

Report 2016.255
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Committee Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee
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Hutt Valley Floodplain Management Projects Report

1. Purpose

To update the Subcommittee on progress made with general Hutt Valley Flood Management (HVFM) projects.

2. Background

Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) has ongoing projects within the Hutt Valley and its wider catchment. Major projects are further detailed in separate reports. This report tracks and reports on progress of all projects and provides references to major project reports.

3. Hutt City Centre Upgrade Project

Items relating to the Hutt River City Centre Upgrade Project are included in separate reports in the order paper.

4. Korokoro Stream

Following on from the event in May 2015 that resulted in significant flooding within the lower Korokoro Stream catchment, GWRC worked with NZTA and HCC on options to mitigate the flood affects including completing an assessment of the flood carrying capacity of the lower Korokoro Stream.

The findings have concluded that there is little GWRC can do in the short term that will significantly improve the impact of another 1 in 50 year flood. Currently, the Korokoro Stream can hold around a 1 in 2 year event before the capacity of the stream is exceeded and flood water overflows down Cornish Street. Extraction of gravel from the stream would have minimal impact on its capacity due to existing constraints such as undersized culverts, a weir in the bed of the stream and the buildings that have been constructed over the stream. Gravel extraction would involve significant expenditure and only give a relatively small benefit in terms of flood relief.

As a result three follow-up actions have been agreed:

- GWRC and NZ Transport Agency, using existing consents, will ensure that gravel build-up is kept to a minimum at the mouth and under SH2 so as to ensure the existing flow capacity is optimised.
- NZ Transport Agency and Met Service will work with GWRC to develop an early warning strategy that gives notification of large rainfall events that are likely to cause flooding.
- GWRC will communicate these findings directly with affected owners and tenants.

These actions, ensuring the mouth and bridges are clear of gravel, an early warning system and communicating with affected people directly are regarded as the most effective way to raise awareness and manage the impacts of future flooding events within the lower Korokoro Stream until the long term solution can be implemented through the Petone to Grenada Link Road Project, which is scheduled to be completed between 2020 and 2025.

GWRC staff have already visited tenants and owners in Cornish Street and have followed up with other tenants and owners who were not spoken to directly. A number of contacts have been obtained for the proposed early warning system.

5. Boulcott Stopbank project finishing works

A proposal is being obtained from a LINZ accredited supplier to undertake the legalisation actions required to affect the various land transfers and create new titles. Once new titles are issued, the various easements and encumbrances instruments will be registered against those new titles.

Agreement has been reached on the landscape plan for the Connolly Street/Safeway and Transpower property access intersection. We have received quotations back from two contractors and are currently in the process of reviewing those. Officers intend to appoint a contractor by 3 June 2016. A Land Valuation Tribunal hearing on a Safeway Self Storage Ltd claim was scheduled for March 2016. This was postponed due to unavailability of the panel members. Officers are awaiting a notification of a new hearing date.

6. Avalon/Belmont 'Dog Club' edge protection

Construction of rockline and rock groyne work will be complete by 2 June 2016. HCC contractors will complete the realignment of the new sealed river trail by the end of June 2016. Environmental planting at this location is programmed to progress during Spring.

7. Ebdentown Rock Groynes

The rock groyne construction works were completed earlier this year. Planting works are scheduled for September 2016.

8. Port Road Edge protection

HCC design and resource consent is nearing completion. Staged sections of (wave protection) rockline will be recommended to this Subcommittee in the 2016/17 financial year.

9. Pinehaven Stream Floodplain Management Plan

Two separate reports are included in this order paper. The first details the recommendation of the Pinehaven Stream FMP Hearing Panel (Report 16.146). The second details engagement work undertaken with members of the Pinehaven and Silverstream community to modify the flood maps to improve community understanding as requested by the Hearing Panel (Report 16.259).

The adoption of the Pinehaven Stream Floodplain Management Plan is recommended by those reports.

10. Hutt River Environmental Strategy

A separate report summarising the completion of Phase 1 is included in the order paper, see Report 16.258.

Last year the Hutt Valley Floodplain Management Subcommittee approved a review, by GWRC's Flood Protection Department, of the HRES to address recreational and environmental challenges developing in the river corridor. To date, a user intercept survey and summary report of this has been completed.

Further stakeholder and community engagement is programmed to commence on 22 June 2016. This engagement will report the results of the user survey back to the community, and seek views about future river management.

Phase 2 of the HRES will commence in late 2016, with completion of the review programmed for the first half of 2017.

11. Waiwhetu Stream Floodplain Management Plan

Recommencement of work on Waiwhetu Stream FMP is programmed for the 2016/17 financial year.

12. Mangaroa Flood Hazard Assessment

The proposed draft of the Mangaroa Flooding Plan Change (UHCC PC43) is in the final stages of development by UHCC. GWRC is assisting with the plan change as required. The plan changes will be taken to UHCC for approval to notify once GWRC has made a decision on adopting the Pinehaven Stream Floodplain Management Plan, which is expected to be by the end of June 2016. PC 42 and PC43 will be notified simultaneously.

13. Communication

A copy of this report and the HRCCUP project manager's report will be circulated to the respective TAs for distribution to the ward committees and other appropriate community groups

14. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

14.1 Engagement

Engagement on this matter is unnecessary.

15. Recommendations

That the Subcommittee:

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

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