

**Wānaka Community Board
8 December 2022**

Report for Agenda Item | Rīpoata moto e Rāraki take: 6

Title | Taitara: Chair's Report

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT | TE TAKE MŌ TE PŪRONGO

The purpose of this report is:

- a. to provide the Board with an update on projects of interest;
- b. to allow Members to report on recent community engagement; and
- c. to cover other matters not listed elsewhere on the agenda.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA

That the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board:

1. **Note** the contents of this report.

Prepared by:



Simon Telfer

Chair, Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board

25/11/2022

CONTEXT | HOROPAKI

Members' Sector Engagement Updates

Education, Knowledge & Collaboration

1. A new initiative for the Board is to establish a stronger connection with the education sector in the district. To this end we have reached out to the Board of Trustee Chairs of the Upper Clutha Schools and will be meeting with them all on a quarterly basis.
2. We are also keen to strengthen lines of communication with the Wānaka Police. After a successful meeting between Simon Telfer and Senior Sergeant Chris Brooks, Chris will meet with the Board informally to update on his perspective of community challenges and the effort that has gone in to police resourcing for the new year festivities in Wānaka.

Arts, Culture & Heritage

Wānaka Arts and Culture Charitable Trust: Performance Arts Centre Update

3. In March 2021 prominent Queenstown art infrastructure benefactors Carroll and Abbie Joynes recommended that, as Wānaka was the art centre of the region it was the appropriate place to build a new Performing Arts Centre.
4. Their firm message was to complement (not compete with) the Queenstown located facilities namely Te Atamira and the Events Centre. The Wānaka Performing Arts and Culture Charitable Trust was formed by founding trustees Michael Sidey and Allan Dippie (independent); Mark Verbiest and Alistair King (Festival of Colour); Annis Somerville (Three Lakes Cultural Trust); Kirsty Hazledine (former cultural head at Wellington College) and Chris Hadfield (arts industry participant).
5. The trustees raised \$140,000 and commissioned a Feasibility Study to determine the cost and financial viability of such a project. The consultants, Horwath HTL team including Arts industry experts Tim Dowson, Robbie Macrae and Virginia Ross, surveyed and interviewed local and national arts performers, arts patrons and touring agents both in New Zealand and based abroad.
6. The results identified Wānaka as the performing artist's destination of choice and that a high quality 500 seat theatre would receive their support.
7. Horwaths are now in the final stages of completing their report and we are aiming to present that to the WUCCB and QLDC by the end of March 2023. The proposed venue will include a high level 500 seat Performing Arts Theatre, a 150 seat rehearsal (BlackBox) theatre, an internationally rated Visual Art Gallery for touring exhibitions, plus foyer and other space for trade shows, corporate events and weddings etc. Ambitious, yes, but a facility that is looking ahead 50 years.
8. The next steps are to find a location (hopefully one already owned by the QLDC), come up with concept plans and to seek funding from the Council, philanthropists, and the like.
9. There will be an update at each Board meeting.

Town Centre design: Heart of Wānaka

10. Chris is working with the steering group on the town centre plan, Heart of Wānaka. There has been significant public engagement with many stakeholders including but not limited to Friends of Pembroke Park, Bullock Creek, A & P Show and Mt Aspiring College.
11. Heart of Wānaka is the early stage of some design concepts. The next target is to present a final concept to the Board in March 2023.

Economic Development

12. At the Ignite Wānaka AGM, a representative of the Silverlight Studio proposal gave an update of the progress and plans for the complex. The intention is to commence stage one in the first half of 2023. This will make a significant contribution to the economy of the Wānaka-Upper Clutha area, and we will maintain a liaison with the developer.
13. Alongside Lake Wānaka Tourism and Destination Queenstown, the Council has announced the 'hugely ambitious' goal to decarbonise the visitor industry to carbon zero by 2030. This will require a commitment by everyone to make necessary changes to the way we do business to achieve this goal. The Board will encourage and support all decarbonising initiatives.
14. Most businesses continue to suffer with insufficient staff numbers and illness due to COVID. The numbers of visitors in town are increasing from all the traditional areas and it's a real struggle to staff businesses. This situation is unlikely to resolve itself without some serious re-thinking of immigration by central government.

Environment

15. Linda Joll met with Nancy Latham, Roger Gardiner and Paul of Friends of Bullock Creek, regarding concerns with stormwater flowing untreated into Bullock Creek. Areas of concern include Youghal Street, Alpha Series subdivision storm water pond, proposed piping of stormwater into Roys Bay through wetlands. Discussions are continuing.

Other Updates

Wānaka Airport Liaison Committee (WALC)

16. There have been conversations with Glen Sowry (QAC CEO) and Mike Theelen, encouraging the formation of the WALC as soon as possible. Draft Terms of Reference have been prepared and are being reviewed, and the intent is to start recruiting the independent Chair before Christmas.

Wānaka Youth & Community Centre (former Mitre 10 Building)

17. Detailed design is now complete, however issues with resourcing of personnel from the design team have led to late delivery of the design package. The project is anticipated to be issued as a closed market tender mid-December, subject to final approval of the procurement plan. We anticipate awarding a contract for the works early February 2023

and will be in a position to provide the agreed contracted construction programme, including a completion and occupancy dates at this time.

Gladstone Track Development

16. Attached is an update on upgrades to the Gladstone Track for members' information.

TrailsDispatch

Date: 24 November 2022

Community Partners: Upper Clutha Tracks Trust

Stakeholders: Wānaka -Upper Clutha Community Board, Hāwea Community Association

Issue/Subject: Gladstone Track Upgrades

1. What is happening?

In the effort to continue delivering a world class trail network which not only serves our community, but delights trail users but also provides connections to our communities, we're upgrading sections of Gladstone Track at Lake Hāwea.

These upgrades include heavy maintenance and repairs to the first half of the track, widening of the existing trail and resurfacing, drainage improvements, culvert replacements, vegetation trimming and some signage installation. Once complete, the track will boast a width of 2.2m to 2.5m depending on the section.



BLUE: Heavy maintenance **RED:** Sub grade reshaping and trail surfacing **YELLOW:** Bridge
ORANGE: Address sight line

2. When is it happening?

Work will get underway in December with an aim to complete all upgrades by February 2023. This takes into consideration a Christmas closedown period to reduce any trail user disruption.

3. How will this impact my community?

These track upgrades will deliver a high level of service to the Hāwea community and its trail users. This will improve the general experience of using the Gladstone Track and ensure all those travelling along our part of the Te Araora Trail have a fit-for-purpose path running under their feet.

Detours and stop/go operations may be required while these upgrades are undertaken, in order to allow efficient work and to maintain the safety of all trail users.

These upgrades will also futureproof the track, as we see more people using this route with different modes of transport (e.g., e-bikes).

4. What do I need to do/How can I find more information?

We are working closely with our Upper Clutha Tracks Trust partners to ensure ongoing community input. But if you have any questions about this work or suggestions, please share your feedback with your local Community Association, Elected Member, the Upper Clutha Tracks Trust or give the QLDC Parks team a call on 03 443 0128.