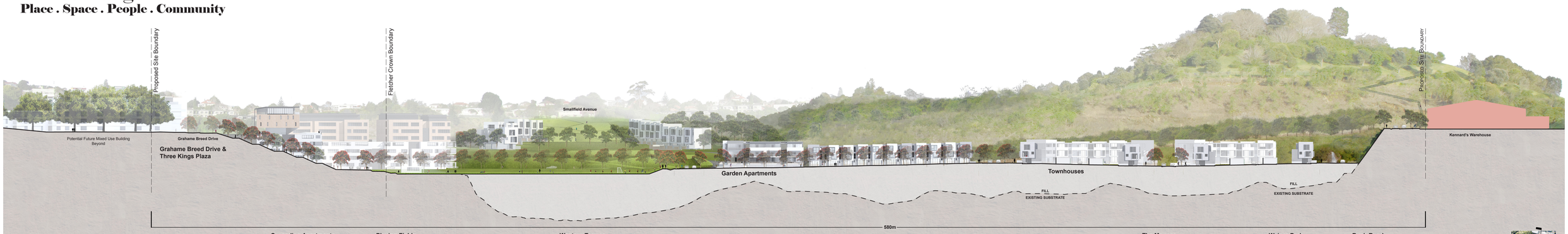
Three Kings

Place . Space . People . Community



Cascading Apartments

Apartment typologies selected for their ability to traverse steep site conditions will be used along the periphery of the quarry while also mimicking the surrounding Maunga landscape. These multi-storey cascading apartment buildings will be oriented to maximize daylight as well as views towards Big King and Little Rangitoto, and will be constructed of the quarry rock. They will be easily perforated to maintain proper site lines from the exterior of the site as well. The nature of the quarry rim allows one to descend in through open spaces and legibly read the road network and landscape above to promote way-finding and site orientation.

Playing Fields

The Playing Fields represents the heart of the new Three Kings open space network. While Big King is still the primary focus of the development's orientation, these fields sit as the epicentre of the site. The Playing Fields will hold two regulation-sized soccer pitches, one rugby pitch, and a cricket oval, but will remain accessible for pedestrians to use as an open park space when matches are not being held.

Western Terrace

The Western Terrace employs a folded landscape element that aims to negotiate the grade change from the existing park access along Smallfield Avenue to the base of the development where the new fields within The Green are proposed. As the terrace folds in on one another and spiral together at the base of the development where the new fields within The Green are proposed, the terraces rejoin with the topography of Big King Reserve, creating a new, more accessible link than what currently exists. Within the low points of the folded berms will be pathways for pedestrians to walk the grounds.

The Maunga

Restraining of the eclipse of the Maunga reflect the gestures of connection to the public open spaces. Soft, folded forms that pull the circular shapes of the Maunga into the site will help construct the language of pathways, roads, access routes, and sculptural play space throughout Three Kings. Recognising the importance of industrial artifacts, fabrics and even exposed quarry rock will pull at the overall feel of the site that connects the users with the rich history of the site. Overall, both private and public spaces will be shaped by these unique forms as being inspired from a rich historical narrative as they enter and inhabit the Three Kings site

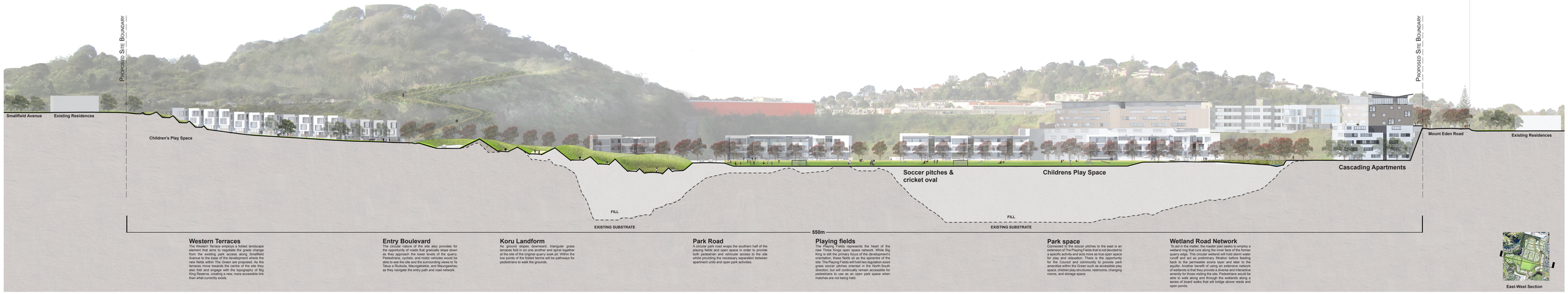
Waiora Park

The waiora (highest purity ground water) is used as publicly accessible landscape water feature. The site for a new water feature will be situated at the top of the existing basalt rock outcropping next to the Maunga, allowing for the waiora to cascade into a sacred watershed of ponds and wetlands. The process of cleansing and purification of the waiora will be done by a row of wetlands is that they provide a diverse and interactive amenity for those visiting the site. Pedestrians would be able to walk along and through the wetlands along a series of board walks that will bridge above reeds and open ponds.

Bush Road

The Bush Road, which provides access from Mt. Eden Road along the northern boundary of the site, acts as an extension of the native bush from the Maunga. This densely planted road acts as a key buffer between the Maunga landform and the development below.

North-South Section



Western Terraces

The Western Terrace employs a folded landscape element that aims to negotiate the grade change from the existing park access along Smallfield Avenue to the base of the development where the new fields within The Green are proposed. As the terrace folds in on one another and spiral together also fold and engage with the topography of Big King Reserve, creating a new, more accessible link than what currently exists.

Entry Boulevard

The circular nature of the site also provides for the opportunity of roads that gradually slope down as they approach the lower levels of the quarry. Pedestrians, cyclists, and motor vehicles would be able to see the site and the surrounding views to Te Tatua a Riukiuta, Maungakiekie, and Maungarahiau as they navigate the entry path and road network.

Koru Landform

As ground slopes downward, triangular grass terraces fold in on one another and spiral together at the site of the original quarry soak pit. Within the low points of the folded berms will be pathways for pedestrians to walk the grounds.

Park Road

A circular park road wraps the southern half of the playing fields and open space in order to provide both pedestrian and vehicular access to the site whilst providing the necessary separation between apartment units and open park activities.

Playing fields

The Playing Fields represents the heart of the new Three Kings open space network. While Big King is still the primary focus of the development's orientation, these fields sit as the epicentre of the site. The Playing Fields will hold two regulation-sized soccer pitches, one rugby pitch, and a cricket oval, but will continually remain accessible for pedestrians to use as an open park space when matches are not being held.

Park space

Connected to the soccer pitches to the east is an extension of The Playing Fields that is not devoted to a specific activity and acts more as true open space for play and relaxation. There is the opportunity for the Council and community to provide park amenities within the Green such as accessible play spaces, children's play structures, restrooms, changing rooms, and storage space

Wetland Road Network

To aid in the matter, the master plan seeks to employ a wetland ring that runs along the inner face of the former quarry edge. This circular wetland will hold storm water runoff and act as preliminary filtration before feeding back to the permeable scoria layer and later to the Waiora Park below. The key to the success of the system of wetlands is that they provide a diverse and interactive amenity for those visiting the site. Pedestrians would be able to walk along and through the wetlands along a series of board walks that will bridge above reeds and open ponds.

East-West Section