



Report **05.596**
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Committee **Hutt River Advisory**
Author **Daya Atapattu Project Engineer**

Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan: Project Manager's Report

1. Purpose

To update the Advisory Committee on progress made implementing the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan (HRFMP).

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Project status summary

We have continued making good progress in implementing the HRFMP. The Strand Park river realignment is now complete and the Alicetown stopbank construction is progressing ahead of schedule. We expect to start the Opuhu Stream pump station civil works in December 2005.

Following the Landcare Committee meeting on 4 August 2005, we now plan to start the Hutt/Boulcott stopbank project, one and a half years ahead of schedule, in January 2006.

Progress with the Whirinaki Crescent stopbank and floodwall final design has slowed down until Wellington Golf Club obtains a zoning change from Upper Hutt City Council. We expect to complete all Belmont works by the end of November with the completion of Norfolk Street floodgate.

In September, I got the opportunity to attend an International Gravel Bed Rivers Workshop in Austria and to participate in two study tours of Alpine rivers. These rivers have management issues similar to those we experience in our rivers. I hope to use the knowledge that I have acquired from this study trip to recommend best management practices for our rivers. A high priority being solutions to arrest the Maoribank bed degradation.

4. Ava to Ewen project

Strand Park river realignment

Cashmore Contracting Limited (Cashmore) completed the Strand Park river realignment contract ahead of schedule and under budget. Landscaping works were completed on 17 August 2005. Willows and poplars planted on the riverbank started growing well but some plants were affected by salt sprays in late September. We have accepted a proposal from Cashmore for Excell Corporation to be appointed to maintain the landscaping works during the defects liability period of the contract (ending August 2006).

Alicetown stopbank

Barry Foster Contracting Limited (Barry Foster) has made a very good start on the Alicetown stopbank reconstruction contract. This \$2 million contract was awarded to Barry Foster on 31 August 2005. The contractor has now completed three temporary stopbanks required for providing flood security while the existing stopbank is excavated for installing new stormwater pipes. These temporary stopbanks were made with about 10,000 m³ of good impermeable materials transported from the Winstone quarry. These materials will be re-used for reconstructing the stopbank.

Excell Corporation, sub-contracting to Barry Foster, has already started on installing stormwater pipes near Wakefield Street. The scheduled date for completion of the stopbank contract is 30 September 2006. Opus International Consultants Limited are assisting us in supervising this contract.

Ava Rail stopbank

Stage 3 of the Ava to Ewen project, the Ava Rail stopbank upgrade, includes the Opahu Stream pump station which is jointly funded by Hutt City Council and GWRC. TCB has now called tenders for the civil works component of the pump station. Tenders close on 25 October 2005. The civil works contract includes extending the existing culvert, constructing a part of the stopbank over the top and a rock lining in the vicinity of pump station. Contractors have already been appointed for the supply of pumps and 14 pre-cast box culvert sections.

5. Belmont improvements

Excell Corporation is progressing well with the civil works in preparation for installing the Norfolk Street floodgates. Fabrication of the two flood gates is complete. The Excell contract includes the installation of two new stormwater sumps and concrete foundations for the floodgates. We expect this work to be completed by the end of November 2005.

6. Whirinaki Crescent stopbank upgrade design

On 4 August 2005, the Landcare Committee approved the key terms for an agreement with Wellington Golf Club (WGC) to build a floodwall in WGC

land as part of the Whirinaki Crescent stopbank upgrade. Currently, the WGC is awaiting for approval from Upper Hutt City Council to re-zone the 'Wineglass land' from special activity to residential conservation in the UHCC district plan. A hearing on this proposed plan change is expected in early December 2005.

Flood Protection engineer, James Flanagan is progressing the detailed design for the main stopbank. We are currently consulting with service authorities, Silverstream St. Patricks College and St. Joseph Home of Compassion and encroached land owners. Consultation with the Whirinaki Crescent residents will commence in the second week of November 2005.

We expect to complete the detailed design and obtain resource consents for the main stopbank before June 2006.

7. Hutt/Boulcott stopbank

Report 05.597 in this Order Paper provides details of the proposed scope and programme for the Hutt/Boulcott stopbank project.

8. Gravel extraction

The increased gravel extraction from the lower river (Ewen Bridge to Belmont) is well underway. The contractor has removed about 41,500m³ of gravel during the period from January 2005 to September 2005.

The consent application to extract gravel at the increased rate, and below water levels, is progressing well. We have engaged two consultants to assess the environmental effects and to review the proposed extraction methodology to ensure any adverse effects are minimised.

We expect to lodge the consent application in early December 2005.

9. Implementing non-structural measures

The Hutt City Council plan change process is progressing well. We have had informal discussions with two submitters who own land in the Hutt River corridor. HCC officers are planning to hold the 'hearing' in early December 2005.

Upper Hutt City Council (UHCC) officers are currently working on a proposed private plan change which has received more than 800 submissions. This private plan change is scheduled for it's 'hearing' to start on 25 October 2005.

UHCC officers have advised us that the proposed plan change to include the Hutt River flood hazard will be taken up next. UHCC officers plan to complete a review of the current draft plan change proposals by November 2005. We will meet with UHCC officers in early December 2005 to discuss a consultation strategy.

10. Project Budget

Project Package	When constructed	Approved project budget (June 2003)	Cumulative expenditure to September 2005
Ava to Ewen Channel realignment	March 2004 to August 2005	\$4.86 M	\$4,397,000
Alicetown stopbank	July 2005 to December 2006	\$2.75 M	\$223,900
Ava bridge stopbank	2005/06 to 2007/08	\$5.77 M	\$431,100
Strand Park stopbank	2008/09 to 2009/10	\$2.95 M	\$14,900
Total Ava to Ewen		\$16.3 M	\$5,066,900
Non-structural implementation	2001/02 to 2003/04	\$0.25 M	\$207,500
Belmont edge protection	2003/04	\$0.81 M	\$799,900
Norfolk Street stopbank	2003/04	\$0.115 M	\$101,500
Whirinaki Crescent	2006/07	\$0.544 M	\$76,400
Total HRFMP		\$17.5 M	\$6,252,200

11. Communication

Alicetown residents and other interested parties were updated on progress being made with the Alicetown stopbank reconstruction by newsletter distributed on 20 October 2005. The newsletter also addresses community concerns on truck movements, dust control and ground vibrations caused by construction machinery. The next newsletter is due in January 2006.

We expect to distribute a newsletter to Whirinaki Crescent residents in November 2005 outlining the proposals and programme for upgrading the stopbank.

12. Recommendations

That the Committee:

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

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

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Geoff Dick
Manager, Flood Protection

Attachment 1: Ava to Ewen Newsletter #8