
Asset Manager's Report – February 2007



WATER/WASTEWATER

Wastewater

Urban Sewer Network

A collapsed sewer pipe in John Street that caused a slump on the road surface was repaired.

Wastewater Plant

The plant continued to function satisfactorily, with effluent irrigation continued as usual.

Water Schemes

Capital Assistance for Upgrades

The criteria for financial assistance under the Ministry of Health's Capital Assistance Programme (CAP) is now released. One of the pre-requisites for eligibility for CAP funding is the participation in the MoH's Technical Assistance Programme (TAP). The Council Water Engineer had a detailed discussion with Peter Burt, the TAP Facilitator for the region, who visited WDC on the 1st of February.

- In the coming months the TAP Facilitator is to work closely with WDC to get the Public Health Risk Management Plans and Sustainability Plans approved by MoH.
- The CAP subsidy for rural schemes will be limited to the percentage of drinking-water consumed by households and dependent on the deprivation index. This means that, the percentage of drinking-water consumed by households for all the rural schemes being less than 10%, the subsidy under CAP will be less than 10% of the cost of upgrade.

Urban Water Scheme

The urban water scheme functioned trouble-free during December and January.

Water consumption during December 2006 was the lowest for the month of December recorded since our SCADA system started recording in 2000. The total water usage of 648,000m³ for the year 2006 was the highest ever on record, marginally exceeding the 645,000m³ in 2003.

The Gorge Road Water Bore

The Council meeting on the 19th of December had requested advice on the water potential of the bore within the WDC property Val # 2523027605 along Gorge Road.

- The bore was part of the Waimate Urban water scheme, and has been defunct for some years now. The potential yield of the bore is not known.

- There is no resource consent for extracting ground water from the bore for public use.
- The Timaru Road bore and Manchesters Road bore, in combination, have sufficient yield to meet the current water demand, as well as projected demand, for the Waimate Urban water scheme, ruling out the possibility of having to reconsider this Gorge Road bore as a source for the scheme.

Rural Water Schemes

Cannington-Motukaika

No problems were reported in water quality or the distribution network.

Hook Waituna

The scheme remained trouble-free during the month. All water samples were OK.

Lower Waihao

No major problems were reported for the scheme.

Otaio-Makikihi

No major problems were reported in the network; all water samples tested were OK.

Waihaorunga

All water samples tested were OK.

Waikakahi

The main pump at the Stone Wall intake had to be sent out for repairs. No major problems were reported in the network; all water samples were OK.

The total confirmed demand for additional water from the proposed upgrade has reached 329,000 L/day, which marginally exceeds the anticipated 300 kL/day increase in capacity. Work towards implementing the project has started, and the installation of the new rising main, linking the Lower Waihao intake with the Dog Kennel Hill reservoir is likely to be finished by April 2007.

Downlands

There is nothing to report on the Downlands Water Scheme. Warrants have been made available to Timaru operations staff in the event that emergency access is required to properties within WDC jurisdiction.

ROADING

Work Completed

Drainage Maintenance

Frenchmans Gully Road construct headwalls on new culverts
Waitaki Valley Road

Storm Damage

Repair scouring Guerins, Clarkesfield, Zig Zag, Kowhatu and Hakataramea Pass Road

Seal Repairs

Belt Street, Hakataramea Valley, Homestead, Colliers, Makikihi Hunter, Makikihi Beach, Hook Swamp and Old Ferry Roads

Unsealed Road Repairs

Patersons Road, patch metal.

Repair scouring Guerins, Clarkesfield, Zig Zag, Kowhatu and Hakataramea Pass Road

Bridge Repairs

Stocks Bridge, Stocks Road repair to damaged hand rails and handrail painting.

2006/07 Resealing Contract

Resealing commenced on 11 January 2007 by Blacktop Pavements Ltd.

Weather conditions have delayed progress. It is expected work will be completed by mid February.

Work Programmed

Drainage

Pareora Gorge. Four sections of concrete channel will be installed on the inside of curves to improve drainage and prevent recurring seal edge damage.

Tree Removal

Hazardous pine trees will be removed from the road side of Pareora Gorge Road.

Bridge / Ford Repairs

Evans Crossing Ford, minor concrete repairs to be completed when river level allows.

Lower Hook and Bussells Road Ford concrete repairs

Safety Footpath

Work is in progress on Parsonage Road, Browns Road safety footpath.

Curve Improvement

Two curves on Serpentine Valley Road will be overlaid to correct excess super elevation and smooth texture. (Armstrongs Road and 800m west)

Intersection Improvement

Upper Hook/Linfield Road

Pikes Point/Waikakahi Valley Road

Seal Widening

Gordons Valley (South of Frenchmans Gully Road for 1.8km)

Lower Hook Road (Hook School Rd to D'Auvergues 0.7km)

Area Wide Pavement Treatment

Hakataramea Valley Road (near Rocky Point 140m)

Serpentine Valley Road near SH 82 400m

Contract Footpath and Kerb and Channel construction

A contract is being prepared for the construction of footpath and kerb and channel.

On Queen Street, there is a requirement of recent subdivision (from Hillary Street for 160m).

Also included, is footpath renewal on Wilkin Street (Holmes to Edward Street) and Queen Street adjacent to the Local Government Centre.

State Highway Network Management Liaison Meeting

A coordination meeting was held on 11 December 2006 with Council's Asset Manager, Roading Engineer, Transit NZ Engineer C. Hey and Opus Engineers regarding local State Highway issues.

Land Transport NZ Financial Assistance Rate

Land Transport New Zealand have advised Financial Assistance Rates (FAR) will now be adjusted once every three years to align with Local Government's LTCCP cycle. This means the next adjustment to our Financial Assistance Rate will not be made until the 2009/2010 financial year. Refer to the attached letter that notes the impending downward movement of our FAR.

Carlisle Street Dust nuisance

Options for Dust Control

- Seal extension cost share

The dust seal cost share is subject to the proposed Extension for Dust Suppression Policy being adopted.

Estimate of cost per metre of frontage to the owner (one side only) for 4 metre wide dust seal \$40.

26m section \$1,040, 40m section \$1,600.

- Dust suppressing chemicals

Using Lignosite (a wood based product) as a dust suppressant is estimated to cost between \$1.00 to \$1.50 per m² which is a cost of \$4.00 to \$6.00 per metre of frontage per application, three applications may be required each year.

26m section \$104 to \$208, 40m section \$160 to \$240

- Close the road to through traffic

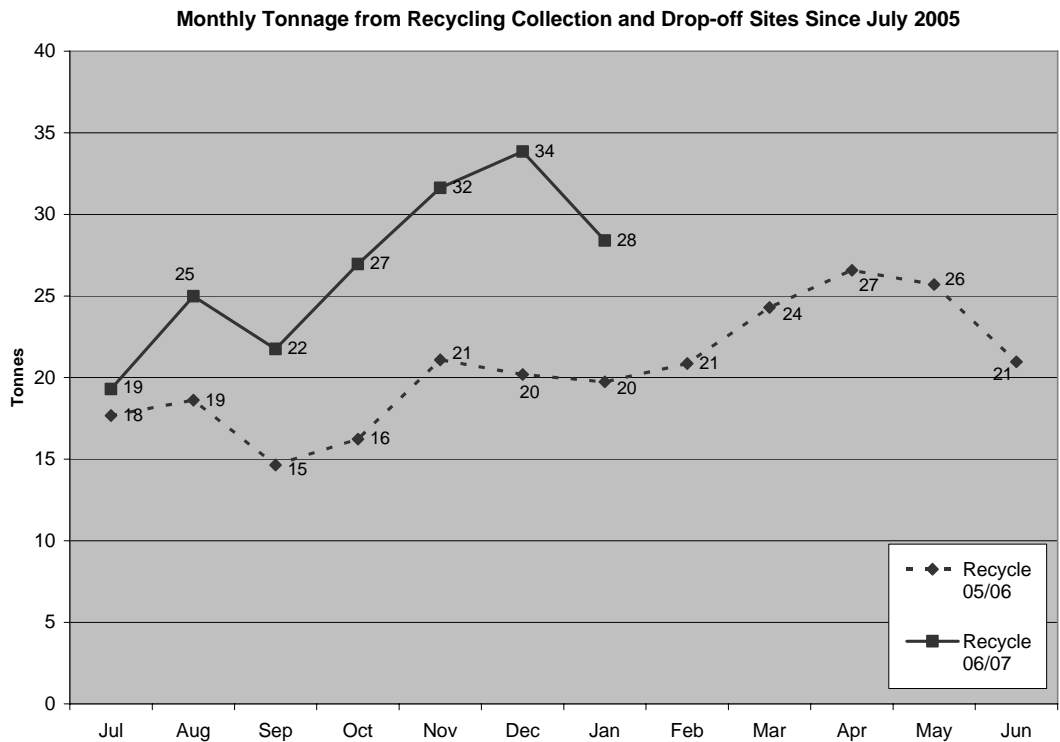
Minor signing and fencing estimate \$800

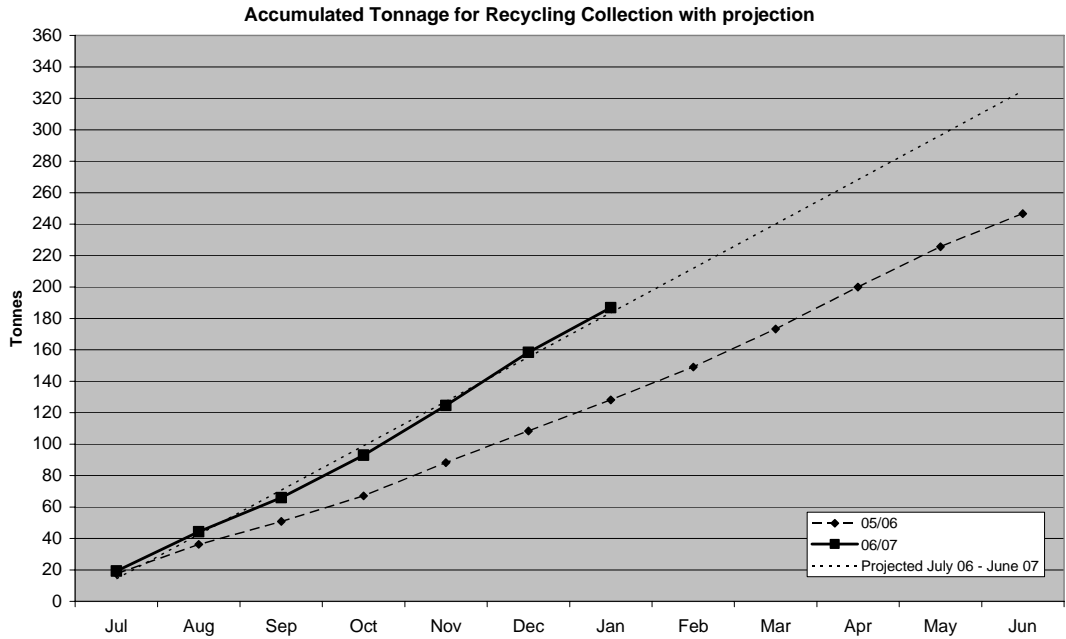
The options will be discussed with the residents when the outcome of the proposed Extension for Dust Suppression Policy is known.

WASTE

Monthly Tonnage for Recycling Collection

Waimate District continues to divert more recyclables from landfill, both from direct deliveries to the RRP and via the kerbside collection. While exact figures for drop-off were unavailable, tonnage from the recycling collection for the first seven months of this financial year was 186.9 tonnes i.e. an increase of 46% from the comparable period last financial year. A projected figure in excess of 300 tonnes is anticipated (see charts below):





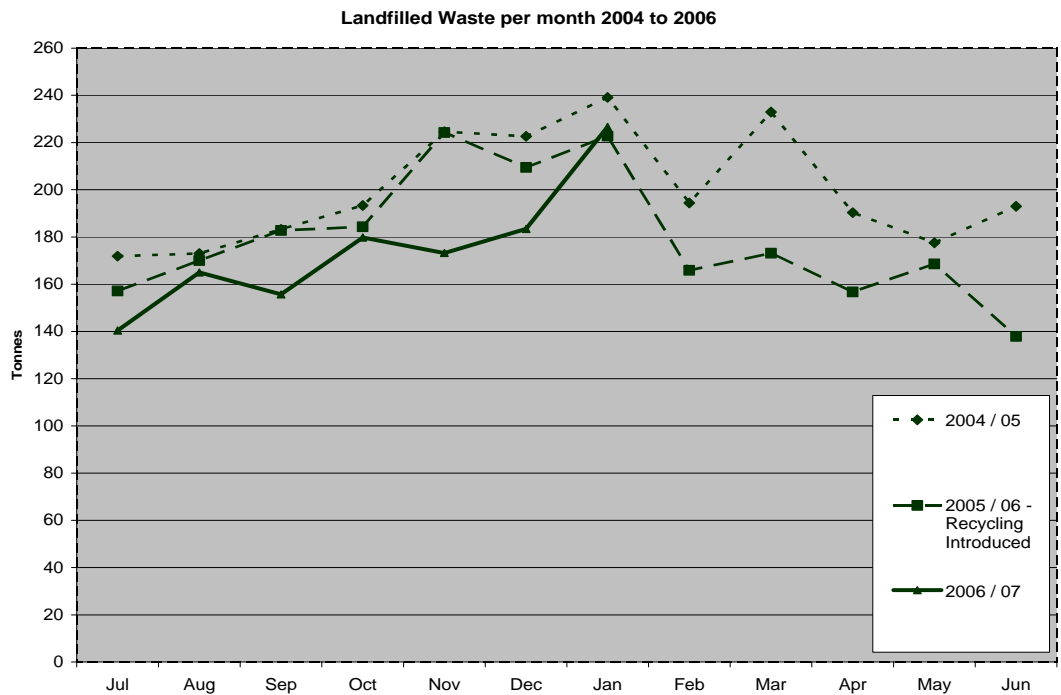
Tonnage to Landfill

Tonnage to landfill is beginning to stabilise at the reduced level of approximately 2,000 tonnes p.a. (see chart below).

Tonnage landfilled for the 12 month period ending:

30 June 2005	31 Jan 2007	Decrease
2,396	2,026	18%

This represents a direct saving of \$18,076 excl GST per annum, in avoided land-filling charges. Further reductions in tonnage are possible, but are largely dependant on measures to divert green / food waste out of the refuse collection system.



St Andrews Ratepayers' Meeting

The St Andrews community is still assessing options on the following:

- The relocation of the current drop-off site for recyclables from the village green, to Kane Lane.
- Local green-waste diversion options (see attached discussion paper).

A report on these issues, dated 21 December 2006, was prepared for discussion by their ratepayers' representatives and a copy is attached.

Capacity for some recyclable streams has been increased to prevent overfilling of bins, on the Village Green.

Waste Strategy Review

An initial meeting to discuss the comprehensive review of the current Waste Strategy was held on 18 December 2006. This was well attended by Councillors, Whitehorse Recycling staff and Board members, and staff. The review highlighted issues to be addressed in the short term:

- Allowing additional recycling crates for residents upon request
- An improved service for commercial properties

Longer term initiatives to further reduce waste to landfill were also discussed.

Costings on various options are presently being sort from contractors.

Whitehorse Recycling's Proposed Service to Businesses

Following the closure of the John St drop-off site, Council has received verbal and written requests for an improved recycling service to the business sector. In response, Whitehorse Recycling Charitable Trust has seen the opportunity to offer a three tier commercial collection service, tailored to businesses. A proposal from WRCT's consultant dated 2nd Feb 2007, which also has agreement in principal from the President of WRCT, is attached, detailing the options considered.

Given the variable nature and quantum of businesses recycling requirements, an optional, directly charged collection, is probably more appropriate than a rates based compulsory one.

GENERAL

Staff Activity

G Hamilton attended the SCRFD meeting in Timaru on 1 Feb 2007, on behalf of Cllr Balchin. Also attached is a progress operations report dated 29th Jan 2007 from Rob Hands, Principal Rural Fire Officer, SCRFD.

G Hamilton
Asset Manager - 5th February 2007