

Report 2015.253
Date 9 June 2015
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 - June 2015

1. Purpose

To update the Subcommittee on progress made with various Hutt Valley flood management projects.

2. Background

The 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.

3. City Centre Project

A separate report on the next stage of the project is included as Item 7 of this Order Paper.

Investigations to prepare the Integrated Concept Designs are now complete. The Working Group has developed a number of river corridor concepts to a level that allows comparison of the pros and cons in regard to flood protection, Making Places objectives, traffic and roading connectivity, public transport, resilience, economic impacts, public and open space amenity, ecological opportunities, Melling Bridge, and infrastructure networks. Concept plans have been prepared to show the integration of various project components.

The Working Group has also developed implementation pathways that enable an adaptive approach to coping with changing flood risk resulting from the predicted climate change.

The options were evaluated using a Multi Criteria Analysis approach taking into account economic, social, environmental and cultural factors.

The outcomes from the option evaluation will be presented to the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee on 25 June 2015 (PE 2015.256).

A draft Programme Business Case prepared for the Melling Gateway project is substantially complete with a final review by the project partners (NZTA, HCC and GWRC) currently underway.

4. Boulcott/Hutt Project

The boundary surveys are complete and the survey plans are currently being prepared for approval by GWRC and the Golf Club. The Golf Club is continuing with course development works.

Safeway Storage Limited's claim against GWRC remains to be resolved.

5. Waiwhetu Stream Flood Management Plan

Recommencement of work on Waiwhetu Stream FMP had been deferred until 2015/16. With delays and challenges in programmed work completing Pinehaven FMP, Te Kāuru Upper Ruamahanga FMP and Waiohine FMP, staff may not be available to recommence Waiwhetu FMP this year. We will bring a more detailed update to a future HVFM Subcommittee meeting once the resourcing requirements of the above FMPs in 2015/16 is clearer.

6. Pinehaven Floodplain management

The draft results of the independent audit are expected in the week commencing 15 June. Due to the delay in receiving the report, and lack of time for presentations at the HVFM Subcommittee meeting on 25 June, we will set up another HVFM Subcommittee meeting in late July at which time the independent audit findings will be presented.

Wellington Water, on behalf of UHCC, has commenced investigations which will lead into design and consenting of the Sunbrae Drive culvert replacement.

The purchase of strategic property required for this work is continuing.

UHCC officers are doing preliminary work on a plan change to implement the non-structural outcomes of the FMP, particularly the flood hazard information. The current programme would have a plan change prepared and consulted on during the 2015-16 financial year and UHCC's preference is to run this process in parallel with a new plan change for Mangaroa.

7. Mangaroa FHA and Upper Hutt City Council proposed plan change 15

GWRC consultants are proceeding with flood hazard remodelling and mapping for the Mangaroa River flood hazard to include an allowance for climate change and address the peer reviewer's comments around the Mangaroa River modelling that were raised during the Plan Change 15 process. The information will be discussed with the Upper Hutt City Council (UHCC) and incorporated into a new plan change initiated by UHCC to put the flood hazard information into their District Plan.

8. Maintenance and recreation activities

Temporary bed re-contouring above and below the Kennedy Good Bridge was completed, at the start of June. Asset inspections are underway on the Hutt River and Wainuiomata River. Groyne maintenance has been carried out at Belmont and a new groyne was built at Manor Park and an existing one was strengthened.

The flood event on 15 May caused some new areas of erosion on the Hutt River but generally no more damage than expected as it was a relatively small event (2 year). Unfortunately many of the small streams suffered more significant damage. The Waiwhetu Stream and Wainuiomata River reached one in two year levels. The Korokoro Stream flooding has caused significant damage to private and public property and was in the order of a 30 – 50 year event.

The annual multisport event known as “The Crazyman” was held on Sunday 3 May, attracting 249 participants on the River Trail section. Once again the event was well organised with no incidents. This event is run on a commercial basis so attracts a concession fee from the organiser which is used to make improvements to the trail. This time a short steep section of trail north of Taita Gorge was improved by providing a concrete path.

GW and UHCC officers are working together to provide a metal surface for the trail in the section from Akatarawa Bridge to Te Marua. This section of the trail connects the Hutt River Trail with the Rimutaka Cycle Trail.

9. Communication

Communication initiatives, including newsletters, 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.

10. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report. This report provides an update on implementing the current floodplain management projects and is for information only.

10.1 Engagement

Engagement on the matters contained in this report aligns with the level of significance assessed. Major projects have their own engagement initiatives as outlined in Section 9.

11. Recommendations

That the Subcommittee:

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

Report prepared by:

Daya Atapattu
Team Leader
Implementation

Report approved by:

Graeme Campbell
Manager, Flood Protection

Report approved by:

Wayne O'Donnell
General Manager
Catchment Management