

Invitation for Comment on Queenstown Arterials Project (LP17)

The Queenstown Arterials Project is a Listed Project under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020

Application Name	Queenstown Arterials Project
EPA Reference	FTC000017
Applicant	Queenstown Lakes District Council
Comments due by	Friday, 26 th February 2021
Accessing the application	<i>The full application and supporting documents can be viewed on the EPA website, which can be accessed here:</i> https://www.epa.govt.nz/fast-track-consenting/listed-projects/queenstown-arterials-project/the-application/

An application has been made by Queenstown Lakes District Council under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 for resource consent and notice of requirement for the Queenstown Arterials project.

To comment on the Queenstown Arterials Project application using the form below, please fill in the details and:

- **Email** the form to queenstownarterialsfasttrack@epa.govt.nz. Please mark in the subject line: "Comments on Queenstown Arterials Project Fast Track Application (Your name/organisation) by Friday, 26th February 2021; or
- **Post** the form to Queenstown Arterials Project Fast Track Application, Environmental Protection Authority, Private Bag 63002, Waterloo Quay, Wellington 6140 in time for the form to be received by the Friday, 26th February 2021; or
- **Deliver in person** to Environmental Protection Authority, Grant Thornton House, Level 10, 215 Lambton Quay, Wellington by Friday, 26th February 2021. Please note that due to potential changes in COVID-19 Alert Levels our reception may not be open to the public. We suggest phoning ahead to check.

Comments must be received by the EPA, on behalf of the Queenstown Arterials Project Expert Consenting Panel, no later than Friday, 26th February 2021

If your comment is not received by the EPA by Friday, 26th February 2021 the Panel is not required to consider your comment (although it may decide to). Under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 there is no right to seek a waiver of the time limit.

If you are an iwi authority you may share the consent application with hapū whose rohe is in the project area in the application, and choose to include comments from the hapū with any comments you may wish to provide.

Important information

Your personal information will be held by the EPA and used in relation to the Queenstown Arterials Project consent application process. You have the right to access and correct personal information held by the EPA.

A copy of your comments, including all personal information, will be provided to the Expert Consenting Panel and the applicants.

All comments received on the application will be available on the EPA website.

If you are a corporate entity making comments on this application, your full contact details will be publicly available. For individuals, your name will be publicly available but your contact details (phone number, address, and email) will not be publicly available.

Please do not use copyright material without the permission of the copyright holder.

All information held by the EPA is subject to the Official Information Act 1982.

More information on the fast-track consenting process can be found at <https://www.epa.govt.nz/fast-track-consenting/about/>.

Comment on the Queenstown Arterials Project Fast-track Application and Notice of Requirement

All sections of this form with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.

1. Contact Details

Please ensure that you have authority to comment on the application on behalf of those named on this form.

Organisation name (if relevant)	Queenstown RSA		
*First name	Sharla		
*Last name	Franklin		
Postal address			
*Home phone / Mobile phone	02102870699	*Work phone	02102870699
*Email (a valid email address enables us to communicate efficiently with you)	[REDACTED]		

2. *We will email you draft conditions of consent for your comment about this application

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I can receive emails and my email address is correct	<input type="checkbox"/>	I cannot receive emails and my postal address is correct
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3. Please provide your comments on the Queenstown Arterials Project Application

If you need more space, please attach additional pages. Please include your name, page numbers and [insert project name] Application on the additional pages

Queenstown Arterials Project

The Queenstown RSA is seriously concerned that the Queenstown Arterials Project (LP17) once again raises the issue of the future of the Queenstown Memorial Centre (QMC). We believe stage 2 of the arterial route from Gorge Road to Man Street would result in the QMC being demolished.

This option must be reconsidered, primarily because of QMC's huge historical significance. It was built as a memorial to those people who served our country and those who made the ultimate sacrifice for it. Located in the heart of our community, it serves as a valuable reminder of both these historic sacrifices and the ongoing need to defend our democracy.

More so since the refurbishment completed in 2013 it has also served as the literal heart of our community - through being both an affordable and functional Performance Centre and gathering place for our broader community and incorporating the Gallipoli Room for past and current service people.

Further:

1. \$3.2 million dollars spent 2012/2013 making the QMC fit for purpose and compliant for the foreseeable future. This money was raised from the community and the refurbishment completed after considerable consultation with community members and groups to ensure the best match of needs.
2. The MOU between QLDC and the Queenstown RSA states, “the Gallipoli Room will continue to be Queenstown RSA’s base”. The Gallipoli Room is very suitable for the RSA’s purposes and it should be retained, as per this MOU.
3. There is an alternative roading plan that does not require the demolition of the QMC, the Squash Club and the Rugby Club, nor potentially threaten the viability of the rugby field. Refer Queenstown Town Centre Masterplan – Arterials IBC short listed options, option 4, QMC retained.
4. The QMC is an existing community venue that is affordable for the community to use. This is much less likely to be the case in a new performance centre, built with an eye to large conferences (which are much less likely to happen post Covid, and therefore much less likely to help fund such a centre’s opex).
5. If the QMC were to be demolished, QLDC have said a replacement facility would be built prior to demolition that is walking distance to the Memorial War Gates. (Mountain Scene July 9, 2020). Are there any funds earmarked for a replacement, beyond the \$10 million depreciation value in the LTP?

In summary: -

1. The QMC is an existing community venue that is fit for purpose and affordable and is critical to community cohesion and support as Queenstown Lakes recovers from the impacts of Covid-19
2. There is an alternative roading plan that does not require the demolition of the QMC.
3. Demolition of the QMC must be considered inappropriate in these Covid-19 times and wasteful of money. There are other options.

QLDC’s downtown strategy and many other documents speak clearly of the importance of community, history, and story. Queenstown Memorial Centre sits left, front and centre of all of these. It is the only downtown affordable community gathering place for us - for our funerals, our commemorations, our Anzac Days, ballet performances, school shows, local balls, political meetings, community discussions, multicultural days and so on. It speaks of our history - not just of those who gave their lives to preserve our way of life (and those who continue to serve), but also as the venue for so much of this “way of life” of our community. And it is our place for storytelling and story making.

Thank you for your comments