

## Martin Halliday – Mayoral Candidate

### Economic Development

- 1. What is your understanding of the Kotahitanga Board and the role that they play? Should they be independent?** The Board is in place to oversee the delivery of the Economic Development Strategy. It is also in place to build networks and pathways to create and stimulate planned growth on the Kapiti Coast. I have been resolute for the past 5 years that the Board has to be Independent. It now needs to potentially be its own entity to be able to attract investment and funding for the district.
- 2. Kāpiti Chamber values town centres as vital contributors to our local economic system. What examples of benefits have you seen from town centres?** Town Centres are usually business and commerce areas, so the benefits are condensed commercial and social services activity. Our town centres are also fortunate to have rapid transit Hubs that will be an asset alongside decarbonisation and mode shifts in transport in the future.
- 3. How do you plan to support and grow town centres, and their relationship to the economic development team and wider business community?** I already have, my actions should speak for themselves. I was a founding member of KEDA and have been a part of the battle to land the Economic Development strategy and independent board, which I continued from my seat at the Council table when elected at the last election. I will continue if elected to represent you this coming Triennium. Note comment above re purpose of the EDKB. I also look forward to seeing the “15 minute town” concept weaved into future town centre upgrades and development.
- 4. What is your understanding of the purpose of the Tourist Advisory Board and their relationship with Wellington NZ and KCDC?** A Regional destination plan and a local destination plane have been put in place over the past 1.5 years. This, tied in with the Economic Development Strategy being implemented and independent board formed, has created pathways for funding to be applied for. But for this we also need a tourism plan. The Tourism Advisory Board will help enable this. But it is also my expectation that they need to be communicating with on the ground operators so they are connected to the tourism rockface and delivering
- 5. What are the opportunities around tourism in Kāpiti?** Plenty, varied and up to operators to implement. Transmission gully opening has done away with transport linkage issues with Wellington. Kapiti is ideally set up for Day trips. We have great cycleways, parks and Natural features. People can visit, spend and then head back home. On water tours etc around Kapiti Island, Kapiti being a place to relax, recharge, pamper yourself and get your muse on. Our Arts, Bike trails etc..... We need an awesome digital presence and an ongoing marketing plan.

### Better Infrastructure

- 6. What role do you think KCDC plays in the Peka Peka Interchange?** An Advocacy role.

- 7. KCDC has been making strategic housing purchases. What are your thoughts on KCDC as a housing provider or facilitator? What does intensification mean to you, and how do you think it could change Kāpiti?** As a sitting councillor I am not aware of strategic housing purchases. We are not housing providers as such, although KCDC does have a set of pensioner houses. KCDC should definitely be a facilitator and is currently consulting on an CLT (Community Land Trust) . This concept has worked well in Queenstown lakes. KCDC is also a regulator, but we need to do better in that space. Intensification should be focused around transit hubs/Rail IMO as part of mode shift and future proofing. No point in having intensification away from public transport networks
- 8. As it stands, KCDC has funding to move forward with Te Uruhi. This has been a big talking point in our business community and membership. Assuming it goes ahead, what impact do you foresee the gateway having on business and community wellbeing in the Kāpiti region?** I do not support Te Uruhi in its current form. I will not assume that it will go ahead. I have found it ill conceived and not in line with what the local community wanted for this space. Its current impact has been quite negative on well-being IMO. BioSecurity in partnership with DOC needs to be addressed in this space which can tie into telling Mana Whenua, Kapiti Island and other local stories which could be weaved through the park and dovetail into a digital presence. A Gateway to Kapiti is a wider conversation and should be planned for.
- 9. What do you think are the opportunities for business if the Kāpiti Airport stays an airport, or if it gets developed?** I think there are minimal opportunities for business if this area stays as an airport. Currently there are very few flights. Compare that with the area being developed. It would be a boon for business. 20 years of building work for our local trades and associated suppliers leading to a huge increase in local residents that will use local businesses and facilities. That would have a significant economic and social impact in this area. It will be interesting to see what the Airport owners propose for this site.

## Future thinking

- 10. What actions should KCDC be taking to support businesses to become climate friendly?** KCDC should lead by example. To be frank, KCDC shouldn't be having to convince businesses to become climate friendly. We all need to be taking responsibility for our personal and business footprints. If you are the decision maker.... I'd suggest stepping up. Your customers are becoming more and more demanding in this space and you will be measured and held to account for your action or inaction. KCDC should be able to supply information, supply pathways to funding sources and provide good mechanisms for sustainable practices.
- 11. How do you envision the relationship between local iwi and KCDC operating in the future?** Positively, with good open communication and an understanding from both parties as to roles and participation in the local government construct.

**12. Summarise your understanding of the following reforms: Three Waters Reform and Local Government Reform. How do you plan to keep Kāpiti's voice strong throughout these changes and advocate for our business community?**

Three waters reform:- Central Govt has decided that it can do a better job of delivering the 3 waters infrastructure and services than Local Government. Rather than work with Local Government it is centralising the 3 waters into 4 entities. It will then use the combined asset base to borrow to intergenerationally spread the cost of bringing these services " up to speed". The ratepayer will still be paying the full cost. It is going to be crucial that Kapiti has strong advocacy so that its voice does not get lost in dealing with these entities. Local Govt Reform:- ..... I haven't really been given an understanding of what this might look like. It's one of the disconcerting things with this and all the other reforms taking place ..... I am very concerned about what local Govt may look like at the other end. It is going to be very important to have strong voices and people lobbying and advocating for Kapiti.

**13. What is your vision for Kāpiti, and how do you intend to implement it? Name three visionary actions you aspire to implement?**

I want Kapiti to be the place we all aspire for it to be. A fun place that has things to do, a supportive community and housing that covers all areas of the housing spectrum and is accessible, warm and healthy. Visionary Actions.... How about getting the Basics right? That's what Councils are meant to do. I will support and empower my Councillors and community boards and work to create a business environment that is a lot easier to do business in than it currently is. I will also encourage innovation and support visionary actions (such as Whale Song) that come from our community innovators. I will also work with the new CE to create an environment that staff are excited, empowered and proud to work in.

**14. How do you plan on being a visible and accessible leader for our council and community?**

By doing what I do now. Being proactively visible and approachable. I currently attend a lot of the community Board meetings ( even though I'm ward councillor of Paraparaumu) and will continue to do so. Community boards should be the conduits to our communities. I am a good front person and will also network and advocate for the Kapiti Community every chance I get.