

# Kennedy, Mandy

QUEENSTOWN TRAILS TRUST

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## Other Comments

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

See attached submission



## Queenstown Trails Trust - QLDC Annual Grant Submission

Thank you for the past support of the Queenstown Trails Trust (QTT) in regard to the annual grant of \$50,000.

QTT utilises the annual grant to offset the administration costs of the Trust. When the Wakatipu Trails Trust (WTT) was formed in 2004, there was an agreement between QLDC and the WTT (now known as QTT) for support of the Trust in the form of this administration grant.

Over the past year a lot has been achieved by the QTT. The support of QLDC with the administration grant assists us greatly to continue to maintain and develop the network of trails within the Wakatipu Basin. QTT is a charity with two part-time employees and a supportive team of volunteers known as Friends of the Trails.

Queenstown's trail network has expanded to become a serious contributor to the destination. The trails network now provides improved commuter linkages, recreation and tourism experiences, business opportunities and adds some new news for marketing and positioning Queenstown in domestic and international markets. QTT has made a considerable contribution in terms of promotion of the trails and to the maintenance/enhancement of the trail network. Over the past twelve months we have delivered the following:-

- Upgrade of the Gibbston River Trail Network (\$385,000 investment)
- Upgrade of the Kelvin Peninsula Loop (\$78,000 investment)
- Successful in securing funding from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment 'Maintaining the Quality of Great Rides' fund to provide funding with the maintained to the Twin Rivers Trail (Old McDonald's Hill section), Twin Rivers Trail (Upper Kawarau Trail), Glenda Drive to the Wakatipu Gun Club in excess of \$250,000.

We are committed to ensuring a viable pathway for taking the Queenstown Trail network to the next level of development and sustainable management and wish to again thank the QLDC for their support with this \$50,000 annual grant for the coming financial year.

Kindly direct any questions in reference to the above points to Mandy Kennedy, CEO, Queenstown Trails Trust – [mandy.kennedy@queenstowntrail.org.nz](mailto:mandy.kennedy@queenstowntrail.org.nz) / [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

Mandy Kennedy  
CEO  
Queenstown Trails Trust  
April 27, 2015



## Queenstown Trails Trust Submission to QLDC 10 Year Plan 2015/2025

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the QLDC 10 Year Plan 2015/2025. On behalf of the Queenstown Trails Trust (QTT) please find our submission below.

The Queenstown Trail officially opened in 2012 - a lot has been achieved since then. Queenstown's trail network has expanded to become a serious contributor to the destination. The trails network now provides improved commuter linkages, recreation and tourism experiences, business opportunities and adds some new news for marketing and positioning Queenstown in domestic and international markets. QTT has made a considerable contribution to the Trail network in terms of promotion of the trails and to the maintenance/enhancement of the trail network – for example:-

- Upgrade of the Gibbston River Trail Network (\$385,000 investment)
- Provided funding (\$17,000) to assist in the upgrade of the Frankton Track
- Upgrade of the Kelvin Peninsula Loop (\$78,000 investment)
- Successful in securing funding from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment 'Maintaining the Quality of Great Rides' fund to provide funding with the maintained to the Twin Rivers Trail (Old McDonald's Hill section), Twin Rivers Trail (Upper Kawarau Trail), Glenda Drive to the Wakatipu Gun Club in excess of \$250,000.

We are committed to ensuring a viable pathway for taking the Queenstown Trail network to the next level of development and sustainable management. Whilst we understand QLDC's objective not to increase spend in trail maintenance, nor in the short-midterm invest in further recreational Trail development we wish to raise the following points.

### Infrastructure & Transport - Connectivity

We understand that Queenstown is progressing through some great change and will do so over the next 10 years. Connectivity of the recreational trail network to commuter trails and the development thereof requires great consideration in the 10 Year Plan for the following reasons.

- Population growth and increased need for local connectivity (work, schools, leisure)
- Growth in visitors (domestic and international)
- Rapid expansion of cycling throughout New Zealand, Australia and in many of Queenstown's source markets
- Increasing traffic congestion in and around Queenstown and the opportunity of a shift of commuters to consider cycling as the preferred method of transport
- Strong appeal for cycling and mountain biking in other destinations (Rotorua, Taupo, Nelson Tasman, Wellington)

We appreciate the 10 Year Plan under the category of 'Riding Future Proposed Capital Works Projects' contains a placeholder for commuter trails which has been applied as part of the Queenstown Town Centre Strategy and the Frankton Flats Strategy Implementation plans. We request the scope of these plans include consultation with QTT and where appropriate QTT involvement in trail development.

### Infrastructure & Transport - Recreational Trails (New)

We understand in the short-medium term no budget has been set aside for new trail development. As this plan is for a period of 10 Years, we request provision given to new trail development – should the market dictate so – within the 10 Year period. Important to note QTT is undertaking a 10 Year Strategic Plan for the period 2015/2025 as we believe it is time for us to look ahead and to understand how we can add value to what we already have achieved. QTT has matured as an organisation and has a proven track record in achieving its objectives. Whilst it is too early to state exactly what this plan will contain we require this point to be noted and considered.

### Community Services & Facilities

#### *Trail Maintenance*

We understand no additional budget is available for trail maintenance and it is QLDC's intention to make the current budget more efficient. We stress the vital importance of the Queenstown Trail, in its function as one of the NZ Cycle Trail Great Rides, and in fact the most well utilised Great Ride, retains its world-class standard by regular and thorough maintenance. We understand QLDC are preparing a 'best practice maintenance' paper which QTT will have the opportunity to comment upon.

QTT recently completed an upgrade of the Kelvin Peninsula Loop and secured funding from a third party to maintain this trail loop until 2017. We request, that as this trail upgrade is part of the Queenstown Trail network be maintained by the QLDC from 2017 onward.

Kelvin Peninsula Loop Cost Estimate \$5000.00 (\$500.00 p.a.)

We request that any further (new) trail development over the next 10 years which is an extension of the Queenstown Trail network be included in the QLDC maintenance programme. Any new trail development would be agreed by both organisations.

#### *Investment of Further Counter Technology*

There are nine counters in total on the Queenstown Trail – the data is utilised to report on trail activity. QLDC invested in six new counter technologies approximately 18 months ago (named Eco-Counters), these are totally automated, easy to understand and download via a Bluetooth or GSM connection. These counters breakdown data by user type (cyclist & pedestrian) and direction of users. We request the replacement of three old counters (these counters require QLDC staffing costs to read and load data and check are functioning correctly) with the new Eco-Counter technology to save on QLDC human resource costs and also provide reliable data. We also request the additional purchase of two new counters for placement at the recently upgraded Kelvin Peninsula Loop and Gibbston River Trail.

Cost estimate \$40,000.00+ GST

#### *Signage*

There is trail network signage within the Wakatipu which requires upgrade - for example Arrowtown trails (i.e. Chinese Village /Sawpit etc). We request a budget allocation to this project.

We request signage budget allocation for any new commuter trails, to update recreational trails to reflect connectivity and downtown.

### *Forests*

QTT are very supportive of QLDC strategy to ensure the exotic species which are spreading and smothering indigenous vegetation are contained and removed from areas where native forest can be restored. We stress the need for this activity to be addressed in the short-term.

### QLDC Resource Consent – Ferry Project

QTT is supportive of QLDC seeking a resource consent re a ferry operation (to transport commuters, visitors and cycles) across the Narrows with consideration for a 'park & ride' type service included.

### The Opportunity of Cycles as a Viable Transport Option

#### *EBikes*

There is no mention in the 10 Year Strategy of the provision of evolving forms of transport, such as the EBike. Provision downtown of EBike charging stations and appropriate parking for this form of transport in our opinion needs to be considered.

#### *Designated Cycle Lanes on Roads*

QTT is very supportive of dedicated cycle lanes on roads to ensure the safety of cyclists and motorists and to assist with cycling as a safe alternative form of transport when using the roading network.

#### *Signage*

Increase in visibility and clear signage instruction of where to find cycle parking along with an increase in cycle parking to support the strategies as outlined in the 10 Year Plan and draft Transport Strategy

#### *Education*

Both the 10 Year Plan and draft Transport Strategy are encouraging alternate forms of transport for our community (and visitors). An education programme in particular for the children / youth of our community in respect to how to manage on our roads is vital. Also, education for drivers in dealing with cycles on the roads also vital.

Kindly direct any questions in reference to the above points to Mandy Kennedy, CEO, Queenstown Trails Trust – [mandy.kennedy@queenstowntrail.org.nz](mailto:mandy.kennedy@queenstowntrail.org.nz) / [REDACTED].

Thank you again for consideration of the above points.

Yours sincerely

Mandy Kennedy  
CEO  
Queenstown Trails Trust  
April 27, 2015