
Asset Manager's Report



WATER/WASTEWATER

Wastewater

Urban Sewer Network

The network continued to function trouble-free.

Wastewater Plant

The treatment plant is working satisfactorily. Effluent irrigation and routine monitoring of effluent quality is continuing.

The current 3 year lease terms for the two sections of effluent-irrigated farmland are to expire in June 2006 and August 2006. Steps are being initiated to offer these two sections for lease as a single parcel.

Water Schemes

Urban Water System

Ecan has expressed satisfaction on the Management Plan forwarded to them to meet the conditions of compliance for the Resource Consent issued for the filter backwash pond at the Timaru Road treatment plant.

The Timaru Road bore has not been in operation since the end of April.

A 100mm water main (meeting the urban water service levels and fire fighting standards) was installed along Hunts Road under the Interim Development Levy scheme. This new pipeline connects the water main along Manchester Street to the one along Mill Road.

No significant problems were encountered in the urban water network.

Rural Water Schemes

Cannington-Motukaika

All water samples tested were OK and no major faults or anomalies were reported.

Hook Waituna

The intake continues to clog up on rainy days when the turbidity levels increase. All water samples tested were OK; no major problems in distribution were reported.

Lower Waihao

The efficiency of the pump at the intake is observed to be slightly lower than what it used to be and this problem is being monitored.

The network was fine except for a few minor leaks that were promptly fixed. All water samples were OK.

Otaio-Makikihi

No major problems were reported in the supply network or on the water quality.

Waihaorunga

No problems reported; all water samples tested were OK.

Waikakahi

All water samples were OK and no major problems were reported.

The fabrication of the switchboards and other components for the MCC upgrade at the Stone Wall pump station is completed and the switch-over is scheduled for the last week in June.

A flow meter with data logging capability is now being used to analyse the flow rates at key points in the network to gather vital information for the proposed upgrade.

The preliminary design report on the augmentation of the supply from the Lower Waihao RWS is being addressed by Opus Consultants, and is progressing well.

Downlands

A meeting of the Downlands Water Supply Management Committee was held on the 24th of May 2006 at the Timaru District Council Office, where it was decided to:

- (1) Request the staff to investigate options for the viable long term supply of water for the scheme and report to a committee workshop, and
- (2) Urge the three contributing Councils to the Downlands water scheme to lobby the Central Government on the financial implications to the scheme of meeting the Drinking Water Standards.

Target Water Rates

Following Council's discussion of the target rates during the LTCCP hearings recently, a presentation was made by staff to the Cannington and Waihaorunga Rural Water Scheme Committees on 31 May 2006 to explain the need for recovery of depreciation costs on a yearly basis, and also to allow for the amortised capital upgrade of the system quality standards to meet future DWSNZ 2005. Agreement was reached on rates that met these objectives.

Drinking Water Standards 2005

The Ministry of Health have issued a release indicating a series of briefing meetings, including one at the Kingsgate Hotel in Oamaru 6:00pm - 8:00pm on 4th July 2006.

Also, there is a draft of the two approaches to be offered to address the subsidy concept, and a response to these proposals is due on 28th July 2006.

SCADA Systems

Staff visited the Mt Grand SCADA system operated by Dunedin CC on 7th June 2006, to gain valuable insight into software setups that are compatible with our existing Powerlink software. This will assist in knowledge of how to address the SCADA upgrade to our currently dated system.

ROADING

Work Completed

Unsealed Roads Metalling

Metalling in the Hakataramea Valley has been completed

Seal Widening

Barnetts Road for 50m from SH 1

Area Wide Pavement Treatment Granular Overlay

Fletchers Road 200m

Serpentine Valley Road 1.8km from SH 82, 290m (In progress)

RAMM Roughness Survey

ARRB Road info Ltd has completed a roughness survey of the Districts sealed roads. This is required every 2 years for the RAMM data base.

Morven Glenavy Road Drainage

The section between of Morven Glenavy Road between Archibalds and McLeays Roads has had water lying across the road in several places since the heavy rain at the end of April.

A side drain is being constructed to drain water from Archibalds Road to McLeays Road.

Rock Fall

Large Rock Falls have been cleared from McHenrys (15th May) and Te Akataramea Roads (24th May).

St Andrews New Street

St Andrew Estates Ltd has completed the construction of 150m of new street off Bulwer Terrace St. Andrews. This was required for a subdivision.

Work Programmed

Unsealed Roads

Complete Metalling programme.

Pareora Gorge Road

Install sumps at the inlet of 3 culverts to remove a traffic hazard.

Construct 2 x 50m lengths of concrete channel to improve drainage and prevent pavement damage on the inside of 2 curves.

Gordons Valley Road
 Metal road shoulder west of Frenchman Gully Road.
 Minor drainage.
 Culvert replacement.

Dog Kennel Road

A small length of seal on Dog Kennel road has failed due to poor drainage. Drainage and Pavement repairs will be completed.

Waimate Township Stormwater Investigation

Opus International Consultants has been engaged to complete a stormwater investigation of the Waimate Township. A Stormwater model of the town and upgrade strategy will be developed.

Roading Asset Valuation

Opus International Consultants has been engaged to value our land transport assets. This valuation will form the first stage and provide a basis of the necessary financial information for the Asset Management Plan.

Contractor Seminar

The new code of practice adopted by our roading team and known as the Local Roads Supplement to the COPTTM manual, is fast becoming an industry safety standard for temporary traffic management. A 2 hour seminar introducing this manual was convened on the 24th May 2006 for the benefit of some 16 road contractors and staff who have reason to work safely on Waimate Roads. The presentation was well received.

WASTE

Whitehorse Recycling Operations

With the first financial year of Whitehorse Recycling operating at the Resource Recovery Park almost at an end, reports on volume of material processed and revenue gained are encouraging. Whitehorse Recycling has engaged professional accountants to prepare all future reports. They will prepare an annual statement to Council, detailing revenue, costs and overall position as at 30 June 2006.

For the coming year, increased income is expected to come from the following areas:

- The sale of second-hand goods from RRP site.
- Metal as further processing is undertaken.
- Regular payments for plastics

From the data supplied to staff, Whitehorse Recycling appears to be able to increase non-Council sourced income, and to be in a good position for the challenge of reducing the residual waste stream further.

Other Solid Waste Items

The outcomes of decisions made through the LTCCP process will be implemented by 1st July 2006, notably the changing of the Resource Recovery Park open hours and the alterations to the charged rates.

The recycling collection seems to be running smoothly with three rural sites, namely St Andrews, Hunter and Waihao Downs, being emptied regularly. Three additional sites (Makikihi, Morven and Glenavy) are hoped to be in operation by 1st July 2006.

GENERAL

Development Contributions Policy

A staff progress meeting was held on 30th May 2006 with the goal of reviewing the included costs of services by the 30th June 2006.

Utility Asset Database

The BizeAsset database software system was installed in May 2005 for the purpose of hosting asset data and to provide an annual valuation on those assets, as well as keeping track of changes and repairs.

Good progress has been made, with in-house valuations nearing completion for: Urban Water, Urban Sewer, and Urban Stormwater.

The rural water schemes initially presented some technical issues related to how the data was to be stored. In April 2006 two modifications to the software were implemented to facilitate the valuation of rural water schemes. The piped assets have now been imported into BizeAsset and other non-pipe equipment is now being progressively entered.

It is anticipated that valuations for the rural water schemes will be able to be performed in August 2006, which should suffice for audit purposes.

Staff will continue to make improvements to data accuracy over time. This should result in more accurate valuations subsequently, and predicted replacement expenditure based on componentry life.

A seminar/workshop on the Bizeasset system is planned in Christchurch 28th-30th August 2006, and it is planned that staff would contribute.

Road asset infrastructure is held separately in the RAMM (Road Assessment and Maintenance Management) Data files. This is used by all local authorities and is required by Land Transport N.Z.

Meridian Energy Open Day

Staff attended a well manned display at the Ikawai Hall on Tuesday 30th May 2006. Many locals residents took advantage of the photo/slide/brochure presentations of the proposed North Bank Tunnel Concept and the Hunter Downs Irrigation Proposal.

South Canterbury Rural Fire District

Staff have received a draft constitution which was intended to replace the existing constitution. In essence, it clarified the budget responsibility and allocation process. Staff responded on the issue of clarification as to not wishing to contribute as both a funder, and a forestry owner.

Also, the Hon Rick Barker, Minister of internal Affairs issued a press release on 30th May 2006, in which he highlighted the following points pertaining to the possible integration of the New Zealand's Rural Fire Authorities and the New Zealand Fire Service Commission: -

- o More integrated services, bringing together New Zealand's Rural Fire Authorities and the New Zealand Fire Service Commission
- o The functions to be integrated would include oversight of all aspects of fire risk and a clear responsibility to attend non-fire incidents
- o A single new brigade structure, accommodating both urban and rural fire and rescue workers
- o Legal protection for all fire and rescue workers when carrying out their duties, and when properly trained
- o Strong links to regional civil defence groups

Mr Barker further stated that "one organisation could assure us of a consistent approach to the standards and levels of services provided. Changes in the past have been made because of tragedies, such as the 1947 Ballantyne's fire in Christchurch involving heavy loss of life. It's much better to think about changes when we're not responding to a tragedy. We need a service that is better suited to the future and builds on our present strengths."

Adverse Weather Event 12th June 2006

Staff were on full alert to address the impact of the recent snowfall and resultant road closures and power outages that affected water pumps and reticulation of drinking water. It was an early start for our proposed CD training and teamwork with other staff and contractors resulted!

G Hamilton
Asset Manager

12th June 2006