

Waikato City and Regional Deals Mayoral Forum update

17 February 2025

Clear and focused city and regional deal priorities

- **Promote economic growth and productivity**
 - **Delivering connected and resilient infrastructure**
 - **Improving the supply of affordable, quality housing**
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- 30 year deal vision, 10 year strategic plan to deliver shared (local and central government) outcomes
 - Outline economic objectives and project outcomes that will be delivered
 - Actions your region will take to unlock or enable growth
 - What your region needs from central government to assist in achieving deal objectives
-
- **Not about new money**
 - **Not about new projects**
 - **Acceleration and alignment**
 - **Better integrated, smarter investment**

Timeline



- Letter of intent lodged 18 December
 - Indication of likelihood of lodgment, Ministry awareness
- 28 February 'light-touch' proposal
 - Brief answers to questions posed (tight and specific application form)
 - Paragraph limits ie ('what drives growth in your region?' – maximum 4 paragraphs)
 - Not prepare a full business case or deal proposition at this stage
- Tight timeline to put our best foot forward
- Facilitation of a regional response
 - Regional Chief Executives, CE oversight group, project working group, council contacts

Letter of Intent (recap)

Why the Waikato

The Waikato region is strategically placed in the central and upper North Island, delivering goods, services and infrastructure that strengthen the national economy and deliver quality regional communities at both a metropolitan and provincial scale. The Hamilton metro area is intricately connected to our provinces, we are a highly mobile region, investing in the core ensures dividends are distributed outward. Investment and attention in our rural communities ensures that they will continue to generate goods, products and labour to fuel New Zealand's fastest growing city. New growth enablement tools and multi-sector partnerships will expedite and unlock economic growth, provide future-focused infrastructure, and provide depth and opportunity to the region's housing and job markets. Our proposal will provide equitable growth that benefits the entire region.

The integrated approach advanced by the Forum demonstrates the connectedness and dependency that the metro and provincial areas of the Waikato have. This approach is cognisant of the critical function the Waikato plays in supplying, driving and connecting the economies of Auckland and Tauranga. Collaboration on regional solutions will enable growth and strengthen economic resilience, paying dividends in a manner that seamlessly disregards administrative boundaries.

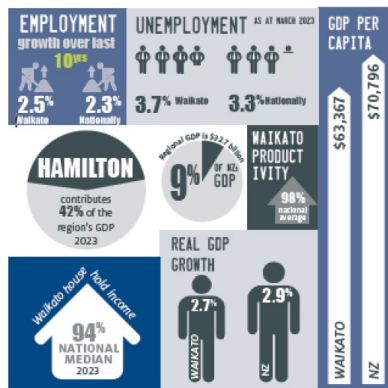
- Regional benefits
- Highly connected, integrated, commutable region
- Move products and people to markets
- Intrinsic connection between rural and urban
- Relativities of investment impacts

Priority projects

- Future Proof priority development areas package
 - Suite of key initiatives such as Huntly Wastewater Plant, Southern Links, North Waipa/South Hamilton, Hamilton CBD IAF, Fastrack developments
- Hamilton to Tauranga Corridor/Piarere to Tauriko
 - Will incorporate Cambridge to Piarere Expressway extension
- Roading resilience
- Infrastructure delivered that unlocks provincial growth nodes (enabling infrastructure outside wider metro area)
- Waikato Housing Initiative provision pipeline

Regional Economy

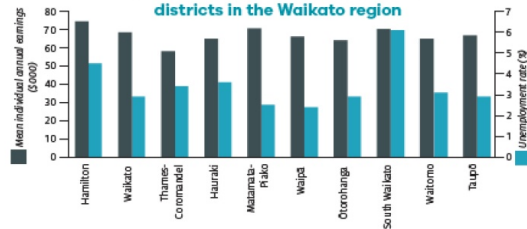
The region's economy is built on the primary sectors of farming, forestry, and horticulture. These coupled with our role in freight and logistics, and our ever abundant tourism offering is leading to a growing region. Many of our rural towns rely on key industries to enable prosperous communities, durability and diversity in our rural economies is key. These rural sectors, in turn, contribute to a thriving metropolitan area. The growth and resilience of Hamilton metro area is key to the region - if the metro thrives our rural communities and region thrives.



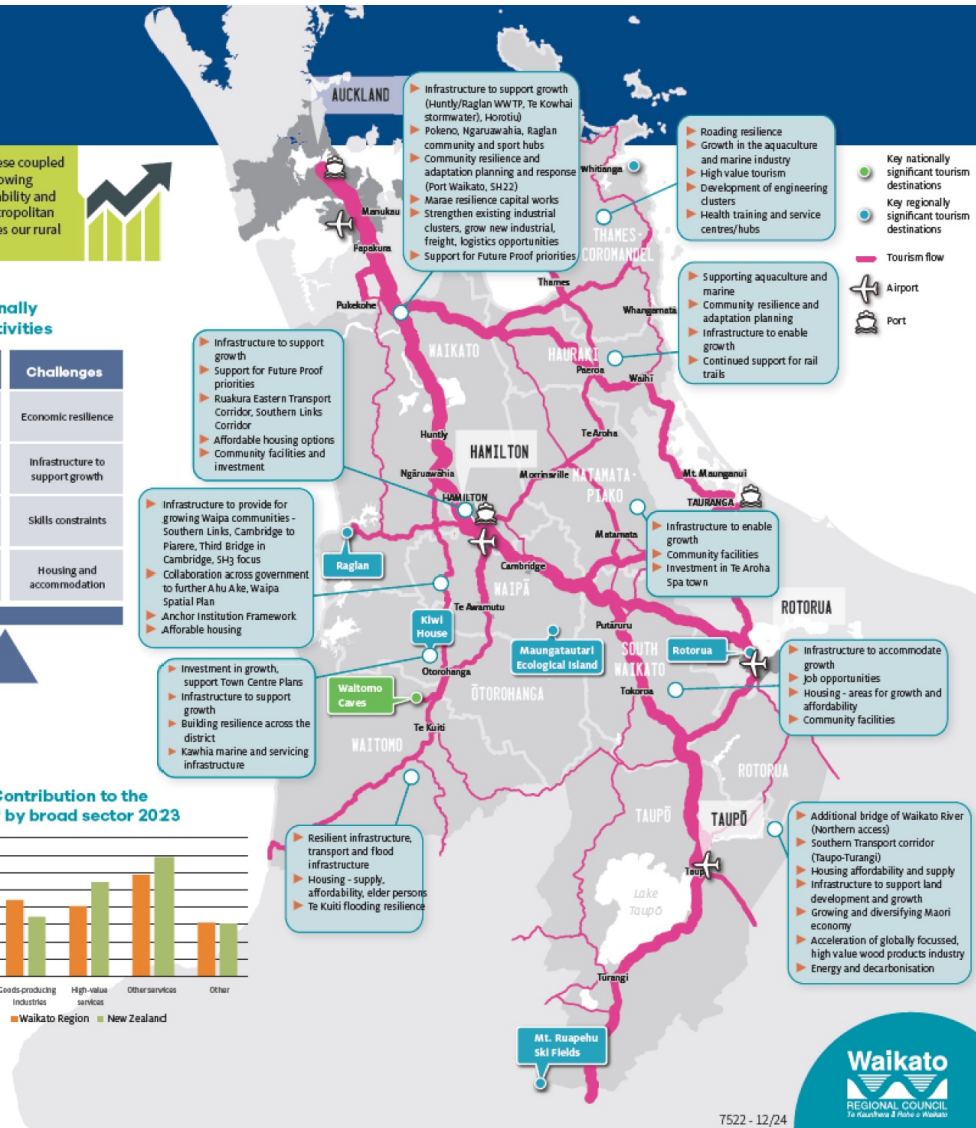
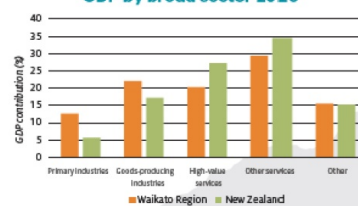
Top four regionally significant activities

Opportunities	Challenges
Expanding service export sector	Economic resilience
Mature metro area urban growth partnership	Infrastructure to support growth
Connectivity to the upper and central north	Skills constraints
Leveraging Māori development	Housing and accommodation

Income and Unemployment rates in districts in the Waikato region



Contribution to the GDP by broad sector 2023



7522 - 12/24

Waikato
REGIONAL COUNCIL
Te Kaitiaki & Te Kaitiaki

Regional Connectivity

The Waikato's role in the Upper North Island

The Waikato is a strong inter-regional hub strategically located between two major ports. Maximising benefits from our location advantage means ensuring that the right investments are made in the right place at the right time.

Our relationship with Auckland

In partnership with Auckland Council, iwi and central government we have developed a Hamilton-Auckland Corridor Plan. This encompasses the settlements along the transport corridor between Cambridge-Te Awamutu and Papakura.

Freight task

Looking to the future of the sector, more than 90% of Aotearoa New Zealand's freight is transported by road, with 42% of the total freight (by tonnage) being moved within the Golden Triangle. There is likely to be an increase in freight over the next 25 years in response to the population growth.

Internal connectivity

There are several assets that would cause significant disruption to freight movements if they were unavailable (due to a natural hazard event) i.e. the Kaimai Tunnel and the Port of Tauranga. Disruption would be both local and national, and efforts to better understand mitigation plans would be beneficial.

The Waikato region is located in the heart of the upper North Island and the region's strategic inter and intra-strategic corridors (road and rail) play a vital role contributing to regional and national prosperity and productivity.

The Waikato region plays an important role in facilitating the inter-regional movement of people and freight through the Golden Triangle of Auckland, Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions.

Waikato has 13% of NZ's freight task

FREIGHT VOLUMES
FORECAST TO GROW
+47-65% by 2030

FUNCTION OF KEY STRATEGIC ROAD AND RAIL CORRIDORS IN THE WAIKATO REGION

LEGEND

- National high volume road corridor
- National local corridor
- Regional road corridor
- Arterial road corridor
- State highway
- Railway
- National rail corridor
- Regional rail corridor
- Inland port/Freight hub
- Major sea ports
- + Major domestic airports
- + Auckland International Airport



Top five regionally significant activities

- 1 SH Bull Point/ Te Pōporo
- 2 Coromandel Hauraki Resilience Rebuild
- 3 Coromandel Bypass
- 4 SH1 Cambridge to Piarere
- 5 Metro Spatial Plan Activities

Key planned Investment

In the Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions combined, there is planned expenditure of \$88.69m on rail between FY22 and FY24

Completion and use of Ruakura inland port to create efficiencies and aggregate freight flows.

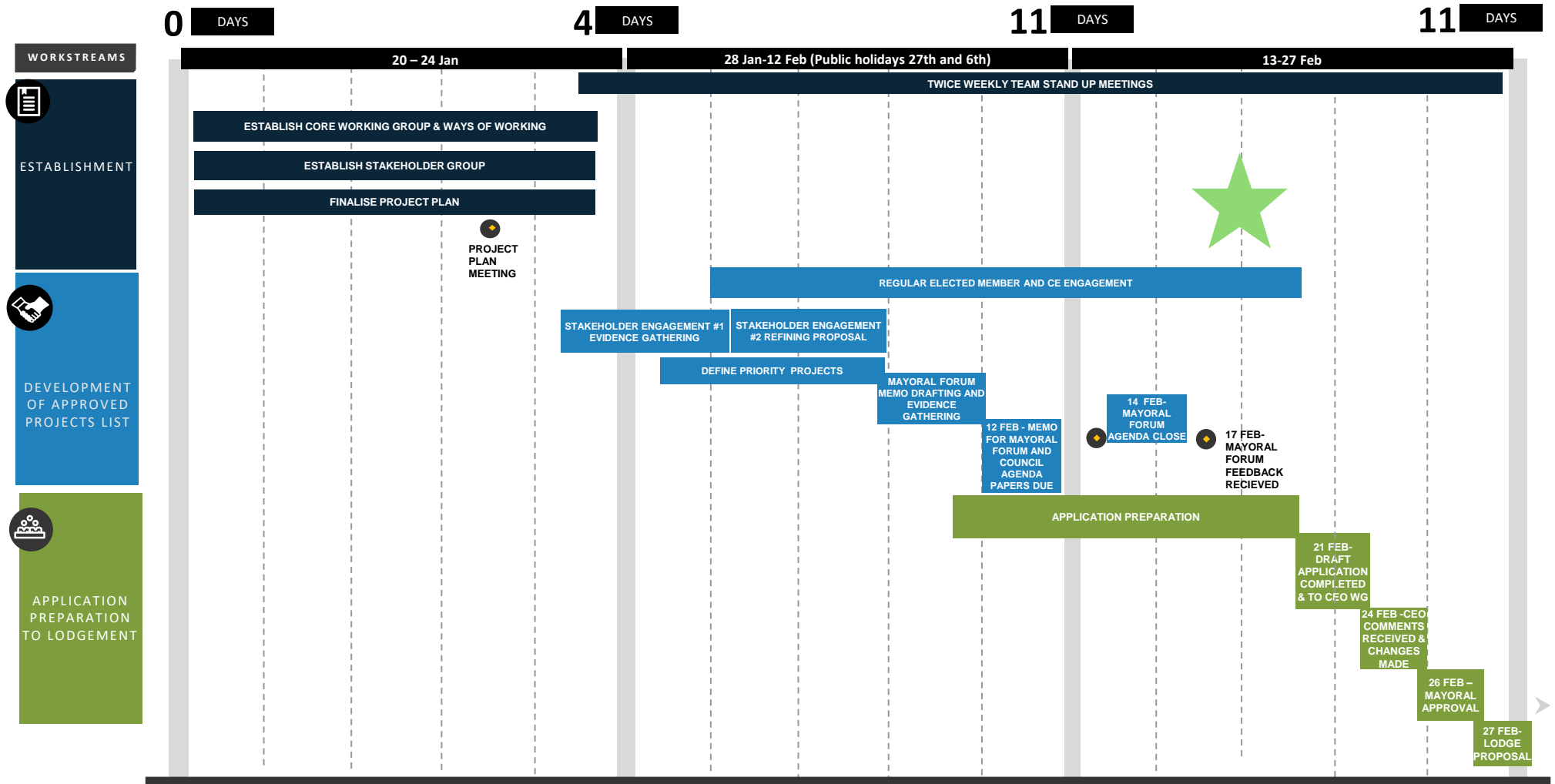
Planned roading investments through the Waikato and Bay of Plenty Regional Land Transport plans are approximately \$800m and \$400m p.a. respectively.

In the National Land Transport Plan proposed and approved National Land Transport Fund investments for the Bay of Plenty and Waikato regions come to a combined total of \$2.6b.



Light-touch proposal

Preparing for a Waikato Deal



Realities and key risks – what is achievable in time/resources available

Key risk	Status
<p>Truncated timeline for deep engagement with partners and strategic stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep partners and stakeholders informed • Opportunity for deeper engagement post May 	
<p>All expectations may not be able to be met</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone may not see themselves reflected individually in the proposal 	
<p>External influences may put pressure on delivery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing central government announcements • Weather events • LTP and Annual Plan busy'ness, and everyday BAU 	

Section	Para limit	Key tasks
1. Executive summary	4	Vision for the deal, region's economic role, economic objectives, 5 projects/initiatives and their outcomes, what region is contributing, what do we want from government
2. Alignment with the strategic framework	4	How the proposal aligns with the objectives of building economic growth, delivering connected and resilient infrastructure and/or improve the supply of affordable, quality housing
3. What drives growth in your region?	4	Areas of growth, existing and potential, in your region, key drivers, actions required to unlock or enable growth? What is the anticipated growth that would be triggered by a regional deal?
4. Central and local government partnership	6	Evidence of effective central and local government partnerships, document actions we are taking to support government priorities (Waters Done Well)
5. Commitment to regional spatial priorities	4	Confirm alignment of proposals with clear regional spatial priorities set out in regional plans, growth strategies, Future Development Strategies etc
6. Capability, capacity and readiness to implement and deliver	2-3	Outline region's readiness to deliver a regional deal. How will the projects/initiatives be successfully implemented and delivered? Provide examples where you have done this before.....What is the proposed governance arrangement? Private sector and iwi/Māori engagement?
7. Regional deal priority projects/initiative	1 page	a brief description of priority projects or initiatives that the regional deal could include and how they will contribute to your region's overall vision – including projected job and housing numbers. GDP contribution etc.
8. What will your region bring to a regional deal?	2-3	What are we doing to support the deal initiatives?
9. What are you seeking from Central Government as part of a deal?	2-3	Outline what policy, legislative or other actions the proposal requires from central government
10. Further supporting information	Insert schedule	Evidence in support of application including Infographics, references and links to reports, extracts from key strategies etc.

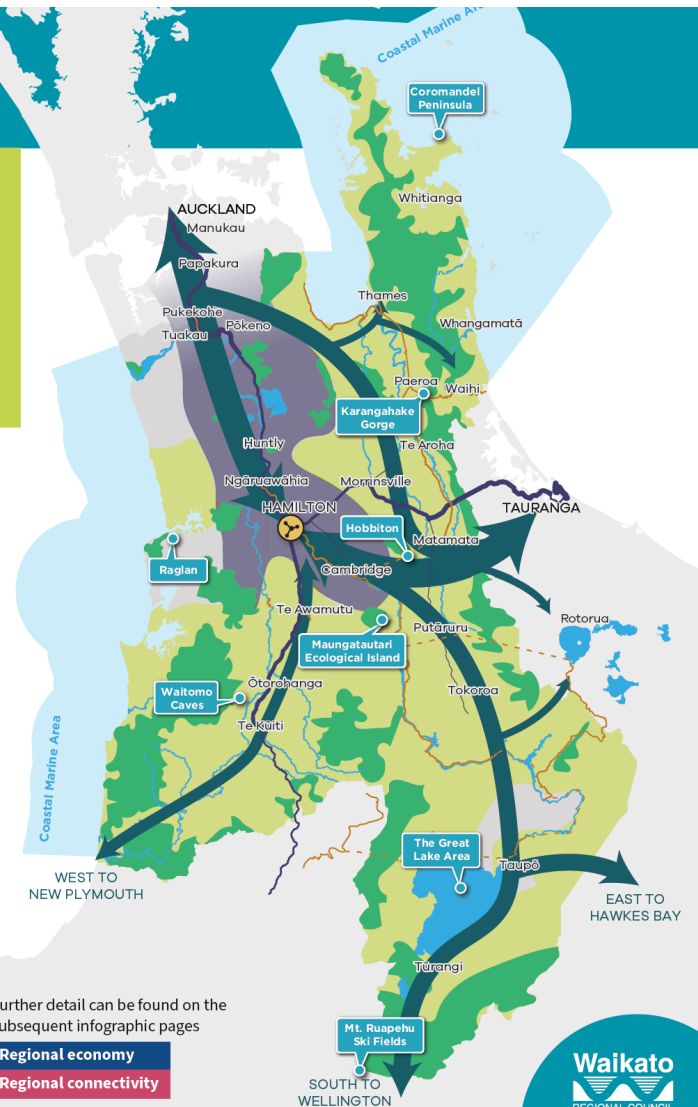
Waikato region

The Waikato is a highly productive rural province with New Zealand's fastest growing metropolitan city, our rural areas pump product and people to and from Hamilton, and the prosperity of the region is driven by the Hamilton metropolitan area. Waikato connects Auckland and the Bay of Plenty, the maintenance of our strategic corridors are critical to the success of all three regions and the country.

- Waikato continues to strengthen its role as a key primary production region for the country, with both land and sea providing opportunities for future growth and diversity.
- Waikato communities face climate, infrastructure, and economic resilience challenges that require innovative and changed ways of thinking, and investment, to ensure regional sustainability and productivity.
- Waikato needs to plan and provide for critical infrastructure in a more cost-effective manner, providing for the present and future by unlocking growth opportunities, streamlining funding and planning processes, and seeking smarter tools to provide housing choice and job opportunities.

Legend

- Strategic connections:** Our road and rail networks are developed to integrate seamlessly, moving product, people and goods efficiently and safely within, and through, the upper and central North Island.
- Future Proof high growth sub-region:** Growth areas are proactively planned for, ensuring a range of housing options, transport options, business opportunities and places for learning, recreation and leisure. Ruakura inland port is located within this high growth area. Future Proof is leading the planning behind new growth in the Waikato, Hamilton and Waipā areas, including growth between Hamilton and Auckland. The partnership is also looking at connection between Hamilton and Tauranga.
- Hamilton:** Hamilton is strengthened as the central hub of the region. The success of Hamilton is linked to the success of the region. Hamilton is the key metropolitan area connecting Auckland and Tauranga.
- Population change:** Areas of changeable population plateau and decline, local focus with central government partnership needed to provide sustainable rural communities. Many of our rural towns rely on key industries to enable prosperous communities, durability and diversity in our rural economies is key.
- Rivers and lakes:** Water is recognised as a finite resource and a necessity for all life. Access to, and availability of, well managed water resources underpins the success of our communities and regional economy. The regional community, including our iwi, have strong connections to our rivers, lakes, and water bodies. The special relationship the five river iwi have with the Waikato and Waipā rivers and catchments is expressed through Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato - The Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River.
- Core natural areas:** Recreational and tourism opportunities are linked to our outstanding natural and cultural areas, celebrating what we have while raising awareness about our unique ecological and cultural heritage.
- Destination places:** Destination places are enhanced to grow their points of difference and their strengths, so that the region as a whole benefits from the unique qualities.
- Coastal marine area:** comprising a third of the Waikato, an area diverse in communities, history and offerings. Opportunities exist to grow aquaculture, to attract coastal and marine innovations, to support land based marine development, and to quantify untapped off-shore energy potential
- Energy:** abundant renewable energy resources are signature resources of the region. Hydro, thermal and geothermal, electricity generation supplies over one third of national energy generation. Future generation interest in biomass, wind, and grid connected solar places the region at the forefront of energy diversification.



Stakeholder approach (priority and influence)

- Limited capacity for extensive engagement – inform as opposed to involve
- Prioritised engagement with those we are seeking letters of support from or who may be asked to evaluate proposals.
- Awareness building with Waikato business and industry leaders (those with tactical/strategic access)
- Stakeholders that we are likely to seek letters of support from:
 - Tourism Waikato and Destination Coromandel
 - Waikato and Hamilton Chamber of Commerce
 - Property Council
 - Waikato Housing initiative
 - University of Waikato
 - Sport Waikato
 - Kiwirail
- Government stakeholders who we are briefing that may be asked to evaluate proposals are:
 - NZTA, Kainga Ora, Kaanoa, Department of Internal Affairs

Framing the ‘pitch’ – responding to intel received

- Waikato and Hamilton are on government’s radar – how do we stay there
- Focus is on economic objectives/outcomes that existing planned projects will deliver (growth and distribution)
- New infrastructure funding and financing solutions are needed to unlock the region’s economic potential – capitalise on the growth of Hamilton and the Waikato
- Linkage to other government priorities – ie Local Waters Done Well
- Not the time to be getting too lyrical and tell a story wider than what is required, nor to conjure new initiatives

- **Building economic growth**
- **Delivering connected and resilient infrastructure**
- **Improving the supply of affordable and quality housing**

Regional benefit

- Situational/geographic advantage of region - “golden triangle to golden diamond”
- Investment in the Waikato is an investment in the powerhouse/engine room/food bowl of the country (AK/TGA/TRN/HB)
- Growth in the Waikato will support growth in Auckland (benefits for Waikato, benefits for Auckland, benefits for NZ Inc)
- Recognition that Hamilton’s growth is fuelling, and is fuelled by, a growing region
- Investment secured for any part of the region will be of benefit to the region
- Dividends and benefits will ignore arbitrary boundaries, and so should we
- Innovative and provocative in regard to Crown revenue sources – an aligned programme of delivery to show ‘we have a plan’ for partnered distribution/investment

Priority projects (an evolving narrative)

- Future Proof priority development areas package
 - Suite of key initiatives such as Huntly Wastewater Plant, Southern Links, North Waipa/South Hamilton, Hamilton CBD IAF, Fastrack developments
- Hamilton to Tauranga Corridor/Piarere to Tauriko
 - Will incorporate Cambridge to Piarere Expressway extension
- Roading resilience
 - Including State Highways 2, 3 and 4
- Infrastructure delivered that unlocks provincial growth nodes
 - Critical infrastructure outside wider metro area, also focus on water and energy
- Waikato Housing Initiative provision pipeline

What the deal is – framing of the package

Work in progress

- Focus on deal objectives using priority projects as case studies
 - Turbo-charging economic development and housing provision through efficient inter-regional transport corridors
 - Building houses and creating communities
 - Resilient and connected rural communities
 - Fueling economic growth through investments in water and energy resources

- Building economic growth
- Delivering connected and resilient infrastructure
- Improving the supply of affordable and quality housing

Turbo-charging economic development and housing provision through efficient inter-regional transport corridors

Key Projects that form part of this initiative	We commit to....	We want the government to partner with us to.....	The Outcomes Will Be:
<p>Network Improvements to Support the Roads of National Significance (RONS)</p> <p>(Hamilton Southern Links, Cambridge to Piarere and SH29 Tauriko West projects)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting aside local share for network improvements in our LTPs Aligning land use plans Aligning other infrastructure investments (eg Water) 	<p>In the short term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare RONS network plans that identify key supporting actions on local networks Develop a joint approach to tolling, road pricing and value capture Refine GPS priorities to enable co-investment in supporting transport networks <p>In the longer term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner in transport investment system reform to improve role clarity and integrated delivery. Co-invest in technology and communications to support shift to tolling, pricing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efficient freight networks New revenue streams for infrastructure investment Improved housing supply
<p>Golden Triangle/Diamond Road and Rail Investment Programme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing Future Proof Developing a Hamilton to Tauranga land use strategy to inform our regional spatial strategy. Supporting inter-regional rail business cases Ongoing investment in Te Huia 	<p>Develop an integrated road and rail strategy for the upper north island</p> <p>Co-investing in inter-regional passenger rail subject to business cases.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efficient freight networks Reduced GHG emissions

Work in progress

Building houses and creating communities

Key Projects that form part of this initiative	We commit to....	We want the government to partner with us to.....	The outcomes
Delivery of the Futureproof Priority Development Areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ruakura - North Waipa/Southern Hamilton - Hamilton Central City - Fairfield Enderley - Huntly-Raahui Pookeka - Northwest Hamilton-Horotiu 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling planning frameworks • Investing in infrastructure (roads, water, community facilities) • Working closely with the Fast Track applicants in the subregion to finalise their applications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve our funding and financing tools to increase revenue diversity (were regional/subregional benefit, revolving credit structures etc) • Re-visit GPS Transport priorities to co-invest in infrastructure to enable our PDAs (eg Ruakura Eastern Transport Corridor, PT improvements on key corridors) • Waikato Medical School business case • Regulatory support for the Southern WWTP • Facilitate agreed district boundary changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase housing supply • Economic development • Well functioning urban communities • Significant job growth and increases in housing supply (Modelling for 3 of the Futureproof PDAs estimated >20,000 local jobs, 13,000 houses over 30 years)
Supporting our growing rural centres programme Eg Paeroa, Putaruru, Thames Coromandel, Matamata etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for housing growth in our rural communities • Creating enabling planning frameworks • Investing in infrastructure to support growth (especially 3-Waters) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying funding and financing tools that work in smaller communities • Direct International Visitor Levy funding core infrastructure where there is a tourism benefit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase housing supply • Economic development • Well functioning urban communities • Improved tourist experience leading to improved revenues

Work in progress

Resilient and Connected Rural Communities

Key Projects that form part of this initiative	We commit to....	We want the government to partner with us to.....	The outcomes
Resilient transport corridors for our rural communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thames Coromandel Resilience Programme - SH3 to Taranaki - SH1 Taupo to Desert Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-funding resilience studies for all of our corridors on a prioritized basis • Setting aside local share in our Long Term Plans for resilient assets • Developing Adaptation Strategies for communities at risk 	In the short term: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define a staged programme for implementation of the Thames Coromandel Resilience programme • Agree investment programmes for SH3 and SH1 business cases • Prioritise and support communities to undertake adaptation planning In the longer term: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-invest in infrastructure to improve community resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved resilience on key transport corridors • Increased revenue from tourism • More resilient communities
Infrastructure to support tourism destinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing our Destination Management Plans • Investing in water and waste water infrastructure in our tourism destinations • Continuing to promote our Regional Tourism Routes (the Pacific Coast Highway, Volcanic Route and the Thermal Explorer) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct International Visitor Levy funding to key facilities where there is a tourism benefit • Promoting and investing in facilities along our Regional Tourism Routes 	Improved tourist experience leading to improved revenues

Work in progress

Fueling economic growth through investments in water and energy resources

Key Projects that form part of this initiative	We commit to....	We want the government to partner with us to.....	The outcomes
<p>Grow our region's investment in solar, wind and bioenergy eg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Off shore wind - Solar Farms (grid) - Distributed solar (networks) - Bioenergy for industrial boilers (eg Fonterra) - Production of green molecules (hydrogen and derivatives) using off-peak renewable electricity for transport, and energy dense industries - Enabling small scale hydro 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working proactively with energy sector to enable development of new generation and transmission capacity through our Regional Energy Strategy • Removing inappropriate planning regulation 	<p>In the short term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare an inward investment strategy that targets investors in the energy sector • Remove barriers that have disincentivised investment in the region (Te Uru Rakau report for Kinleith example) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased energy/electricity generation close to demand sources ???? • Improved resilience of energy system • Economic diversification • Optimise existing industrial infrastructure • Transition to a low – emissions economy
Water security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing a Water Security Plan • Adjusting our RMA plans to facilitate water storage • Working with water users to invest in infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in water storage infrastructure • Smarter and swifter plan making tools for energy promotion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased certainty of water supply for water users - Economic growth - Energy specific plan development pathways

Work in progress

Collecting, building, making sense of the existing evidence base to support initiatives/case studies

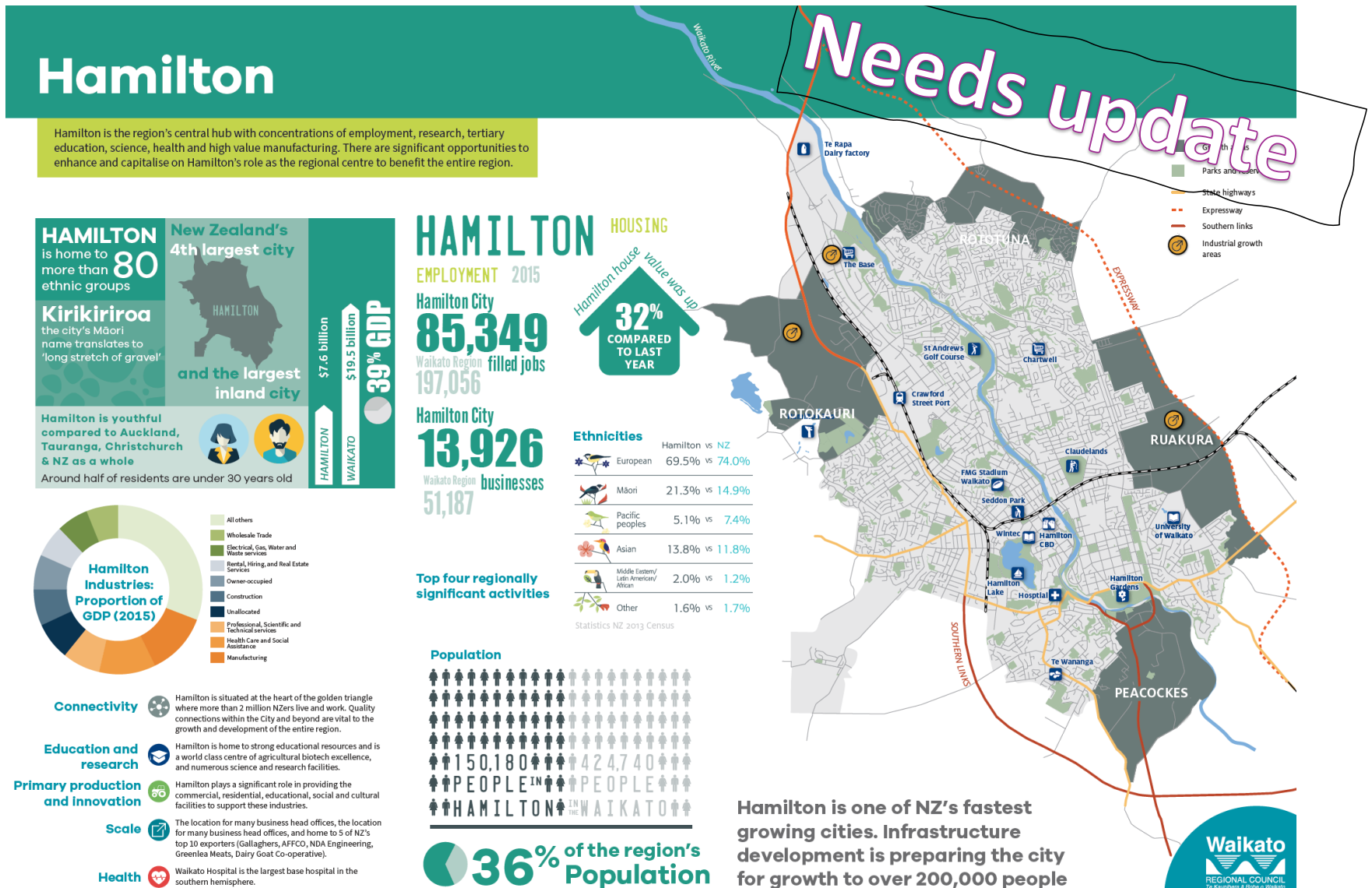
Key Input Parameters		Existing Ruakura/University, R2 and Eastern Transport Corridor ¹	SL1	Southern Link ²	Huntly WWTP	Airport ³	Total
Infrastructure Capex (\$million)		\$415	\$265	\$520	\$102		
Residential Net Land Area (ha)		0	224				
No. Dwellings		3450	7,500		2,500		
Non-Residential Net Land Area (ha)		152	182			794	
Direct Employment					2,600		
Impact Type	Economic Impact	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
One-off (GDP and Job-Years ⁴)	Total Employment Impact (Job Years)	29,500	46,400	5,300	20,800	41,800	143,800
	Hamilton City	15,400	24,500	2,900	1,600	1,700	46,100
	Matamata-Piako District	300	400	0	200	400	1,300
	Waikato District	300	500	100	10,000	300	11,200
	Waipa District	300	400	0	300	22,300	23,300
	Rest of Waikato Region	600	900	100	500	800	2,900
	Rest of NZ	12,700	19,600	2,200	8,100	16,300	58,900
	Total GDP Impact (\$ billion)	3.3	4.9	0.6	1.7	4.2	14.6
	Hamilton City	1.4	2.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	4.3
	Matamata-Piako District	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
	Waikato District	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.7
	Waipa District	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	1.8
	Rest of Waikato Region	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.4
	Rest of NZ	1.6	2.5	0.3	0.8	2.1	7.3
							0.0
Ongoing (GDP and Jobs ⁵)	Total Employment Impact (Jobs)	13,400	16,800		7,700	78,200	116,100
	Hamilton City	9,000	10,200		500	3,000	22,700
	Matamata-Piako District	100	100		100	700	1,000
	Waikato District	100	100	N/A	4,200	600	5,000
	Waipa District	100	100		100	43,100	43,400
	Rest of Waikato Region	200	300		200	1,500	2,200
	Rest of NZ	3,900	5,900		2,700	29,300	41,800
	Total GDP Impact (\$ billion)	1.7	2.0		0.9	9.1	13.6
	Hamilton City	1.0	1.0		0.1	0.4	2.5
	Matamata-Piako District	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.1	0.2
	Waikato District	0.0	0.0	N/A	0.4	0.1	0.5
	Waipa District	0.0	0.0		0.0	4.2	4.3
	Rest of Waikato Region	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.2	0.3
	Rest of NZ	0.6	0.8		0.4	4.1	5.9

¹ The assessment area includes all residential, non-residential and infrastructure capital investments in Existing Ruakura/University, R2 and Eastern Transport Corridor.

² The economic impact assessment from the Southern Link development does not include the property costs and ongoing maintenance costs. Also, the capital investment of Southern Wastewater Treatment Plant is excluded in the above assessment due to its uncertainty and partnership complexity.

³ The economic impact from the Airport development has been modelled based on high level assumptions due to lack of detailed information. E.g. capex investment, intended land use etc.

⁴ Job-years are the total years worked on a project across multiple employees. E.g., 50 job years could mean 10 employees working for five years, or two employees working for 25 years.



Implementation governance

- Presently no single model for governing implementation of our deal
 - given spatial scope of deal package, model dependent on entire region or parts thereof
 - good examples of effective regional/sub-regional governance for specific programmes - Mayoral Forum, Regional Transport Committee, Futureproof (are there others)
- Use Programme Management Model (Futureproof refresh) for how the region expects its model might work
 - Staff, external advisors, combination of both
 - Strategic partners/stakeholders
 - Central government already at the table
- Suggest that the precise governance model is developed to focus on the deal, or deal component that finds favour
 - a matter to be determined once the final form of the deal is agreed
 - Regional oversight, but directed by communities most involved is key to success
 - Consideration of post-October timing, leaning into new Triennial Agreement opportunity
 - What does the region need to best deliver the outcomes

Post 28 February

- Debrief session
 - What were we able to include/what not
 - What conversations need to continue and how
 - What did we uncover that we should not lose
- Acknowledge this is good work that should not be lost
 - Feed into the regional spatial project
 - Foundation for enduring bipartisan conversations with government
- What is needed to complement lodgement – tactics to assist with success (advocacy/messaging)
- And if we are successful
 - Comms and media management for the region
 - Funding/resourcing
 - Governance

What do we need

- Comfort with the regional proposal
- Are the right messages are captured
- Can't include everything, but what are you obviously not seeing
- Support with your connections – collateral to assist
- Thinking about a post lodgement game plan



Waikato Regional Deals

Endorsement for Chair of Mayoral Forum and Chair of WRC to be co-signatories on behalf of region's local government

Minister visit 25 February



Waikato region

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Legend

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- Hamilton:** Hamilton is strengthened as the central hub of the region. The success of Hamilton is linked to the success of the region. Hamilton is the key metropolitan area connecting Auckland and Tauranga.
- Population change:** Areas of changeable population plateau and decline, local focus with central government partnership needed to provide sustainable rural communities. Many of our rural towns rely on key industries to enable prosperous communities, durability and diversity in our rural economies is key.
- Rivers and lakes:** Water is recognised as a finite resource and a necessity for all life. Access to, and availability of, well managed water resources underpins the success of our communities and regional economy. The regional community, including our iwi, have strong connections to our rivers, lakes, and water bodies. The special relationship the five river iwi have with the Waikato and Waipā rivers and catchments is expressed through Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato - The Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River.
- Core natural areas:** Recreational and tourism opportunities are linked to our outstanding natural and cultural areas, celebrating what we have while raising awareness about our unique ecological and cultural heritage.
- Destination places:** Destination places are enhanced to grow their points of difference and their strengths, so that the region as a whole benefits from the unique qualities.
- Coastal marine area:** comprising a third of the Waikato, an area diverse in communities, history and offerings. Opportunities exist to grow aquaculture, to attract coastal and marine innovations, to support land based marine development, and to quantify untapped off-shore energy potential
- Energy:** abundant renewable energy resources are signature resources of the region. Hydro, thermal and geothermal, electricity generation supplies over one third of national energy generation. Future generation interest in biomass, wind, and grid connected solar places the region at the forefront of energy diversification.

