



If calling, please ask for Democratic Services

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## Wairarapa Committee

Tuesday 1 December 2020, 10.00am  
Hurunui o Rangī Room, Carterton Events Centre

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### Members

Councillor Staples (Chair)	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Mayor Beijen	South Wairarapa District Council
Councillor Gaylor	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Mayor Lang	Carterton District Council
Mayor Patterson	Masterton District Council
Councillor van Lier	Greater Wellington Regional Council

**Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted by Council**

# Wairarapa Committee

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Tuesday 1 December 2020, 10.00am  
Hurunui o Rangī Room, Carterton Events Centre

## Public Business

No.	Item	Report	Page
1.	Apologies		
2.	Conflict of interest declarations		
3.	Public participation		
4.	<a href="#">Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Wairarapa committee meeting on 15 September 2020</a>	20.399	3
5.	<a href="#">Government COVID-19 Recovery Response Projects Wairarapa Report</a>	20.459	6
6.	<a href="#">Wairarapa Flood protection update report</a>	20.462	12
7.	<a href="#">Public Transport - update</a>	20.446	18



Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Wairarapa Committee meeting on 1 December 2020.

Report 20.399

## Public minutes of the Wairarapa Committee meeting on 15 September 2020

All attendees participated by Zoom at 10.00am.

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### Members Present

Councillor Staples (Chair)  
Mayor Beijen  
Councillor Gaylor  
Mayor Lang  
Mayor Patterson

Greater Wellington Regional Council  
South Wairarapa District Council  
Greater Wellington Regional Council  
Carterton District Council  
Masterton District council

Members participating at this meeting by Zoom counted for the purpose of quorum, in accordance with clause 25B of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

### Public Business

#### 1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Mayor Beijen

That the Committee accepts the apology for absence from Councillor van Lier

The motion was **carried**.

#### 2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

#### 3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

#### **4 Waiohine River update report - Report 20.329**

Andy Brown, Team Leader, Investigations, Strategy and Planning and Colin Munn, Team Leader, Flood Protection Operations spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Gaylor

That the Committee:

- 1** Agrees that the Waiohine – Mangatarere River Management Scheme has been maintained to the satisfaction of the committee
- 2** Accepts the Waiohine – Mangatarere River Management Scheme 2019/20 Financial Statement (Attachment 1)
- 3** Confirms the Proposed 2021/21 Waiohine Mangatarere River Management Scheme works programme (Attachment 2) at an estimated cost of \$445,800.

Moved as an amendment: Mayor Patterson / Mayor Lang

That part 1 of the motion be amended to the following: “Agrees that the Waiohine – Mangatarere River Management Scheme has been maintained to the satisfaction of the committee as contained in this report and supporting documents.”

The amendment was **carried** and became part of the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was put:

That the Committee:

- 1** Agrees that the Waiohine – Mangatarere River Management Scheme has been maintained to the satisfaction of the committee as contained in this report and supporting documents.
- 2** Accepts the Waiohine – Mangatarere River Management Scheme 2019/20 Financial Statement (Attachment 1)
- 3** Confirms the Proposed 2021/21 Waiohine Mangatarere River Management Scheme works programme (Attachment 2) at an estimated cost of \$445,800.

The motion was **carried**.

#### **5 Wairarapa Flood Protection update report - Report 20.322 (For Information)**

Graeme Campbell and Madeliene Playford spoke to the report.

#### **6 Public Transport update – Wairarapa report - Report 20.88 (For Information)**

Scott Gallacher and Fiona Abbott spoke to the report.

**Noted:** The Committee noted and agreed that there are funding challenges and requested Greg Campbell, Chief Executive to organise an additional meeting or

workshop to discuss the PT Plan and Long Term Plan, prior to the next Wairarapa Committee meeting on 1 December 2020.

The public part of the meeting closed at 10:58am.

Councillor Staples

**Chair**

Date:

**Wairarapa Committee**  
**1 December 2020**  
**Report 20.459**



**For Information**

## **Government COVID-19 Recovery Response Projects Wairarapa Report**

### **Te take mō te pūrongo**

#### **Purpose**

1. To inform the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) on:
  - a The progress of Ministry for the Environment funded project, Major Rivers – Riparian Management
  - b The progress of Crown Infrastructure Partnership (CIP) funding project, River Road – Masterton

### **Te tāhū kōrero**

#### **Background**

2. During the COVID-19 lockdown periods, work was undertaken by Greater Wellington to obtain funding from Government's COVID19 economic stimulus package. This includes funding of shovel ready projects through the Infrastructure Reference Group (IRG) and Ministry for the Environment (MfE) (amongst other agencies).
3. The stimulus package coincides with the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) considering the request for government co-investment in flood risk management, promoted by the River Managers Special Interest Group (SIG) since 2016. The national package of \$211 million GST exclusive (all future references referring to funding and costs are GST exclusive) government co-investment approved by IRG aligns well with SIG's 2018 proposition to Treasury that an annual government co-investment in the order of \$150 million was required to manage the nation's flood risk. DIA is still considering this request in the context of the wider flood risk management considerations including non structural options such as managed retreat. The SIG has put in place a governance group to ensure the implementation of the shovel ready funding will demonstrate an effective partnership for ongoing government co-investment for the maintenance and upgrading of flood risk management schemes.

#### *MfE Funding – Major Rivers – Riparian Management*

4. A total of 17 funding applications were put forward to MfE for a variety of environmental activities. Out of the 17 applications two were selected by MfE, Greater Wellington Biodiversities', Wairarapa Moana project and the Greater Wellington's Flood Protection's, Major Rivers – Riparian Management.
5. The Major Rivers – Riparian Management application was based on Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan, planting of the buffers. The project consists

of planting 120,000 trees (both willow and native) over a total of 100 hectares, with 30 kilometers of fencing. Pest plant and pest animal control will be one of the main costs of the project to ensure sufficient plant survival rates.

6. This project is also known as 'Jobs for Nature', with a target of increased employment and we have proposed that a total of 35 people will be employed over the five year project period.
7. A total of \$5 million over a five year period, with 50/50 (MfE/Greater Wellington) contribution split was achieved.

*CIP Funding – River Road, Masterton*

8. During the Government's COVID-19 Alert levels 4 and 3 Flood Protection submitted applications to the Provisional Development Unit (PDU) of Crown Infrastructure Fund (CIF) for shovel ready projects.
9. The successful application was for a number of Hutt Valley erosion edge protection sites, Riverlink river works and Ruamāhanga River scheme River Road edge protection works.
10. The River Road – Masterton site is based on the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan major response project, with an extension of river edge protection from River Road down to and including the Masterton District Council closed landfill. Erosion is threatening residential properties on River Road, with the erosion extending into the transfer station and landfill immediately downstream.
11. The funding for River Road, is for a total of \$2 million over two years, with a 64 percent (PDU/CIF) 36 percent (Greater Wellington) contribution split.
12. The project involves the following:
  - a. Consequence assessment of erosion of the landfill to confirm the proposed design standard.
  - b. Obtaining consents and access agreements for construction and long term management of relief overflow and erosion control works
  - c. Proposed rock riprap revetment along River Road where the buffer zone is too narrow for groynes.
  - d. Transition of proposed revetment into existing rockwork at the confluence of the Waipoua River.
  - e. Proposed rock groynes along the boundary of the transfer station / landfill where berm width is sufficient.
  - f. Stripping heavy vegetation on the true left bank and replacing with planting suitable for a managed overflow path.

## **Te tātaritanga Analysis**

### *Current status of MfE Project*

13. The final Work Programme and Annual Work Plan were agreed upon and the funding agreement (Deed of Funding) for MfE was signed off in October 2020, with the deed number issued in early November 2020.
14. Recruitment of a 'Riparian Management Advisor' is underway and the position has been advertised with a closing date of 26 November 2020.
15. Plant nursery discussions have commenced with a nursery offering seed collection for the 2022 planting season. There will be a need to source approximately 1,200 plants for the 2021 season.
16. Consultants have been engaged to identify land parcels along the rivers to assist with site selection. We intend to initially plant public land as an example of the project, to encourage landowners to engage.
17. Connection with community and iwi groups will commence in the coming weeks with the intent of creating jobs for youth in the Wairarapa.

### *Current status of PDU/CIF Project*

18. The funding agreement was signed off in November 2020.
19. Geotechnical and initial design work is currently underway. The initial design for River Road is a rock revetment along the River Road residential area with a series of 15 groynes, with the protection continuing along the Masterton District Council landfill. Rock supply is being progressed.
20. Recruitment of a Project Manager, Senior Engineer, and two Project Engineers (Wairarapa and Wellington) and have been finalised, with advertisements currently open until 26 November 2020. These positions are also for the other PDU/CIF projects in the Hutt Valley.

## **Ngā hua ahumoni Financial implications**

21. The projects are being funded with budgets being bought forward in the Long Term Plan (LTP).
22. There was an \$800,000 GST shortfall in opex funding for the Jobs for Nature Project and opex loans have been added to the budget baseline from 22/23 to 24/25 to match MfE's total funding of \$2.5 million. The debt funded opex shortfall in GW contribution is \$100,000 for 22/23, \$350k in 23/24 and \$350,000 in 24/25. However, there is significant ratepayer benefit (\$13 million) by proceeding with these projects and considerable debt servicing savings in the long term.



## 23. Ruamāhanga River Scheme River Road (IRG)

LTP or Annual Plan description:	Te Kāuru Capex Implementation
Capex allocated:	\$1.72m (LTP 2018-28)
Opex overhead allocated:	\$0.28m
Third Party Funding	\$1.28m
Rates Impact:	\$3k in 20/21, \$17k in 21/22, then 19k for 23 years (included in the budget baseline)

## Project 4: Ruamāhanga River Major Rivers Riparian Management Project (MfE)

LTP or Annual Plan description:	Wairarapa River Scheme Maintenance
Capex allocated:	\$0.8m (debt)
Opex allocated:	\$1.7m (LTP 2018-28)
Third Party Funding	\$2.5m
Rates Impact:	\$6k in 22/23, \$34k in 23/24, \$76k in 24/25 then \$97k for 24 years (in the current baseline)

### Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi Consideration of climate change

24. Each project within the catchment considers and responds to the predicted impacts of climate change when considering the appropriate response to the issue the project seeks to address.
25. This programme aligns with the 2015 Climate Change strategy which says we will help the region adapt to climate change. The projects increase climate change adaptation and resilience to natural disasters in the Region.
26. The greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from rock supply vary depending on the quarry source of the rock and transport to the work sites. The quarry source is presently unknown. The emissions from rock supply production and transport are not presently part of the organisation's GHG inventory.
27. The project will also use heavy machinery to carry out the work proposed in these projects. The emissions from these have not been estimated. However in the 2018-19 year use of heavy machinery mainly for flood protection works at GWRC represented 2% of the total organisational carbon footprint (835 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).
28. Selection of the quarry will be the single largest determinant of the initiative's emissions. While it seems likely that quarry operations could be improved to reduce emissions to some extent, the avoidance of long-distance transport of the rock is the most obvious means to minimise emissions. This will be looked into as part of procurement for projects 1-3.
29. Greater Wellington currently assesses options to address flood risk based on the predicted impacts of climate change over the next 100 years. Unless specified differently for specific projects, these values are an increase in rainfall intensity of twenty percent, and a sea level rise of 0.8 metres.

## Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

### Next steps

30. Both projects will continue with design and development work over the coming months, with more work being able to be undertaken when the new roles have been filled.
31. The MfE project will have a total of 20 hectares of planting identified for the next planting season. The 20 hectares will be made up of various sites, rather than one large site, to enable more opportunities for employment. Ground preparation will commence as soon as practicable to ensure the sites are ready for planting in the 2021 planting season.
32. The Upper Ruamāhanga River Management Advisory Committee (URRMAC) will have its initial meeting on 2 December 2020 where these projects will be discussed. URRMAC’s Terms of Reference states that their purpose is “To oversee the implementation of Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan (FMP)”. As both of these projects are part of the FMP, URRMAC members will play a valuable role in the oversight of public involvement and methods adopted for each project.

## Ngā kaiwaitohu

### Signatories

Writer	Madeliene Playford – Project Manager, FMP Implementation, Flood Protection
Approvers	Sharyn Westlake – Team Leader, FMP Implementation, Flood Protection Graeme Campbell – Manager, Flood Protection Wayne O’Donnell – General Manager, Catchment Management Group

<p><b>He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga</b>  <b>Summary of considerations</b></p>
<p><b><i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i></b></p> <p>These projects fit within Council roles under Flood Protection as well as the Wairarapa Committee, Upper Ruamahanga River Management Advisory Committees Terms of Reference.</p>
<p><b><i>Implications for Māori</i></b></p> <p>Māori partnership in the Major Rivers – Riparian Management project will be engaged by Greater Wellington with the intent of creating work for youth. Māori membership within URRMAC is still being worked through by Democratic Services along with all other committees. We envisage that we will have members in the not too distant future.</p>
<p><b><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></b></p> <p>The projects contained within this report deliver on Greater Wellington's strategic priority area of te tū pakari a te rohe/regional resilience, and support delivery of Greater Wellington's strategic priority area of te oranga o te wai māori me te rerenga rauropi/freshwater quality and biodiversity.</p>
<p><b><i>Internal consultation</i></b></p> <p>Specific projects consult with groups and departments across Greater Wellington where relevant to that project..</p>
<p><b><i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i></b></p> <p>Greater Wellington has adopted procedures and processes to minimise risks. Risks will be reviewed as projects progress.</p>

**Wairarapa Committee**  
**1 December 2020**  
**Report 20.462**



**For Information**

## **WAIRARAPA FLOOD PROTECTION UPDATE REPORT**

### **Te take mō te pūrongo**

#### **Purpose**

1. To inform the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) on:
  - a. The implementation progress for the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan (TKURFMP).
  - b. The progress of the investigations projects; Waipoua Urban Catchment Plan, Waiohine River Plan, and Mangatāre River Plan, flood hazard mapping and regional initiatives.
  - c. The ongoing operational maintenance of the Wairarapa River Schemes.

### **Te tāhū kōrero**

#### **Background**

2. This section provides an overview of Flood Protection works in the Wairarapa.

#### ***FMP Implementation***

3. At present Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan is the only Flood Management Plan (FMP) that is currently in an implementation phase. The Waiohine and the Mangatāre are currently in the FMP planning and investigation stages. The Lower Valley has an established scheme that is being maintained but will need to be reviewed in time for the lodgement of new consents for the operation of the scheme by 2027.

#### ***Investigations***

4. **Waipoua Urban Catchment Plan** - A Waipoua Urban Catchment Plan, which incorporates floodplain management planning, is being developed by a community led project team. The Waipoua project team was established after a community meeting where individuals with an interest in this reach spoke to a gathering of approximately 150 people. The project team consists of three community members, one riverside landowner, one engineer, three iwi representatives, one Masterton District Council officer, one Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) officer and a facilitator.

5. **Waiohine River Plan** - The Flood Protection department has been working with the Waiohine Action Group (WAG) to produce a Waiohine River Plan. This plan is intended to provide the strategic approach to flood and erosion risk management for the Waiohine River to protect the Greytown community.
6. **Mangatāre River Plan** - Greater Wellington has been working with the Mangatāre Restoration Society (MRS) to produce a Mangatāre Catchment Plan. This plan is intended to provide the strategic approach to flood and erosion risk management, water quality and catchment management for the Mangatāre River.
7. **Upper Ruamāhanga Rural Modelling** – Following the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan (TKURFMP) Independent model audit, Flood protection has been working with Masterton District Council to update the flood hazard mapping.
8. **Design Lines** – As an output of the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan (TKURFMP) Flood Protection has been working with specialist consultants to review and update where necessary the design channel lines for the Upper Ruamāhanga Rivers. This work include the definition of the buffer areas adjacent to the River channel.
9. **Regional Initiatives** – As well as delivering specific Wairarapa projects Flood Protection is working on a range of regional initiatives to improve efficiency across the Region. These include:
  - a. **Flood Response & Warning** – Flood Protection has been working with the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO) to review and update our combined flood response procedures and flood forecast capability.
  - b. **Flood Hazard Modelling Standard (FHMS)** - Following recent projects we have developed a comprehensive Flood Hazard Modelling Standard (FHMS) which sets out the key activities and specification for hydrological and hydraulic modelling.
  - c. **Floodplain Management Planning Guidelines** – Flood Protection are reviewing the guidelines for floodplain management planning with a view to incorporate lessons learnt from recent projects and the national policy direction for fresh water management specifically Te Mana o Te Wai.

#### ***Operations - Schemes & River Management***

10. The eight Upper Ruamāhanga River schemes had their respective annual scheme meetings in June 2020 where the previous years' work programmes were discussed and the 2020/2021 work programmes and finances were confirmed along with an update on the implementation of Te Kāuru FMP.
11. The 2020/21 operational work programme and finances for Waiohine-Mangatarere River management scheme were confirmed by the Wairarapa Committee at the 15 August 2020 meeting. The scheme committee has not been established this triennium pending the completion of the Waiohine River Plan.
12. On 25 June 2020, Council appointed representatives to the Lower Ruamāhanga Valley Flood Management Advisory Committee (LRVRMAC). The Committee met on 7 July 2020 and nominated Bernie George as Chair and confirmed the 2020/21 work programme and finances. A Committee visit to areas of interest was arranged for 25 November 2020.

13. The Geoffrey Blundell Barrage Gates resource consent is currently being processed and a seven year consent term is being sought to align with the other Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme consents which expire in 2027. Draft conditions have been received, reviewed and returned as agreed.
14. Gravel management from the Wairarapa Rivers has continued in accordance with the transition plan that has been developed to provide some certainty to the contractors extracting from these rivers. However the availability of sufficient aggregate resources will be a significant constraint on infrastructural developments in the region. Planning and development of alternative sources will require collaboration between industry representatives and respective Councils.

### **Te tātaritanga Analysis**

15. This section provides an update on the Flood Protection works in the Wairarapa since the last Wairarapa Committee meeting.

### ***FMP Implementation***

16. Te Kāuru Upper Ruamāhanga Floodplain Management Plan Implementation (Te Kāuru) has been given a financial boost with the recent government COVID-19 recovery projects. Ministry for the Environment (MfE) Major Rivers – Riparian Management and Crown Infrastructure Partnership (CIP) shovel ready River Road, Masterton projects are enabling implementation of two aspects of Te Kāuru.
17. A full separate report “Government COVID-19 Recovery Response Projects Wairarapa Report” has been prepared for this meeting.
18. The Upper Ruamāhanga River Management Advisory Committee (URRMAC) will have its first meeting on Wednesday 2 December at 4pm. This meeting will be a meet and greet, with an update on the status of Te Kāuru, a detailed description of the government funded projects and a request to elect a Chair.

### ***Investigations***

19. **Waipoua Urban Catchment Plan** – Over the last quarter we have been progressing the hydrological assessment with the community group to gain agreement on the hydrological component of the flood hazard modelling. This has largely been completed and we are on track to provide draft flood hazard maps in 2021.
20. **Waiohine River Plan** - The Waiohine Action Group (WAG) and the community members have decided to put consultation and wider engagement on hold until gravel management is resolved to their satisfaction. We are in the process of working through the gravel issue with the community group and depending on the comfort level of the community team will plan submissions and engagement in Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 of this financial year. In the meantime we are exploring other aspects for the River Plan with the community group including the environmental and cultural vision for the Waiohine and funding and implementation matters.
21. We hope to provide an update to the Committee early in 2021 on the next steps and timeline for the Waiohine submissions and hearings.

22. **Mangatāre River Plan** - Over the last quarter we have been progressing the hydrological assessment with the community group to gain agreement on the hydrological component of the flood hazard modelling. This has largely been completed and we are on track to provide draft flood hazard maps in 2021. We are also exploring avenues for wider catchment management solutions with specialists from Victoria University and our own internal specialists in Environmental Science and Land Management.
23. **Upper Ruamāhanga Rural Modelling** – Over the last quarter we have been progressing the hydrological assessment and liaising with Masterton District Council. This has largely been completed and we are on track to provide draft flood hazard maps in 2021
24. **Design Lines** – Flood Protection has been working with specialist consultants to review and update where necessary the design channel lines for the Upper Ruamāhanga Rivers. The initial draft is nearing completion ahead of wider engagement and targeted consultation with key stakeholders.
25. **Regional Initiatives**
  - a. **Flood Response & Warning** – Road testing workshop held with duty officers and WREMO staff from across the region including the Wairarapa flood warning duty officers. The new procedures are nearing completion and a training programme is being developed ahead of roll out in early 2021.
  - b. **Flood Hazard Modelling Standard (FHMS)** – The draft FHMS was presented to the Wairarapa committee in September and is currently being updated ahead of release to the TLA's for comment. Discussions are planned around links to storm water modelling and District plans.

#### ***Operations - Schemes & River Management***

26. Upper Ruamāhanga schemes, consist of the Ruamāhanga's three schemes of Mt Bruce, Te Ore Ore and Gladstone, the Waipoua, Waingawa, Kopuaranga, Whangaehu and Taueru Rivers. Over the last two months we have experienced some heavy rain events which have created some erosion damage along Rathkeale College (Mt Bruce scheme) that required willow cabling to address the erosion damage. High winds caused trees to fall along the Waipoua urban reach and blockages needed clearing through the eastern rivers (Kopuaranga and Whangaehu). There were also a number of enhancement works undertaken throughout the Upper Ruāmahanga schemes, mainly consisting of vegetation clearing and native tree planting.
27. The Waiohine River experienced erosion upstream of the State Highway 2 bridge, which required boulder placement to stabilise the banks. Other works for the Waiohine consisted of willow planting, enhancement vegetation, stopbank maintenance and beach contouring.
28. The Lower Ruamāhanga Scheme willow planting programme is now complete with 19 sites and a total of 1355 trees planted. Currently willow layering, topping and tree removal is being undertaken and is due to be completed towards the end of November 2020. Stopbank maintenance has continued with various stock damage site repairs, mulching, mowing and spraying.

29. Future maintenance work will involve four erosion sites where repairs will be undertaken by placing boulder and rock. These sites will be followed up with vegetation planting in the following planting season. The floodgate maintenance cleaning programme is schedule to start in December and the asset condition rating inspection programme will begin in mid-January 2021. To date Lake Onoke mouth has closed five times since 1st July 2020 and required mechanical intervention on two occasions and self-opened three times.
30. Capital work projects include the Pukio East Stopbank Realignment and Whakawhiriwhiri Stream upgrade. Pukio East Stopbank realignment is in its final stage and is due to be completed by the end of this financial year. Whakawhiriwhiri Stream upgrade will see the upgrade of Hikinui Rd Culvert and Simmonds Culvert proposed for completion this financial year.
31. The Barrage gates consent has not yet been granted due to the need to contact mana whenua to discuss the conditions of consent and next steps.

**Ngā kaiwaitohu  
Signatories**

Writers	Madeliene Playford – Project Manager, Implementation, Flood Protection Andy Brown – Team Leader, Investigations, Flood Protection Colin Munn – Team Leader, Operations, Flood Protection
Approvers	Graeme Campbell – Manager, Flood Protection Wayne O’Donnell – General Manager, Catchment Management Group



<b>He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of Considerations</b>
<b><i>Fit with Council or Committee's Terms of Reference</i></b> The URRMAC, LRVFMAC and Waiohine Steering Group operate under their own separate Terms of Reference which were adopted by Council on 12 December 2019. The Waipoua and Mangatāreere Steering Groups are currently informal and have been approved by Democratic Services to remain this way during the development stage.
<b><i>Implications for Māori</i></b> There are no implications for Māori arising from this update report.
<b><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></b> All river matters discussed here are included in the 2018—28 Long Term Plan.
<b><i>Internal consultation</i></b> There is no requirement for internal consultation at this stage for any of the rivers in Wairarapa.
<b><i>Risks and impacts: legal / health and safety etc.</i></b> Greater Wellington has adopted procedures and processes to minimise risks. Working with community committees enables a wider understanding of the risks before adoption of work programmes.

**Wairarapa Committee**  
**1 December 2020**  
**Report 20.446**



**For Information**

## **PUBLIC TRANSPORT - UPDATE**

### **Te take mō te pūrongo**

#### **Purpose**

1. To inform the Wairarapa Committee (the Committee) of Greater Wellington activities and performance relating to Public Transport in the Wairarapa.

#### **Update on activities**

##### ***Rail***

##### ***Network upgrades***

2. The Trentham to Upper Hutt double tracking project is progressing well. We are currently expecting that the opening of the double section of line will take place in May 2021.
3. The double tracking will increase the network capacity, and ultimately reduce delays to the Wairarapa trains as a result of congestion in this single track section.
4. Planning is well underway to undertake the catch up renewal of track on the Wairarapa Line. This project will renew:
  - a Track in both Maymorn and Remutaka Tunnels
  - b Over 58,000 sleepers
  - c 43 kilometres of rail
  - d 150,000 tonnes of ballast
  - e 49 kilometres of drainage
  - f 55 culverts
  - g 11 level crossing tracks
5. Work activity set out above (paragraph 4) is likely to start around March 2021. To deliver this work efficiently and effectively, trains will need to be replaced by buses; however, the full extent of this is still being finalised and we are refocused on ensuring any disruptions are managed in an efficient way.
6. Financial pressures on all of these programmes of work are increasing. Discussions are occurring with funding partners about potential scope-cost adjustments to resolve or minimise these financial pressures.

*Park and ride upgrade – Featherston Station*

7. Starting January 2021, Metlink will begin construction of an extension to Featherston Station Park and Ride.
8. This project will construct an additional 55 car parking spaces, resolve the ongoing flooding issues within the existing car park, and reduce people and vehicle movement conflicts with the addition of a new footpath from Harrison Street West to the Featherston Station building.
9. The project is expected to be finished by early May 2021.

*Masterton Railway Station toilet refurbishment*

10. The toilets at Masterton Railway Station are undergoing a refurbishment, including modifications to provide accessible toilet facilities.
11. The project also involves the removal of asbestos, and is expected to be completed by April 2021 (approximately).

*Business case for longer distance rolling stock*

12. An interim business case was prepared and released in December 2019, which proposed the purchase of hybrid longer distance trains to replace the current ageing Wairarapa and Capital Connection fleets and boost service levels to increase the options for travel and lift the capacity across the network.
13. As part of budget 2020, the Government approved \$5million to allow us to undertake the formal business case, including right up to procurement and contract negotiations, with the funding for the purchase of the rolling stock being confirmed by Budget 2022 at the latest.
14. We have now established a multi-stakeholder governance structure, and endorsed the project plan. A tender has been released to obtain the necessary professional services advice required to complete the investigations and the detailed business case. We are expecting to award the contract prior to Christmas 2020.

***Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan***

15. Metlink has commenced the review of the Regional Public Transport Plan (RPTP).
16. The RPTP is an action-oriented document that sets out how the high level strategic direction for public transport in the Wellington Regional Land Transport Plan and the Greater Wellington Long-term Plan will be delivered over the next 3- 10 years.
17. The RPTP sets out objectives, policies and actions for public transport in the region and incorporates the key elements of the Regional Rail Plan.
18. The 2021-2031 RPTP will be developed towards the strategic priority of achieving an “efficient, accessible and low carbon public transport network” and will be organised around the focus areas of:
  - a Mode Shift – 40% increase in mode shift to public transport by 2030
  - b Fleet Decarbonisation – Reduce public transport emissions by decarbonising the public transport fleet

- c Customer Experience – Continue to improve customer experience across all aspects of the network.
19. On 22 October 2020, the Transport Committee approved the policies and actions for inclusion in the draft RPTP 2021-31.
  20. A draft RPTP will be provided to the Transport Committee for endorsement on 3 December 2020 with a final consultation draft and associated collateral scheduled to be presented to the Committee on 11 February 2021.
  21. Public consultation on the RPTP will be held concurrently with consultation on the draft Regional Land Transport Plan. Submissions will be sought between 15 February and 19 March 2021 and hearings are scheduled to be held from 20 to 22 April 2021.
  22. The RPTP content that will have most interest to Wairarapa residents is the proposed Regional Rail Strategic Direction improvements to and from Masterton and Wairarapa bus coverage improvements as part of the Bus Network Review.
  23. As requested at the previous Transport Committee meeting, a workshop to discuss the RPTP will be held following this meeting. The workshop will focus on the key activities in the RPTP and the public consultation process.

#### **Update on performance**

24. A PowerPoint presentation on Wairarapa public transport performance, issues and opportunities will be given at this meeting.

#### **Ngā kaiwaitohu**

##### **Signatories**

Writers	Barry Fryer – Rail Assets Lead Emmet McElhatton – Principal Advisor, Policy
Approver	Scott Gallacher – General Manager, Metlink

<b>He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations</b>
<b><i>Fit with Council's roles or Committee's terms of reference</i></b> This is an information report on public transport matters in the Wairarapa.
<b><i>Implications for Māori</i></b> There are no implications for Māori.
<b><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></b> This report provides an update on the delivery of public transport activities in the Wairarapa. Delivering public transport is a key activity in the Long-term Plan.
<b><i>Internal consultation</i></b> No other departments were consulted in preparing this report.
<b><i>Risks and impacts: legal / health and safety etc.</i></b> There are no risks arising from this report.