

Arrowtown Village Association – Feedback to Queenstown Lakes District Council Local Speed Limit Changes – February 2020

The Arrowtown Village Association (AVA) is a volunteer-run incorporated society that represents the views of residents to local, regional and national government. We take up issues of public interest and work to improve and develop amenities to meet the needs of the growing and diverse community in Arrowtown.

The following points we raise are directly relevant to the vision of the Shaping our Future Arrowtown (SOF Arrowtown) report. The AVA was in 2018 appointed guardian of the finalised SOF 2017 report

- ∞ SOF is a visioning document for Arrowtown compiled by an intensive community consultation process and the approval of QLDC.
- ∞ SOF is the most recent, community driven, vision for Arrowtown

The AVA speaks for the association's members in this case by reference to the SOF report and the community consultation from which it was finalised, irrespective of the views or interests of the individual committee members. Our comments are further based on informal feedback received from community members over recent times.

The AVA has encouraged community members to make individual feedback based on their personal opinions.

The very special nature of Arrowtown, its unique character, its historical heritage, and its tourist potential all mean that careful monitoring, guardianship and management is required. All community driven documents highlight the desire to preserve, retain and enhance the authenticity of Arrowtown which is a village cherished by the community and both New Zealand and International visitors.

The AVA supports the current speed limit changes as we recognise it as an initial attempt at managing the ongoing traffic pressure within the CBD of Arrowtown village. We respectfully request that this is a first step, and that further full community consultation is encouraged to determine a practical, for Arrowtown purposes, solution to traffic control.

Concern exists that the current speed reduction has been determined by NZTA recommendation with little acknowledgement of local suggestions for a practical outcome. A shared use zone for Buckingham Street has been put forward as a possible outcome, the AVA is supportive of this Arrowtown Promotion and Business Association (APBA) proposal. However, we feel that full community support needs canvassed as to if this is the most practical solution, or if total pedestrianisation is also an option. This suggestion is based on on-going informal feedback received from the public.

The Shaping Our Future (SOF) report for Arrowtown, has the core principles of

- ∞ Heritage
- ∞ Character
- ∞ Community
- ∞ Environment

The following statements and recommendations from SOF highlight the reasoning behind the community desire for speed limit restrictions, and highlight desire for further measures, within the CBD.

ARROWTOWN COMMUNITY VISION 2050 AND BEYOND

- ∞ *A vibrant, diverse community that is pro-active in managing its future in a way that values and sustainably protects its heritage, character, lifestyle and the natural environment*

Heritage:

- ∞ *Arrowtown is a living, ever-changing town that respects, retains and celebrates its heritage, character and amenities. Heritage continues to be an economic driver for Arrowtown*
- ∞ *QLDC rigorously uses its statutory documents (District Plan and Arrowtown Design Guidelines), to ensure that the rich heritage status of Arrowtown continues to be maintained. This includes buildings, plantings, features and landscapes*

Character:

- ∞ *The character and amenities valued by Arrowtown residents and visitors today are carried forward into the future.*
- ∞ *Noted within future success measures: **the town centre is protected and preserved and The local village feel and ease of access are not dominated by vehicles***

Community:

- ∞ *Car-centric transport is affecting the ambience of the town with parking and congestion*
- ∞ *Noted within the key objective and future success measures: **walking and biking are the preferred modes of transport and People are considered the top priority e.g. Buckingham Street as a shared space***

Environment:

- ∞ *Arrowtown's natural environment is valued as a foundation of community well-being. We actively care for our town's drinking water, clean air, native flora/fauna, natural and heritage landscapes, town greenscapes, and we accept the shared responsibility to ensure these are sustained and enriched*
- ∞ *Noted within the key objective: **walking and cycling take priority***

As a further comment in regard to the new speed limit implementation, we suggest increased (low key) signage of posted limits may be beneficial at strategic points within the township.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback to the Local Speed Limit Changes and respectfully request that our views are noted.

The AVA acknowledge that any suggested further outcomes we make would require action in the form of bylaw introduction, but we are happy to discuss this going forward.

Noel Beggs
Chairperson
Arrowtown Village Association
February 2020