

Cardrona Waste Water Treatment Scheme and costs

Due to the restrictions associated with COVID-19 alert level 4, our usual in-person update and request for feedback is not possible. We invite residents to read through the information that follows and check out the plans at www.qldc.govt.nz/your-council/major-projects/cardrona-wastewater-upgrade

Feedback can be provided via the residents and ratepayer association conference call on 20 April or email letstalk@qldc.govt.nz by 22 April.

UPDATE FOR CARDRONA RESIDENTS

This info pack provides a progress update on a proposed project to significantly improve wastewater infrastructure for the Cardrona Valley.

WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR

- > Queenstown Lakes District Council has entered into an agreement with the investors of Mount Cardrona Station to participate in the design and build of a significantly improved wastewater treatment plant and associated infrastructure for the Cardrona Valley.
- > The investors put the project out for tender in September 2019.
- > QLDC and the investors have worked together to evaluate tender submissions and progress the level of certainty around the best possible solution for the Cardrona community and the costs involved.
- > A preferred contractor has been selected and will be announced following final funding approval.

← GIN & RASPBERRY LAKE

PROPOSED SOLUTION

While planning for long term growth might not be front of mind in the current climate, work on essential infrastructure must continue. These types of 'shovel ready' projects play an important role in helping to keep our local economy going.

Design and construction of a new wastewater scheme will start as soon as possible following final funding approval. The intention is to have the new plant constructed by June 2021 (before the existing plant consent expires) then commissioned and tested through the winter of 2021.

The wastewater scheme will be constructed by Cardrona Valley Wastewater Limited (a project entity owned by Mt Cardrona Station Ltd) and vested in QLDC to serve the long-term wastewater needs of the Cardrona Valley.

This includes the Cardrona Alpine Resort, which has agreed to contribute funding towards the project and become a trade waste discharge partner.

QLDC will also complete a separate project to build a pipeline and pump station to connect the existing Cardrona Village to the new wastewater scheme.

This project is 20 years in the making and none of the three parties involved will be able to deliver a lower cost solution, while also meeting Otago Regional Council requirements to ensure the health of our waterways.

Check out the plans at www.qldc.govt.nz/your-council/major-projects/cardrona-wastewater-upgrade

WHAT WILL IT COST?

The cost to connect to the new infrastructure will be a development contribution of \$15,800 + GST per residential dwelling.

While the cost to connect may seem high when compared to what people in larger areas are paying for wastewater, it is comparable to other small schemes around NZ.

Hamilton \$11,500 to 14,400 + GST

Tauranga \$10,500 + GST

Tasman \$9,000 to \$11,500 + GST

The operation and maintenance costs require a rating charge of around \$750 + GST per annum.

ARE THERE PAYMENT OPTIONS?

While the costs are comparable to other small schemes, the Council acknowledges that some property owners may find it difficult to cover. Two payment options will be available for existing dwellings and vacant lots. Households can choose the option that works best for them:

Lump sum upfront. No interest charges will apply to this option

Payment plan 30 years (including interest). The annual payment is expected to be \$900 + GST/year (Assumes interest at 4.0% pa)

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

A fully community funded wastewater upgrade would be considerably more expensive. Collaborating with a private partner to deliver a cost competitive public wastewater system is a great outcome for the Cardrona community, removing the need for private septic tanks.

The proposed solution will provide vastly improved wastewater infrastructure to the Cardrona Valley and meet any long term demands that future growth might bring. The new infrastructure will be more environmentally friendly and reduce the risk of drinking water contamination.

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