



Report **04.539**
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Committee **Hutt River Advisory Committee**
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Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan: Project Manager's Report

1. Purpose

To update the Advisory Committee on progress made with implementing the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan

2. Project Status Summary

Preparatory works are currently underway for undertaking the river realignment at Strand Park during this summer (2004/05). Rock delivery to site has improved and is currently proceeding to the contractor's programme. Rock placement is scheduled to commence in mid September 2004.

Developing new gravel management policies for the Hutt River and the Whirinaki Crescent stopbank preliminary design are also complete.

Pre-notification consultation on the proposed Hutt City Council district plan is now largely completed following the public meeting on 2 September 2004.

3. Ava to Ewen project

3.1 Strand Park river realignment

Cashmore Contracting Ltd (CCL) is currently carrying out preparatory work to commence rock placement on the right bank of the river. Clearing vegetation on both banks will commence at the same time. Work areas have been fenced off and about 6000 tonnes of rock had been delivered to Ava Park stockpile by the end of August 2004. Rock supply rates have improved and are currently proceeding as planned by the contractor.

3.2 Ava Rail Stopbank upgrade

Brendan Paul, consultant, is currently preparing a 'Request for Tender' document for appointing a consultant to complete the detailed design for the Ava Rail and Strand Park stopbank upgrades. We expect to invite proposals

from selected consultants during mid September 2004 and appoint a consultant by the end of October 2004.

Hutt City Council consultants, Truebridge Callender Beach Ltd, have commenced the detailed design of the Opahu Stream pump station. We expect the detailed design to be completed by March 2005.

3.3 Cross Valley Link Road

At the June 2004 meeting, the committee resolved to seek an early indication from Hutt City Council on the prospects of a new Ava Bridge in relation to the proposed cross valley link. The following is a summary of a report from Bruce Sherlock of HCC.

- At this time HCC officers are not in a position to determine a preferred option for a Valley Floor Connector (cross valley link) and whether or not a preferred option will meet the criteria necessary for Transfund National or Regional funding.
- Two options have been considered in depth for a Valley Floor Connector, a combined rail/road bridge or a separate road bridge connecting Wakefield Street and Whites Line west.
- A combined rail/road bridge, despite being more expensive, maximises tangible benefits and improves the Hutt River floodway. This option also has minimum social and environmental effects
- HCC has a budget of \$50,000 in 2004/05 to further investigate the Valley Floor Connector. These investigations would involve developing a regional package of roading improvements including the Valley Floor Connector. It is likely that outcomes of these investigations will be reported to HCC by June 2005. If a new bridge is accepted the earliest time for a decision to fund it by Transfund is June 2006.

Attachment 1 shows Greater Wellington's programme for the design and construction of upgrade works on the eastern side of the Ava to Ewen reach. The new pump station would not have any impact on the design or construction of a new bridge. This work can proceed as programmed.

The detailed design of the Ava Bridge stopbank and Strand Park stopbank can also proceed as planned taking into account the possibility of a new rail/road bridge or a separate road bridge. However, if a new rail/road bridge is adopted it is desirable for the stopbank upgrade at Ava Bridge to be carried out in conjunction with a possible new bridge construction. More information on a new bridge will be available by June 2005. Any programme changes to the Ava Bridge stopbank construction could be addressed through the Annual Plan process.

4. Belmont improvements

Investigations on structural options to further reduce the flooding and erosion hazards at Belmont are complete. The outcomes were presented at a public meeting held on 2 September 2004. Report 04.540 in this Order Paper provides details and recommendations.

We have proposed some additional works to further reduce the flooding and erosion hazard to Belmont properties. We expect to complete all additional works by May 2005. The total estimated cost of these additional works adds up to \$120,000. This amount can be accommodated within the remaining budgets for Belmont edge protections and Norfolk Street works. We have already reported this budget requirement to the September 2004 Landcare Committee and the budget is available for completing works in 2004/05.

5. Whirinaki Crescent stopbank upgrade

Report 04.538 in this Order Paper provides details on the Whirinaki Crescent stopbank upgrade preliminary design and status of land purchase negotiations.

6. Hutt River gravel management policies

Assistant Engineer, Susan Borrer, has completed the analysis of Hutt River bedlevel survey data. Report 04.542 in this Order Paper provides outcomes and recommendations on gravel management policies.

7. Land Acquisition strategy

GWRC property consultant, Peter O'Brien, has developed a draft strategy to ensure timely acquisition of all land needed for the HRFMP improvement works. Report PE 04.541 in this Order Paper provides further details and recommendations.

8. Implementing non-structural measures

8.1 Progress on district plan measures

Upper Hutt City Council (UHCC)

The UHCC District Plan is expected to become operative in September 2004. We expect the district plan change process to commence in the latter part of 2004/05.

Hutt City Council

Pre-notification consultation on the proposed district plan changes was largely completed with the public meeting on 2 September 2004. Report 04.540 in this Order Paper provides recommendations for amendments to the district plan change and actions required.

We expect to refer the Advisory Committee resolutions on report 04.540 to the November 2004 Landcare Committee. We should then be able to write to the Hutt City Council with the Committee's recommendation before Christmas 2004.

8.2 Emergency management projects

There are five emergency management projects to be carried out in 2004-2005. The 'contingency planning' project is carried over from 2003-2004, and the earthquake risk assessment is a new project.

2004/2005 Projects	Project Leader
Document possible flood induced hazards arising from hazardous industries and other hazardous substance related activities.	HCC, UHCC
Commence implementation of alerting systems if appropriate	UHCC
Document specific contingency plans for high risk areas namely: Belmont and Hathaway Avenue UHCC areas arising from landslide hazard study, or other areas.	HCC UHCC
Continue to identify alternative methods for distributing preparedness information (e.g. websites, signage, brochures etc)	HCC, UHCC
Earthquake risk assessment of flood protection assets	GWRC FP

9. Project budget

The table below shows the expenditure to July 2004 against the current budget for the various HRFMP projects.

Project package	When constructed	Project budget as at June 2003	Cumulative expenditure to May 2004
Ava to Ewen Channel realignment	March 2004 to August 2005	\$4.86 M	\$987,400
Alicetown stopbank	July 2005 to December 2006	\$2.75 M	\$152,300
Ava bridge stopbank	2005/06 to 2007/08	\$5.77 M	\$240,000
Strand Park stopbank	2008/09 to 2009/10	\$2.95 M	\$12,800
Total Ava to Ewen		\$16.3 M	\$1,392,500
Non-structural implementation	2001/02 to 2003/04	\$0.25 M	\$163,900
Belmont edge protection	2003/04	\$0.81 M	\$730,200
Norfolk Street stopbank	2003/04	\$0.115 M	\$57,900
Whirinaki Crescent	2006/07	\$0.544 M	\$40,500
Total HRFMP		\$17.5 M	\$2,385,000

10. Communications

We are working with GWRC communications department to ensure continued publicity of the HRFMP implementation. A schedule identifying potential communication opportunities has been prepared for 2004/05.

11. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. *receive the report*
2. *note the contents of the report*
3. *endorse reviewing Ava Bridge stopbank and Strand Park stopbank work programmes through the Annual Plan process to accommodate a possible new bridge in relation to the proposed cross valley link.*

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Attachment 1: Ava Bridge stopbank and Strand Park stopbank work plan