The maps included in this document outline the potential location of campus buildings and infrastructure in 2037.
INTRODUCTION

STRATEGIC MASTERPLAN VISION

Foreword

The University of Waikato was established in 1964 on what was previously 68 hectares of farmland and orchards on the fringes of Hamilton. At that time, New Zealand’s universities were undergoing rapid expansion.

The University’s development followed a popular pattern around the world with teaching, research, administration, food outlets, social spaces and student accommodation on campus. During the University’s inception, all public sector development in New Zealand was undertaken by the then Ministry of Works using Brutalist architecture principles; much of the University’s layout and facilities reflect this architectural influence.

A concentrated building programme ran through until the early 1980s as the University experienced rapid growth. The result was a series of buildings that emphasised the separate identity of the faculties of the day but provided limited support for a University-wide collegial and social learning experience.

Today there is a growing emphasis on providing an engaging environment for learning and research that is fit for purpose now and in the future, and also reflects the aspirations of the University. With student numbers growing and an increasing reputation nationally and internationally, it is imperative that we place the student experience at the heart of everything we do.

This Masterplan proposes ways in which the University can create the physical environment necessary to attract and inspire future staff and students, and engage with the wider community.

Professor Neil Quigley
Vice-Chancellor

The Vision in 2037

In 2037, the University of Waikato will support a rewarding study-work-life balance, responsive to a diverse range of student needs. Staff and students will have greater choice over where, when and how they learn, research, socialise, play and work on campus.

In 2037, the campus design will exemplify the University of Waikato as a centre for learning, research and innovation. The Hillcrest campus will provide high-quality, resilient environments for the delivery of learning and research. The campus will be centred around a vibrant social heart (encompassing new facilities supporting wellness, recreation and entertainment) that is well connected to precincts dedicated to teaching and research, accommodation, sports and leisure.

Campus life will blend civic, social, cultural, community and academic experiences, supporting staff and students to achieve their full potential and contribute to the success of future generations, breathing life into the University mission – ‘Ko Te Tangata’.

Key Recommendations

The primary recommendation of the strategic campus Masterplan is to create a modern, vibrant and attractive ‘Academic Campus Heart’ on the Hillcrest Road ridgeline, designed to attract academic and student talent, local business, industry, and community. This will be complemented by a ‘Campus Social Heart’ overlooking the lakes.

The second recommendation is to provide greater connectivity between key campus activities. Introducing a defined campus pathway, terraces and connectors will improve pedestrian connections between existing buildings and different levels of the campus. These projects will transform the staff, student and visitor experience, providing increased social opportunities, weather protection and enhanced accessibility.

Thirdly, the strategic campus Masterplan proposes new landscaped entries in key gateway locations. The most significant proposal to address this is The Pā development – a dynamic and multi-functional space that will serve our students, staff, the broader community and visitors.

Drawing on the Māori concepts of community and location, The Pā will create a welcoming and vibrant core facility for the Hillcrest campus, incorporating food outlets, social and formal learning spaces, a shared space for community and leadership, and a new University marae.

Completing the campus plan will be distinctive ‘Character Precincts’ which enhance and expand the West, North and East areas of the campus:

• The West Precinct includes undergraduate accommodation, facilities, an extended Performing Arts Academy, a new Health and Wellness Centre combined with Student Union, and a refurbished retail and hospitality hub, described in this document as the ‘Campus Social Heart’.

• The North Precinct includes large-format, high-performance sports facilities co-located with the sports fields and College Hall residential accommodation.

• The East Precinct provides staff and postgraduate accommodation and meets the needs of research and education partners.

This document outlines the guiding design principles for the University’s 20-year strategic campus Masterplan, developed with Jasmax architects, and in consultation with staff, students and community stakeholders.
The Strategic Masterplan Design Principles provide a guide for future campus development opportunities. Relevant design principles are applied to ensure future projects are aligned to campus aspirations.

INTRODUCTION

Purpose of Design Principles:

- Campus Presence
  
  Campus development will express University of Waikato values and culture and will showcase University activity.

- Campus Heart
  
  Campus development will provide well-connected Academic and Social Hearts addressing Hillcrest Road and overlooking the campus lakes.

- Character Precincts
  
  Campus development will establish distinctive precincts that reflect character and identity, while enabling sharing of resources.

- Connected Campus
  
  Campus development will be organised by legible, accessible connections that enable intuitive wayfinding and good sightlines.

- Whenua Taurikura
  
  Campus development will celebrate and enhance the natural landscape as a foundation of University of Waikato identity.
INTRODUCTION

CAMPUS DESIGN PRINCIPLES SUMMARY

LIVING CAMPUS

Campus development will provide a rich mixed-use environment for accommodation, social, health, sports and recreational uses designed to welcome the community.

CULTURAL IDENTITIES

Campus development will reflect the concepts of mana and manaakitanga to create an inclusive, welcoming environment.

INNOVATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Campus development will provide flexible learning spaces and a variety of social learning environments to support different learning styles.

COLLABORATIVE CAMPUS

Campus development will support collaboration between individuals, departments, faculties, business and the wider community.

BUILT HERITAGE

Campus development will celebrate beauty, existing heritage and be designed for adaptability.

CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE

Campus infrastructure will be developed for future resilience.
Presence & Arrival

**CAMPUS PRESENCE**

Campus development will express University of Waikato values and culture and will showcase University activity:

- Development will establish visible campus presence at key boundaries and thresholds
- Campus entries will support different arrival functionality (drop off, pedestrian, cycle, parking)
- Innovative research and learning spaces will be showcased on primary campus thoroughfares
- Campus will contain spaces to engage with iwi, community, business and industry
- The defining attributes of the campus will be retained and strengthened, preserving aspect and outlook; mature and native vegetation and architectural legacy.
Campus Heart

 Campus development will provide well-connected Academic and Social Hearts addressing Hillcrest Road and overlooking the campus lakes:

- Development will support a diverse community of campus users
- Social and learning activities will be consolidated toward the centre of campus
- Spaces will be provided to enable civic engagement and events
- Facilities which require extended hours of occupation will be co-located
- Public engagement venues generating increased economic, cultural, and knowledge-sharing activities will be co-located
- High-use spaces will be placed in the heart of the campus.
Character Precincts

Campus development will establish distinctive precincts that reflect character and identity of uses, while enabling sharing of resources:

- The campus will support cross-disciplinary interaction and allow for the sharing of resources
- Strong linkages will be maintained between precincts and the campus heart areas
- Precincts will offer satellite amenities to compliment campus heart offerings
- Academic precincts will provide a core of generic learning and workspace environments
- Specialist technology, equipment, spaces and knowledge will consolidate in academic precincts
- Non-academic precincts will cluster complementary activities
- Use of specialist space will be University wide rather than owned by faculties to encourage shared access to resources.
Connected Campus - Pedestrian

Campus development will be organised by legible, accessible connections that enable intuitive wayfinding and good sightlines:

- Campus development provides clarity and hierarchy of circulation
- Safe, well-lit thoroughfares will be designed to maximise universal access
- Wayfinding will be intuitive and memorable
- Safe primary circulation routes with 24/7 access linking carparking and key campus spaces
- Improve pedestrian and vehicular travel experience in the wider Hillcrest area
- Multi-modal transportation options to be supported with campus amenity and planning. Low-carbon transport services (electrical and solar array) to be developed on campus.
Connected Campus - Cycling, Driving, Public Transport

Campus development will be organised by legible, accessible connections that enable intuitive wayfinding and good sightlines:

- Promote cycling as a healthy, sustainable means of transportation
- Provide access to enhanced cycle hub facilities for cyclists in key arrival locations
- Promote a dedicated cycle path between the campus and the city centre and better connect the campus to cycling infrastructure
- Limit vehicular entry to the campus to create a safer pedestrian network
- Provide a public transport hub accessed from the new Knighton Road loop
- Create well-lit, safe pedestrian links from consolidated carparking zones located in character precincts.

**KEY:**

- **PROPOSED DEDICATED CYCLE WAY**
- **SHARED CYCLE / PEDESTRIAN PATHWAY**
- **CYCLE HUB (SHOWER, E-BIKE CHARGE, LOCKERS, SECURE BIKE STORAGE)**
- **KEY CAMPUS CONNECTION (ACTIVATED BY PEDESTRIANS)**
CAMPUS DESIGN PRINCIPLES

PUBLIC TRANSPORT ACCESS: BUS & COACH FACILITIES, ACCESSIBLE CAMPUS ROUTES

KEY:
- BUS STOP / COACH
- PRIVATE CAR DROP-OFF
- HILLCREST ROAD
- VEHICLE ACCESS ROUTES
- ACCESSIBLE ROUTE THROUGH CAMPUS:
- ACCESSIBLE ROUTE
- Vertical Transportation Lifts

PEDESTRIAN ACCESS ROUTES: FROM CARPARKING TO CAMPUS HEART

KEY:
- CAMPUS PATHWAY
- ROUTE TOWARDS CAMPUS HEART FROM CARPARKING
- CARPARKING
- KNIGHTON RD (GATE 2B)
- KNIGHTON RD LOOP (NEW GATE)

SILVERDALE RD (GATE 3A)
SILVERDALE RD (GATE 11 / GATE 16)
KNIGHTON RD LOOP (NEW GATE)
PROPOSED STRATEGIC MASTERPLAN
CAMPUS DESIGN PRINCIPLES

Campus Landscaping & Surrounds

WHENUA TAURIKURA

Campus development will celebrate and enhance the natural landscape as a foundation of University of Waikato identity:

• Celebrate outlook and prominence from the Hillcrest ridgeline
• Balance planting with passive observation opportunities to promote a safe campus
• Ecological enhancement of waterways, lakes and wetlands
• Connect buildings to campus open space
• Prioritise ecological stormwater catchment systems, including reducing the amount of hard paved areas
• Provide an ecological node for Hamilton’s native regeneration project
• Provide opportunities for rongoa and mahinga kai/productive landscapes on campus
• Seek to increase biodiversity through predominance of native species on site.

The Hillcrest campus redevelopment represents an opportunity to contribute to an urban ecological restoration project sponsored by Hamilton City Council and the University of Waikato. This sets a target of 10% of the urban area of Hamilton to be restored to vegetation planted in native species.

Together with the proposed Ruakura Greenways, Hillcrest campus has the potential to provide an important ecological stepping stone for birds and wildlife. The Hillcrest campus can provide a minor ecological node, becoming a native seed repository and living laboratory for research.

The Strategic Masterplan identifies several opportunities to enhance the existing catchment, waterways, lakes and increase native planting. These include protecting the last remaining remnant of the ancient Karipūkau forest on campus. The principles associated with Whenua Taurikura promote a return to a more natural and functional ecology.
A series of landscape networks work in parallel to the open space character zones and campus precincts. These networks respond to flows of water, people and ecological flora and fauna. The key landscape networks are demonstrated in this diagram.
Living Campus

Campus development will provide a rich mixed-use environment for accommodation, social, health, sports and recreational uses designed to welcome the community:

- Residential accommodation will support the diverse needs of students, staff and visitors
- Students will have spaces that provide a sense of comfort, ownership, influence and belonging
- A range of health, wellbeing and recreation and retail and entertainment facilities will be co-located, and easily accessible
- Campus facilities and landscape will be designed for community and University use
- The University will be a community destination for sports and recreation, enjoyment of cultural experiences and acquisition of knowledge.

Living Campus Amenity

- Competitive Sports Venue & Training Facilities
- Student Recreation / Gym Facility
- Future Retail / Food and Beverage Opportunity

Living Campus

- Resident, Recreational, Food and Beverage & Retail

Food and beverage facilities provide students with a sense of ownership and comfort

Free-standing cottages make up this sustainable student village

Timber-clad student dorms and educational centre set within a landscaped park for a boarding school in Paris

Key:

1. Living Campus Amenity
2. Competitive Sports Venue & Training Facilities
3. Student Recreation / Gym Facility
4. Future Retail / Food and Beverage Opportunity
5. Existing Retail / Hospitality
6. Oranga: Staff Commons / Bar
7. Academy Expansion
8. No. 5 Dairy Open Space
9. Residential
10. Existing & Future Campus: Residential Expansion
11. Existing College Halls & Possible Future Expansion
12. Existing & Future Staff and Postgraduate Residential Expansion
13. Future Opportunity for Adaptive Reuse
Campus development will reflect the concepts of mana and manaakitanga to create an inclusive, welcoming environment:

- The campus will contain dynamic cultural and social spaces and places for people to be welcomed and new relationships to be forged.
- The campus will retain physical markers and acknowledgements of the University’s achievements, people, history and heritage.
- Amenities will support different cultural and religious practices and areas for cultural exchange.

**CULTURAL IDENTITIES**

**PROPOSED STRATEGIC MASTERPLAN**

**CAMPUS DESIGN PRINCIPLES**

Campus & Public Engagement Opportunities

**EVENTS, CONFERENCES & CULTURAL PERFORMANCE**

**KEY:**

- OUTDOOR PUBLIC EVENTS - COMMUNITY
- SPORTS FIELDS
- TEMPORARY PUBLIC EVENTS - HARD SURFACE
- STUDENT-LED FESTIVALS
- CONFERENCE / INDOOR PUBLIC EVENTS
- THE PĀ
- S BLOCK
- GALLAGHER ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS
- INDOOR ARTS / CULTURAL PERFORMANCE VENUES
- STUDENT UNION
### INNOVATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Campus development will provide flexible learning spaces and a variety of social learning environments to support different learning styles.

- The campus will provide a diverse range of settings with space and technology to explore pedagogical innovations and deliver proven teaching methodologies.
- Campus design will leverage the learning potential of circulation and social space, supporting activities that encourage innovation and creativity.
- The campus will include a range of learning and study spaces to support individual (quiet to social) and group work (white board to tech-enabled).
- Future development will ensure that learning and research environments are flexible and responsive to change.

### COLLABORATIVE CAMPUS

Campus development will support collaboration between individuals, departments, faculties, business and the wider community.

- Facilities for shared use and collaboration will be concentrated at the campus centre, with nodes for collaboration located in character precincts.
- Showcase spaces for research and engagement will activate public frontages in high visibility areas.
- University partners will be co-located in research and education precincts.
- Spaces and facilities will foster mutually beneficial stakeholder partnerships.
- The campus will perform as a Living Laboratory to enable research, reduce energy use where possible, implement ecological regeneration, enable social engagement and practice tikanga Māori.

### BUILT HERITAGE

Campus development will celebrate beauty, existing heritage and be designed for adaptability.

- New assets will be responsive to architectural heritage, with a cohesive language and material palette.
- Campus developments will feel balanced, beautiful, and in harmony with the natural environment.
- Cultural identity will be physically expressed.
- Amenities support different cultural and religious practices and provide areas for cultural exchange.
- Opportunities for enriching the cultural identity of the campus through naming and marking places and spaces will be considered in consultation with iwi.
- Design will promote health and wellbeing through use of natural light and ventilation.
- Existing assets will be reused and adapted to support pedagogical and technological requirements for future learning and research.
- Existing buildings will be modified where required to provide attractive and ‘sticky’ campus environments.

### CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE

Campus infrastructure will be developed for future resilience.

- Best-practice regenerative frameworks will be integrated into all building projects with respect to energy use, water use and waste.
- The campus will model leadership in regenerative thought, through initiatives to raise community awareness.
- Wherever practicable, assets will be adapted or repurposed, ensuring optimisation of space, consolidation of functions, density and people.
- A replacement strategy will be developed to reduce reliance on non-renewable energy sources.