

Report 13.641
Date 31 May 2013
File N/03/13/25

Committee Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee
Author Daya Atapattu, Team Leader, FMP Implementation

Hutt Valley Flood 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 now essentially complete. A security fence at Safeway, some minor top soiling, grassing works and bulk filling of golf course features incorporated into the stopbank at new hole 18 remain to be completed.

The contractor's defects liability period ends by April 2013. A planting day is currently being organised for late July/early August 2013. The adjacent land owners will be invited to participate in this planting.

The golf club will continue improving the course in accordance with their new course layout. These works will require some bulk fill materials, and the club will be allowed to take surplus gravel from the KGB reach of the river for this purpose.

5. City Centre Upgrade Project

The project scoping for the City Centre Upgrade Project is progressing well with the aim of completing the scoping report by the end of June 2013. Report 13.642 in this Order Paper provides more details.

6. Waiwhetu Stream Flood Management Plan (FMP)

Investigations for the development of the Waiwhetu FMP are progressing in the Option assessment phase. Report 13.653 of this Order Paper provides more details.

7. Upper Hutt Plan Change 15

Upper Hutt City Council has received 32 submissions on the proposed Plan Change 15 to introduce Mangaroa River flood and erosion hazard information, and to update the Hutt River flood and erosion hazard information in the Upper Hutt City District Plan. A hearing is scheduled for 30 and 31 May 2013. GWRC officers will provide evidence at the hearing.

8. Pinehaven Floodplain Management

Investigations for the Pinehaven Floodplain Management Plan are progressing. Staff have completed community engagement around the implications of the implementation of physical works

Staff expect to complete a draft FMP document with recommendations on an implementation package by September 2013.

9. Hutt River Management – Resource Consents

The resource consent for the routine maintenance activities to maintain the Hutt River flood protection scheme expires in October 2013. A new application was prepared in consultation with key stakeholders, and lodged with the GW Environmental Regulation Department on 5 April 2013 to ensure continuity of maintenance activities until such time as the new consents are granted.

10. Maintenance and Recreation Activities

Routine maintenance activities are continuing in line with the budget and programme. Rock maintenance works to groynes and rock walls have been completed, and staff have started on clearing survey sight lines.

The hot dry weather continued throughout March and for much of April. Flood Protection staff combined with the Parks Department (GWRC) to arrange the “Trail to Trig” walk, and the following week over 1,000 cyclists participated in the “Bike the Trail” event. The Hutt Valley Harriers fun run also took place during the month and attracted over 400 participants.

Along the trail, maintenance and preparation work was undertaken for these events. A number of wind-blown trees were also removed, and three new entrance signs were installed at Poet’s Park, Whakatiki and the Memorial Car Park.

Thane Walls, after 10 years of service as the River Ranger, is moving on to take up a position as the Forest Lands Ranger with GWRC. Flood Protection has commenced the process of finding a suitable replacement.

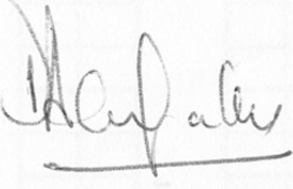


11. Communication

Communication initiatives, including newspapers, 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.*

Report prepared by:	Report approved by:	Report approved by:
		
Daya Atapattu	Graeme Campbell	Wayne O'Donnell
Team Leader FMP Implementation	Manager Flood Protection	General Manager Catchment Management