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Committee Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee  
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## Hutt River: City Centre Upgrade Project - Update

### 1. Purpose

To update the Subcommittee on progress made with the Hutt River: City Centre Upgrade Project

### 2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report. This report provides an update on the City Centre Upgrade Project and is for information only.

### 3. Background

The Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan (HRFMP) recommends upgrading the existing flood defences from Kennedy Good Bridge (KGB) to Ava Rail Bridge (Ava) to provide the risk based 2300 cumec design standard of protection to the central city and residential areas of the Hutt City. This project has highest priority in the HRFMP.

The design standard for this reach (HRFMP s 3.2) includes:

- Upgrading all existing stopbanks and constructing new stopbanks where necessary to a 2800 cumec standard capacity.
- Bank edge and berm protection to 2300 cumec standard.
- Replacing the existing bridges at the end of their useful life, with new bridges and their associated floodways required to pass a 2800 cumec flood.

Since 2001, the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) has been implementing the recommendations in a progressive manner starting from the highest risk areas. Upgrade works on both sides of the Hutt River from Ava Rail Bridge to Ewen were completed in 2010. The stopbank upgrade works from Mills Street to Fairway Drive are scheduled for completion by June 2013.

GWRC's 2012 - 2022 Long Term Plan provides for completing the City Centre stopbank, channel works from KGB to Ewen, Melling Bridge waterway improvements and Pharazyn Street stopbank (on western side from Melling to Ewen) by 2022.

The City Centre Upgrade Project (CCUP) now includes:

- River channel improvements from KGB to Ewen including waterway improvements at the Melling Bridge.
- City Centre stopbank upgrade from Mills Street to Ewen.
- Pharazyn Street stopbank upgrade from Melling to Ewen.

**Attachment 1** shows the extent of works.

A presentation on the project extent and key issues identified to date will be made to the Subcommittee on 19 March 2013.

#### 4. Project Timeline

It is proposed to implement the project over a period of ten years with approximately four years for the planning and design and six years for construction.

Activity	Timing
<b>Project scoping</b> Consult with key stakeholders, Identify key issues, areas of possible collaboration and project management structure	Progressing, complete by June 2013
<b>Planning</b> Preliminary design, consultation, preparing and lodging planning application, public submissions hearing and decision	July 2013 to October 2015
<b>Tendering</b> Appeals on planning approvals, detailed design, tendering and appointing contractors	November 2015 to October 2016
<b>Construction</b> Construction will follow the planning approval process	November 2016 to June 2022

The project scoping is currently underway and programmed for completion by June 2013. The next step of the planning and design phase is to gain the required planning approvals for the project. The planning approval process will involve the preliminary design, community consultation and preparing planning applications.

The planning applications will include more detailed information on the location and size of works, material requirements, construction methodology including a recommended construction sequence, an assessment of

environmental effects, mitigation measures and the outcomes from the consultation process.

Flood Protection staff expect the planning applications to be publicly notified (similar to the Boulcott/Hutt project) and the community will have opportunities to make formal submissions on the applications. There will likely be a public hearing by independent commissioners, followed by decisions on the planning applications. It is proposed to lodge planning applications by mid 2015 so that a decision will be known by October 2015. The planning decisions can be appealed to the Environment Court.

The detailed design and tendering process will commence in 2015 with the aim of commencing construction works in October/November 2016. This stage will involve the refinement of the preliminary design to include more detailed information to prepare documents for competitive tendering. Construction works will follow the construction sequence approved through the planning application process.

## **5. Project Scoping**

The purpose of Project Scoping is to:

- Identify key components of the project, its aims and its timeline.
- Identify key issues and links with the interests of the other parties and the community.
- Recommend a project management structure to achieve the aims of the project.

Project scoping for the CCUP is progressing. Flood Protection staff have had initial meetings with the Hutt City Council, NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) and two consultancies to discuss issues related to scoping of the project. The Chief Executives of GWRC and HCC and senior staff were briefed on the project extent, key issues and risks in February 2013. Boffa Miskell has been appointed to assist GWRC to produce the scoping report.

A number of workshops will be arranged with key stakeholders to provide an understanding of the project and its aims, identify issues and links to other projects and areas of possible collaboration. Project scoping is programmed for completion by June 2013.

## **6. Mills Street stopbank**

The Mills Street stopbank forms part of the City Centre stopbank. Following a request from the Subcommittee, Flood Protection staff met with Mills Street residents on 9 October 2012 and 12 February 2013 to discuss the project implementation programme and issues related to construction timing. At the 12 February 2013 meeting, staff presented information on the overall timeline and how the project can be broken down into a number of components for construction purposes. The Mills Street residents have differing views on the

timing for construction of the Mills Street section. Our analysis shows that a number of timing options are available for this section. However, the construction sequence for project implementation has to be determined through the planning approval process following consultation with all affected parties from KGB to Ewen.

## 7. Waimarie Croquet Club

The Waimarie Croquet Club Committee had got support for their relocation fund raising proposal from the membership at a special General Meeting of the Club held on 9 February 2013. The Club is planning to make a presentation to this Subcommittee on 19 March 2013.

## 8. Communication

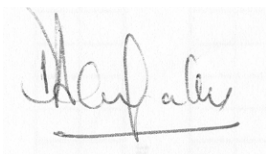
Communication with the key stakeholders will proceed as outlined in this paper. A general information newsletter and a press release will be prepared in June 2013. At this stage, we do not have sufficient detailed information to be able to engage with the wider public.

## 9. Recommendations

*That the Sub Committee:*

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

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Attachment 1: Plan showing project extent

