

Hon Carmel Sepuloni

MP for Kelston

Minister for Social Development and Employment

Minister for ACC

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

Minister for Disability Issues



25 FEB 2021

Heather Ash

Chairperson, Queenstown Arterials Project Expert Consenting Panel

Via email: queenstownarterialsfasttrack@epa.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Heather

COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on consent application for the Queenstown Arterials Project (LP17)

Thank you for your email of 5 February 2021 seeking my comments on the consent application for the Queenstown Arterials Project by Queenstown Lakes District Council under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act 2020 (the Act).

I support the intent of the project, being to construct, maintain and operate a new urban arterial road in Queenstown Town Centre.

I note that under the Act you must also seek comment from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT). HNZPT has provided me with a summary of the comments they intend to make to your Panel.

I have reviewed HNZPT's comments and note their view that there are insufficient details on the impacts of the construction works or longer-term effects from increased traffic flows on identified historic heritage, which may prevent the Panel from making an informed decision about these impacts. I note that HNZPT proposes that further information is sought on the effects on historic heritage and amendments are made to the conditions of consent. HNZPT has also suggested that it be included in the Kaitiaki Liaison Group and the Community Liaison Group that will review management plans related to the project.

Given the concerns raised by HNZPT, I would appreciate the opportunity to review the draft conditions should your Panel decide to grant the consent.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C Sepuloni'.

Hon Carmel Sepuloni

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage