

Friday, 11 January 2019

Don McLachlan Highlander Trusts Ltd

Re: Letter of Support - Coneburn Estates SHA

Dear Don

On behalf of the Queenstown Trails Trust, I would like to provide a letter of support for the provision of a public cycle and pedestrian easement as part of the proposed Special Housing Area between Hanley's Farm and the Kawarau River.

The Queenstown Trails Trust (QTT) has already documented in its 10yr plan the need to connect our communities and we see a fantastic opportunity for a direct, public access trail from Jacks Point to Frankton. This route has been identified as a key part of the Queenstown Trail and QLDC's Active Transport Network, linking Jacks Point through Hanley's Farm to Frankton and providing a direct route for commuters and students travelling to the new high school, with significant separation from the state highway for enhanced safety. QTT has already embarked on a major realignment project to include this vital route.

With increasing pressure on Queenstown's infrastructure, direct trail connections and active transport opportunities are a key component of all new housing developments and are an essential part of encouraging behavioural change and transport mode-sharing.

The provision of an integrated trail network is very much in-line with QLDC's Active Transport Strategy and the new Government Policy Statement for land transport to provide walking and cycling options as well mode-sharing with better public transport hubs.

Additionally, the recreational opportunity afforded by these trail links for the growing local community should not be overlooked. These trails will provide a healthy and enjoyable way for Kiwis and international visitors to see the country and generate social, environmental and economic benefit for the region.

Kind regards

Mark Williams CEO

QUEENSTOWN TRAILS TRUST