

QLDC Council  
29 July 2021

Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take : 13

Department: Corporate Services

Title | Taitara Submission – Infrastructure Commission 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT | TE TAKE MŌ TE PŪRONGO**

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- 1 The purpose of this report is to present the submission made to the Infrastructure Commission (InfraCom), in respect to its 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy.
- 2 This report seeks Council’s retrospective approval of the submission’s content. The submission was made to the Infrastructure Commission on 2 July 2021.

**RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA**

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That Council:

1. **Note** the contents of this report; and
2. Approve retrospectively the contents of the submission (Attachment A).

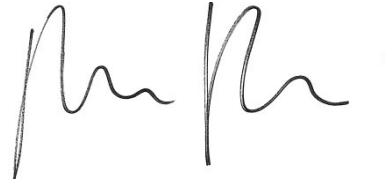
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15/07/2021

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15/07/2021

## CONTEXT | HOROPAKI

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- 3 The Infrastructure Commission (Te Waihanga) consulted on its 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy recently, with submissions closing on 2 July.
- 4 The strategy took the approach to:
  - Be guided by outcomes, and the principles of being efficient, equitable and affordable.
  - Ensure outcomes are supported by decision-making principles, to be future-focused, transparent, focused on options, integrated and evidence-based.
  - Categorise needs under three action areas: building a better future, enabling competitive cities and regions, and, creating a better system.
- 5 Additionally, a range of infrastructure-related topics were covered, including climate change, planning, process improvements, partnership with Maori, funding and financing and, integrating infrastructure institutions.

## ANALYSIS AND ADVICE | TATĀRITANGA ME NGĀ TOHUTOHU

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- 6 Queenstown Lakes District faces a number of significant challenges in relation to infrastructure, which are exacerbated by growth pressures, high visitor numbers, funding shortfalls and mountainous landscapes. The Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) has a unique position and perspective on the barriers and complexities to building and maintaining affordable, efficient, resilient and emissions-reducing infrastructure.
- 7 QLDC is broadly supportive of Te Waihanga's 30-year Infrastructure Strategy and the intent that is shown to ensure provision of innovative, emissions-reducing, accessible and affordable infrastructure throughout New Zealand. The strategy canvasses many of the issues facing infrastructure and provides some good options around solving them.
- 8 The QLDC agrees with many of the recommendations throughout the document and provides feedback on its key points in the below structure. Each section is followed by a summary of recommendations.

### ***PART A – STRATEGIC POINTS***

- a. Infrastructure needs to be viewed holistically, not positioned as hard or soft.
- b. The challenge is not population growth, it is demand growth from both residents and visitors.
- c. The strategy focuses too heavily on big cities... and excludes Queenstown.
- d. There are a number of additional strategic areas that also need to be considered.

**PART B – INTERVENTION AND ACTIVITY AREAS**

- e. Effective spatial planning is central to the success of the infrastructure sector.
- f. Tools need to be reviewed and data inputs well-understood.
- g. Capability building needs centralised support.
- h. Greater emphasis is needed on natural hazards, earthquakes and resilience.
- i. Water metering and charging is supported, but investment in technology is required.
- j. A paradigm shift is needed in the provision of transport infrastructure and public transport.
- k. Electrification will not be straightforward for all parts of the country.
- l. Distributed Energy Resources (DER) have great potential but suffer from a fragmented supply chain.
- m. Waste management and minimisation approaches need to collaborate and align with the Ministry for Environment.

**PART C – STYLE AND STRUCTURE**

- n. The style and structure of the document can be refined.
- 9 The submission outlines 33 individual recommendations for Te Waihangā's consideration.
- 10 Councillors have had opportunity to view and comment on the attached submission prior to its inclusion in the process but did not have the opportunity to formally approve the submission at a council meeting in advance of the submission deadline.
- 11 Option 1: to retrospectively agree the contents of the attached submission.

*Advantages:*

- 12 The submission will remain in Te Waihangā's process and QLDC will have participated effectively.

*Disadvantages:*

- 13 There are no clear disadvantages to this option.

- 14 Option 2: to request the withdrawal of the attached submission from Te Waihangā's process.

*Advantages:*

- 15 The submission will be withdrawn from Te Waihanga’s process and any inaccurate representations of QLDC’s position will not be considered.

*Disadvantages:*

- 16 No aspect of QLDC’s position will be represented in the process.
- 17 This report recommends **Option 1** for addressing the matter (if representative of the council’s position) to ensure that QLDC participates effectively in the consultation process.

## CONSULTATION PROCESS | HĀTEPE MATAPAKI:

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### > SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT | TE WHAKAMAHI I KĀ WHAKAARO HIRAKA

- 18 This matter is of low significance, as determined by reference to the Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy. As this advice deals with a matter of interest to a range of individuals, organisations, groups and sectors in the community.
- 19 The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are all residents and ratepayers of the Queenstown Lakes District communities.

### > MĀORI CONSULTATION | IWI RŪNANGA

- 20 No specific or distinct consultation has been undertaken with iwi in preparing this submission.

## 21 RISK AND MITIGATIONS | NGĀ RARU TŪPONO ME NGĀ WHAKAMAURUTANGA

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- 22 This matter relates to the Strategic/Political/Reputation. It is associated with RISK00038 within the QLDC Risk Register. This risk has been assessed as having a low inherent risk rating.
- 23 The approval of the recommended option will support the Council by allowing implement additional controls for this risk. This shall be achieved by monitoring future changes in legislation based on the advice to government, in particular addressing those issues that directly affect QLDC and the Queenstown Lakes District community.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS | NGĀ RITENGA Ā-PŪTEA

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- 24 There are no financial implications.

## COUNCIL EFFECTS AND VIEWS | NGĀ WHAKAAWEAWE ME NGĀ TIROHANGA A TE KAUNIHERA

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- 25 The following Council policies, strategies and bylaws were considered:
- The outcomes and principles of the Vision Beyond 2050, in particular – Disaster-defying resilience and Zero carbon communities
  - Spatial Plan

- 2021-2031 Ten Year Plan
- Master Plans
- Asset Management Plan
- 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy.
- Climate Action Plan

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2002 PURPOSE PROVISIONS | TE WHAKATURETURE 2002 O TE KĀWANATAKA Ā-KĀIKA

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- Section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 states the purpose of local government is (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and (b) to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. The recommended option:
- Can be implemented through current funding under the Ten Year Plan and Infrastructure Strategy;
- Is consistent with the Council's plans and policies; and
- Would not alter significantly the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the Council.

## ATTACHMENTS | NGĀ TĀPIRIHANGA

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A	QLDC Submission to Te Waihangā's 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy
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