
Council
Kaunihera
OPEN MINUTES
Long Term Plan 2021-31 Consultation Document

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held in Council Chamber, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton and via Audio Visual link on Thursday 25 February 2021 at 9.35am.

PRESENT

Chairperson	Mayor P Southgate
<i>Heamana</i>	
Deputy Chairperson	Deputy Mayor G Taylor
<i>Heamana Tuarua</i>	
Members	Cr M Bunting
	Cr M Forsyth (via Audio Visual Link)
	Cr M Gallagher
	Cr R Hamilton
	Cr D Macpherson
	Cr K Naidoo-Rauf (via Audio Visual Link)
	Cr A O'Leary
	Cr R Pascoe
	Cr S Thomson
	Cr M van Oosten
	Cr E Wilson

In Attendance	Richard Briggs – Chief Executive
	Sean Hickey – General Manager Venues, Tourism and Major Events
	Sean Murray – General Manager Strategy and Communication
	David Bryant - General Manager People and Organisational Performance
	Jen Baird - General Manager Growth
	Eeva-Liisa Wright – General Manager Infrastructure Operations
	Chris Allen - General Manager Development
	Blair Bowcott - Executive Director Special Projects
	Tracey Musty – Financial Controller
	Natalie Palmer – Unit Manager Communications and Marketing
	Rebecca Whitehead – Unit Director Business and Planning
	Julie Clausen – Unit Manager Strategy and Corporate Planning
	Greg Carstens – Growth, Funding and Analytics Unit Manager
	Stafford Hodgson – Programme Manager - Economics and Policy
	Matthew Bell – Rates Revenue Manager
	Paul Gower – Programme Manager, Assets Strategy
	Clarence Susan and Wendy Freeman - Audit New Zealand

Governance Staff	Becca Brooke – Governance Manager
	Amy Viggers – Governance Team Leader
	Tyler Gaukrodger – Governance Advisor

The meeting was opened with a karakia from Muna Wharawhara.

1. Apologies – Tono aroha

There were no apologies.

2. Confirmation of Agenda – Whakatau raarangi take

Resolved: (Cr Van Oosten/Cr Hamilton)

That the agenda was confirmed.

3. Declarations of Interest – Tauaakii whaipaaanga

No members of the Council declared a Conflict of Interest.

4. Public Forum – AAtea koorero

No Members of the public wished to speak.

5. Confirmation of the Council 2021-31 Long Term Plan Budget Deliberations Open Minutes of 9 and 10 December 2020

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Bunting)

That the Council confirm the Open Minutes of the Council Long Term Plan Budget Deliberations Meeting held on 9th and 10th of December 2020 as a true and correct record.

6. Chair's Report

The Chair spoke to her report noting the process to be followed during this meeting.

Resolved: (Mayor Southgate/Deputy Mayor Taylor)

That the Council:

- a) receives the report;
- b) approves Cr O'Leary's request to step down as a member of the Central City River Plan Advisory Group due to workload constraints; and
- c) approves Cr Naidoo-Rauf and Cr van Oosten be appointed to the Central City and River Plan Advisory Group.

Cr Forsyth joined the meeting (9.39am) during the discussion of the above item. She was present when the matter was voted on.

7. Draft Revenue and Financial Policy and Consultation Document and other supporting financial policies

The Financial Controller introduced the report, outlining the purpose of the Revenue and Financing Policy, Funding Needs Analysis, Rates Remissions and Postponements Policy, Funding Impact Statement and Rating Policy. Staff responded to questions from Elected Members concerning removal of the Hamilton Gardens Targeted Rate and the Compliance Targeted Rate.

The discussion of the above item 7 (Draft Revenue and Financial Policy and Consultation Document and other supporting financial policies) was adjourned enable questions to be responded to by Audit NZ.

8. Draft Development Contributions Policy 2021/22

The Growth, Funding and Analytics Unit Manager outlined the staff report. He noted that staff were advised after this agenda was published of a required revision to the industrial and the commercial 'transport factor' which is used in the DC model and which has an effect on industrial charges and a minor effect on some other charges. They explained that it caused a negligible (less than 0.01%) impact on DC revenue. They confirmed that the schedule of charges in the draft policy

and the consultation document was to be updated ready for community consultation.

Staff responded to questions from Elected Members concerning proposed changes to the draft policy, residential charges in Greenfield cells, infill infrastructure, and the calculation model.

Staff Action: *Staff undertook to organise a session of the Development Contributions calculation process prior to the adoption of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.*

Resolved: (Mayor Southgate/Cr Wilson)

That the Council:

- a) adopts the draft Development Contributions Policy 2021/22 (**Attachment 1** of the staff report) and the draft Development Contributions Policy Consultation Document (**Attachment 3** of the staff report) for community consultation, alongside the draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan; and
- b) notes that community consultation on the draft Development Contributions Policy 2021/22 will take place from 5 March 2021 to 7 April 2021;
- c) approves a revision to an industrial and a commercial 'transport factor' which is used in the DC model and which has an effect on industrial charges and a minor effect on some other charges be incorporated in to the Consultation Documents.

9. Draft Growth Funding Policy

The report was taken as read.

Resolved: (Deputy Mayor Taylor/Cr Hamilton)

That the Council:

- a) adopts the draft Growth Funding Policy (**Attachment 1** of the staff report) and the Growth Funding Policy Consultation Document (**Attachment 3** of the staff report) for community consultation, alongside the draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan; and
- b) notes that community consultation on the draft Growth Funding Policy will take place from 5 March 2021 to 7 April 2021.

Cr Macpherson and Cr Gallagher Dissenting.

Cr Forsyth left the meeting (10.20am) during the discussion of the above matter. She was not present when the matter was voted on.

10. 2021-2031 Long Term Plan Underlying Information, Consultation Document and Engagement Plan

The Unit Manager Strategy and Corporate Planning outlined the staff report and the consultation process.

Audit New Zealand representatives then outlined the audit opinion and the Emphasis of Matters section. They then responded to questions from Elected Members concerning the debt to revenue ratio, personnel expenses, the proposed rate increase, the audit review process, and the Long Term Plan timeline.

Staff responded to questions from Elected Members concerning details of the consultation document including links to the funded and unfunded projects, park space on the Founder Theatre site, the Gully Restoration options, paid commuter parking options, and the expanding hillcrest library option.

The meeting was adjourned 11.31am to 12.10pm during the discussion of the above item.

Cr Forsyth re-joined the meeting during the above adjournment.

Item 7 (Draft Revenue and Financial Policy and Consultation Document and other supporting financial policies – Continued) discussion was continued following the above adjournment.

7. Draft Revenue and Financial Policy and Consultation Document and other supporting financial policies – Continued

Resolved: (Mayor Southgate/Cr Hamilton)

That the Council:

- a) adopts of the proposed Revenue and Financing Policy and Funding Needs Analysis as supporting information for the draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan consultation;
- b) adopts the proposed Rates Remissions and Postponements Policy, Funding Impact Statement and Rating Policy as supporting information for the draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan consultation; and
- c) approves staff to commence formal consultation on the proposed Revenue and Financing Policy from 5 March 2021 to 7 April 2021.
- d) approves that the 'Compliance Targeted Rate' will be referred to as 'Government Compliance Targeted Rate'.

10. 2021-2031 Long Term Plan Underlying Information, Consultation Document and Engagement Plan - Continued

The report was taken as read. Staff responded to questions from Elected Members concerning details of the consultation documents including the rates table, consistency of the language, ability for additional ideas and comments, car parking at Hamilton Gardens, and the Infrastructure Strategy beyond the next 30 years.

Cr Forsyth left the meeting (12.36pm) during the discussion of the above item. She was not present when the matter was voted on.

The meeting was adjourned 1.00 to 2.15pm during the discussion of the above item.

Following the above adjournment item 11 (Waikato Regional Theatre – Funding Deed) was taken to accommodate availability.

Cr Naidoo-Rauf left the meeting during the above adjournment.

11. Waikato Regional Theatre - Funding Deed

The General Manager Venues, Tourism and Major Events introduced the report noting that it was in response to questions raised at the 4 February 2021 Council Meeting.

Resolved: (Cr Bunting/Cr Pascoe)

That the Council:

- a) receives the report;
- b) approves the Funding Deed for Council's build contribution and asset maintenance grant towards the new Waikato Regional Theatre project; and
- c) delegates authority to the Chief Executive to execute the Funding Deed with Waikato Regional Property Trust.

Cr Naidoo-Rauf re-joined the meeting (2.23pm) during the discussion of the above item. She was present when the matter was voted on.

10. 2021-2031 Long Term Plan Underlying Information, Consultation Document and Engagement Plan - Continued

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Mayor Southgate)

That the Council in addition to the 12 November 2020 Strategic Growth Committee resolution “requests staff report back to the Strategic Growth Committee within the LTP 2021-31 deliberation period, once the updated NIDEA growth projections that are based on the 2018 Census are available, which is expected to be March 2021, to inform any changes needed”, requests that staff commission an independent peer review of the Growth projections.

Resolved: (Mayor Southgate/ Deputy Mayor Taylor)

That the Council:

- a) receives the report;
- b) approves changes to the following documents were been circulated to Members prior to the meeting and are attach to the minutes as **appendix 1**:
 - i. Change register – changes to the consultation document (Attachment 1)
 - ii. Item 10 Attachment 1 - 2021-31 Long Term Plan Consultation
 - iii. Change Register - Changed to underlying information
 - iv. Item 10 Attachment 5 - Draft 2021-31 Long Term Plan Prospective Financial Statement
 - v. Item 10 Attachment 7 - Draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan Significant Forecasting Assumptions;
 - vi. Item 7 Attachment 1 - Revenue and Financing Policy Consultation Document;
 - vii. Item 10 Attachment 3 - Draft 2021-51 Infrastructure Strategy;
- c) adopts the following underlying information relied on as the basis for drafting the 2021-31 Long-Term Plan Consultation Document:
 - i. Draft 2021-51 Infrastructure Strategy;
 - ii. Draft 2021-31 Financial Strategy;
 - iii. Draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan prospective financial statements;
 - iv. Draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan disclosure statement;
 - v. Draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan significant forecasting assumptions;
 - vi. Draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan funded capital projects list;
 - vii. Draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan unfunded capital projects list;
 - viii. Draft 2021-31 Council Controlled Organisations statement; and
 - ix. Draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan performance measures.
- d) receives the Audit NZ audit opinion on the draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan Consultation Document;
- e) adopts the 2021-31 Long-Term Plan Consultation Document with the following changes:

Consultation Document:

- i. Page 22 and 24 add the following wording - For more information about work happening on Intersections across the city, go to futurehamilton.co.nz/fundedprojects;
- ii. Page 34 update the map to reverse the shading to make it more obvious it is the area between the central city boundary and the dotted line;
- iii. move these words from page 34 to page 35 - This revenue would go towards public transport and mode-shift initiatives which provide opportunities for people to get to and from work without needing their cars;

- iv. Page 35 Option 1 add the following words - Because the revenue generated would be spent on public transport and mode-shift initiatives, this option has no impact on rates. The spending will result in better alternatives for commuters coming into the central city. Rates impact to be changed to \$0;
- v. Page 35 – Option 2 replace the text with the following - This option does not introduce parking charges around the fringe of the central city and means we would not be able to spend the proposed revenue on additional public transport or mode-shift initiatives.
- vi. Page 45 add the following wording - \$4 million in 2021/22 to fund Council's preferred option to demolish the Founders Theatre building and create a new vibrant park space (in line with our West Town Belt Masterplan);
- vii. Page 51 Option 1 replace 'services and facilities' with 'the things that make visiting the gardens easier and more accessible';
- viii. Page 51 - Option 2 Replace the second sentence with 'This means we will have \$250,000 less to spend on the things that make visiting the gardens easier and more accessible but does not impact the overall Hamilton Gardens Development Plan';
- ix. Page 57 Option 1 replace 'with less funding in the first five years' with 'with the majority of the spending in the last five years of the plan';
- x. Page 57 Option 2 replace 'spreads the spending evenly across the next 10 years' with 'brings some spending forward from the last five years to the first five years of the plan'
- xi. Page 57 Option 2 add the following wording and delete the second paragraph 'Although the rates impact for both options appears the same, this is based on an average across 10 years. Under this option, we take on debt sooner, which means we'd be closer to our debt-to-revenue limit in the first five years';
- xii. Page 74-75 Looking beyond bubble map the orange bubble containing the text "Public transport improvements \$41m" will be moved from indicating as beginning in 2026 to 2021/22 to reflect that there will be public transport improvements undertaken from that year;
- xiii. Pages 19,30,39,45,55 make the text referencing the full list of projects (funded and unfunded) orange;
- xiv. Change all references to 'compliance targeted rate' to 'government compliance targeted rate';
- xv. Update the options tables in the consultation document to use the word 'invest' or 'investing' rather than 'spend' or 'spending';

Submission Form

- xvi. Throughout the submission form change the word 'spending' to 'investing' and 'spend' to 'invest';
- xvii. Priority two, Introduce paid commuter parking around the fringe of the central city Option 2: change text to – 'Keep as is which means we will not be able to spend the proposed revenue on additional public transport or mode-shift initiatives';
- xviii. Priority four, Charging for car parking at Hamilton Gardens Option 1: change text to
- xix. 'Charge \$5 for cars and \$20 for tour buses to park at Hamilton Gardens to generate \$500,000 to improve the things that make visiting the gardens easier and more accessible';
- xx. Priority four, Charging for car parking at Hamilton Gardens Option 2: change text to 'Keep as is and have free parking at Hamilton Gardens which means we will not be able to further improve the things that make visiting the gardens easier and more accessible';
- xxi. Priority five, Gully restoration Option 2 change text to 'Speed it up by still investing \$29 million but investing more in the first five years and less in the last five years than under option 1';
- xxii. Add Heading under the last block of 'Anything else you want to tell us?';
- xxiii. Add extra text - We have lots of other projects included in this Long-Term Plan. We want to hear your views on any of these projects. You can see the full lists at futurehamilton.co.nz;

- f) approves staff to commence formal consultation on the draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan from 5 March 2021 to 7 April 2021;
- g) notes verbal submissions on the draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan will be heard by the Council on 13, 14 and 15 April 2021; and
- h) notes deliberations on the feedback from formal public consultation on the draft 2021-31 Long-Term Plan are scheduled on 4-5 May 2021 and that 6 May 2021 will be reserved as a back-up day for further deliberations should this be required.

Waikato Regional Theatre - Funding Deed item C1 was not required and was not discussed in a Public Excluded session.

The meeting was declared closed at 3.44pm.