

Report 11.109
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Committee Hutt River Flood Management Subcommittee
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Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan

Project Manager's Report

1. Purpose

To update the Subcommittee on progress made with implementing the Hutt Valley flood management projects.

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. Background

Greater Wellington is currently implementing a number of flood protection projects in the Hutt Valley. Implementation of the HRFMP began in 2001 and is progressing well. A number of stopbank and river alignment projects including the Ava to Ewen project were completed. A plan change to include the Hutt River flood hazard in the Hutt City district plan was also completed.

The planned structural works in the Waiwhetu Stream are complete and the preparation of a floodplain management plan is progressing.

The key projects currently underway are detailed below and where projects have been reported separately in this order paper that report has been referenced.

4. Boulcott/Hutt stopbank project

The Boulcott/Hutt stopbank project is progressing with aim of appointing a contractor for stopbank works in May 2011. Report 11.115 provides an update on the project.

5. Bridge Road and Ebdentown works

Rock supply for the Bridge Road works will commence in mid March and the works are scheduled for completion by the end of May 2011. The Ebdentown edge protections design is progressing. Construction timing is dependant on funding through the River Works Agreement (RWA). Report 11.115 provides an update on these projects and the RWA.

6. City Centre reach of the Hutt River

The planning and design process for the City Centre reach flood protection works is scheduled to commence in 2012. This project involves reconstruction of the stopbank protecting the Hutt CBD from Ewen Bridge to Mills Street and river channel improvements from Ewen Bridge to Kennedy Good Bridge. Officers have already commenced works on a number of areas in preparation for this project. These include;

- Obtaining Council approval to progress with the design and land purchase on the basis of a stopbank realignment at the end of Mills Street.
- Progressing with discussions with Waimarie Croquet Club (WCC) to relocate the facilities to a location outside the river corridor
- Participating in Melling Interchange study
- Participating in discussions with Hutt City Council officers in establishing a riverside promenade as part of the HCC's CBD Making Places project.

GW officers will work closely with HCC officers in the planning and design stage of the City Centre project to incorporate a riverside promenade without affecting the integrity of the stopbank.

The Waimarie Croquet Club premises are located on land leased from GW. GW's preference is to resume occupation by about 2014 for stopbank construction. The leases expire in 2019. Following investigation of a number of sites, HCC officers have advised that a site in Walter Nash Park is now available for WCC to relocate to. This will be on the basis of sharing clubroom facilities with the Taita Bowling Club. HCC officers have to go through a consultation process before they can seek Hutt City Council approval to lease the Walter Nash site to WCC.

The overall cost of relocation is likely to be in the order of \$400,000 to \$500,000. Officers have advised the club that they have to raise a significant portion of these costs as only a limited contribution can be made by the two Councils.

7. Pinehaven floodplain management

The Pinehaven flood hazard investigation is a joint GW/UHCC project.

A flood assessment of the Pinehaven Stream was completed in May 2010. A detailed report outlining the existing flooding and erosion risk was published. In June 2010, all affected residents were advised of the outcomes of the flood hazard assessment.

Stage 2 of the project is now progressing with the objective of selecting structural and non-structural measures to reduce the flooding and erosion risk. A workshop was held with key staff from GW, Upper Hutt City Council (UHCC) and consultants to identify a range of options. Consultants are currently performing a detailed analysis of the options and are expected to produce a draft options report with details of cost estimates and works required by the end of March 2011. Following this, another officers' workshop will be held to identify the preferred options.

Officers will report Stage 2 outcomes to UHCC before consulting with the public on the preferred options. Public consultation is currently planned for June 2011.

8. Mangaroa floodplain management

The development of a Floodplain Management Plan for the Mangaroa is on hold pending completion of Plan Change 15 underway by Upper Hutt City Council. It is proposed that once this plan change is completed a draft FMP document will be produced for the Mangaroa River for consultation with the Mangaroa Community. This document will include flood hazard maps, river design channel information, river management techniques and consider options for managing the river within the design channel.

9. Hutt River Gravel extraction

The resource consent that permits the wet extraction of gravel from the Hutt River expires in October 2011. Staff are in the process of preparing a consent application that would see this consent renewed for a further two years (expiry in October 2013). This new expiry date would then tie into the expiry of the global operations and maintenance consent for the river and would allow gravel extraction to be considered as part of the process to renew this consent. An initial discussion has been held with Fish and Game New Zealand who are generally supportive of this approach.

10. Hutt River mouth resource consent renewal

The existing resource consent to extract gravel from the Hutt River mouth expires in May 2011. It is necessary to continue with this extraction to keep the river mouth clear to reduce flooding risk to the adjoining area. A resource application to continue with the extraction was lodged with Environmental Regulation on 17 November 2010.

Consultation commenced in October 2010, with a draft application sent to groups including the Petone Community Board, the Department of

Conservation (DoC), Iwi, and Fish and Game New Zealand. Staff also met with these key groups prior to the application being notified. The application was also discussed with Hutt City Council (HCC) staff both as an adjoining landowner and in relation to Estuary Bridge. Staff from GW and Winstone Aggregates attended the Petone Community Board Meeting in November 2010.

The application was publicly notified on 11 and 14 December 2010 in the Dominion Post and the Hutt News respectively.

Post notification, productive meetings were held with the Department of Conservation and Iwi who both expressed some concern with the length of the resource consent (a 35 year term is proposed) and the proposed removal of ecological monitoring of the marine disposal zone. Consent conditions were discussed and agreed that would address the concerns raised.

Submissions closed on 28 February 2011 and six submissions were received; all support the application in part, and most including DoC and HCC support the proposed 35 year term. There was some concerns raised regarding monitoring. No submissions were received from Iwi.

Meetings will be held with each submitter to discuss these conditions. Staff will endeavour to resolve all submissions through appropriate consent conditions, potentially avoiding a formal hearing.

Commercial negotiations with Winstone Aggregates are in principle complete subject to the acceptance of resource consent conditions.

11. Upper Hutt district plan change

Upper Hutt City Council is preparing Plan Change 15 to include the Hutt River and Mangaroa River flood hazard maps into the district plan. Pre-application consultation is complete and UHCC is now preparing to notify it. The affected residents and the other stakeholders will have an opportunity to make submissions through the plan change process.

12. Communication

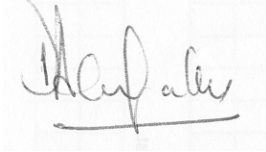
Communication initiatives including newsletters and meetings with residents and other stakeholders are in place for all projects. Most of the major projects receive wide publicity through the local press. No general publicity regarding the projects is proposed.

13. Recommendations

That the Subcommittee:

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

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