

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Chairman and Members, Engineering Services Committee

**FROM:** Engineering Services Manager, Peter Thomson

**REFERENCE:** R860

**DATE:** 13 July 2006

**SUBJECT:** **ROAD OILING**

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## 1 PURPOSE

This report updates Committee members on progress with providing ratepayers with the ability to use oil as a dust suppressant on Council roads.

## 2 BACKGROUND

As reported at previous committee meetings the Engineering Services staff have been in discussion with Environment and Planning staff to find a way forward for the issuing of road oiling permits to residents who wish to apply oil to Council roads to assist with dust suppression during the summer months. It has previously been determined that it was not feasible for the Engineering Services Department to apply for a new consent that would allow for the application of oil on roads at any undetermined locations on Council's road network. Therefore, a new road oiling permit process is proposed under the RMA. The new process will now see ratepayers as the applicants and consent holders with the Environment and Planning Department responsible for processing, administration and monitoring of individual consents that are issued.

## 3 COMMENT

Attached is proposed documentation for new road oiling permits. Residents who want to use oil as a dust suppressant on Council roads adjoining their properties will be required to apply for their own resource consent and obtain a road oiling permit prior to undertaking any works. The proposed processing fee for the consent is \$80.00 which is the same amount as was previously charged for a road oiling permit from the Engineering Services Department under its previous consent. Therefore, there is no cost increase for residents and ratepayers.

Consent applicants will be responsible for providing all information and for obtaining written approval from any adjoining affected property owners or occupiers.

During a typical summer period there are approximately twelve or up to twenty road oiling permit applications lodged. The proposed process will continue to allow residents to use oil as an effective tool against dust suppression and in providing for a healthier environment during dry summer months.

#### **4 RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT this report be received.**

Peter Thomson  
**Engineering Manager**