

Report 13.89
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File N/03/13/25

Committee Hutt River Advisory Subcommittee
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Hutt Valley Floodplain Management - Project Manager's Report

1. Purpose

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

2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report. This report provides an update on implementing the floodplain management projects, and is for information only.

3. Background

Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) is currently implementing a number of flood protection projects in the Hutt Valley. There are separate reports to the Subcommittee providing updates on major projects. This report keeps track of progress on all projects, and also provides references to the major project reports.

4. Boulcott/Hutt Project

The Boulcott/Hutt project is progressing to the shortened programme, with the target of completing the project by June 2013. The stopbank works are now substantially complete. Top soiling and grassing of some sections remain to be completed. The contractor is currently progressing with the landscaping works, installation of Military Road stormwater pipe and works at the Safeway entrance. Security fencing and improvements at the Safeway Storage entrance remain to be agreed with Safeway.

The Golf Club is also making good progress with the reinstatement works along the stopbank and the disturbed areas of the former Boulcott course.

5. City Centre upgrade Project

The project scoping for the City Centre Stopbank Upgrade Project is progressing. Report 13.88 in this Order Paper provides more details.

6. Waiwhetu Stream Floodplain Management Plan

Estimates for 4 structural upgrade option combinations have been completed and these are being compiled with the results of ongoing community engagement, high level environmental, cultural and social impact analysis. It is intended that these options be discussed at a future councillor workshop of this Subcommittee. The Environmental Wellbeing Committee, at its meeting on 5th March 2013, accepted a recommendation to defer the completion of this phase of the Waiwhetu investigations to 2013/14 as part of the re-prioritisation of the Flood Protection investigations programme. Investigation works will continue but at a slower pace.

7. Upper Hutt Plan Change 15

UHCC officers are currently reviewing the submissions received on the Upper Hutt Plan change 15 to include the Hutt and Mangaroa flood hazard. A hearing is expected to be held in May 2013.

8. Pinehaven Floodplain Management

The preferred option combinations for upgrading the Pinehaven Stream have been determined on the basis of community feedback, Upper Hutt City Council's target levels of service, and GWRC's floodplain management philosophy. Community engagement has commenced to ensure that the preferred option combination represents community opinion. Report 13.90 in this Order Paper provides more details.

9. Hutt River management - resource consent

The resource consent that permits the routine maintenance activities to maintain the Hutt River flood protection scheme expires in October 2013.

Staff have been busy preparing a draft application and consulting with stakeholders. The draft application will be sent to stakeholders in mid March for their comment.

We expect to lodge the applications with the Environmental Regulation Department (GWRC) by 5 April 2013 to ensure that we can continue to operate if the new resource consent is not granted prior to the October 2013 expiry date.

10. Maintenance and Recreation activities

Routine maintenance activities are continuing. The fine weather has brought out a large number of river users. The river trails and berms are proving very popular for all types of recreation. The activities linked with Greater Wellington Regional Councils Summer programme have been particularly well attended.

Staff have been upgrading the trail behind Owen Street and at Strand Park, and have continued to work with volunteers enhancing the river berms.

Wet gravel extraction continued upstream of the Kennedy Good Bridge where an excess of accumulated gravel is being used for the Boulcott stop bank works.

11. Communication

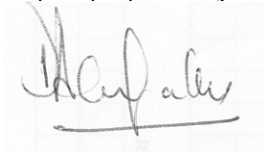
Communication initiatives, including newsletters, meetings with residents and other stakeholders are in place for all projects. Most of the major projects are receiving wide publicity through the local press.

12. Recommendations

That the Subcommittee;

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

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