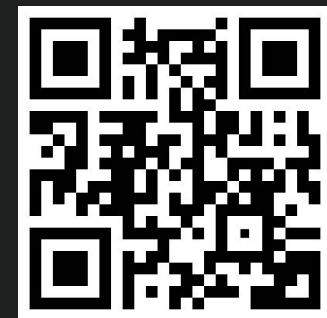




Aireys Inlet top shops streetscape concept

Draft for community consultation



Designing for the Aireys vibe

What we heard

Stage 1 community consultation showed a strong shared message: People want the precinct to feel safer, easier to move through, greener, and preserve the coastal village feel in keeping with the relaxed Aireys character.

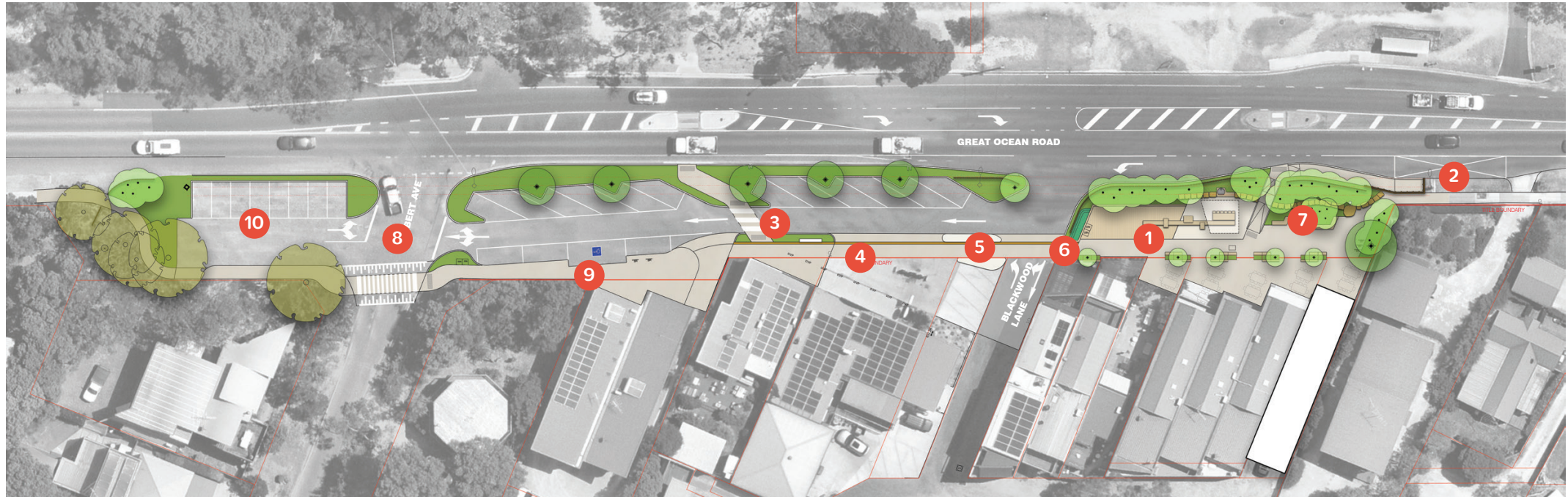
Clear themes emerged across more than 250 responses:

- **Pedestrian safety and accessibility to come first (70.5%)**
- **Parking and traffic flow that works safely and logically (69.1%)**
- **A greener, more comfortable place to meet (43.6%)**
- **A design that feels like “Aireys” (34.9%)**
- **Sustainable design (23.5%)**



Key design elements

DRAFT DESIGN



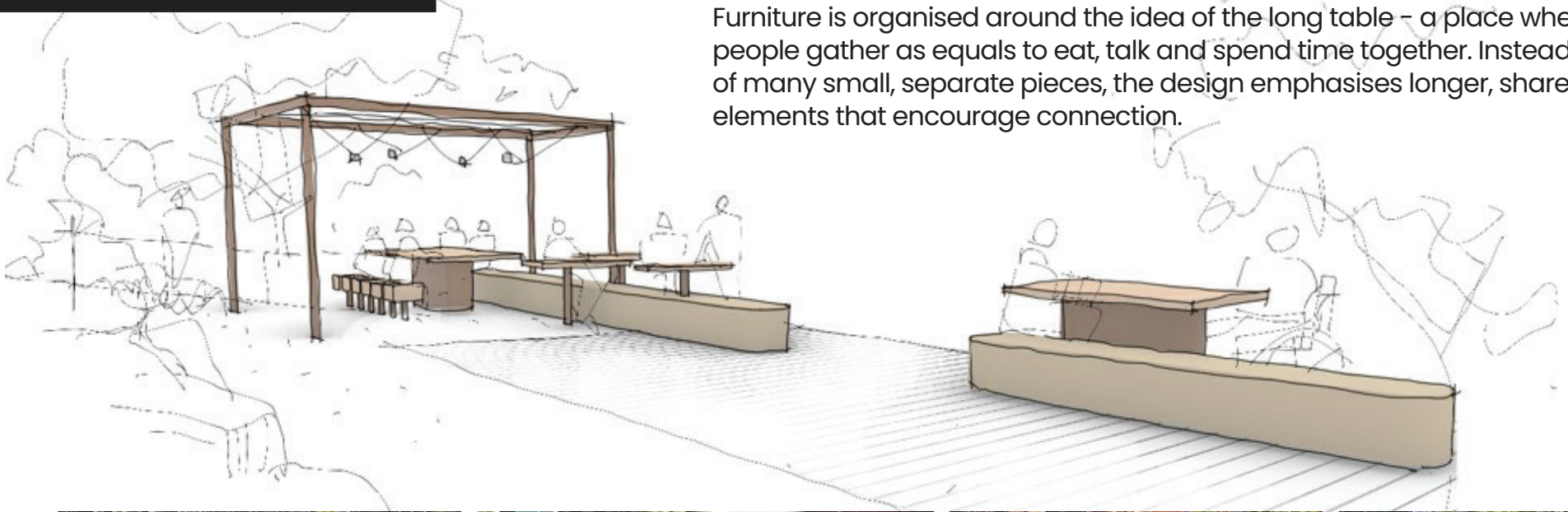
1. New large community public space at the northern end for community use for social connection with shade trees, bike parking and community noticeboard.
2. Bus stop relocated to northern end and existing entry lane moved south.
3. Angled parking changed from 45 to 30 degrees to create wider footpath space.
4. A wider 2m+ wide footpath provides a safe and Continuous Accessible Path of Travel.
5. Clear separation between walking, parking, and driving spaces to make the precinct calmer and easier to navigate.
6. Environmental features: permeable paving, stormwater filtration, and increased green amenity to address drainage and dust.
7. Coastal village character maintained through material palette and landscaping.
8. Pedestrian crossing at Albert Ave and improved intersection design to give drivers better visibility when turning.
9. Accessible parking relocated for safer access to key services.
10. Parking area formalised to create additional car space and improve safety when reversing.

Refer to the *Aireys Top Shops Visual Guide to the Draft Design* document

Furniture

Shared, social, welcoming – ‘the long table’

Furniture is organised around the idea of the long table – a place where people gather as equals to eat, talk and spend time together. Instead of many small, separate pieces, the design emphasises longer, shared elements that encourage connection.



- Everyone receives the same seat and the same welcome.
- Easy to understand and naturally inviting.
- Supports eating, working, gathering and events.
- Encourages small, everyday interactions that build community.
- A continuous element that anchors the space.
- This approach reflects a relaxed, easy hospitality and openness that might be found in a local Airey's home.

The parking trade-off

We tested all feasible options to retain the existing number of car spaces while delivering improved safety and accessibility outcomes. All options required major compromises to footpaths, safety, accessibility or public space.

To achieve improved pedestrian safety and meet accessibility requirements – including the wider, continuous path in front of the retail strip – the draft design proposes reducing car parks in the top shops area by five: from 29 to 24.

Key changes at a glance

- **45-degree parking replaced with 30-degree parking** to reduce reversing conflicts, improve traffic flow and create space for a wider footpath.
- **Informal 90-degree parking formalised** into clearly marked spaces at the gallery end, improving safety and accessibility.
- **Parallel parking reduced**, including the relocation of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant space to a central, level location near the pharmacy.



Meeting accessibility requirements

The draft design proposes a minimum two-metre-wide continuous path in front of the retail strip, to bring the path up to current-day safety standards and meet accessibility requirements.

From wheelchair users to older residents to people with prams: it will mean people of all ages and abilities can move through the area independently and confidently.

Walking will also become easier for pedestrians, encouraging people to stay longer and visit more shops.

The path aligns with the no.1 feedback back theme we heard in stage one: pedestrian safety and accessibility.



Natural materials, refined craft

Furniture made from natural, rustic materials of stone, timber and earth-toned elements, crafted with care and refinement. This brings together rugged character and thoughtful, sophisticated detailing, echoing the artistic, hands-on nature of the aireys inlet community.

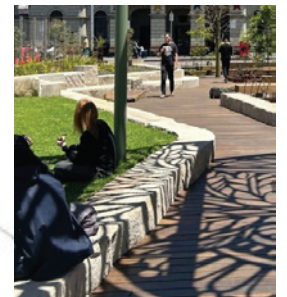
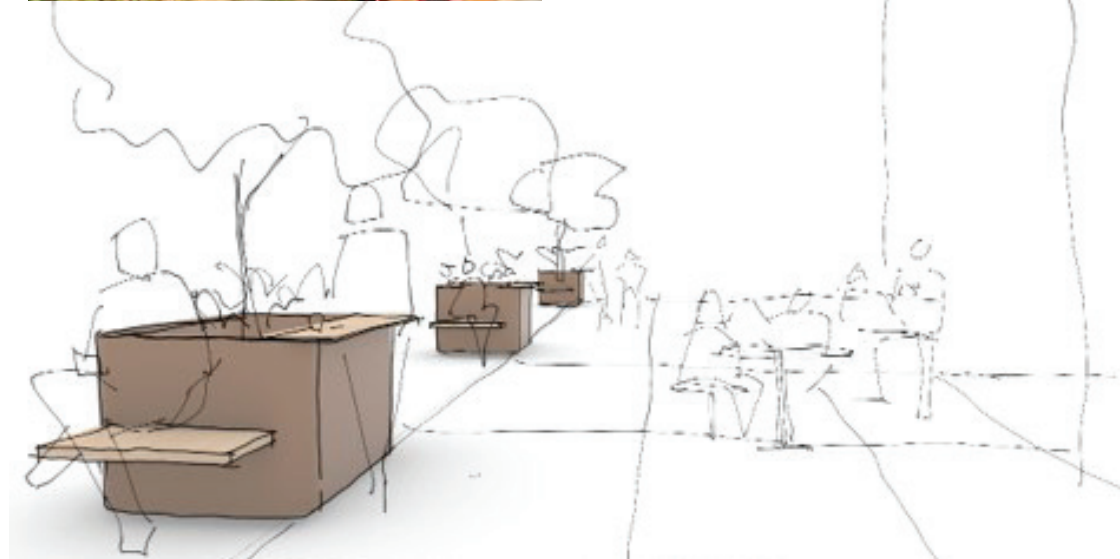
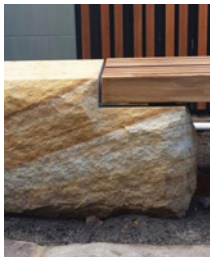
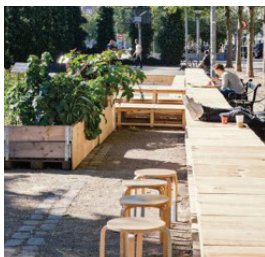
Solid, grounded, built to last

The furniture design will have a sense of mass and permanence. Forms feel anchored,

Dependable and enduring designed to withstand the coastal climate, heavy use, and a long life outdoors.



An irresistible pit stop along the great ocean road.



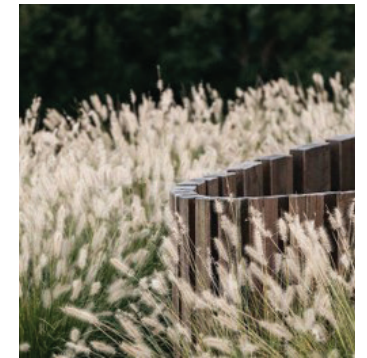
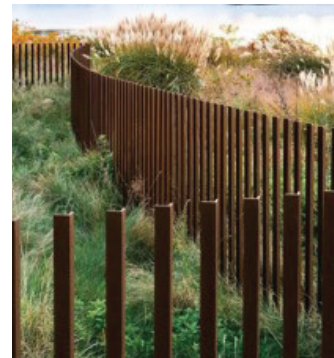
A place that supports a community and its visitors – the ‘soft infrastruc

Providing a space that supports community ownership, connection and expression. A cosy, welcoming, familiar almost residential scale that can also handle small events.

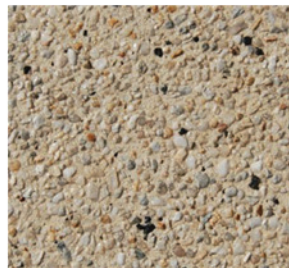
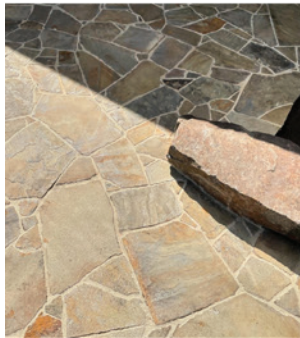
Materials shaped by coast & climate

Material selections are drawn from the broader character of Aireys Inlet—its layered geology, coastal vegetation, local colours, and the weathered textures found throughout the landscape. The warm ochres, golds and burnt-orange tones seen in the region's cliffs are a key influence, complemented by cues from the wider coastal environment.

Materials have been chosen to work with the environment, not against it. Rather than relying on coatings or finishes that resist weathering, the palette favours surfaces that will change over time, taking on the patina and character of wind, sun and salt air.



Primary materials



- Materials that show texture, layering and natural variation.
- Weathering that adds character rather than damage.
- Forms and finishes that echo the sculpted, coastal landscape.
- A constant dialogue between materials and the elements.
- The outcome is a palette that feels honest, coastal, and deeply connected to place.

Exposed aggregate concrete

Natural stone crazy paving

Gravel aggregate

Decking / grates

Rammed earth

Concrete

Stone / boulder

Corten (weathering) steel

Immersed in a bushland garden

The design will use carefully selected indigenous species from the otway plain bioregion and select native species that are suitable for streetscape planting. No exotic or deciduous species.

