

Burgess, Mike

WINNIES, BALLARAT TRADING COMPANY, BUFFALO CLUB, ZEPHYR, BARUP, HABANA, GYPSY KITCHEN, BELOW ZERO ICE BAR

WAKATIPU

1 Convention Centre

Convention Centre Comments

Issue 1 Convention Centre I support the building of an international standard convention centre at the lake view site in downtown Queenstown. This support is based on the understanding that the economic benefits to the community will be as outlined in the economic impact reports by CBRE (July, 2013) and Insight Economics (Nov, 2014) This support for the current proposed rating model is given on the basis that the council's contribution is permanently capped at \$32.5M and that Council will actively investigate all alternative methods of funding before 2018 and advise on the progress of these funding methods. I understand that there will be at least three Annual Plans and one 10 Year Plan processes before any rating model will be implemented and therefore the opportunity to make further submissions on this issue will be available.

6 Other Comments

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

I represent a group of companies that currently own eight hospitality businesses in the Queenstown CBD and 5 residential properties. Winnies Ballarat Trading Company Buffalo Club Zephyr Barup Habana Gypsy Kitchen Below Zero Ice Bar Issue 2 Alternative Funding Model Proposal * To undertake a review of the need for a visitor levy * To assess the quantum of the funds needed * To ascertain the best option for raising funds based on statistical and objective data. Key Outcome To devise a development levy, agreed to by all sectors and interested parties in the community, that will enable agreed projects to proceed so that Queenstown develops at a pace consistent with tourist expectations and residents wishes and without over burdening the small existing rates base Background * Queenstown is growing, with residents growing and tourist numbers growing faster than the rating base. * With current discussion about the development of a Conference Centre (which will increase the demand on an already stretched infrastructure) and the need for key infrastructure upgrade, it is necessary to look at different models for raising Capital Example The preferred method of collecting visitor targeted levy/tax revenue has been a subject of much debate over the years.....One option could be to apply a visitor levy on passengers that arrive or depart or both through Queenstown's airport. Current volume of passengers through the airport is 1.4m per annum and increasing. If passengers were levied \$5 each this would generate \$7m in revenue...The levy could be added to the price of the air ticket with revenue collected at the time the ticket is purchase and administered by the airlines.....The airlines collection costs could be covered by a 5% to 10% charge. I acknowledge the use of the airport as a facility to gather visitor levy/tax revenue does not cover all visitors that arrive into Queenstown by other means (ie car or bus). However the airport is without question a large source of the regions visitor numbers. The airport/airlines currently use existing technology can be applied with minimum visitor inconvenience to gather a substantial amount of council revenue....I also acknowledge that the airport levy would also collect revenue from locals this could be overcome through a reduction in the local rates or other local targeted charges. I have been part of the Queenstown community for the past 14 years, during this time there have been many great ideas put forward to improve the community and the way it operates, more often than not those ideas are not implemented due to the common denominator being lack of funding. I believe that a visitor levy would be a positive game changer for the town allowing us to implement these ideas to improve, upgrade and develop the area into a truly world class destination of the future, one that we all can be proud of.... Issue 3 I propose a review of the current noise limits in the CDB and how it applies to the restriction on outside dining and drinking after 10pm.