



Report 10.55
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Committee Council
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Report on the Regional Sustainability Committee meeting held on 11 February 2010

1. Purpose

To inform the Council about the meeting of the Regional Sustainability Committee that took place at Greater Wellington's Wellington offices on 11 February 2010.

2. Wholesale water capital works programme 2009/10 half year review

Murray Kennedy introduced this report and highlighted that the planned update of the Sustainable Yield Model (SYM) needed to be brought forward into the current financial year. An updated SYM will have the ability to model the effect of recent water demand restrictions and future population growth for each of the four cities. This will provide for a more accurate programming of water source development.

Chris Laidlaw detailed the changes to each major capital project and these were categorised as either permanent savings, or projects to be rebudgeted into the 2010-11 year or projects that require additional funds.

Mr Kennedy in response to a query concerning the additional costs forecasted advised Councillors that they will have a further opportunity to review the progress of these capital projects and any financial implication as part of the annual planning process before 30 June this year.

3. Regional Parks plan review: update on progress

Jane Davis briefed the meeting on the review of the Parks Network Management Plan. 57 submissions had been received on the first round of consultation. The feedback and comments made were similar to those raised by Councillors and others before submissions were sought. A copy of the submissions has been made available to Councillors.

Councillors, in general discussion, requested that separate community meetings are held for those who live in Kapiti and Porirua.

4. Group report for period ended 31 December 2009

Murray Kennedy spoke to the Group report and also mentioned that the Electricity Industry Bill, recently introduced at Parliament, contains some major reforms to New Zealand's electricity system. The Bill may cover electricity produced by small scale electricity generators. Mr Kennedy will investigate and determine whether these proposed changes effect Greater Wellington's mini-hydro generation and prepare a submission if needed.

Councillors expressed an interest in the development of a Memorandum of Understanding between Ngati Toa and the Council for Whitireia park's future management. Councillors will have input into the final MOU once it has been advanced further.

Mr McKenzie thanked the Council for its contribution towards *Project Kaka* and circulated a graph of a survey of mouse and rat numbers in the Hutt water Catchment and Tararua area. Councillor Glensor inquired whether the marked increase in mouse numbers in the Hutt Water Catchment, as a result of the recent 1080 operation, has had any detrimental effect to the local ecology. Mr Waititi will investigate and report his findings to the next meeting of the committee.

5. Recommendations

That the Council:

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

Report prepared by:



Cr Chris Laidlaw
Chair, Regional Sustainability
Committee

Report prepared by:

Murray Kennedy
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