

## **Business Manukau**

### **Chairman's Report**

#### **Year Ending 30 June 2019**

It is with pleasure that I present the Chairman's report for the year ending June 2019.

I would like to start off by acknowledging board member Peter Lim who sadly passed away earlier this year. Peter was a founding member of the Manukau Business Association and was extremely passionate about making a difference in his community. Peter will be deeply missed by myself and the Board.

Manukau businesses continue to thrive with Marketview information showing overall sales numbers are up with growth exceeding that of Sylvia Park/ Mt Wellington, Botany and Westgate which is pleasing to see.

As we work towards our goal to be recognised as the second CBD of Auckland it is important we get the foundations right. Last year I stood in front of you expecting to have monitored security cameras in place within 6 months. This timeframe proved to be optimistic as we worked to find a suitable partner who could work with the Association, Council, Auckland Transport and NZ Police to get the best outcome for Manukau.

We found this with Scott Bain of SecuroGroup who we engaged to undertake the design of the system and the installation of the cameras. We are now most of the way through Stage 1 of the project, which is expected to be completed by Christmas.

Stage 1 is the biggest and most complex stage, as it involves setting up the infrastructure including our server, and extensive wireless communication network with antennae across the district, and our first automated number plate recognition cameras installed on AT poles.

Scott is working closely with our stakeholders at Auckland Transport, NZ Police and Auckland Council on this project.

We have already started receiving camera streams from Auckland Transport and these are coming through to our Business Manukau office.

By Christmas we should also be receiving streams from the new Auckland Council-installed Hayman Park playground cameras that we will be monitoring for Auckland Council.

Scott is currently organising for us to sign MOUs with each of our three major strategic partners.

Our next stage is to start linking to our members' external cameras where appropriate, and to add other cameras in areas which are not yet covered by CCTV surveillance. Scott will be liaising with members who would like to be connected to the system.

Our Crime Prevention Managers continue to do an outstanding job although they and the Police are reporting an uplift in criminal activity and antisocial behaviour. With the Camera project expected to go live shortly we are hoping to see this reducing going forward.

Over the last year we have continued to work closely with our key Partners – Auckland Council, Otara-Papatoetoe Local Board, Panuku Development, Auckland Transport and NZ Police and we are now seen as the key contact for any projects within the Manukau CBD.

Now that we have the foundations in place to reduce criminal behaviour in Manukau CBD, next financial year from 1 July 2020 we will focus our efforts towards our other objectives being:

- Development of a local identity for the Manukau Business District
- Promotion of the area, and
- Marketing and Events.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the current board Rachel Darlington, Stephen Grey, Mark Smith, Emily May, Karen Crabb, Ilango Krishnamoorthy and Alan Johnston for their continued support. I would also like to thank Ashraf Choudhary, of the Otara-Papatoetoe Local Board for attending our board meetings as our Local Board Representative. Ashraf has acted as a wonderful bridge between our Executive Committee and the Local Board, and we hope that we will be fortunate enough to have him back again next year.

Last but by no means least I would like to thank the wonderful Business Manukau staff who make this all happen - Kerry, Janene, Tess and Anton. Thank you for your ongoing dedication.

Aaron Jones  
Chairman  
Manukau Business Association Inc.

31 October 2019