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Submission of the Glenorchy Community Association to the QLDC long term plan

1. Action on climate change

We submit that funding is imperative to enable the appointment of a 'climate change tsar' to sit as part of the senior leadership team in Council along with sufficient resources to implement programmes and initiatives to drive the reduction in our emissions required to meet local and governmental targets and noting that significant investment in diverting organic waste from the landfill is urgently required.

2. Adapting to climate change at the head of the lake

Funding is required to implement planning changes now that the consequences of the predicted increased severity and frequency of flood events are being understood. These events will increasingly impact parts of the township and funding is needed immediately to understand the consequences for infrastructure investment and short and medium term adaptation requirements.

Funding will also be required to retain access to our rural community and the great outdoors as roads, bridges and utility infrastructure will be impacted, in particular the Rees Valley Road, Rees River Bridge and the Kinloch Road. We face the potential loss of access to the Rees, the Dart, the Routeburn and Greenstone Caples tramping and fishing areas and Paradise unless Council have a considered plan going forward.

3. Native nursery

There is a strong commitment by the community to improve our biodiversity and restore indigenous vegetation. A significant barrier to this is a well recognised lack of eco sourced seedlings. In our funding application the Association has asked for funds for the materials to build a simple community nursery. We are liaising with staff and are confident we can find a suitable location for a nursery on reserve land no we hope that the manner in which the community will magnify the value of the \$ sum requested will be recognised by council.

4. Drinking water fountains.

As part of our Zero Waste Glenorchy initiative, we are hoping to secure a community wide commitment to end the sale of bottled water. However there are no public water fountains in the township and we ask that council provide funds for one by the community hall/village green and one by the waterfront marina /skatepark area.

5. Traffic and parking management strategy.

The community has been requesting funds for some years now to produce a holistic township wide traffic management and parking plan. Given the imminent removal of parking requirements by the NPS Urban Development, we ask that this longstanding request is funded in the first year of the proposed plan.

We ask that specific funds are allocated to form a footpath along the east side of Benmore Place between Lochburn Avenue to join with the path at the lake end of Mull Street as the association has received several reports relating to pedestrian safety in this area.

6. Glenorchy Science, Environment and Conservation Centre.

This project, which was supported by the Torokiki programme, is looking to find a site on which it can be established. At this stage, we would like to flag up that we may seek to use Council land if a suitable site is identified, and if that is the case we hope that Council would support such use.

The Glenorchy Community do not support the proposed spending of ratepayer funds on a new car park building, new council offices, the inner arterial projects or on infrastructure to develop Lakeview at this time as they represent poor use of limited funds at a time when there are much more important priorities that need to be addressed across our district.

We do support the proposal to equalise the costs of reticulated water and wastewater across the district.

We don't think there should have to be a choice made between public transport or active transport. Both should be priorities.

John Glover Chairman, for the Glenorchy Community Association Committee : 15 April 2021