

An open letter in support of a Queenstown - Wanaka public transport service:

The full letter drafted on behalf of the outdoor community by Protect Our Winters New Zealand can be found at www.protectourwinters.nz and [here](#).

Dear Otago Regional Councillors,

As a business operating in the Queenstown Lakes District, we strongly support the establishment of a public transport connection between Queenstown and Wānaka - as outlined in the open letter drafted by POW New Zealand.

Winter is vital to our economy and identity, but climate change poses a serious threat. Transport emissions account for 47% of the district's total emissions, and improving public transit is a clear, effective way to address this.

An electric bus service over the Crown Range would benefit everyone: businesses like ours, residents, and visitors. It would reduce emissions, ease congestion, improve access to key attractions, and enhance the district's reputation as a sustainable, world-class destination. This aligns directly with the ORC's Strategic Climate Action Plan goals, including decarbonising transport and reducing car use.

With 82% of residents concerned about climate change and strong community support for a Queenstown-Wānaka service, the demand is clear. As local leaders, you have the opportunity to take this necessary step for our environment and economy by including an electric bus connection in the ORC's next transport plan.

Our environment, economy, and community's future depend on sustainable action. Let's work together to ensure Queenstown Lakes thrives sustainably for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Name:

Business:

Signed | Date:

