



Greater East Tamaki
Business Association Inc.

Submission to the Draft Howick Local Board Plan 2014

From: Greater East Tamaki Business Association Inc. (GETBA)

Date: 6 August 2014

Contact Details:

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Hearings: We wish to speak in support of our submission.

We have focused on the outcomes and initiatives that pertain primarily to the East Tamaki business precinct.

Outcome: An involved and connected community.

As a significant employment hub GETBA supports the initiative to investigate the viability of a project to support young people into work. We currently promote the Youth Connections programme to our local businesses and encourage collaboration between schools, tertiary institutions and businesses.

Outcome: Howick's future growth is managed effectively.

We agree that future growth needs to be well planned for, particularly with regard to infrastructure.

The congestion in the Ti Rakau Drive/ Trugood Drive/Cryers Road/ Harris Road area has got worse. This needs to be dealt with ahead of the planned AMETI timeframes. AT have advised that they will investigate this section for improvements in early 2015. GETBA requests that the Local Board advocate strongly to ensure that this happens.

We would also like to see the delays in the widening of Smales and Allens Road addressed so that it is completed as soon as possible.

We strongly support the Local Board's advocacy for the East-West link and the acceleration of the AMETI project.

We also support the reconfiguration and upgrades to the stormwater and wastewater infrastructure to accommodate growth.

Outcome: We all treasure and enjoy our environment.

GETBA requests that the Local Board advocates strongly for the completion, rehabilitation and investment in the Greenmount Landfill so it becomes a community asset, as conceived in the Concept Plan developed for Envirowaste Services Limited by Boffa Miskell.

GETBA supports the Industry Pollution Prevention Programme, and to seek regional funding for water quality and Industry Pollution Prevention Programme measures. We would like to see the Howick Local Board involved in the Otara Lakes and Waterways remediation project.

GETBA supports the provision of more opportunities to recover, reuse and recycle waste – particularly in our industrial area. We have developed a waste minimisation work stream and are actively involved in reducing waste to landfill in the East Tamaki business precinct through awareness-raising and a number of waste minimisation initiatives including a pilot plastics recycling drop off for type 2 and 4 plastics at the Waste Disposal Services Transfer Station in East Tamaki. Further investigation into solutions for problematic waste streams is ongoing.

Outcome: A prosperous Local Economy

As the business association representing the largest industrial precinct in Auckland, GETBA supports the Howick Local Board partnering with Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to support economic development in East Tamaki, Highbrook and Howick.

We value the goal of a business friendly Local Board, that works well with businesses.

We support the development of a Howick Local Board Development Action Plan but it is important to be aware that the process of economic development does not operate in geographic silos and that while the Howick Economic Development Action Plan would create a framework to guide actions in the Howick Local Board area it would sit within a sub-regional context for south Auckland. In that light we support the completion and implementation of the Integrated Business Plan for the industrial south and also the implementation of the East Tamaki Business Precinct Plan.

As a significant employment hub for the Local Board area GETBA sees the importance of a skilled workforce, and will work towards undertaking a skills audit for the precinct in the coming year. GETBA is keen to collaborate on addressing issues of youth unemployment and facilitating improved pathways to employment. We support the Local Board working with employers and education and training providers to facilitate delivery of targeted vocational training courses.

GETBA supports the Local Board's funding of streetscape improvements as part of the draft East Tamaki Corridor Management Plan. We would also like to see some investigation into Highbrook as a technology focused innovation hub.