



Hamilton hui draws the BIDs

Last month's two-day gathering of North Island town centre managers drew seven Auckland BID programme managers to Hamilton.

Kerry Burrige (*Manukau*), **Megan Darrow** (*Ellerslie*), **Sharlene Druyven** (*Waiuku*), **Wendy Dunn** (*Pukekohe*, acting), **Dave Fearon** (*Mangere*), **Tracy Shackleton** (*Papakura*) and **Audrey Williams** (*Wiri*) all headed down the southern motorway to the hui in the 'Tron (Kirikiriroa) - hosted by Vanessa from the Waikato's one and only 'BID', Hamilton Central.

We spoke with Tracy, Kerry and Wendy to get their take on the event which featured site visits, guest speakers and roundtable information sharing.



Tracy Shackleton

Tracy, who helped Vanessa put together the itinerary, said it was a great opportunity to attend a peer networking event with minimal cost. "There were twelve of us in all, some from as far away as the Hawkes Bay," said Tracy. "Thursday (day one) included presentations by our host (Hamilton Central Business Association), the (Hamilton City) council and community groups. Homelessness and safety were key issues under discussion with people speaking from the [People's Project](#) and [City Safe](#). "On Friday, we all delivered a show and tell of one of our promotions. We shared these case studies, including what went well and what could be improved, in a spirit of collaboration," Tracy said.





Wendy Dunn

Wendy, who is providing maternity leave cover for new mother Kendyl Sullivan in Pukekohe, said the hui provided an opportunity to discuss crime prevention initiatives.

“The BID hui are a great way to connect with other managers and find out strategies of how the other BID areas are managed,” said Wendy, who has previously managed BID programmes at Manurewa, Blockhouse Bay and Howick Village.

“From crime prevention and collaboration, to events and activities, we all have similar issues that we manage differently to create the desired outcome and it is great to know that we are all in the same boat!”

Kerry, who manages the Business Manukau BID programme, said the networking and information sharing at the event was fantastic.

“To other BID managers thinking of attending a future hui, I say ‘definitely go’,” she said.

The crime prevention, events and promotion initiatives discussed were Kerry’s key ‘takeouts’ from the two-day forum.

“Hamilton Central’s People’s Project is a programme that we might try in Manukau,” Kerry added.



Kerry Burrige