



# **Mackenzie**

**DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Notice is given of an Engineering and Services Committee Meeting to be held on:**

**Date: Tuesday, 10 May 2022**

**Time: 9.30am**

**Location: Council Chambers**

**Fairlie**

## **AGENDA**

### **Engineering and Services Committee Meeting**

**10 May 2022**

**Note: This meeting will be digitally recorded by the minute-taker**

**Engineering and Services Committee Membership:**

Stuart Barwood (Chair)  
Emily Bradbury  
Murray Cox  
James Leslie  
Anne Munro  
Matt Murphy  
Graham Smith

\*\*\*\*\*

**The purpose of local government:**

(1) The purpose of local government is—

- (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and
- (b) to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses.

(2) In this Act, good-quality, in relation to local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions, means infrastructure, services, and performance that are—

- (a) efficient; and
- (b) effective; and
- (c) appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

(Local Government Act 2002)

**Order Of Business**

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- 1 OPENING**
- 2 APOLOGIES**
- 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 4 VISITORS**

## **5 REPORTS**

### **5.1 MINUTES OF ENGINEERING AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING - 15 FEBRUARY 2022**

**Author:** Arlene Goss, Governance Advisor

**Authoriser:**

**Attachments:** 1. Minutes of Engineering and Services Committee Meeting - 15 February 2022

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Minutes of the Engineering and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 15 February 2022 be received and confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.



**Mackenzie**

DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Unconfirmed MINUTES**

**Engineering and Services Committee  
Meeting**

**15 February 2022**

**MINUTES OF MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
ENGINEERING AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON ZOOM  
ON TUESDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 9.30AM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Stuart Barwood (chairperson), Cr Emily Bradbury, Cr Murray Cox, Cr James Leslie, Cr Anne Munro, Cr Matt Murphy, Mayor Graham Smith

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Angela Oosthuizen (Chief Executive), David Adamson (Acting General Manager Operations), Paul Numan (General Manager Corporate), Arlene Goss (Governance Advisor), Chris Clarke (Communications Advisor), Joni Johnson (Engineering Manager), Brian Milne (Community Services Officer), Angie Taylor (Solid Waste Manager), Scott McKenzie (Roading Manager), Tim Scott, Robyn Hyde (Alps2Ocean), Geoff Horler (Utilities Manager).

**1 OPENING**

The chairman opened the meeting.

**2 APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4 VISITORS**

Robyn Hyde introduced herself as the new Alps2Ocean manager, employed by Waitaki District Council. She was welcomed by the Mayor.

**5 REPORTS**

**5.1 MINUTES OF ENGINEERING AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING - 16 NOVEMBER 2021**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ENG/2022/25**

Moved: Mayor Graham Smith

Seconded: Cr Matt Murphy

1. That the Minutes of the Engineering and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 16 November 2021 be received and confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

## 5.2 COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES OPERATIONS REPORT

This report gave the committee an overview of activities within the community facilities area, with specific focus on township maintenance works.

Brian Milne went through the points outlined in his report.

Recent rain caused some damage to part of the Alps2Ocean track. There was discussion on whether to start the track further south, rather than put money into continuous repairs. Mr Milne said there were repair solutions that were not too expensive. He felt it was worthwhile maintaining that part of the track.

The current budget was only enough to do basic maintenance so this needed to be considered.

David Adamson updated the committee on work at the Twizel Events Centre.

A proposed workshop on the Twizel Youth Centre had not yet been held. There needed to be a combined community discussion on this and other community facilities in the townships to determine a way forward.

New public toilet plans were attached to the agenda. Mr Milne provided details around the design and finish of the new toilets at Lake Pukaki. He then noted the remaining items in his report and updated the committee on larger projects in the district.

Cr Leslie asked about the Ruataniwha Reserve. A reserve management plan was being drafted and this would go to the community board for feedback. Stakeholder feedback in Twizel is positive. Consideration would be given to the idea of putting sports fields there and making it a sports hub.

Cr Bradbury asked about cycle stands for Twizel. This is on Mr Milne's to do list.

The committee discussed the location of the proposed dog park at Fairlie. It was noted that the proposed site across the Allandale Bridge had been questioned by staff as more suitable for commercial development. The committee agreed that this land was not suitable for commercial development and they preferred it become a dog park.

### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ENG/2022/26

Moved: Cr Matt Murphy

Seconded: Cr Emily Bradbury

That the report be received.

**CARRIED**

## 5.3 LAKE TEKAPO, WILLOW BAY TRAIL

The purpose of this report was to consider a request from Tekapo Trails Society (TTS) for approval to develop a trail on an unformed legal road from Tekapo Regional Park to Willow Bay.

The Tekapo Community Board has passed a resolution supporting this request.

Approval of the committee is required to confirm agreement of this use and allow Tekapo Trails to apply for consents and other approvals from LINZ and Genesis Energy.

Cr Cox asked if this trail was above the water line. Brian Milne understood from Tekapo Trails that it was well above the area normally controlled by Genesis.

The Mayor asked if volunteers would keep the track clear of rubbish. Mr Milne said up to now Tekapo Trails had been responsible for all of their trail maintenance at Tekapo.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ENG/2022/27**

Moved: Cr Anne Munro

Seconded: Mayor Graham Smith

1. That the report on the Willow Bay trail be received.

**CARRIED**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ENG/2022/28**

Moved: Cr Anne Munro

Seconded: Cr Matt Murphy

2. That the Engineering and Services Committee approves the development of a new trail on the unformed legal road from the Tekapo Regional Park to Willow Bay, by Tekapo Trails Society, subject to prior to any physical works commencing
  - (a) They gain all necessary resource consents, and
  - (b) They gain any required approvals from Genesis Energy, Balmoral Station and LINZ, and
  - (c) They submit plans to Council for final approval of location.

**CARRIED**

**5.4 WASTE MINIMISATION AND MANAGEMENT UPDATE**

Angie Taylor updated the committee on progress with the establishment of a green bin service. This was going well.

The new solid waste contract was going well. Services included extra collections over Christmas and these were well-received.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ENG/2022/29**

Moved: Mayor Graham Smith

Seconded: Cr Matt Murphy

That the information be noted.

**CARRIED**

**5.5 ENGINEERING MANAGER'S REPORT**

Joni Johnson outlined the main points of her report.

There was concerns about a water leak in the Allandale scheme and this was being hunted down. Staff were keeping up with service requests. A consultant was working on the new Fairlie water

treatment plant and a construction completion date was about June, 2024. This was due to a wait of a year or more to get the water membrane for the treatment plant.

Questions were asked about fluoridation. With new legislation, the government now has the ability to direct councils to introduce fluoride to drinking water. Joni Johnson outlined the practical costs and impact it would have if this occurred in Mackenzie. Discussion followed on this subject.

Regarding roading, Scott McKenzie said there was a slow start to the roading contract. There were currently three graders working on road grading and this work would pick up in the coming months. He was currently working through the bridge work.

Cr Munro asked about issues with bitumen supply. New Zealand was now totally reliant on import bitumen. Scott McKenzie outlined discussions with suppliers. A tank was being built in South Canterbury to stockpile bitumen, but had not been completed yet.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ENG/2022/30**

Moved: Cr Matt Murphy

Seconded: Cr James Leslie

That the information be noted.

**CARRIED****5.6 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME 2020-2021**

David Adamson presented this report. He outlined progress on capital works as detailed in the agenda.

The chairman asked about resources. Mr Adamson said the contractors had been able to respond to this challenge but there were some issues around some items like road sealing. He believed this programme would be finished on time.

The Mayor said Crown partners were happy with the programme, after initially being concerned that Council wouldn't get the money spent by deadline. Mr Adamson was working with them and was confident the work would be done within the timeframe.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ENG/2022/31**

Moved: Cr Anne Munro

Seconded: Cr Emily Bradbury

That the information on the stimulus package of capital works be noted.

**CARRIED****5.7 THREE WATERS STIMULUS UPDATE**

The purpose of this report was to update the committee on progress on the \$5.1m Three Waters Stimulus Grant provided by the Crown.

Tim Scott spoke regarding the water meter installation project. This was underway, but was currently delayed by a technology issue. Mr Scott said the American manufacturer was testing to ensure the meters would work and communicate with the council as planned.

De-sludging of the wastewater treatment plants was underway. Twizel was completed and Tekapo was underway.

CCTV pipe inspections were on target and would be completed this month.

Regarding the rising main from Mackenzie Park to the Twizel plant - contractors would be on site in March.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ENG/2022/32**

Moved: Cr James Leslie

Seconded: Cr Anne Munro

1. That the report on the 3W Stimulus Capital programme be received.

**CARRIED**

**The Meeting closed at 11.15am.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Engineering and Services Committee Meeting held on 10 May 2022.**

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**

## 5.2 ENGINEERING REPORT

**Author:** Joni Johnson, Engineering Manager  
**Authoriser:** David Adamson, General Manager Operations - Acting  
**Attachments:** Nil

### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the information be noted.

### BACKGROUND

#### A. Three Waters

##### a. Operations

Water: All systems are operating to drinking water standards.

Wastewater: All systems are operating to resource consent standards.

Storm water: All systems are operating to resource consent standards.

##### b. Current Three Waters Projects

Fairlie Water Treatment Plant. We will ask for submissions on a design/build project in the next month. Construction is expected to be completed by June 2024.

Desludging of Oxidation Ponds. Twizel, Tekapo/Takapō are complete; Fairlie is underway and will finish in two months.

Water Main Replacement. Tekapo/Takapō: Aorangi Crescent project is wrapping up; Fairlie has begun and will be completed by 30 June 2022.

c. Upcoming CapEx Projects. We have started tendering for 23 projects, to be underway or have funds committed prior to 30 June 2022. See table below.

FY 21-22 CapEx spending in 3 Waters		
Project	Type of work	Estimated Cost
Milliscreen/ww reception units	Design and supply	\$ 150,000.00
W/WW Instrumentation	Deliver	\$ 270,000.00
Wastewater Renewal Fairlie	Deliver	\$ 300,000.00
Twizel water supply ring main	Design and materials	\$ 500,000.00
19 Remaining projects	Various	\$ 445,000.00
	Total	\$ 1,665,000.00

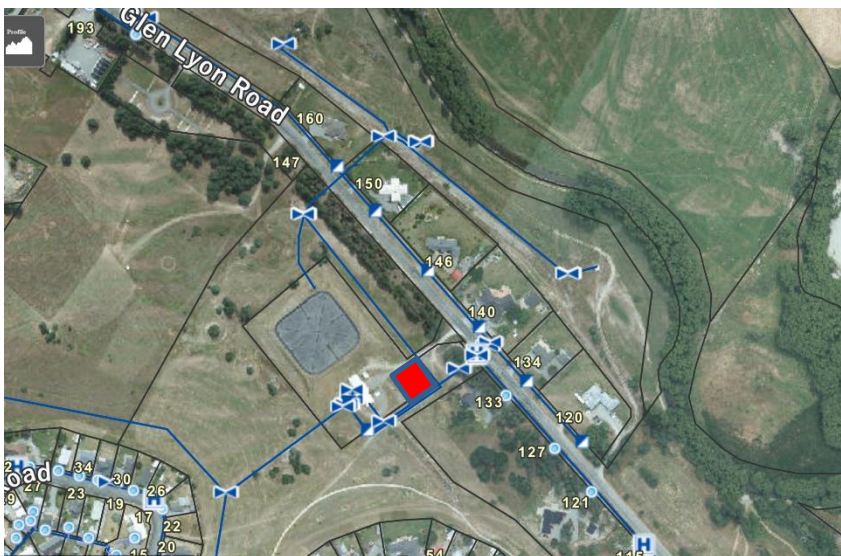
d. **Water filling stations.**

Three filling stations for mobile tankers are proposed, one each in Fairlie, Twizel and Tekapo/Takapō.

**Tekapo/Tākapo: at the tourist park near Lochinver**



**Twizel : at the water treatment plant**



**Fairlie: near the resource recovery park**



## **B. Roading**

### **a. Operations**

Gravelling of unsealed roads will wrap up this month for the fiscal year. Chip-sealing will wrap up 15 May; resume 15 September 2022.

We are shaping roads for winter using special tips on the graders. Currently working in the Albury/Cave area. We completed a winter maintenance workshop with Fulton Hogan to discuss procedures, warnings, forecasting and response. We are prepared for an early snow or road icing with necessary equipment available.

### **b. Roading Projects**

Lakeside Drive Tekapo. The drainage works on Lakeside drive are now completed.

Spur Road. Spur Road was closed for repairs; the bulk of the problem areas were corrected but we still have some minor spots to complete, to be scheduled later.

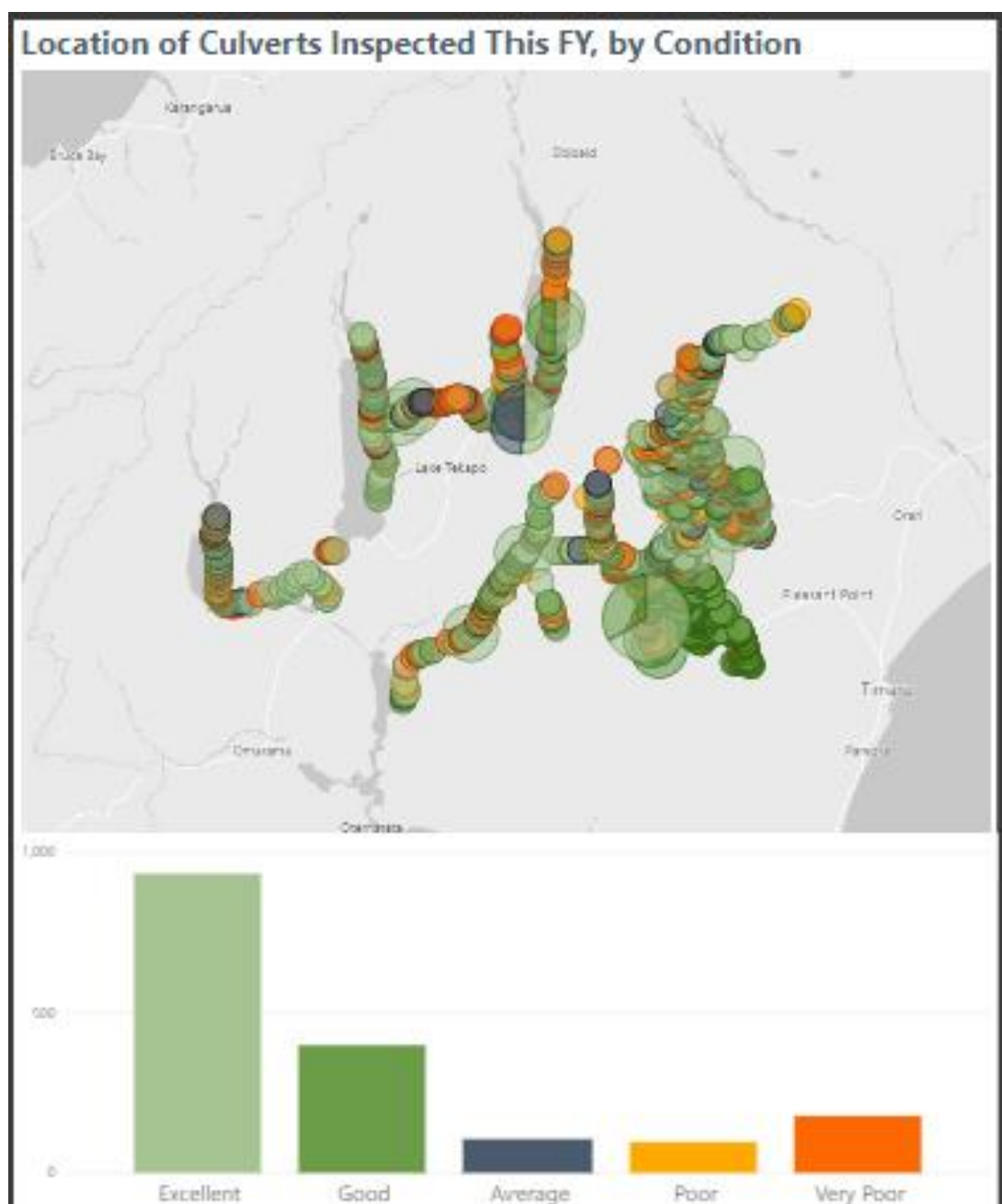
Richardson Road. Richardson Road was sealed at the location of the new Downlands Water Treatment Plant (Richardson and

Mt Gerald, Lilybank Road. Private works are being done to realign a section of Lilybank Road from the Farm Base area of Mt Gerald Station. The new road will be vested to Council, with the balance of the existing road becoming a private road.

North Opuha Bridge. Repairs from May 2021 flood are underway.



Culverts. We have completed a survey of the culverts in our District, The graph below shows the condition of each culvert. We are prioritizing the list and will work through the items as budget allows.



c. **CCTV Cameras in Tekapo/Takapō.**

Stage 1 of a 3-stage project to install CCTV cameras in Tekapo/Takapō is underway.










## CONCLUSION



Report complete.



**5.3 ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT KPIS FOR ANNUAL REPORT****Author:** Joni Johnson, Engineering Manager**Authoriser:** David Adamson, General Manager Operations - Acting**Attachments:** Nil**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**












That the information be noted.

**BACKGROUND****Engineering Annual Plan KPI Forecast**

ROADING REPORT CARD				
KPI in Long-term plan	Past FY 19-20	Target FY 21-22	Likelihood we will meet KPI for FY 21-22 	Comments
Quality of ride – rural roads	98%	>90		
Quality of ride – urban roads	94%	>75		
Sealed roads resurfaced	5.8%	>4%		Carry forward to Year 2. Substituted drainage works and pre-seal repairs.
Unsealed roads renewed	5.7%	>2		
Rate payers satisfied	78%	>85%		Assume similar response from ratepayers in next survey.
Road fatalities in District	0	<2		
Deaths/serious injuries on local roads	New measure	<1		
Crashes on local roads	New measure	<10		

SRs responded to within 10 days	86%	>75		
Footpaths above average condition	95%	>75		

Roading Projects for FY 21-22	YTD: Red/Yellow/Green	Comments
Alps to Ocean upgrades		Carry forward to Year 2 and hoping to obtain co-funding from Great Rides.
Investigate sealing Lilybank, Braemar		

3 WATERS REPORT CARD				
KPI in Long-term plan	Past FY 19-20	Target FY 21-22	Likelihood we will meet KPI for FY 21-22   	Comments
Water Supply				
Compliance with DWS part 4 – bacterial	75%	>95%		All systems but Albury are expected to be compliant = 80%
Compliance with DWS part 5 – protozoal	0%	2 out of 5 supplies compliant		
Water loss from reticulation	21%	<5%		
SRs: Attend urgent	1 hr 21m	<2 hr		Current SR reporting is flawed; working on standardising the process for the annual report.
SRs: Resolve urgent	1 hr 21m	<12 hr		
SRs: Attend non-urgent	25 hr	< 72 hr		
SRs: Resolve non-urgent	26 hr	<120 hr		
Complaints per 1000 connections	1.4	<5		

Rate payers satisfied	80%	>80%		
Water use, per person per day	1.6 m <sup>3</sup>	<1.2 m <sup>3</sup>		Water meters in place during Year 2; expect to meet this goal then.
Wastewater				
DWO per 1000 connections	3.11	<2		
Consents data	Non-compliant	Compliant		
Consent notices, convictions	Nil	Nil		
SRs: Attend DWO	2.75 h	<1		See above comments on SR reporting
SRs: Resolve DWO	2.5	<4		
Complaints per 1000 connections	9.4	<50		
Rate payers satisfied	94%	>85%		
Stormwater				
No. of flood events	0	<2		
No. of floors affected per 1000 connections	0	<2		
Consent notices, convictions	Nil	Nil		
Response time to flood event	0	<2 hr		
Complaints per 1000 connections	1.4	<5		
Rate payers satisfied	80%	> 80%		

3 Waters Projects for FY 21-22	YTD: Red/Yellow/Green	Comments
Water main replacement Twizel		
Water main replacement Tekapo		
Wastewater pump station upgrade, Lakeside		

Wastewater rising main upgrade, pump upgrade, Mackenzie Park		
Storm water investigation Alloway		
Storm water upgrade Sloane St		

[Type here](#)

## CONCLUSION

Yellow: Engineering Department will work on SR reporting process and method of computing statistics to ensure accuracy.

Red: We are unlikely to be able to change any of the red items before the end of the FY year.

## 5.4 COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES OPERATIONS REPORT

**Author:** Brian Milne, Community Facilities and Services Officer - Contractor

**Authoriser:** David Adamson, General Manager Operations - Acting

**Attachments:**

1. MDC Parks and Amenities Strategy [↓](#) 
2. Lake Ruataniwha RMP - Summary of Initial Feedback [↓](#) 

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report gives the committee an overview of activities within the community facilities area, with specific focus on township maintenance works.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Community Facilities and Services Operations report be received.
2. That the adoption of the Parks and Amenities Strategy (May 2022) be recommended to Council
3. That a budget of up to \$50,000 for “Parks Asset Collection and Condition Assessment” from the Reserves Subdivision Contribution Fund be approved.

### HEALTH AND SAFETY

Township maintenance works are inherently high risk and involve work outside, with machinery, often working by themselves and exposure to multiple hazards.

Staff and contractors continue to monitor H&S requirements as part of the monthly performance audits plus observation of staff and work practices at other times.

No issues with health and safety practices have been observed over the last 2 months.

### TOWNSHIP MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

The township maintenance contract is continuing to operate effectively with good levels of performance overall. The high levels of rain throughout summer created additional grass mowing work however the contractors maintained the levels of service effectively.

The monthly cumulative performance audit results for 2022 is 96%.

### PARKS AND AMENITIES STRATEGY

Following community feedback, Council workshop discussion and technical review by staff, the Parks and Amenities Strategy has been updated and is now ready for recommendation for adoption by the Council. Attachment 1. Staff will run the Committee through the final strategy at the meeting.

### PARKS ASSET COLLECTION PROJECT

It is proposed to undertake a project to collect parks asset data.

A fundamental asset management process is the collection of asset information and condition assessment, which is necessary for maintenance planning, valuation, and asset renewal planning to

maintain appropriate levels of service and ensure Council assets are safe. The Council has collected and mapped information relating to green assets of grass and gardens for the operations and maintenance contract, however it does not have a register or condition information of hard assets and trees. The Council has an appropriate asset management system to collect and store this information, and a GIS system to view mapped data once collected. However, some additional work is required to set up the system for parks and community facilities asset data.

The collection of this data requires 3-4 weeks of field survey work, and it is proposed to outsource this work to enable it to be completed in a time effective way. It will also provide information for the revaluation of Council assets.

Funding of up to \$50,000 budget from the Reserves Subdivision Fund is requested. This fund is considered appropriate as one of the main purposes of the data is to implement capital renewal and improvement works on reserves.

Once the parks asset data collection has been completed, the next stage of asset management work will be the collection of building asset and condition information, together the preparation of a long term (10year) building maintenance plan. This requires different expertise to parks assets and is therefore best dealt with as a separate project/contract.

### **POOL HEATING**

A contract has been awarded to Ian Coombes Limited for the installation of the heat pumps at Fairlie and Twizel.

This work will be completed over the winter months, ready for the 2022/23 season.

We are also planning to undertake renewal improvements to the Fairlie Pool filtration and pump systems.

### **TREE MAINTENANCE**

The procurement process for a contract for maintenance work on the Peace Trees was undertaken during April and this is still being worked through, with work due to commence in the coming months. It is likely the work will be undertaken over a longer time period than originally planned for.

We are also working with Forestry contractor PF Olsen to remove the Douglas Firs in Mclean Park, Fairlie, and two groups of Wilding Pines in Twizel, adjacent to the state highway and on Glen Lyon Road, with funding support from Environment Canterbury.

### **ALPS 2 OCEAN (A2O)**

Improvement works have been completed on the upper section of the trail from Jollies Carpark to the helicopter crossing landing point. This area is prone to flooding damage and will require ongoing work to maintain in an acceptable condition. Additional improvements works and some re-routing will be considered in future work programmes.

The inaugural meeting of the new joint management committee, together with the new trail manager was held in late March. Further meetings are scheduled for July and November. The priority for the committee will be finalising the business plan, which is required to support funding applications.

**TWIZEL EVENTS CENTRE**

Work is progressing on the rectification and improvement works of the Twizel Events Centre to achieve Building Code compliance. An update on progress to date will be provided at the meeting.

**MBIE TIF TOILET PROJECTS**

A contract has been let to Carpentry South, utilising prefabricated Exeloo toilet units for the new toilets at Fairlie, Lake Pukaki Lookout and Lake Ruataniwha.

Finalising the siting of the Fairlie toilet and planning consent processes have been underway over the past 3 months, together with finalising design details.

The time frame is for the new toilets to be completed by October 2022. As the toilets are prefabricated in the factory, the install process is relatively quick.

Options for the location of the Fairlie Camper effluent dump station continue to be investigated in conjunction with the Fairlie Community Board. Following community objection to a potential site on Talbot Rd on the Golf Club carpark, the project manager has been evaluating other potential sites. The outcome of this will be discussed with the Community Board later in May.

**RUATANIWHA RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN (RMP)**

The initial consultation period (notice of intention to prepare RMP) has concluded and a total of 90 submission were received, however 54 of these were of a similar nature requesting consideration of horse trails and other equestrian facilities. Generally, all the submission were very positive.

The draft plan (written document) is largely completed, with just the concept development plan to be finalised

The process from here is:

- Draft supplied for staff review – May
- Consideration by Twizel Community Board – 11 July
- Presentation to Council workshop – 19 July
- Consideration and approval of draft plan by Engineering and Services Committee – 2 August
- Council approval of draft plan for consultation– 23 August

The summary of feedback is provided as Attachment 2 for information.

**PROJECTS**

A number of projects are also underway within the Parks and Community Facilities area. A brief update on some key projects is listed below:

**1. Maukatua Reserve (D'Archiac Dr) Tekapo**

This project is nearly complete, however there have been COVID related delays for the supply of the shelter. As this is located at the rear of the site, we have not been able to undertake the final leveling and grassing of the reserve. It is expected this work will be completed this month.

**2. Tekapo Lake Front Path and Other Improvements**

The procurement process for the contract has been completed in April. Work is expected to commence over the coming months, with the project expected to be completed in the spring.

### 3. Furniture

- Installation of new cycle stands in Fairlie, Tekapo and Twizel town centres will be undertaken in May/June
- Replacement Refuse Bins being installed in Tekapo

### 4. Fairlie Dog Park

Dog Park – The Community Board have finalised the location for the dog park adjacent to The Allandale Bridge picnic area, and plans are being finalised to clear and level the site and install fencing

### 5. Sign Manual

A new sign design guideline has been under preparation over the last 6 months that aligns with new Council design imagery. We are currently working on the procurement process for the supply of new signage and plan to start installation of new park and facility signs from July 2022. This will be an ongoing program over several years to install new signage throughout all the parks and other council sites.

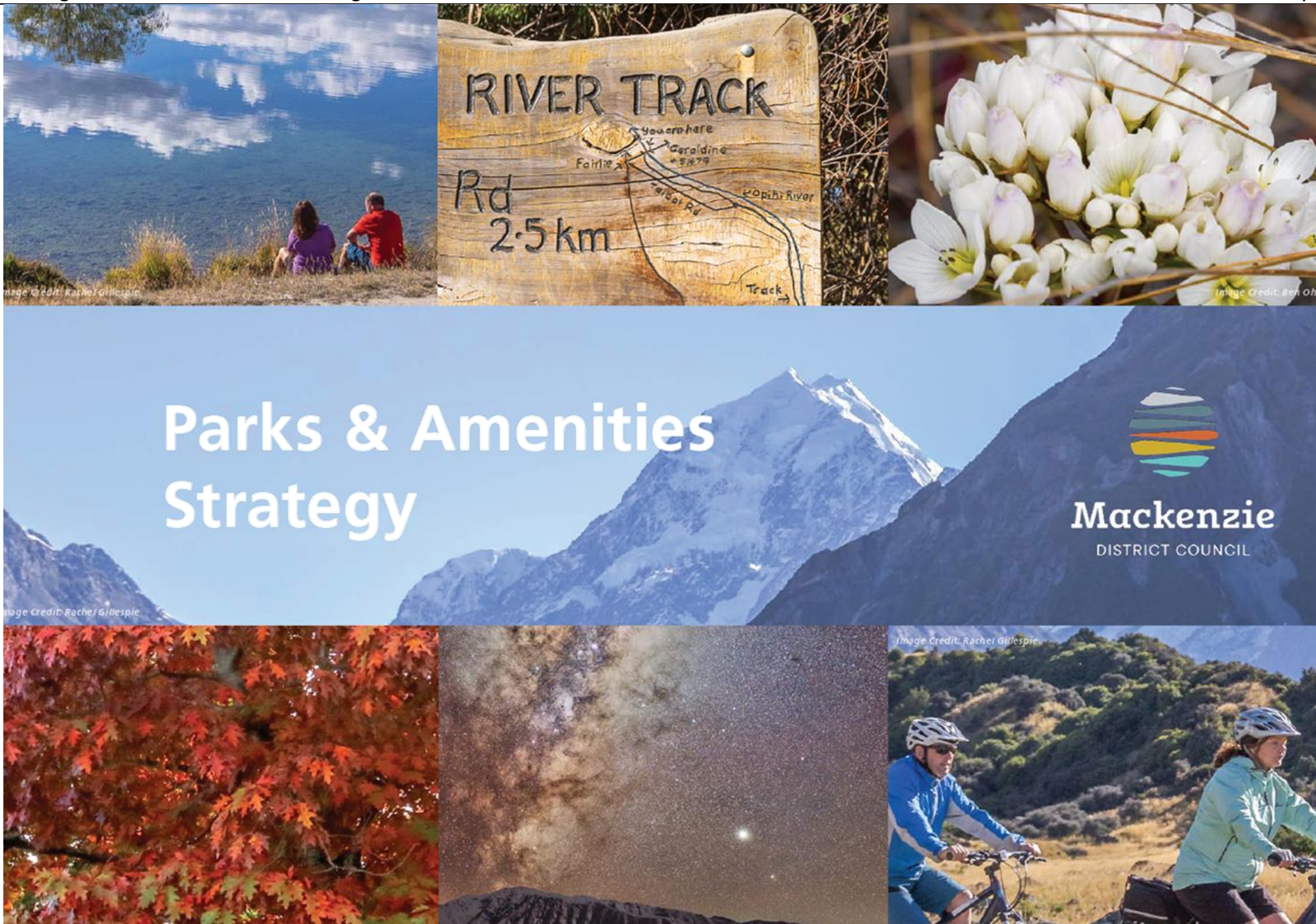
A full list of all projects being worked on and their status is provided as follows:

<b>Project:</b>	<b>Complete</b>	<b>Target Completion</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Carry fwd Required</b>
Parks and Community Amenities Strategy	100%	May-22		No
Maukatua Reserve	75%	Jun-22	\$ 150,000	No
Tekapo Lakefront Improvements	15%	Dec-22	\$ 523,878	Yes
Peace Trees	10%	Jun-23	\$ 200,000	Yes
Ruataniwha RMP	70%	Dec-22	\$ 30,000	Yes
Fairlie Town Centre Toilet (2021 TIF)	15%	Oct-22	\$ 704,568	Yes
Pukaki Lookout Toilet (2021 TIF)	15%	Oct-22	\$ 755,233	Yes
Ruataniwha Toilets (2021 TIF)	25%	Oct-22	\$ 364,199	Yes
Fairlie Dump Station (TIF)	20%	Oct-22	\$ 95,000	Yes
Fairlie Dog Park	5%	Aug-22	\$ 30,000	Yes (Township budget)
Twizel Marketplace Improvements	10%	Oct-22	\$ 122,150	Yes
Pool Heating Contract Fairlie	40%	Sep-22	\$ 236,000	Yes
Pool Heating Contract Twizel	40%	Sep-22	\$ 255,000	Yes
Fairlie Pool Plant Upgrade	0%	Sep-22	\$ 130,000	No (22/23 budget)

Man Made Hill Development Plan	0%	Mar-23	\$ 10,000	Yes
Twizel Implement Development Plan	10%	Dec-23	\$ 422,756	Yes
Fairlie Cemetery Land Improvements (road, landscaping, memorial wall)	5%	Jun-23	\$ 16,000	Yes
Parks Asset Data Collection	0%	Aug-22	TBC	
Ohau/Ostler Rd Landscaping	15%	Nov-22	TBC	
Ohau Rd Reserve	15%	Jun-23	TBC	

## CONCLUSION

Staff continue to be heavily engaged ensuring operational and customer service requirements are effectively managed while also working on the delivery of capital improvement projects, planning and management system improvement projects.



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## Appendices

**Appendix A** – Priority Projects

**Appendix B** – Individual Strategy Projects

**Appendix C** – Parks Management Standards

**Appendix D** – Strategic Context Expanded

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Introduction

### *What is the purpose of the strategy?*

Mackenzie District Council (MDC) provide, manage, and protect a diverse network of parks and open spaces across the district which serve the community and visitors in many ways. This network includes a range of facilities and amenities including trails, playgrounds and public toilets. Parks, open spaces and associated facilities provide and serve the needs of residents, travellers and tourists within the Mackenzie District.

- Parks and reserves provide the places and spaces to enable **recreation and activities** to happen.
- Trails provide **memorable journeys** and vital connections between the parks and open spaces.
- Playgrounds are an integral part of the park's facilities providing **enticing and challenging play opportunities** for children and young people.
- Public toilets are an **essential service** for the public in town centres, key visitor and recreational sites.



Image Credit: Hollie Woodhouse



Image Credit: Hollie Woodhouse



The Parks and Amenities Strategy (including parks, trails, playgrounds and public toilets) will:

1. Provide a coherent view of the existing parks, trail, playground and public toilet distribution/networks, and an understanding of how this can be improved and expanded to meet the needs of the resident community and visitors to the district into the future.
2. Understand the capability to fund, manage, and operate these assets in the long term. This includes a focus on sustainability of the network as a whole.
3. Focus investment and funds in the right areas, at the right time, and for the right reasons.

## 1.2. Scope of the Strategy

The project will develop a strategy informed by Council, stakeholders and the community that will guide the Council's future provision of these facilities in the Mackenzie District.

The strategy will:

1. Set a 10 year vision for MDC parks, trails, playgrounds and public toilets respectively
2. Identifies and aligns these strategies with other Council plans and documents
3. Provides a visual and descriptive record of the existing parks and trail networks
4. Sets target levels of service for parks, trails, playgrounds and public toilets
5. Provides a direction and action plan for implementation of development projects which will allow key decision makers to allocate future funding in the right places. This includes the development of a work programme that will guide investment through:
  - a. Set Long Term Plan and Annual Plan budgets
  - b. Prioritised and allocated spend of the Land Development Fund
  - c. Support any applications for external funding of public toilet facilities at tourist sites.

## 1.3. Vision and Key Principles:



### Vision

- Create a network of open spaces and facilities that celebrates the character of the Mackenzie District and provides for both local community and visitors.

Key themes derived from the existing strategic context as well as the community engagement process has informed the overarching vision and principles.

The vision encapsulates the essence of the parks and open spaces of the Mackenzie District and is supported by a set of principles that will provide attractive open spaces for both the local community as well as visitors to the district.



### Principles



#### Environment - Protect and enhance landscape and biodiversity values

The parks and open spaces network complement the unique identity and character of the Mackenzie District



#### User Experience - Creating an experience and journey for everyone

Create diversity of activities throughout the parks and open spaces network that will enhance experiences for all ages and abilities



#### Management - Establish high quality park and recreation assets

Invest in best practice management and maintenance processes to create consistent outcomes for all parks and open spaces



#### Connecting destinations – Create a well-connected parks and open spaces network

Provide meaningful and legible connections throughout parks and open spaces to enhance the usability of the network



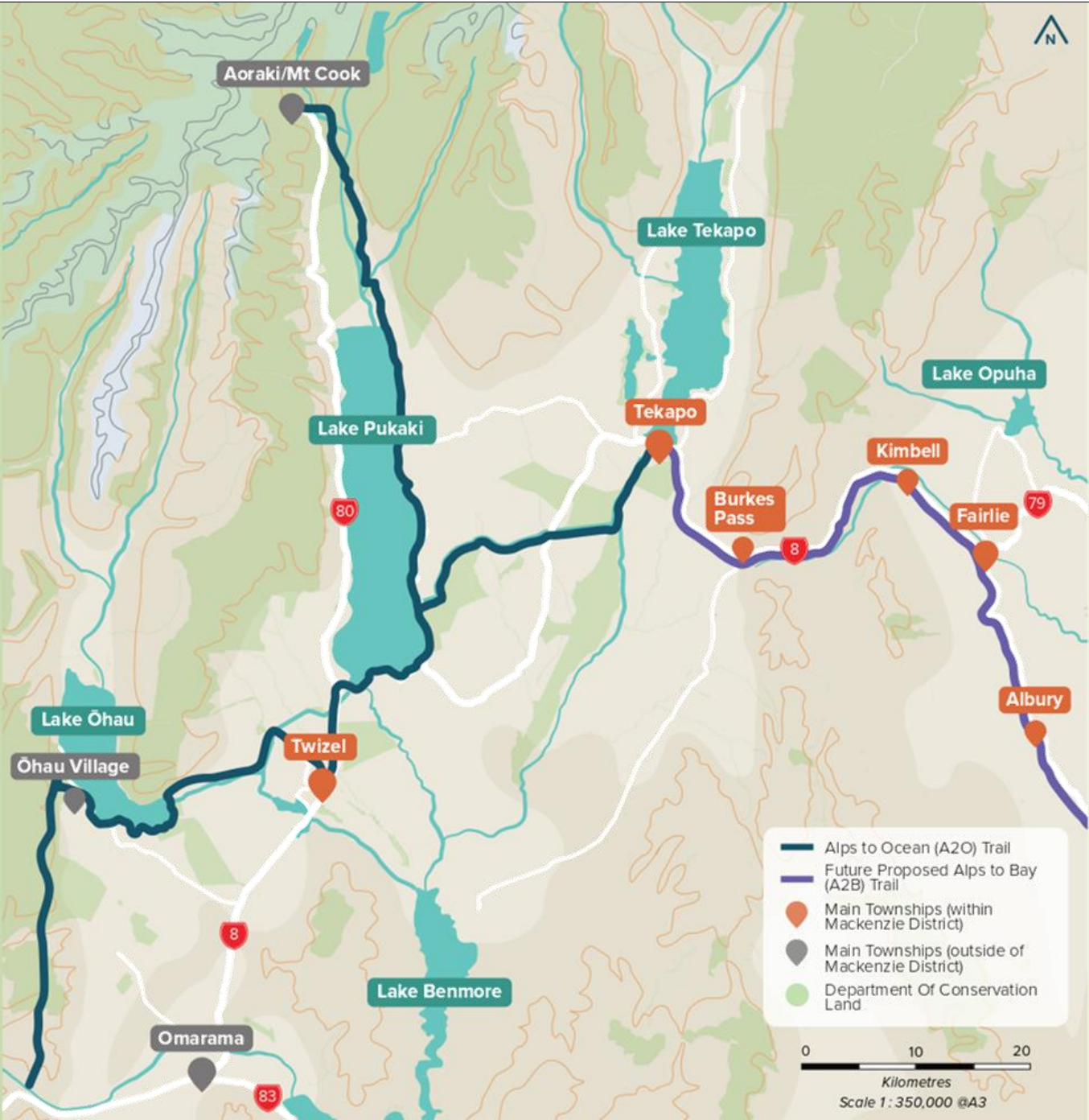
#### Partnership - Mana whenua, agencies, and community

Partners (including agencies, mana whenua and community) are empowered to be involved across the parks and open spaces network



# 1.4. Spine and Hub Model

The overall strategy for the parks and open spaces network is to create a spine and hub model which is interconnected. Each strategy provides a critical asset for the model. Trails will provide the 'spine' connections between the hubs and these will be supported by appropriate facilities (i.e., toilets, playgrounds, furniture). Each hub will provide the open spaces and facilities which enable the community and visitors to further experience the place and culture of the Mackenzie District.



## 1.5. Strategic Framework (LTP, Activity Plan) and External Influence (eg DOC, ECAN)

Underpinning the development of the Parks and Amenity Strategy are both national level strategic guidance as well as the Council's District Plan, Long Term Plan and recent Spatial Plans. The strategy document also reflects the involvement of key partners within the district (including DOC, ECAN). The plans shown below contain principles that are integral to the Parks and Amenity Strategy. The Strategy documents are informed by several relevant regional and district wide strategic documents that are either active or in development. While the Parks and Amenity Strategy are not statutory documents, they will provide a framework to inform other plans, including the MDC long term plan.

### Mackenzie District Council Long Term Plan Mission statement

- 'Fostering Our Community'

### Key Partners

- DOC || ECAN || MANA WHENUA



### Relevant Plans/ strategies

- Mackenzie Spatial Plans 2021
- Tekapo Town Centre Masterplan
- Reserves Act 1977
- Resource Management Act 1991
- Mackenzie District Plan
- Mackenzie Long Term Plan 2021-2031
- Te Manahuna Ki Uta / Destination Mackenzie

## 1.6. Current Snapshot/Demographics and Visitors

All figures shown reflect projections made prior to the Covid-19 Pandemic beginning in 2020.

District	2020	2020 - 2030*	2030	2020 - 2050*	2050
Usually resident population	4,950	161	6,561	124	9,050
Total dwellings	3,872	122	5,089	52	6,120
No. of jobs	1,876	136	3,232	69	4,618
Rating units – total SUiPs	5,151	168	6,827	70	8,223
Peak day visitor no.s	17,378	2339	40,764	1024	61,253

\* annual average growth

Reference: MDC-Growth-Projections-Full-Report

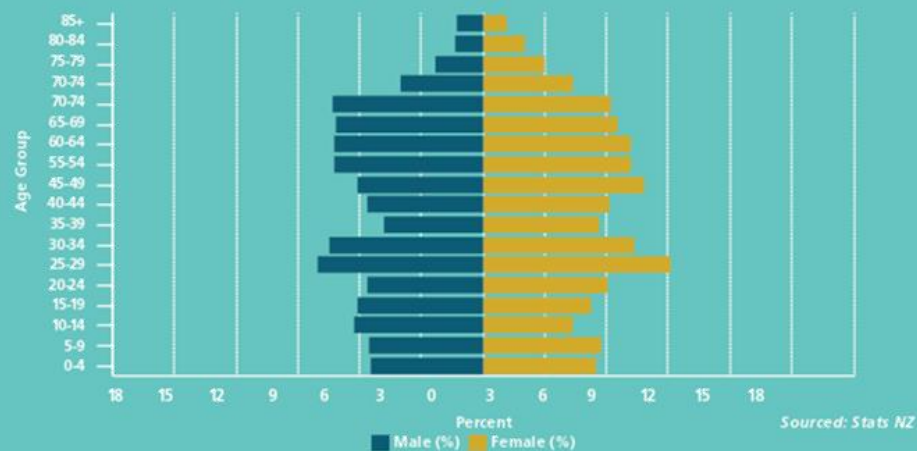


## Population statistics – Resident population

Name	Population (2020)	Projected population (2030)	Projected population (2040)	Projected population (2050)
Fairlie	895	906	910	935
Tekapo	504	1006	1240	1240
Twizel	1524	2143	3053	3395
Mackenzie Lakes	1142	1953	2374	2550
Opuā	1388	1559	1699	1812

Sourced: Mackenzie District Growth Projections 2020 August 2020. Prepared by Rationale.

## Age &amp; Sex of People in Mackenzie District, 2018 Census



## Where are International visitors going in Mackenzie?

(Mackenzie Journey Mapping - Stafford Strategy)



**50%**

travelled only to Lake Tekapo in 2019

**14%**

travelled only to Twizel in 2019

**6%**

travelled to Lake Tekapo and Twizel

**1.6%**

travelled to Fairlie only

**0.8%**

travelled to Fairlie and Twizel

## Tourism data and audit presentation

Destination Mackenzie



**67%**

Day Trips (International and Domestic)

**60%**

of domestic overnight are from Canterbury – contributes \$52m

Day visitors to Mackenzie make up **more than half** of all visitation to the region

## Accommodation Audit

Destination Mackenzie



**Over half of properties**

(by number) are holiday homes (50%)

**Largest share of rooms is provided by hotels**

(25%) compared to holiday homes (10%) despite high number of holiday homes

**Lake Tekapo** is the major hub for overnight visitors (65%)

**Tekapo is the primary accommodation hub** (almost 60% of accommodation type is holiday homes)



# 1.7. Level of Investment

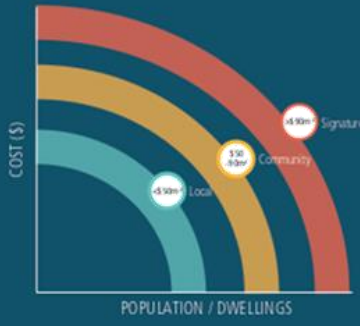
Investment in parks and open spaces will be enabled through development contributions and future MDC Long Term Plans. There is also an opportunity to explore connections with partnership organisations to gain additional funding for specific projects, however the scale of investment needs to be realistic for the Mackenzie District. Benchmarking with other recreational facilities highlights the correlation between population and representative investment.



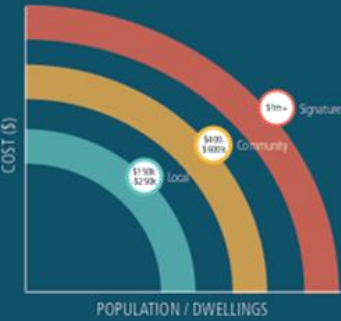
PARKS



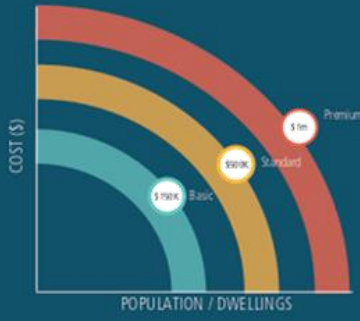
TRAILS



PLAYGROUNDS



TOILETS



The graphs highlight that a greater level of investment is common when population and rate contribution is higher. Projects should be right sized and scaled appropriately for Mackenzie District.



## 1.8. Engagement

Stakeholder and community engagement were undertaken to inform the open spaces strategy documents. Stakeholder workshops were held in both Twizel, Fairlie and Tekapo.

The aim of these workshops was to:

- I. Gain an understanding about the main barriers for recreation in the Mackenzie District
- II. Identify if the current level of service provided by the play facilities is meeting the needs of people who use them the most i.e., children and young people
- III. What is the current provision of activities?
- IV. What was the provision of facilities for community vs. visitors?

Wider community engagement took place through the online platform 'Let's Talk' where people were asked to complete a survey on their experience using the existing parks, trails, toilets and playgrounds around the district. The feedback explored what the community and visitors liked about the facilities, what they didn't like and suggestions they had to take forward into the strategies. Key themes for the specific strategies are identified within each chapter.



Image Credit: Rachel Gillespie



Timeline diagram illustrating the engagement process for the strategies:



## 1.9. Decision Making Framework

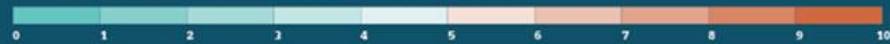
*This framework provides guidance for decision makers about what projects qualify for funding*

Does the proposal **protect or enhance the landscape and biodiversity values of the Mackenzie**?

Will the project provide a level of protection or enhancement to the drylands landscape?

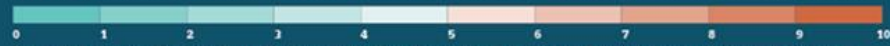


Does the proposal celebrate the unique identity of the place?

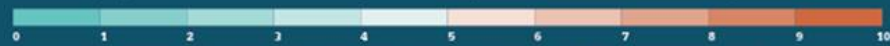


Does the proposal contribute towards enhancing the **user experience** of the Mackenzie District?

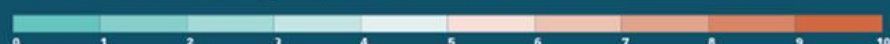
Will the proposal attract new users to a park or open space and activate the open space environment?



Does the proposal contribute to increasing the diversity of activities for the community and visitors?

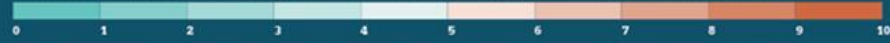


Will it contribute to completing the parks and amenities network in the Mackenzie District?

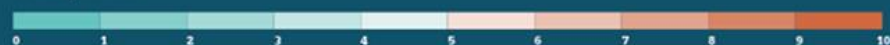


Does the proposal consider **management** and contribute to the park and recreation assets?

Does the proposal consider long term maintenance and options to undertake or fund this?

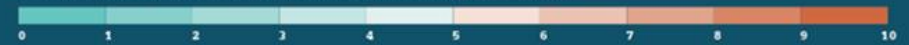


Does the proposal align with Design Guidelines and Levels of Service from strategies for new developments?



Does the proposal bridge a gap in the existing network or **enhance connectivity** to recreational destinations?

Does it provide clear and logical connections within the network?

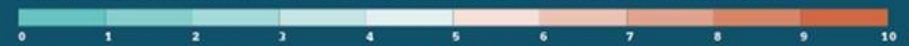


Will the proposal enhance the safety for all users?

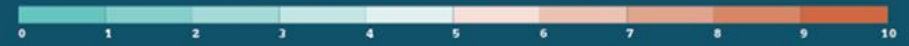


Will the proposal **build partnerships** between Mackenzie District Council and other organisations?

Is the proposal consistent with the vision and objectives of the Parks and Amenities Strategy?



Does the proposal consider the iwi connections to the kaitiaki/ landscape?



Will the proposal be delivered in partnership with another organization/ group and is there transparency and a mutual trust between organisations?

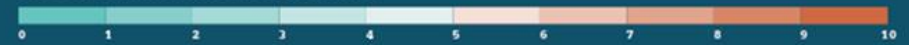
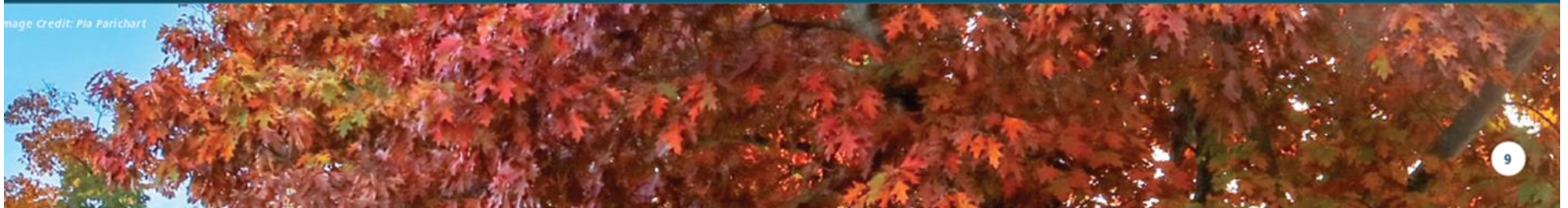


Image Credit: Pia Parichart





Draft Parks & Amenities Strategy

# Parks Strategy



# 2. Parks Strategy

## 2.1. Introduction

Mackenzie District Council (MDC) provide, manage, and protect a diverse range of open spaces across the district. These spaces provide active and passive recreational activities to the local community and visitors. This equates to a large amount of open space that requires appropriate management and investment to service the needs of the local community while providing attractive open spaces for visitors.

The framework analyses the current provision of open space and identifies opportunities to enable meeting the **future demand** of the open space network including parks, trails, playgrounds and toilet facilities. The strategy will identify an **overall vision** for the future of the open spaces, goals, objectives, policies and an **action plan** to guide council investment into these spaces. The Strategy also identifies an appropriate level of service for the provision, development, and maintenance of the open spaces network.



## 2.2. Parks and Amenities Strategic Direction

### GOAL 01

*Parks and open spaces provide vibrant and enticing spaces that enhance experiences for all ages and abilities*

#### Objectives:

- People of all ages and abilities can enjoy the Mackenzie District parks and open spaces network.
- Parks accommodate a diverse range of passive and active recreation opportunities.
- Parks and open spaces support the health and wellbeing of the community.

### GOAL 02

*Parks and open spaces reflect and celebrate the unique identity of the Mackenzie District*

#### Objectives:

- Parks and open spaces are attractive destinations that entice visitors to spend time in the Mackenzie District
- Enhance the landscape character of the Mackenzie District through selecting materials and plants that are suited to their ecological region i.e., Tekapo and Twizel 'Drylands and Fairlie 'Two Thumbs'.
- Each main centre has a distinct gateway that enhances the narrative of the Mackenzie Country
- Every park has a name

### GOAL 03

*Parks and open spaces have complementary services that are fit for purpose*

#### Objectives:

- Parks and open spaces have supporting infrastructure that is appropriately aligned to their NZRA categorization
- Parks and reserves are safe places incorporating CPTED design principles
- Parks and reserves provide information about available activities and facilities that the parks offer as well as educational/historical and cultural narrative where appropriate.

### GOAL 04

*Sustainability is a key driver in the development of our parks and open spaces*

#### Objectives:

- Materials are sourced locally where possible
- Develop a succession plan for existing planting areas to enhance the drylands character
- Form and implement consistent management standards across the district that respond to climate change
- Provide a framework for sustainable operations management of parks and open spaces.

## 2.3. The Why?

Parks are a key part of the fabric of a place, they provide an incredible range of opportunities for community amenity as well as attractions for visitors to the area. It is important that investment is made in the right spaces to provide a balance for both locals and visitors.

### Parks provide:

- Places that are open to all and promote interactions between a community.
- High-quality environment for all users to enjoy.
- Active and passive recreational opportunities for all.
- Identity and sense of place
- A balance of spaces for both the local community and attractions for visitors
- Protection of the natural environment including biodiversity and ecology
- Liveable spaces for communities
- Supports the tourism industry
- Celebration through expression of the narratives of a place
- Supports community health and wellbeing
- Spaces for community activities and events
- A park's location is crucial to enable easy access for the people that need them the most

## 2.4. Existing Context

### What we manage now?

The current state of the parks across the Mackenzie District is important to assess to identify opportunities and make recommendations that align with the aspirations of MDC and the needs of the community and visitors the parks serve.

The Mackenzie District boasts a wide range of parks and open spaces that have the potential to provide a diverse range of activities for both the community and visitors. The existing challenges experienced across the open spaces network including:

- Lack of identity given several open spaces have no distinguished naming
- Poor quality information, wayfinding and signage.
- Furniture that is outdated and of a mixed standard.
- Lack of adequate pathway connections.
- Minimal shade and shelter
- Diversity of activity

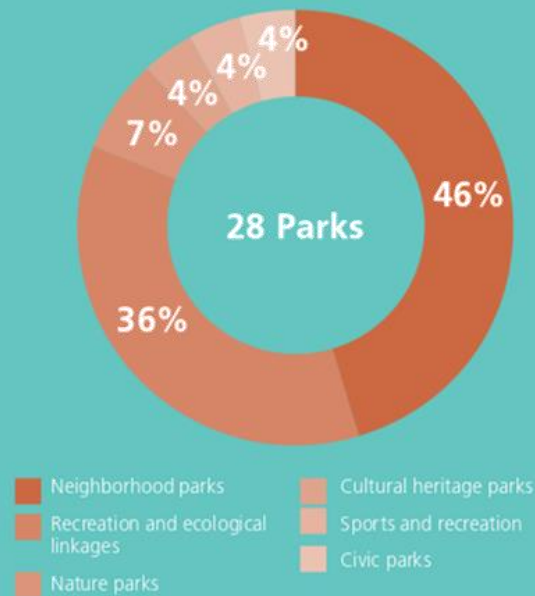
Several parks and open spaces or elements within these spaces are operated and maintained by different stakeholders (MDC, ECAN, DOC, Community groups i.e., Lions Club). These groups provide generously to the parks and open spaces network including material resources, volunteers and investment. However, a lack of collaboration and consistency between groups can often result in a mixed level of service.

### Provision and Distribution

Parks were assessed as part of this strategy across the Mackenzie District. 23 parks are in the three main towns of Fairlie, Tekapo and Twizel and five were in the smaller towns of Albury, Kimbell and Burkes Pass. Of the parks assessed, the following figures outline the percentage of provision of the different classifications of parks as outlined in the NZRA guidelines for parks.



Graph illustrating the provision of parks:



Based on the assessment of the reserves undertaken across the Mackenzie District, the provision of reserves shows a majority of neighborhood parks, and recreation and ecological linkages. These represent **key connections** provided by the Twizel and Fairlie Rivers, Lake Tekapo, Lake Ruataniwha and Lake Opuā. These rivers and lakes help form a spine and **main connection** between the **larger centres of Fairlie, Tekapo and Twizel and the smaller towns of Albury, Kimbell and Burkes Pass**. These provide for walking and cycling for connecting to the wider network and for recreational use.

Distribution of parks and reserves across the Mackenzie District

	Fairlie	Tekapo	Twizel	Albury, Kimbell and Burkes Pass
Neighborhood parks	40%	60%	31%	80%
Nature parks	20%	0%	8%	0%
Cultural heritage parks	0%	20%	0%	0%
Recreation and ecological linkages	20%	20%	54%	20%
Sports and recreation	20%	0%	0%	0%
Civic parks	0%	0%	8%	0%
<i>*all parks managed by MDC only</i>	100%	100%	100%	100%



There is a smaller portion of Nature parks, Civic Parks, Sports and Recreation Parks and Cultural Heritage Parks across all centres that potentially identify an imbalance of provision across the district to service both the community and visitors.

#### Conclusion:

- There is a lack of formal sports facilities across the centres with only Fairlie's Strathconan Park providing a facility for organized sports and competition. It is an aim of the strategy to address the balance of facilities across the main centres as outlined in the goals and objectives. This will provide facilities that will enhance the experience for all ages and abilities.
- There is a strong provision of neighborhood parks across all centres however, it is important to consider the level of service and management of these reserves to provide for the needs of the community. The strategy aims to address this through the actions and implementation plan.
- There is consistent provision of recreation and ecological linkages across all centres, with Twizel being slightly higher at 54%. This is a half of Twizel's park and open space provision. A large amount of this space is used primarily as walking and cycling connections but undeveloped for any other use. These spaces could be better utilised to enhance the experience for users and provide high amenity connections to the wider open space network and future residential developments.



## 2.5. What You Said

*Key themes from community feedback about open spaces:*

- Enhance connectivity to parks at the signature, community and local level and make them easily accessible for all
- Increase level of maintenance across all parks to provide a high-quality environment for users and a consistent management structure.
- Increase wayfinding by providing consistent signage that incorporates education, key connections, historical sites, and cultural narrative
- Parks facilities and furniture are upgraded to adapt to the changing needs of the local community and visitors.
- The identity of the Mackenzie District is celebrated in the parks and open space network.

## 2.6. Park Categories and Level of Service

The NZRA Parks Categories and Levels of Service framework (NZRA Parks Categories 2011) provides a framework for the classification of parks. These classifications help determine the level of service requirement for the parks to continue to be assets to the community.

### 1. Park Categories

The NZRA defines 8 categories for parks:



**Sports and Recreation** – parks developed for organized sport and recreation. Include facilities and buildings



**Neighborhood** – Parks for informal recreation and sporting activities, family-based, social and community activities



**Public gardens** – parks of a very high horticultural standard



**Nature** – parks that offer experience, or protection of the natural environment, coastal margins, forestry, waterbodies etc



**Cultural Heritage** – Parks that protect the cultural and historical environment, provide education, conservation, remembrance etc



**Outdoor adventure** – Parks used for recreational and sporting activities that require a large forested or peri-urban environment



**Civic** – Areas of open space adjacent to businesses, developed to provide space for social gatherings



**Recreation and Ecological Linkages** – areas of open space that are often linear in nature and provide pedestrian and cycle linkages. may provide for environmental protection, and access to waterways

### 2. Level of Service

These Level of Service Indicators are outlined below:

#### Signature:

Signature parks are open spaces that are considered 'destinations' for both the local community and visitors. These parks provide both passive and active recreational opportunities and are inclusive to all.

These parks require a high level of investment to provide a quality environment for all.

There are 4 signature parks across the Mackenzie District including:

- Fairlie Railway Park
- Takapō/Tekapo Community Parks\*
- Takapō/Tekapo Lakefront Domain
- Twizel town centre plaza

*\*Operation and management of the Takapō/Tekapo Regional Park are currently and will continue to be carried out by ECAN.*

#### Community:

Community parks are open spaces that offer a diverse range of activities for recreation and attract both the local community and visitors for events or a short time frame i.e. sporting events.

#### Local:

Local parks are spaces that are primarily used by the local community i.e. families for play, people walking their dogs etc. They may be parks that are small pocket parks in residential areas that have some play elements and furniture.

Refer to page 16 for Levels of service categories matrix



## Level of Service Standards

Feature	Signature:	Community Park:	Local Park:
<b>Location</b>	Generally located in town centres with easy access from the local retail and civic spaces	Located within townships or are a destination for people across the region and may be accessed by vehicle/ cycle/ walking	Located within townships within the local neighborhood.
<b>Access</b>	Adequate parking and bike racks are provided in proximity to the park features. Features accessible for all users i.e. elderly and impaired users Walking and cycling linkages to the wider network are provided	Some parking and bike racks are provided in proximity to the park entrances. Accessibility to some areas of the park is provided for all users. Parks within the townships provide walking and cycling linkages to the wider network	These parks are often accessed by local residents walking and cycling. Provision of bike racks in proximity to park features Accessibility to some areas of the park is provided for all users. Walking and cycling linkages to the wider network are provided
<b>Signage</b>	Wayfinding and sufficient signage so the space is legible to users Interpretation signage to highlight and celebrate the narrative of the place. Map board is provided highlighted connectivity to the wider network.	Wayfinding and sufficient signage within the space provides legibility	Wayfinding and sufficient signage within the space provides legibility
<b>Age Groups</b>	Park features meet the needs of all ages and abilities	Park features provide opportunities for several different ages and abilities	Park features meet the needs of a relevant user group
<b>Furniture</b>	High quality furniture and facilities i.e. seating, drinking fountains, playgrounds and toilets Ample seating options will be provided including some areas with shade. Litter and Recycling Bins provided Toilets located within close proximity to park entrance/ central features. All toilet facilities to have baby change facilities and have fully accessible facilities.	Consistent furniture and facilities provided i.e. seating, drinking fountains and toilets Various seating options are provided Litter bins provided Toilet facilities are provided	Seating and picnicking options are provided A litter bin is provided A toilet facility may be provided
<b>Additional Facilities</b>	Facilities such as barbeques, shelters and drinking fountains may be provided.	Facilities such as shelters and drinking fountains may be provided.	Facilities such as shelters and drinking fountains may be provided.
<b>Visual Inspection</b>	A visual inspection shall be undertaken daily to ensure features is safe, and surfaces are free from hazards (such as broken bottles)	A visual inspection shall be undertaken weekly (in urban area) or fortnightly (remote parks) to ensure features is safe, and surfaces are free from hazards (such as broken bottles)	A visual inspection shall be undertaken fortnightly to ensure features is safe, and surfaces are free from hazards (such as broken bottles)
<b>Structural Inspection</b>	A formal structural inspection shall be undertaken every six months to check all features fixings, finishes and surfaces and to undertake preventative maintenance.	A formal structural inspection shall be undertaken every six months to check all features fixings, finishes and surfaces and to undertake preventative maintenance.	A formal structural inspection shall be undertaken every twelve months to check all features fixings, finishes and surfaces and to undertake preventative maintenance.
<b>Maintenance</b>	To be maintained in "as new" condition, free from any breakages, damage or graffiti. Paint coatings to be free from chips, flaking or fading.	To be maintained in "used" condition, minimal breakages and removal of damage or graffiti.	To be maintained in "used" condition, free from any breakages, damage or graffiti.

Management Standards are based on the level of utilisation of a park and the quality of a park's development and maintenance. The Standards provide for structured framework for management standards depending on the park type.

Management Standard	Level of use	Description
Signature	High	The standard has the highest level of asset provision, using quality materials and bespoke designs. Maintenance is undertaken to the highest affordable standards, with quick response times and proactive programmed operations.
Community	Medium	This standard has a moderate level of asset provision, using robust materials and simple designs. Maintenance is undertaken to good standards, with standard response times and programmed operations.
Local	Low	This standard has the lowest level of asset provision, using robust material and simple designs. Maintenance is undertaken to the lowest acceptable standard, with longer response times and fewer programmes operations.

**Figure 2.1 Adapted from Management Standards Table (NZRA Parks Category Framework, 2017)**



## 2.7. Park Categories

Within the parks assessed, 6 of the park categories are relevant for the Mackenzie District. Each of these classifications have been explained below.

### 1. Neighborhood Parks:

#### Description:

The Neighborhood park is usually a smaller park that is in residential areas. These parks are attractive and well-maintained spaces that are easily accessible for the local community and within walking distance for residents.

The parks can range in size from approximately 1000m<sup>2</sup> up to 20,000m<sup>2</sup> and provide a range of recreational facilities to cater for users including skateparks, playgrounds, multicourts and other casual recreation activities.

Parks should provide open grassed areas that can be used for informal ball sports

Parks can include facilities like picnic tables, shelters, barbeques, and toilets. Some of the larger parks may also include buildings that can be used for community events.

#### Parks assessed under this classification:

Name of park	Location	Proposed Level of Service
Cul-de-sac reserve – Mackenzie Drive	Twizel	Local
Community Hall Reserve	Tekapo	Local
Barbara Hay Reserve	Tekapo	Local
Murray Park	Tekapo	Community
Fairlie Domain	Fairlie	Community
Fairlie Village Green	Fairlie	Signature
Burkes Pass roadside reserve	Burkes Pass	Local
Albury Hall Reserve	Albury	Local
Albury roadside reserve	Albury	Local
Kimbell Park	Kimbell	Local
Maukatua Reserve	Tekapo	Community

Signature Community Local

### 2. Nature Parks:

#### Description:

The primary purpose of a nature park is to provide a space for people to experience the natural environment or to help protect the environment.

A nature park refers to many natural areas of the environment such as wetlands, water bodies, areas of native bush, riparian areas, coastal and lake margins and forestry areas.

Due to the purpose of these parks, they usually provide activities that have a low impact on the environment such as walking and cycle trails.

#### Parks assessed under this classification:

Name of park	Location	Proposed Level of service
Nor West Arch	Twizel	Local
Pioneer Park	Fairlie	Community
Tekapo Lakeside Domain	Tekapo	Signature

Signature Community Local

18

### 3. Cultural Heritage Parks:

#### Description:

The primary purpose of a Cultural Heritage Park is to protect the built cultural environment, conserve the heritage value of a site and provide for interment and remembrance. A Cultural Heritage Park may include cemeteries, historic sites and cultural heritage features i.e. iconic churches

#### Parks assessed under this classification:

Name of park	Location	Proposed Level of Service
Tekapo Lakeside Domain	Takapō/ Tekapo	Community
Twizel Cemetery	Twizel	Local
Fairlie Cemetery	Fairlie	Local
Lake Tekapo Cemetery	Tekapo	Local
Burkes Pass Cemetery	Burkes Pas	Local

Signature Community Local

### 4. Outdoor Adventure Parks:

#### Description:

Outdoor adventure parks are large sites that are usually located on the outskirts of the urban areas. They use natural setting of the park for recreational activities including mountain biking, dirt jump parks, camping and, picnicking.

#### Parks assessed under this classification:

Name of park	Location	Proposed Level of Service
Lake Ruataniwha	Twizel	Signature
Lake Wardell	Twizel	Local
Lake Opuha	Fairlie	Community

Signature Community Local

### 5. Civic Parks:

#### Description:

Civic Space Parks are areas of open space that are adjacent to central business areas and developed to provide landscape, amenity and visual open space relief. These spaces are typically used for gathering, entertainment, relaxation, recreation and enjoyment i.e. Plazas, town squares and streetscapes.

The spaces typically have a high level of presentation and maintenance and include seating areas, soft landscaping, retail areas and can be associated with council facilities. These spaces also can provide for large public gatherings and events.

#### Parks assessed under this classification:

Name of park	Location	Proposed Level of Service
Twizel Market Place	Twizel	Signature

Signature Community Local



## 6. Recreation and Ecological Linkages

### Description:

The primary purpose of Recreation and Ecological linkages is to cater for walking and cycling linkages and active transport linkages. These spaces are often linear in form and can be associated with waterways such as rivers/ streams, lakes or old railway corridors.

Recreation and ecological linkages provide a wide range of functions including areas that may be largely unused, to more actively used areas for walking or cycling.

These Parks usually have a low level of development unless warranted. This may include tracks, furniture and signage.

### Parks assessed under this classification:

Name of park	Location	Proposed Level of Service
The alleyways/greenways	Twizel	Community
Ohau Road Reserve	Twizel	Local
River – Fraser Stream, Twizel River	Twizel	Local
Mackenzie Drive Reserve	Twizel	Local
Road reserve state highway and Glen Lyon	Twizel	Local
Manmade Hill	Twizel	Local
Lake Opuha	Fairlie	Local
Kimbell Park	Kimbell	Local

Community Local

## 7. Sports and Recreation

### Description:

The primary purpose of sport and recreation parks is to be used for organized sport and recreation. These parks are often multipurpose and provide for a range of community activities and facilities.

The parks likely have maintained sports turf that can be used for both winter and summer sports.

Facilities of these parks may include changing facilities, toilets and parking provision.

### Parks assessed under this classification:

Name of park	Location	Proposed Level of Service
Strathconan Park	Fairlie	Community

Community Local



## 2.8. Recommendations

### Recommendations are described for parks and open spaces:

1. All plant species will be selected based on their ecological region and will enhance the landscape character of the Mackenzie District.
2. Establish a distinct gateway at each main centre that enhances the narrative of the Mackenzie Country
3. Provide a consistent suite of materials and furniture, across the Mackenzie District that reflect the identity of each place
4. Provide signage in all reserves including information about activities and facilities the parks offer as well as educational information about cultural and historical narratives
5. Parks accommodate a diverse range of passive and active recreation opportunities
6. Provide equipment and furniture that is accessible for users
7. Provide facilities that are close to activities i.e. toilets, drinking fountains, rubbish bins located near playgrounds
8. To establish a safe and attractive open space network parks and open spaces should integrate CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) principles into future design interventions i.e. placement of toilets, seating, landscaping, pedestrian scale lighting
9. Actively engage and seek out partnership opportunities with organisations to co-ordinate future park and amenity opportunities
10. Provide consistency and coordination of management standards between organisations to improve on the quality across the recreation facilities
11. Management of parks in accordance with NZRA categories
12. Create Reserve Management Plans for all parks to guide appropriate use and development
13. Provide support of community-led initiatives through leadership and project management
14. Provide wayfinding signage in parks that identify the location of other parks, playgrounds and cycle/walking networks that surround
15. Enhancing accessibility where possible
16. Celebrate the cultural narrative of the Mackenzie District through education and integration into open space
17. Have conversations with local Iwi on a project by project basis to enhance presence of the cultural heritage through parks and open spaces

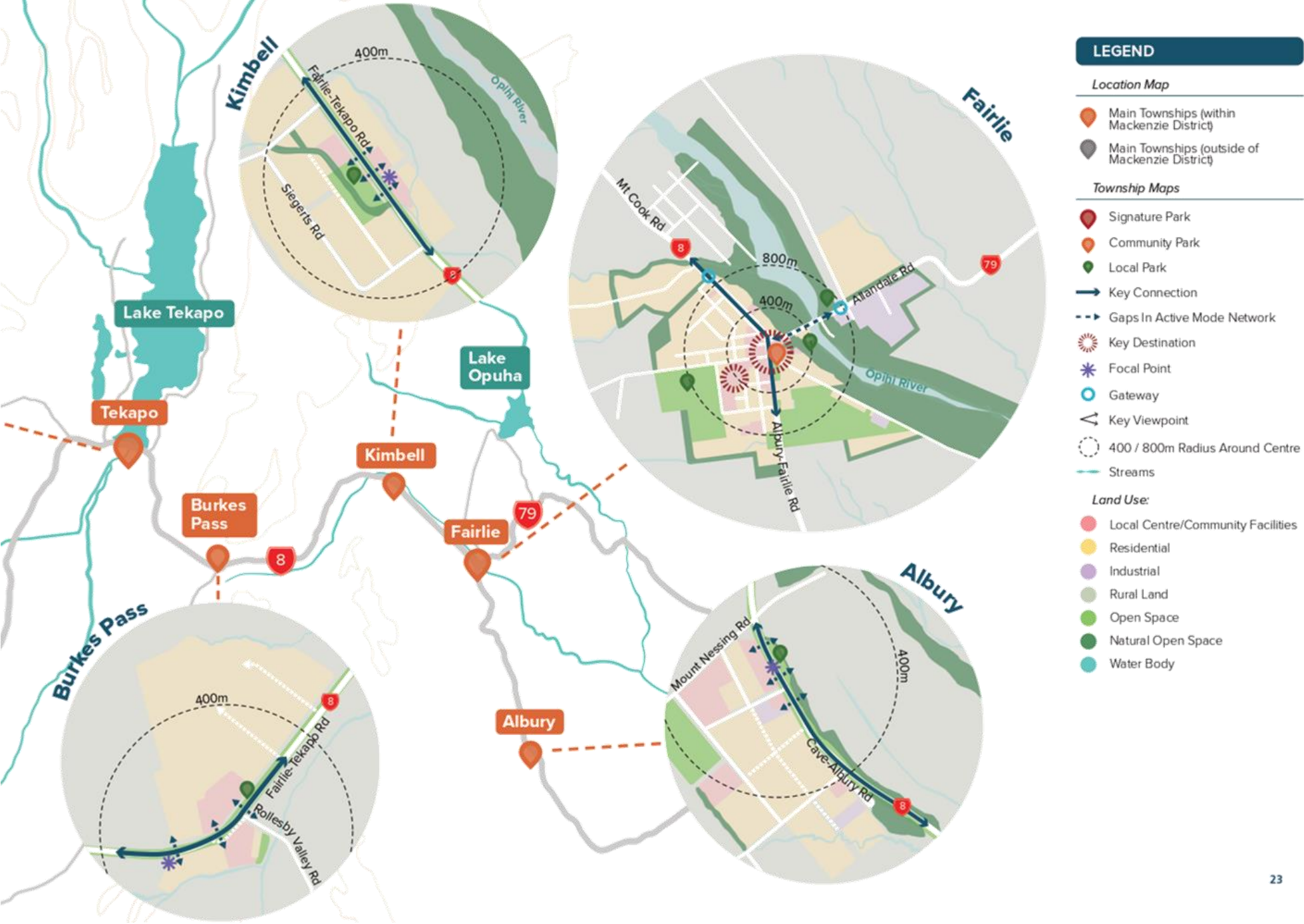


## Parks

The parks and open spaces network provides a variety of spaces that offer both active and passive recreation opportunities for the community and visitors. These maps highlight the existing network in three categories including signature/destination, community and local parks. Each category provides for a different level of amenity and a variety of different uses for the space. Each town has a focal signature park which forms part of the overall spine and hub model.

It is in the larger centres that the signature/destination parks offer the highest of amenity value and experiences for a variety of users. They provide close connection to the natural landscapes that surrounds them i.e. Lake Ruataniwha or Lake Tekapo. In all centres the natural environment or ecological corridors provide both valuable open space and opportunities to develop greater amenity over time. In the smaller townships of Albury, Kimbell and Burkes Pass, corridors of open space could also provide a local connection to the future Alps to Bay cycleway. As well as the reserve categories, the map identifies key gaps in the network that prevent the open spaces being utilized at their full potential. It also highlights undeveloped spaces that provide an opportunity for further development of the network.







# Draft Parks & Amenities Strategy

## Trails Strategy



# 3. Trails Strategy

## 3.1. Introduction

The Mackenzie District has an extensive network of walking and cycling trails. The trails allow people to experience the iconic landscapes of the Mackenzie District and are an attraction for both domestic and international tourists.

Walking and cycling networks, which include trails, footpaths, and shared paths, are **essential infrastructure** to support **healthy, sustainable, and connected communities**. While the Alps to Ocean cycle trail is a destination trail that begins in the district, the area is better renowned for its walking trails.

Mackenzie District Council (MDC), in partnership with several trail operators including volunteer organisations, has over 550km of walking and cycling trails within its jurisdiction.

Community insights, industry best practice, and on-site assessments have informed the direction for this trail strategy.

This strategy highlights the benefits and opportunities in providing a trail network that is connected, accessible, and supported by high quality infrastructure. Using this strategy, along with the recommended open spaces implementation programme, will support walking and cycling networks across the Mackenzie.



## 3.2. Trails Strategic Direction

### GOAL 01

#### Trails are safe, enjoyable, and accessible

- A variety of trail grades are provided near each town, to cater for a range of abilities (easy to hard) and uses (general recreation, commuting, tourism, and sightseeing)

### GOAL 02

#### The trail network provides an enriched journey experience

- All signature trails across the district have opportunities for cultural, ecological, and historical education. Identify locations for all signage, information boards or creative art on all existing trails by 2030
- Trails are supported by quality infrastructure such as toilets, shelters, parking, fencing and gates

### GOAL 03

#### Trail development is sensitive to surrounding environment

- Trail construction materials (aggregate, timber etc) is locally sourced and reflect are the unique characteristics of the landscape
- Trail networks provide opportunities for conservation to regenerate ecosystems and biodiversity

### GOAL 04

#### Trails provide seamless, continuous, and intuitive journeys

- All signature and community trails have a wayfinding plan (trail names, path markings, signage) that ensures seamless navigation by those unfamiliar with the trail network.
- All town centres advertise the main trail network in prominent physical and digital locations
- All recreational walking and cycling trails are advertised on Canterbury's regional tourism organisation website
- Prioritise trail development that creates safe connections and removes gaps in the existing trail network

### GOAL 05

#### MDC partner with agencies and local community groups to enable, harness and support development and operational inputs to trails

- A quarterly meeting between Mackenzie District Council and trail operators is established that allows funding, operational, and management issues to be discussed
- Trail operator groups provide input to annual plan and long term plan funding arrangements
- A maintenance and management framework helps operators meet agreed levels of service across the trail network
- Leverage partner organisation resources to enable support for trail development

### GOAL 06

#### Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi are adhered to when developing existing and new trails with respect for kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and manaakitanga (hospitality)

- Consultation with local iwi groups is mandatory during the preliminary stage of any new trail development or network expansion for all trail operators
- Traditional trails and networks forged over time are recognised as the precursor to contemporary walking and cycling trail networks

### 3.3. The Why?

Trails provide an essential connection to the environment and offer opportunities to engage more deeply with the landscape and the wider community. Walking and cycling trips are often undertaken for a variety of reasons including recreation, physical and mental health, neighborhood cycling, commuting for school and work, and cycle touring.

The walking and cycling network is incredibly important to local residents. It enables **community connection**, **resilience**, and allows younger people freedom of **movement** independent of their parents. A walking and cycling network is essential for any healthy population of people.

The trail network also serves an **economic function** attracting domestic and international tourists. The Mackenzie is lucky enough to have **two internationally renowned trails** – The Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail® and Te Araroa – winding their way through the district.

Trail use is increasing throughout the district for both residents and visitors alike. New technology, such as E-bikes, have **enabled different demographics** to access what were once considered inaccessible places. Demand continues to grow for exceptional recreational assets and a network that supports and **enables walking and cycling**. It has never been more important to invest in the trail network and its role in **creating and connecting open spaces**.



Image Credit: Hollie Woodhouse

### 3.4. Existing Context

#### Walking and cycling trails in the Mackenzie

This strategy identifies key nodes, existing network gaps and opportunities to support the growth and development of the trail network in the Mackenzie.

Trails in the Mackenzie District serve an active resident population and are used for a variety of different purposes such as recreation, commuting, and general neighborhood cycling. The trails are also used by domestic and international tourists for exploring the area, cycle touring and sports events.

There are also notable walking and cycling trails that attract visitors at a national and international scale such as Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail and Te Araroa trail. There are **over 550km of walking and cycling trails** located in the Mackenzie as shown in Figure 3.3. This assessment has identified **25 named trails across the district.**

- Mackenzie District Council is also the gateway to the nationally significant Aoraki / Mount Cook National Park (trails in this area are excluded from the strategy and are covered in the Aoraki/ Mount Cook National Park Management Plan )

- Trails are developed, governed and managed by a wide number of groups including DOC, ECAN, Te Araroa Trust, Governance by WDC/MDC, Tekapo Trails Society, Fairlie Lions among many others

Trail use is increasing throughout the district for both residents and visitors although there is a lack of quantitative data on most trails.

- The Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail has year on year growth and is increasing despite international travel restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic
- Tekapo Trails Society established in 2016 is dedicated to promoting and building accessible cycling and walking trails in the Lake Tekapo area
- There is a predominance of walking specific trails in the Mackenzie District as shown in Figure 4
- E-bikes have also enabled older groups of people to access the trail network

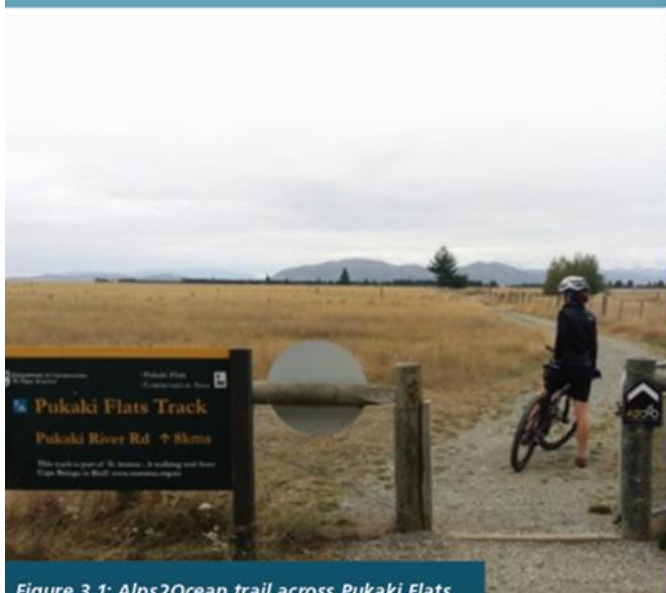
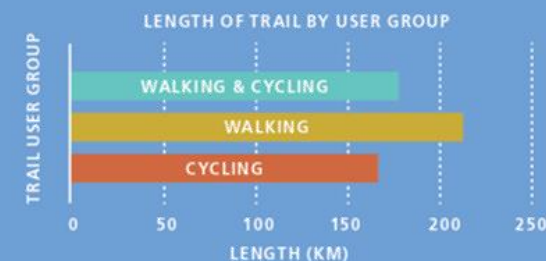


Figure 3.1: Alps2Ocean trail across Pukaki Flats

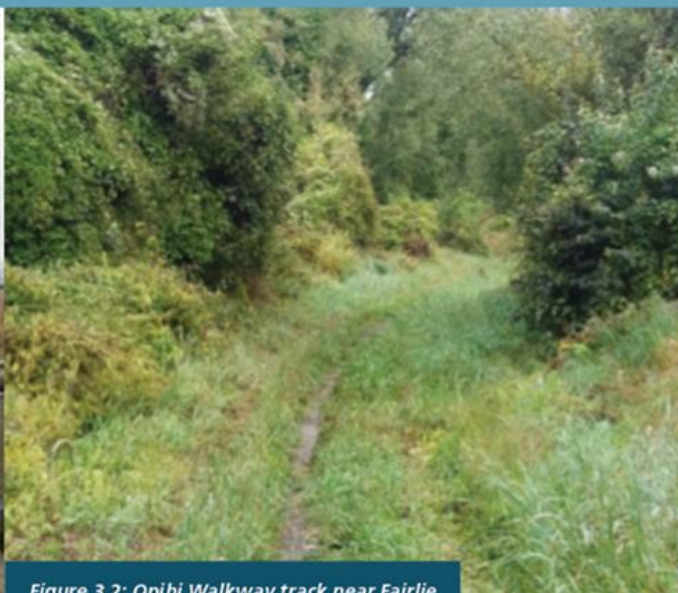


Figure 3.2: Onihi Walkway track near Fairlie



### 3.5. NZ Cycle Trails and the Alps 2 Ocean

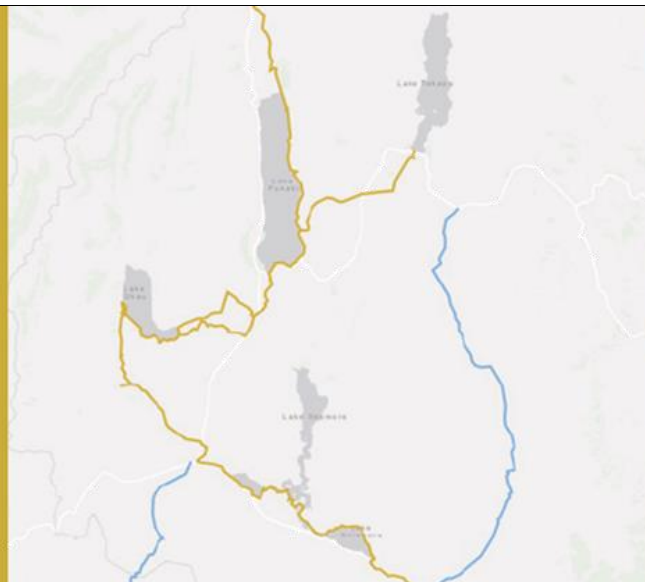
Nga Haeranga/ NZ Cycle Trails website, funded by MBIE, is Aotearoa's most comprehensive database of cycle trails. It includes Great Rides, Heartland Rides, Connector Rides and Bike Packing Routes.

**Mackenzie District Council has two routes listed on the database:**

- Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail – Great Ride
- Alps 2 Hakatamea Loop – Heartland Ride / Bikepacking Route

Mackenzie District Council are committed to the long term investment in the Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail in recognition of the Trail being a significant driver for domestic tourists visiting the district. Achieving a cycle trail that is fully off-road remains a key objective for Alps 2 Ocean management.

There is potential in the longer term to develop the Alps 2 Hakatamea Loop, upgrading it to a Great Ride. Other options may qualify for Heartland Ride and Connector Ride status."



*Figure 3 4: NZ Cycle Trails map showing routes in the Mackenzie District*



### 3.6. What You Said

Key themes from community feedback about open spaces:

#### Trails provide opportunities to connect

- places to socialise, strengthen and grow community resilience
- accessible and safe for everyone including children and older people
- provide active transport routes and safe networks for residents
- connect towns and communities both within the townships and between townships.

#### Opportunities to engage with communities and the landscape

- opportunities to grow awareness and understanding of nature which can help protect landscapes, ecological values, and biodiversity
- destinations for visitors and tourists and are an asset for tourism and events
- places for active engagement such as recreation and play as well as passive enjoyment

#### Opportunities to explore and learn about the Mackenzie District

- provide opportunities to learn about the Maori and Pakeha history which provides cultural wellbeing and identity



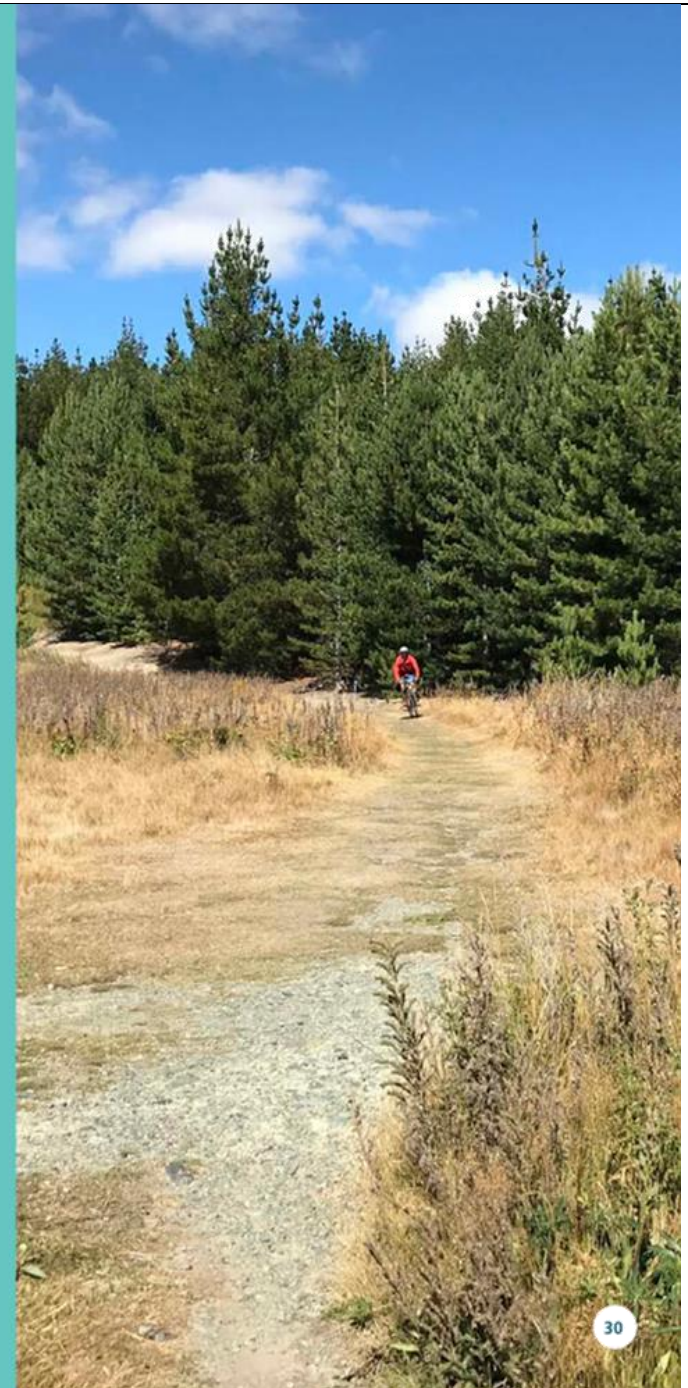
### 3.7. Design Guidelines for Development

#### Key standards for trail design and maintenance

The existing trails throughout the Mackenzie District are managed, operated, maintained, and monitored by a range of different organisations and community groups. While this has led to the creation of some exceptional trail developments, other trails have been left to deteriorate.

New Zealand has a suite of trail design and management guidance for walking and cycling trails. The standards applied in these guidelines should be used to set a benchmark for the Mackenzie District trails network. The key relevant standards include:

- NZ Cycle Trail Design Guide (5th Edition, August 2019)
- NZS 4121:2001 Design for access and mobility
- AS/NZS 1170 Structural design actions
- Standards New Zealand HB 8630:2004 NZ Handbook for Tracks and Outdoor Visitor Structures
- Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) standards



## 3.8. Trails Level of Service

### Level of service description for trails

Trail level of service can be defined as the quality of the experience by someone using a trail. It is usually defined by several key factors including trail design, operation, and maintenance as well as the level of supporting infrastructure a trail receives. Three different levels of service have been defined below that will help inform funding decisions in relation to the trail network. Key indicators of level of service have been expanded on in Table 1.






**Signature** – trails are nationally significant and attract domestic and international tourists to walk and ride. Trails have significant supporting infrastructure such as shelters, toilets, excellent wayfinding and are exceptional at highlighting the unique features of the local environment e.g. Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail and Te Araroa



**Community** – trails that provide exceptional recreation and sightseeing opportunities for local community, and visitors e.g. Cowan's Hill walkways



**Local** – trails are used daily by residents for daily recreation, commuting, exercise, and transport needs

Level of service key indicator	 <b>Signature</b>	 <b>Community</b>	 <b>Local</b>
Cultural and environmental engagement	Trails deliver a rich narrative through signage and art that adds to cultural wellbeing and identity	Some signage may exist which adds to the cultural and environmental identity of the Mackenzie District	Location specific signage in some locations that adds to people's cultural experience as they explore the trail network
Trail design specifications	Design specifications meet NZCT or DOC trail standards for the entire length of the trail	The trail meets the moderate quality level track standards as outlined in the Standards NZ HB 8630:2004 Tracks and Outdoor Visitor Structures	The trail meets the more basic quality level track standards as outlined in the Standards NZ HB 8630:2004 Tracks and Outdoor Visitor Structures. These trails provide access in harder to reach places and therefore may restrict some users.
Supporting facilities • Toilets, Rest areas, Water supplies, Shelter, Wayfinding, Car parking facilities and transport links	All facilities will be considered in order to provide a high level of supporting facilities that create a seamless experience for walking and cycling	Wayfinding signs are a priority however, seating and other facilities may not be provided	Facilities provided as required (use dependent)

## 3.9. Monitoring and Performance Indicators

### Monitoring the performance of the trail network is important to:

- Ensure that investment in the trail network is achieving the objectives set out within this strategy
- Provide tangible evidence for future funding decisions for Mackenzie District Council and potential investment partners such as ECan or Waka Kotahi
- Better understand trail use so that operational and maintenance requirements can be planned for with a greater degree of accuracy

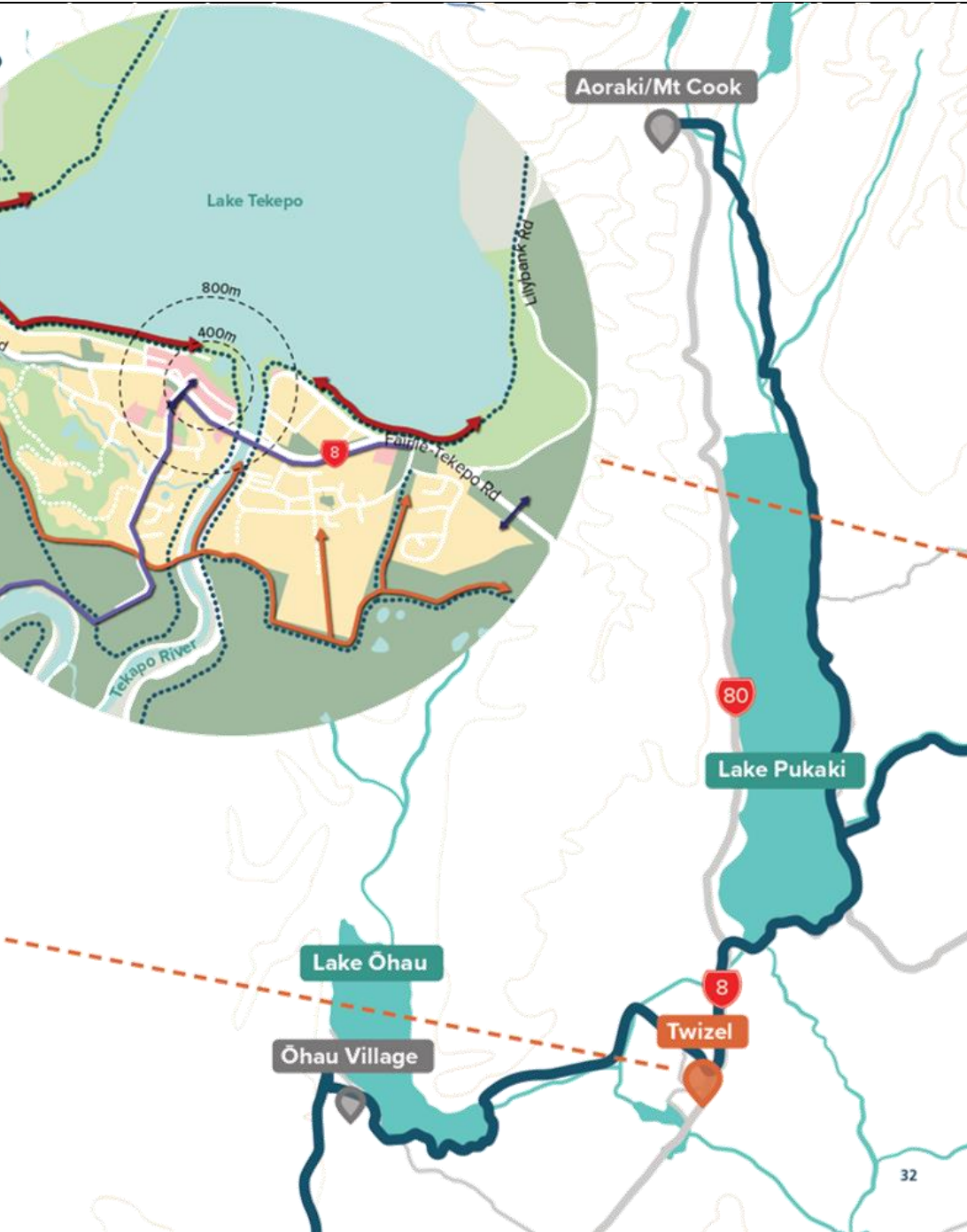
Monitoring will be based around checking the progress being made towards the targets set for these outcomes. It is important to use meaningful measures of success such as the numbers of people choosing to walk and cycle, the safety of walking and cycling, and people's satisfaction levels.

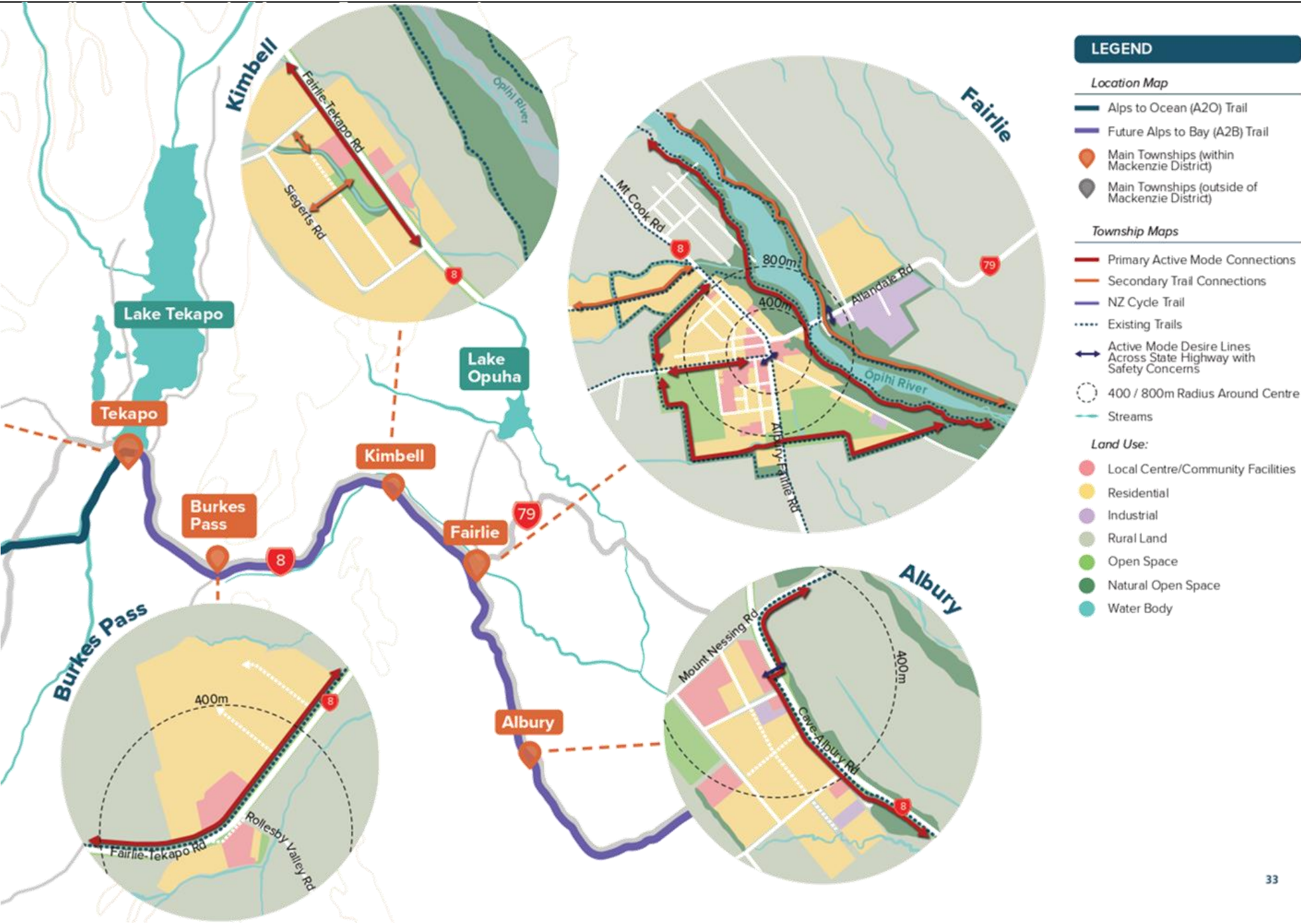
There are a variety of existing data sources that can be used to measure progress against the outcomes sought in this strategy. These include:

- Proportion of people walking and cycling to work as given in the Census, every five years
- Survey of school cyclists to determine numbers cycling and origin.
- Council's annual residents' satisfaction survey or other future surveys will give information on levels of satisfaction with cycling in the Mackenzie.
- Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail counters – these counters serve as a reliable proxy for measuring recreational and tourism based trips in the area.

Trails

The existing trail network is centered around the existing Alps to Ocean cycle trail which connects Mt Cook to Oamaru via Twizel. The new 'alternative start point' at Tekapo has strengthened the cycleway spine through the district. The future Alps to Bay cycleway would establish a destination trail throughout the whole district connecting every township. To build on the overall spine – at each hub the network should be strengthened to encourage more exploring of the townships by visitors as well as enhancing opportunities for walking and cycling for the local community. These maps highlight possible primary routes within the townships that provide routes that will encourage active mode transport use. Secondary routes expand the networks within the hubs by providing further connections to key destinations or creating recreational loops for residents.





A man wearing a red jacket, blue shorts, and a white helmet is standing next to a black bicycle. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a vast, open landscape with rolling hills, a line of trees, and distant mountains under a blue sky with scattered clouds. The scene is captured in a wide-angle shot, emphasizing the natural beauty of the area.

### 3.10. Recommendations and Other Worthwhile Pursuits

- A business case is being prepared in 2022 to identify the project work required to fully off-road the Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail to complete the development and create a world class cycle trail. This will be submitted to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment to be considered for joint funding of this work. One of the high priority projects is at East Pukaki and will create an off-road trail to avoid cyclists current use of Hayman Road. This is now a shovel ready project waiting for funding.
- Another section of the Alps 2 Ocean, Twizel to Ohau weir is also earmarked for development of a segregated trail rather than sharing the road as at present. This project is in the early planning phase.
- There is an opportunity for Mackenzie District Council to employ a **trail development manager** for the next 3-5 years. Their mandate will be to work internally with the council and alongside partner organisations to develop and grow the walking and cycling network within the Mackenzie District.
- Advertise **Expression of Interest** for community based walking and cycling organisations to help create and develop local trails and foster participation. This should only happen where there are no such groups already operating.
- Enabling organisations / trusts (where they exist) to enhance and develop trails over time. MDC needs to work more closely with these groups providing direction and support (resources financial or otherwise when needed)
- Investigate a District Plan change that will require developers to produce a local walking and cycle network plan as part of new subdivisions and to install cycle facilities for staff and customers
- Take opportunities to provide connecting paths within and between subdivisions, notably where linear open space is required to accommodate underground services and through parks and reserves where appropriate
- Ensure there is dedicated funding for local walking and cycling connections in all annual management plans and long term plans
- Although outside the scope of this strategy, **removal of on-street car parking in town centres** will help to create a much safer, and enjoyable environment for walking and cycling.
- **Speed limits in town centres** and along roads with well-used walking and cycling trails should also be reviewed to ensure they are in line with safe system thresholds



Draft Parks & Amenities Strategy

# Play Strategy



# 4. Play Strategy

## 4.1. Introduction

**Play is a fundamental human right. The United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child states that every child "shall have full opportunity for play and recreation, which should be directed to the same purposes as education; society and the public authorities shall endeavor to promote the enjoyment of this right."**

Our Council can support this right by providing playgrounds that enable children to develop, learn, grow and have fun. Playgrounds can also help promote and sustain communities where they become a visitor attraction in their own right.

Mackenzie District Council (MDC) manage a small network of eight playgrounds and two skate parks to provide play opportunities for young people across the district. Playgrounds are expensive assets therefore their level of provision, distribution and play value needs to be well considered. The district has a high rate of play space provision for its resident population but this is balanced out when viewed in the wider context of demand from holiday home users and very high levels of visitors.

Community views, industry best practice and on-site assessments are combined to help formulate this strategy which will provide a strategic direction for play spaces over the next ten years.

Implementing the recommendations and action plan outlined, guided by the design guidelines and levels of service, will ensure there is the best, most cost-effective playground network for children and young people across the district. By contributing to quality recreation spaces this will in turn support the identity, health, cohesion and resilience of the district's communities.



## 4.2. Play Strategic Direction

### GOAL 01

#### Play spaces meet the local need

- They are in the right location and level of service to match the catchment area, current demand and planned growth.

### GOAL 02

#### Enhance play experiences

- To provide play spaces that enable children to have fun, be challenged and learn from their play experiences.
- The playground network is inclusive, catering to all ages and abilities.
- Play spaces will support the health and wellbeing of the community.

### GOAL 03

#### Play spaces to attract visitors

- Destination playgrounds are creative, highly appealing and their popularity encourages visitors to stay, supporting the local economy.
- These spaces will be unique to each town with themes that reflect our place and tell our stories.



### 4.3. The Why

Children love to play and now more than ever we need them to be active and outdoors whenever they can. Learning through play also assists a child's development in the following areas:



**Social**



**Physical**



**Intellectual**



**Creative**



**Emotional**

A play space (playground or skate facility) is provided by councils (also schools and other agencies) as an opportunity for a free, fun, outdoors physical activity for all young people and encourages active use of council parks. Children will use the playgrounds in a self-directed way, challenging them physically and mentally, and providing a place to connect with others. Caregivers may also get involved or be passive spectators enjoying time out from home and work, therefore, their needs should be considered also. Ideally a playground will encompass three or more pieces of play equipment with safety surfacing, good access paths and ancillary facilities that combine to make a visit stimulating, fun and agreeable for all.



### 4.4. Existing Context

It is important to understand the current state of our existing playground network to make recommendations and identify opportunities to ensure they are providing for the communities and visitors they serve in the future.

#### Provision and Distribution

Mackenzie District has eight playgrounds and two skate parks located within the three main towns of Fairlie, Tekapo and Twizel. Fairlie and Twizel townships have two playgrounds and one skate park each while Tekapo has four playgrounds only. On top of this, school playgrounds are generally open for public use outside school hours.

The District has 12.5 playgrounds per 1,000 children (0-14 years) which is significantly higher than the national median of 4.8.<sup>[1]</sup> This Yardstick data provided measures the number of playgrounds within a council boundary against the number of **resident** children under the age of 15 (taken from the latest, 2018 census). This high ratio mainly reflects the District's low and sparse resident population and the high number of holiday homes – of the private dwellings counted in the last census there were 2,031 occupied and 1,485 unoccupied. Also tourist visitation is high, relative to the size of its resident population, Mackenzie district had the most guests staying with 173 guest nights for each resident<sup>[2]</sup>. This wider context needs to be considered when looking at the level of provision for play spaces.

[1] Yardstick Member Survey 2020

[2] "Guest nights star in Mackenzie district" Stats NZ press release 14 November 2019



## Twizel

Twizel has a central playground in the Market Place surrounded in part by retail and food outlets/cafes. There are multiple access paths to the playground, however there is limited space for future growth of the play area. Twizel has seen significant residential housing growth to the west of the town centre and this area is poorly serviced by play opportunities for young people. Currently there are two old-style swing sets at Lake Ruataniwha lagoon, which are of limited play value. A proposal has been put forward for an adventure playground in the area between the lagoon and the Rowing Centre. The community indicated they were supportive of further developing this area for recreational activities for locals and to encourage visitors to spend longer in town. Twizel has an older skatepark in the reserve area behind the Events Centre.

## Lake Tekapo

The playground on Tekapo's lakefront is a good central location allowing for easy access on foot, via bicycle and by vehicle. Once the waterfront development is completed, with further landscaping and improved walking and cycling linkages made, this playground will be part of an outstanding premier waterfront park. At this stage it feels incomplete but has potential to be a much-loved local asset and attraction for visitors. The Lakeside Drive playground is out of the main residential area but does service the campground, localised passive recreation and is enroute to the hot pools/ice skating and popular walking tracks. There is a new 48 section subdivision, Station Bay, behind the campground which will create additional demand.

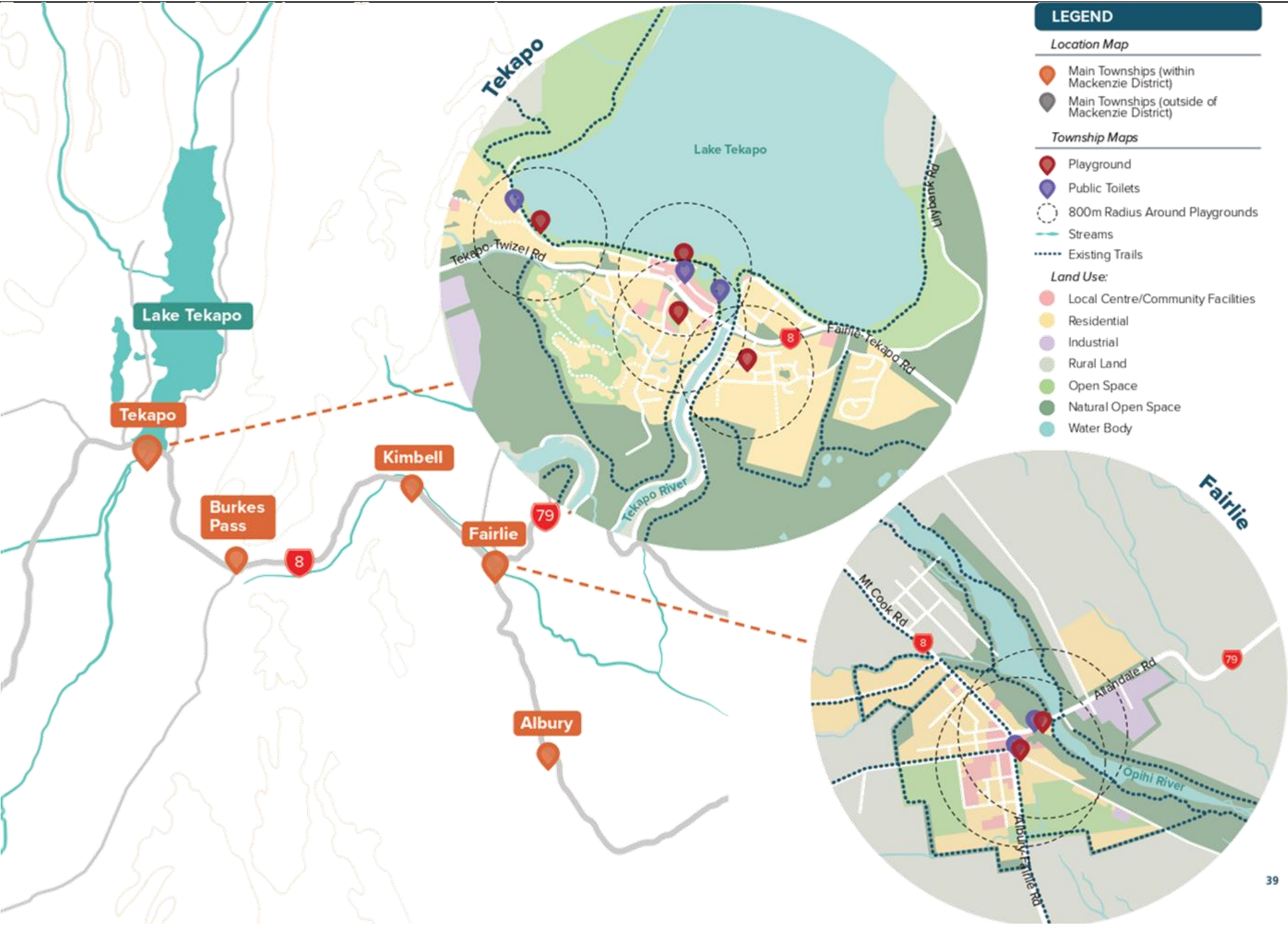
Scott Street playground is located on a small neighborhood park and with significant growth to the east may not be in the best location to service this side of the river. The Tekapo Community Hall playground consists of one swing set which has limited play value but is a good general location to support community events. The D'archiac Reserve is being developed at the start of D'archiac Drive and offers another site option alternate to the Community Hall. There is no skate park in Tekapo.

## Fairlie

In Fairlie, the Village Green and Domain playgrounds are in close proximity and to some extent a duplication of facilities. The Village Green is the more popular being in a central location and highly visible it attracts more frequent use by traveling families. A new skate park has been added alongside making this a busy play area.

The playground at the domain is the larger of the two, has had new play equipment added however the scale does not reflect the use. The domain is an attractive park with established trees and lends itself to having some play equipment here. It is no doubt a treasured park for locals however undiscovered by visitors.





### 4.5. Performance & Quality

An assessment of the performance and condition of the eight playgrounds was undertaken using a playground assessment tool developed by Xyst. It was developed using current best practice playground design guidelines and principles from Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

A wide range of features were assessed including security, accessibility, inclusivity for all ages and abilities, play value, condition and associated facilities (toilets, shade, rubbish bins, seating, drink fountains, etc).

#### Assessment Summary

An overall score has been assigned to each playground and skate park from this assessment and the scores ranged from **46% to 75%** as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Mackenzie District Playground and Skate Park Assessment Score

Below **65%** is considered to be poor scoring, **65-75%** an average score and above **75%** is where Council should be aiming to achieve for all playgrounds. The areas where Mackenzie District playgrounds scored poorly are outlined below:

#### Play Value

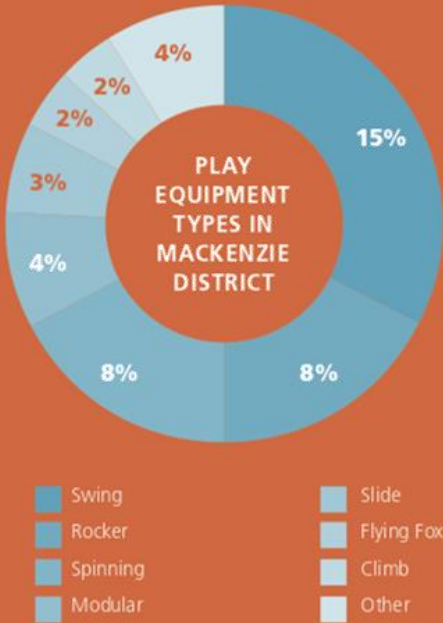
We want the playgrounds to be as engaging as possible for children and to optimise a variety of play experiences which involve movement, physical challenge, imbues cooperation, allows creativity and imagination. Mackenzie’s playgrounds score low to moderate in this area.



Figure 2: Play Value Assessment Score



**Figure 3** shows the various types of play equipment across the network. There is a dominance of swing sets, also a lot of rocking and spinning items, and climbing structures are the least utilised. It is also noted there is no sand, water or nature play which is surprising given the surrounding natural environment. A more even spread of play equipment types within towns and more modular or climbing items where imaginative play can take place would ensure they maintain children’s interest and increase play value.



**Figure 3: Proportion of different play equipment types across the district’s playground network**

**Inclusiveness and Age Range**

Ideally playgrounds in a community will cater to play needs of different ages. The assessment found the district’s playgrounds have less items for toddlers<sup>[1]</sup>; a noticeable gap for rural communities where there may be less formalised early childhood education opportunities. Playgroups often may wish to utilise the public playgrounds or caregivers may seek to meet others there with young children.

The entire network scored poorly for play equipment that could be used by children with disabilities. Within New Zealand 25% of people are limited by a physical, sensory, learning, mental health or other impairment<sup>[2]</sup> and it is important to provide play opportunities for all.

**Site Design**

Visibility at playgrounds, to support a sense of safety, was good although the Fairlie Domain playground is obscured to some extent. There was limited landscaping throughout therefore there is plenty of scope to improve for amenity and play value. There were a number of play sites which scored poorly for ease of access and included barriers such as steps or raised edging for the playground surfacing.

**Associated Facilities**

Shade provision is poor and currently only the Lake Ruataniwha playground has shade from surrounding pine trees. Seating for both caregivers and children is provided at some play spaces but could be improved and this would support family use and keeping community connections strong.

**Skate Parks**

The Fairlie skate park, completed in 2021, has added a popular play asset to the central Village Green reserve. The assessment (with an overall score of 75%) identified the park provides a good range of features or elements for skaters and meets the needs of different skills and age levels. It was noted that seating for supervising adults or for young people to sit and socialise were lacking.

In Twizel, the skate park was developed in 2000 and is now looking outdated with an overall performance and condition score of 63%. Although of moderate size it compares poorly with other more modern skate parks for range of features and meeting the needs of different skills making it less enticing for users.

**[1] Age groups in the assessment tool were: 0-4 years, 5-9 years and 10-13 years**

**[2] New Zealand Disability Survey 2013**



## 4.6. What you said

Through the community stakeholder workshops and the online 'Let's Talk' portal, feedback was received on the following areas for play spaces in the Mackenzie District.

### *Key themes for play spaces were:*

- The Mackenzie playgrounds were thought to be inferior. Several respondents were seeking better playgrounds which encompassed more enticing, creative play equipment and improved associated facilities (more planting, shade and seating). There was an emphasis on good quality facilities that would attract more visitors.
- Feedback received indicated that more inclusive playgrounds which catered to all ages and abilities were desired.
- There were some safety concerns regarding road hazards adjacent to playgrounds and a desire for fencing at Fairlie Village Green and the Twizel playground.



## 4.7. Design Guidelines for Development

Any playground development must comply with the NZ Standard in Playground Safety NZS 5828: 2015 and, although not legally required, it is considered necessary for the provision of safe playgrounds. All new playgrounds and improvement/renewal efforts toward existing playgrounds should strive to meet the following guidelines where practical:

Element	Guidelines
Designed for the site	Playgrounds should be developed where they work with the terrain. Natural features should be incorporated into the design where possible.
Involvement of children and young people	Local children and young people should be consulted and participate actively in the design and development process.
Character	The play space should be enticing to play and an attractive place in its own right. Ideally the playground should reflect the local community, their values and the environment. Landscape design and artistic features may also deliver this and can provide further natural play elements.
Getting there	There is safe access to the site using footpaths or cycle routes.
Play value	Look to maximise play value at each playground to cater to a range of ages and abilities. Provide opportunities for different play sensations: movement such as swinging, revolving, rocking, etc, sensory activities, for role playing or imaginative play, cooperative play and enticing, challenging play.
Inclusive use	Play opportunities are provided for a range of abilities and impairments including sensory and physical impairments and behaviours. Allowing disabled or immobile caregivers to also play with other children.
Size	Be of appropriate scale to service the community they are intended for and for expected visitors who may stop and use.
Access to natural environment	Where possible provide opportunities to use and interact with the natural environment in play but also nature play features can be added to playgrounds such as rocks, plants and sand.
Meeting other children and young people	Playground is located where there is a very high likelihood of other children and young people passing by and joining in play, eg on the way to and from school or local shops.
Security	Good visibility from the road, surrounding houses and workplaces. Site is in an area with people frequently passing by or through it. Avoid places of concealment adjacent to playground. Follow principles from Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).
Accessibility	A barrier-free accessible path of travel should connect the play space and site entrance, other facilities and transport arrival points. <sup>[1]</sup> If steps form part of the accessway then an alternate ramp is to be provided. Prioritise playground sites that have multiple access points and good connectivity.
Added play value, ball games and opportunities to change some play features	This involves looking beyond the standard play equipment whereby play could be through creating an obstacle course, building a hut, sand and water play. Allow sufficient space for casual ball games for children to congregate and participate. Soccer goals, backboards and half courts could be provided in the more popular sites.
Shade	High use playgrounds should have shade provided during the peak summer months, whether it is by shade sails or trees. Suitable trees adjacent to all playgrounds should be considered to provide shade and amenity value. Shade for playground seating is equally important.
Surface and edging	Select the safety surfacing and edging for playgrounds, primarily for safety (must comply with NZS5828) and then to allow for inclusive use and cost effectiveness over the long term. Synthetic surfacing should be considered for high use playgrounds and particularly under high-scurf areas.
Signs	A main reserve identifier sign clearly identifies the public space and gives the community a sense of ownership. Include signage indicating the playground is dog free, smoke free, contact details for reporting problems and any site-specific safety information.
Additional facilities	Seating for caregivers and children will be provided with the latter possibly being incorporated into the play space where they can sit and talk with others. Litter bins are usually provided within the reserve with additional recycling bin provided at the high-use sites only. Barbecues, shelters, drink fountains and toilets are more likely to be found at destination playgrounds.
Parking	Pull off parking will be provided for parks located on busy roads. This will prevent users parking on grass verges or footpaths. Bike racks can be provided.

<sup>[1]</sup> Access paths to playgrounds to be a gentle gradient (1:12 or greater) and of sufficient width (minimum 1m).

## 4.8. Hierarchy of playgrounds & Level of Service

The Mackenzie District playgrounds have been allocated into one of three categories: destination, community or local. The categories are a reflection of the location and level of visitation and provide a basis for assigning levels of service. The purpose of levels of service is to define the standard to which facilities will be provided, developed and maintained so that this can be applied consistently across the district and communicated to the community and visitors. These service levels are additional to the design guidelines covered in the last chapter which provide the basis of an effective play space. The operational levels of service below have been guided by the New Zealand Open Space Maintenance Specification, developed by Recreation Aotearoa.

### Destination Playgrounds

*Mackenzie District has the following destination playgrounds:*

1. Tekapo Lakeside Domain
2. Fairlie Village Green
3. Lake Ruataniwha (proposed)



Destination playgrounds will offer the **most comprehensive and interesting play experiences** for children. By nature they will be appealing enough to be a destination in their own right and be a significant drawcard in bringing people to the park or area, including tourists consisting of family groups. Facilities supporting these playgrounds will be comprehensive and support an extended stay.

Destination playgrounds will be inclusive and accessible to all. They will strongly relate to and reflect the identity of the locality with appropriate theming and unique experiences. Landscaping will add to the appeal and blend the asset into the surrounding environment.

As destination playgrounds are location specific, they will not be increased proportionally to increases in population, rather additional equipment/play features will be added to existing sites.

### Level of Service

<b>Location</b>	Generally located in town centres, premier parks or urban parks/civic spaces.
<b>Access</b>	Adequate parking and bike racks are provided in proximity to the playground.
<b>Age groups</b>	Play features meet the needs of all ages including teenagers
<b>Seating</b>	Ample seating will be provided preferably with shade. Seating for children can be creative and part of the play experience.
<b>Litter bins</b>	Litter and recycling bins provided
<b>Toilets</b>	Toilets located within close proximity to playground. All toilet facilities to have baby change facilities and have fully accessible units.
<b>Additional facilities</b>	Facilities such as barbecues, shelters and drinking fountains may be provided.

### Level of Service for Operations

<b>Daily routine inspection</b>	A visual inspection shall be undertaken <b>daily</b> to ensure equipment is safe, overall cleanliness and fall surfaces are free from hazards (such as broken bottles)
<b>Monthly operational inspection</b>	A <b>monthly</b> inspection shall be undertaken to ensure equipment is functioning and for any damage from wear or vandalism. To be recorded.
<b>Annual structural inspection</b>	A formal independent structural inspection shall be undertaken every <b>twenty-four months</b> to check all fixings, finishes and surfaces; confirm compliance with standards and to undertake preventative maintenance.
<b>Maintenance</b>	To be maintained in "as new" condition, free from any breakages, damage or graffiti. Paint coatings to be free from chips, flaking or fading.



## Community Playgrounds

*Mackenzie District has the following community playgrounds:*

1. Twizel Market Place

Community playgrounds will offer a **variety of play experiences** that would support a two hour stay, in popular community locations and within **800m of urban residential** properties. These play spaces will be largely focussed on providing for the wider community but would be attractive to traveling families also. The community playgrounds are subsidiary in scale and associated facilities to destination play spaces but still important to their local community.

Typically, community playgrounds could be in a reserve, park, local open space or school playground open out of school hours. These spaces and facilities, usually with three or more play items, will provide varied and interesting physical environments. The site will often also have space for ball games.

Facilities and associated landscaping will support the playground as being attractive meeting places for local children and caregivers.



### Level of Service

<b>Location</b>	Generally located at popular parks but may also be located at amenity parks and other sites where location meets play demand from the local community.
<b>Access</b>	Can be accessed by vehicle, foot or bicycle. Bike racks will be available in proximity to the playground.
<b>Meets needs of different age groups</b>	Play features suitable for a minimum of two (out of three) age groups. Age groups are: 0-4, 5-9 and 10-13 years.
<b>Seating</b>	Seating will be provided preferably with shade. Seating for children can be creative and part of the play experience.
<b>Litter bins</b>	Litter bins not provided unless playground is in proximity to a shop or food outlet.
<b>Toilets</b>	Not provided specifically for the playground users but likely to be nearby.

### Level of Service for Operations

<b>Daily routine inspection</b>	A visual inspection shall be undertaken <b>daily</b> , during the summer season, and <b>weekly</b> in winter to ensure equipment is safe, overall cleanliness and fall surfaces are free from hazards (such as broken bottles).
<b>Monthly operational inspection</b>	A <b>monthly</b> inspection shall be undertaken to ensure equipment is functioning and for any damage from wear or vandalism. To be recorded.
<b>Structural inspection</b>	A formal independent structural inspection shall be undertaken every <b>twenty four months</b> to check all fixings, finishes and surfaces; confirm compliance with standards and to undertake preventative maintenance.
<b>Maintenance</b>	To be maintained in "as new" condition, free from any breakages, damage or graffiti.  Paint coatings to be free from chips, flaking or fading.



## Local Playgrounds

*Mackenzie District has the following local playgrounds:*

1. Fairlie Domain
2. Lakeside Drive, Tekapo
3. Community Hall, Tekapo
4. Scott Street, Tekapo



Local playgrounds will offer a minimum of three items of play equipment and will be found amongst residential areas where they will largely service the local children generally within an 800m distance. The length of stay is likely to be up to one hour and the play space can be reached safely by children beginning to travel independently and with friends, without accompanying adults and for adults with younger children. Typically, local playgrounds could be a grassed area, small park or local open space which is attractive to children.

Facilities can be minimal as the stay is limited and children will generally live nearby.

Used play equipment from redeveloped or disestablished destination and community playgrounds may be relocated to local playgrounds as required.

## Level of Service

<b>Location</b>	Located in association with some form of recreational or community facility such as a sports grounds, campgrounds or rural community halls. They may also be associated with some form of retail premise (such as a café/shops) where suitable public land is directly adjacent.
<b>Access</b>	Typically accessed by foot or bicycle. Parking may be provided in association. Bike racks may be provided in proximity to the associated use.
<b>Meets needs of different age groups.</b>	Play features suitable for a minimum of one (out of three) age groups
<b>Seating</b>	Seating will be provided preferably with shade. Seating for children can be creative and part of the play experience.
<b>Litter bins</b>	Litter Bins not provided specifically for playground users.
<b>Toilets</b>	Not provided specifically for the playground users.

## Level of Service for Operations

<b>Visual inspection</b>	A visual inspection shall be undertaken <b>weekly</b> to ensure equipment is safe, overall cleanliness and fall surfaces are free from hazards (such as broken bottles)
<b>Monthly operational inspection</b>	A <b>monthly</b> inspection shall be undertaken to ensure equipment is functioning and for any damage from wear or vandalism. To be recorded.
<b>Structural inspection</b>	A formal structural inspection shall be undertaken every <b>twenty four months</b> to check all fixings, finishes and surfaces; confirm compliance with standards and to undertake preventative maintenance.
<b>Maintenance</b>	To be maintained in "as new" condition, free from any breakages, damage or graffiti.  Paint coatings to be free from chips, flaking or fading.



## 4.9. Recommendations

*Recommendations are described for individual play areas on a township basis.*

### Fairlie

Fairlie will maintain two playgrounds at the Fairlie Village Green and the Fairlie Domain which will service the township and surrounding rural area. It is noted there are two schools with playgrounds in Fairlie (and one at Albury) which have playgrounds open out of school hours and these add to the mix of play provision. The new skate park in the Fairlie Village Green is a valuable addition to the play supply and proving very popular for all age groups.

It is recommended the Fairlie Village Green, as a destination playground, is enhanced to increase the play value, inclusiveness and amenity. The addition of stimulating play equipment, landscaping and nature play with the use of rubber pour surfacing enclosed by accessible-friendly edging is required. This should meet the community's expectation of this playground, will support its popularity and further encourage traveling families to spend time there. Fencing is to be added at the Village Green playground to address concerns of road safety.

The play facility in the Fairlie Domain will be maintained as a local playground that will focus on the ten years plus age group with equipment such as the existing flying fox which requires more dexterity and challenge. This playground will be scaled back with some equipment removed as it reaches the end of its useful life.

### Tekapo

Tekapo will provide a total of three playgrounds to service the town (including bach owners), rural surrounds and the many visitors. This will include an expanded destination playground on the lakefront, and two neighborhood playgrounds within the residential areas. There is no plan by the Council to supply a skate park at Tekapo as the population does not justify this.

The lakefront domain will be the destination playground for Tekapo with its prime focus to provide an enticing, stimulating and challenging large scale playground that will become a visitor attraction in itself. This would attract families from far and wide, and encourage further spending at local businesses. The playground would complement the commercial tourist activities on offer and justify its key lakefront location. The existing playground will need to be developed to a high standard, be unique and could be themed to reflect the Dark Sky status. Further equipment, play features and nature play is to be added to cater to all age groups, all abilities and to maximise play value. Site design with landscaping that provided paths for good visitor flow and planting that showcased the District's unique dryland natural character should be used to good effect. High quality ancillary facilities will need to make sure families feel welcome, but also have comfort and wellbeing needs well catered for an extended stay. Shade trees will be added where views are not obstructed, paying particular attention to where caregivers and children may sit and socialise.

A local level playground at Lakeside Drive will continue to be provided but will be redeveloped with new equipment on a new site further from the road and more sheltered. With the addition of landscaping and nature play the play value will be improved.

The single swingset at Aorangi Crescent near the Tekapo Community Hall will be removed as it has limited play value and the location is not ideal. The Tekapo Primary School has a playground in this area on lower Aorangi Crescent. Suitable sites are available at the Community Hall and on the new D'archiac Reserve however given the proximity of the school and the lakefront destination playgrounds no play facility will be provided at these reserves.

The playground at Scott Street services children on the east side of the Tekapo River however is limited by the small site and older style play equipment with only moderate play value. This playground may be shifted to a better location which would adjust for the growth of the township towards the east and create a better gathering place for children. This would be a local playground and needs to be upgraded to optimise play value.



## Twizel

The level of provision being proposed for Twizel is three playgrounds and one skate park to meet the play needs of resident children in town and the surrounding rural area. The Market Place playground is retained in its valued central location and the swings at Lake Ruataniwha are replaced by a large scale destination adventure playground. An additional local play space will be provided in the Ohau Rd reserve to cater for increasing residential growth to the west of the town. The Twizel skate park will need to be rebuilt in the next ten years to update with modern skating features, better allow for scooters and to remain appealing to use.

A new 'natural style' adventure playground has been proposed for Lake Ruataniwha in the area between the lagoon and the rowing centre, an attractive, sheltered setting with good walking and cycling linkages. It would be part of a larger development plan to create a district wide destination level park and build on the safe swimming and picnicking opportunities already available with barbecues, improved toilets, parking and a bike skills trail. The inclusion of a large adventure playground would ensure this park would be a great asset for the community and also help to grow the local economy by attracting visitors.

The Market Place playground would be maintained as a community level facility and some of the older equipment replaced with new stimulating play items. There should be inclusive play opportunities added when upgrade occurs and provision of a shade sail or further trees for shade. The tractor needs to be removed as it has deteriorated to the point where risk outweighs benefit. Further fencing is to be added to address concerns of road safety. The pea gravel should be replaced with rubber pour safety surfacing for improved accessibility.

## Other locations

The alpine village at Mt Cook and rural settlements such as Albury, Kimbell and Burkes Pass do not have Council provided play facilities with too few children to justify Council investment in this area. Schools located in these locations do provide playgrounds which are usually open to the public outside school hours.



Image Credit: Chanelle O'Sullivan



## Draft Parks & Amenities Strategy

# Public Toilet Strategy



# 5. Public Toilet Strategy

## 5.1 Introduction

Mackenzie District Council are committed to supporting public health, wellbeing and community vitality through providing toilets in public spaces. The provision of well presented, clean and accessible public toilets is an expectation of residents and visitors.

The community also expects that natural values including water quality and landscape values will be protected where toilets are provided. A pristine natural environment and high quality infrastructure such as toilets underpin the long term success and viability of the tourism industry which is a key component of the local economy.

Community views, industry best practice and on-site assessments are combined to help formulate this strategy which will provide a strategic direction for public toilets over the next ten years.

Implementing the recommendations and action plan outlined, guided by the design guidelines and levels of service, will ensure the public toilet network can deliver the best facilities at the right locations for the community and visitors. This will in turn support the economic wealth, recreational participation and health of the District's residents.



## 5.2 Public Toilets Strategic Direction

### *The public toilet network benefits the environment*

- Waste disposal systems are appropriate for each location primarily considering protection of the environment.
- The development of all new public toilet facilities will aim to minimise their environmental footprint for construction and operation.
- All toilets will be designed and located in sympathy with the surrounding landscape.

### GOAL 01

### *Public toilets are appealing and community needs are met*

- Members of the public will have a positive experience in good quality, hygienic toilet facilities.
- Public toilets will be accessible to all users.
- The capacity of toilet facilities will ensure wait times are a rare occurrence.
- New toilets will be considered where there is a demonstrated need shown and where there are concerns regarding degradation of the environment.

### GOAL 02

### *Public toilets will support a thriving local tourist industry*

- To provide excellent toilet facilities that will enhance the overall visitor experience to Mackenzie District.
- The Council recognises that the majority of public toilets it provides cater to visitors or travellers from outside the District, therefore will seek to form partnerships where possible for the establishment, renewal or ongoing costs.

### GOAL 03

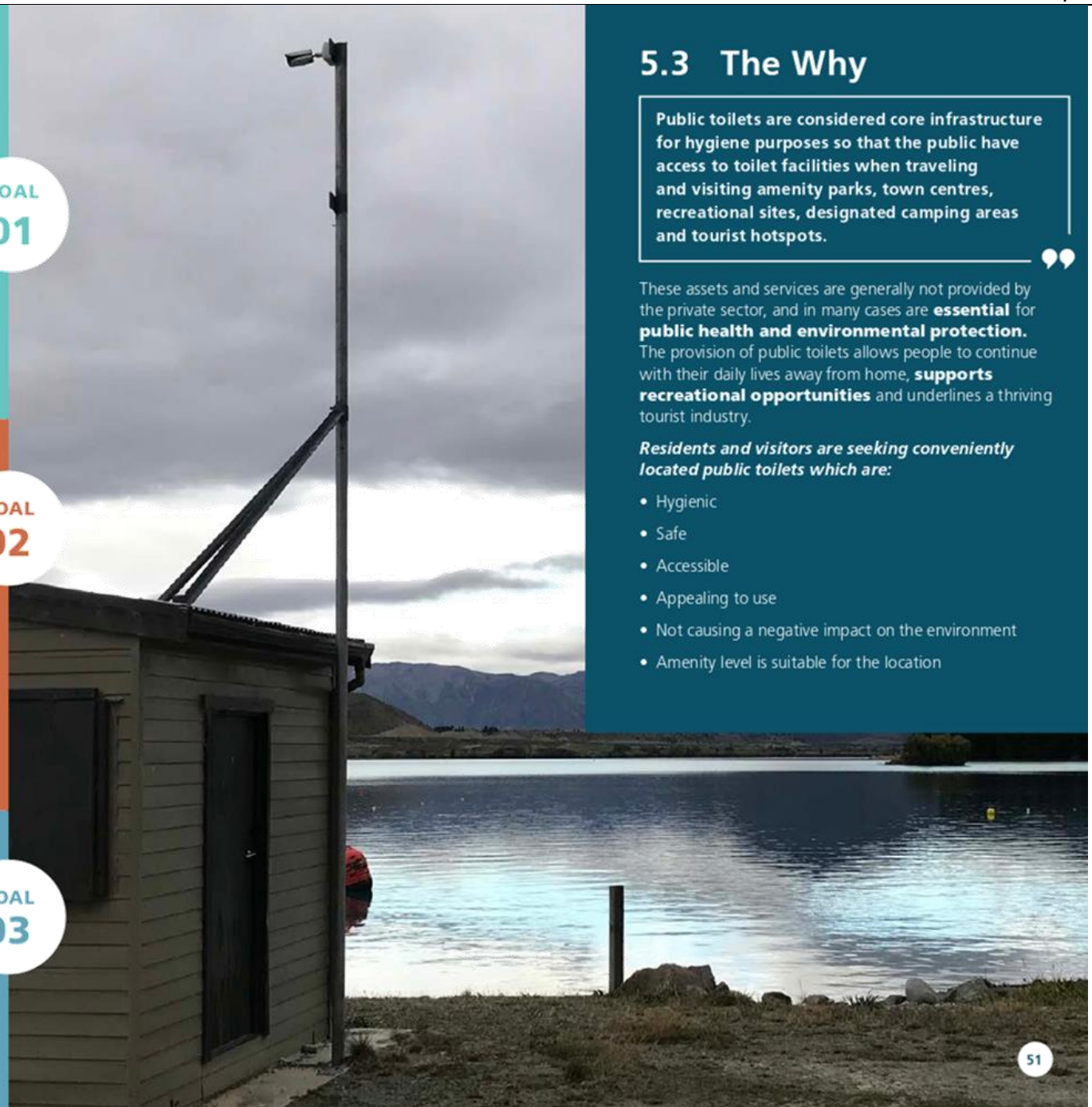
## 5.3 The Why

Public toilets are considered core infrastructure for hygiene purposes so that the public have access to toilet facilities when traveling and visiting amenity parks, town centres, recreational sites, designated camping areas and tourist hotspots.

These assets and services are generally not provided by the private sector, and in many cases are **essential** for **public health and environmental protection**. The provision of public toilets allows people to continue with their daily lives away from home, **supports recreational opportunities** and underlines a thriving tourist industry.

*Residents and visitors are seeking conveniently located public toilets which are:*

- Hygienic
- Safe
- Accessible
- Appealing to use
- Not causing a negative impact on the environment
- Amenity level is suitable for the location



## 5.4 Existing Context

**It is important to understand the current state of our existing public toilets to make recommendations and identify opportunities to ensure they are providing for the communities and visitors they serve in the future.**

### Provision and Distribution

Mackenzie District Council provides 19 toilets, and 3 dump stations for campers as part of its core infrastructure to support the public health and wellbeing of the community and visitors to the District. Additional to this, users of the Fairlie Domain have access to toilets in the adjacent Fairlie Holiday Park which is run under a lease from the Council - the toilets are solely managed by the campground lessee. At the lakes Alexandrina and McGregor camping areas, situated on conservation reserve vested in Council, there are also public toilets however these are maintained by the Lake Alexandrina and McGregor Camping Trust. Toilets provided within community halls, libraries, swimming pools etc, are not categorised as "public" toilets and have been excluded from consideration in this strategy.

Users of the District's public toilets can be assigned into the following groups:

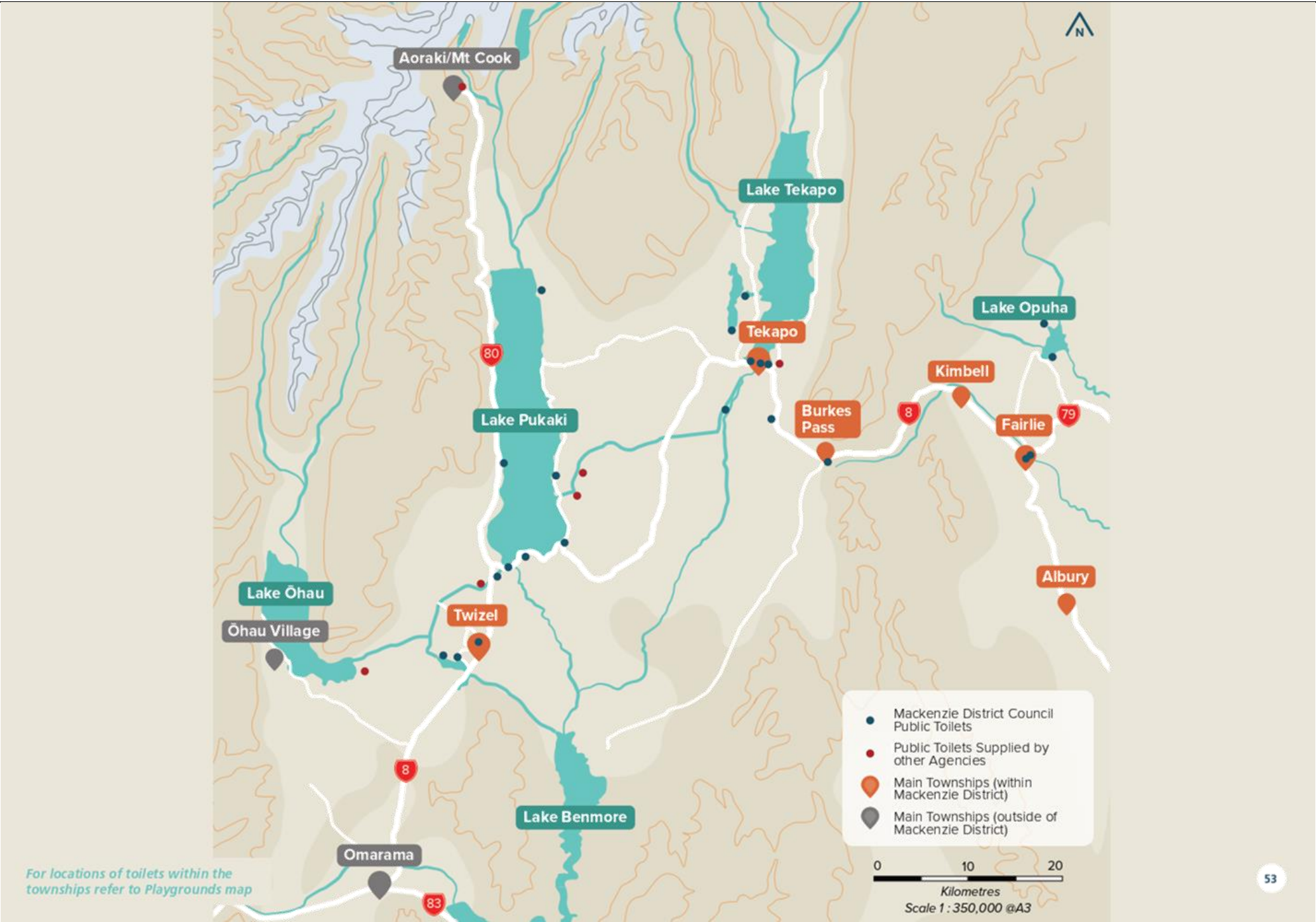
- Local residents going about their daily lives away from home
- Recreational users such as boaties and Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail cyclists
- Travellers on State Highway 8 (Fairlie to Twizel) and 80 (Mt Cook access road)
- Tourists spending time in the District

The latter two groups are by far the majority users of public toilets in the Mackenzie District, particularly those facilities located alongside State Highway 8.

The public toilet network has grown noticeably over the last ten years with the increase of freedom campers, the rapid rise of visitor numbers pre-Covid and the opening of the Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail. With this a number of new toilets have been installed or had a major refurbishment in the last five years. A return to similar high levels of visitation by international tourists has been predicted. Traffic monitoring on State highway 8 recorded an annual average daily traffic count of 3,339 for 2019 however this had dropped 22% to 2,608 for 2020[1]. Pressure from freedom campers has eased under Covid but this is expected to reverse in the medium term and some further infrastructure to support freedom camping is likely required.

The Alps 2 Ocean cycle trail has become a major attraction for the District, particularly with older New Zealanders, and there is a demand for additional toilets to cater to this growing market. When Alps 2 Ocean users have been surveyed for "What might have made the experience more enjoyable" a number of respondents have commented that more toilet facilities were required[2]. Nga Haeranga, the New Zealand Cycle Trails organisation suggests toilets are located approximately 10km apart to meet the needs of cyclists on the trails. Concern has been raised regarding the lack of a toilet at Jollie car park, at the top of Lake Pukaki, where many cyclists are dropped off to start their Alps 2 Ocean cycle journey. There is evidence of environmental degradation with scattered human waste around the car park and adjacent landowners are also witness to this activity. An alternate start to the cycle trail in Tekapo, located at the start of Hamilton Drive, lacks any toilet facilities for cyclists who are about to start a day's journey. This requires further investigation before an investment in new toilets is committed to here. There are already three substantial, high quality toilet blocks provided for visitors within the Tekapo township.





The Lake Tekapo footbridge toilets, available for Church of the Good Shepherd visitors, have been established as pay toilets to achieve some cost recovery given users are mostly from out of the District. Making people pay to use these toilets has proven problematic for the Council, with regular malfunction of the automated payment system and the consequent negative feedback on performance or just on the principle of paying for toilet use.

Alongside the Council owned facilities there are a number of other public toilets provided by other agencies and private companies which complete the overall public toilet network. These are also shown on the map as an indication of toilet distribution in Map 1.

In summary there are currently:

5

high use premium toilets

5

toilets on the town reticulated wastewater system.

14

toilets have septic disposal or holding tank.

9

toilet facilities have designated fully accessible units

Tekapo and Twizel have public effluent dump stations for campers

### Capacity

Information gathered, as well as community feedback, during the preparation of this strategy have indicated there are a number of toilets in the network which are under capacity causing people to wait or worse still give up. It is expected that some popular toilets may experience peak demand but it is still considered wait times should be a rare occurrence. The following toilets are considered to be under capacity:

- Lake Pukaki Lookout
- Twizel Market Place
- Hayman Road corner
- Lake Opuha Hays Road

## 5.5 Performance and Quality

An assessment of the performance and condition of the public toilets was undertaken in February 2021 using a public toilet assessment tool developed by Xyst. The assessment tool was developed using current best practice public convenience design guidelines; NZS 4241: 1999 Public Toilets; NZS 4121: 2001 Design for Access and Mobility: Buildings and Associated Facilities and principles from Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). A wide range of performance features were assessed including:

- Number of units for each variable i.e. male, female, all gender, accessible options and urinals
- Building construction materials and condition
- Maintenance and care
- Signage
- Presentation and Privacy
- Safety and security features
- Hygiene and ease of cleaning
- Accessibility
- Quality or appeal of the facility

[1] Waka Kotahi, State highway traffic monitoring – annual average daily traffic

[2] Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment; Alps 2 Ocean participant survey 1/1/21





A summary of the key performance attributes is provided in Table 1.

**Table 1: Key performance attributes for Mackenzie District's public toilets.**

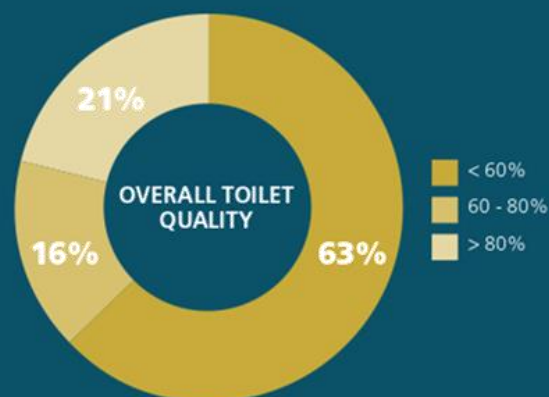
Name	LoS	No. of Units/ Urinal	Condition Score	Performance			
				Total	Presentation	Accessibility	Ambience
Lake Tekapo West Exeloo	Premium	6/1	Good	88%	81%	92%	Good
Lake Tekapo footbridge	Premium	3	Good	86%	81%	89%	Good
Burkes Pass	Standard	1	Good	81%	75%	84%	Good
Lake Tekapo Lakeside Drive	Standard	5	Very good	80%	81%	87%	Good
Twizel Market Place	Premium	5/2	Good	78%	75%	77%	Good
Pukaki Lookout	Premium	8/2	Good	76%	81%	71%	Fair
Fairlie Town Centre	Premium	5/2	Fair	72%	75%	52%	Fair
Fairlie Domain Shared Toilet	Standard	4	Fair	63%	81%	61%	Fair
Paterson's Ponds	Basic	1	Very good	58%	100%		Good
Hayman Road Corner	Standard	1	Good	52%	56%		Fair
Lake Opuha Bennets Road	Basic	4	Fair	51%	56%	53%	Fair
Peter's Lookout	Standard	1	Good	51%	75%	71%	Fair
Edwards Stream Rest Area	Basic	1	Good	47%	56%		Fair
A2O Landslip Creek	Basic	1	Good	44%	75%		Good
Pukaki Pines	Standard	4	Very good	44%	75%	81%	Fair
Lake Ruataniwha boat ramp	Basic	1	Good	41%	56%		Fair
A2O Hayman Road 13km	Basic	1	Fair	40%	56%		Fair
Lake Ruataniwha lagoon	Basic	1	Good	39%	56%		Fair
Lake McGregor	Basic	5/2	Fair	38%	56%	67%	Fair
Lake Opuha Hays Road	Basic	1	Fair	36%	56%		Poor
Lake Wardell	Basic	1	Good	35%	63%		Poor
Lake Alexandrina	Basic	4	Fair/Poor	30%	38%		Poor



## 5.6 Assessment summary

### Overall quality

Expectations of the standard of amenity provision in public toilets have increased over time. The assessment gave an overall score which combined all attributes (including building condition) was given for each public toilet and the resulting **scores ranged between 35% and 88%**. Within the District there are a lot of poor quality toilets with a high number rating **below 60%** - see Figure 2. The high use toilets which have a large proportion of use from travellers and **visitors rated between 72% and 88%** reflecting reasonably well for the promotion of the District to visitors, however these should all ideally rate **above 80%**.



*The areas where Mackenzie District public toilets scored poorly are outlined below:*

### Signage

Many toilets lacked adequate directional signage to lead people to the facility and often standard toilet symbols indicating gender were missing from the entrance or doors. Both of these signage requirements are considered particularly important for visitors from out of the District. Furthermore toilet facilities had no signage with Council contact information to report damage and nothing to state what the cleaning frequency is to provide assurance of cleanliness.



### Hygiene

Fourteen toilets scored below 60% for hygiene and a number of factors contributed to these low scores. Many toilets outside the three main towns did not have sanitary bins provided. A number of them had no hand washing fixtures and hand sanitiser was often not an option either. Poor ventilation was noted on a few vault toilets and can be a critical factor for a pleasant experience.



### Accessible toilets

Of the nine designated accessible toilets there were none that fully complied with the New Zealand Standards (NZS 4121 and NZS 4241) requirements for disabled use. The Fairlie town centre and the Lake Opuha (Bennets Road) scored the lowest for compliance with 52% and 53% respectively. It should be noted that some requirements are difficult to rectify with a refurbishment such as spacing within the cubicle and may require a rebuild. Also ideally all public toilets that can be reached by a vehicle should be made fully accessible so there are no barriers to anyone participating in recreational activities.



### Extra amenities

Toilets within the town centres and at busy tourist sites did not provide baby change facilities where many would expect to find this feature. Water fountains were generally well supplied at the higher use sites however there is a need to refill water bottles by Alps 2 Ocean cyclists and these could be located alongside the toilet facility.



*Mackenzie District public toilets scored well in the following areas:*

### Condition and Maintenance

The Mackenzie toilet buildings were generally observed to be in good condition. The various components (roof, walls and floor) of each toilet were assessed to better understand the state (or level of deterioration) of the buildings and to ascertain their remaining asset life. The condition of all the buildings scored fair or above with no Council toilet buildings being in a poor or very poor state – refer Figure 1. This reflects well on the level of maintenance being undertaken and was reinforced with the standard of maintenance being mostly assessed as good. This result means there is minimal asset replacement required in the short term due to the deterioration of the building fabric.

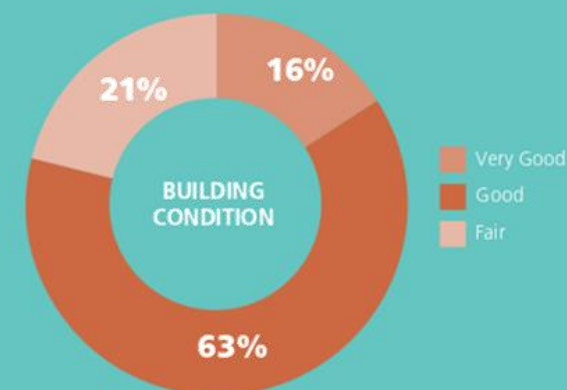
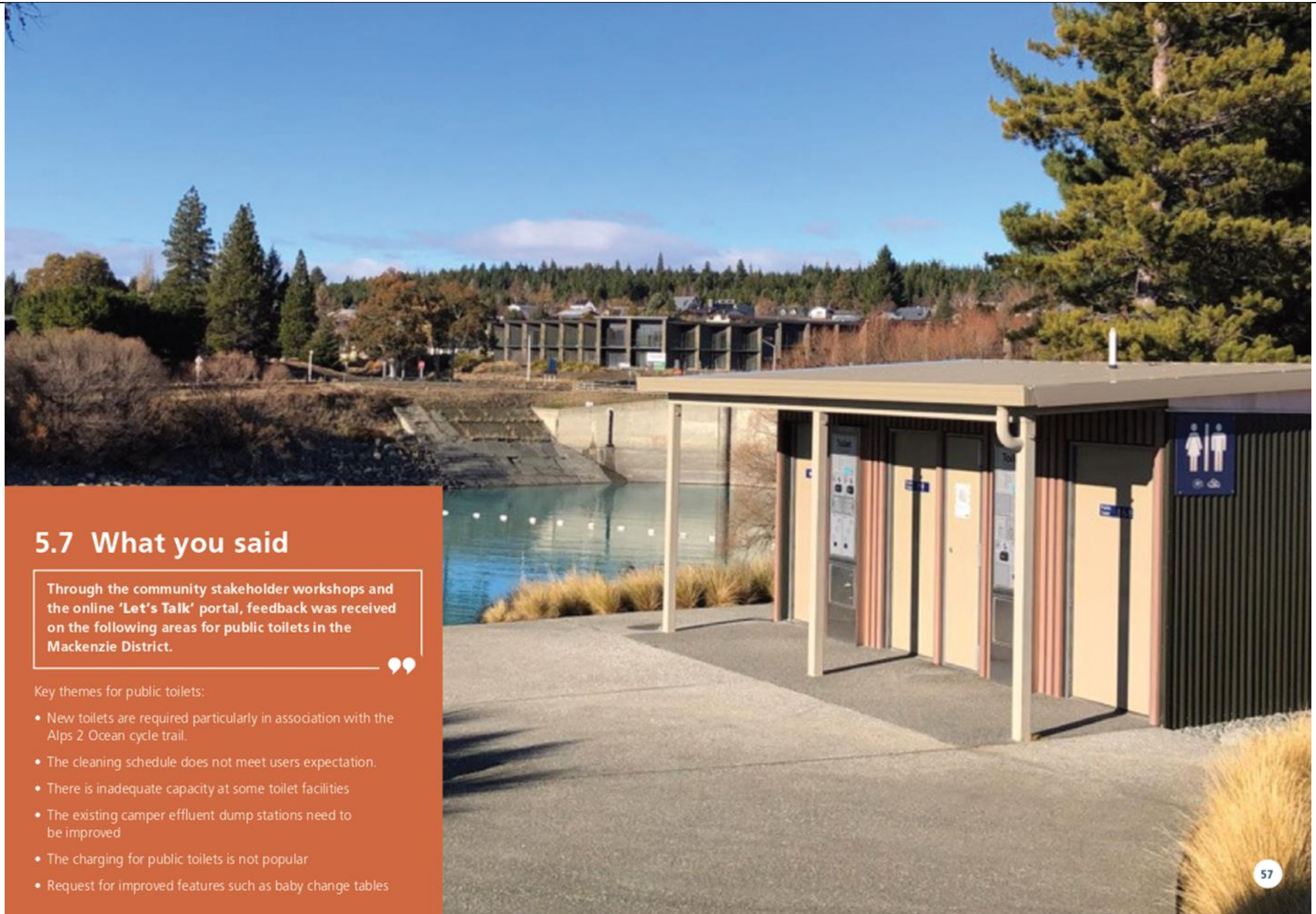


Figure 1: Building condition for Mackenzie public toilets



## 5.7 What you said

Through the community stakeholder workshops and the online 'Let's Talk' portal, feedback was received on the following areas for public toilets in the Mackenzie District.

Key themes for public toilets:

- New toilets are required particularly in association with the Alps 2 Ocean cycle trail.
- The cleaning schedule does not meet users expectation.
- There is inadequate capacity at some toilet facilities
- The existing camper effluent dump stations need to be improved
- The charging for public toilets is not popular
- Request for improved features such as baby change tables

## 5.8 Design Guidelines

Guidelines for design are provided to assist during the planning phase for new or replacement public toilets. They have been prepared with reference to the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles; NZS 4241: 1999 Public Toilets; NZS 4121: 2001 Design for Access and Mobility: Buildings and Associated Facilities and best practice.

Element	Guidelines
Location	The facility needs to be close to the demand source, car parks and access points. The building and its approaches should be highly visible to allow for good casual surveillance.
Size	The number of pans, either gender specific or not, will need to be adequate to service the current use plus for any forecasted growth.
Orientation	Entrances need to be obvious from the main point of access
Landscaping	Landscaping will enhance the overall look of the facility but avoid tall vegetation adjacent to ensure good visibility and not allow sites for concealment. Other factors to consider are allowing for natural light to enter the interior and good airflow for ventilation.
Accessibility	Access paths are easily used by all abilities
Gender	The preference of users is for single gender facilities, however consideration should be given to all new toilets being self-contained all-gender facilities as being more efficient.
Surfaces	Materials used should have a good appearance, be robust, have longevity and be easy to clean. Ideally internal walls, to be light coloured, and floors, mid to dark in colour, should have smooth surfaces, and junctions are covered. Floor drains well so no water pooling occurs.
Inclusive use	The provision of access to public toilets for persons with disabilities is a requirement of the Building Code. All new public toilet facilities are required to be accessible other than in backcountry situations where it would be impractical to provide.
Lighting	Natural lighting is optimised for the interior and where this cannot be achieved this should be supplemented with artificial light. Exterior lighting should be provided. Lighting should be controlled by proximity sensors, to minimise energy use and attractiveness to moths. The lighting level for toilets is prescribed in NZS 4241. Remote locations are an exception.
Security	Building is vandal resistant where possible and made of robust materials. Pipework is concealed. Good visibility of the building exterior and entrances.
Signs	Clear, accessible and consistent signage should be provided and would include: gender specifications, opening hours where required, cleaning schedule and maintenance contact details. The signage must accommodate people with vision impairments and be clearly legible. Directional signage indicating the location of public toilets should also be consistent across the district to ensure it can easily be identified by residents and visitors.



## 5.9 Level of Service

Toilets have been allocated into categories for the purpose of applying levels of service and these are mainly a reflection of the level of visitation. Levels of service will define the standard to which facilities will be provided and maintained so that this can be applied consistently across the District and communicated to the community and visitors. The Mackenzie District public toilets have been allocated into either premium, standard or basic categories as described in the New Zealand Open Space Maintenance Specification developed by Recreation Aotearoa and accepted as industry best practice.

### Premium public toilets

*Mackenzie District has the following Premium public toilets:*

- Fairlie Village Green
- Tekapo Lakefront Domain
- Tekapo Footbridge
- Twizel Market Place
- Pukaki Lookout



The premium public toilets are the high use, high profile facilities usually provided within the civic spaces, town centres, key tourist sites and premier parks. The public toilets servicing the Fairlie, Tekapo and Twizel town centres are included in this category and cater for residents, travellers and visitors. It is important to have excellent toilet facilities for visitors as this will impact on a visitor's overall experience of a place. Promoting Mackenzie District as a visitor destination with high quality facilities supports the local tourist industry and the economic wellbeing of the community. The Tekapo footbridge and the Pukaki Lookout toilets have been included as they cater to at times high volume visitor numbers. These high use public toilets must meet an elevated level of service ensuring they are clean, well presented, have sufficient capacity and are accessible for all.

### Level of Service

<b>Design</b>	Site specific high quality design with architectural input which may reflect local character. Tiled wall and floor finishes will be utilised that are high quality aesthetically and easy to clean. The toilet pans and other fixtures and fittings will be of a high quality specification.
<b>Access</b>	Need to meet all the requirements of NZS 4121. Ramp access provided if toilet building is raised above ground level. Often located next to a car park.
<b>Inclusive use</b>	There will be facilities available that are fully accessible.
<b>Toilet paper, hand washing and waste disposal</b>	Endosed toilet paper, cold or tepid water sensor tap, soap dispenser, litter bins, sanitary disposal, paper towels or hand dryer is provided. Sharps disposal can be provided if the need is recognised.
<b>Additional facilities</b>	Baby change facilities to be provided. Donation boxes may be added to these sites.
<b>Lighting</b>	Building design will make the most of natural light to illuminate the interior. Artificial lighting will also be supplied to both interior and exterior.
<b>Signage</b>	Directional signs to the toilet facility are clear and obvious. Standard symbol signs for gender use of cubide are the correct size and symbols
<b>Graffiti</b>	Graffiti is removed via the most appropriate method for the specific surface within 24 hours and if offensive within 4 hours.
<b>Cleaning</b>	Cleaning will be undertaken twice per day over the summer months and once per day during winter.



## Standard public toilets

*Mackenzie District has the following Standard public toilets:*

- Fairlie Domain campground (shared use)
- Burkes Pass
- Lakeside Drive, Tekapo
- Pukaki Pines
- Peter's Lookout
- Hayman Road corner

The standard public toilets are the moderate use facilities located in recreational and amenity parks, high use freedom camping sites and highway rest or viewing areas.



### Level of Service

<b>Design</b>	Moderate standard of toilet design with good quality finishes, fixtures and fittings.
<b>Access</b>	Need to meet all the requirements of NZS 4121. Ramp access provided if toilet building is raised above ground level.
<b>Inclusive use</b>	There will be facilities available that are fully accessible.
<b>Toilet paper, hand washing and waste disposal</b>	Enclosed toilet paper, handbasin, cold water supply, soap dispenser, litter bins, sanitary disposal, paper towels or hand dryer is provided.
<b>Additional facilities</b>	Baby change facilities provided where families are present for an extended period.
<b>Lighting</b>	Natural light illuminates the interior but may be supplemented by artificial light for both interior and exterior.
<b>Signage</b>	Directional signs to the toilet facility are clear and obvious. Standard symbol signs for gender use of cubicle are the correct size and symbols.
<b>Graffiti</b>	Graffiti is removed via the most appropriate method for the specific surface within 24 hours and if offensive within 4 hours.
<b>Cleaning</b>	Cleaning will be undertaken once per day during peak summer months and three times per week during winter.



Image Credit: Pia Patlachart



## Basic Public Toilets

*Mackenzie District has the following basic public toilets:*

- Lake Opuha – Bennets Road
- Lake Opuha – Hays Road
- Edward's Stream rest area
- Paterson's Ponds
- Lake Wardell
- Lake Ruataniwha Lagoon
- Lake Ruataniwha Boat Ramp
- Lake MacGregor (on Council managed land)
- Lake Alexandrina (on Council managed land)
- Landslip Creek
- 13km Hayman's Road (Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail)

Basic public toilets are provided where there is relatively low use compared to premium and standard toilets, however a toilet is required for convenience, public health and environmental reasons. These often cater to users at natural recreational sites managed by the Council such as Lake Opuha and Lake Ruataniwha. These users will be participating in the various recreational activities on offer in Mackenzie District, and which help to make the District a great place to live. Toilets are a necessary infrastructure to support these activities. Also, a number of the basic toilets have been specifically provided for cyclists on the Alps to Ocean cycle trail, and for freedom campers such as at Lake Wardell.



### Level of Service

<b>Design</b>	Basic standard of toilet design with robust finishes, fixtures and fittings but still should be easy to clean. Power and water may not be available.
<b>Access</b>	Need to meet all the requirements of NZS 4121. Ramp access provided if toilet building is raised above ground level.
<b>Inclusive use</b>	There will be facilities available that are fully accessible.
<b>Toilet paper, hand washing and waste disposal</b>	Toilet paper, washbasin with cold water supply, soap dispenser or if no water available hand sanitiser to be provided. Paper towels may be provided. Litter bin and sanitary disposal is optional
<b>Lighting</b>	Natural lighting is likely to be the only source of illumination inside the toilet cubicle.
<b>Signage</b>	Directional signs to the toilet facility are clear and obvious. Standard symbol signs for specific gender or all gender use of cubicles are the correct size and symbols.
<b>Graffiti</b>	Graffiti is removed via the most appropriate method for the specific surface within 72 hours and if offensive within 4 hours.
<b>Cleaning</b>	Cleaning will be undertaken 3 times per week during summer peak season and once per week during winter.

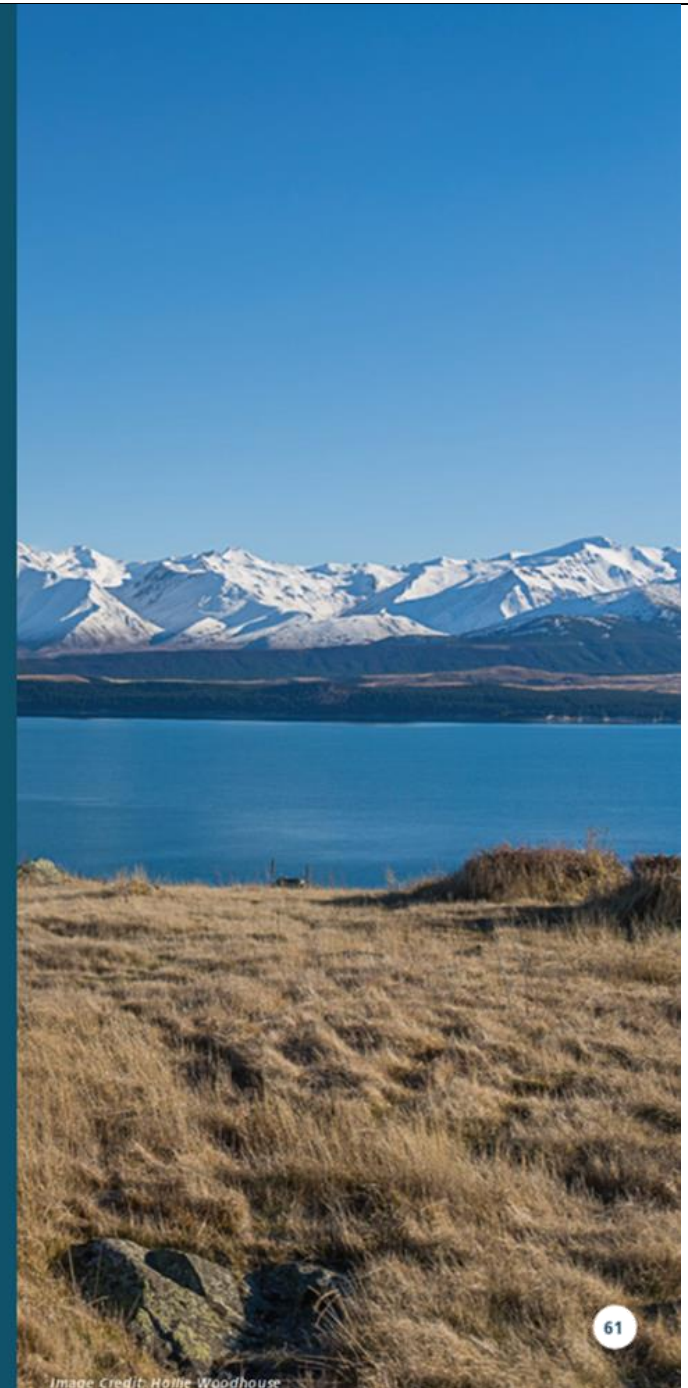


Image Credit: Hollie Woodhouse

## 5.10 Recommendations

### State Highway 8

The Waka Kotahi, New Zealand Transport Agency document, Queenstown to Rangitata Corridor Management Plan (2018-2028) highlights the increased pressure for improved levels of service for amenities such as roadside toilets on this main tourist route. It also notes the long traveling distances and limited amenities for this corridor.

The Pukaki Lookout toilet facility is recognised as being under capacity to cope with the peak levels of use, particularly the frequent buses stopping at this site, experienced through the summer season pre-Covid. If the Mackenzie District wish to market desirable visitor experiences to match the spectacular scenery it is important the supporting infrastructure is appropriate. Also the all-gender accessible unit is located within the male section of the facility (shared/open ceiling space) and females may not feel comfortable or safe in this situation. The existing building is to be upgraded to improve the user experience and a new facility will be built to increase the overall capacity to twelve pans with two fully accessible units. The proposed new block of toilets will be all gender units to allow more efficient use of the facility at peak times.

Waka Kotahi have completed an upgrade and expansion of the car park at Hayman Road corner recognising the popularity of this site as a roadside viewpoint and rest area but also as access to the Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail. The associated toilet is considered of poor quality and under capacity for this site. It is planned to replace it with a new two cubicle building to include one all gender unit and the other to be accessible.



### Twizel Market Place

The Twizel Market Place public toilets are considered under capacity to meet the demand and the community's expectations are not being met. This will only be exacerbated when international travel resumes to near where it was pre-Covid. The design and adjacent space of the current facility lends itself to an expansion and this will be investigated to ensure it is the best option to increase toilet capacity for community and visitors to central Twizel.

### Toilets at lakes Alexandrina and MacGregor

These toilets situated on reserve land vested with Council are managed under a letter of agreement for the operation of both camping areas issued by Mackenzie Council. As the land manager, the Council needs to take a more active role in ensuring these toilets meet hygiene and other standards. It is recommended a formal Memorandum of Understanding is completed to ensure the appropriate level of service is maintained for these facilities.

### Freedom Camping

The network of public toilets is considered adequate for the current level of freedom camping. The Council will need to monitor the ongoing demand from freedom campers in the District and consider all measures including new toilets where required. Protection of the environment and in particular waterways will remain the primary consideration.

### Twizel camper hub

The development of a hub in Twizel for freedom campers is being considered to support responsible camping behaviour and to meet demand. This would include: toilets, carparking, an effluent dump station and other supporting facilities. A feasibility study is required to determine how this project should proceed and would include investigation into a location and design.

### Fairlie dump station

There is no free public effluent dump station for self-contained campers in Fairlie. It is proposed to install one within Fairlie to ensure easy access for these campers that is both user friendly and hygienic.

### Recreational Trails

Council will monitor increasing use and impact on Trails (and other recreational sites) in the District so public toilets are placed where significant use dictates and the environment is protected.



### Alps 2 Ocean cycle trail

A new single cubicle toilet is required for Jollie car park where many cyclists are dropped off to start their Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail journey. This is required to protect the environment but also as necessary infrastructure to support this nationally significant cycle trail. A considered approach to siting is required to minimise the obtrusion of a toilet structure on the surrounding landscape.

There is a large gap (24km in cycling distance) in the provision of toilets between Twizel and the Ohau weir for Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail cyclists, and fishing is a hugely popular activity along the canal in this area. A toilet is required approximately midway on this cycle section that could also meet the need from anglers.

Funding options for Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail projects include the Maintaining the Quality of Great Rides (MGR) fund managed by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

### Tekapo pay toilet and donation boxes

Due to the problems incurred from the existing pay toilets in Tekapo the Council will investigate changing this to a free toilet and will not use pay toilets elsewhere in the District but will continue to maintain donation boxes at toilets which have high use from overseas tourists.

### Funding options

The Council will seek opportunities for external funding to provide and maintain public toilets where this option is available particularly when the main beneficiaries are from outside the District.

### New signature park for Lake Ruataniwha

The Council have proposed, and it is supported by many in the community, to develop a signature level destination park at Lake Ruataniwha. Extra toilet facilities are required for this large site and more detailed planning is required for the site, to determine the number and location of facilities. Capacity will be increased with park development.

### Fairlie town centre

Replacement of the main Fairlie town centre toilet block is required to improve capacity, modernise to meet industry good practice for quality and allow for safe external access public toilets. The building shell is approximately 30 years old and is looking dated for this prominent site in the town. It is also the only public toilets in Fairlie therefore all use from travellers and tourists is focussed on this facility. The new ten pan toilet block will be all gender units including two that are fully accessible.





## Appendix A **Priority projects**







# B

## Appendix B Individual Strategy Projects



## Parks

Actions	Parks where action applies	Associated Policy	Outcome	Approx. Cost	Key Partners	Priorities	
Reserve Management Plan in place to determine appropriate development and use of the parks	All Parks	Environment	Consistency Compliant with national frameworks including Reserves Act 1977.	\$		Medium-High	
Implement restrictions for vehicle access/ carparking around water bodies.	Lake Ruataniwha, Twizel	User Experience Environment	The margins of waterbodies are protected and retained in their natural state.	\$	NZTA ECAN	Medium	
	Tekapo Lakeside Domain		More space is provided to enhance amenity.			Medium	
			Medium				
Formalise footpath/cycle connections through the parks to provide a safe connection for users.	Twizel Alleyways/Greenways	Connection	A safe and legible journey for users	\$\$	ECAN DOC	Medium	
	Tekapo Lakeside Domain					Medium	
	Fairlie Domain					Medium	
	Fairlie Village Green					Medium	
Develop and implement concept plans/ masterplans for unutilized open space to provide mixed use recreation	Man made hill	User Experience Management	Open spaces are well planned and provided for. All partners are invested and agreed in achieving a common goal/outcome.	\$\$	ECAN DOC	High	
	Mackenzie Drive Cul-de-sac reserve					Low	
	Lake Ruataniwha, Twizel					High	
	Alleyways/Greenways					Medium	
	Ohau Road Reserve						
Create a park management framework that identifies key operators, vegetation succession (into drylands), plant establishment, maintenance, standards, contracts, agreed levels of service, and maintenance response times for parks identified in this document.	All parks Immediate maintenance: Opihi River Reserve	Environment Management	Parks are maintained better for locals and visitors and the natural character of the landscape is preserved for future generations.	\$	ECAN DOC Local community groups	High	
	North West Arch, Twizel					High	
	Lake Ruataniwha					Low	
	Ohau Road Reserve					Medium	
	Twizel River/Fraser Stream						
	Burkes Pass road reserve					High	
Tekapo Lakeside Domain							
All parks shall have a name that is reflected in a new consistent suite of signage across the park network. Signage shall integrate education, culture, significant places and the story of the Mackenzie.	All parks	User Experience	Identity of the Mackenzie district is celebrated	\$\$	Community groups	High	

Actions	Parks where action applies	Associated Policy	Outcome	Approx. Cost	Key Partners	Priorities
Develop a plan to renew and upgrade park furniture, e.g. seating, tables, drinking fountains, litter bins)	All parks	User Experience	Improved amenity for users	\$\$		High
Define the entrance to the Park	Man made Hill, Twizel	User Experience Connection	Parks are legible for users to access	\$\$		High
Provide a gateway feature that incorporates the narrative of the place	Twizel Road Reserve/ between Ostler and Glen Lyon	Partnership User Experience Connection	Locals and visitors recognise the identity of the Mackenzie district and associate with place	\$\$	Iwi	Medium
Provide new areas of planting that respond to the ecological zone of each place.	Mackenzie Drive Cul-de-sac reserve	Environment	Maintain the natural values, sustain public health, and enhance the visitor experience.	\$\$		Low
	Albury Roadside Reserve					Low
	Burkes Pass road reserve					Low
	Aorangi Crescent Pocket Park, Tekapo					Low
Provide additional facilities to support the primary use of the park i.e. spectator seating, toilets etc	Strathconan Park, Fairlie	User experience	Enhanced amenities for locals and visitors	\$\$		Medium
Provide trees to give shade for users of the park	Strathconan Park, Fairlie	Environment User Experience	Enhanced amenities for locals and visitors	\$		Medium
Provide seating and facilities at suitable frequencies in open space i.e. along the river to provide rest areas for all users	Opihi River Reserve, Fairlie	User Experience	By providing rest stops and seating along river reserves, provision is made for all ages and abilities to enjoy the park.	\$-\$\$	Tekapo Trails Trust	Medium
	Lake Ruataniwha, Twizel					Medium
	Twizel River/Fraser Stream					Medium
Provide provision for formalised parking to enhance use of the site for the public	Murray Park, Tekapo	Connection	Better access for visitors, enhanced connection to parks.	\$-\$\$		Low
	Man-made hill					Medium
Provide all accessible and inclusive seating and tables with appropriate shade and shelter in signature/destination parks	Lake Ruataniwha	User Experience	Inclusive facilities and enhance amenity for locals and visitors	\$-\$\$		Low
	Fairlie Village Green					Medium
	Tekapo Lakeside Domain					Medium
Provide free exercise equipment in local parks to promote community health and wellbeing	Identify suitable parks/routes e.g. Lake Tekapo, Fairlie Village green	User Experience	Locals and visitors have unprohibited access to free fitness equipment. Enhanced wellbeing for all.	\$-\$\$		Low
	Tekapo Lake Reserve					Low
Upgrade lighting to provide high quality and safe connections through parks (in keeping with the Dark sky guidelines)	Twizel Alleyways/Greenways	User Experience	Connections are safe and comfortable for users	\$\$		Medium
	Tekapo Lakeside Domain	Connection				Low

Actions	Parks where action applies	Associated Policy	Outcome	Approx. Cost	Key Partners	Priorities
Consistent implementation and establishment plan for planting i.e. irrigation and pest management	All parks	Environment Management Partnership	Vegetation within parks are consistently maintained across the district to the same standard.	\$	ECAN	Medium
Enhance the vibrancy of open spaces through inclusion of local artworks/ murals etc	Alleyways/Greenways, Twizel	User Experience	Both local and visitor experience is enhanced. Locals feel included in the development of their open spaces.	\$	Local Community groups/ Schools	Medium
	Aorangi Crescent Park					Low
Integrate Maori names for spaces into all wayfinding/signage	All parks	Partnership User experience	Signage acknowledges the culture of the place and is inclusive to all.	\$	Mana Whenua	High
Create a framework for engagement with Iwi groups	All parks	Partnership	Terms of engagement are understood between parties. Inclusive decision making	\$	Mana Whenua	Medium

## Trails

Trail	Action	Associated Goal	Outcome	Approx. cost	Potential partner organisations	Priority
Surveys and monitoring						
General	Identify key trails and locations to monitor walking and cycling trail use trends and install trail counters that can differentiate between walking and cycling user groups	Management	Trail use trends on a network level are better understood and can be used to secure further funding from partner organisations and assess the effectiveness of strategic plans	\$	Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, Ecan, Tekapo Trails Trust, Alps2Ocean Trust	High
Walking and cycling infrastructure - Existing						
Fairlie River Walk	Upgrade track to target level of service	User experience Management	A trail that locals are proud of and leads to increased use by residents and visitors	\$	Fairlie Lions	High
	Provide safe crossing for walking and cycling on SH79 bridge over Opihi river to link Fairlie River walk and Opihi walkway	Connection Partnership	Provide safe walking and cycling connection between town centre and residents on eastern side of river	\$\$\$	Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency	Medium
	Trail to be upgraded to form part of the Alps2Bay cycle trail	User experience Partnership	A nationally significant trail that attracts domestic and international tourists	\$\$\$	Fairlie Lions and Alps2Bay representatives	Low
Opihi Walkway	Upgrade track surface and signage to and from town centre and at all junctions. Surface and signage to accommodate horse riders	User experience	A trail that locals are proud of that can be used by multiple different user groups.	\$	Fairlie Lions	High
	Provide safe crossing connection between Fairlie River walk and Opihi walkway	Connection	Safe and seamless journey	\$\$	Fairlie Lions	Medium
	Create loop track along SH8 from Kimbell to Fairlie	Connection	Safe and seamless journey	\$\$	(Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency/Fairlie Lions)	Medium
Opihi River Track	Trail to be upgraded to form part of the Alps2Bay cycle trail	User experience Partnership	A nationally significant trail that attracts domestic and international tourists	\$\$\$	Fairlie Lions and Alps2Bay representatives	Low
Jack Lovelock Memorial Track	Upgrade wayfinding signage. Add historical/cultural signage at key viewpoint locations. Construct safe path to provide off-road trail on School Road (posted speed limit of 80km/h)	User experience Connection	A small town -based loop that is used by residents for exercise and increases a sense of historical identity for the community	\$		High
Cowans Hill Track/Walkway	Provide link trail from Cowan's Hill back to Tekapo town centre	Connection	The trail connects seamlessly with the town centre and allows people to avoid using a high speed section of SH8	\$\$	Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency	Medium
	Provide better wayfinding signage for all trails leading to/from Cowan's Hill	User experience	Visitors are able to navigate between the trail and the town centre without a map	\$	Ecan	High
	Provide safe crossing point across SH8 between ECan Regional Park and Cowans Hill Track	Connection	Residents and visitors have a seamless and safe trail connection across SH8	\$\$	Mackenzie District Council, Waka Kotahi	High
	Replace stile access to ECan Regional Park with cattle stop or gate	User experience	Improves accessibility for people that are unable to lift their bike over a fence	\$	Ecan, Tekapo Trails Trust	High

Trail	Action	Associated Goal	Outcome	Approx. cost	Potential partner organisations	Priority
<b>Sawdon Trails and Lagoon Track</b>	Advertise existing trails on Canterbury's regional tourism organisation (ChristchurchNZ)	Partnership	Visitors to the Mackenzie District are aware of the trail and what it offers	\$	ChristchurchNZ Tekapo Trails Trust	High
	Provide signage from ECan Regional Park and Cowans Hill track directing walkers and cyclists to the trails and improve road crossing points	User experience Connection	Improves accessibility and journey experience	\$	Ecan, Tekapo Trails Trust Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency	High
<b>Lake George Scott Track</b>	Upgrade track to agreed levels of service as well as wayfinding to/from trail	User experience	Residents and visitors are aware of the trail and use it regularly for recreation and enjoyment	\$	Tekapo Trails Trust	Short term
	Review trail for cultural and/or historical educational opportunities	Environment	Trail creates opportunities for learning and deeper engagement with the environment	\$	Tekapo Trails Trust	Short term
<b>Lake Tekapo Regional Park</b>	Upgrade wayfinding within the park and at all entrances to the park	User experience	Trails within the park are connected and users know where they are.	\$	ECan / Tekapo Trails Trust	Short term
	Improve marketing of park and facilities within town centre	Management	Visitors to the town know about the park and use its facilities	\$	ECan	Short term
<b>Richmond Trail</b>	Create off-road connection trail for walkers and cyclists to link with Ecan regional park and Tekapo town.	Environment User Experience Connection	Walkers on the Te Araroa connect to the town centre on a trail that highlights the environment, and cultural history of the Tekapo basin	\$\$\$	Te Araroa Trust/DOC	Medium Term
<b>Tekapo Mt John Walkway</b>	Upgrade track to agreed levels of surface and consider accommodating bicycles along lakefront section to the Peninsular track	User Experience	Mt John Walkway is a key visitor asset and is used regularly by the local community	\$\$	DOC / Tekapo Trails Trust	Medium Term
	Improve gateway treatment at both Tekapo Springs trail heads	User Experience	The lakeside section of Mt John Walkway has a defined starting point that attracts users	\$	DOC	Short term
	Connect to Peninsula Track, Lake McGregor and Lake Alexandrina	Connection Environment	A continuous network of quality trails allows for safe exploration of the surrounding environment	\$\$	Tekapo Trails Trust / DOC	Medium Term
<b>Te Araroa</b>	Increase signage for the Te Araroa trail in Tekapo and provide dedicated space for camping	User Experience	Walkers on the TA feel welcomed when arriving and departing from Tekapo	\$	DOC / Te Araroa trust	Medium Term
<b>Alps2Ocean</b>	Widen shared path across Tekapo river bridge to provide a quality connection for alternative start	User Experience Connection	The route from the alternative start is aligned with a nationally significant trail	\$\$	Waka Kotahi	Medium Term
	Investigate and cost the best option for cyclists to travel between Twizel and Ōhau weir so they do not share a road with vehicles. \$ MDC Medium term	Connection	The roading network	\$	Alps2Ocean / DOC / WK /MDC	Short term
	Construct an off-road trail at East Pukaki so Alps to Ocean cyclists can avoid the use of Hayman Road and inherent hazards. \$\$\$ MDC/MBIE Short term					
<b>Tasman River Track</b>	Review trail for cultural and/or historical educational opportunities	Environment	Trail highlights unique aspects of the Mackenzie	\$	DOC	Long term

Trail	Action	Associated Goal	Outcome	Approx. cost	Potential partner organisations	Priority
<b>Lake Pukaki area tracks</b>	Includes Pukaki Kettle Hole, Marker Bay Track, and Pukaki Boulders tracks. Review all trails for cultural and/or historical educational opportunities	User Experience	Existing trails are a conduit for understanding and appreciating the wider environment	\$	DOC	Short term
<b>Twizel area tracks</b>	Includes Ben Ohau Wetland Track, Darts Bush Stream Track, and Flanagan Pass Trail. Review all tracks for connections to existing network and cultural and/or historical educational opportunities	User Experience Connection	All trails surround Twizel can be accessed from the existing trail network	\$\$	DOC	Medium Term
<b>Walking and cycling infrastructure - Proposed</b>						
<b>Fairlie region</b>	Fairlie to Lake Opuha trail	Connection	Connecting Fairlie with Lake Opuha will increase recreation within the community	\$\$	Fairlie Lions	Low
	Lake Opuha loop trail - a walking and cycling trail that encompasses the perimeter of the lake	User experience	Additional walking and cycling asset that brings visitors to the district and provides locals with quality recreational opportunities	\$\$	DOC	Low
<b>Albury settlement</b>	Develop walking and cycling trails as per the spatial plan and look for opportunities to connect with Te Ana a wai	User experience	Transport infrastructure supports and enables walking and cycling as the primary mode choice for a variety of different purposes	\$	Mackenzie District Council	Medium
<b>Burkes Pass settlement</b>	Develop walking and cycling trails as per the spatial plan and consider future linkages with the Alps2Bay cycle trail	User Experience Connection	Transport infrastructure supports and enables walking and cycling as the primary mode choice for a variety of different purposes	\$	Mackenzie District Council	Medium
<b>Kimbell settlement</b>	Develop walking and cycling trails as per the spatial plan	User experience	Transport infrastructure supports and enables walking and cycling as the primary mode choice for a variety of different purposes	\$	Mackenzie District Council	Medium
<b>Tekapo region</b>	Lake Alexandrina walking and cycling trail that links with existing network	User experience User Experience Connection	Locals and visitors have opportunities to explore and engage the landscape	\$\$	DOC / Tekapo Trails Trust / Mackenzie District Council	Medium
	Create lakefront shared path to connect Lake Tekapo Regional Park to Tekapo springs	Environment User Experience Connection	A connected pathway from the spine that connects the town, regional park and Mount John observatory and enables cultural, ecological, and historical learning opportunities	\$	Mackenzie District Council / Ecan	High
	Develop Cairns Walkway and connections to township	Environment	A unique vantage point is provided over the Mackenzie Drylands landscape	\$	Mackenzie District Council	High
	Tekapo mountain bike park	User Experience	A mountain bike park adds diversity to the existing trail network, supports the local tourism industry, and provides locals with a quality recreational asset	\$	Mackenzie District Council	Medium
	Continue to develop walking and cycling trails in the forestry block bordering Cowans Hill and the southern edge of Tekapo including connections with and through subdivisions	Management Partnership Connection	Local organisations are supported in developing this area to help provide a comprehensive network of walking and cycling trails	\$	Tekapo Trails Trust / Mackenzie District Council	High

Trail	Action	Associated Goal	Outcome	Approx. cost	Potential partner organisations	Priority
Twizel region	Develop walking and cycling trails at Man Made Hill, Dump Hill and connecting trail linkages. Engage with passionate group of local children	Connection User Experience Environment	Opportunities for cultural, ecological and historical engagement due to unique vantage point	\$	Mackenzie District Council / Twizel youth involved in developing cycling trails at Dump Hill	High
	Consolidate and enhance walking and cycling network around Lake Ruataniwha	Connection User Experience	A clear network of walking and cycling trails around Lake that serve recreation, commuting and passive enjoyment	\$	DOC / Meridian Rowing Centre / DOC / Mackenzie District Council / Lake Ruataniwha Holiday Park & Motels	High
	Upgrade Twizel River Track between SH8, Glen Lyon Road, and Nor'West Arch	User Experience Connection	The trail network is used by locals as the primary way to get around town and connects with footpaths and green spaces within Twizel	\$	Mackenzie District Council	Medium
	Develop walking and cycling trail along Glen Lyon Road / Fraser Stream to connect with DOC Twizel area tracks west of Pukaki canal	Connection User Experience	Nearby recreational opportunities on DOC land are accessible from Twizel	\$	Mackenzie District Council	Medium
Plan changes and standards						
General	Set specific, measurable, and timely targets for achieving walking and cycling goals within the MDC Transportation Activity Management Plan	Management	Setting targets and reviewing progress on an annual basis will ensure continued progress to increase walking and cycling participation throughout Mackenzie	\$	Mackenzie District Council	High
General	A Resource Management Act Plan change should require all developers to develop community walking and cycling plans as part of new subdivisions that are connected with the wider trail network and offer a higher level of network permeability than motor vehicle use	Connection User experience	Walking and cycling is easier within and between subdivisions than driving a car so that a greater share of trips is completed on foot or by bike.	\$	Mackenzie District Council	High
General	Create a trail management framework that identifies key operators, maintenance standards, contracts, agreed levels of service, and standard levels of compliance	Partnership Management	Existing and new trails are operated and maintained to the agreed standard and provides the basis for council and trail operators to work together	\$	All trail operators	High
General	Include walking and cycling within the Waka Kotahi road corridor as a key item in the Transportation Activity Management Plan - 2018-2028	Partnership Management Connection	Helps to secure funding for walking and cycling projects within the state highway road corridor. A package of work that significantly reduces the severance caused by the state highway and creates a safe, inclusive, and connected trail network especially for school aged children	\$	Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency Ecan Tekapo Trails Trust Fairlie Lions	High

Trail	Action	Associated Goal	Outcome	Approx. cost	Potential partner organisations	Priority
General	Amend the Transportation Activity Management Plan - 2018-2028 to ensure routine maintenance activities upgrade the walking and cycling components of the network	Partnership Management	A large amount of taxpayer funding is spent on providing like-for-like during standard maintenance intervals. Optimising this process could result in large improvements to the walking and cycling network and relatively small additional cost to what is already budgeted	\$	Mackenzie District Council	High
Complementary facilities and signage						
General	Create a consistent / common branding theme for wayfinding information for all trails not on DOC land	User experience	Wayfinding is intuitive for residents and visitors on the trail network and within town centres which helps raise levels of walking and cycling	\$	Mackenzie District Council	High
General	Ensure sufficient, quality walking and cycling provisions are available in each town centre/ near central core businesses	User experience Management	All types of walking and cycling activity are supported and seen as a part of everyday life, and see it as a safe transport choice especially for short trip journeys	\$\$	Mackenzie District Council	High

## Playgrounds

Actions	Associated Goal	Outcome	Approx. Cost	Priority
Improve Fairlie Village Green playground.	Play spaces meet the local need Enhance play experiences Play spaces attract visitors	Enhanced Fairlie playground with additional equipment , e.g. a climbing and spinning item. Appealing to local children and traveling families.	<b>\$400,000</b>	Medium
Scale back the Fairlie Domain playground and focus on 10 years plus age group.	Play spaces meet the local need Enhance play experiences	Retain flying fox and other equipment to cater to older children requiring challenge and dexterity.	<b>\$50,000</b>	Low
Create an outstanding themed destination playground at Lake Tekapo Domain building on what is already there.	Play spaces attract visitors Enhance play experiences	Improved play quality. An enticing and challenging destination playground for local children and a magnet for traveling families.	<b>\$750,000</b>	Medium
Upgrade the Twizel Market Place playground.	Play spaces meet the local need Enhance play experiences Play spaces attract visitors	Improved play quality. Appealing to local children and traveling families. Strengthening community connections.	<b>\$500,000</b>	Medium
Add shade where possible through tree planting at all playgrounds.	Enhance play experiences	Council taking a lead role in protecting the wellbeing of the community from UV damage. Trees planted for shade provide amenity also	<b>\$50,000</b>	High
Provide an adventure playground at Lake Ruataniwha as part of the wider destination park proposal.	Play spaces attract visitors Play spaces meet the local need	Improving the liveability of the district. Supporting the local economy by providing activities to encourage visitors to stay longer.	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	Medium
Shift the Lakeside Drive playground to a better site nearby and enhance.	Play spaces meet the local need Enhance play experiences	Neighborhood playgrounds support localised play opportunities.	<b>\$300,000</b>	High
Remove Tekapo Community Hall swings	Play spaces meet the local need Enhance play experiences	Neighborhood playgrounds support localised play opportunities. Potential to support community events at the hall. Strengthening community connections.	<b>\$5,000</b>	Medium
Remove the Scott Street playground and establish new playground in eastern area. Possibly on lower Hamilton Street	Play spaces meet the local need Enhance play experiences Play spaces attract visitors	Neighborhood playgrounds support localised play opportunities. Strengthening community connections.	<b>\$300,000</b>	Low
Total			<b>\$3,355,000</b>	

## Public Toilets

Actions	Associated Goal	Outcome	Approx. Cost	Priority
Install a single cubicle toilet at the Jollie car park.	Environmental benefits Support a thriving local tourist industry	Maintain the natural values, sustain public health and enhance the visitor experience. The location chosen needs to minimise impact on the landscape.	<b>\$120,000</b>	High
Replace Fairlie town centre toilet block.	Public toilets are appealing to use Support a thriving local tourist industry	A premium toilet that is a high standard, fit for purpose, and meets the community and visitors needs and expectations.	<b>\$736,000*</b>	High
Replace the Pukaki Lookout toilet block.	Support a thriving local tourist industry Public toilets are appealing to use	Wait times are a rare occurrence.	<b>\$966,000*</b>	High
Replace and increase capacity at Hayman Road corner.	Support a thriving local tourist industry Public toilets are appealing to use	Appropriate facilities are available for Alps 2 Ocean cyclists and tourists. Maintain the natural values, sustain public health and enhance the visitor experience.	<b>\$250,000</b>	High
Provide new toilets at Lake Ruataniwha lagoon as part of destination park development.	Support a thriving local tourist industry Public toilets are appealing to use	Maintain the natural values, sustain public health and enhance the visitor experience.	<b>\$400,000*</b>	High
Install a free to use camper effluent dump station in Fairlie	Environmental benefits Support a thriving local tourist industry	Meet the needs and expectations of visitors to the District.	<b>\$95,000*</b>	High
Include in operational work programme actions to make designated accessible toilets fully compliant.	Appealing to use and community needs are met Support a thriving local tourist industry	Full compliance with NZS4121	<b>\$50,000</b> LoS	High
Improve both directional and identification signage for toilets using internationally accepted signage.	Support a thriving local tourist industry	Visitors can easily locate toilets and there is consistent identification signage throughout the District.	<b>\$20,000</b> LoS	High
Install a single cubicle fully accessible toilet at a location between Twizel and the Ohau weir for Alps 2 Ocean cyclists and anglers.	Environmental benefits Support a thriving local tourist industry	Maintain the natural values, sustain public health and enhance the visitor experience.	<b>\$100,000</b>	Medium
Increase capacity by extending the Twizel Marketplace facility.	Support a thriving local tourist industry Appealing to use and community needs are met	Wait times are a rare occurrence. A premium toilet that is a high standard, fit for purpose, and meets the community and visitors' needs and expectations.	<b>\$320,000</b>	Medium
Seek a formalised MOU with Lakes Alexandrina and MacGregor Camping Trust for management of the two camping sites including toilets.	Support a thriving local tourist industry Appealing to use and community needs are met	Council manages risk by confirming hygiene and condition of public facilities is maintained on their land.	<b>Staff time</b>	Medium
Install toilet counters or undertake observational survey to help set correct frequency for cleaning.	Appealing to use and community needs are met Support a thriving local tourist industry	To match the Level of Service with users expectations. Ensure Council costs are targeted and budgets are set correctly.	<b>\$10,000</b> LoS	Medium

\* These projects are currently funded by the Tourism Infrastructure Fund application



## Appendix C

# Parks Management Standards



Image Credit: Hollie Woodhouse

## Management Standards

Park category	Signature:	Community:	Local:
<b>Sports and Recreation</b>	A park for use by high or premier grades of competition and organized sport. A high level of use. A large range of assets provided and maintained to a high standard.	A park for use by high grades of competition sport. A medium level of use. A range of assets provided and maintained to a high standard.	A park for use lower grades of sport or low levels of utilization. Maintained at a standard for junior and lower club competition and play.
<b>Neighborhood</b>	A high-profile park which people travel some distance to use due to the high range and high quality (and sometimes custom) assets including picnic tables, shelters, barbecues, play equipment, planting and toilets. Maintained to the highest standard.	A large park that people will often travel several kilometres to use. A good range and number of quality assets provided including play equipment, picnic tables, bench seating, toilets, and planting. Maintained at a high standard.	A local park located in a neighborhood, designed to be used by local residents and within walking distance from their home. Few basic quality assets such as seating and planting provided and maintained to a basic standard.
<b>Nature</b>	A large-scale natural park with a high level of use. Located in a natural setting with the main purpose of experience and protection of the environment.  Provides opportunity for a range of low impact recreational activities. Provides high quality amenity facilities including carparking, walking and cycling tracks, toilets, camping facilities, signage and visitor information centres.  Maintained at the highest standard to protect the natural environment.	A large-scale natural park in a natural setting with a moderate level of use.  Provides opportunity for a range of low impact recreational activities. Provides high quality amenity facilities including walking, cycling tracks, toilet, and signage.  Maintained at a high standard to protect the environment.	A large-scale natural park in a natural setting with a low level of use.  Provides some high-quality low impact activities and facilities including walking tracks, toilets, and signage.  Maintained at a basic standard to protect the environment.
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	A park that preserves the built cultural environment and provides for heritage conservation. An iconic and historic place that people travel from some distance to visit. Facilities include ancillary visitor centres such as carparking, toilets and information signage. Maintained at the highest standard to preserve the value of the site.	An iconic and historic site place that people travel to visit. Provides facilities for visitors including toilets and signage. Maintained at a high standard to preserve the value of the site.	An iconic place that is significant to the local place and people.  Provides facilities including toilets and signage. Maintained at a basic standard to preserve the value of the site.
<b>Civic</b>	A large open space that is in the heart of a key business/retail area and provides a range of high-quality amenity space including hard and soft landscape, water features, art, lighting and furniture for social gatherings, entertainment, and enjoyment. Maintained to the highest standard of presentation.	An open space that is located adjacent to businesses/retail shops. Provides high quality amenities such as seating, planting, paved areas and lighting for rest and relaxation.  Maintained at a high standard.	An open space that is located adjacent to businesses/retail shops. Provides basic quality amenities provided such as small areas of seating, paving and basic planting.  Maintained at a basic standard.
<b>Recreational and Ecological Linkages</b>	A Linear park or green corridor that cater for active transport and provide ecological linkages. Provide a wide range of environments used for passive and active recreation including open mown grass areas for play, picnicking, walking and cycling. Include high quality tracks, furniture, signage and planting that supports enhancement and protection of the environment.  Maintained at the highest standard.	A Linear park or green corridor that cater for active transport and provide ecological linkages. Provide areas for passive recreation picnicking, walking and cycling. Include high quality tracks, furniture, signage and planting that supports enhancement and protection of the environment.  Maintained at the highest standard.	A linear space with the primary purpose of providing a connection for active modes.  Provides tracks, furniture at key locations and signage.  Maintained at a basic standard.



D

Appendix D  
**Strategic Context  
Expanded**



- **Mackenzie District Council Long Term Plan 2021-2031**

The Long Term Plan is Council's main planning document. It details the activities Council intends to carry out over the next ten years, how much these activities will cost, and how they will be funded.

- **Mackenzie District Council Transportation Activity Management Plan - 2018-2028**

The Transportation Activity Management Plan has been developed to provide Council with a long term management tool for the road asset. It sets out the current asset condition, what issues are currently and likely to impact on the asset and the costs associated with maintaining, operating, renewing, developing, and disposing of the asset.

- **Mackenzie District Council 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy - 2018-2048**

This Infrastructure Strategy has been developed to provide Mackenzie District Council with a long term (30 years) strategic document for the effective planning and management of its infrastructure assets. It sets out what issues are currently and likely to impact on those assets and the costs associated with maintaining, operating, renewing, and developing the asset.

- **Mackenzie District Council Annual Plan**

The annual plan details the activities Council intends to carry out over the coming financial year, how much these activities will cost, and how they will be funded. The plans, which are required by law, are prepared in consultation with the public in the years between LTCCPs (which are produced every three years).

- **Mackenzie District Council Te Manahuna Ki Uta - Destination Mackenzie**

Te Manahuna Ki Uta / Destination Mackenzie is a multi-partner strategic planning process for the Mackenzie District led by Mackenzie District Council. Co-design with our Treaty Partner is a crucial element of the project and all work will be informed by mana whenua values and aspirations.

- **Mackenzie District Council Spatial Plans**

The Mackenzie Spatial Plans will create a 30-year vision of what the future could look like in Fairlie, Takapō and Twizel. The project will ensure our main townships are maintained as places for people, ensuring growth can occur in a way that benefits the local community and improves where we live.

## Walking and cycling strategy review

- There is a need to ensure the outcomes and vision sought by this strategy are kept in alignment with partner organisation visions and outcome's
- Alignment with key strategic documents
- The trail strategy aims to achieve high level strategic outcomes that improve people's wellbeing, enhance the liveability of the Mackenzie District and increase attractiveness of the district as a destination. This strategy provides alignment with key strategic documents including:
- Ministry of Transport's Transport Outcomes Framework
- A high-quality transport system is crucial to supporting and improving our wellbeing. This outlines 5 outcome areas to contribute to this purpose: inclusive access, healthy and safe people, economic prosperity, environmental sustainability, and resilience and security.

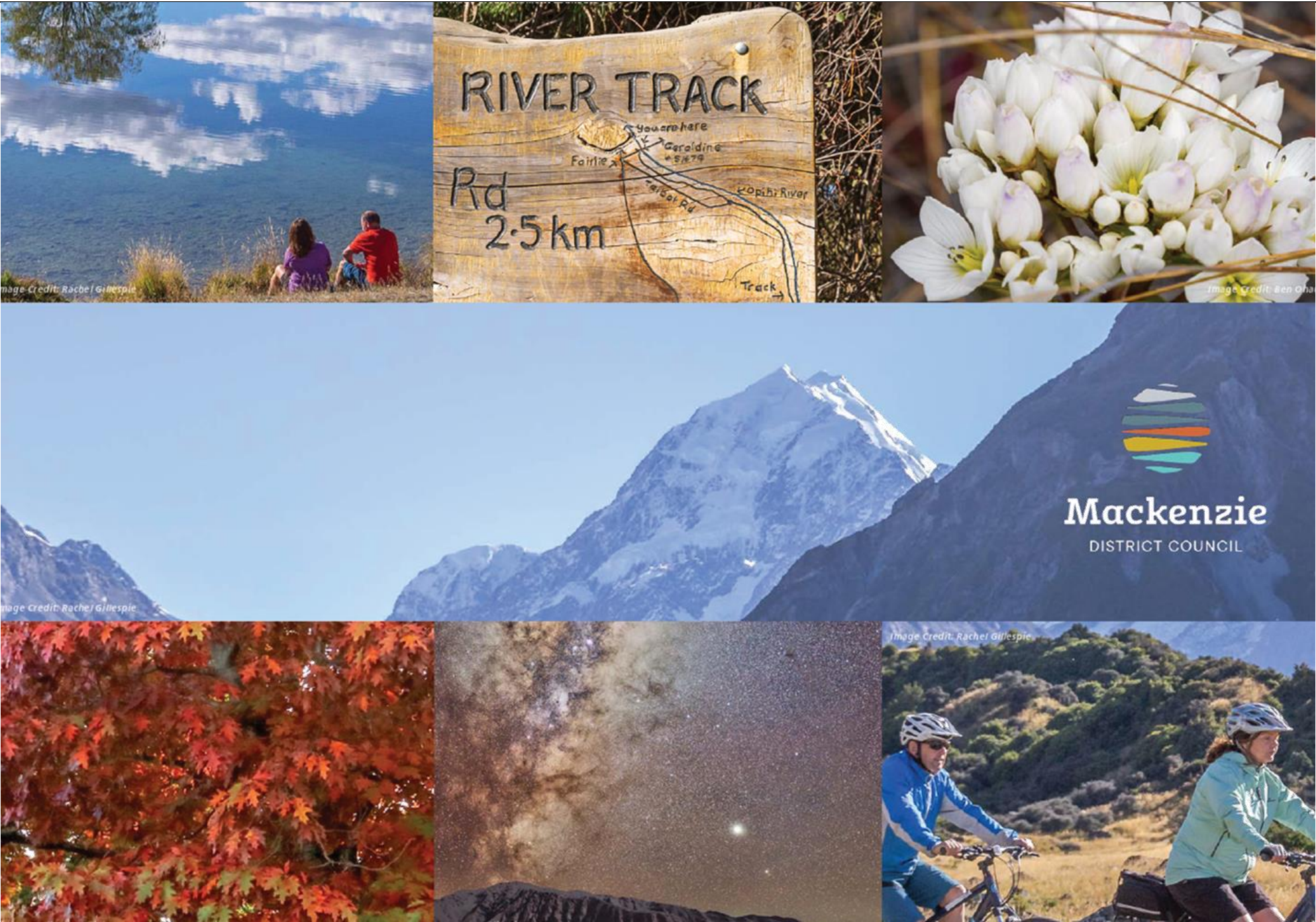


*Figure 5 1: Transport needs to make a positive contribution across the 5 core outcomes defined above (Ministry of Transport Te Anga Whakatakoto Hua mō ngā Waka - Transport Outcomes Framework)*

- **Canterbury Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2031**

The Canterbury Regional Land Transport Plan is prepared by the Regional Transport Committee and guides land transport planning and investment within a region. It sets out the current state of a region's transport network, the challenges facing the network and priorities for future investment.





# **Summary of feedback on the intention to prepare a Reserve Management Plan for Ruātaniwha Recreation Reserve**

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**May 2022**

## Summary of feedback on the intention to prepare a Reserve Management Plan for Ruataniwha Recreation Reserve

### REVISION HISTORY

Date Created:	
Review Date:	May 2022
Department:	
Responsible Officer:	
Sponsor:	
Approved by:	
New Review Date:	

Summary of feedback on the intention to prepare a Reserve Management Plan for  
Ruataniwha Recreation Reserve

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## 1.0 Consultation data

2

Notification of public consultation on the intention to prepare the reserve management plan was undertaken mid-March to mid-April 2021.

Information about the consultation went live on the 'Let's Talk' page on the Mackenzie District Council website on 10 March 2022, and a public notice published in the Timaru Herald on the same day. Articles about the proposed plan were also published in the March Monthly 'News and Information' page – a full page that appears in each month's Courier, a weekly newspaper based in Timaru and distributed across South Canterbury households. Twizel Promotions and Development Association also published an article about the plan in its Twizel Update publication.

Key stakeholders were contacted, advising them of the project, in late December 2021 and initial meetings were held in late January 2022 with the following stakeholders:

- Twizel Community Board representatives and Twizel Ward Councillors
- Twizel Residents and Ratepayers Association
- Sport Twizel and Sport South Canterbury
- South Island Rowing
- Lake Ruataniwha Campground Management
- Department of Conservation
- Environment Canterbury Regional Council
- Twizel Promotions and Development Association
- Alps to Ocean
- Te Araroa Trail
- Meridian Energy
- Mackenzie Tourism Marketing
- Fish and Game New Zealand

The closing date for the consultation was Sunday 10 April 2022.

Comments were received from 91 individuals or organisations. These were predominantly received via MDC's online 'Let's Talk' page. Fish and Game submitted feedback via email and Sport Twizel submitted a formal response through the 'Let's Talk' page. Notes from meetings and conversations with all other key stakeholders are considered formal feedback to inform the draft plan.

Over the course of the consultation period the 'Let's Talk' page received 152 visits and 90 responses.

Te Runanga o Arowhenua hold the mana whenua of the area and they were engaged on this project in November 2021. They identified that, due to the modified nature of the valley, most sites of significance that were along the Ohau River would have been drowned when the lake was filled, and the reserve itself was of little significance. However, they did indicate the whole area has cultural significance for them, and that there is a great opportunity to tell the story of this area before it was developed and explain what the

*Summary of feedback on the intention to prepare a Reserve Management Plan for  
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impacts of the hydro scheme have been. The project team will continue to work with Te Runanga o Arowhenua through the plan drafting phase.



## 2.0 General overview of feedback

Overall, most feedback was positive and focused on the potential opportunities to develop the reserve and enhance the visitor experience.

The equestrian community provided the most feedback and accounted for 61% of all feedback received via the 'Let's Talk' page. Most equestrian-related feedback generally requested provision for horse riding in the reserve. However, other topics included horse float parking and provision for overnight camping and overnight holding paddocks.

People commented on the value of developing the play offer at the reserve and a number noted the need to improve and upgrade other existing facilities such as toilets and picnic areas.

To a lesser extent people noted the need for tree management and in particular the need to replace wilding pines with more appropriate species.

There was a mixed response regarding development of sports fields at the park. However, there were almost twice as many in favour of sports fields than opposed to the idea.

Developing the walking and cycle network in the park was seen as important, as was having access to toilets and shade, and better access to the lake edge.

Most responses related to the reserve, although some out-of-scope feedback was received. For example, issues and suggestions relating to the recreational boating on the lake and providing safe access to Max Smith Drive from SH8.

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## 3.0 Main themes



The main themes in the feedback relating to the reserve included:

- General support and complimentary comments to the Council for initiating development of a plan for the reserve
- Provision for horse riding, including trails, float parking and camping
- Requests for a dedicated space for a dog park
- Support for improving and expanding walking and cycling trails
- More and upgraded areas and facilities for picnicking
- Requests to upgrade and expand the play area
- Support for improving and upgrading toilet provision
- Requests to improve boat launching and trailer parking facilities
- Support for better access to the lake edges and development of the lagoon area

## 4.0 Key stakeholder engagement

A number of key stakeholders referred to the reserve as the 'jewel' in Twizel's crown, provided a range of insightful information and suggestions and were generally excited and enthusiastic about the plan.

Both South Island Rowing and Lake Ruataniwha campground management provided excellent information about how the reserve currently functions and interacts with their respective sites and is used by their patrons as well as the public.

South Island Rowing is currently preparing a master plan for their site and acknowledges there are potential synergies between the sites that can be achieved as both sites are developed.

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## 5.0 Key issues



Whilst respondents largely focused on how they would like to see the park develop in the future and potential improvements, a small number of issues were raised in the feedback; these included:

- Feedback from the equestrian community that focused on the loss of horse riding opportunities in the district as walking and cycling trails develop, and requested the plan recognise and provide for horse riding in the reserve
- Twenty respondents commented on the lack of provision and quality of existing visitor facilities such as picnic tables, toilets and play equipment. Specifically respondents noted a collapsed picnic table in the lagoon area, quality and inadequacy of the existing toilets and the need to modernise/upgrade play equipment. Three respondents specifically mentioned the need for more rubbish bins; one suggested if additional rubbish bins weren't an option then a pack in pack out education campaign should be implemented
- Mixed comments were received regarding tree management. One comment cited the absence of tree management being an issue with respect to fire risk. Another comment noted the potential hazard that has been created by fallen trees between the lake and Max Smith Drive, after recent heavy winds, and suggests removal of the pines in this area and replacement with more suitable species
- Other respondents had an issue with parts of the lagoon area being shut off during rowing events and believes the entire lagoon area should be publicly available during rowing events. One respondent did acknowledge that COVID requirements may have been a reason the lagoon area was partially shut off during recent events
- Campervans and other vehicles with tents and shelters parking sideways along the lake edge, from the 1000m mark to the finish line, was cited as an issue as it reduced spectating opportunities during rowing events and impacted casual recreation at other times
- South Island Rowing commented that the lack of formal agreements for rowing infrastructure located on the park, that has been in-situ since before the reserve was created, is an issue they would like to address

A number of issues were raised that relate to various areas outside the reserve and outside the Mackenzie District Council jurisdiction; these include:

- The need for a safe turning from SH8 onto Max Smith Drive
- Request to extend the swimming only area further east towards the state highway

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- Restricting boating to the top end of the lake to reduce the impact of boat noise and wash in passive recreation areas around the lake



## 6.0 Proposed improvements

Respondents proposed a number of improvements to the reserve landscape, amenities and facilities including:

### **Horse Riding**

While the majority of equestrian-associated feedback related to providing for horse riding in the reserve, including allowing horses to be ridden on shared cycle and walking trails, some feedback also proposed the need for horse float parking as well as provision for an overnight camping and grazing area.

### **Development of Sports Fields**

A mixed response was received with regard to the concept of developing sports fields on the reserve. Nine of the 34 non-equestrian specific submissions advocated for sports field provision on the reserve. Two respondents proposed the need for artificial pitches to be included in sports field development, while other feedback supported development of ancillary facilities such as carparking and roading, lighting, embankment seating, modern changing room facilities and indoor facilities such as a gym and court space. One respondent proposed provision is made for a grandstand stadium.

Sport Twizel supported the concept of sports fields and identified the opportunity to develop fields away from the campground on the lake side of Kate Cameron Drive. They advised the existing playing fields on Ministry of Education land will soon be lost due to the school redevelopment and suggested the reserve could be the site of a future sports hub that includes a gym and changing facilities with ability to cater for traveling teams, which is not currently available in Twizel.

Five responses were received that opposed sports fields being developed on the reserve. Reasons respondents were opposed to the concept mainly related to the cost of connecting sport field infrastructure to services such as power, the need for sporting facilities to be within easy walking distance from schools, businesses and residential areas, the requirement for supporting infrastructure such as additional roading and carparking, and potential for restricted access to the lake during events.

One respondent was opposed to sports fields located close to the lake and suggested any future fields be located closer to the campground to avoid conflict with rowing's use of the area during regattas. Another respondent thought sports fields were not a practical use of the area where pine trees had recently been removed, and suggested native planting was a much better use of this area.

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### **Development of Picnic Areas**

Five people specifically commented on the need to develop more picnic areas throughout the reserve and upgrade of existing areas which are in a state of disrepair. Respondents suggested development of picnic areas should include covered food preparation and bbq areas, planting and appropriate shading. Another suggested designated bookable bbq areas that could be hired out for a small fee or donation.

### **Play**

Six people also specifically commented on the need to update play equipment and improve play opportunities in the reserve.

Respondents suggested play areas could be developed in the lagoon area where the existing play equipment is located, as well as alternative locations such as the area near the camping ground and the area between the eastern boat launching ramp and the rowing starting area.

One respondent suggested the scale of the playground could be enlarged and an adventure-style playground, flying fox and other play equipment included. While another suggested a taniwha themed playground. Three respondents proposed development of a fitness trail.

### **Toilets**

Five respondents specifically identified the need for improved public toilets. Comments included the need for clean flushing toilets and suggested toilet provision was essential in high use areas such as the lagoon area and near boat ramps.

### **Walking and Cycling Trails**

Eight respondents supported expanding and developing walking and cycling provision within the reserve. Four specifically supported the concept of a walking and cycling trail around the lake edge. Other suggestions included a walking/cycleway around the lagoon be developed and extended to Max Smith Drive, development of a kids' cycle track and marked trails with set distances.

### **Dog Exercise Area**

Five respondents specifically requested an area in the reserve is set aside as a designated dog exercise area. These comments generally called for a large fenced off area where dog owners can socialise dogs and let them exert their energy safely with other dogs.

### **Reserve Development**

A number of suggestions were received about developing different areas of the reserve to improve the visitor experience. This included comments supporting development of the lagoon area and the area near the graveyard/rowing start line and providing greater visitor amenities, landscape planting to deter 4WD vehicle and motorbike damage, along with other development opportunities highlighted throughout this summary. One response suggested moving vehicles back to the other side of the road from the 1000m

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mark to the finish line of the rowing course to allow more spectators, informal casual recreation and pedestrian use of this lake edge area.



#### **Trees and Plantings**

Six comments were received specifically about trees and vegetation. Two comments suggested removing existing vegetation and replanting the steep bank between the lake and Max Smith Drive to protect this from erosion and to alleviate the safety hazard created from recently fallen trees. One comment requested the trees in the lagoon area not to be cut down as shade is needed. Other comments identified the need for tree removal to enable views out to the lake and surrounding landscape.

South Island Rowing highlighted the importance that existing vegetation plays in providing wind protection along with shade and amenity. They suggested a succession planting plan would be useful to help manage the transition from pines to other vegetation.

#### **Access to the Lake**

A number of respondents highlighted the need to improve access to the lake. This included improvement of boat launching and trailer parking areas to enable safer and more efficient water access. As well as removing vegetation to create better access to the lake edge for recreation including swimming, fishing and boat-based recreation.

#### **Other Comments / Requests:**

- Request to seal carpark near rowing start line to deter reckless driving
- Suggestion consultation is worthwhile about a suitable future site for a yacht club
- Develop the highway end of Ruataniwha by the boat ramp and graveyard including a play area, cafes and restaurants, boardwalk and entertainment
- More accommodation and cooking facilities for rowing teams
- Support for commercial activity, such as mobile traders and recreation hire operators
- Support for lake-based events such as ocean water swim and water ski/wakeboard events to be staged from the reserve



**Mackenzie**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

**5.5 VESTMENT DOC LAND TEKAPO LAKEFRONT**

**Author:** Brian Milne, Community Facilities and Services Officer - Contractor

**Authoriser:** David Adamson, General Manager Operations - Acting

**Attachments:** Nil

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report requests the Engineering and Services Committee approve the vesting of public conservation land on the Tekapo lakefront to Council management as a Recreation Reserve.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the report be received.
2. That Engineering and Services Committee approve an application to the Department of Conservation for the vesting of Recreation Reserve on the Tekapo lakefront to Council management.

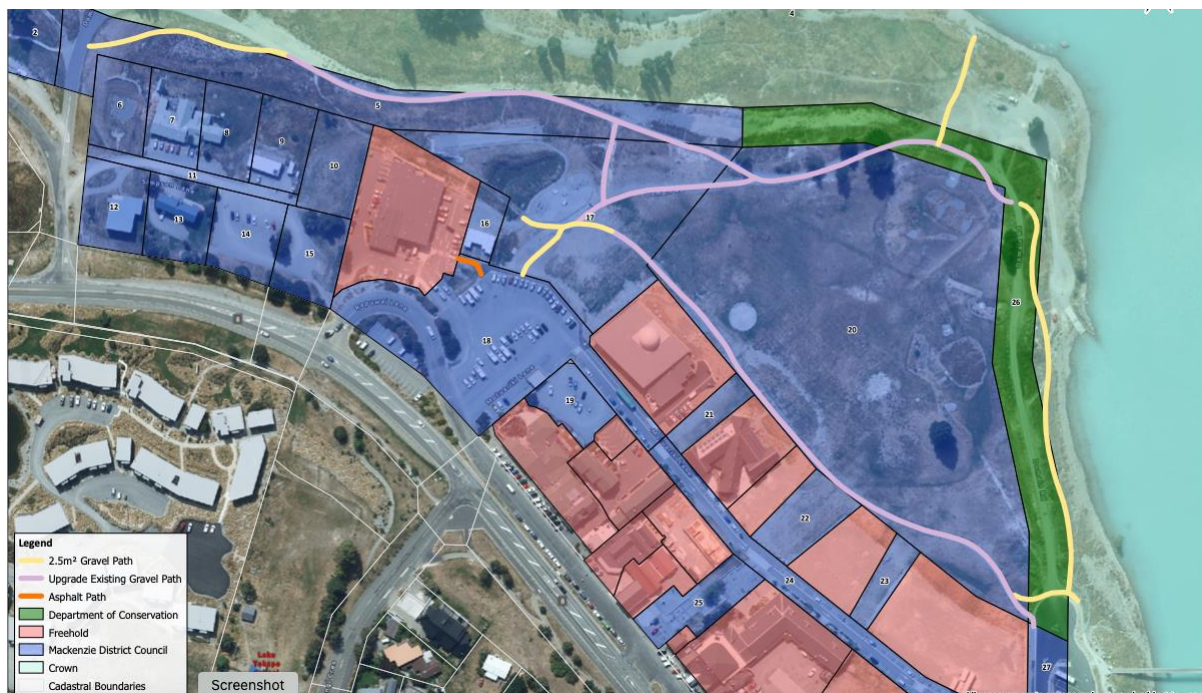
**BACKGROUND**

Council is undertaking minor improvements in the Tekapo township and lakefront areas as part of the Tekapo Development Plan. One of the projects is to undertake an upgrade of the reserve pathways.

It has been identified that a section of the pathway is located on public conservation land (Refer green area in Figure 1) and Council is proposing to make an application to DOC to have the control and management of the land vested in Mackenzie District Council as Recreation Reserve, which will align with the adjoining reserve land already owned by Council. This land was originally held by Council as road reserve but was transferred to Department of Conservation in 2008.

Communication with the Department of Conservation has confirmed their agreement in principle to this vesting.

Figure 1 – Map of Tekapo Lakefront property ownership



## POLICY STATUS

The public conservation land is within the Recreation Passive Zone under the current District Plan. The Zone Purpose is to provide for informal recreational use whilst “maintaining the open space or planted character and avoid cluttering with facilities”. Vesting of the conservation area to Council as Recreation Reserve will be entirely in keeping with the zone purpose.

## SIGNIFICANCE OF DECISION

This decision is of low significance to Council as there is no impact on the community and it is being undertaken as a logical step to better enable Council to improve the amenity values of the lakefront reserve area.

## OPTIONS

1. The Conservation Area is vested in Council to allow for consistent management of this Tekapo lakefront area.
2. Do nothing. Council will require a long term agreement with Department of Conservation for the construction and maintenance of a path on their land.

## CONSIDERATIONS

### Legal

The Department of Conservation will submit a gazette notice to:

1. Notify the land is changing from Conservation Area (under the Conservation Act 1989) to Recreation Reserve (under the Reserves Act 1977).
2. Notify this Recreation Reserve is being vested with Mackenzie District Council as the new controlling body.

**Financial**

It is expected that the cost of vesting the land to Council management will be less than \$5,000.

**CONCLUSION**

It is recommended that the Engineering and Services Committee approves the vesting of public conservation land on the Tekapo lakefront to Council management as a Recreation Reserve.

## 5.6 WASTE MINIMISATION AND MANAGEMENT REPORT

**Author:** Angie Taylor, Community Services and Solid Waste Officer

**Authoriser:** David Adamson, General Manager Operations - Acting

**Attachments:** Nil

### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the information be noted.

### BACKGROUND

#### Waste Minimisation and Management Services Contract

The new contract continues to bed in, with the contractor meeting performance targets. The recent major change to the contract is the switch in options provided within the contract to introduce the organics service. A flow on from the introduction of this services is that all residual waste, recycling and organic material is being transported to the Redruth waste facility, along with glass from the Friday collection day.

The contract also provides a shared resource with Timaru and Waimate District Council for two waste educator roles, work is underway to incorporate this resource into Mackenzie and setting education events and material.

#### Kerbside organics service

The green bin rollout took place in mid-March, with the new service commencing 21 March. The service provides weekly collection of 240 litre green wheelie bins that can accommodate both food and garden waste. This material is being transported to the organics facility at Redruth, Timaru, where it is processed into compost. Green bins have been well received by our communities and provide a user-friendly method of diverting waste from landfill. This service will provide a great step forward for waste minimisation and management for the district on an ongoing basis.

A change to the collection day for the Burkes Pass, Kimbell, Fairlie and Albury areas was required to accommodate the organics service, this collection is now operating on a Friday.

#### Health and Safety

The contractor has reported that there have been no recent significant injuries or incidents associated with the Waste Minimisation and Management Contract.

#### Recycling contamination

Mixed recycling continues to maintain acceptable contamination levels, with recent loads remaining under the 10% contamination threshold. Recycling is now being processed at the Redruth recycling facility in Timaru, rather than the previous method of transporting recycling to Christchurch.

#### Paper 4 Trees Programme

Council supports Paper 4 Trees, a school-based recycling programme that rewards school recycling with trees to plant. In the past year, 12 of our Mackenzie schools and preschools have been registered in the programme and have achieved the following:

- 16 tonnes of paper and cardboard recycled
- 129m<sup>3</sup> of landfill space saved
- 87 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> not produced in landfill

In return for these recycling efforts, Paper 4 Trees have provided our schools with 79 native trees to plant.



*St Joseph's School students sorting their recycling as part of the Paper 4 Trees Programme*

### **Waste Levy Reporting**

Changes to the National Waste Disposal Levy require regular reporting from the Council's Resource Recovery Parks and this new process is now underway. This reporting requirement and waste levy will also apply to the hardfill sites within the district from July this year. Staff are in the process of establishing the required systems to accommodate this.

### **Waste Data and Trends**

Waste diversion continues to remain strong, graphs showing waste data and trends are included below.

