# Rejuvenating Cameron Road through an Ahi Kaa framework

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ABSTRACT

In 2020, Tauranga City Council led the development of the 30-year spatial plan for the Te Papa peninsula, which sits at the heart of the city. This plan explored more than how to accommodate growth through intensification, but also how to build better communities through linking live, work, learn and play facilities. The Cameron Road Multi-Modal Project was developed alongside this plan but with interlinked objectives of supporting growth through developing alternative safe and active transport enhancements.

Cameron Road has a rich whakapapa and cultural history. Placemaking and improving amenity is one of the core project objectives; this project is enabling restoration of the human connection with the space, creating a place that people want to come and spend time. It’s about rejuvenating the Cameron Road corridor in a way that engages people within it, reconnects them to the whenua and its whakapapa, and encourages long-term prosperity.

Acknowledging this rich cultural history, the project took an innovative approach through re-imagining the project objectives through the lens of Hauora and particularly the principles of Ahi Kaa. Working with *Ngāi Tamarawaho hapū* and *Ngāti Tapu hapū,* Ahi Kaa narratives were weaved into the project design to re-establish connections with place, relighting the fires of occupation. Artistic impressions and cultural interpretation throughout the streetscape will provide people the opportunity to engage in the whakapapa of Cameron Road, to better understand and respect its important history in shaping both Tauranga Moana and Aotearoa New Zealand.

The project touches upon all four pillars of Hauora, but in particular the Ahi Kaa framework of the project reflects taha wairua through the strong cultural connections. Our presentation will focus on this pillar, exploring how the clearing and trail streetscape principles were brought together through this Ahi Kaa lens to enrich our communities beyond more commonly understood transport enhancements.