



Report 09.684
Date 27 October 2009
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Committee Hutt River Advisory Subcommittee
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Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan

Project Manager's Report

1. Purpose

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

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Ava to Ewen project

The main contractor has made good progress in tidying up the Strand Park stopbank site. The river berm area allocated for the HVHS rugby field has been levelled, grassed and surface drainage provided. There are reports of cars and vans driving through the disabled access at Whites Line West. A bollard will be installed to prevent this. The lighting contractor is preparing a proposal to illuminate the foot path from Wakefield Street to Ava Bridge. This is taking more time than anticipated because of the complications from Ontrack restrictions and the presence of cables leading to the Vodafone tower.

4. Whirinaki Crescent stopbank

The works required to connect the upgraded Whirinaki Crescent stopbank to high ground has now commenced. The total project costs have increased mainly because of the extended consultation and option development process for obtaining consents to remove two trees. Report 09.691 provides an update and seeks the Subcommittee endorsement of the revised cost estimate.

5. Boulcott/Hutt stopbank project

The Boulcott/Hutt stopbank forms a part of the KGB to Ewen project and Report 09.683 provides the process and programme for implementing the KGB to Ewen project.

The detailed design, preparation of the designation/consent applications and consultation on the Boulcott/Hutt stopbank project are progressing. The design at the Connolly Street crossing was refined to reduce impacts on the adjacent properties. HCC roading officers have accepted the new design.

The new design will not require raising of the existing road south of the stopbank and hence an extension to the slip road is not required. A lower wall on the Safeway frontage is now sufficient to retain the new road. The new design will also reduce the total length of high retaining walls and the number of services required to be moved resulting in a significant reduction in costs.

A decision on the golf course merger is expected in the first week of November 2009. Two alignment options, with merger and without merger, have been developed for the section of the stopbank from Boulcott Clubrooms to the Hutt clubrooms. The alignment for this section will be finalised once the two clubs decide on the merger options. The designation application, however, will be prepared on the basis of an outline plan that will include both options.

The draft designation/consent applications will be ready for consultation by early November 2009. Copies of the document will be sent to residents directly affected by the stopbank works. A 'drop in' session will be held at the Boulcott School to provide further information to any interested parties. We expect to lodge the designation/consent applications before Christmas 2009.

KGB to Ewen channel works

Consultation on the proposed channel improvements from KGB to Mills Street is now progressing as part of the KGB to Ewen channel works. A Hutt River Trail user survey will be conducted in November 2009. Information from this survey will be used to develop mitigation measures to reduce the impacts from the channel works. On 27 October 2009, GW officers attended a project inception meeting of the SH2, Melling to KGB, study. Officers advised NZTA of the importance of considering the potential impacts from any options on the Hutt River floodway and the Melling Bridge waterway in the initial stages of the study. Information from the Hutt River Trail user survey will be provided to the NZTA.

6. Mills Street stopbank

On 29 September 2009, Council approved the 'yellow' alignment for the detailed design and preparation of designation/consent applications. The exact location of the stopbank, its height and shape, and the extent of other associated works will be determined through the detailed design and the designation process commencing in 2012. All directly affected residents will be provided with opportunities to provide input to the detailed design from the

initial stages. Following the detailed design, the affected residents will have opportunities to make formal submissions through the designation process. Council decisions on the designation can be appealed to the Environment Court and then to the High Court.

7. Maoribank riverbed stabilisation and Ebdentown edge protections

The urgent works necessary at the Maoribank bend to prevent further headward erosion will commence before Christmas 2009. The Ebdentown works involves edge protection works below Totara Park Bridge to provide improved protection to the Ebdentown drain outlet and SH2. Discussions with NZTA on cost sharing have commenced. Report 09.692 provides details on these projects.

8. Waimarie Croquet Club

On 20 October 2009, GWRC and HCC officers met with the Waimarie Croquet Club (WMC) to discuss a programme for relocating to the chosen site in Walter Nash Park, Taita once the Taita Bowling confirms their acceptance. The aim is to relocate Croquet facilities to the new site by August 2014 for the WMC to commence play on the new site in September 2014. HCC officers will initially commission a feasibility investigation, jointly funded by GWRC and HCC, to determine a preferred layout of facilities on the new site, relocation costs and a time line. This will be followed by an officer recommendation on possible costs and resources sharing options for GWRC, HCC and WMC to implement the relocation programme.

9. Hutt River Gravel Analysis

The five yearly survey of the Hutt River cross sections was completed in April 2009. Report 09.687 provides details of the analysis, outcomes and recommendations.

10. River Works Agreement

On 29 October 2009, GWRC officers had a meeting with NZTA to discuss the land requirements for the Silverstream to Moonshine wire rope barrier project and extending the River Works Agreement (RWA). GWRC has agreed to provide its land, where necessary, to widen the SH2. NZTA has agreed to include a condition in the road designation to ensure that road works will not reduce the flood capacity of the Hutt River corridor.

The existing RWA, which provides for sharing the maintenance and capital costs of edge protection works providing security to SH2 is due to expire in December 2011. GW has requested NZTA to consider renewing this agreement for a further 25 years. In light of the number of projects GWRC and NZTA are undertaking in SH2 and the Hutt River, GWRC is proposing a Memorandum of Understanding between GWRC and NZTA to create a partnership for the effective management of SH2 and the Hutt River in the reach between Melling and Te Marua.

Cost sharing of the proposed Ebdentown works was also discussed. GWRC will contact NZTA once the extent, costs and benefits of the works have been finalised for further discussions on cost sharing and timing of works.

11. Flood hazard information

GWRC, HCC and UHCC officers are working together to make all known flood hazard information available to the community.

UHCC will shortly commence consultation on the draft documents for plan change 15 to include the Hutt River flood hazard in the district plan. UHCC officers indicated that this will be followed by a plan change to include the Mangaroa flood hazard. The Pinehaven Stream study is currently progressing and the flood hazard information will be available by the end of 2009.

HCC district plan has been changed to include the Hutt River flood hazard. GWRC officers are now preparing data sheets on Waiwhetu and Wainuiomata flood hazard to enable HCC officers to provide hazard information to the community through PIMs and LIMs. The next step will be for HCC to consider a plan change to include this information in the district plan.

12. Communication

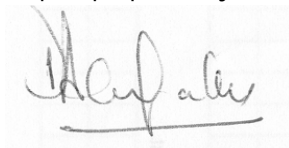
Communication initiatives including newsletters and meeting with residents and other stakeholders are in place for all the HRFMP projects. A newsletter was distributed in October 2009 providing an update on the Boulcott/Hutt project and the Mills Street alignment.

13. Recommendations

That the Subcommittee:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*

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