



The Waitākere-Ranges Local Board area extends from Whatipu and Titirangi in the south, to Waitākere and O'Neill Bay in the north.

It is home to the one business improvement district, Glen Eden – the gateway village to the west coast of Tāmaki Makaurau.



## Waiting in the wings, ready to shine

Waitākere-Ranges Local Board Member **Steve Tollestrup**, *pictured*, describes Glen Eden Village as "small, compact and unusually lovely".

"It reminds me of some other small centres like Kingsland that have been gentrified. Glen Eden is waiting in the wings and it will, over the next 10 years, become quite a trendy centre," said Steve, who represents the local board in its dealings with the area's sole business improvement district

While the WRLB area is large by area, it has one of the smaller local economies. Glen Eden is the area's main commercial hub offering retail, grocery, banking, professional services, health, restaurants and eateries.

Glen Eden Village established its BID programme in 2009 and expanded in 2016, supported by the local board.

"The expansion brought a wider voice and diversity of viewpoints. It also consolidated the business and retail sector of Glen Eden," Steve said.



Glen Eden town centre.

## How local boards impact BIDs

- The local board approves the establishment and expansion of all BID programmes
- Local boards are delegated the authority to recommend to the governing body to strike the BID targeted rate in its area as part of the Annual Plan process
- Local boards maintain regular contact with the business association operating the BID programme to keep their local economic development and other interests aligned
- The board may appoint a local board BID representative to the executive committee of each BID/business association to serve as a conduit of information to and from council.

"The BID-board relationship is cordial and professional... I attend BID committee meetings and, in a small environment like Glen Eden, meet informally.

STEVE TOLLESTRUP



Waitākere-Ranges Local Board has backed its BID in several ways over many years.

"We support the BID through provision of an office worth \$21k P/A as well as grants in the vicinity of \$20K P/A."

In 2017, the local board funded both a survey and a prospectus (pictured right) to attract new investment.

Steve is keen for the BID to fully leverage the power of the prospectus to promote the town centre and attract retail businesses.

Commercial property investment is starting to show with two 11-storey apartment buildings.

"While the new housing of two tower apartment blocks had originally met with local resistance, my position has always been that this will have a massive impact on town centre economy and be a positive contribution. The BID should expect massive income growth when all the apartments are occupied," he said.





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Glen Eden is an exciting suburban town with a big community heart and is shaping up to be one of Auckland's new growth success stories. The unique character, location and accessibility of this thriving community is catching the eye of forward-thinking investors, young professionals and families looking for a high-quality suburban lifestyle.

With a supportive Local Board, new opportunities due to the Unitary Plan and an improved transport network the local economy will continue to thrive. These factors are anticipated to generate new commercial investment creating a perfect platform for development of the retail and hospitality sector to match the needs and aspirations of the growing local resident community.

## **BID-BOARD BOND STRONG**

Steve describes the BID-board relationship as "cordial and professional" and he admires the business association's innovative chair.

"Grant Trethewey is an outstanding chair with a great entrepreneurial instinct. A real gift to GE".

STEVE TOLLESTRUP

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- The sun is shining on Glen Eden Village
- \$3.8 million building purchase signals start of Glen Eden transformation

