

### AGM 18 NOVEMBER 2024 FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

### **AGENDA**

Introduction – Bruce Harvey WTR Board Chairman

Work Programme Objectives and Overview - Andrew Castles WTR CEO

Summary Overview of Development Work and Findings – Steve Bramley Project Lead

Recommendations of WTR Board – Bruce Harvey/Andrew Castles

Seek Meeting Endorsement for Proposed Next Steps



### WTR MERGER AGREEMENT KEY OBJECTIVES 24 APRIL 2023

- Create a robust platform for the development of a financially strong and sustainable long-term Waikato thoroughbred racing operation, owning and operating premium facilities including an international standard racetrack
- Establish and maintain a comprehensive thoroughbred racehorse training facility in the central Waikato region that: keeps and attracts trainers, has a quality range of surfaces for training, and incorporates and provides convenient access to the requisite complementary businesses such as veterinarians and farriers.



#### **TEAMS**

**Project Control Group** 

WTR Board members:

Bruce Harvey

John Elstob

Mark Fraser-Campin

Ben Speedy

WTR CEO, Andrew Castles

NZTR's Dean McKenzie

**Consultant Team** 

Project Lead – Steve Bramley, SGL

Design Lead – Glenn Brebner, BOON Team Architects

Planning and Engineering - BCD

Quantity Surveying – Patrick Hay/James McCafferty, Rawlinsons

Financial Modelling Lead – Hayden McGregor, Baker Tilly (Auckland)

Commercial Lead – Martin Udale, Essentia

Valuation Estimates – Rob Smithers, CBRE



### WORK PROGRAMME NOVEMBER 2023 TO JULY 2024

- Refining overall brief
- Reviews of existing sites
- Estimates of land value for existing sites
- Establishing base information for potential revenue assessments
- Indicative designs and spatial plans with capital cost estimates
- Financial modelling comparing capital costs, operations and development revenue for all options
- Consultations NZTR, NZ Bloodstock, Byerley Park Training Academy, Auckland Thoroughbred Racing, Hamilton City and Waipa District



#### **OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 1. Greenfields racing and training (without a 1,200m straight)
- 2. Racing at Te Rapa and Greenfields training
- 3. Racing at Te Rapa and Greenfields training at Waipa
- 4. Racing at Te Rapa and training at Cambridge long-term (status quo)

All considered with (a) StrathAyr racing track or (b) sand-based grass track



### FINANCIAL VIABILITY

Key challenge: replacement facilities will be needed before the sale of existing sites is concluded

All options had a level of funding deficit.

The funding deficit for options 2 and 4 was too high so these were eliminated

Option 1 and 3 were the most financially viable but would still require a level of external funding



# **OPTION 4 -** RACING AT TE RAPA AND TRAINING AT CAMBRIDGE LONG-TERM (STATUS QUO)

- requires replacement of the Cambridge synthetic track and upgrades for the Te Rapa buildings
- with current operating balance plus optimisation of potential development - this option was also determined not to be financially viable

Note: Cambridge training facility location also future challenged by residential growth



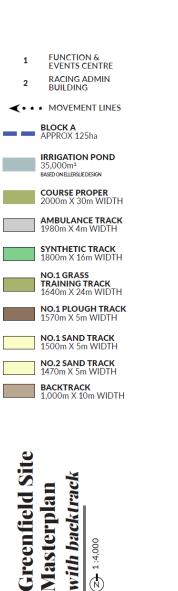
### LEAST FUNDING DEFICIT

**Option 1 -** Greenfields racing and training with sand-based grass track

StrathAyr track will be reviewed in future but capital cost too high at this stage

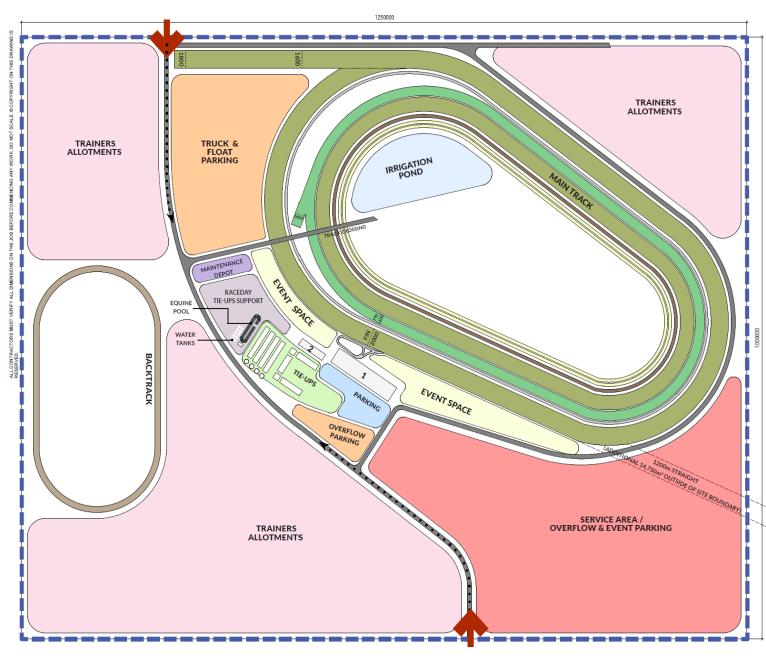


## MASTER PLANNING FOR GENERIC GREENFIELDS

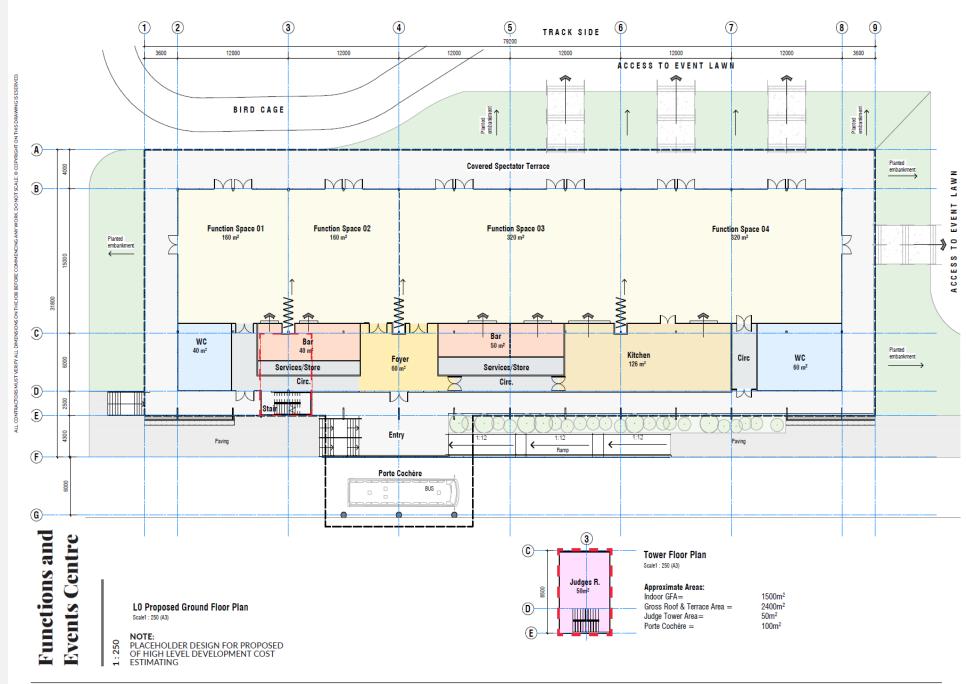


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### WAIKATO THOROUGHBRED RACING - FINANCIAL MODELLING

CONFIDENTIAL



# CONSOLIDATED OPEX OUTPUT – EXCLUDING COMMERCIAL PROPERTY (FY2022 – FY2031)

The annual cashflow generated from racing operations is effectively breakeven (assuming capital expenditure of \$260k pa).

The current operating position does not provide surplus funds for the replacement of the Cambridge synthetic track nor the essential long-term maintenance and/or future essential upgrades for the Te Rapa buildings.



### **SUMMARY**

#### Financial modelling shows:

- racing at Te Rapa and greenfields training, or racing at Te Rapa and greenfields training at Waipa, are not financially viable
- upgrading the existing Te Rapa site for racing and the existing
   Cambridge site for long term training use, is not financially viable
- the greenfield model for racing and training is the most financially viable – but will still need a level of external funding support



### **SUMMARY** cont...

The greenfields racing and training option also:

- brings the expertise and strength of the local racing fraternity together into a centralised location
- creates a fit-for-purpose venue designed for training and racing
- provides a 'super-hub' for other horse-related activities and users
- enables the local racing industry to be more streamlined, competitive and future focused
- is consistent with the recommendation of the Messara Report



## WTR BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROCESS FROM HERE

### WTR BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

At the August board meeting of WTR the following resolution was passed unanimously.

"The WTR Board endorse the direction of the Venue Plan Project Control Group. This direction is to proceed with the venue development programme with a view to progressing and derisking a Greenfields Racing and Training option for formal consideration by WTR members in October 2025.



### **AGM RESOLUTION**

That the WTR membership endorse the WTR Board proceeding with the venue development programme with the view to progressing and derisking a Greenfields racing and training option for formal consideration in October 2025

