

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman and Members, Engineering Services Committee
FROM: Philip Drummond, Asset Engineer Rivers/Roads
REFERENCE: L217
DATE: 23 August 2006
SUBJECT: **RIWAKA RIVER – STOP BANK REVIEW**

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council on the results of the public consultation process and how the project should progress from here.

2 RESULTS OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

The Public Consultation questionnaire (58 replies from 200 mailed out) has indicated the following broad opinion exists within the area:

- 65% do not perceive that their property is at risk from flooding;
- The greatest risk was believed to be related to their homes;
- 60% do not consider a high level of protection is needed;
- Under 20% want a higher than 5% AEP (20 yr) protection level;
- Over 50% of returns are interested in a different option;
- Very few people were prepared to pay for an upgrade.

3 CONCLUSIONS

There is no public acknowledgement that upgrading of the current banking system is justified. Also the findings suggest that the current level of standard maintenance works should continue in the foreseeable future.

If Council is of the opinion that heavy maintenance activity can be funded from general river rate funding then proposed expenditure indicated in Years 4-5-6 of the LTCCP for this project might be able to be applied to a process of renovation that would restore equal protection to all lengths of the stop-bank system. This requires discussion on “community of interest” and the wider source of funding.

4 RECOMMENDATION

THAT the findings of the Public Consultation be accepted.

THAT there being no public acknowledgement that upgrading of the current banking system is justified, then the current level of standard maintenance works should continue in the foreseeable future.

THAT a maintenance process be developed that could be implemented in future years and funded from an increase in the General River Rate to renovate sections of the stopbank system to restore equal protection the full length.

Philip Drummond
Asset Engineer Rivers/Roads

Attached graphs