


SUSTAINABLE INITIATIVES

Re-use of Existing Structure & Carbon Footprint Reduction	Hydronic Heating & Hot Water Heating	Heat Recovery Ventilation & Indoor Air Quality	Energy Modeling & Monitoring	Solar PV (Future-proofing)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental impact will be minimised wherever possible by reusing salvageable elements of the existing building - this will include the large existing concrete slab and existing car park hardstand. Re-use of the existing stone cladding will be adopted. Typically around 20% of a new building's carbon footprint comes from the foundation and floor. Selecting new elements with a lower carbon footprint and recyclable material can reduce the amount of materials needed, lowering effects on the environment and cost. Locally sourced, low-embodied energy materials may also be specified. Targeting operational & embodied carbon in the above ways is in line with the NZ government's commitment to a 40% reduction in building related emissions by 2030 and Net Zero carbon by 2050. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-slab hydronic heating with air-to-water heat pump technology will allow even radiant heat and a comfortable environment, with high energy efficiency and very low running costs. It also helps reduce mould, condensation and draughts. A centralised hot water heating system combined with an air source heat pump can reduce the energy cost of water heating by up to 65%. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A heat recovery ventilation system allows fresh air coming into the building to pass through a heat exchanger, which captures the heat from the warm stale air leaving the building and transfers it to the incoming fresh air. More than 70% of heat energy can be recovered in this process, making it very energy efficient. Mechanical ventilation such as the above also allows a more controllable and comfortable environment, when natural ventilation isn't always effective, i.e. strong winds, cold days, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early energy Modeling of the envelope and building services in the design stage will result in higher efficiencies and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. A sub-metering system, will allow monitoring of energy use for individual components such as the heating and cooling systems, ensuring ongoing building efficiency and maintenance. They also have a future-proofing role by indicating when the heating/cooling is nearing their end of life, saving the building from running inefficiently. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The large flat roof allows for a ample PV panels to be retrofitted in the future. The electrical switchboard will be designed to allow seamless installation. PV helps reduce the building's dependence on the electrical grid. By sizing the system accordingly to strike a balance, the aim is to reduce the amount of electricity needed for cooling and align it with the energy generated by the panels. Solar panels can also provide an energy offset throughout the year, not just during peak cooling times. 
Solar Heat Gain Reduction, Daylighting & Thermal Efficiency	Rainwater Reuse & Control	Transport	Climate Change & Resilience	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The large building eaves to the North, along with louvered systems, help reduce solar heat gain and overheating in the summer, while also reducing direct glare into library spaces. A multicell polycarbonate facade system on the 'pop-ups' reduces solar heat gain & UV compared with glass, while having a high light transmission, even lighting and better thermal insulation. This allows good filtered daylight into the building, reducing the amount of artificial lighting. The external building envelope will adhere to the new NZBC H1 standards which have greatly increased minimum thermal performance standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excess rainwater from the roof will be released to garden areas and allowed to flow overland to the river, rather than into pipes. Landscaping will be designing to avoid irrigation, but in places that are vulnerable to drying out, roof water would be used. A rainwater tank may be used for excess storage. Minimising hard surfaces, i.e. using permeable lime chip paths for secondary routes, will allow higher permeability of the surrounding site. An increase in planted areas with native species will assist be suitable to the site conditions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of bicycle transport will be facilitated with more cycle stands than required by Greenstar standards. Similarly, there will be provision for EV changers and spaces for fuel efficient vehicles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate resilience is a key consideration. Using NIWA climate projection data in the energy modeling can optimise the building systems to help future-proof for more extreme temperature changes. A new structural slab layer over the existing will increase the floor level well above the minimum required, allowing for a more resilient building to cope with future flooding from more common and high intensity rainfall events. 	