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## **Economic Development Committee**

### ***Komiti Oohanga Whakatupu***

### **OPEN MINUTES**

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Minutes of a meeting of the Economic Development Committee held in the Council Chamber and via Audio Visual Link, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton on Tuesday 14 November 2023 at 9.40am.

#### **PRESENT**

**Deputy Chairperson** Cr Mark Donovan  
***Heamana Tuarua***

**Members:** Mayor Paula Southgate  
Cr Anna Casey-Cox  
Cr Melaina Huaki  
Cr Louise Hutt (via Audio Visual link)  
Cr Kesh Naidoo-Rauf (via Audio Visual link)  
Cr Andrew Bydder  
Cr Sarah Thomson (via Audio Visual link)

**In Attendance:** Blair Bowcott – General Manager Strategy, Growth and Planning  
Sean Murray – General Manager Venues, Tourism and Events  
David Bryant – General Manager Business Services  
Mike Bennett – Economic Development Programme Manager  
Nicolas Wells – Strategic Property Manager  
Greg Carstens – Growth Funding & Analytics Unit Manager  
Arif Khan – Business Relationship Advisor  
Lehi Duncan – Central City Transformation Manager Growth Programmes  
Erin Wansbrough – The Cultivate Trust  
Vanessa Williams – General Manager of Hamilton Central Business Association

**Governance Team:** Amy Viggers - Governance Lead  
Nicholas Hawtin, Arnold Andrews and Keryn Phillips - Governance Advisor

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*Cr Donovan assumed the role of Chair.*

#### **1. Apologies – *Tono aroha***

**Resolved:** (Cr Donovan/Cr Bydder)

That the apologies for absence Cr Ewan (Council Business), Cr Taylor, Deputy Mayor O’Leary, Cr van Oosten and partial attendance Cr Naidoo-Rauf are accepted.

**2. Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take***

**Resolved:** (Cr Donovan/Cr Casey-Cox)

That the agenda is confirmed noting that the following late reports are accepted. Both reports were circulated to Members under separate cover due to information being received from Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL) post the release of the agenda:

- a) Section two of Item 9 (Item 9 - External Agencies and CCO Reporting) titled Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL) matters; and
- b) Item C3 - External Agencies and CCO Reporting.

**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 Economic Development Committee Open Minutes of 14 September 2023**

**Resolved:** (Cr Donovan/Mayor Southgate)

That the Economic Development Committee confirm the Open Minutes of the Economic Development Committee Meeting held on 14 September 2023 as a true and correct record.

**6. Chair's Report**

The Deputy Chair took the report as read and highlighted the hard work undertaken by Chair Wilson and staff throughout the year.

**Resolved:** (Cr Donovan/Mayor Southgate)

That the Economic Development Committee receives the report.

**7. General Manager's Report**

The General Manager of Strategy, Growth and Planning introduced the report, highlighting the performance and monitoring report, Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL) Annual General Meeting and the Hamilton Waikato Tourism update. Staff responded to questions from Elected Members concerning hotels within the economic development programme, economic growth mindset throughout the organisation, dividend payment from WRAL and airline alternative fuel investment opportunities.

**Resolved:** (Cr Donovan/Cr Bydder)

That the Economic Development Committee receives the report.

**8. Strategic and General Update**

The Economic Development Programme Manager took the report as read, highlighting engagement within the Waikato business community and Tech in the Tron. External attendees and staff responded to questions from Elected Members concerning the public transport technology sector, technology development scope/long term vision, inclusion of mana whenua/iwi, talent acquisition, industrial land data, consent trends, net migration and green/brown field development.

**Resolved:** (Cr Donovan/Cr Casey-Cox)

That the Economic Development Committee receives the report.

**The meeting was adjourned from 11:00am to 11:15am**

**9. External Agencies and CCO Reporting**

The General Manager Strategy, Growth and Planning and Central City Transformation Manager took the report as read.

The General Manager Venues, Tourism and Events introduced the late addition to the report, highlighting the dividend policy.

**Resolved:** (Cr Donovan/Cr Bydder)

That the Economic Development Committee:

- a) receive the report;
- b) notes the updates regarding Hamilton Central Business Association's proposals to seek:
  - i. an increase in revenue to support Business Improvement District (BID) operations; and
  - ii. an increase in boundaries to include a portion of Hamilton East;
- c) notes that decisions regarding Hamilton Central Business Association's proposals will be made through the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 process;
- d) notes the receipt of the Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL) Dividend Policy; and
- e) notes a detailed joint shareholder briefing on the WRAL operation will be conducted onsite in early 2024 and that all elected members from each shareholding Council will be invited to attend.

**10. Strategic Property Update - November 2023**

The Strategic Property Manager took the report as read.

**Resolved:** (Mayor Southgate/Cr Bydder)

That the Economic Development Committee receives the report.

**11. Resolution to Exclude the Public**

**Resolved:** (Cr Donovan/Mayor Southgate)

**Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987**

The following motion is submitted for consideration:

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely consideration of the public excluded agenda.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
C1. Confirmation of the Economic Development Committee Public	) Good reason to withhold ) information exists under ) Section 7 Local Government	Section 48(1)(a)

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Excluded Minutes of 14 ) Official Information and  
September 2023 ) Meetings Act 1987

C2. Strategic Property  
Update - November 2023

C3. External Agencies and  
CCO Reporting

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

Item C1.	to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	Section 7 (2) (j)
Item C2.	to enable Council to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage	Section 7 (2) (h) Section 7 (2) (i)
Item C3.	to enable Council to carry out negotiations	
	to enable Council to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage	Section 7 (2) (h) Section 7 (2) (i)
	to enable Council to carry out negotiations	

**The Meeting moved into Public Excluded at 11:30am.**

**The Meeting was declared closed at 12:30pm.**

**Minute Note: 8/10/2024:**

On 8/10/2024 the following resolutions were determined to be released to the public via these minutes and the quarterly update.

**Resolved:**

That the Economic Development Committee:

- a) receives the report;
- b) recommends that the Council delegates authority to the Municipal Endowment Fund Advisory Group (Option 1 of the staff report) to authorise matters detailed in this report between 14 November 2023 and the next Economic Development Committee meeting on 12 March 2024, specifically (but not limited to):
  - i. approve a Loan Agreement committing funding from the Municipal Endowment Fund to the affordable housing development at 340 Tristram Street in accordance with the terms of the agreement outlined in this report;
  - ii. approves the Chief Executive to execute any documents required to give effect to b) above; and
- c) notes that the decision and information in relation to this matter be released at the appropriate time, to be determined by the Chief Executive.

**Resolved:**

That the Economic Development Committee:

- a) receives the report; and
- b) approves the draft Letter Of Expectation and send to the WRAL Board, to be signed by the Chief Executive.
- c) approves the removal of shareholding sale considerations from the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan deliberations but notes that each year, in conjunction with the receipt of WRAL's annual report, that Council may reconsider and report back on the question of ongoing shareholding in WRAL, canvassing other shareholder opinion at the same time;

d) notes that the decision and information in relation to this matter be released at the appropriate time, to be determined by the Chief Executive.