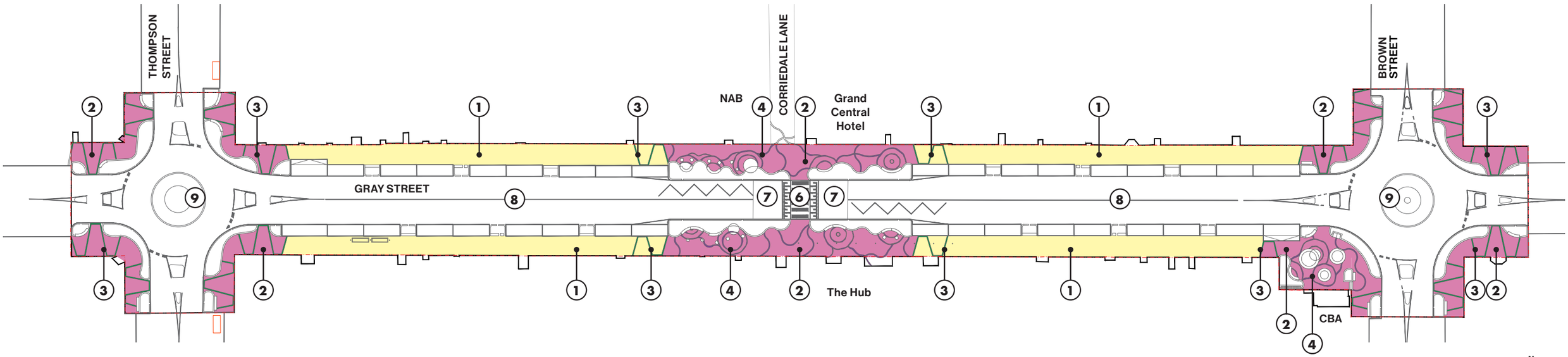
Through using standardising paver sizes (eg, 600x300mm), Council can maintain a small stock of replacements. This ensures that if utility works are required in the future, the patchwork effect is avoided, and the streetscape character is preserved.

6.4 PAVING DESIGN

Applicable Key Themes

Strengthening Heritage & Character

Local & Creative



LEGEND

1. Large-format Bluestone Paving (Active Zone)
2. Feature Sandstone Paving (Active Zone & Passive Zone)
3. Bluestone Banding (Active Zone)
4. Granite Banding (Active Zone & Passive Zone)
5. Potential Permeable Paving adjacent garden beds, planters and below seating
6. Vehicular-grade Unit Pavers to Raised Crossing
7. Porphry Sett / Cobblestone to Ramps adjacent Raised Crossing
8. Asphalt Road Surface
9. Blue metal / Crushed Bluestone to Roundabout Surrounds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6.5 TREE SELECTION

Applicable Key Themes

Benefits of Street Trees

Street trees are an important element in creating vibrant, pedestrian-friendly streets. They help to cool the streetscape in hot weather, reduce wind, and clean the air (by catching dust particles in their leaves and converting carbon dioxide into oxygen). They provide a sense of shelter and help to visually soften the hard edges of built form and have even been proven to cause drivers to slow down, improving pedestrian safety.

Design Logic

In the current project, given all the existing Plane Trees are identified for removal due to the problems they are causing (refer to Section 1.2 for details), it presents an opportunity for the city to plant new legacy canopy trees which can achieve a similar streetscape character whilst learning from past mistakes. There are significant benefits to planting a mixture of different tree species and types:

- The Australian climate is becoming increasingly unpredictable, so it makes sense to plant a variety of trees that can tolerate a range of weather conditions.
- Using a variety of tree species increases biodiversity, which helps to support a wider range of birds, insects and small mammals that move through urban areas. This brings benefits to the wider region as it supports pollinators that migrate and contributes to the health and diversity of plant communities that are essential to human health.
- While native trees are preferred to support our natural environment, there are a limited number that perform well as street trees in cooler climates. For this reason, we also proposed some exotic tree species that are known to perform well in similar conditions.
- Evergreen trees provide shade, wind mitigation and visual aesthetics all year round, while deciduous trees provide an annual display of colour as their leaves change and allow more sunlight to reach footpaths in colder months. Having a mix of both helps provide amenity to urban environments in all seasons.

The trees shown on the right represent the species that have been nominated for the Hamilton CBD project. These include species that have been planted successfully in similar urban streetscape environments or have been recommended by the Project Advisory Group and Council Arborist. We have identified species which can be considered as the Primary Street Trees preferred form Hamilton CBD's future urban forest canopy. Feature Street Trees on the other hand provide smaller scale shading and visual interest with bursts of colour and can form part of the identity of Hamilton, to help with wayfinding for visitors.

We have considered the notion of "Summer Shade & Winter Sun" when nominating location for each of these species (refer to the next page). Native evergreens will form the entry gateway into the streetscape, with the main streetscape corridor lined with deciduous canopy trees (similar to the London Planes in visual effect). A number of smaller feature trees which include both exotic and native species are nominated in the mid-block section of Gray Street to further enhance the streetscape character and canopy coverage of this extended pedestrian zone and proposed gathering spaces.

Final tree species selection to be confirmed with community/ stakeholder input and Project Advisory Group guidance at Detailed Design.

PRIMARY STREET TREES

Australian Blackwood

Acacia melanoxylon

Mature size: 30 x 20m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

Queensland Brush Box

Lophostemon confertus

Mature size: 25 x 15m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

Japanese Elm

Zelkova serrata 'Green Vase'

Mature size: 15x 12m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

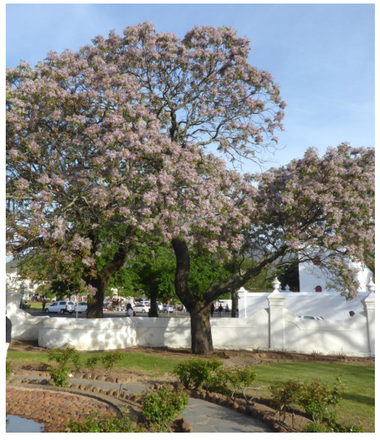
Tilia Cordata

Small-Leaved Lime

Mature size: 25 x 15m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

FEATURE STREET TREES



Lilac Lady

Melia azedarach

Mature size: 12 x 10m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

Crepe Myrtle

Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei 'Tuscarora'

Mature size: 8 x 6m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

Native Frangipani

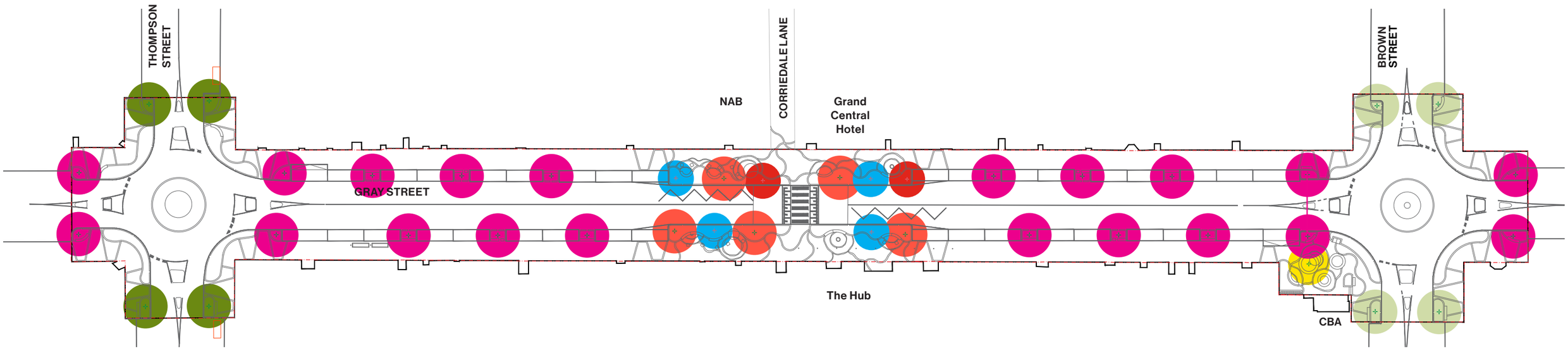
Hymenosporum flavum

Mature size: 15 x 8m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

6.6 TREE PLANTING - PROPOSED LOCATIONS & SPECIES

Applicable Key Themes



Trees depicted in the plan are based on their mature size (for reference only)

1:700 @ A3

LEGEND

PRIMARY STREET TREES = 33

- Australian Blackwood - *Acacia melanoxylon*
- Queensland Brush Box - *Lophostemon confertus*
- Japanese Elm - *Zelkova serrata 'Green Vase'*
- Tilia Cordata - *Small-Leaved Lime*

FEATURE STREET TREES = 7

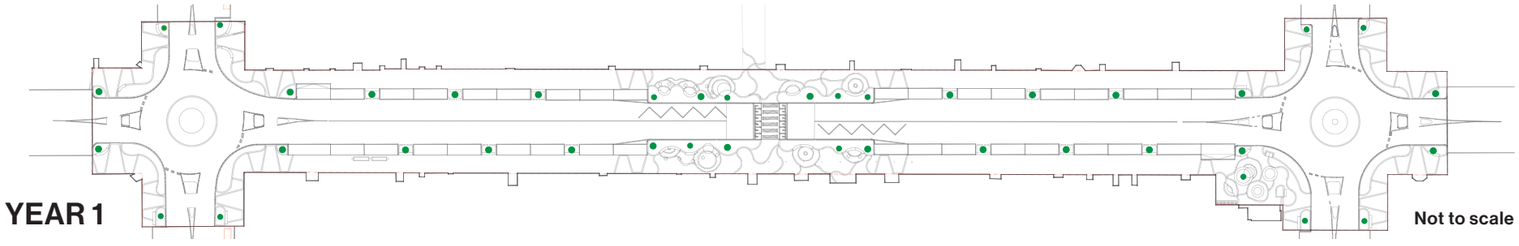
- Lilac Lady - *Melia azedarach*
- Crepe Myrtle - *Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei ' Tuscarora'*
- Native Frangipani - *Hymenosporum flavum*

Total proposed trees and canopy coverage = 40 QTY (approx. 4,580m2)

Total existing trees and canopy coverage = 24 QTY (approx. 3,433m2)

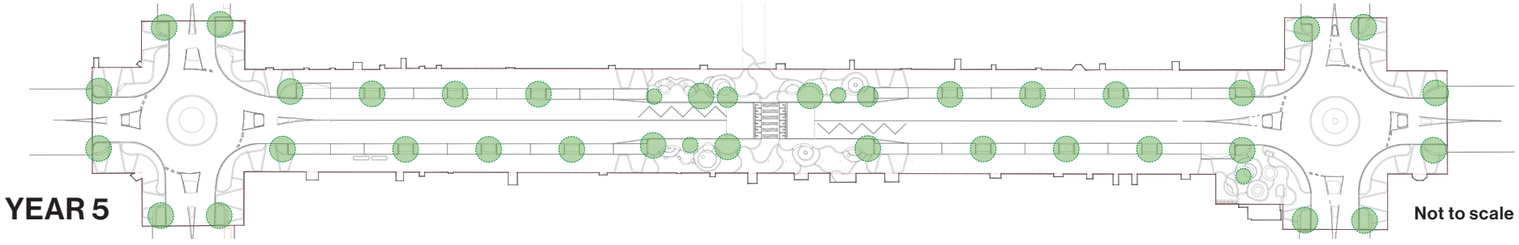
Final tree species selection to be confirmed with community/ stakeholder input and Project Advisory Group guidance at Detailed Design.

ILLUSTRATION OF TREE CANOPY COVERAGE OVER TIME



YEAR 1

Not to scale



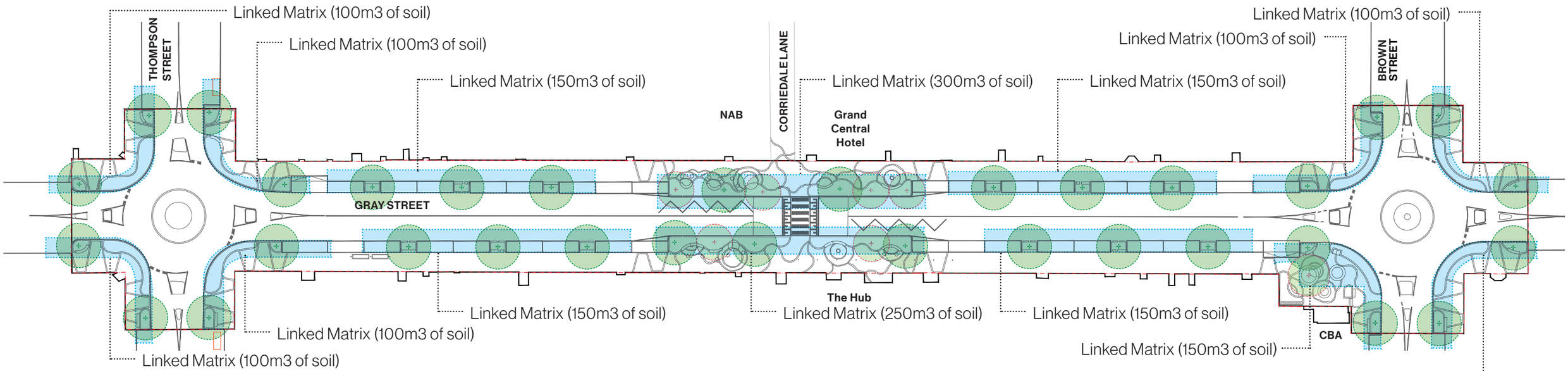
YEAR 5

Not to scale

6.7 TREE PLANTING - STRUCTURAL SOIL VAULT CONSIDERATIONS

Applicable Key Themes

Strengthening Heritage & Character



Historical Context

A primary issue in the existing Hamilton CBD is that the mature Plane Trees were historically planted without adequate root space or structural support, resulting in pavement and drainage issues and compromised tree health.

Proposed Solution: Structural Soil Vaults

To resolve this, the design identifies the use of Structural Soil Vaults (such as Stratavault) as a preferred technical option. These modular systems provide uncompacted soil for healthy root growth while structurally supporting the pavement above (footpaths, parking, and roads). The open-grid design allows services to pass through and can function as on-site detention (OSD) for stormwater management.

The Shared Matrix Strategy

As shown in the diagram, trees are proposed within a linked Cell Matrix. This allows multiple trees to share root volume, which maximises growth potential, reduces installation costs, and minimises construction disruption to local businesses and the community.

Visual Performance

Images to the right demonstrate the high growth rates and pavement stability achievable with this type of system over several years at similar streetscape environments.

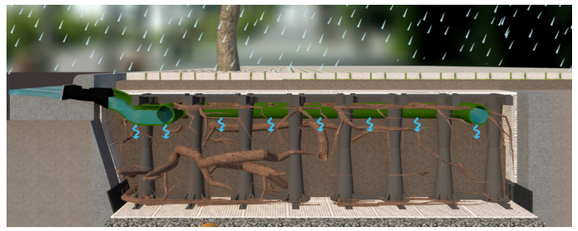


Image Credit: All four of thesee images are used with permission from Citygreen.com

Linked Stratavault Cell Matrix

Number of Linked Stratavault Installations = 14

The volume of soil required is an approximation and will require detailed calculations based on finalised tree species.

Exact location of the Stratavault system will be determined at detailed design.

6.8 PLANTING PALETTE

Applicable Key Themes

This palette presents a practical, low-maintenance planting approach that delivers long-term value while enhancing the visual and environmental quality of the site.

It offers an example of the proposed understorey planting, featuring species that are endemic to the Hamilton region and carefully selected to thrive in the local climate and soil conditions. These plants tolerate both periodic wet conditions and extended dry periods, ensuring reliable performance with minimal ongoing maintenance. By prioritising endemic, hardy species, the design reduces plant loss, irrigation demand, and weed pressure, providing an attractive, cost-effective, and resilient streetscape solution.

GROUNDCOVER

1. Running Postman - *Kennedia prostrata*
2. Dianella - *Dianella brevicaulis*
3. Hop Goodenia - *Goodenia ovata*

GRASSES

4. Spiny-head mat-rush - *Lomandra longifolia*
5. Tussock Grass - *Poa labillardierei*
6. Kangaroo Grass - *Themeda triandra*

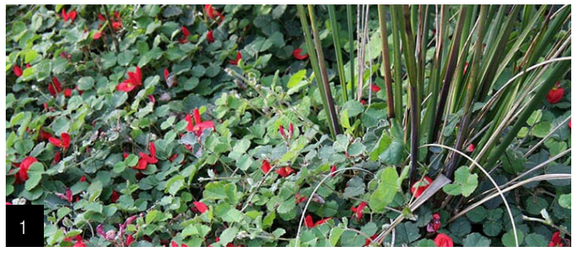
SHRUBS

7. Nowa Nowa grevillea - *Grevillea celata*
8. Mount Cassell grevillea- *Grevillea microstegia*
9. Ben Major grevillea- *Grevillea floripendula*

FEAUTURE PLANTING

10. Common Everlasting - *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*
11. Milkmaids - *Burchardia umbellata*
12. Tufted Bluebell - *Wahlenbergia communis*
13. Chocolate lily - *Arthropodium strictum*
14. Blue devil - *Eryngium ovinum*

Final plant selection to be confirmed with community/ stakeholder input and Project Advisory Group guidance at Detailed Design.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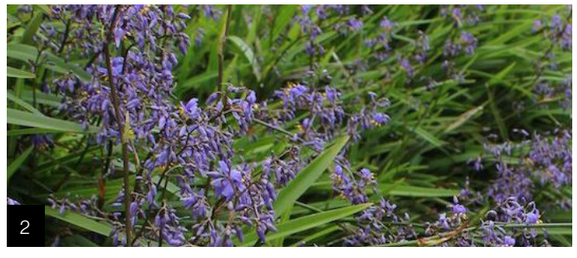
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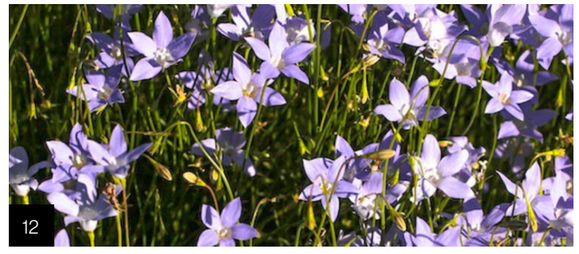
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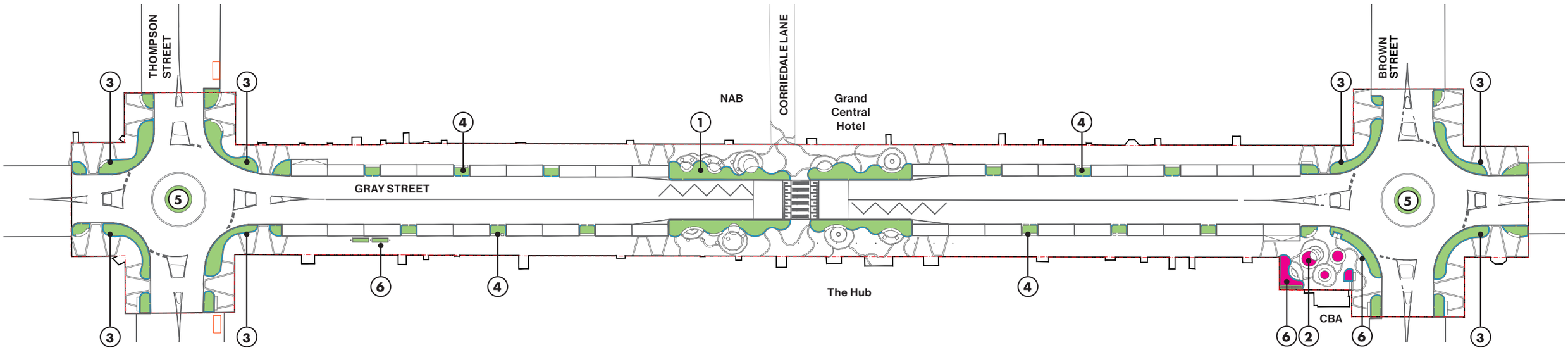
6.9 PLANTING DESIGN

Applicable Key Themes



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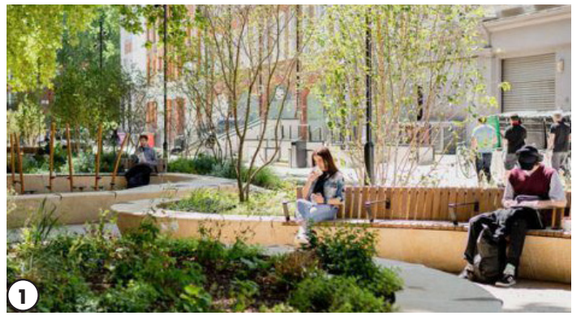
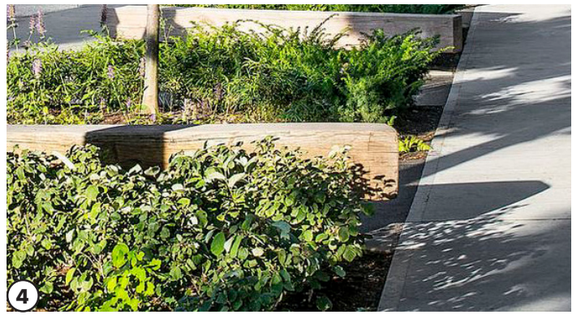
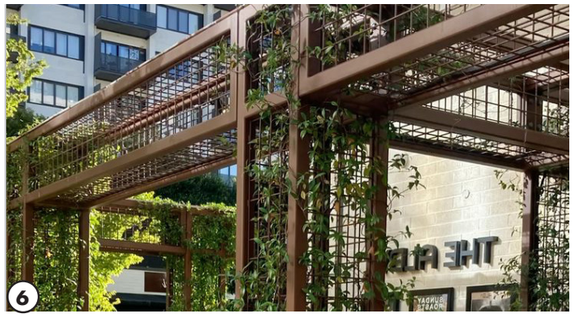
LEGEND

1. Feature planting to extended pedestrian zone and gathering spaces. A combination of raised kerb and seating walls frame the garden beds.
2. Feature planting in raised planters integrated with seating at the CBA forecourt create a refreshed and welcoming environment for visitors.
3. Low understorey planting (600mm max height) to roundabout corners for sight line visibility.
4. Hardy understorey planting within garden beds under street trees.
5. Refreshed planting to roundabout centre island garden bed
6. Vertical greening opportunities using climbing speicies, raised planters and trellis systems
- Irrigation required potentially

Final plant selection to be confirmed with community/ stakeholder input and Project Advisory Group guidance at Detailed Design.



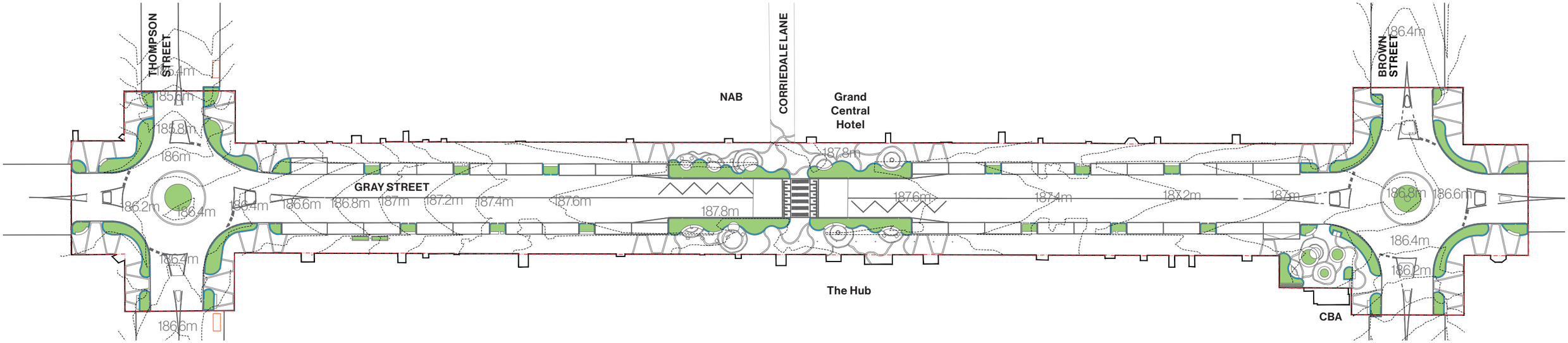




6.10 WATER SENSITIVE URBAN DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Applicable Key Themes

Strengthening Heritage & Character



Water as a resource; not waste

The design applies Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) principles, treating stormwater as a valuable resource. Following existing site contours, runoff is directed passively into landscaped garden beds via castellated kerbs and strategically placed kerb openings.

During rainfall, water flows from the road into these planting zones, where it is slowed and filtered through layered soils. Loose stone at kerb inlets dissipates flow energy and captures sediment before infiltration, improving water quality, reducing pressure on conventional drains, and supporting on-site retention if needed.

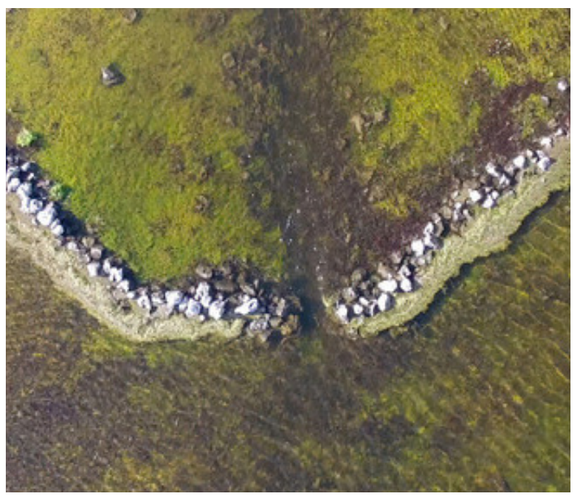
By guiding water naturally through the streetscape, the design reintroduces visible hydrological processes and aligns with the theme of Strengthening Heritage and Character. It acknowledges the Gunditjmara people's historic engineered waterways, which sustainably managed water to support both community and landscape.

Example of kerb planting with an inlet pit

Image credit: Enlocus — "Brunswick Civic and Cultural Precinct", Enlocus Portfolio

Example of kerb inlet with a layer of stone to dissipate flow.

Image credit: Evergreen Civil — "Dawson Street Streetscape Improvements", Evergreen Civil

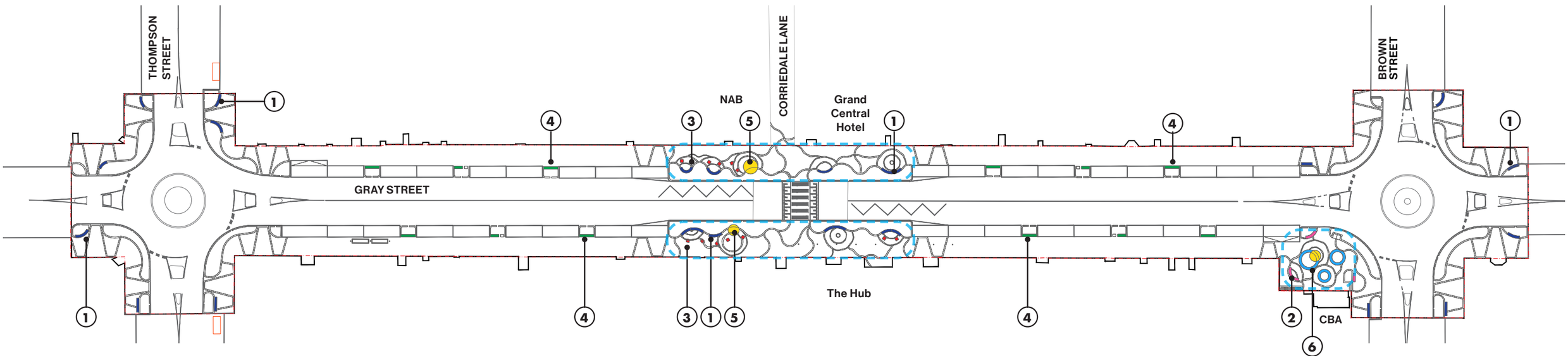


Close-up of stone weir structure.

Adapted from: T. Lovett-Murray, 2017. © Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation / UNESCO.

6.11 SEATING OPPORTUNITIES

Applicable Key Themes



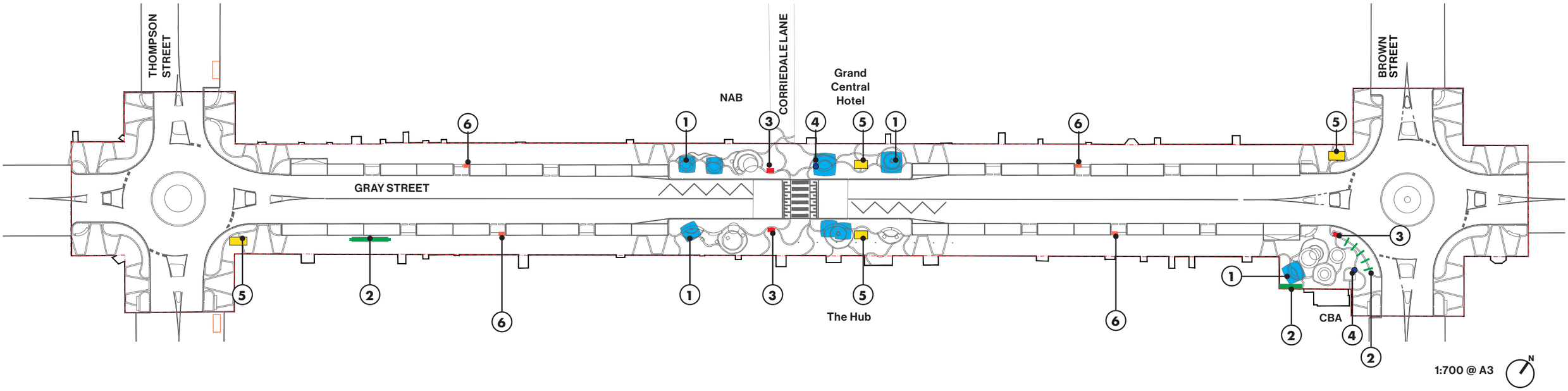
LEGEND

1. Seating Wall
2. Timber seating integrated with seating wall
3. Individual seating modules
4. Timber bench with backrest & armrest
5. Circular platform seating
6. Seating with integrated planter

Canopy shaded rest nodes

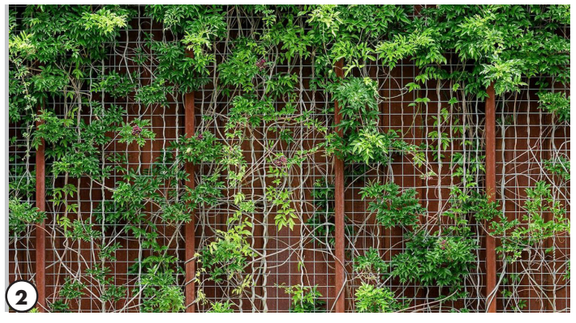
6.12 SHADE, SHELTER & AMENITIES

Applicable Key Themes



LEGEND

1. Shelter
2. Vertical greening structure
3. Bins
4. Drinking fountain
5. Bike racks
6. Parking meter

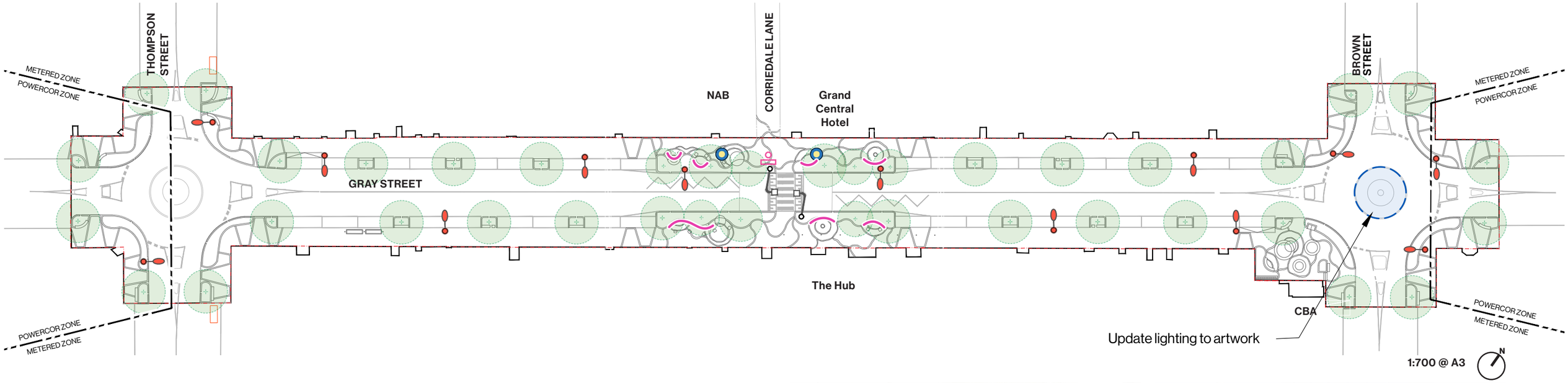


6.13 LIGHTING DESIGN

Applicable Key Themes

Strengthening Heritage & Character

Bringing the Community Together



Lighting Strategy

Gray Street's lighting will be completely renewed, replacing outdated streetlights wi th a high-performance, energy-efficient network.

A key feature involves restoring the heritage lamp, retrofitting it with LED technology to serve as a functional sculptural element.

To reduce clutter, multi-use poles are proposed to support street lighting alongside potential catenary systems, banners, and future smart-city technology.

Final pole and luminaire design will be determined in coordination with the lighting consultant to align with Council's budgetary and aesthetic preferences.

Beyond safety, the design introduces layered atmospheric lighting to activate the night-time economy. This includes integrated LED strips beneath seating walls, raised planters, and within the roofs of shelters.

Opportunities for adaptive feature lighting – such as tree uplighting and illuminated paving – will be explored to create a warm, inviting, and legible

LEGEND

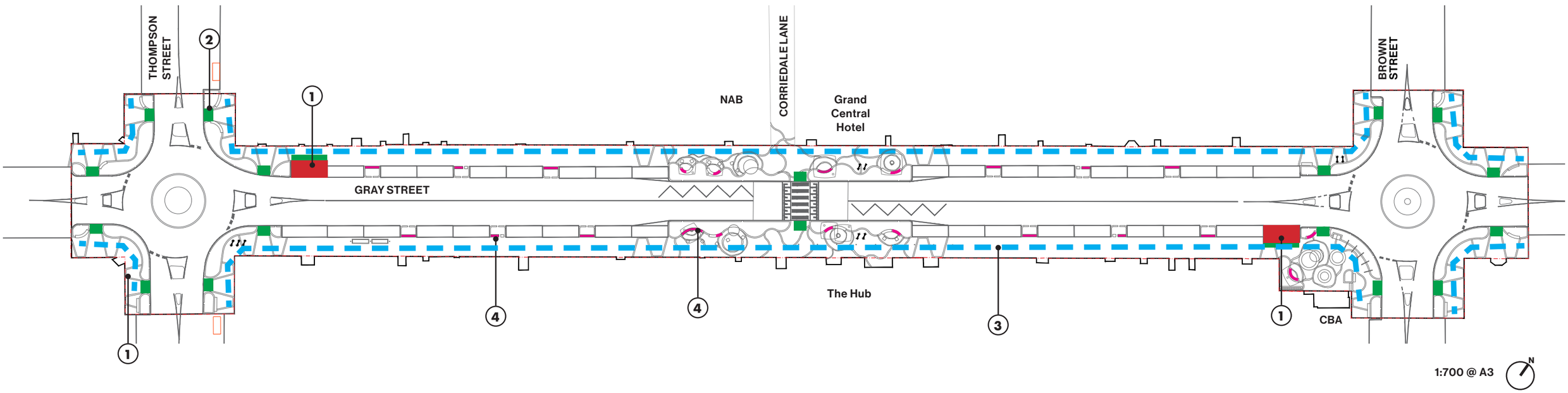
- Streetlight
- Post-Top Luminaire
- Existing Pedestrian Crossing Lighting
- Atmospheric Lighting
- Relocated Heritage Lamp and Plaque

Example of Multi-use pole with lighting and camera - photographed at McGuigan Lane

Example of atmospheric lighting at Little Saigon Plaza, Footscray.

6.14 ACCESSIBILITY

Applicable Key Themes



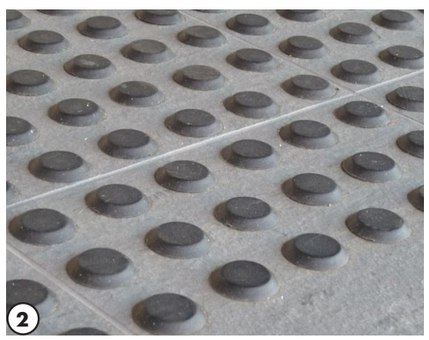
LEGEND

1. Accessible Parking – Flush Kerb
2. Tactile Ground Surface Indicators
3. Primary Footpath (Inclusive)
4. Accessible Seating

The Hamilton CBD revitalisation prioritises accessibility and comfort for people of all ages and abilities. This commitment to Universal Design is a direct response to Hamilton's ageing population, ensuring the streetscape supports an active and independent senior community, parents with prams, and those using mobility aids. To achieve this, the project is designed with accessible grades wherever possible, ensuring a seamless journey through the town centre.

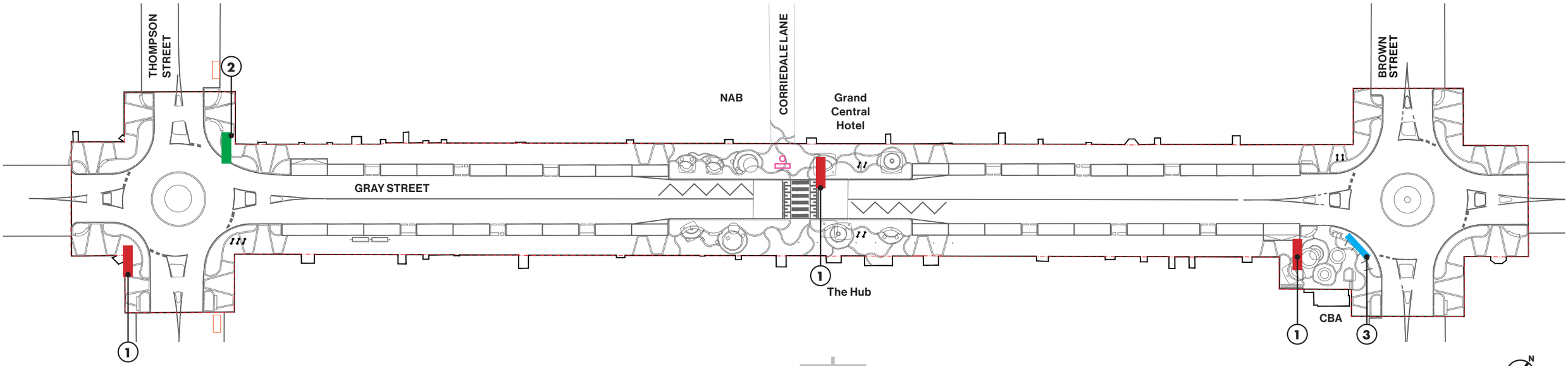
Surface materials have been selected with precision; large format pavers create smooth, high-quality pathways that reduce joints and minimise trip risks. The integration of Tactile Ground Surface Indicators (TGSIs) at all road crossing points provides essential guidance for vision-impaired users.

Practical vehicle-to-pathway transitions are also a core feature. Two dedicated accessible car parking spaces include a ramped transition to the footpath at a 1:8 grade along the entire length of the accessible bay, facilitating safe and seamless movement. Complementing these features, accessible seating with compliant armrests and backrests is strategically placed throughout the CBD. These rest points encourage social interaction and provide vital support for users when sitting or standing, ultimately creating a safe, dignified, and inclusive environment for the entire community.



6.15 WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE

Applicable Key Themes



LEGEND

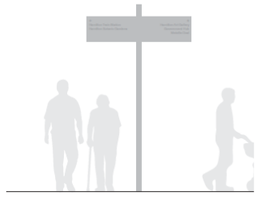
1. Primary Directional
   Located on pedestrian pathways at major arrival, gathering and decision points
2. Secondary Directional
   Located at key decision points along pedestrian pathways
3. Destination Identification
   Located at key named civic destinations such as parks and cultural buildings

Relocated heritage lamp and plaque

Image and information from 2511 Hamilton CBD Revitalisation – Schematic Design – Wayfinding Strategy, STUDIO SEMAPHORE

Primary Directional

- Identifies the town/precinct
- Identifies the key street/destination name
- Directs pedestrians to keydestinations using names, pictograms, distances and walking times
- Includes local area mapping
- Includes Council brand
- May include QR code/link to further detail if available



Secondary Directional

- Directions to key destinations using names, pictograms, distance and walking times

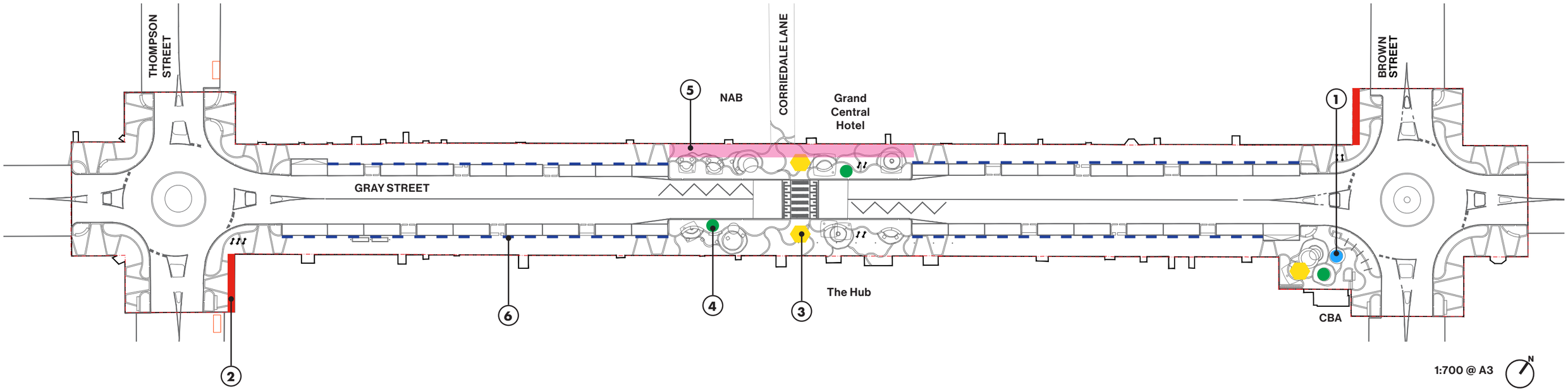
Destination Identification

- Identifies the key destination
- by name
- Behavioural guidance
- Identifies the town/precinct
- Includes Council brand

Relocated heritage lamp and plaque
Image from Google Maps
Heritage lamp and plaque to be relocated

6.16 CELEBRATE HAMILTON'S LOCAL CREATIVE IDENTITY

Applicable Key Themes



LEGEND

1. Sculptural artwork
2. Public art walls
3. Projections
4. Installations
5. Shade sails
6. Banners

Hamilton's streetscape proposes integrated public art, dynamic projections, and sculptural installations to celebrate its diverse local creatives. Potential locations for murals and banners will be identified to activate the CBD. Final placements will be confirmed during detailed design.

Art briefs will be developed by Council separately from this project to engage local artists.

Image Credit: "Whitaker Wind Sculptures Across the Globe" from Leopold Wind Sculptures

Image Credit: "43 Bedford Street" by Jumboist

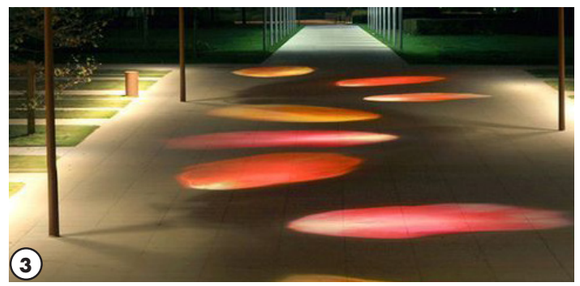


Image from "Pétales de Roses" on France by Light

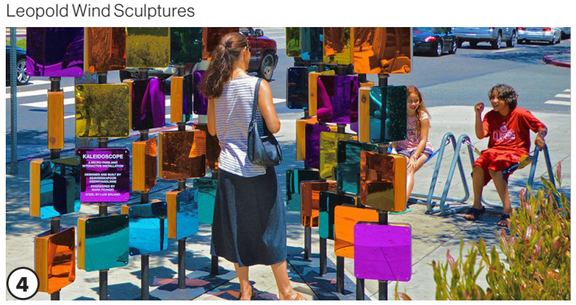


Image: "Kaleidoscope" by Daveed Kapoor

Credit: Arquitectura Textil, Mercat Municipal El Masnou, El Masnou, Barcelona, 2019

Image Credit: Palazzo Fondi by Camilla Falsini

7.0

NEXT STEPS

7.1 DETAILED DESIGN & FUTURE PACKAGES

Package 1 - Concept Adoption

Following this Concept Design phase for Package 1 – Central Gray Street, the project will move into Community Exhibition.
This allows the community to review the vision and provide feedback. Once the feedback is reviewed, the design will be adopted and the project will transition into Detailed Design, followed by Documentation.

This technical phase will finalise the engineering, materiality, and construction specifications required to bring the Hamilton CBD revitalisation to life.

Future Packages 2 & 3

The revitalisation of the Hamilton CBD is a multi-stage journey.

This report focuses on Package 1, which serves as the benchmark for the precinct.

Packages 2 and 3 involving the adjacent streetscapes and will follow a similar design process.

Design Continuity

The Three Key Themes – Strengthening Heritage & Character, Local & Creative, and Bringing the Community Together – are not isolated to a single street or project.

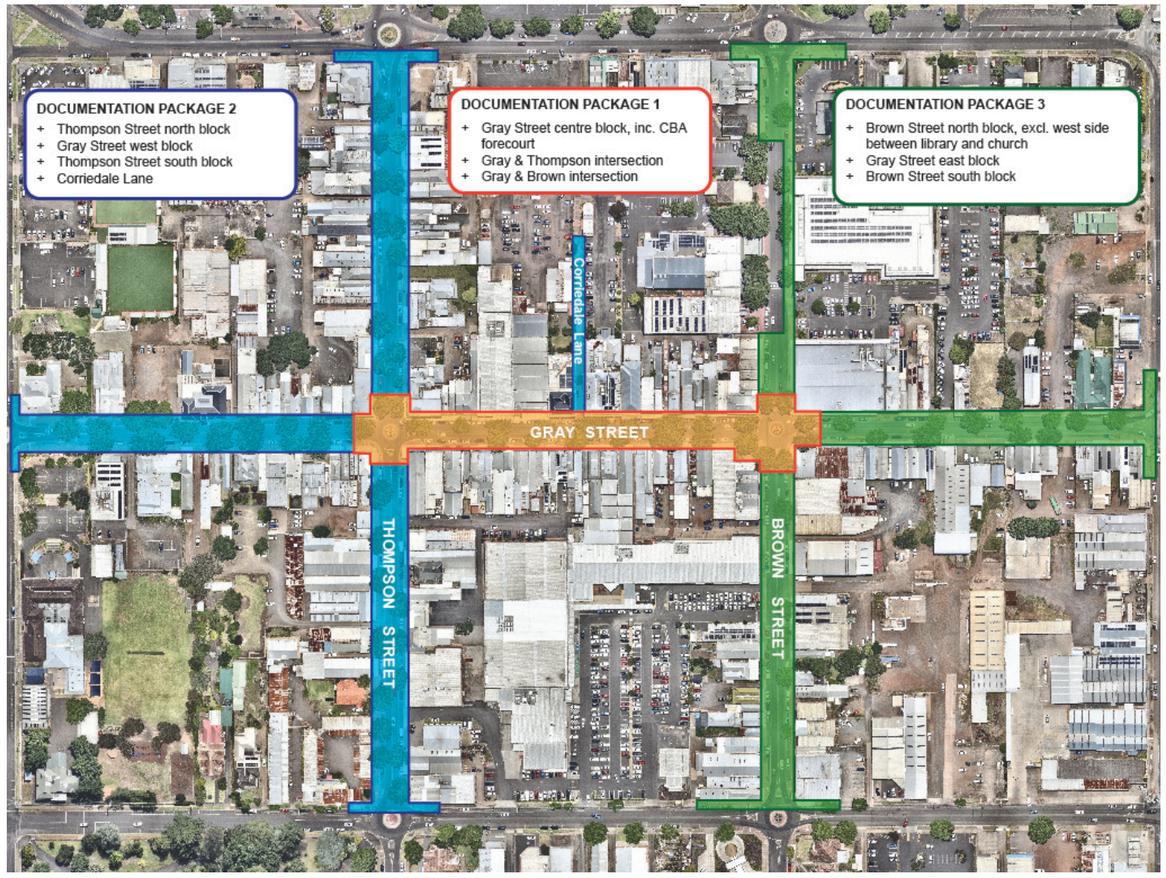
These principles will permeate through Packages 2 and 3.

This ensures that the stories of the Gunditjmara, Djab Wurrung, and Bungandidj peoples, along with Hamilton's Wool Capital and Industrial legacy, are woven consistently into the fabric of the entire CBD.

Implementation Strategy

As we move into the next stages of documentation, these technical Key Moves will remain as a focus for the project:

- Finalising the Palettes
- Technical Coordination
- Staging & Impact
- Unified Identity



8.0

APPENDICES

8.1 TREE SELECTION MATRIX

This appendix outlines the proposed tree species for the Hamilton CBD. These selections are the result of a collaborative benchmarking process, drawing on proven urban performance and local expertise.

The Selection Process

Our criteria integrated diverse perspectives to ensure long-term canopy success:

- Benchmarking: Analysis of successful streetscapes projects such as in Warrnambool, Bayside, and Macedon Ranges.
- Strategic Input: Recommendations from the Project Advisory Group and Southern Grampians Shire Council.
- Operational Insight: Expert technical advice from Council's Arborist and Works teams.

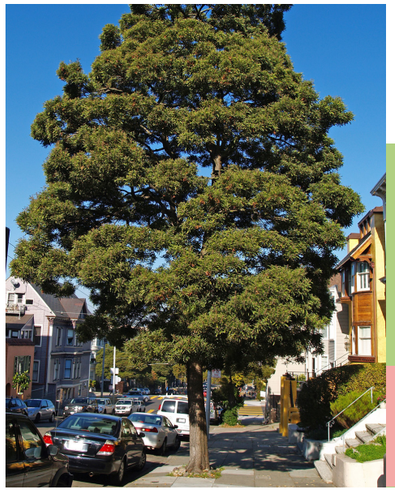
The Matrix Framework

The species are organised into two functional groups to guide the design implementation:

- Primary Street Trees: Provide consistent canopy cover and shade throughout the CBD.
- Feature Street Trees: Strategic accents used for visual interest at key intersections or landmarks.

Within these groups, Preferred and Alternative selections are identified based on a balanced assessment of environmental resilience, site-specific constraints, and seasonal performance.

8.2 PRIMARY STREET TREE - PREFERRED SELECTION



Acacia melanoxylon

Blackwood

Mature Size: 15 x 8m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree
- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Drought tolerant
- Frost tolerant
- Minimal maintenance
- Ecological significance - EVC 3/16/18/22: Greater Grampians bioregion

Negative Features:

- Prone to disease - root rot and rust

Lophostemon confertus

Queensland Brush Box

Mature Size: 15 x 10m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree
- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Drought tolerant
- Frost tolerant
- Minimal maintenance

Negative Features:

- Prone to disease - Myrtle rust

Tilia Cordata

Small-Leaved Lime

Mature Size: 15 x 10m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree
- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Drought tolerance - prefers consistent moisture
- Frost tolerant
- Minimal maintenance
- Attracts pollinators

Negative Features:

- Allergenic potential

Fraxinus pennsylvanica ‘Urbanite’

Urbanite Ash

Mature Size: 15 x 8m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree
- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Drought tolerant
- Frost tolerant

Negative Features:

- Requires regular pruning when it is young
- Drops leaves in late autumn/winter
- Produces pollen that can trigger allergic reactions
- Prone to psyllids, aphids, scale adelgids, ash canker

Zelkova serrata ‘Green Vase’

Japanese Elm

Mature Size: 14 x 10m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree
- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Drought tolerant
- Frost tolerant

Negative Features:

- Drops 12cm long leaves
- -Prone to pests like aphids and scale, potential canker diseases if the trunk is damaged

Angophora costata

Smooth Barked Appl

Mature Size: 14 x 9m (H x W)

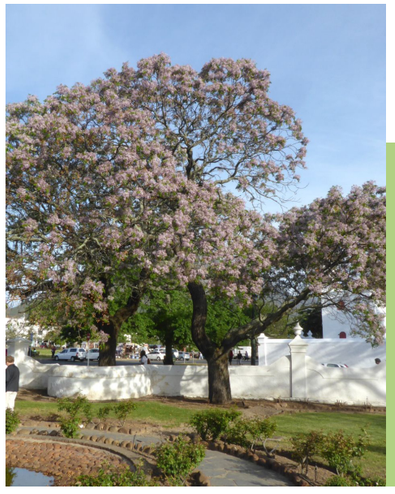
Native, Evergreen

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree
- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Drought tolerant
- Frost tolerant
- Minimal maintenance

Negative Features:

- More likely to drop limbs in summer, during periods of hot or humid weather, and/or during strong winds
- Gum nuts drop
- Prone to blight



Melia azedarach

Lilac Lady

Mature Size: 12 x 6m (H x W)

Native, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree
- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Drought tolerant
- Frost tolerant
- Minimal maintenance

Pistacia chinensis

Chinese Pistachio

Mature Size: 8 x 6m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Drought tolerant
- Frost tolerant

Negative Features:

- Drops leaves in winter
- Prone to verticillium wilt, root rot, and brown spot

Angophora hispida

Dwarf Apple Gum

Mature Size: 8 x 6m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree
- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Drought tolerant
- Frost tolerant
- Minimal maintenance

Negative Features:

- Drops limbs
- Drops nuts, fruits or heavy leaf
- -Fungal leaf spot

8.3 PRIMARY STREET TREE - ALTERNATIVE SELECTION

Acer × freemanii

Autumn Blaze Maple

Mature Size: 15 x 10m (H x W)

Native, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Frost tolerant

Negative Features:

- Requires pruning. Unmaintained trees develop weak branch attachments prone to failure
- Drops leaves in late autumn/winter
- Prone to bacterial canker, Verticillium wilt, Fungal diseases

Hymenosporum flavum

Native Frangipani

Mature Size: 15 x 6m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree
- Drought tolerant
- Minimal maintenance

Negative Features:

- Prone to scale insects, sooty mold, and fungal infections like spots and dark blotch

Waterhousea floribunda

Weeping Lilly Pilly

Mature Size: 15 x 8m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree

Negative Features:

- Prone to root rot, psyllids, myrtle rust

Corymbia maculata

Spotted Gum

Mature Size: 12 x 5m (H x W)

Native, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Drought tolerant
- Frost tolerant

Negative Features:

- Prone to myrtle rust, root rot, leaf spots & fungal blights, canker diseases

Eucalyptus scoparia

Wallangarra White Gum

Mature Size: 12 x 8m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

High Positivity Features:

- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Frost tolerant

Negative Features:

- Gum nuts drop
- Susceptible to foliage damage by insects when young

Cupaniopsis anacardioides

Tuckeroo

Mature Size: 8 x 5m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

High Positivity Features:

- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Minimal maintenance

Eucalyptus eximia ‘Nana’

Dwarf yellow bloodwood

Mature Size: 6-8 x 4-6m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

High Positivity Features:

- Minimal maintenance

Negative Features:

- More likely for limbs to drop in summer, during periods of hot or humid weather, and/or during strong winds
- Prone to myrtle rust, powdery mildew and root rot. However they are usually resilient

Eucalyptus mannifera “Little Spotty”

Little Spotty

Mature Size: 7 x 5m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

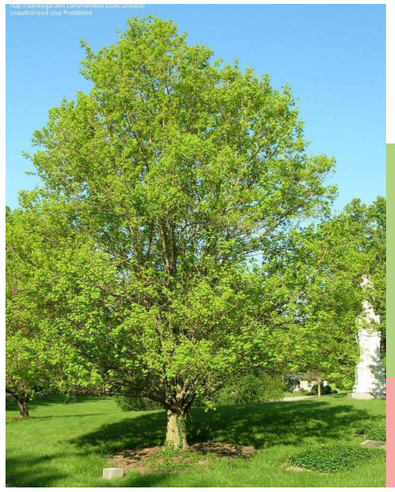
High Positivity Features:

- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Drought tolerant
- Frost tolerant

Negative Features:

- More likely to drop limbs in summer, during periods of hot or humid weather, and/or during strong winds
- Prone to myrtle rust, powdery mildew and root rot. However they are usually resilient

8.4 FEATURE STREET TREE - PREFERRED SELECTION



Acer campestre

Field Maple

Mature Size: 15 x 10m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree
- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Frost tolerant
- Minimal maintenance

Negative Features:

- Powdery mildew and verticillium wilt

Hymenosporum flavum

Native Frangipani

Mature Size: 15 x 6m (H x W)

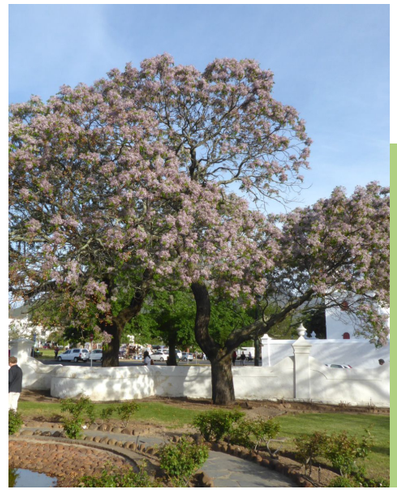
Native, Evergreen

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree
- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Minimal maintenance

Negative Features:

- Scale insects, sooty mold, and fungal infections like spots and dark blotch



Melia azedarach

Lilac Lady

Mature Size: 12 x 6m (H x W)

Native, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree
- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Frost tolerant

Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei ‘Tuscarora’

Crepe Myrtle

‘Tuscarora’

Mature Size: 8 x 4m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Grows well in limited soil volume
- Drought tolerant
- Frost tolerant
- Minimal maintenance

8.5 FEATURE STREET TREE - ALTERNATIVE SELECTION

Liquidambar styraciflua ‘Rotundiloba’

Fruitless Sweetgum

Mature Size: 12 x 7m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Grows well in limited soil volume

Negative Features:

- Drops limbs
- Drops litter (woody fruit)
- Invasive roots

Backhousia citriodora

Lemon Scented Myrtle

Mature Size: 8 x 5m (H x W)

Native, Evergreen

High Positivity Features:

- Grows well in limited soil volume

Negative Features:

- Prone to myrtle rust

Ulmus glabra ‘Lutescens’

Golden Elm

Mature Size: 15 x 12m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Good shade tree

Negative Features:

- Drops nuts, fruits or heavy leaf
- Invasive roots
- Allergenic Potential
- Susceptible to Elm Beetle and Elm leaf spot

Gleditsia triacanthos inermis Sunburst

Golden Honey Locust

Mature Size: 12 x 10m (H x W)

Exotic, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Grows well in limited soil volume

Negative Features:

- Messy, drops seed pods, and has sharp thorns
- Invasive roots

Brachychiton acerifolius

Illawarra Flame Tree

Mature Size: 12 x 6m (H x W)

Native, Deciduous

High Positivity Features:

- Grows well in limited soil volume

Negative Features:

- Drops limbs
- Drops large seed pods and flowers drop
- Invasive roots
- Can be affected by pests like the kurrajong leaf tier and tailed emperor caterpillar.

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