

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman and Members, Engineering Services Committee

FROM: Utilities Asset Manager, Jeff Cuthbertson

REFERENCE:

DATE: 16 August 2006

SUBJECT: UTILITIES MANAGEMENT REPORT

1 CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS

The capital works programme has commenced for the 2006-2007 financial year and is underway with a full schedule of work ahead.

The Annual Operations and Maintenance Programme submitted by the maintenance contractor, is under review and budgeted funds will be apportioned to approved items.

A condition audit of all pumpstations is programmed. This will assess telemetry and electrical systems at each site and formulate a priority list for all required upgrade work.

2 WATER

2.1 General

Pipe breaks occurred recently in Iwa Street, Mapua (burst 150 mm main) and Pohara WTP (80 mm main by vandalism). The Motueka Recreation Centre supply returned a positive *E.coli* result; however follow up sampling showed clear results.

2.2 Brightwater Reservoir

Negotiations continue with the developer to secure an appropriate site for the additional Brightwater Reservoir. Geotechnical investigations and boundary surveys have confirmed the preferred site.

2.4 Murchison Watermain Upgrade

The tender for the installation of 1550 metres of 150 mm trunk watermain in Hotham Street, George Street and Waller Street, which closed on 2 August 2006, was assessed and a recommendation has been forwarded to the Tenders Committee for approval. Construction is expected to commence in September 2006.

2.5 Wakefield Water Augmentation

Drilling investigations carried out in Spring Grove to augment the Wakefield Water supply were not as successful as anticipated. The bores will be tested more fully for yield during the summer dry season.

RURAL SCHEMES

2.6 Dovedale Rural Water Supply

The programme of works for this year is about to commence with ongoing minor pipe upgrade work. Monitoring of the chlorinator unit and telemetry continues with ongoing minor adjustments to ensure optimum performance

2.7 88 Valley Rural Water Supply

The modifications to the chlorinator injector have significantly improved the chlorinator performance.

2.8 Redwoods

Minor works have been carried out on Redwoods Number 1 reservoir. Renewal of a section of 80mm AC mains in Redwood Valley Road and through Buschl's property is programmed to commence in the near future.

2.9 Old Coach Road Reservoir

A temporary solar panel has been installed while investigations continue into the installation of power supply to the site.

3 STORMWATER

3.1 General

There have been no recent significant rainfall events and therefore no significant issues to report.

3.2 Aranui Road Upgrade

The works are substantially complete and the project is due to be granted Practical Completion. The project has been completed on time and within budget constraints.

3.3 Borcks Creek / Headingly Lane

Negotiations continue with landowners, and landowner agreements need to be settled before the next stage of this work can proceed.

3.4 Jeffries Creek and Pitture Stream Upgrade

Stream widening and a new culvert across Lord Rutherford Road South are now largely complete. Road surfacing, fencing and limited earthworks and top-soiling is currently progressing.

A separate report is included regarding future options for the next stage of this development.

3.5 Otia Drive/ Cemetery Dam Improvements

Work is complete on the upgrade to the Cemetery detention basin, adjacent to Otia Drive, apart from the concrete channel. This requires a period of dry weather to dry out the existing swale before excavation can continue.

3.6 Collingwood Stormwater Upgrades (Gibbs Road and Beach Road)

Works in Gibbs Road are complete and sumps installed in Beach Road. Physical works at the Beach Road outlets have been deferred, and outlets will be cleared on a maintenance schedule in the meantime.

3.7 Beach Road Drain

Tenders have been called for the replacement of approximately 200m of retaining wall adjacent to the drain in lower Beach Road. Tenders close 20 September.

4 WASTEWATER

4.1 General

The following blockages and subsequent overflows have recently occurred:

- Intersection of High and Tudor Streets, Motueka no overflow occurred.
- Waitapu Road, Takaka, no overflow occurred.
- 33 Moffat Street, Motueka – minor overflow confined to immediate area.
- Waimea Intermediate, Richmond – system added to routine flushing/monitoring programme.
- Overflow in Roughton Lane – due to damaged manhole.
- Overflow at Sunbelt Crescent Pumpstation, Takaka.
- Overflow at Lodder Lane, Riwaka – due to pipe breakage.
- Overflow near Ligar Bay Pumpstation – due to telemetry fault.

A budget for the upgrade of St Arnaud #2 pumpstation Telemetry has been allocated for this financial year and the work given high priority.

4.2 Murchison Wastewater Treatment Plant

Works at this site are complete, with minor maintenance items and one producer statement outstanding. The new aeration pond and filter beds are performing well after an initial "bedding in" period, with initial testing showing a significant improvement in effluent quality.

4.3 Richmond Trunk Sewer Main Upgrade

This contract is due to be granted Practical Completion. Significant cost savings were able to be realised and the remaining funding was carried forward to enable the final stage of the project to be completed this financial year.

4.4 Richmond Trunk Sewer Main Stage II – Completion of 'Portion C' Alignment

This tender was evaluated under the weighted attribute method and has been awarded to Works Infrastructure. The contractor is expected to commence construction by mid-September.

4.5 Tapawera Ponds

The oxidation pond level has been lowered to expose the base of the wave band for inspection. Two minor cavities were discovered but no obvious major leakage points. It has been concluded that the main sources of leakage are via the bed of the pond and at the base of the wave band. The options for upgrading the pond are still under investigation.

5 REFUSE

5.1 Refuse/Recycling Rate

The matter of the recycling fee being charged on vacant sections was discussed at the Golden Bay Community Board's August meeting, and the Board resolved as follows:

"THAT the Golden Bay Community Board writes to Engineering Services requesting that vacant sections not be charged for the refuse/recycling charge if the service is not being used. Refer to "Funding Impact" section of the LTCCP regarding the Refuse/Recycling Rate: "This rate has increased to \$100 per collected household during the 2006/2007 financial year, as a direct result of Council's need to respond to costs of providing this service and a reduction in volumes of refuse being delivered to landfills.""

The section of the LTCCP quoted by the Golden Bay Community Board above is an excerpt taken from page 21, Volume 1 of the plan which is an overview of key issues and a summary of funding or rating impacts. The point that was being highlighted in this summary comment is that the rate has increased to \$100. In the draft LTCCP version of the document it was noted that the proposed increase was from \$55 to \$72. This summary section also notes at the beginning on page 20 of the plan that

“the financial impact to ratepayers of the District is specifically detailed in the funding impact statement of Volume 2 of this LTCCP”.

The formal funding impact statement 2006-2007 of course is found on pages 4-14, Volume 2 of the LTCCP. Specifically the refuse recycling rate is found on page 11 of this volume being item 15 *“Refuse/Recycling Rate – Council sets a targeted rate for the purpose of funding kerbside recycling. This rate is based on where the land is situated and will be set on each rating unit in the refuse/recycling rating area. The rate (in \$ per rating unit) for 2006-2007 is \$100 (2005-2006: \$55.00)”.*

The above clearly demonstrates that Council has correctly adopted the rate in its funding impact statement in accordance with the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. Therefore, the rate applies to all rating units in the rating area and not specifically to households within the rating area as requested by the Golden Bay Community Board. This explanation will be conveyed back to the Board by Engineering staff at the earliest opportunity.

5.2 Kerbside Collection

Kerbside collection of rubbish bags and recyclables continues, with generally good performance by Streetsmart. Collection of No. 5 recyclables is scheduled to commence on 1 September 2006.

5.3 Resource Recovery Centres

Weighbridge trials concluded successfully at Mariri in August and arrangements are now in place for payment by weight at this site and at Richmond from September. Design for site improvements at the Richmond site, including a weighbridge, continues.

Trials at Takaka have been delayed by damage to Sollys weighbridge, and are now scheduled for September.

5.4 Paintwise

The Resene Foundation was advised of their successful Zero Waste application and Council staff are preparing a contract for this grant.

A Paintwise drop-off service commenced at the Richmond Resource Recovery Centre in August, with training of staff provided by Paintwise immediately prior to Ecofest. Collection of this paint will be by Paintwise, under a separate agreement, at little or no net cost to Council.

6 WAI-ITI DAM

Dam commissioning continues, with the reservoir now approximately 30% full. Preparations for irrigation releases in November are proceeding; this work includes calibration of the outlet weir, commissioning and calibration of the outlet valve control mechanism and an assessment of the travel time and flow losses below the dam.

An official opening is tentatively scheduled for early October.

7 TENDERS

Tenders awarded since the last meeting are:

No.	Contract name	No. of tenders received	Successful tenderer	Amount	Highest amount	TDC estimate	Comment
681	Richmond Trunk Main Sewer Replacement – completion of Alignment C	4	Works Infrastructure	\$784,240	\$1,543,537	\$999,072	
686	Brightwater Pipeline Replacement	4	Ching Contracting	\$186,524	\$239,558	\$263,150	

8 RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

Jeff Cuthbertson
Utilities Asset Manager