

CONNECTABUS

6 Other Comments

Would you like to comment on any other aspect of this draft 10 Year Plan?

Submission from Connectabus As council considers its long term plan, and soon its Town Centre Transport Strategy (we will also submit separately on this), we would like to make the following points highlighting where funding would be needed and also how Connectabus can work with council to deliver the strategy outcomes. - Council should encourage hotels and other employers to provide transport for their people. They could purchase bus passes for their staff. We are prepared to work with employers to make sure we are moving people at the right times. Council and businesses shouldn't provide free carparking to employees – they could instead offer free bus passes. - For our public service to support the outcomes expressed in the transport strategy, the council needs to offer some support through its own system. Free and cheap carparking in town has always been the biggest barrier to public transport in QT. Carparking costing should reflect the value of the public land it happens on. Businesses pay Auckland rents in town, people parking cars should pay Auckland prices too. This needs to be supported by much greater enforcement throughout Queenstown, Wanaka and Frankton. - Good to see in the transport strategy consideration of bike facilities. These should be established as soon as possible. We need good bike parking in town. - Bus shelters not being cleaned – we believe this is a council responsibility. Most are in need of a steam clean now. They're very dirty. Could council please sort out this cleaning? - Could we please get funding (around \$30k apiece) for new bus shelters? There is central govt funding for one new shelter every two years. Given the transport strategy, we will need many more bus shelters. We right now need shelters at Nerin Square and Arrowtown – getting to point we can't do hail and ride in those areas anymore. The Ministry has its own funding for bus shelters so they should do the one outside St Josephs. - We also need to include provision for shelters as council approves subdivisions. Can this be written into District Plan review? People who are buying in new subdivisions need to know if a bus shelter is planned for outside their house. - We understand NZTA had discussed with council the need for a give way sign in Camp Street that allows a free right turn for bus services from Ballarat Street into Camp Street. - We'd like our own enforcement capability. QLDC doesn't enforce keeping our stops free of cars at all hours. We could do the enforcement if QLDC would allow. We want to be able to tow cars when they're in bus stops. We've had situations where rental cars have been locked on our stops and we can't get them moved despite calls to council and police. - Bus stop at O'Connells should be just Connectabus but to do this you'll need to take out the bollards in Athol Street. Poor design here means coach companies are unwilling to put their \$700,000 coaches through for risk of hitting bollards. - Convention centre planning. Can we please be consulted at the appropriate time to make sure the design suits coaches? - Need to budget to give buses clearway so people see the bus coming past them when they're sitting in congestion. Sends a strong message and helps us keep to our timetables. Clearway from airport to hub and a way around that Frankton corner would really help – we are talking to NZTA about this. We also hope to move the pedestrian crossing on Stanley street to outside the Speights ale house and put lights on it. - Our prime market is visitors and will always be visitors. The population here is too small for a service just for locals. Our business and the public service we provide is built on visitors. If we are to subsidise bus services we could do this through the GOcard system so visitors still pay full price. Yours sincerely, Ewen McCammon CEO - Connectabus