

New Pumping Station at Opaahu Stream

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Work will begin soon on a new major pumping station for Hutt City Council's stormwater network. The new pumping station, to be located at Opaahu Stream near Whites Line West, will significantly reduce the flood risk in the Opaahu Stream catchment area. This work will also enable an improvement of waterway capacity of Ava Railway Bridge as part of the Hutt River, Ava to Ewen Project.

Why Opaahu Stream?

Opaahu Stream is the main drainage channel for much of the central Hutt City – it starts in the Boulcott area and discharges into the Hutt River near the end of Whites Line West.

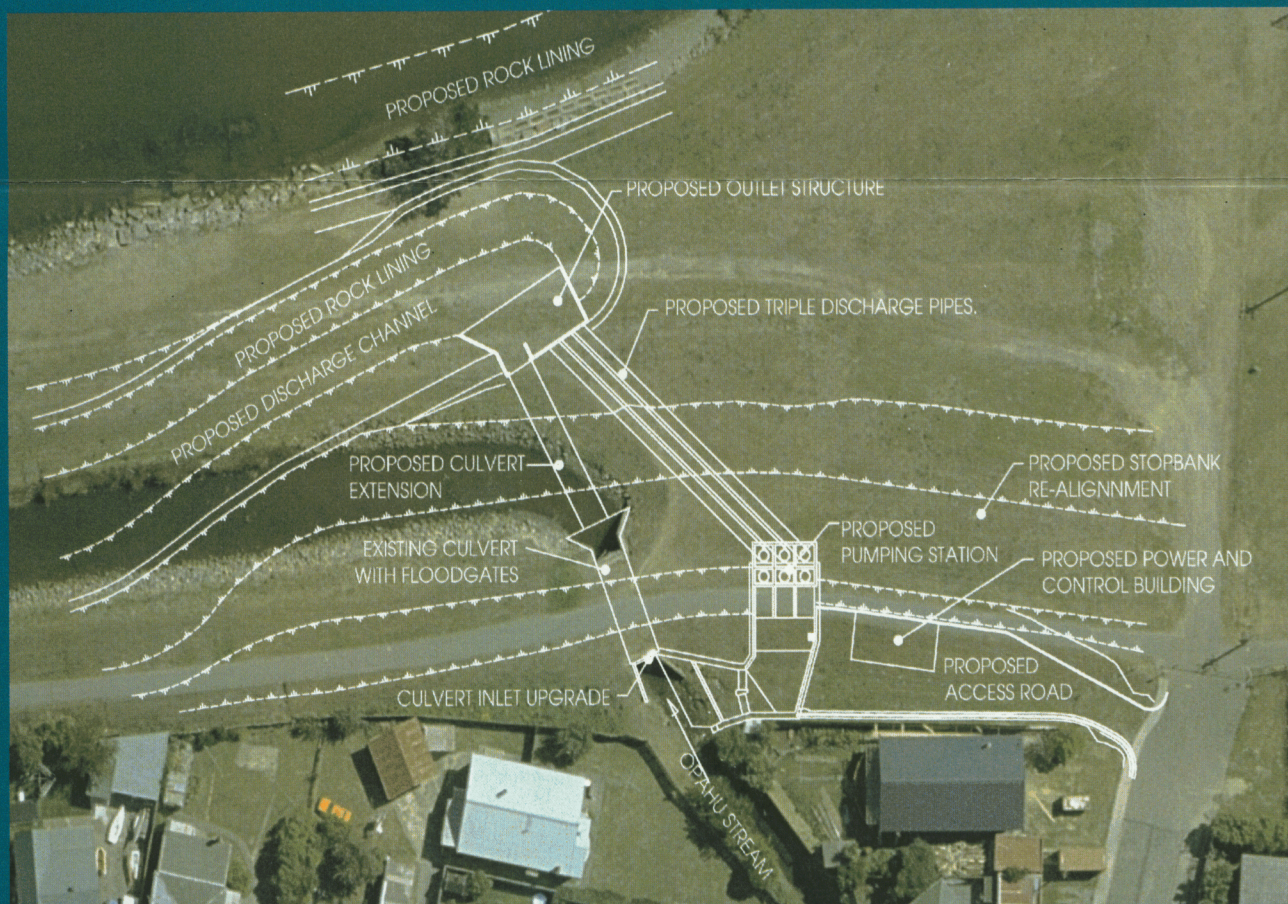
When flooding occurs, or when water levels in the Hutt River are higher than in Opaahu Stream, a floodgate on the outlet of Opaahu Stream currently stops the Hutt River flowing

back up the stream. This causes the water in the stream to back-up behind the floodgates. Floodgates are currently protected by a training bank which runs under the railway bridge partly blocking the waterway.

The pumping station will help to reduce backing up of water during a flood, and improve flows in the stream at other

times by lowering water levels in the lower sections of the stream. The pumping station also enable the removal of the training bank under the railway bridge thereby improving the bridge waterway capacity. The location of the pumping station has been selected for convenient construction, operation and maintenance (see map).





What is involved?

The pumping station will incorporate three of the most powerful electric pumps of their type in New Zealand, with each pump capable of pumping enough water to fill six average sized bathtubs every second.

Construction will include:

- the pumping station and a control building,
- re-alignment of the existing stopbank,
- placement of rock lining bank protection works,
- re-alignment of the existing discharge channel, and

- extension of the existing box culvert. Controlled automatically, the pumping station will be remotely monitored.

Work on the project will start shortly, and the pumping station is due to be operational later this year.

The works do not encroach on any properties in the area. Disruption and construction noise are expected to be minimal.

Noise nuisance will not occur as the pumps are electronically powered. The pumps are unlikely to operate more than two or three times in a year.

How to find out more

All information relating to this project, including copies of newsletters, is available on our website www.huttcity.info. You will also receive further newsletters throughout the project to keep you up to date on progress.

To get in touch, Juno Civil Ltd (Contractor) on 021 227 7004 or Truebridge Callender Beach Ltd (Engineer) on 04 4783 0342.

The project is a joint initiative funded by Hutt City Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council.