



CHAIR'S REPORT 2023/24

Welcome to all business owners and members, Councillors and Local Board members.

It is my pleasure to reflect on our achievements and progress over the last 12 months, my second year as Chairperson.

The Board's primary responsibility is to set priorities in our deliverables and allocate funding from your targeted rates. WBA is one of the largest Business Improvement Districts in Auckland region and our targeted rate levy is one of the lowest. I commend to you the resolution for a modest increase in your targeted rates to offset increasing costs. This would be the first increase in several years. We are proud of what we continue to deliver with our member funds to benefit our business community. Later in the agenda we will present our 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget and our 2025/26 indicative plan and budget for your approval.

In line with our purpose and vision, we have expanded our security camera network by adding new cameras in response to requests from members, for example to monitor illegal rubbish dumping in Mayo and surrounding streets. Over the last 12 months we have hosted networking breakfasts with high profile and engaging speakers, resulting in record attendances. We have engaged with many members who have not previously attended events at our After Five events and monthly free coffee carts. Our environment looks pristine thanks to regular lawn mowing and prompt rubbish pickups, driven by our staff. Work in progress is continuing to engage with Auckland Transport in alleviating safety concerns around truck parking in certain streets.

At this year's AGM, we have a few long-term Board members retiring. I credit our former chairperson, Ben Robinson with his corporate expertise and leadership in transforming our Board into a modern and strategic governance team. Thank you, Ben for your ongoing support, advice and mentoring of myself and others. Wayne Reid is also standing down. His mindset for continuous improvement, Health and Safety and HR matters will be missed. My thanks also go to Rose Taito, who is also standing down and William Brown for their stewardship as our Finance Sub-Committee. Thanks to the remainder of the Board for your dedication and contributions. It is heartening to have high calibre new members stepping up to join us on the Board.

Finally, I would like to thank Gary for his energy and leadership of our operational team, and Michelle and Diana for their enthusiasm and hard work.

Dave Pizzini, Chairperson, 27 September 2024