



Former local body politician, **Tim Woolfield**, *pictured*, has lived within 500m of Mt Eden Village for more than a quarter of a century.

Tim took over as Mt Eden Village's part-time BID programme manager in March, a contract relinquished by our own Claire Siddens after more than 20 years.

While the handover was “great”, according to Tim, his challenges are even greater with a tough retailing environment and now a pandemic. . .

The Epsom resident brings considerable experience with the BID programme to the Mt Eden role.

Tim served on the Albert-Eden Local Board from 2010-2016, representing colleagues in the local board's relationship with the Kingsland (now The Fringe District) BID and its former manager Christine Foley.

Prior to Auckland Council's establishment, Tim was a member of the Hobson Community Board between 2007-2010 when he worked closely with the Karangahape Road BID and its former manager Barbara Holloway.

We asked Tim what had attracted him to apply for the Mt Eden BID management contract.

“The people in Mt Eden Village are super people. Having worked on the local board, I had worked to support in a variety of ways, with particular focus on transport-related issues across the board area,” he said.



FUN FACT: Mt Eden Village was the first place where Aucklanders could shop on a Saturday.



PHOTO CREDIT:
Heritage images courtesy of Graham Stewart

Established in 1938, the Mt Eden Village Business Association prides itself on the town centre’s heritage credentials and celebrates this through guided heritage walks.

MEVBA established its BID programme in 2000 and has more than 100 businesses, mostly retail, in operation today.

We asked Tim Woolfield what he saw as the village’s three greatest challenges in 2020.

“Survival! - the impact of the current pandemic is number one.

“Sustainability – economic and environmental, in particular. Achieving balance from council initiatives such as changes to transport and infrastructure to help Mt Eden businesses be sustainable.”

Tim says he will seek to “facilitate discussions and initiatives from council, in both directions”.

Since exiting from a corporate management role in 2008, Tim has taken on various assignments.

- In addition to his BID duties, he’s currently working for the Auckland deaf community in a finance/operational role as well as general management work for an engineering innovation company.



Left to right: Claire Siddens, Mt Eden Village’s inaugural BID programme management contractor (2000-2020) and Steve Roper, who has chaired the business association in recent years, succeeding Frances Loo.



Albert-Eden Local Board has appointed **Rachel Langton** (lead) and **Margi Watson** (alternate) to liaise with the Mt Eden Village Business Association.



