



MINUTES

**Community, Transparency &
Engagement Committee meeting
Tuesday, 10 September 2024**

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**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNITY, TRANSPARENCY & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL, GROUND FLOOR
MEETING ROOMS 1 & 1B, 306 CAMERON ROAD, TAURANGA
ON TUESDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 9.30AM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cr Kevin Schuler (Chairperson), Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Rod Taylor

ALSO PRESENT: Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Marten Rozeboom

APOLOGIES: Mayor Mahé Drysdale

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Cr Mikaere Sydney

IN ATTENDANCE: Marty Grenfell (Chief Executive), Barbara Dempsey (General Manager: Community Services), Nic Johansson (General Manager: Infrastructure), Christine Jones (General Manager: Strategy, Growth & Governance), Alastair McNeill (General Manager: Corporate Services), Gareth Wallis (General Manager: City Development & Partnerships), Nick Chester (Principal Strategic Advisor), Shawn Geard (City Centre Infrastructure Lead), Emily McLean (Programme Lead: City Development), Kendyl Sullivan (City Partnerships Specialist), Josh Logan (Team Leader: Corporate Planning), Ruth Woodward (Team Leader: Policy) Lucy Reed (Team Leader: Strategic Community Relations), Coral Hair (Manager: Democracy & Governance Services), Anahera Dinsdale (Acting Team Leader: Governance Services), Caroline Irvin (Governance Advisor), Aimee Aranas (Governance Advisor)

EXTERNAL: Elena Mead, Key Research, Michael Clarke, Manager Mount Business Association

1 OPENING KARAKIA

Cr Hautapu Baker opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

APOLOGY

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CTE3/24/1

Moved: Cr Rod Taylor

Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That the apology for absence received from Cr Sydney and Mayor Drysdale be accepted.

CARRIED

3 PUBLIC FORUM

3.1 Gordy Lockhart, You Be You Aotearoa - Rainbow Crossing in the City Centre

- Mr Lockhart acknowledged Cr Sydney, and provided a history of the LGBTQ+ movement.
- It was good to have conversations about Trans people, but the challenge was the fine line between sensible discourse and hate. This was quite a fine line within the Tauranga community.
- Trans people did exist in our communities, they were valid and deserved to be recognised as such.
- The original rainbow flag was designed as a banner flag that recognised the struggle for civil and human rights. It became a sign of safety for the LGBT community.
- In 2008, a chevron/triangle was added to the progress flag as is today. The colours in the triangle represented the LGBTQ+ community and marginalised people of colour. The triangle also denoted members of the LGBTQ+ community that perished in the second world war.
- Tauranga was a community of diverse identities, cultures and political and religious beliefs. It was felt it did not fully value, validate or celebrate this diversity. A rainbow crossing would help to do this, representing the community as a whole.

In response to questions:

- It was felt the rainbow flag had been made political by populist politicians with certain agendas, but it was actually a validation that the LGBTQ+ community existed and a commemoration of those who had perished. This should not detract from the fact that the Trans community existed and should be validated for who they were.

4 ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TO BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE OPEN

Nil

6 CHANGE TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

Nil

7 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

8 BUSINESS

8.1 Options for a Rainbow Crossing in the City Centre

Staff Gareth Wallis, General Manager: City Development & Partnerships
Nick Chester, Principal Strategic Advisor
Shawn Geard, City Centre Infrastructure Lead
Emily McLean, Programme Lead: City Development

Key Points

- The General Manager: City Developments & Partnerships introduced the item and took the report as read.

In response to questions

- Staff had visited city centre businesses and spoken with the people who were in the shop on the day. They had been shown pictures of the proposed rainbow crossing. There had been an overall sentiment of neutral to supportive, with those not connected to the content largely ambivalent. There was some non-supportive sentiment around separatism and cost. The location of the crossing was secondary to opinions about rainbow crossings.
- The location on Devonport Road was chosen as a pedestrian crossing was about to be installed there. The location proposed on The Strand in front of Masonic Park was an area that had recently been opened up, but would not be a potential long term location due to future upgrade works along The Strand. The Durham Street location was an existing pedestrian crossing next to Waikato University. Some consideration had been given to a location on Cameron Road however, this was a higher speed environment which posed more risk.
- This decision sat within the scope and role of this Committee. However, a recommendation could be made to the full Council to make the decision.
- The crossing would fall under 'road marking' and would need to be repainted each year to keep it vibrant. A large percentage of the cost involved was road and traffic management to be able to paint it safely.
- Part of the disadvantage of The Strand option was that its future was still to be resolved in terms of its final design and the connection between Masonic Park and the waterfront.

Discussion points raised:

- The rainbow crossing would show the Council's support for diversity and inclusion of the LGBTQ+ community.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CTE3/24/2

Moved: Cr Rod Taylor

Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That the Community, Transparency & Engagement Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "Options for a Rainbow Crossing in the City Centre".
- (b) Note that Council previously received a petition on 29 April 2024, requesting that a rainbow crossing be installed in the city centre.
- (c) Approves the installation of a rainbow crossing at 21 Devonport Road as part of a new pedestrian crossing.
- (d) Notes that the crossing would be aimed to be complete before the end of 2024.

CARRIED

In Favour: Crs Kevin Schuler, Hautapu Baker, Rick Curach and Rod Taylor

Against: Cr Steve Morris

CARRIED 4/1

8.2 Mainstreet's' Monitoring Report for the Period 1 January to 30 June 2024

Staff Gareth Wallis, General Manager: City Development & Partnerships
Kendyl Sullivan, City Partnerships Specialist

External Michael Clarke, Manager Mount Business Association

Key Points

- The City Partnerships Specialist provided a summary of the report.

The Manager, Mount Business Association spoke to a PowerPoint presentation providing the following points:

- There had been some great events that brought people to the Mount such as the Jazz Festival, the Winter Mini Carnival, the Mount Busking Festival, and the Matariki Augmented Reality Art Installation.
- The Street Safety WhatsApp group continued to grow and had great engagement. This was a real time security system in the event of any issues occurring on the streets.
- It had been a very tough winter for the Mount Business community with retail sales being significantly down in 2024. Local spenders had decreased for the first six months of the year.
- Digital and marketing highlights included the onboarding of a new social and content manager which had improved quality and digital presence, and an increase in social media reach.
- Areas of focus included promotions and marketing, safety and security and placemaking.
- Financials for end of year indicated that the organisation had closed out in a good position.
- Mount Main Street would like to establish a closer working relationship with the elected members and be supported in finding solutions to its challenges.
- Future activities included finding ways to bring more colour and art to the streets, finding more external funding to bring more capability to the organisation and build the Mount brand as a destination, and replacing an outgoing iwi representative on the Board.
- The City Partnerships Specialist was acknowledged and thanked for her hard work with the organisation.
- The appointment of the Community Constable was greatly appreciated, in particular his engagement with businesses.
- The City Safety and Engagement Advisor was thanked for his continuous work in making the Mount a safe place.

In response to questions:

- The Mount Business Association's official position on paid parking was that it did not support it on the main street or immediate surrounds. However, it was in favour of Council enforcing existing time limits to encourage the turnover of vehicles on the main street. There would be support for a paid parking building. Bigger retailers were not attracted to the Mount shopping area due to there being no dedicated parking for shopping.
- Up until this year, there had been little to no parking time limit enforcement. A more implemented programme had begun this year and new and clearer signage had been put up along the main street. It had been agreed that these time limits should stop at 6pm for hospitality purposes.
- The Little Big Market's role in the community was acknowledged, however, this was a sore point for the Mount businesses due to the negative financial impact it had on them. The scale and frequency of the markets meant that they used a majority of parking every weekend which was the busiest period of trading. A preferred solution would be for the markets to occur in Coronation Park once a month or to move away from the commercial centre so they did not have such an impact. Other solutions could include the markets providing parking within Coronation Park.
- Some of the future activities planned would require external funding to enable them to go ahead.
- Sales data would no longer be supplied to Mount Main Street and the organisation would like support from Council to find a solution for this.

Discussion points raised

- Councillors would like Mainstreet Tauranga, Pāpāmoa Unlimited and the Greerton Village Community Association to attend and present at the next Committee meeting scheduled for 15 October 2024.

In response to questions

- If Council made a decision not to proceed with funding the targeted rate, Pāpāmoa Unlimited could continue to operate as an independent incorporated society, but would need to find other sources of income.

- Council did not have the resources to pick up the scale of work required to take over the event delivery work of one of these organisations.
- Staff had developed an extensive process for targeted rate expansion that included substantial consultation with the targeted group. This process required considerable time and resources. Understanding the needs of the community was essential for both Council and Pāpāmoa Unlimited when looking to expand the targeted rate.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CTE3/24/3

Moved: Cr Steve Morris

Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That the Community, Transparency & Engagement Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "Mainstreet's' Monitoring Report for the Period 1 January to 30 June 2024".
- (b) Receives the Mainstreet Tauranga Report to 30 June 2024 and Annual Plan for 2024/25.
- (c) Receives the Mount Business Association Report to 30 June 2024, and Annual Plan for 2024/25.
- (d) Receives the Pāpāmoa Unlimited Report to 30 June 2024 and Annual Plan for 2024/25.
- (e) Receives the Greerton Village Community Association Report to 30 June 2024, Annual Plan for 2024/25, and Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

In Favour: Crs Kevin Schuler, Hautapu Baker, Rick Curach and Rod Taylor

Against: Nil

Abstained: Cr Steve Morris

CARRIED

8.3 Annual Residents' Survey 2023/24

Staff Christine Jones, General Manager: Strategy, Growth & Governance
Josh Logan, Team Leader: Corporate Planning

External Elena Mead, Key Research

Key Points

- The General Manager: Strategy, Growth & Governance provided a summary of the report.

In response to questions

Elena Mead from Key Research responded to questions as follows:

- There were quite a few improvements this year in the community and public facility spaces. Reputation had stopped declining and was picking up. Overall, the performance was strong compared to other councils.
- The methodology for this survey had not changed in the last four years. More people were doing the survey online.
- It would be possible to expand the survey over a longer time frame for most of the measures.

The Chief Executive provided the following comments:

- Attention was needed around trust and confidence which was a mainstay of any organisation. The public perception of Council did not necessarily distinguish between the governing body and the organisation, but was rather one of a single entity. It was therefore important to have alignment between the wishes and desires of governance and the capability and performance of the organisation, and that Council delivered on what it said it was going to do, thereby gaining trust and confidence with the public.
- Creating efficiencies was something that was continuously undertaken by the senior management and executive team.
- The Executive Team had a weekly stand up where survey results were discussed. This information was made available to staff who, depending on their roles, could dive deeper into the issues.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CTE3/24/4

Moved: Cr Steve Morris

Seconded: Cr Rick Curach

That the Community, Transparency & Engagement Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "Annual Residents' Survey 2023/24".

CARRIED

8.4 Outline Work Programme for the Community, Transparency and Engagement Committee

Staff Alastair McNeil, General Manager: Corporate Services

Key Points

- The General Manager: Corporate Services provided a summary of the report.

Discussion points raised

- A recommendation was put forward that the work plan may be amended and those amendments will be reported back to this Committee.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CTE3/24/5

Moved: Cr Kevin Schuler

Seconded: Cr Rod Taylor

That the Community, Transparency & Engagement Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "Outline Work Programme for the Community, Transparency and Engagement Committee".
- (b) Notes the outline work programme for the Committee as per Attachment One of this report.
- (c) Notes that this work plan may be amended and those amendments will be reported back to this Committee.

CARRIED

11.22am The meeting adjourned.

11.35am The meeting reconvened.

8.5 Proposed Work Programme for the Review and/or Development of Policies and Bylaw

Staff Christine Jones, General Manager: Strategy, Growth & Governance
Ruth Woodward, Team Leader: Policy

Key Points

- The General Manager: Strategy, Growth and Governance provided a summary of the report.

In response to questions

- Some bylaws were able to be completed by Council resolution, others had to be consulted on.
- The Gambling Review policy was reviewed last year and adopted in December 2024. It was reviewed within a three year cycle.
- Vaping responsibilities and the locations of vape shops sat with the Ministry of Health.
- Council had a Local Alcohol Policy which was reviewed over a two year period resulting in changes being made. If alcohol was being sold without a licence, Council could take enforcement against the business owner.
- Any opposition to an alcohol licence renewal would go through a public notification process, a hearing would take place and the opposers would have an opportunity to voice their concerns. The District Licencing Committee would then make a decision whether the licence would be renewed.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CTE3/24/6

Moved: Cr Steve Morris

Seconded: Cr Rick Curach

That the Community, Transparency and Engagement Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "Proposed Work Programme for the Review and/or Development of Policies and Bylaw".
- (b) Adopts the work programme, included in the attached schedule, for the review and/or development of policies and bylaws in 2024-25 year.

CARRIED

8.6 Issues and Options: Event Funding Framework Adjustments

Staff Barbara Dempsey, General Manager: Community Services
Nick Chester, Principal Strategic Advisor

Key Points

- The General Manager: Community Services provided a summary of the report.

In response to questions

- Multiple criteria were assessed when an application was being looked at such as the sustainability of an organisation and the financial benefit as a result of the event. As such this was not a donation but an event grant.
- Bay of Plenty Rugby, Futures Beach Volleyball and the World Tennis Tour were three of the five events that had triggered the minor adjustments to the event funding framework.
- Unless there was a three-year contract already in place, event funding was open to anybody wishing to make a funding application under the purpose of the grant. The applications would be considered on their merits.
- The changes would provide more clarity as to which fund should be applied for and as such would not be a deterrent to apply.

Discussion points raised

- Could staff look into the possibility of an elected member being on the selection panel.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CTE3/24/7

Moved: Cr Rod Taylor

Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That the Community, Transparency & Engagement Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "Issues and Options: Event Funding Framework Adjustments".
- (b) Notes the findings of the recent review of the Event Funding Framework.
- (c) Approves Option 2: Make minor adjustments to the Funding Framework:
 - (i) Retain the Major Event Fund;
 - (ii) Merge the Legacy Event Fund and Event Support Fund into a new Tauranga Events Fund and amend the purpose ahead of the 2024/25 funding round; and
 - (iii) Delete the three year stand down period for applicants to apply for funding.

CARRIED

9 DISCUSSION OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

10 CLOSING KARAKIA

Cr Hautapu Baker closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 12.01pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Community, Transparency & Engagement Committee meeting held on 15 October 2024.

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Cr Kevin Schuler
CHAIRPERSON