

The Successes & Challenges of Tactical Urbanism

Claire Davis

Specialist Urban Designer
Auckland Design Office

- What is Tactical Urbanism?
- How the approach started and evolved at Auckland Council
- Case study projects – what worked and what didn't
- Learnings & conclusions



Presentation Structure

- Temporary, phased, incremental improvements in the urban environment
- People-focused
- Lighter, quicker, cheaper approach
- A tool for trialing new ideas - build, measure, learn
- Gap filler or means of providing an interim solution



What is Tactical Urbanism?



International PARK(ing) Day 2015

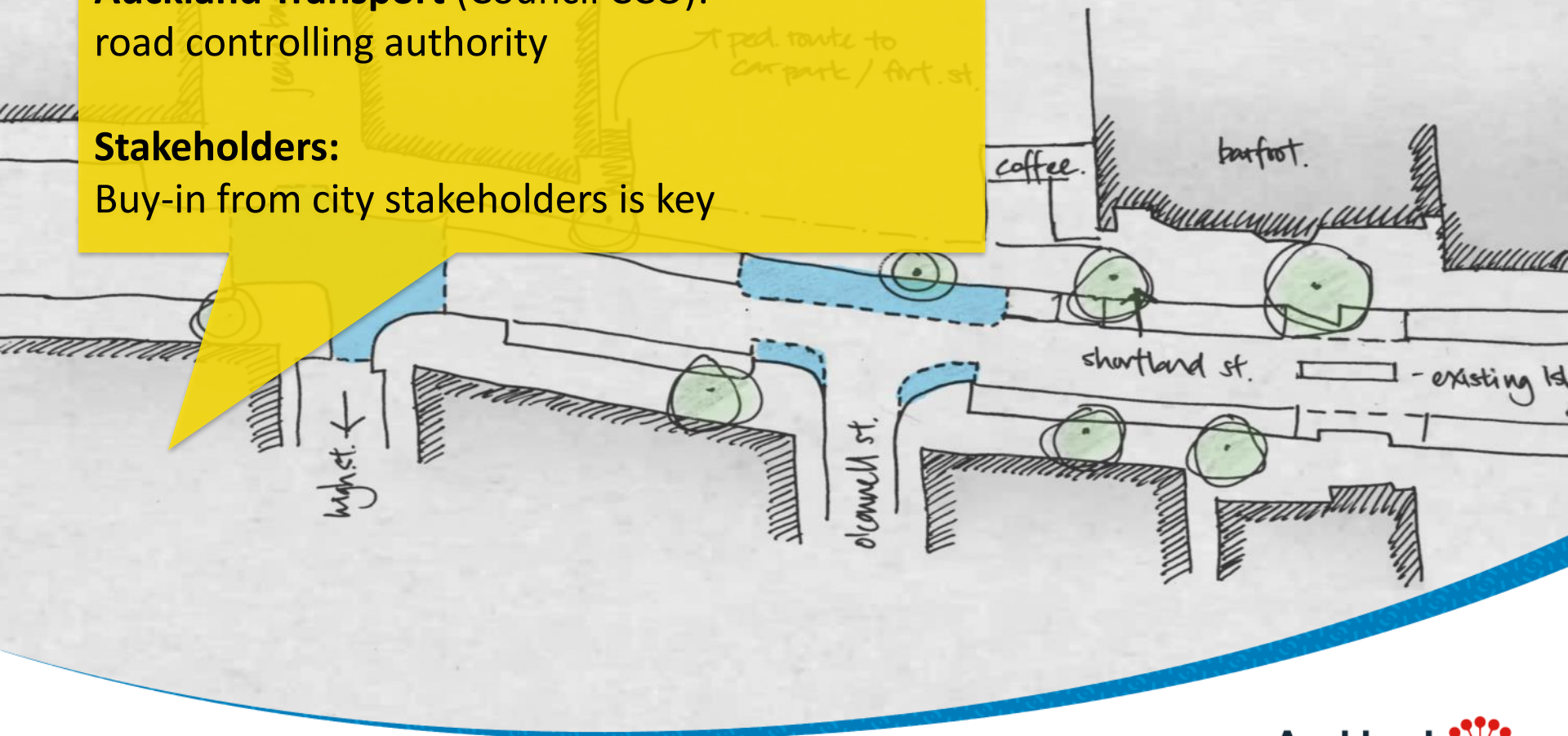


Interim Parklet 2016 - present

Auckland Design Office (Auckland Council):
design / place-making expertise

Auckland Transport (Council CCO):
road controlling authority

Stakeholders:
Buy-in from city stakeholders is key



A Collaborative Approach



A TEAM

We recommend that any agency pursuing quick-build projects designate at least one specialist to be involved with every such project. In addition, these projects require buy-in from engaged politicians or top executives; nimble and creative designers; money handlers, both in budgeting and procurement; and communications and outreach pros.



A CONTRACTING PLAN

Quick-build jobs are rarely compatible with full bid cycles. Cities need either on-call contracts or in-house crews.



AN OUTREACH GAME PLAN

With these projects, installation comes in the middle of the public outreach process, not near the end.



A SYSTEM FOR SEIZING OPPORTUNITY

When opportunities knock, cities will fail to take advantage of them unless there is a process in place that can swing rapidly into action and put a project atop the priority list.



SPECIALIZED COMMUNICATIONS

Alongside its direct outreach, a quick-build project needs language and images that help the public understand that it's a way to improve public involvement, not circumvent it.



INSTITUTIONALIZED URGENCY

Installation deadlines are mandatory, whether dictated by the first big snowfall of winter, by a repaving schedule or by a mayoral pledge.



A MAINTENANCE PLAN

Replacing torn posts, repainting colored pavement and clearing paths of snow or debris won't break your bank, but they do require time, money and equipment.



A RELIABLE FUNDING STRATEGY

Most state and federal grants are designed around the capital-project model. Quick-build work requires different tricks.



MEASUREMENT

Objective metrics are an essential part of the process, both for making necessary adjustments and ultimately for demonstrating success.



Shortland Street Polka Dots



Shortland Street Polka Dots

	A TEAM			A CONTRACTING PLAN	
	A SYSTEM FOR SEIZING OPPORTUNITY			AN OUTREACH GAME PLAN	
	INSTITUTIONALIZED URGENCY			SPECIALIZED COMMUNICATIONS	
	A RELIABLE FUNDING STRATEGY			A MAINTENANCE PLAN	
				MEASUREMENT	

Shortland Street Polka Dots



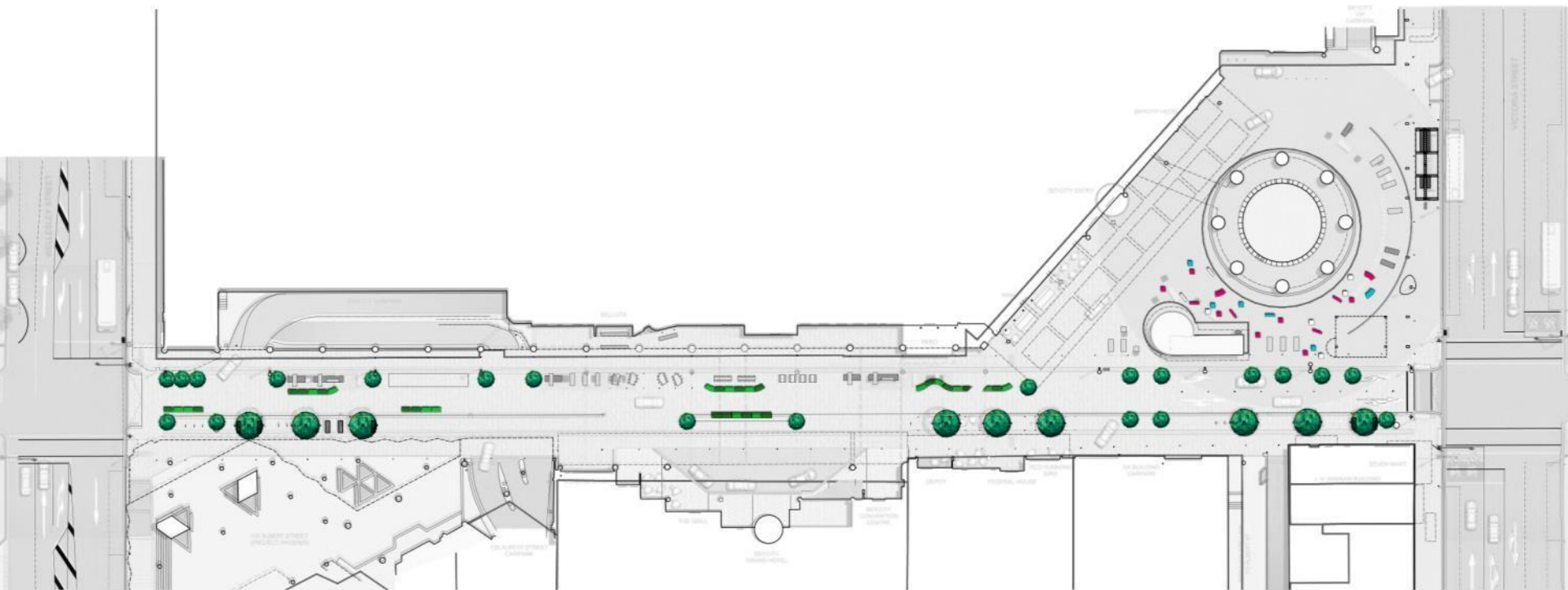
Federal Street Walking & Cycling Improvements

MEASURE	METHOD	BASELINE DATA	FOLLOW-UP DATA
Traffic speed and volume on Federal Street and side roads	Vehicle tube counters	4x locations (1 on Federal, 1 Wyndham, 1 Swanson, 1 Wolfe)	5x locations (2 on Federal, 1 Wyndham, 1 Swanson, 1 Wolfe)
Cycle counts on Federal Street	Cycle tube counters	1 located on St Patrick's Square	1 on St Patrick's Square, 2 in Federal Street contra-flow cycle lanes
Analysis of crash data	Crash Analysis System	Examined five-year bicycle crash history on Federal Street	Examined five-year bicycle crash history on Federal Street
Road usability and road user interactions	Video analysis: movement categories and a interactions framework	One location (Level 2 Sky City employee carpark). 4 days during peak hours (morning and evening), total 11 hours	One location (streetlight next to Sky City carpark). 2 days during peak hours (morning and evening), total 11 hours
Attitudes of road safety, usability, and comfort	Survey	Convenience sample over three sessions of 46 pedestrians, 17 people on bikes, 29 business owners or employees	Convenience sample over four sessions of 50 pedestrians, 20 people on bikes, 23 business owners or employees
Expert route assessment for safety, usability, and comfort	Analyse ride from head cam video and Sensibel data	Four 'expert' rides: 2 at peak times, 2 off-peak; wore headcams	Eight 'expert' rides: all off-peak; Sensibel good/bad ratings at locations along route (annotated later)

Federal Street Walking & Cycling Improvements

 A TEAM	✓	 A CONTRACTING PLAN	✗
 A SYSTEM FOR SEIZING OPPORTUNITY	✓	 AN OUTREACH GAME PLAN	✓
 INSTITUTIONALIZED URGENCY	✗	 SPECIALIZED COMMUNICATIONS	✓
 A RELIABLE FUNDING STRATEGY	✓	 A MAINTENANCE PLAN	✗
		 MEASUREMENT	✓

Federal Street Walking & Cycling Improvements



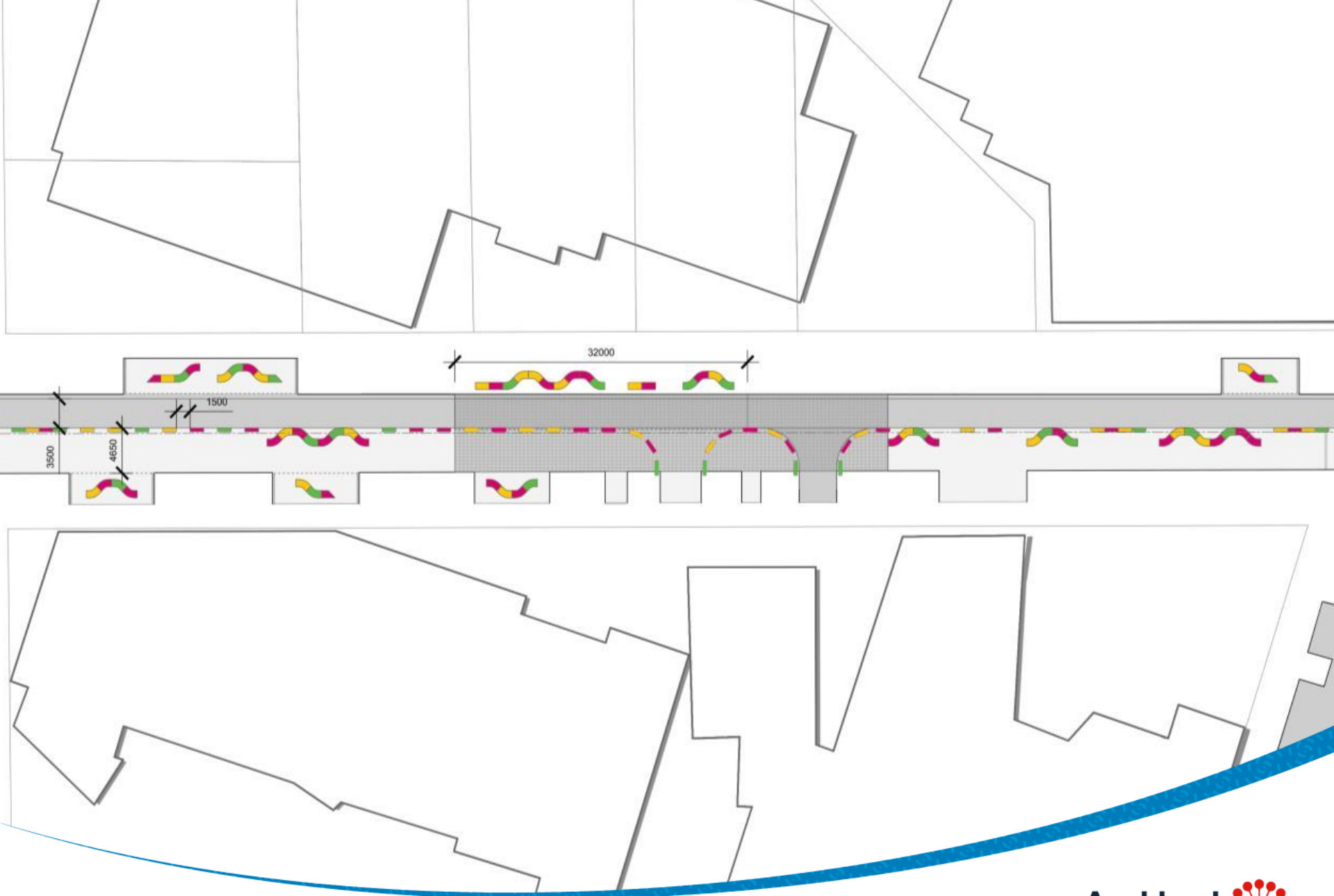
Federal Street Shared Space Traffic Calming



Federal Street Shared Space Traffic Calming

	A TEAM	✓		A CONTRACTING PLAN	✓
	A SYSTEM FOR SEIZING OPPORTUNITY	✓		AN OUTREACH GAME PLAN	✗
	INSTITUTIONALIZED URGENCY	✓		SPECIALIZED COMMUNICATIONS	✗
	A RELIABLE FUNDING STRATEGY	✓		A MAINTENANCE PLAN	✓
				MEASUREMENT	✓

Federal Street Shared Space Traffic Calming



Alfred Street Parking Removal




Alfred Street Parking Removal

	A TEAM	✓		A CONTRACTING PLAN	✓
	A SYSTEM FOR SEIZING OPPORTUNITY	✓		AN OUTREACH GAME PLAN	✓
	INSTITUTIONALIZED URGENCY	✓		SPECIALIZED COMMUNICATIONS	✗
	A RELIABLE FUNDING STRATEGY	✓		A MAINTENANCE PLAN	✓
				MEASUREMENT	✗

Alfred Street Parking Removal

Alfred Street – Stakeholder Buy-In

- 
- Maintenance or lack of!
 - Lengthy, expensive processes - need a more streamlined approach
 - Need to develop a specialized communications to get our story out there

What Hasn't Worked – Learnings

- It's been a valuable learning experience
- Many successes and challenges over the first two years of the programme
- Very positive response internally and externally
- People are excited over this new approach being taken by Council
- Small but significant steps towards a safer city for all



Conclusions

Thank You

Acknowledgements:

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For more information, please refer to our practice paper or contact me:

claire.davis@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



[@Claire_AKL](https://twitter.com/Claire_AKL)



Federal Street

Shortland Street

Federal Street
shared space

Parklet

Alfred Street

KEY:

-  Traffic Flow Direction
-  Vehicle Access
-  New Building Pedestrian Access



St Paul Street Pedestrian Amenity



St Paul Street Pedestrian Amenity

	A TEAM	✓		A CONTRACTING PLAN	✓
	A SYSTEM FOR SEEING OPPORTUNITY	✗		AN OUTREACH GAME PLAN	✓
	INSTITUTIONALIZED URGENCY	✓		SPECIALIZED COMMUNICATIONS	✗
	A RELIABLE FUNDING STRATEGY	✓		A MAINTENANCE PLAN	✓
				MEASUREMENT	✓

St Paul Street Pedestrian Amenity

Alfred Street – Stakeholder Buy-In