



Report **04.63**
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Committee **Hutt River Advisory**
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Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan Implementation: Project Manager's report

1. Purpose

To update the Advisory Committee on progress made with implementing the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan (HRFMP).

2. Project status summary

We are particularly pleased to report the commencement of construction of the Belmont edge protection works in November 2003 and the letting of the Strand Park realignment contract in December 2003. Progress on key projects includes:

- construction of Belmont edge protections about 50% complete
- all necessary approvals held for the construction of the Norfolk Street stopbank
- Cashmore Contracting Ltd appointed for the \$3.7 million Strand Park river realignment
- first round of consultation with major land owners over the Whirinaki Crescent stopbank upgrade complete
- stopbank layout design and pump station concept design commenced at Opahu Stream outlet
- Port Road landscape design underway
- Hutt River bed level survey about 40% complete.

3. Ava to Ewen project

3.1 Strand Park river realignment

Cashmore Contracting Ltd is gearing up to start the river realignment contract in March 2004. Report 04.64 in this Order Paper provides a detailed report on the contractor's programme and access arrangements during construction.

3.2 Alicetown stopbank upgrade

Opus International Consultants have completed the draft tender documents for the Alicetown stopbank upgrade. These documents will be reviewed and finalised in May 2005 to accommodate any changes arising out of the construction of river realignment. Construction of the Alicetown stopbank upgrade is programmed to commence around September 2005.

3.3 Opahu Stream outlet improvements

We have started to work with Hutt City Council (HCC) officers on the design of the pump station, culvert extension and new outlet channel. We will meet with HCC officers and their consultants, Truebridge Callendar Beach Ltd in late February to discuss pump station concept design options. Responsibilities of each Council are set out in an agreement approved by GWRC on 16 September 2003. We hope that HCC will formally approve this agreement by May 2004.

4. Belmont improvements

Cashmore Contracting Ltd is on track to complete the river edge protection works at Belmont by the end of March 2004. Our Mabey Road team is planning to start the Norfolk Street stopbank works during the third week of February 2004. Report 04.70 in this Order Paper provides a detailed progress report on the Belmont improvements.

5. Whirinaki Crescent stopbank upgrade

The preliminary design for the stopbank upgrade, prepared by GWRC Engineer Sam Richards, is progressing well. We have completed a first round of discussion with the three major adjacent landowners. We met Upper Hutt City Council (UHCC) officers on 2 December 2003 and discussed some stopbank upgrade options and associated issues. We have agreed to present the preliminary design proposal to UHCC following endorsement by the Hutt River Advisory Committee.

We met with Wellington Golf Club on 12 December 2003 and agreed to investigate their proposal to incorporate the proposed stopbank into a new subdivision proposed on the northern side of the stopbank.

On 15 January 2004, we had a very positive meeting with two representatives from the Silverstream College Board of Proprietors over the stopbank upgrade proposal. We agreed that the next step is for officers to provide details on two options for the proposed stopbank and how they impact on St Patricks College land for the Board's formal consideration. We will also provide information on GWRC's likely approach to any future development on unprotected St Patricks College land located on the Hutt River Floodplain.

Drawings showing the proposed upgrade options will be sent to the three major landowners by the end of February 2004. We expect to present the preliminary design to the Advisory Committee at the June 2004 meeting. Community consultation and final design is scheduled for 2005/06.

6. Port Road improvements

Hutt City Council has appointed landscape designers, Urban Perspectives, to prepare the landscape design from the Waiwhetu Stream mouth to the Estuary Bridge. We expect Urban Perspectives to be in a position to present initial concepts at the Advisory Committee meeting on 26 February.

We will work with the landscape designers to develop an edge protection design that will integrate into the overall landscape design.

7. Hutt River bed level survey

Connell Wagner Ltd is progressing well with the Hutt River Bed level survey. About 40% of the work is complete and we expect the survey to be completed by April 2004.

The survey requires clearing of sight lines across the river and berms at about 100 metre intervals. This work, which is being carried out by Mabey Road staff is now substantially complete. We informed the community of the sight line clearance by placing advertisements in Hutt News and Upper Hutt leader and by a press release. However, a number of concerned residents have contacted Jeff Evans and Wayne Angus from Mabey Road regarding this clearing.

8. Harvey Norman driveway

On 19 November 2003, the Landcare Committee approved in principle the construction of a single lane driveway over the Hutt River stopbank into the Riverside car park from the proposed Harvey Norman Store at the corner of Melling Bridge and Rutherford Street. A licence to authorise the crossing has been negotiated with Harvey Norman and is ready for GWRC approval. The licence will ensure that the integrity of the existing stopbank is not compromised and that the proposed HRFMP stopbank upgrade can proceed unhindered and without any additional costs to GWRC. Harvey Norman's consultants are currently working on the driveway design.

9. Implementing non-structural measures

9.1 Progress on District Plan measures

District Plan provisions

Since the last update for the Committee a draft Section 32¹ report has been completed and sent to both HCC and UHCC for their comments.

Upper Hutt City Council

As we reported in the last update, UHCC have indicated a strong commitment to undertake a plan change that incorporates the draft flood hazard provisions, as soon as they have an operative plan. Currently UHCC still has outstanding District Plan references which officers are seeking to resolve by early 2004. The timeframe for their plan to become operative will become clearer over the next few months.

Hutt City Council

The draft flood hazard plan provisions will be notified as a separate plan change, rather than as part of the proposed residential plan change. HCC officers will seek their Council approval to notify the plan change on 5 May 2004.

Greater Wellington's ongoing role

Major tasks for Greater Wellington include:

- finalising the section 32 RMA analysis, in consultation with HCC and UHCC. This work will be completed in time to be included with the respective plan changes when they are notified
- providing comment on any pre plan-notification editing of draft provisions
- supporting the statutory process for the proposed plan changes. Officers are working through GW's role with the respective Councils.

9.2 Emergency management measures

Work on the six emergency management projects by the two city councils is progressing. Emergency management officers of the three Councils met on 15 December 2003 to review the progress. **Attachment 1** shows the status of each project.

¹ Refers to section 32 of the Resource Management Act 1991, requiring the process for considering initial mitigation options and forming draft district plan provisions to be documented, as well as establishing the costs and benefits of the draft provisions.

9.3 Voluntary action

Good progress is being made on producing a flooding hazard fact sheet for the Hutt River floodplain. The fact sheet describes the flooding hazard in the Hutt Valley, and gives some advice on how to live with this hazard. **Attachment 2** is a copy of the draft flooding hazard fact sheet. Rylee Pettersson, Hazard Analyst, co-ordinates this work.

10. Project budget

The table below shows the expenditure to January 2004 against the current budget for the various HRFMP projects.

Project package	When constructed	Project budget as at June 2003	Cumulative expenditure to January 2004
Channel realignment	March 2004 to August 2005	\$4.86 M	\$737,000
Alicetown stopbank	July 2005 to December 2006	\$2.75 M	\$131,400
Ava bridge stopbank	2005/06 to 2007/08	\$5.77 M	\$226,400
Strand Park stopbank	2008/09 to 2009/10	\$2.95 M	\$12,800
Total Ava to Ewen		\$16.3 M	\$1,107,600
Non-structural implementation	2001/02 to 2003/04	\$0.25 M	\$140,100
Belmont edge protection	2003/04	\$0.81 M	\$257,000
Norfolk Street stopbank	2003/04	\$0.115 M	\$17,900
Whirinaki Crescent	2006/07	\$0.544 M	\$30,700
Total HRFMP		\$17.5 M	\$1,553,300

11. Communication

Substantial communication initiatives are in place for the various HRFMP projects and no particular actions resulting from this report are proposed. The Belmont Improvements and Ava to Ewen works have separate communication programmes, which include newsletters, press releases and meetings with adjacent landowners when required. The two city councils will lead communications on the proposed district plan changes and emergency management enhancement projects. The Hutt flooding hazard fact sheet will be distributed to schools and major stakeholders once published.

12. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. *receive the report.*
2. *note the contents of the report.*

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

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Attachment 1: Emergency management projects update January 2004

Attachment 2: Draft flood hazard fact sheet