

Report 16.438
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Committee Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee
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RiverLink - Flood Protection Update

1. Purpose

To update the Subcommittee about aspects of the RiverLink (formerly titled the Hutt River City Centre Upgrade Project HRCCUP) that relate specifically to the improvements to flood protection between Kennedy Good Bridge and Ewen Bridge on the Hutt River.

2. Background

The aim of the flood protection component of RiverLink is to upgrade the existing flood protection works from Kennedy Good Bridge (KGB) to Ewen Bridge to meet the 1-in-440 year design standard, including the predicted impact of climate change. The project will be designed to maintain the above design standard until the year 2100, according to current climate change predictions. The project design concepts were signed off by Council at its meeting on 15 December 2015. The proposed works to achieve the required standard includes widening the river channel and the corridor, raising and strengthening of stopbanks, and strengthening riverbanks to reduce the erosion risk.

3. Design

The subsections below provide a brief update on the progress of design aspects of the flood protection design.

3.1 Channel Design

The project team is in the last stages of identifying a preferred channel form. This part of the design will influence both the form of the berm areas and location of the stopbank toe and height of the stopbanks required. Two design concepts are being modelled and will go through an MCA type process to identify the preferred channel form. Both channel design concepts can achieve the flood capacity for the project.

3.1.1 Variable width option

This option has a channel width that is widened more between Kennedy Good Bridge to Melling Bridge, than it is through the CBD reach.

3.1.2 Single width option

This option maintains a consistent channel width between Kennedy Good Bridge and Ewen Bridge.

3.2 Berm Design

Community workshops are being held at the end of September to inform the design of the berm spaces. These workshops will involve both GWRC and HCC reflecting the links between Flood Protection design and Making Places.

Available berm space will be influenced by progress with the river channel design, and opportunities created by the two channel design concepts are part of the MCA process.

3.3 Stopbank Design

Stopbank design has commenced and will be considered in the MCA process alongside the River Channel design. Stopbank upgrades are occurring between Mills St and Ewen Bridge.

The interface of the stopbanks with adjacent communities and the link with the Making Places project is being developed by officers at both HCC and GWRC. This is including consideration of visual impact effects and access from the urban side of the banks over and into the river berm areas.

3.4 Marsden Street, Pharazyn St and Melling Area

Residents and business owners in this area have been invited to the community design workshops at the end of September. These workshops provide an opportunity to develop the design of the stopbank in this area and how it links the communities here with central Hutt, the River and the wider transport network.

3.5 Melling Bridge Replacement

One of the key focus items for the flood protection delivery is the capacity of Melling Bridge. This is a key success item sought to provide the target flood capacity. The replacement of the Melling Bridge is being considered as part of the Melling Intersection Improvements and State Highway 2 Corridor programme business case. The current work programme aims to deliver greater certainty about the bridge in June 2017.

4. Property Purchase update

We will shortly appoint a property acquisition company to manage the purchase of properties on behalf of GWRC. The evaluation of tenders and selection process was completed on 7 September 2016.

GWRC is reviewing its property management services, management of properties acquired as part of the RiverLink project will be included in this

review. In the interim, management of properties acquired will continue to be provided by GWRC's existing property managers.

4.1 Resource Legislation Amendment Bill

The second reading of the resource legislation amendment bill has been deferred until 7 November 2016. We will notify property owners of this change in date by letter during the week of 19 September.

4.2 Summary Status of Property Negotiations

The table below provides details of the property purchase component of the RiverLink project. 2 properties have been purchased since the last report to the committee.

Required	Purchased	Awaiting settlement	In Negotiation	In Valuation
117	4	1	0	4

5. Communication

No communication is necessary.

6. The decision-making process and significance

Officers recognise that the matters referenced in this report may have a high degree of importance to affected or interested parties.

The matters requiring decision in this report have been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act). Part 6 sets out the obligations of local authorities in relation to the making of decisions.

6.1 Significance of the decision

Part 6 requires Greater Wellington Regional Council to consider the significance of the decision. The term 'significance' has a statutory definition set out in the Act.

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking the Council's significance and engagement policy and decision-making guidelines into account. Officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance.

Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is required in this instance.

6.2 Engagement

Engagement on the matters contained in this report aligns with the level of significance assessed. In accordance with the significance and engagement policy, no engagement on the matters for decision is required.

7. Recommendations

That the Subcommittee:

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

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