

Church Street / Searle Lane Upgrade

Why is this project being done?

The road and footpath in Church Street are in poor condition; the road is slumping and breaking up.

There are opportunities to improve the street environment in both Church Street and Searle Lane by improving lighting, providing seats, and where possible, making the footpaths wider.

With the recent completion of new buildings in Church Street it is timely to make improvements, like the installation of a coach stop/loading zone.

What is proposed?

Sewage / Water – Dig it up once!

Where sewerage and water pipes are due or near due for replacement this will be undertaken as part of the project. This will affect Church Street more than Searle Lane.

Church Street Parking

In order to allow for a new pedestrian crossing, streetscaping and a coach stop / loading zone the plan reflects the loss of 6 parking spaces.

Parking spaces will be tighter – more challenging for the larger vehicles.

Road pavement

Searle Lane would be repaved. There are opportunities to combine use of paving stones and asphalt to improve the look. Church Street would be rebuilt and asphalted.

Pedestrian Crossing

The proposal will improve the ease of crossing the road through narrowing the road at key points (at either end of the road and at the middle, where a speed table would be installed).

Footpaths

On Church Street

A mix of concrete pavers (mainly on the northern side of the road) and asphalt surfacing will be provided.

The footpath on the southern side will be widened by about half a metre. On the northern side, widening only where the

kerb build-outs are proposed.

Red paving would be used for the pedestrian crossing on Church Street and linking to other pedestrian walkways.

Searle Lane

No footpaths proposed. Searle Lane would continue to operate as a service lane during daytime hours - one proposal being considered is that at other times vehicles are prohibited at night-time, enabling street activity associated with the adjacent business areas to occupy the street.

Lighting

A lighting plan is being developed. Lighting will be improved significantly.

Trees

A small number of additional trees are proposed. These are shown on the plan.

Street furniture

New seats and cycle parking will be installed on the footpaths.

Where are we at?

The Council's utilities committee has considered the broad plan.

General directions given were:

Agreement with need for rebuild of the road.

Agreement with the desirability of wider footpaths and improved pedestrian amenity.

Minimise loss of parking, although desirability of the coach park acknowledged.

The next stage (now) is to consult and communicate the plans to the community.

What else is going on in the area?

Church Street Carpark: This carpark is Council owned. The future role of the carpark will be as a shopper / visitor carpark.

Marine Parade. Earlier this year the Council consulted over

draft landscape plans for the Queenstown War Memorial Gates. Those plans were developed to link with Church Street improvements. Planting and paving improvements have been approved.

Draft Town Centre Strategy. Council consulted on the Town Centre Strategy in June 2009. The strategy highlighted the importance of Church Street as a parking precinct and commercial area. A final strategy is expected to be adopted by the Council later this year.

When will it happen and who will be affected?

The construction will take place later this year or early next but will not be undertaken during the peak Christmas period.

The construction activity will inevitably affect businesses (and their customers) and residents in the area. Council will minimise this impact by:

Giving advance warning of work.

Undertaking work in ways that minimise disruption.

Providing clear information throughout the project that Church Street is still open for business.

What will it cost?

The expected cost of the project, as reported to committee is \$1,045,000. Elements of this work will be funded by the New Zealand Transport Agency. The cost estimate will be reviewed through the detailed design process.

Marine Parade Parking

The Council is aware of ongoing debate around the safety of car parks in Marine Parade between the Main Town Pier and the Memorial Gates. Council officers are being encouraged to investigate alternatives and the Council would welcome any ideas that the community might put forward. Please include this with your Church Street comments.

Have your say

Please send your feedback to the Council,
email: services@qldc.govt.nz

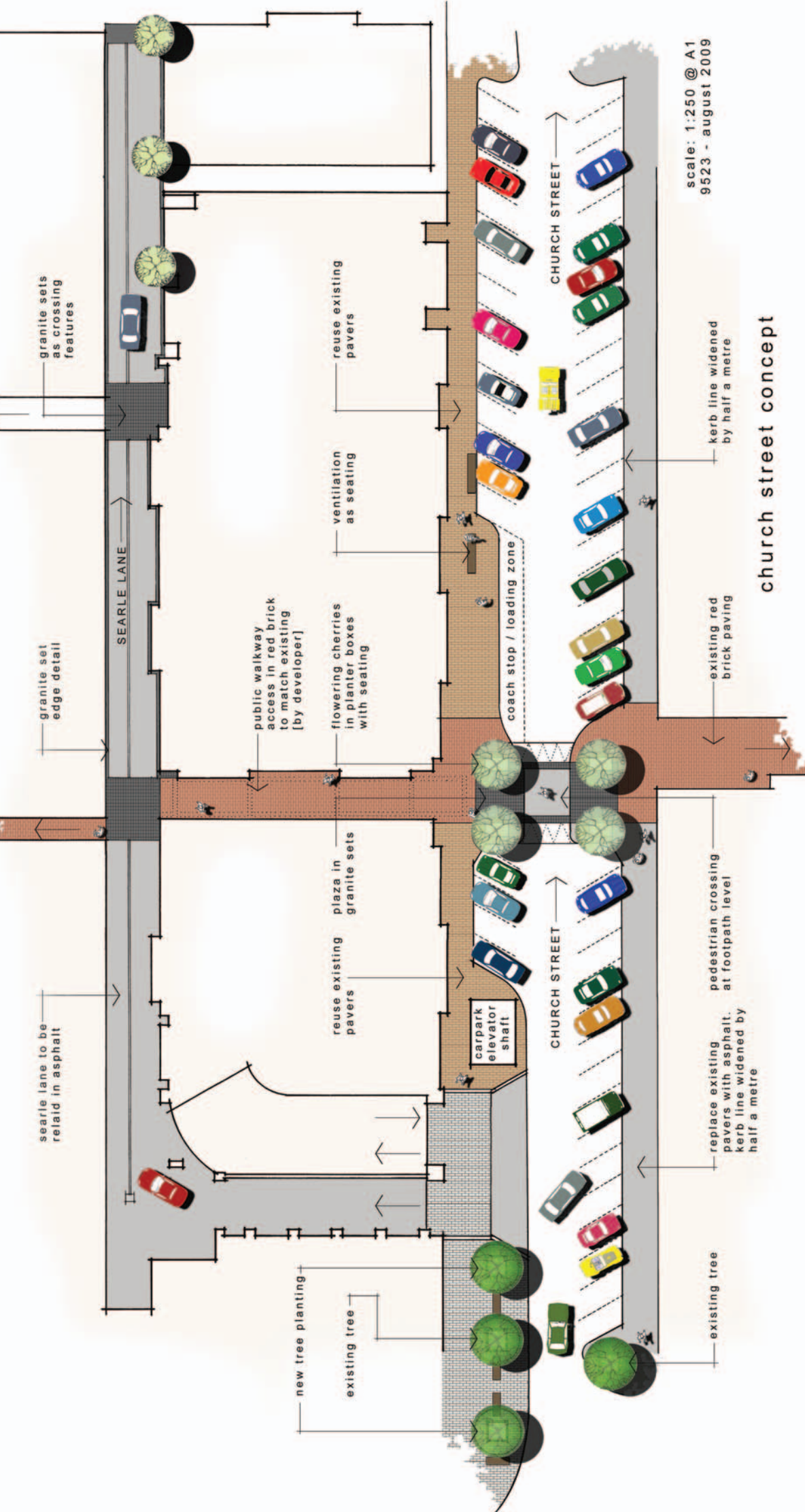
or drop your comment at the Gorge Road
office by Friday, 4 September, 2009.

For any further enquiries contact

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Proposed concept

This artist's impression shows concept features that may, or may not, be included in the final plan - subject to the public consultation process.

Have your say!

QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT COUNCIL