

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman and Members, Engineering Services Committee

FROM: Utilities Asset Engineer, Kim Arnold

DATE: 22 November 2006

SUBJECT: **UTILITIES MANAGEMENT REPORT**

1 GENERAL

- The Utilities 2006/2007 budgets for Renewals and for Operations and Maintenance have been further reviewed to reduce the risk of any potential overspending in these budgets. A number of projects have been placed on hold pending further investigation and financial monitoring on a month-by-month basis will continue. The approved minor projects work will commence from January 2007.
- The final Request for Tender documentation for *Contract 688: Water Utilities Operations and Maintenance* is now complete and is with the four short-listed tenderers for pricing. The tender submissions close on 24 January 2007. The short-listed tenderers include City Care (Christchurch), Fulton Hogan, Sicon and Works Infrastructure.
- The TDC Information Services group department have procured the hardware required to enhance the telemetry base station system and are working toward upgrading both the access links into monitoring the telemetry system and back up of telemetry data. This upgrade will enable users to have secure controlled access via a broadband link and will also allow multiple users to simultaneously utilise the information.
- All data for the Richmond hydraulic modelling projects has been captured and processed, and the first stage outputs are expected in December. Scoping is underway for the Mapua and Brightwater modelling and data capture.

2 WATER

2.1 General

Pipe breaks occurred recently:

- in Whitby Road, Wakefield, (main was damaged by roading contractor);
- on the Brightwater main leaving the treatment plant;
- at Courtney St, Motueka (leak was beneath the telephone booth, which was

- removed to carry out the repair);
- Beach Road, Richmond (section of shallow AC main is programmed for replacement following ongoing breaks);
- the Murchison water treatment plant AC main from wells split and was repaired.

Other issues:

- Unusually low chlorine residual levels at Alliance and Sea Health Foods were rectified following some re-valving of the connecting linkages between the Richmond and Waimea systems.
- Faults occurred at Waimea Well #8 (required replacement starter), Old Coach Road Reservoirs (telemetry hardware upgrade was required) and temporary communications failures occurred with the network SCADA system (cured with some reconfiguration).

2.2 Brightwater Reservoir

Detailed design is in progress for the Brightwater Reservoir. The preferred site for the reservoir has been negotiated with the developer and agreement has been reached. Revised construction estimates exceed the funding available in the current financial year. The project design and tender documents will be completed in preparation for tender. This would allow confirmation of actual market prices for construction and/or by securing some funding in the 2007/08 budget, and enable construction of the reservoir by spanning the 2006/07 and 2007/08 financial years.

2.3 Murchison Watermain Upgrade

The construction of the 150 mm trunk watermain in Hotham Street, (Option 1), by Adcock and Donaldson is now complete. The project was completed on time and within budget.

2.4 Dovedale Rural Water Supply

The installation of a new chlorinator and telemetry is programmed and remains to be completed. The moratorium on further connections to the scheme remains in place.

2.5 Mapua Trunk Main

The renewal of the section of main across the two estuary channels between Best and Rabbit Islands has been investigated and the installation of the two connection junctions has been completed successfully by Works Infrastructure. The remainder of works which includes directional drilling beneath the estuaries will be tendered and constructed in the first quarter of 2007.

3 STORMWATER

3.1 General

Rainfall for October was above average in Takaka and the Lower Motueka Valley but below average around the Upper Motueka Valley and Waimea plains. In spite of some areas experiencing higher than average falls, there have been no significant flooding issues to report.

Regular maintenance continues on outlets to existing stormwater pipework at Paton's Rock.

Additional maintenance work has been completed in Patons Rock, Olympus Way/Richmond, Aranui Road/Mapua, Brightwater Underpass and Cemetery Dam/Richmond.

All work on the Jeffries Creek detention dam has stopped with the decision to delete the project at the October Engineering Services Committee meeting.

All tenders for the Beach Road drain upgrade have been declined, and alternative options are to be considered.

Surveys for Seaton Valley drain and Mapua causeway are progressing, and the proposed Martins Farm Road culvert upgrade has been placed on hold due to Department of Conservation and iwi issues.

3.2 Borck's Creek / Headingly Lane Channel

Agreement has been reached with the landowner for the next phase of Headingly Lane channel widening, and resource consent is due to be confirmed to allow this stage of work to proceed.

3.3 Wharf Road Floodgates, Motueka

Works Infrastructure has completed an extensive refurbishment of the Wharf Road floodgates. The work included treating/painting the gates, replacement of hydraulic rams/hoses/fittings and some improvements to site fencing and control building. The automatic control system has also been reconfigured to optimise the operation of the gates and is proving successful.

4 WASTEWATER

4.1 General

The resource consent for the Motueka Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Upgrade project is progressing along with working party discussions with iwi.

The consultation with iwi on the Takaka WWTP upgrade project has lead to a decision to delay the submission of resource consent application and will also delay the project construction beyond this financial year.

Alternative sites have been reviewed for the upgraded Waitapu pumpstation; however price estimates for these were more expensive so the original site is being pursued along with negotiations with the landowner for a further strip of land. This has also delayed the design phase for the project.

Vandals broke into the storage building at the Motueka ponds, with no evidence of any items taken.

The following blockages, breaks and/or overflows have recently occurred:

- School Road, Riwaka, overflow occurred, discharge was confined to immediate area.
- Croucher Street, Richmond blockage (twice) and overflow occurred from private line.
- Abbeyfield House, Takaka – blockage but no overflow occurred.
- Fearon Street/Thorp Street, Motueka - subdividers contractor damaged 375mm main, small discharge occurred into roadside drain, however extensive resources were required to complete the repairs to the rising main. All costs will be recovered from the parties involved.

4.2 Motupipi Street Sewermain Replacement

Design of the replacement sewermain for Motupipi Street between Willow Ave and the recently upgraded Motupipi pumpstation is now complete and the project is out to tender.

4.3 Richmond Trunk Sewer Main Stage II – Completion of ‘Portion C’

Works Infrastructure continues to progress steadily with the second stage of the Richmond Trunk Sewer Main project and is expected to complete the project ahead of the scheduled mid-January completion date. The sedimentation filtration system installed to process the groundwater pumped from the excavated trench continues to work effectively.

4.4 Tapawera Pond

The pond level at Tapawera is reported to be stabilising at discharge level. Repairs to the aerator have been completed and it is functioning correctly again. The discharge consent is on hold awaiting further discussion with Iwi.

5 REFUSE

5.1 Kerbside

Kerbside collections continue at a satisfactory level. Improvements to the existing service were identified at a recent strategic meeting between Council and the contractor, Streetsmart and are being evaluated for implementation by Council staff.

The first improvement to services will see the collection of plastics 1-7, (but excluding expanded polystyrene) from the kerbside from 11 December 2006. A suitable publicity and information programme for the introduction of this service is being worked through with the contractor.

A long term solution for the disposal of glass has been agreed with the contractor. Kerbside colour separation of glass will resume shortly and glass will be shipped to the North Island for recycling.

Preparation continues for the additional Kaiteriteri refuse collection over the summer period (21 December 2006 to 15 February 2007). Information regarding this service

will be posted to ratepayers and additional information and a supply of five refuse bags will be distributed to houses in the area.

5.2 Capital works

Increased volumes at the Beach Road, Richmond, site have continued. This increase in volumes has identified the need for improvements at the site to facilitate more efficient change-over of compactor bins for transport to Eves Valley. Council is working with the transport and site operations contractors to identify the optimum solution for this site.

Planning for the installation of a weighbridge at the Beach Road site continues, with construction likely in the new year.

A new kiosk at the Mariri Resource Recovery Centre is due for construction in the new year, in conjunction with other general site improvements.

The potential resumption of glass shipping for recycling has identified some site improvements required for this. Staff are evaluating these in conjunction with other proposed works on the sites.

6 TENDERS

No tenders have been awarded since the last meeting. Tenders for the CCTV survey closed on 22 November and are being evaluated.

7 RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

Kim Arnold
Utilities Asset Engineer