

June 2025

**MP Ryan Hamilton**

**MP for Hamilton East**

Hamilton's business community is innovative, passionate, and tenacious. I want to start by acknowledging you.

Hamilton is New Zealand's fastest-growing city – the City of the Future. We've got huge potential: some of it already realised, and some still untapped. In my first year and a half as an MP, what's excited me most is just how large the opportunity is here in Hamilton – and I'm putting all my energy into helping unlock it.

When we stand up in Parliament and talk about growing the economy, it's you – the people with boots on the ground – who make it real. You're out there every day building businesses, creating jobs, and driving progress. Our job is to make that easier: by cutting red tape, reducing barriers, and giving you the tools to succeed.

That's exactly what this year's Budget is all about – Going for Growth.

A growing economy means a lower cost of living. It means more jobs and higher wages. It means you can see a doctor when you need to, your kids get a world-class education, and you feel safe in your neighbourhood. It means better roads, more homes, and improved public transport.

But we all know that only happens when the economy is managed responsibly.

At the centre of the Budget is Investment Boost – a tax incentive that lets businesses deduct 20% of the cost of new assets, on top of regular depreciation. It's already up and running.

I've already heard great feedback from businesses who are using it to invest, expand, and hire more locals. That's what we love to see. It's going to make an exciting Fieldays when payouts are high, the OCR is dropping, and it's on top of good policy like Investment Boost.

Can I also acknowledge the current Chair of the Chamber, Peter Nation, the former CEO of Fieldays Society, with his recent King's Honours and being made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for his services to the agricultural industry and governance. Well done, Peter.

There are other growth-focused initiatives too – like growing tourism, attracting foreign investment, lifting KiwiSaver employer and employee contributions, and investing in new infrastructure like roads and schools.



In fact, it was fantastic to see just this week the announcement of the approval of a detailed business case for the new four-lane Ruakura Eastern Transport Corridor in Hamilton, which will deliver economic growth for the region.

The project, which is cost-shared between Hamilton City Council (HCC) and NZTA, will enable the completion of the Ruakura Inland Port while also unlocking residential and commercial land for the Ruakura Superhub.

This will enable the golden triangle – Auckland, Tauranga and Hamilton – to continue to provide freight corridors for the most economically significant part of New Zealand.

The land owned by Tainui Group Holdings, the Ruakura Superhub, is a nationally significant development which services around 45 per cent of New Zealand's population, 42 per cent of the nation's freight, and 55 per cent of the country's GDP, with a 30ha inland port connected via rail to Auckland's port and the Port of Tauranga.

On a more personal note, I was stoked to get my Private Member's Bill in the famous biscuit tin at Parliament this week. It's the Policing Direction to Move On Amendment Bill.

Right now, communities across NZ have expressed growing concern about persistent anti-social behaviour, intimidation and public disturbances in important places like town centres, transport hubs, parks and near schools. Current enforcement tools can be either too limited or overly formal for early intervention.

There's a need for a proportionate, flexible mechanism that empowers Police to take swift, preventative action before more serious offences occur – and can be useful to proactively prevent anything escalating. I have had great feedback from Hamilton City Council, the Central Business Association and Police already.

There is still a lot of work to do, but we are focused on doing all we can to support New Zealanders and drive a more prosperous future.

***Authorised by Ryan Hamilton, MP for Hamilton East, Level 2, 697c Wairere Drive, Hamilton.***