



Report 08.916  
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Committee Council  
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## **Waiwhetu Stream Flood Improvements Works Funding**

### **1. Purpose**

To recommend that Council provide a budget of \$7.062M to fund flood improvement works on the Waiwhetu Stream.

To recommend that Council delegate financial authority to the Chief Executive Officer to let a contract, within the approved budgets, and start construction in March 2009.

### **2. Consideration by Committee**

The matters raised in this report were considered by the Waiwhetu Stream Advisory Subcommittee at its meeting on 10 November 2008 (report WSAS2008/5/2) and at the Catchment Management Committee meeting on 20 November 2008 (report 08.878). The recommendations contained in this report have been endorsed by both committees for the Council's consideration and decision.

### **3. Significance of the decision**

The Council has previously approved flood improvement works for the Waiwhetu Stream. The 2008/09 Annual Plan includes provision for these works to commence. This paper seeks additional funding for this work, which is not considered to trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

### **4. Background**

The lower reaches of the Waiwhetu Stream suffer from long standing heavy metal pollution and are considered to contain some of the most contaminated sediments in New Zealand. This is a result of historical untreated discharges from local industries.

In addition, the Waiwhetu Stream is prone to flooding - the stream corridor is generally too small to pass even a 1 in 10 year event.

Following a storm in February 2004 that caused widespread flooding adjacent to the Waiwhetu and Awamutu streams, Greater Wellington (GW) and Hutt City Council (HCC) jointly commenced investigation of flood mitigation measures. The Waiwhetu Project looked at the development of a floodplain management plan for the Waiwhetu Stream and a clean up of historic sediment contamination.

Options to clean up the lower reaches of the Waiwhetu stream and options to mitigate flooding and enhance the stream environment are inextricably linked as both require works within the bed of the stream. It is therefore proposed to undertake the clean up and widening and deepening of the stream at the same time.

## 5. Required Funding

The Waiwhetu Stream Advisory Subcommittee (WSAS) and Catchment Management Committee supports completing the flood channel improvements below the Bell Road bridge in conjunction with the contaminated sediment cleanup with the WSAS minute included below.

<u>RECOMMENDED:</u>		<b>Minute No. WSAS 080505</b>		
<i>"That the Subcommittee recommends that Greater Wellington and Hutt City provide funding to allow for construction to commence in March 2009 and be completed by June 2010, supplementing funding committed by the Ministry for the Environment's Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund as follows;</i>				
		<i>Flood works Clean Up</i>	<i>HCC work</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>GWRC</i>	<i>\$7,062,000</i>	<i>\$500,000</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$7,562,000</i>
<i>HCC</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$3,001,000</i>	<i>\$521,000</i>	<i>\$3,522,000</i>
<i>MfE</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$2,929,500</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>\$2,929,500</i>
			<i>Total</i>	<i>\$14,014,000."</i>

The clean up of contaminated sediments is partly funded (\$2.92M) by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE), following a successful application to the Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund (CSRF). The MfE funding must be spent by June 2010 to comply with the rules of the fund. GW's contribution to the clean up is \$500,000 (already allowed for in the current LTCCP), with HCC contributing the balance.

GW is funding the channel widening and deepening. The programming of the clean up, widening and deepening has been designed to ensure that the full funding from the MfE is spent by June 2010 in accordance with the CSRF conditions.

The estimated cost of flood improvement works following detailed design is \$7.062M, against a current allowance in GW's LTCCP of \$4.134M. The funding shortfall to complete the flood improvement works is therefore \$2.928M.

## **6. Waiwhetu Project Priority**

Assuming Council approves this project funding and the recommendations in this paper, then it is proposed to let a contract in advance of approving the 2009/19 LTCCP. The funding allocated for the lower Waiwhetu (2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11) will therefore be committed and not subject to change through the LTCCP consultation process.

The increased requirement for both the Waiwhetu and Boulcott flood works will mean a delay to other Hutt Floodplain Management Plan projects, in particular the City Centre reach. At the WSAS meeting, Mayor Ogden confirmed that the Waiwhetu and Boulcott works were priorities for Hutt City, but noted the importance of the City Centre stop bank, and requested that any deferment be as short as possible. The completion of the City Centre stop bank is proposed to be deferred to 2019 in line with the original priority set for this reach in the Hutt Floodplain Management Plan.

The \$7.062M funding and the deferral of the City Centre reach were included in the LTCCP workshop information provided to Councillors in July and again at the 19 September workshop.

## **7. Next Steps**

A notified resource consent application was lodged with GW and HCC in October. The period for submissions closed on 25 November. We hope that a hearing will not be required and that consent could be granted in January 2009.

A shortlist of suitable contractors has been compiled. Registrations of interest were requested from 13 companies, 7 responding and 4 being shortlisted. Contract documents will be distributed to the shortlisted contractors following the adoption of the recommendations in this report.

All going well, construction mobilisation will commence in March 2009. Delegated financial authority is sought for the CEO to enable a contractor to be engaged to commence the works according to programme.

## 8. Recommendations

*That the Council:*

1. **Receives** the report and notes its contents.
2. **Approves** a budget of \$7.062M for the flood improvement works in the Waiwhetu Stream from Bell Road to the mouth with works being completed by June 2010.
3. **Authorises** the Chief Executive Officer to let a contract for the work within the approved budgets, from March 2009.

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