

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman and Members, Engineering Services Committee

FROM: Utilities Asset Engineer, David Stephenson

REFERENCE: C404

DATE: 23 November 2006

SUBJECT: **OLD MILL WALKWAY COASTAL PROTECTION - UPDATE**

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Report is to inform the committee of progress on the proposed Old Mill Walkway coastal protection.

2 BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 12 October 2006, the Engineering Services Committee, resolved to:

- Adopt a rock revetment type structure, as shown in the report of Tonkin & Taylor of 3 October 2006, as the preferred option for the protection of the southern 150 metres of the Old Mill Walkway.
- Prepare and lodge resource consent application(s) and tender documents for the construction of this option.
- Continue to consult with adjacent landowners with respect to cost-sharing and preparation of the consent application(s).
- Consult with other affected parties in preparation for lodging consent application(s).
- Confirm funding options for the construction of the proposed works and the remaining 550 metres of the Old Mill Reserve Walkway, prior to raising a loan to fund the project.

3 CURRENT PROGRESS

Since the date of the last meeting, Council and Council's consultants have:

- Further developed the preferred design and a construction methodology as a basis for consultation;
- Made contact with local iwi to arrange a consultation process (in the light of recent changes to local iwi organisation);
- Contacted and consulted with the Department of Conservation;
- Met with the three of four directly affected landowners adjacent to the walkway reserve to discuss funding and consenting issues; and
- Commenced preparation of an Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE) for the consent application.

Discussions to date with affected landowners have been constructive. Council staff expect to meet with two further landowners in the near future, to discuss consent issues and potential cost sharing options for the proposed work.

4 UPCOMING WORK

Council staff expect consultation with affected parties and preparation of the consent application and AEE will conclude in late December 2006, and that a consent application for the work will be lodged in early January 2007. On this basis, and allowing for the appeal period for any consent decision, consent for the proposed works could be expected in mid-March 2007.

In parallel with the resource consent process, staff and Council's consultants will continue to develop a funding proposal for the work, prepare a detailed design (incorporating feedback from the consent consultation process) and prepare tender documents.

At this stage it is anticipated that tender documents will be available in February 2007, with a construction potentially starting in April 2007.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report be received.

David Stephenson
Utilities Asset Engineer