

Ponsonby Road – Innovating Streets for People.

Nine concepts for feedback from Ponsonby businesses.

05 March 2021.

Isthmus. 





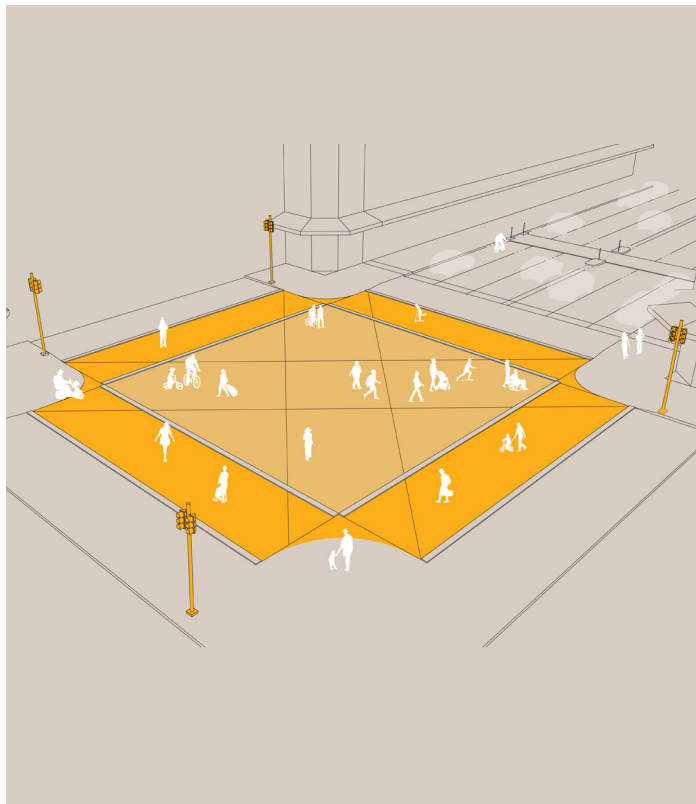
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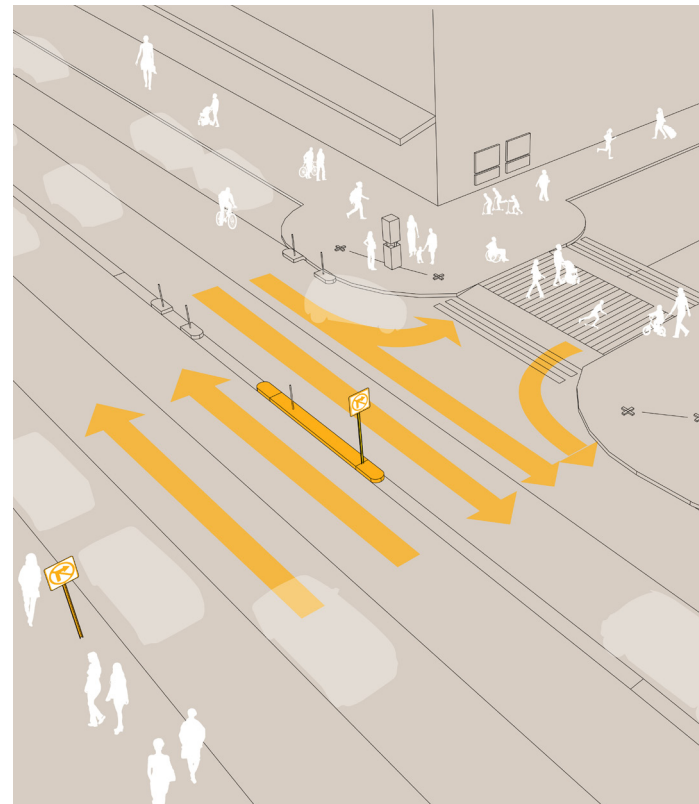
Theme A: Crossings & Access.



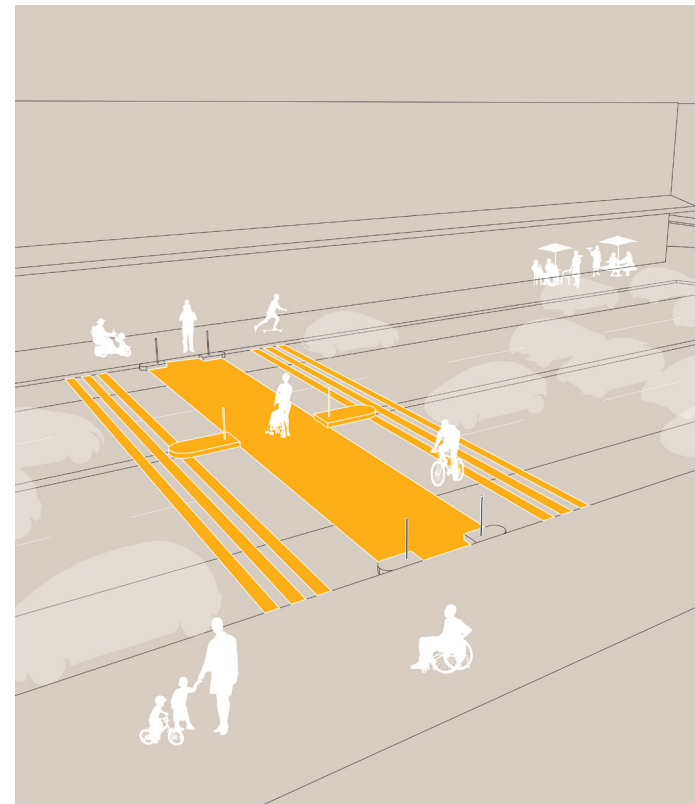
Concept 01.
“Barnes Dance” crossings.



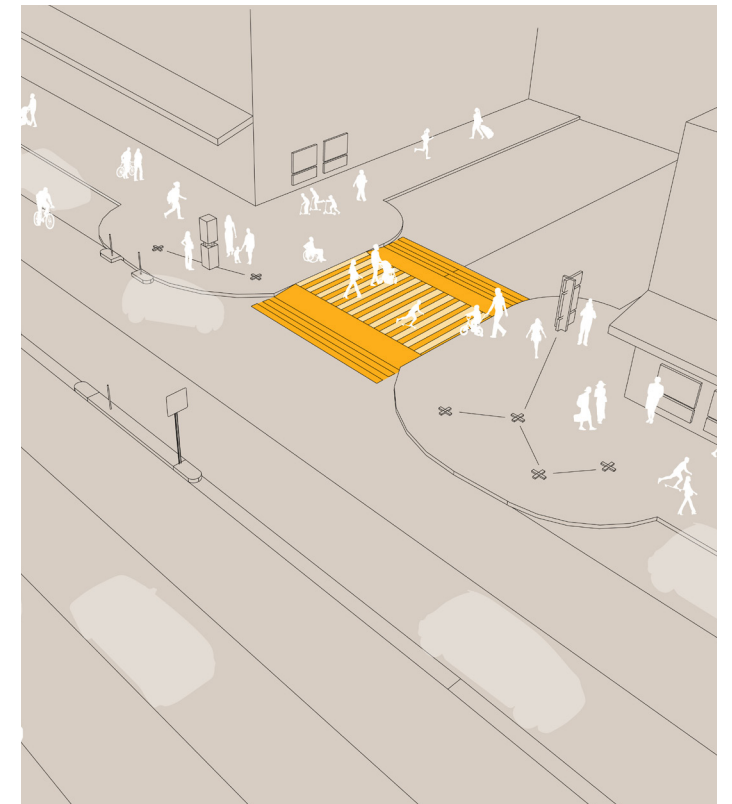
Concept 02.
Restrict right-turn crossings.



Concept 03.
Safety improvements to mid-block crossings.



Concept 04.
Improve pedestrian crossings on side streets.



Concept 01: “Barnes Dance” crossings.

—Allowing pedestrians to cross the road in all directions at the Richmond Road and Williamson Ave intersections. Creating more vibrancy and making it easier and quicker to cross the road.

▲ Concept subject to detailed technical review by Subject Matter Experts.



Issues.

- Waiting times at major intersections perceived to be too long for pedestrians.
- Ponsonby Road is car-dominated, creating an environment that is not safe and/or not attractive for pedestrians and people on bikes and scooters.

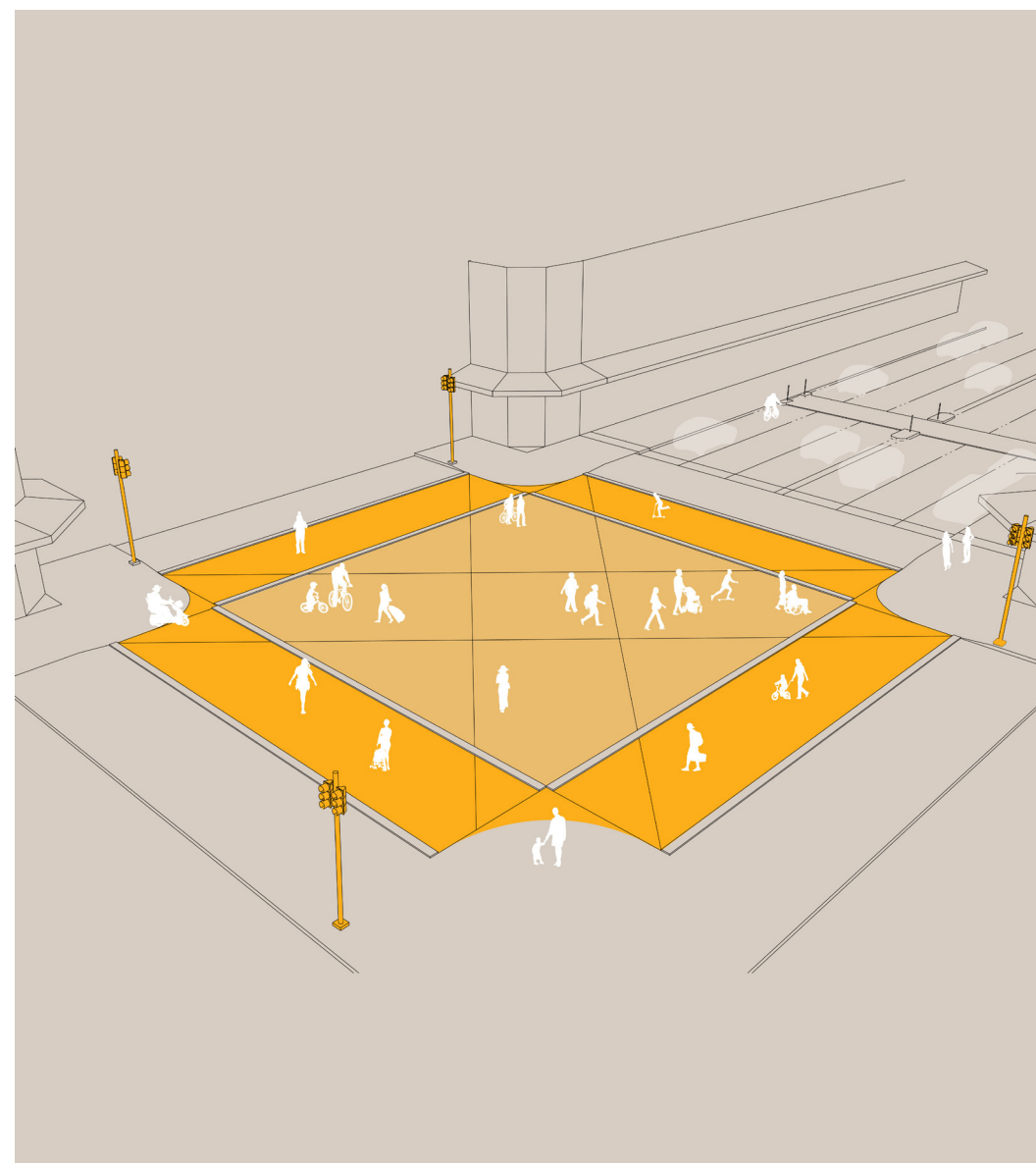
Proposed Concept.

- Test Barnes Dance crossings at Richmond Road and Williamson Road intersections, allowing pedestrians to cross freely in all directions.
- Light phasing could vary depending on demand, i.e prioritise traffic flow at peak time, pedestrian flow in evening and at weekends.
- Intersection improvements shows the shift to a more people-friendly Ponsonby. i.e, colours / texture changes within crossing area.

Success will look like...

- Ponsonby Road more pedestrian-friendly & vibrant, measured by increased foot-traffic & non-car modes
- Easier and quicker for people on bikes and foot to get where they are going.
- Less people jaywalking, less accidents and near misses.
- Low impact on traffic flow.

Concept drawing.



Potential location.



Concept 02: Restrict right-turn crossings.

—Close off right hand turns into and from selected side streets between Collingwood and Pollen. This will improve traffic flow, make it safer to cross the road, and reduce rat-running.

▲ Concept subject to detailed technical review by Subject Matter Experts.



Issues.

- Congestion caused by right-turning vehicles.
- Right-turning vehicles not always conscious / courteous towards pavement users.
- Ponsonby Road is heavily car-dominated.
- Safety risk of vehicles crossing lanes to turn into / out of side-streets.

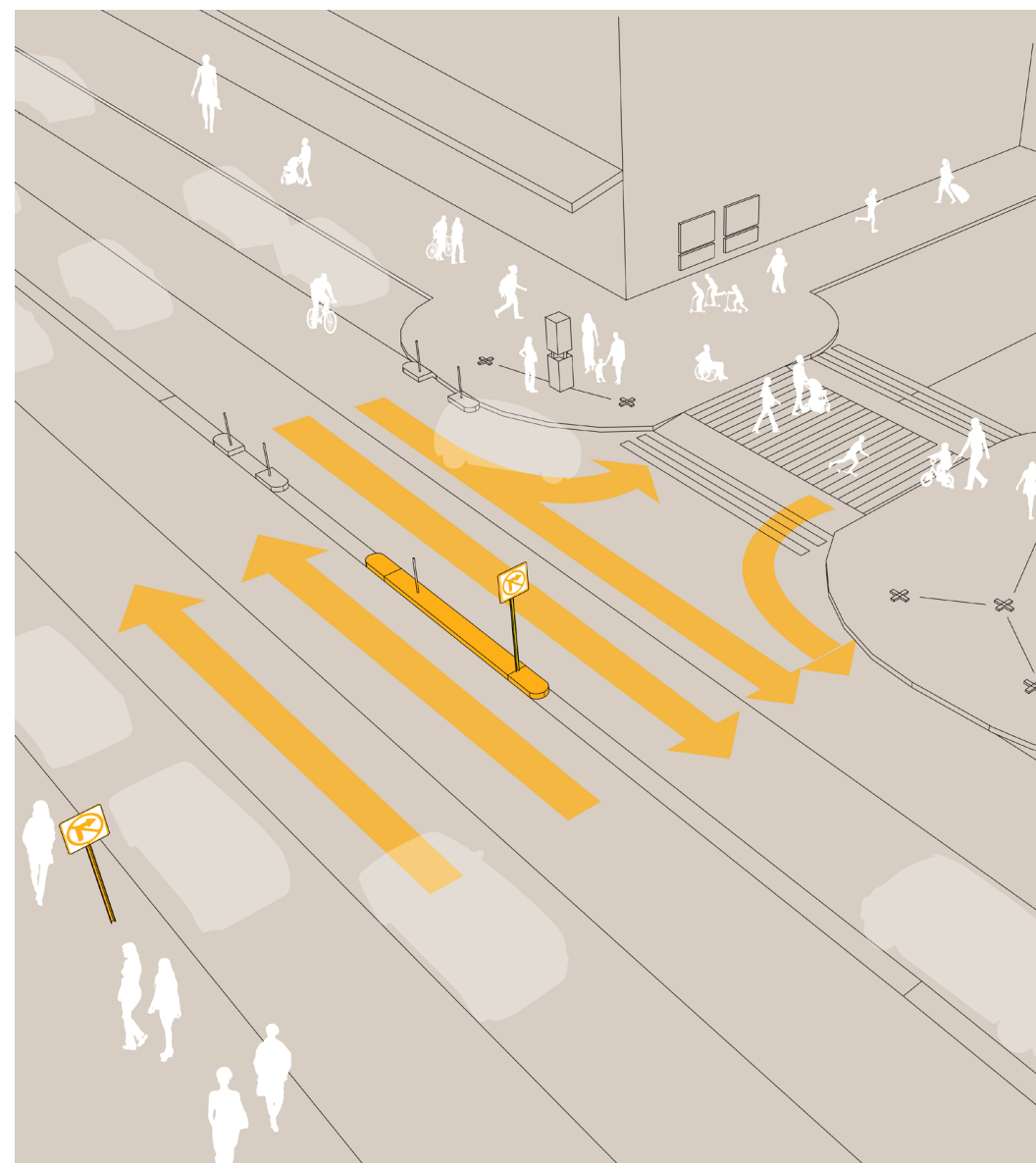
Proposed Concept.

- Block off right turns into and from side streets except at major intersections: “left in, left out”.
- Include signage in median strip and at side streets crossings.

Success will look like...

- More place to cross Ponsonby Road - increased business footfall.
- Better traffic flow along Ponsonby Road.
- Safer and easier to cross the road.
- Less traffic and ‘rat-running’ on side streets.
- Fewer crashes and near-misses”

Concept drawing.



Potential Location.



“Closing of traffic turning from Ponsonby Road to Collingwood Street was a quick win. This sort of thing should be enabled across the street to reduce traffic and slow cars.”

All potential options within study area shown.
Subject to feedback and technical review

Concept 03: Safety improvements to mid-block crossings.

–Widen existing pedestrian islands in the middle of the road “watch and steps” and make them more visible. This will make it safer and easier to cross the road, reduce jaywalking, and add some colour to the street.

▲ Concept subject to detailed technical review by Subject Matter Experts.



Issues.

- Pedestrian islands in the middle of the road (‘watch-and-step’) don’t feel like safe places to wait to cross, especially for vulnerable road users – e.g. people with prams, wheelchairs, bikes, etc.
- Pedestrian islands are not visible enough to traffic.
- Hard/unsafe to get across with constant traffic.
- Dangerous vehicle U-turns, particularly at night.

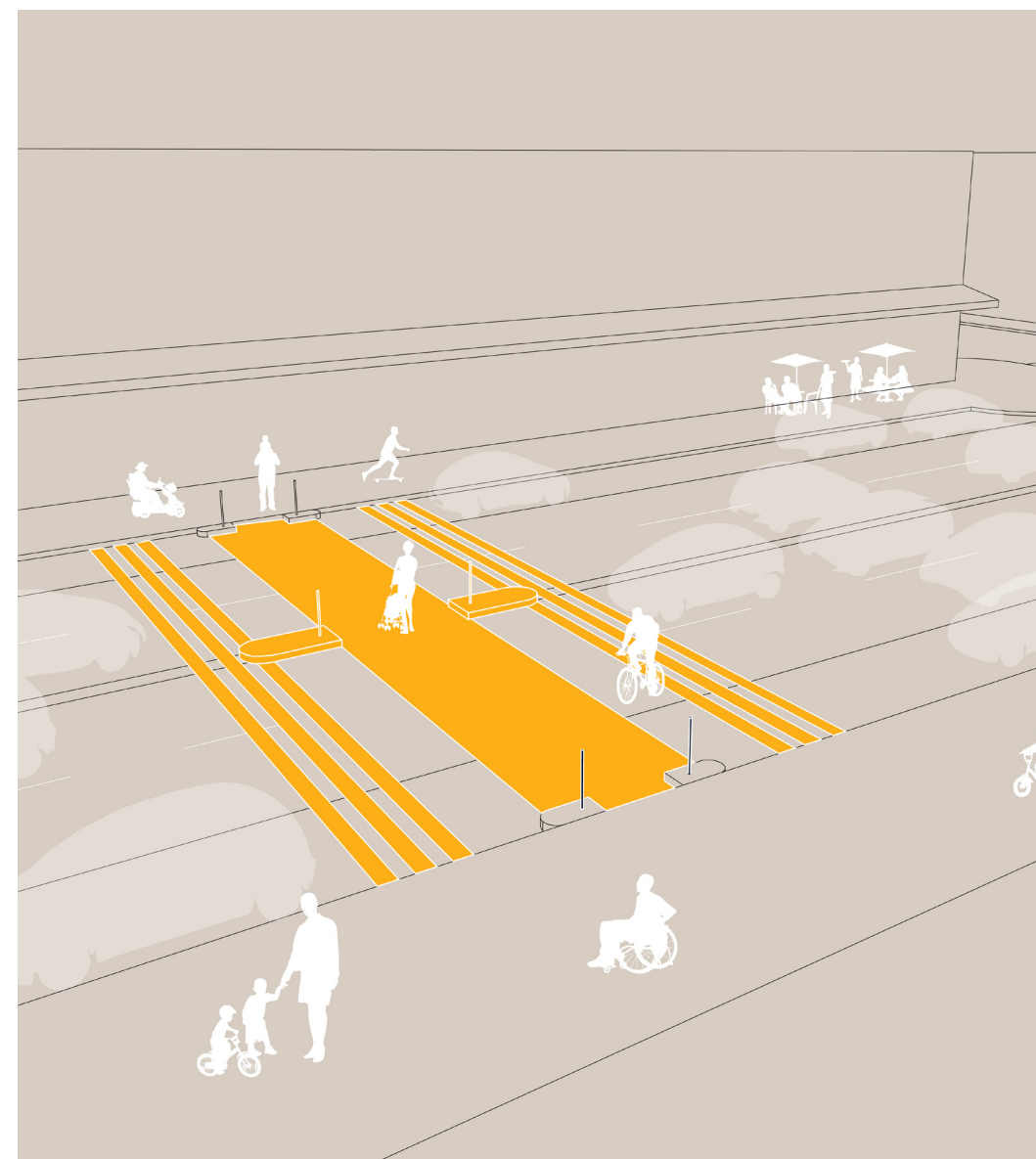
Proposed Concept.

- Widen pedestrian islands in the middle of the road.
- Make these crossings stand out. This could include better signage, colours, change of texture etc.
- Traffic calming measures to slow down traffic on the crossing approach.
- Note: we cannot legally add pedestrian crossings here because there are four lanes of traffic.

Success will look like...

- Safer and easier places for pedestrians to cross Ponsonby Road.
- Ponsonby Road is more pedestrian-friendly and accessible for all, measured by increased foot-traffic & non-car modes.
- Discourage jaywalking and reduction in incidents / near misses that may occur.

Concept drawing.



Potential location.



Concept 04: Improve pedestrian crossings on side streets.

—Apply paint, signage, or artwork to pedestrian crossings at selected side streets between Collingwood and Hepburn. This will make it safer to cross the road, clarify who has right of way, and add to Ponsonby's vibrancy and sense of place.

▲ Concept subject to detailed technical review by Subject Matter Experts.



Issues.

- Confusion between pedestrians and traffic at side streets as nobody knows who has priority.
- No differentiation in character and identity between side streets.

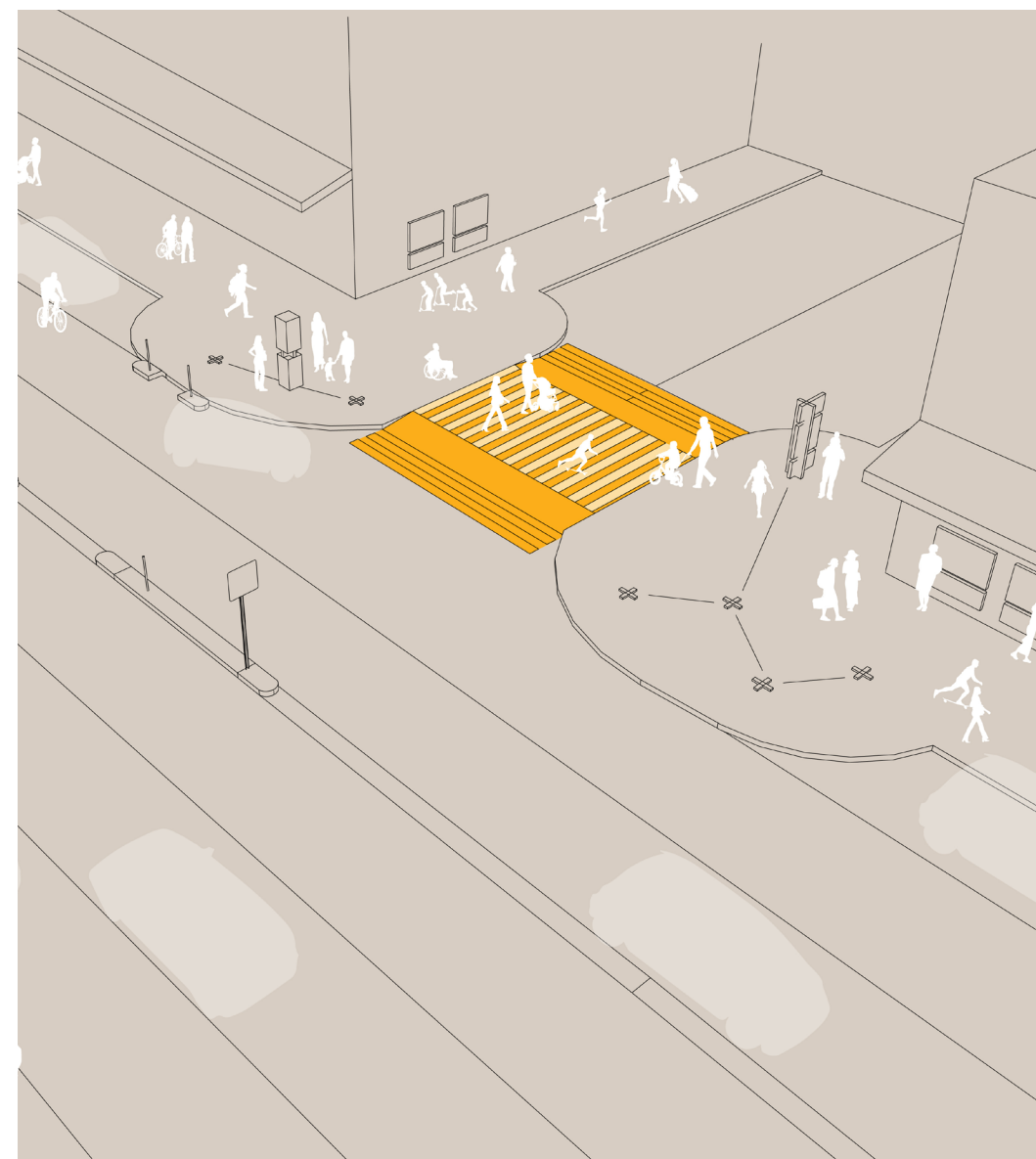
Proposed Concept.

- Apply paint, signage or artwork to emphasise and prioritise pedestrian crossings at side street crossings.
- Create raised crossings where they don't already exist at side streets.
- Artwork (by local artists), new street signs, hanging lights etc create a unique identity for each side street, highlighting their residential or retail character.

Success will look like...

- Cars give way to pedestrians at side street crossings, creating a continuous pedestrian priority along Ponsonby Road.
- Increased sense of place and distinctiveness along Ponsonby Road.

Concept drawing.



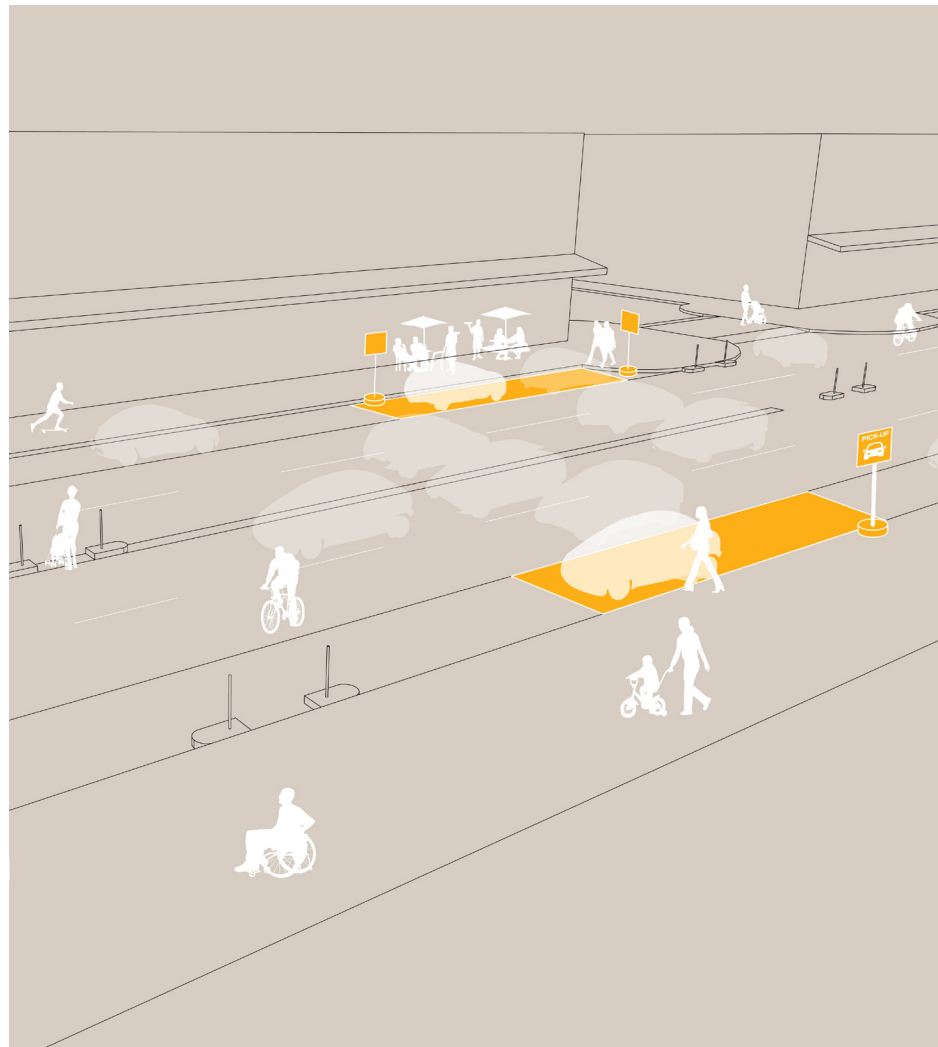
Potential location.



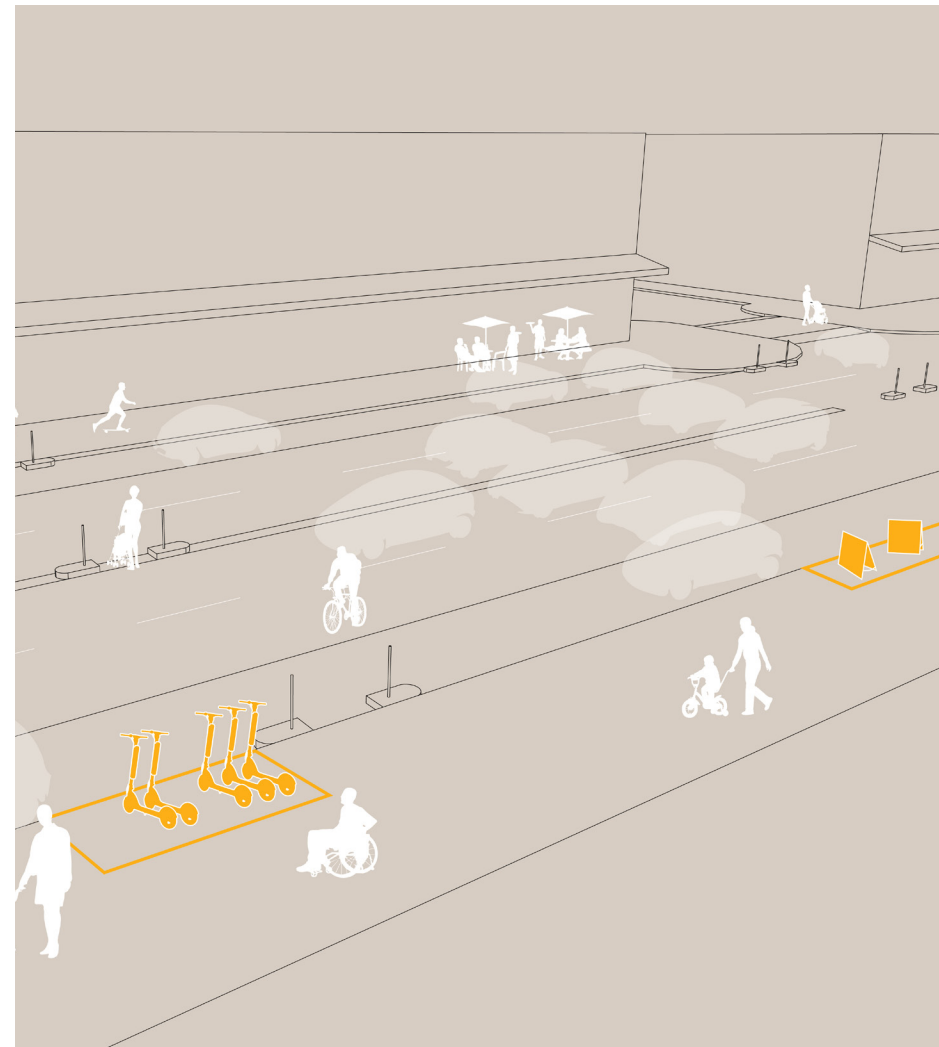
Theme B: Organising the street and footpath.



Concept 05.
Dedicated delivery & taxi pick-up
and drop-off areas.



Concept 06.
De-clutter the footpath.



Concept 05:

Dedicated delivery & taxi pick-up and drop-off areas.

– Working with businesses to create dedicated pickup and drop off areas for taxis and Ubers, and loading zones for deliveries. This will make it safer and easier to get to Ponsonby, make deliveries easier for businesses and will stop these vehicles from blocking the road.



Concept subject to detailed technical review by Subject Matter Experts.

Issues.

- Taxi and ride-share pick-ups / drop-offs unpredictable and chaotic, causing safety issues, traffic congestion and taxis ‘circling’ especially in the evenings and at weekends.
- Loading and unloading of delivery vehicles impede on other Ponsonby Road users.
- Vehicles stop on the road, blocking traffic and causing pedestrian hazards. (i.e, increased jaywalking)

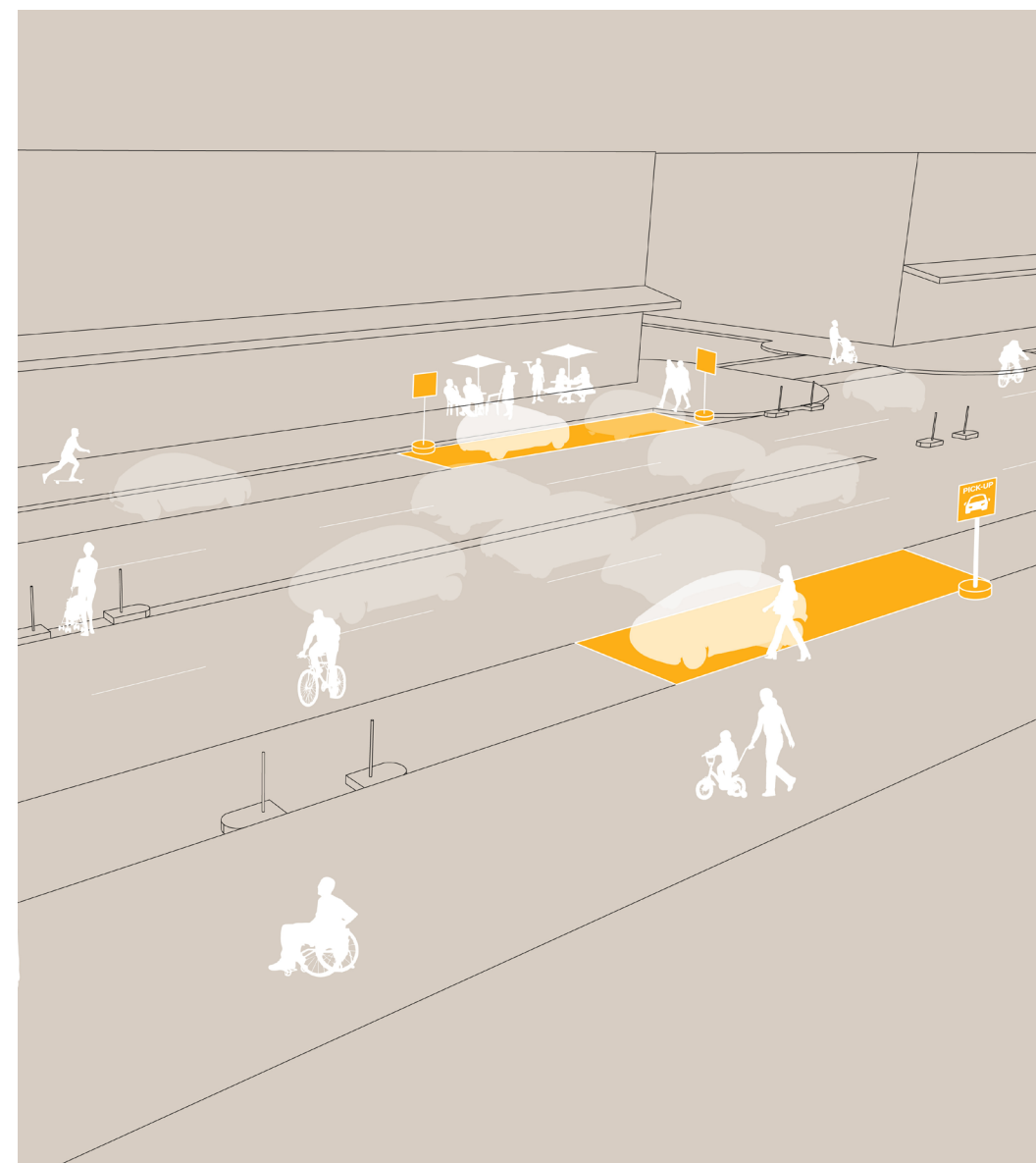
Proposed Concept.

- Test dedicated pick-up and drop-off area(s) for taxis and ride-shares and loading / unloading. Could be located along Ponsonby Road or side streets, trial locations to be confirmed.
- Concept may involve working with businesses to balance the three needs: impact on road users, access for customers, access for goods.
- Pick-up and drop-off and delivery dedicated area(s) could be effective only at restricted times, i.e evenings and weekends based on demand.
- Easy to understand signage and app improvements to direct passengers to the correct areas.

Success will look like...

- Safer / more convenient pick-up and drop-off of Ponsonby Road visitors, especially evenings / weekends.
- Incentive to leave the car at home.
- Better traffic flow as vehicles don’t stop on the road to pick-up and drop-off passengers or goods.

Concept drawing.



Potential location.



All potential options within study area shown.
Subject to feedback and technical review.

Concept 06: De-clutter the footpath.

—Create less clutter on the footpath by having dedicated zones for signage, scooters and bike parking. This will make the street more inviting and easier to navigate especially for parents with kids and prams, elderly, and those in wheelchairs etc.

▲ Concept subject to detailed technical review by Subject Matter Experts.



Issues.

- Footpaths are cluttered, causing issues for people walking along Ponsonby Road, especially people with accessibility needs.
- Signs, scooters and outdoor furniture are unpredictable placed along the footpath causing footpath congestion.

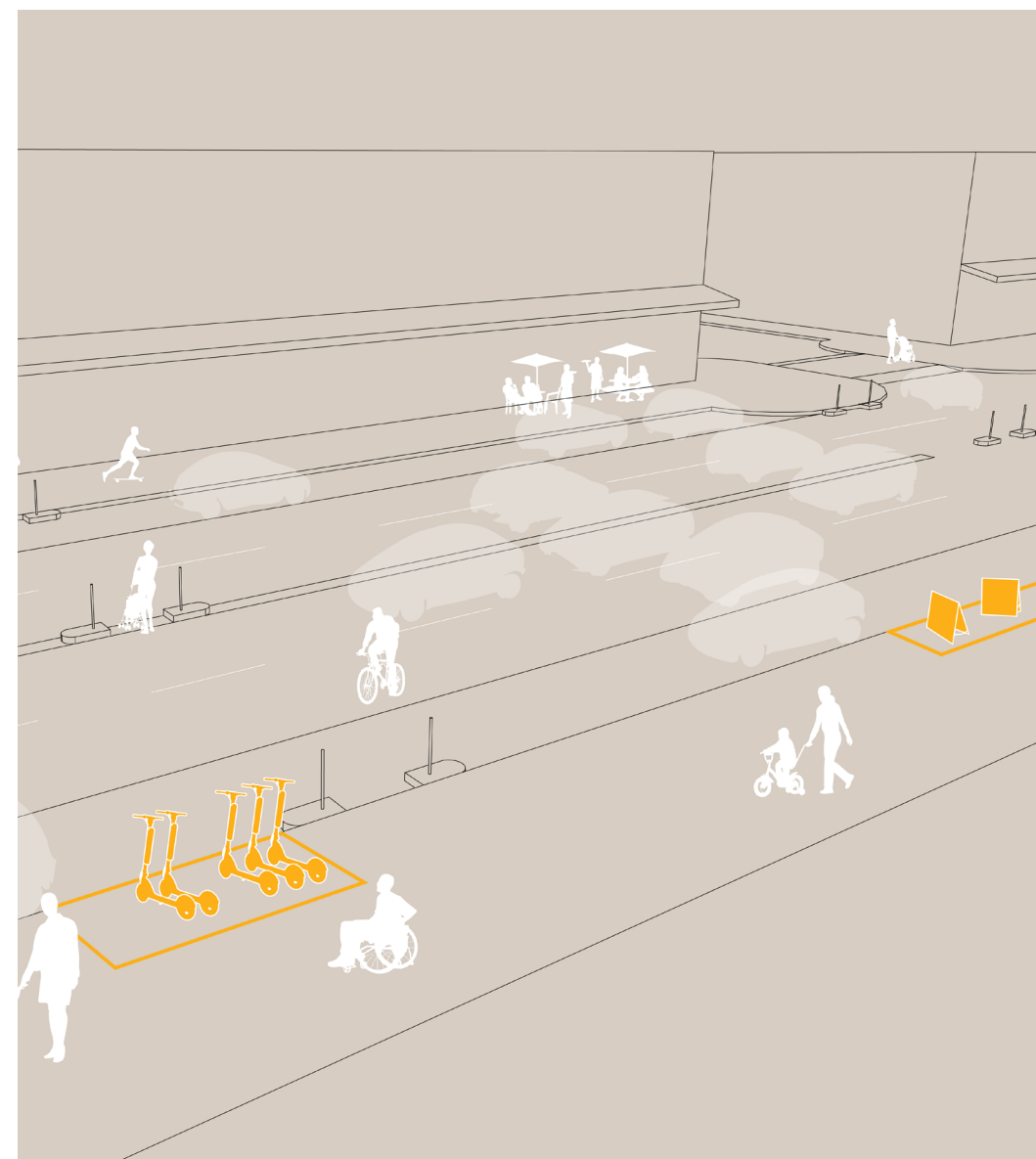
Proposed Concept.

- Undertake an accessibility audit of Ponsonby Road, focusing on footpaths and crossings.
- Mark out “no-clutter zones” and/or dedicated zones for signage & scooter and bike parking to consolidate an open and direct path for pedestrians on the footpath, focusing on universal access.
- Work with businesses to identify effective and compliant placement of signs / outdoor furniture on the footpath.

Success will look like...

- Ponsonby Road is more inviting for all and especially people with mobility impairments, prams etc.
- Reduces footpath congestion and allows more space for all.
- Pedestrians don't walk on the carriageway to avoid signs and furniture misplaced on the footpath.

Concept drawing.



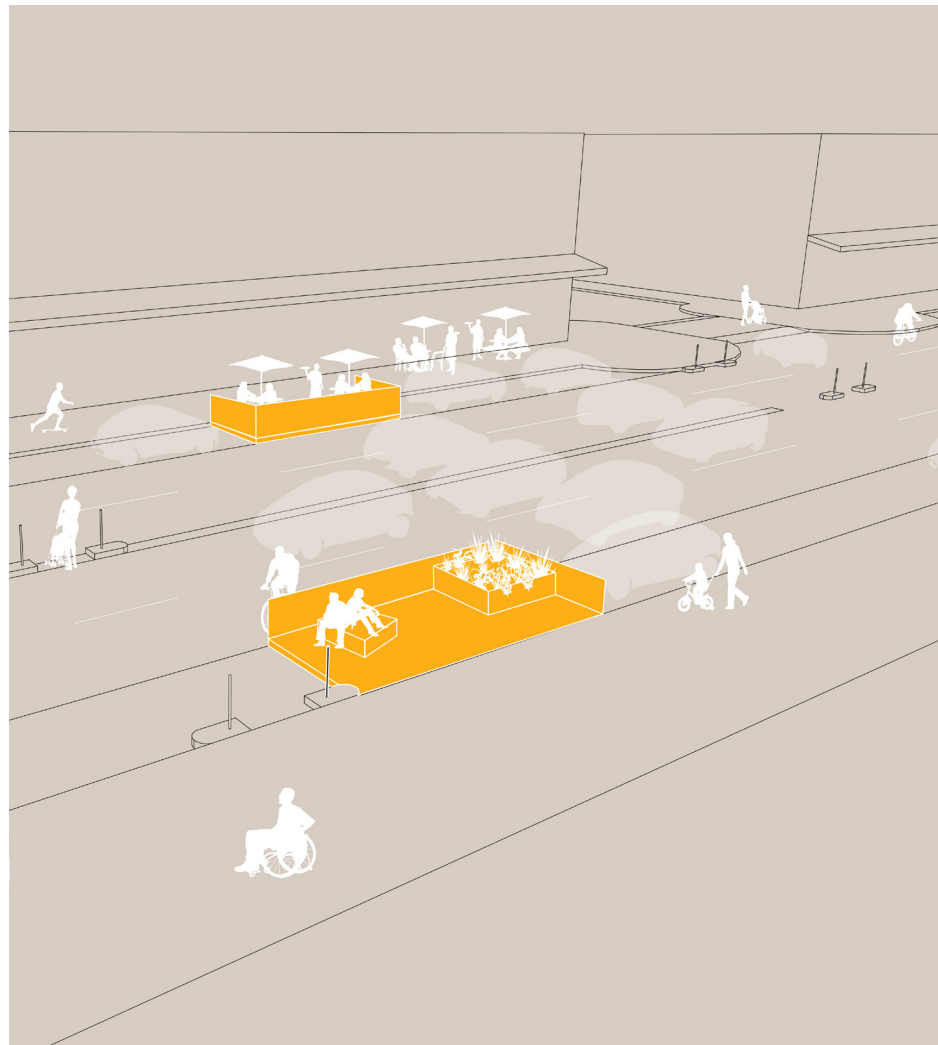
Potential location.



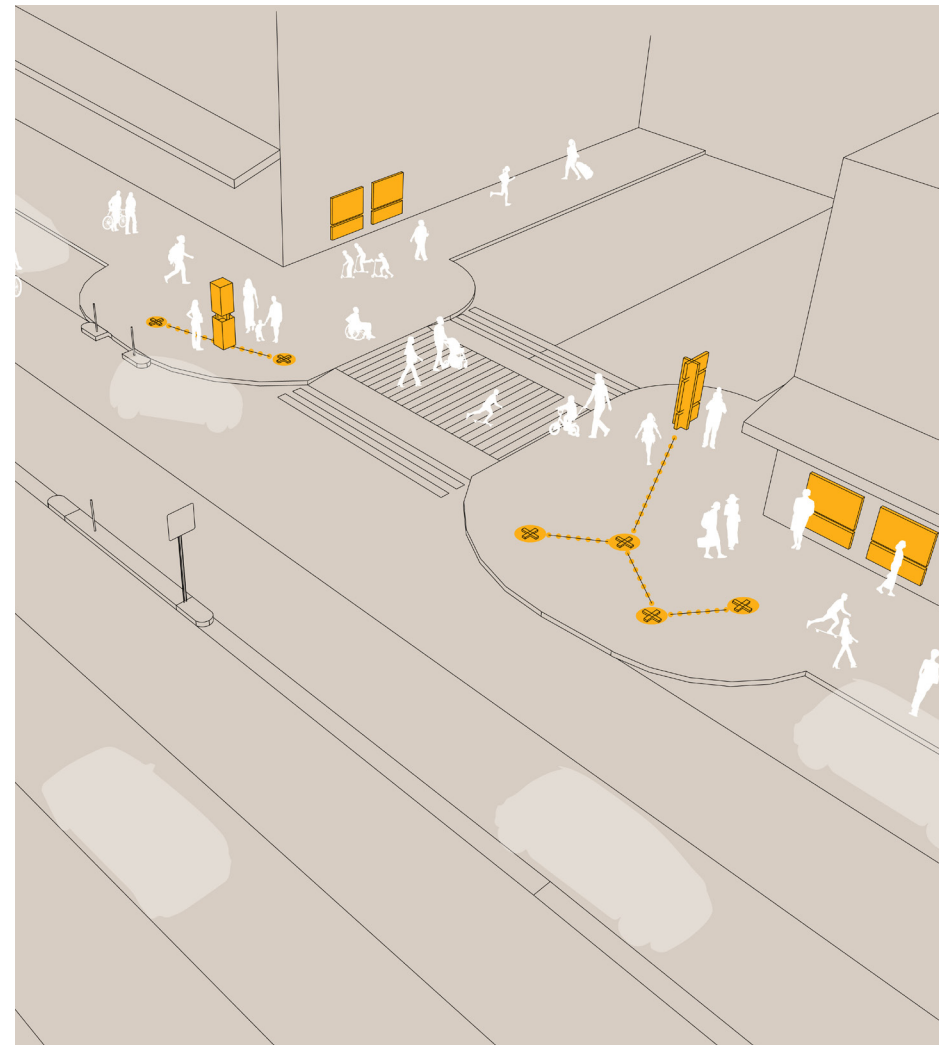
Theme C: Placemaking & Character.



Concept 07.
Parklets.



Concept 08.
**Expressing the Ponsonby character:
storytelling, cultural expression & history.**



Concept 07: Parklets.

—Temporarily converting on road parking spaces and generous footpath areas into fun zones with seating, greenery, artwork, and more. Creating an even more vibrant, happy, inviting Ponsonby where people sit and spend time.

▲ Concept subject to detailed technical review by Subject Matter Experts.



Issues.

- Lack of seating & furniture along Ponsonby Road.
- Lack of plants, trees and vibrancy.
- Lack of places to hang out and socialise.

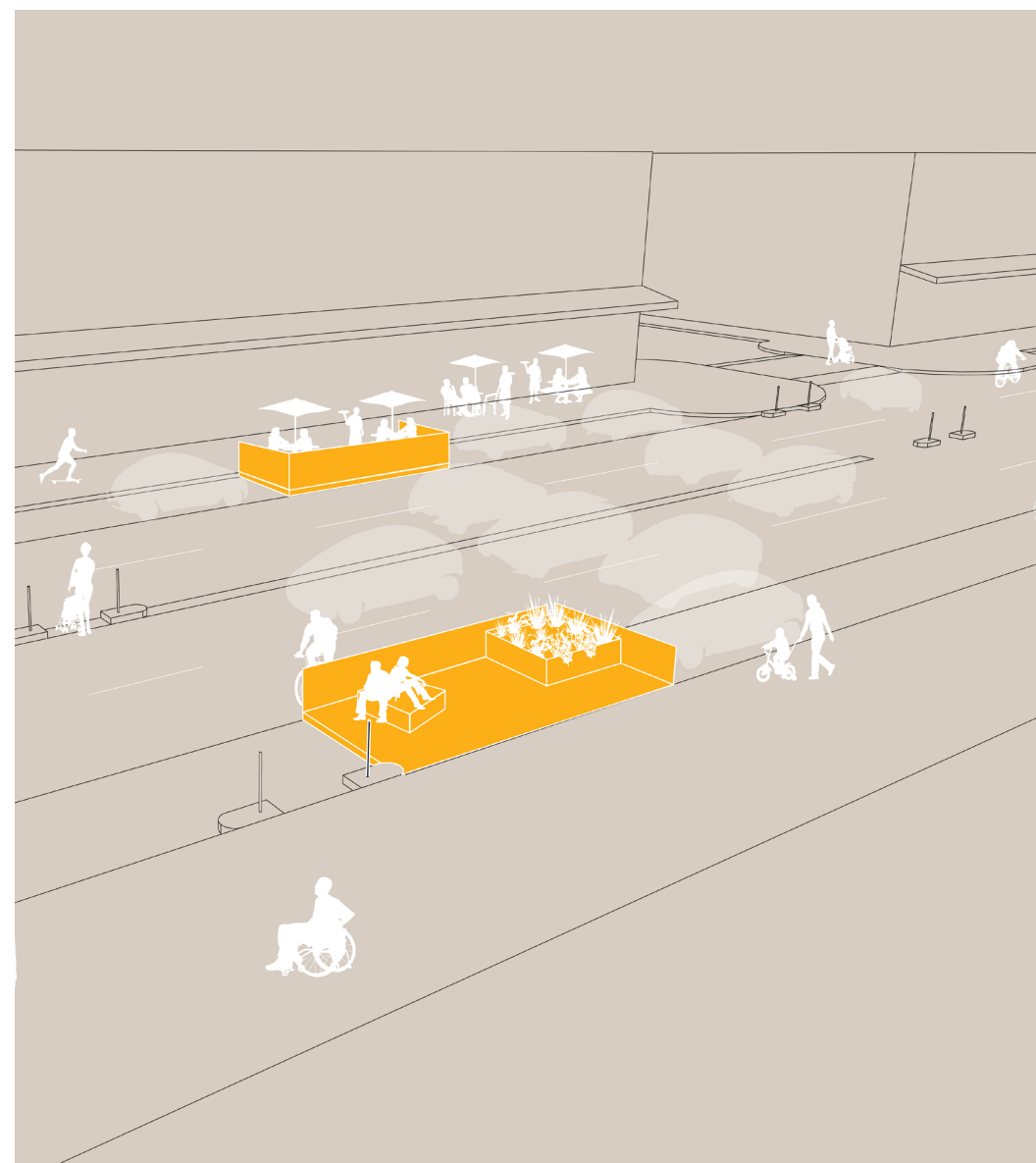
Proposed Concept.

- Opportunity to convert carparking space(s) and poorly used space into parklets and amenities. Better use of space. Trial locations to be confirmed.
- Parklets could include: planting, seating and other furniture, recycle bins, phone charging stations, drinking fountains, artworks by local artists, bike repair stands and other elements desired by the community.
- Opportunity for several parklets along study area. Several locations could be tested.
- Parklets should attract people and be accessible for all. Must align with the footpath level (build-out platform).
- Parklets could be managed in partnership with local residents and/or businesses.

Success will look like...

- Ponsonby Road attracts a wider range of users, including families and people with disabilities.
- More foot traffic, more time and money spent in.
- People are happy, people take pride in Ponsonby.

Concept drawing.



Potential location.



Various options available across study area within carparking bays.

Concept 08: Expressing the Ponsonby character: storytelling, cultural expression & history.

–Artwork, storytelling and cultural expression across the street to celebrate the uniqueness, colour, and amazing history of our community.

▲ Concept subject to detailed technical review by Subject Matter Experts.



Issues.

- Lack of perceived diversity and representation expressed along Ponsonby Road
- Very little reference of history, heritage and Māori narratives of 'Te Rimu Tahī'.

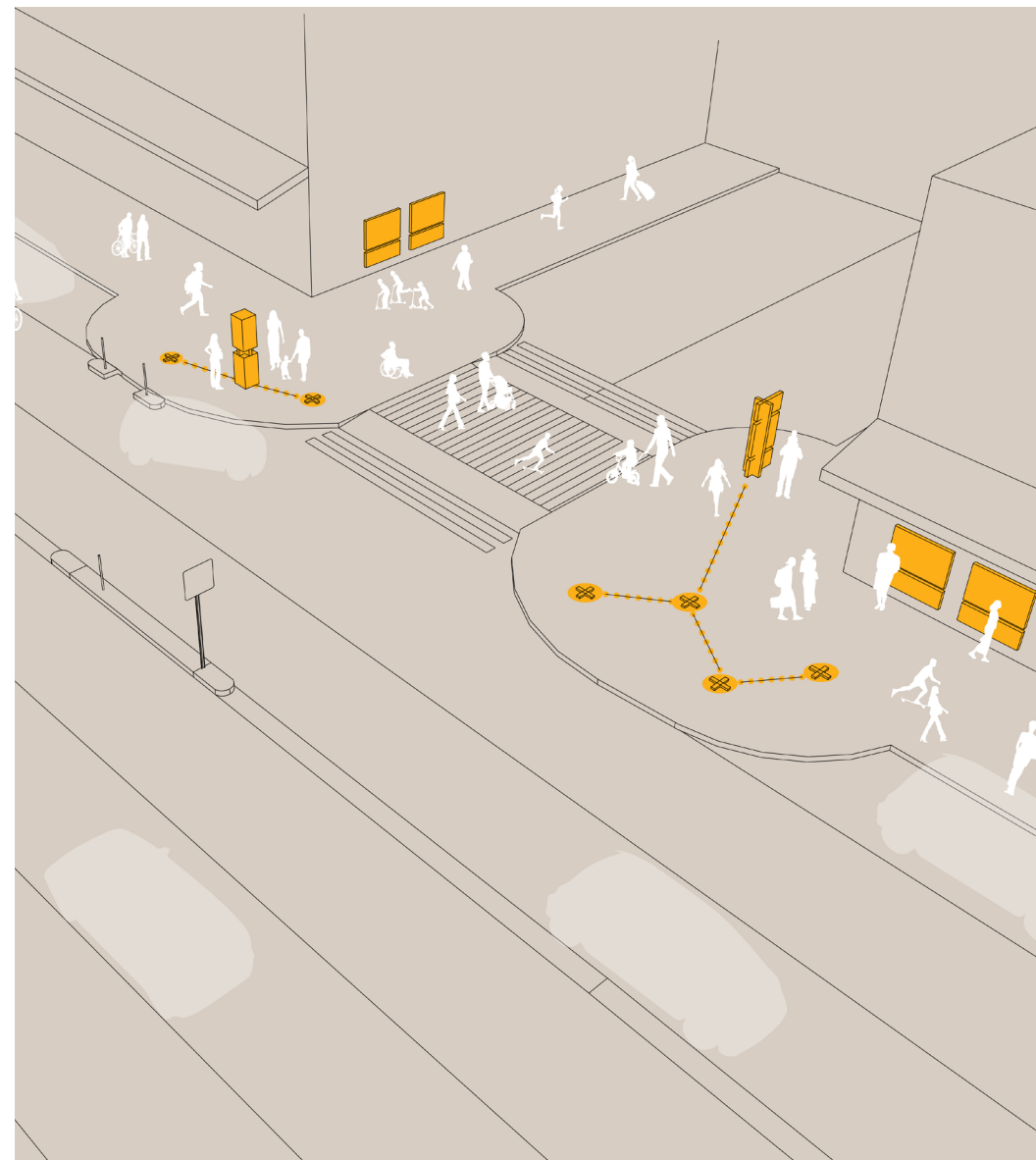
Proposed Concept.

- Create opportunity for artwork, story telling and cultural expression across the street. (i.e, furniture, signage, artwork and planting). Could include and/or support wayfinding elements in Ponsonby
- Opportunity for a cultural trail along Ponsonby Road to express its unique character in educational and fun ways.

Success will look like...

- The unique identity of Ponsonby is communicated and celebrated.
- Greater representation and inclusion of the diversity of the community through art and cultural elements.

Concept drawing.



Potential location.

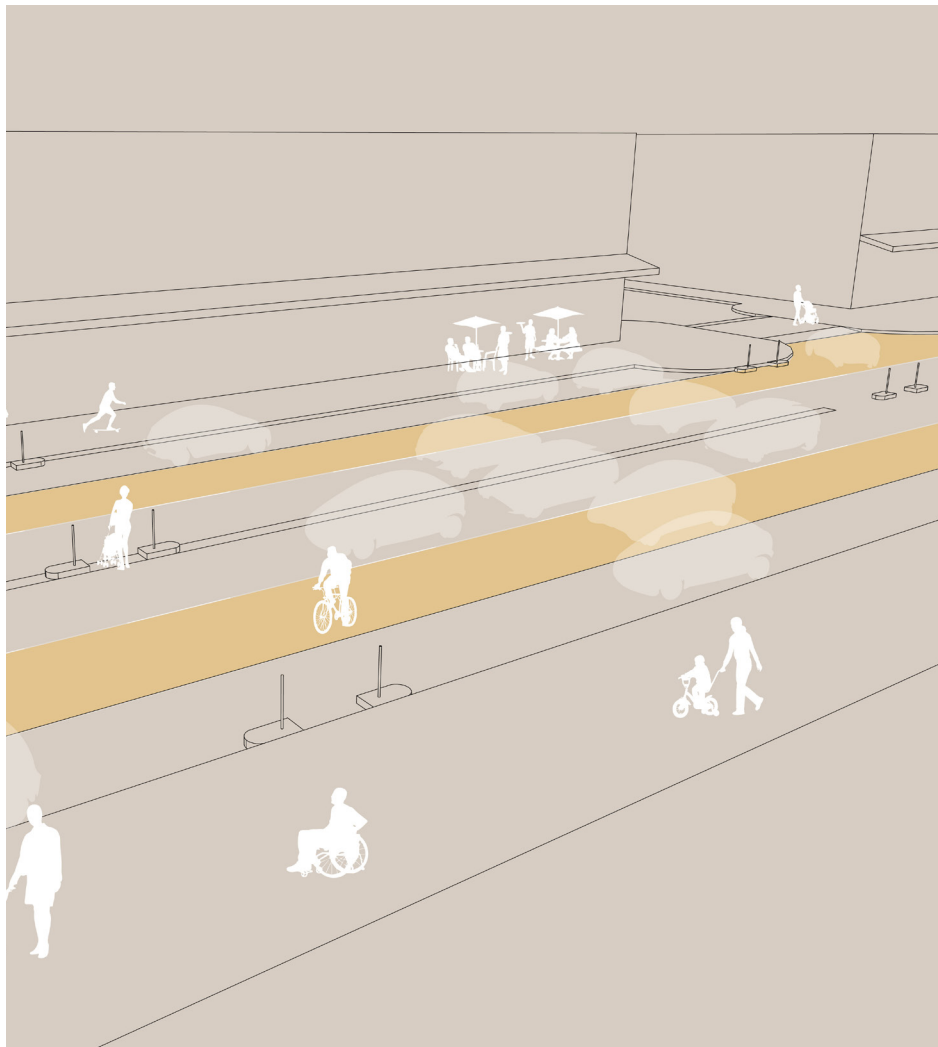


Various options available across study area.
(alignment & locations purely conceptual)

Theme D: Encouraging Positive Behavior.



Concept 09. Shared Lane.



Concept 09: Shared Lane.

—Encourage slower and more considerate driver behaviour on the outside lanes of the road through artwork and signage, where bikes, buses, and scooters can feel safer sharing the road with cars.

▲ Concept subject to detailed technical review by Subject Matter Experts.



Issues.

- Ponsonby Road is car-dominated, with traffic leaving little space to other road users.
- As an arterial road, people movement will remain the key consideration of the future of the street: 25,000 vehicles per day travel along Ponsonby Road (Picton Street to Newton Road); 11 DSI (Death or Serious Injury) crashes occurred along the corridor between 2014-2018, 72% of which involved vulnerable road users.

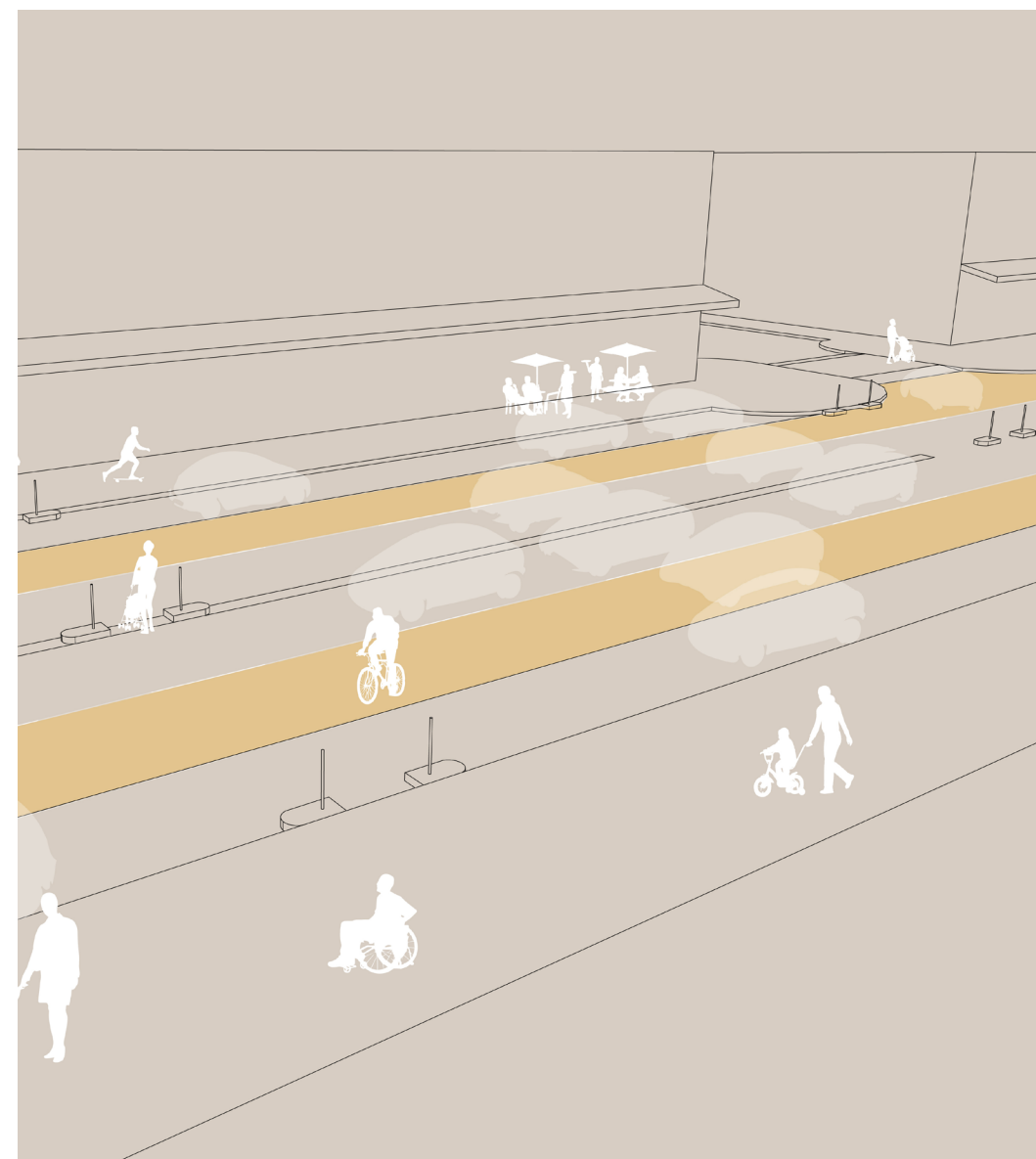
Proposed Concept.

- Support and encourage the outer lanes of the carriageway for broader mobility modes (e.g. Buses, ride-share, people on bikes and scooters etc.).
- Traffic calming measures.
- Enforce existing 40kmh limits (i.e. temporary cameras / monitoring). Propose reduction to 30kmh to calm traffic, reduce speeds AND ease traffic flow.
- Signage and roadside markings clearly communicate how road users should use and share the road.

Success will look like...

- Get more people to catch the bus or cycle, less people driving with only one person in the car.
- Lower speeds and less traffic.
- Create a calmer, safer environment.
- Reduction in noise and pollution.

Concept drawing.



Potential location.

