

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman and Members, Engineering Services Committee

FROM: Roger Ashworth, Transportation Manager

REFERENCE: RD3603

DATE: 12 July 2006

SUBJECT: **RIWAKA-KAITERITERI ROAD – MINOR SAFETY IMPROVEMENT WORKS**

1 PURPOSE

To update the Committee on the first three sites of minor safety works identified for the Riwaka-Kaiteriteri Road.

2 BACKGROUND

The Engineering Services Committee has indicated priority for minor safety improvement works for the Riwaka-Kaiteriteri Road. Following a site meeting we have now progressed to identify initially three sites (two cut sites and one fill site) with an aim to have work underway in mid-August.

3 COMMENT

To date we have met with the Department of Conservation (DoC) who are affected landowners on two cut sites. However, the cut sites are almost entirely covered in bracken and gorse and DoC initially have no undue concerns about these sites. An issue with the cut batters is the need to try and exclude as much of the gorse and weed contaminated soil from being placed in the fill site.

The fill site is a deeply incised gully which has a good growth of second-generation natives. We will attempt to keep the extended clearing in the gully to a minimum, as well as replanting and encouraging the re-establishment of native plants.

4 RESOURCE CONSENT

The resource consent will be non-notified. DoC has confirmed that the cut sites are not significant and although their request for planting advice on the gully site was suggested, it could not be part of the conditions of consent, as the fill site is within road reserve. We will advise iwi of the work at the next MIRMAK meeting and they have already advised that they are not aware of any significant sites affected by the proposed work. The consent application will be lodged by 14 July 2006.

5 COST

In order to reduce consultant input and the costly exercise of a formal tender process, we have opted for expedited tender procedures. These tender procedures allow us to negotiate up to a physical cost of \$50,000 per site with any one tenderer. We believe we have adequate in-house experience and comparable contract rates to ensure that any negotiation will have competitive rates. The total cost for these works will be approximately \$150,000 including in-house and limited consultant costs.

6 RECOMMENDATION

THAT this report be received.

Roger Ashworth
Transportation Manager