

Report 16.182
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Committee Environment Committee
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Report on the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting of 5 May 2016

1. Purpose

To inform the Environment Committee about the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) meeting of 5 May 2016.

2. Hutt River City Centre Upgrade Project Reports

General Reports

2.1 Hutt River City Centre Upgrade Project - Project Manager's Report

The Subcommittee was informed that work streams for the preliminary design phase of the project are meeting their forecast timelines. The Subcommittee was provided with a diagram outlining the work streams.

Officers advised that the next Project Manager's Report will more clearly identify issues relating to specific reaches, specifically with reference to community concerns about what is happening in the Kennedy Good Bridge to Melling reach.

Questions were raised at the meeting about the scope of the Melling Intersection design works and how these works fit into the overall project. A report on this matter will be provided by NZTA to the next Subcommittee meeting.

2.2 Hutt River City Centre Upgrade Project - Communications Strategy

The Subcommittee was informed that the purpose of the communications strategy is three-fold:

1. Re-build awareness of the flood protection scheme

There is a need to respond to potential negative publicity due to activity in the property market by demonstrating the benefits of flood protection and improved lifestyle within the city.

2. Maintain the confidence of the community

The communications strategy aims to encourage regular communication with the property owners involved in the sales process and with stakeholders affected by the physical aspects of the project, such as road access and transport.

3. Engage the community around project outputs.

The project group intends to maintain stakeholder engagement by staggered release of reports on the design. This provides opportunity to show progress and gather feedback.

The Subcommittee requested progress updates about communications to the community and what mitigation is being considered. The Subcommittee also asked that communications address issues for the section of the community impacted by the works from Kennedy Good Bridge to Ewen Bridge.

Hutt City Council (HCC) officers informed the Subcommittee that they are working with business owners around Pharazyn Street to mitigate the impact on these businesses.

Flood Protection Works Reports

2.3 Hutt River City Centre Upgrade Project - Property Strategy

The Subcommittee was given a detailed property strategy that sets out the five key objectives for the purchase of property required to proceed with preferred Option A. The five objectives ensure that the Council acts fairly towards the affected landowners and makes financially sound decisions for the purchase and management of the land, while delivering the project within the projected timeframe.

The Subcommittee endorsed the proposal to delegate the Chief Executive the power to enter into unconditional agreements to acquire the property interests required for the HRCCUP. The Chief Executive would be provided with detailed reports that would provide sufficient comfort that the level of compensation agreed and principal terms of the agreement are fair and reasonable.

The Subcommittee will receive updates on the property acquisitions and risks of cost over-runs as part of the regular project reporting.

2.4 Making Places update

The Subcommittee was informed of the large number of projects that HCC has completed or is currently working on under Making Places. This project recognises the community's desire for better public spaces.

HCC has \$11M of funding allocated in the Long Term Plan. HCC and GWRC are communicating progress to stakeholders to maintain confidence and certainty in the process.

2.5 Melling Interchange update

Officers advised that an update of work on the Melling Interchange would be provided to the next meeting on 14 June 2016.

3. Hutt Valley Flood Management

3.1 Hutt Valley Flood Management - Project Managers' Report

The Subcommittee received a brief update on a number of flood protection projects.

Erosion damage at Port Road was identified by local businesses along Port Road. Work is programmed to upgrade protection in this section of the Hutt River in many years in the future. Temporary erosion protection work may be required and HCC and GWRC are in the design and consenting stage to provide an interim protection measure. These works are not programmed within the current LTP. GWRC will seek approval from the Subcommittee prior to commencement of its portion of the repair works.

The Subcommittee was informed that Upper Hutt City Council is deferring the notification of the intended Plan Change 42 until the PSFMP has been adopted by GWRC.

4. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

4.1 Engagement

Engagement on this matter is unnecessary.

5. Recommendations

That the Committee:

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

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Report approved by:

Cr Sandra Greig
Chair, Hutt Valley Flood
Management Subcommittee