



Report 04.396
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Committee Landcare
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Parks and Forests capital works programme performance indicator

1. Purpose

To report to the Committee on progress of the capital works programme for the Council's parks and forests in order to meet the performance indicator requirements of the Annual Plan.

2. Annual Plan performance indicator

The 2003/04 Annual Plan contains the following performance indicator:

The annual capital works programme will be undertaken to appropriate architectural and engineering standards and within the Parks and Forests Asset Management service levels. To be reported to the Landcare Committee following the end of the financial year within a budget of \$286,000.

As reported to the Committee previously, we chose not to undertake non safety related capital works projects in East Harbour Regional Park until the transfer of management of the land was finalised. Consequently, we did not achieve the performance indicator this year. Total expenditure was \$245,000.

The capital works programme for 2003/04 was:

- Resealing the roads within Kaitoke Regional Park;
- Completing construction of two toilet blocks within Queen Elizabeth Park;
- Building an office for the new ranger and upgrading the interpretation within East Harbour Regional Park;
- Upgrading and developing tracks within East Harbour Regional Park;
- Reinstating the access bridge to Baring Head at East Harbour Regional Park;

3. Progress on 2003/04 capital works projects

3.1 Kaitoke roading

Road reseals were completed at Kaitoke Regional Park as programmed.

3.2 Queen Elizabeth Park toilets

The design for the Whareroa Beach and MacKays Crossing toilet blocks was completed in 2002/03 and construction commenced in 2003/04 (see reports 03.448 and 03.573). Construction of the Whareroa toilet was completed in December 2003. The toilet block at MacKays Crossing was substantially completed by June 2004 with work to be completed by the end of July 2004. The project has run over time (one month) and budget (\$22,000) due to unforeseen problems with septic drainage and water pressure.

3.3 East Harbour office and interpretation

Construction of a ranger's office was deferred to 2004/05 as it was not a safety related job. However, the deferral probably would have occurred anyway, as we became aware of an opportunity to combine the ranger office with Hutt City Council's plan to develop public facilities at Korohiwa Bay. In the interim, storage space has been leased at nominal cost in Korohiwa Bay and the ranger continues to be based at GWRC's Upper Hutt Depot.

The replacement of mapboards and directional signs within the park was a safety issue with a number of search and rescue call outs being attributed to poor signage. Consequently the work has been completed for 2003/04. The replacement was funded from operational budgets.

3.4 East Harbour tracks

The track upgrade was not carried out as the work was not deemed to be important for public safety. Council has agreed to carry the budget forward to 2004/05 to allow the original work programme to be completed.

3.5 Baring Head bridge

Funding for replacing the unsafe Baring Head Bridge was re-budgeted from 2002/03. The re-budget was approved pending resolution of a number of landowner issues as lengthy negotiations with the various users of the bridge were unable to determine a cost share arrangement. To resolve the situation, NIWA, one of the bridge's users, initiated a modestly priced repair of the bridge to make it safe for light vehicles for three years (a short-term solution) for which GWRC contributed its share. The repairs were completed in July 2003.

3.6 Design standards

All our capital works projects were designed and supervised by architects and engineers and have complied with building permit, resource consent and supervision requirements. All capital works projects therefore were completed to architectural and engineering standards consistent with the Parks and Forests Asset Management Plan.

4. Completing 2002/03 capital projects

4.1 Rimutaka Rail Trail bridges

Minor finishing work on the Munitions Bend Bridge, which was not completed by 30 June 2003, was completed.

5. Communication

A number of these projects have already been publicised in newspapers. There are no further communication opportunities arising from this report.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

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

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