



14 February 2010

**PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Chamber applauds Cycleway plan**

The Nelson Tasman Chamber of Commerce applauds the inclusion of our region in the government's cycleway plans as it recognises the potential economic benefits cycle ways can bring. "Our tourism industry and the wider business community have much to gain from a well developed tourist cycle way that meets the needs of local, national and international visitors" Dot Kettle, Chief Executive of the Nelson Tasman Chamber of Commerce said today.

Dot Kettle was commenting in support of news that the Nelson has been shortlisted for a place on the national cycle trail.

"The Central Otago Rail Trail is a fine example of the economic benefits that can come – and that can keep coming as reports indicate that 75% of businesses along the Central Otago Rail Trail route continue to grow nearly a decade on".

"The Chamber is delighted that regions like ours with well developed plans and keen cycling advocates are able to receive support from the government as part of the development of the national cycleway. While we were disappointed our region was not in the first round of grants last year we are delighted that two cycleways have been picked from the pool for consideration now" Dot Kettle said.

ENDS

Contact: Dot Kettle 548 1363; 021 719447 or a/h 5438809