

## **Chief Executive's Report: 24 June 2009**

### **Introduction**

This month there are two parts to the report

**Part One            Activities Report**

- (a) Summary of Activity
- (b) Looking Forward

**Part Two            Organisational Monitoring**

- (a) Dashboard

# Part One: Activities Report

## a) Summary of Activity

### 1 General

#### 1.1 Knit One Slip One

New Zealand is a beautiful lush green country and there are few places more lush and green than Northland – thanks to rain and plenty of it from time to time. Kaipara is unique for a number of reasons and one of them is its diverse geology however when you combine this with periods of high rainfall you get problems. Building and maintaining roads on these geology types is a world marvel, an achievement that we should celebrate and tell the world of our accomplishments. That was the knit one, now the slip one. During July 2008 we had a major storm event which resulted in 70 slips and \$4.5million worth of damage.

The slips were prioritised and the high risk ones identified. These have been tackled with Super 14 valour and 26 of them has been completed, 13 are going out to tender, and the rest are being repaired under the maintenance contract.

This is the answer, quite straight forward, but to get to that answer took a mammoth effort of a few good people. The team consisted of the community, Councillors, Council office bearers, geologists, engineers, designers, and contractors with the referee being the NZ Transport Agency.

#### 1.2 Take a Bow Kaipara

Paula Guy-Stuve has recently returned from the North Island Library Managers' conference buzzing with pride and keen to implement more new and innovative ideas in the library.

Paula was pleased and surprised to learn that even Managers from big libraries admired what Kaipara District Council achieves and the go-ahead attitude of our organisation

Kaipara's Councillors were praised for their support and for their interest in qualitative library reports, rather than insisting on dry statistics.

Paula's Manager was praised for her vision in giving responsibility and trust to such a young manager, recognising that youth and enthusiasm are central to keeping library services relevant.

The library team were also commended for recent innovations such as the junior membership policy that allows children to sign up without parental guarantors, and which has been working very well, together with the dual Dargaville High School Council.

The relationship that the library team has built with community libraries over the years was also seen as impressive.

This was all such nice feedback to get. We all deserve a pat on the back

### **1.3 Gone Walkabout**

Australian aborigines' talk about going "walkabout" with these lasting days on end, and now Kaipara and Northland are getting in on the act.

Work is currently underway by into a study of Northland walks and in particular the opportunities of developing and marketing Northland as a walking destination. Enterprise Northland in association with district councils', Department of Conservation, community groups, Sport Northland, Iwi and interested individuals is undertaking the study with Enterprise Northland providing a report on its findings and recommendations at a workshop being held in early July 2009.

This is an opportunity for the Kaipara to stake its claim as having walks worthy of profiling and promoting. To this end staff have held two meetings with Councillors Sutherland, Smith and Alspach to explore ways in which the Kaipara District Council can link its cycleway and walkways to take advantage of this opportunity. Consideration has also been given to forming a community group representative of interested groups and organisations who could provide the focus and attention that this project requires and deserves.

Kaipara's many changing landforms lend themselves to walking opportunities.

More and more people are getting out and exploring what New Zealand has to offer. Passive walking is one of New Zealand's fastest growth areas with walking and tramping offering something different to both international and domestic visitors to the regions.

Northland and Kaipara residents are becoming more involved in walking and tramping and are actively looking for interesting walks to undertake in Northland, lead in part by Sport Northland's popular Fun Run/Walk series throughout Northland, and in part by walks being promoted by communities like Mangawhai with its Mangawhai Walking Weekend.

Most of the Kaipara's walks are either short walks or day walks, however there are a couple of overnight or multiple day walks which are proving increasing popular, and offer the trampers a true slice of Kaipara beauty and remoteness which is what they are wanting.

Kaipara is well positioned to take advantage of any further promotion and development with its large area of natural, unspoilt landscape and landforms from Waipoua in the North to Pouto and Mangawhai in the south and east. This District can cater for all types of walking and tramping experiences. Working along side individuals, community, iwi and business is the key to making Kaipara an attractive and different package for walking and tramping tourists and visitors along with locals who want to do something a little off the beaten track from either a five minute or three day walk.

### **1.4 Kaipara Bucks National Trend in Resource Consent Processing**

Read'em and weep boys, read'em and weep! The Minister for the Environment Nick Smith released the latest Resource Management Act survey of local authorities and there it was in black and white – Kaipara is processing 79% of its resource consents within time. This is considerably higher than the national average which dropped from 73% to just 69%.

It would appear that whilst some councils' may have slipped, for Kaipara it was a much different story.

The 2007/08 year saw a significant improvement in compliance with timeframes for processing of resource consents so that overall 79% were processed within time. This also shows that Council's planners have continued to improve turnaround times for consents. This is no small feat given that Kaipara continues to notify more applications than is the case nationally.

It is also worth noting that Kaipara was the best performing district council in Northland.

### **1.5 Take Your Marks, Get Set, Go!**

As the song says, "I want to ride my bicycle; I want to ride my bike".

With the Prime Minister John Key 's announcement of his vision for a length of New Zealand cycleway network, action has been thick and fast from many councils' and community groups interested in the concept and how it can be actioned in their region given that the Government may be interested in helping set up and fund these.

Similar to walkways, Northland and Kaipara has many attractions which make this a viable project and make for a great scenic and historic cycling experience. Kaipara has stories that link from Waipoua and the Kauri industry, through to gumdigging, kumara growing, rail history, on to the Harbour and its maritime past, along with both Iwi and European settlement which are all good starting points for any cycling attraction.

The cycleway proposal from the Office of the Minister of Tourism highlights creating jobs through design, construction and maintenance to create a high quality tourism asset which enhances New Zealand's competitiveness as a tourism destination. This should provide regional employment and economic opportunities along with maximising the range of complimentary benefits the cycle network provides to a range of New Zealanders as the main objectives of the proposal.

The Government recently announced that \$50million will be assigned to the initiative as part of its upcoming budget. The idea is to create a series of 'Great Rides' across New Zealand with a distinctive regional and district feel and just not a copy of the Otago Rail Trail Ride. Long term the aim is to create a network throughout the country.

With our subtropical climate and outstanding natural geographical features, Kaipara and Northland are in a fantastic position to capitalise on this initiative.

In early June a meeting was hosted by Sport Northland to discuss a way forward in the development of district proposals and regional collaboration to make the cycleway project happen. The meeting was attended by Whangarei, Kaipara and the Far North District Councils along with Regional Council staff, and the Member of Parliament for Whangarei Phil Heatley. Another meeting is planned in July where it is hoped further information will be presented by each district on a potential cycleway in their area. For this to be successful and for the proposal to find favour in Wellington, Kaipara requires a partnership approach involving community, Iwi, Department of Conservation and business services. A meeting with Iwi is planned for this month to canvass the Government's idea and to look at developing a proposal for July's interagency meeting.

## **1.6 When is a Plant a Weed?**

When it's in the Taharoa Domain.

The single biggest issue facing the Domain and its continued health and appearance is in fact the growth and infestation of weeds within the Domain. While the camp grounds are being maintained to a very high standard, the main reserve area is slowly being taken over by exotic weed plants.

Action to halt the spread of weeds is now at a point where if not started soon, the natural beauty of the Domain will be lost to an exotic overrun of plant weed species. Money and time are now the main requirement to a successful return to any natural vegetation around the Lakes' riparian edge. There are several weeds which have become established within the Domain over a short period of time which have found conditions from the logging practice now to their liking meaning an explosion of weeds.

A number of options have been looked at including the use of Periodic Detention workers however none have worked out. The Taharoa Domain Governance Committee were particularly taken with the idea of using Periodic Detention workers as it was free labour, however once the cost was counted in respect of the supervision necessary, transport costs, the cost of providing a portaloo and often being asked to provide the tools necessary to undertake the work, it was not without considerable costs.

The Committee has been unable to secure any long term funding which would enable it to start and sustain any programme put into place long term. Having applied to various funding agencies without success a newly formed group called the Kai iwi Lakes Community Group is now looking at applying, with the support of the Taharoa Domain Governance Committee, for funding from the Department of Conservation's Community Conservation Fund. It is seeking funding to help develop and implement weed and pest management programmes that will benefit not only the environment but the public's experience of the Domain.

## **1.7 Mangawhai EcoCare – 10 June 2009**

### **Reticulation and Pump Stations**

All of the base area of the EcoCare sewer system is complete with the exception of a small section in Taranui Place where landowner consent has been refused. This is the subject of a Council Hearing on site on 12 June 2009.

In all other areas, Water Infrastructure Group advise that landowner sign offs are being progressively obtained, and final technical inspections and checking of sewer lines is being undertaken. All pump stations are nearing completion.

### **Treatment Plant**

Installation of the mechanical and electrical plant is well underway with no equipment delays at this time.

### **Transfer Pipeline, Storage Dam and Irrigation System**

The transfer pipeline to Council's Brown Road property is also basically completed and being given final technical checks. Work on Stage 1 of the irrigation infrastructure on the farm is underway and needs to be operational by next summer.

Construction of the storage dam has been exceptionally difficult due to rain impacts over the past several months and Water Infrastructure Group have had some problems with Northland Regional Council consent compliance. However, Water Infrastructure Group has performed extremely well under these very difficult circumstances. There has been a significant risk that the works may have been delayed until next summer, however Water Infrastructure Group have undertaken additional emergency flood water storage works and have also worked on weekends to take advantage of dry periods. The dam structure is now complete and 80% of stone lining is in place. The final lining material is now being installed. The final liner has been completed on the southern embankment and is now being placed on the dam floor.

### **House Drains**

Over 500 of the 1,200 house drains being installed as a modification to the original contract are now complete. The final connection to these houses will be completed once the sewer system becomes operational.

Council's Regulatory Department will handle the building consent process associated with house drain works which are additional to those being completed under the Sanitary Works Subsidy arrangements. The EcoCare Project Director will advise the Building Department progressively as sewers become available for use in order that building consents for private works can be processed. Interface arrangements are being finalised between Water Infrastructure Group and Council to ensure connection works are managed and controlled in order to avoid damage to assets and also to ensure no contract issues arise between Water Infrastructure Group and Council during the operational phase in future.

### **Modifications**

A paper outlining the first group of recommended sewer modifications was workshopped with Council on 9 June 2009. Recommendations covering further areas will be provided to Council progressively as final costs are analysed on the project.

### **Programme**

As noted above, there have been significant problems on the storage dam program due to wet weather impacts. However, Water Infrastructure Group has advised that the works are far enough advanced that the risk of major delays is no longer a high likelihood.

Indications are that, at the present time, the due date for Commercial Acceptance 1 of 4 July 2009 will be achievable for Water Infrastructure Group. The impacts of the wet weather over the last few months will, however, mean that the aim of commissioning some sewers ahead of that time will not be achieved.

## **1.8 The Maungaturoto Wastewater Jigsaw**

The new Maungaturoto Wastewater System is ready for action. The earthworks and pipes are in place with the final piece to the puzzle, the membrane filters, and ready for delivery. These should be operational by mid-June.

The new system will use the current pond system but will then push the effluent through the new filter system. This will produce a clean effluent that will meet the Regional Council's stringent requirements for bugs, being faecal coliforms and viruses.

The jigsaw has put together several components including screens to take out the large solid material, membrane filters to filter out the finer material, a storage pond to allow better control of the time of discharges and a larger pond to better cater for storm events by adding additional capacity. We have also built a better road to the plant and realigned Fonterra's waste discharge line as it was not where they thought it was.

Getting the final pieces together has made the future for Maungaturoto clearer and the plant will allow further expansion when this is needed.

### **1.9 Wintering Over the Roding Programme**

With the distinct downwards movement in the mercury, the time has come to suspend major roading projects for the winter. Whilst some projects will take advantage of the winter period to advance such as the piling works at the Matakoho Museum intersection, other larger projects will close down to make sure that pavement construction works in particular are left for completion in the spring.

Projects that will be sent into hibernation over the winter months include the two Baldrock Road projects although some works will proceed over winter to improve drainage and work on Gorge Road will be held back until spring.

Meanwhile work has commenced on the Wairere Rail Overbridge. This has been programmed to ensure the bridge is still operational for the Rally. Once the Rally is over, work will continue through the winter.

### **1.10 The Slime that Climbed**

All oxidation ponds eventually fill up with sludge and slime. Sludge falls to the bottom of the pond as the other components of wastewater are digested away. At some point in the pond's life, the sludge and slime need to be cleaned out as the pond becomes less efficient at digesting the wastewater.

Over the past two years the second pond at Dargaville, the maturation pond, has been cleared of Manchurian Rice Grass and undergone a number of upgrades. These include the installation of a new discharge system and the construction of baffles to ensure that the wastewater is retained in the system for sufficient time to maximise treatment.

During the summer months, the maturation pond was drained and approximately 600mm of sludge was removed from the bottom of the pond. The removal of this sludge is expected to improve the plant's overall performance and is an important part of the ongoing maintenance of the treatment plant.

The sludge has been stockpiled on the treatment plant site for drying. A topsoil cap has already been placed over part of the stockpile to reduce the volume of water entering the sludge. A pump has been installed to pump any runoff into the oxidation pond for further treatment.

The desludging of the maturation pond has been completed well under budget. Now that the maturation pond has been desludged, we will start on the main pond in the coming financial year.

## 2 Contracts

Contract	Project Name	Tender Closes	Work Start	Work Finish
<b>KDC AWPT Projects 2008/09</b>				
577	Whakapirau Road	18 December 2008	9 February 2009	12 June 2009
578	Mititai Road	13 November 2008	4 December 2008	April 2009
579	Tomarata Road & Insley Street (Includes Stormwater project)	25 September 2008	4 December 2008	April 2009
583	Robertson Road & Te Kowhai Road	16 October 2008	14 January 2009	30 March 2009
584	Waihue Road and Baylys Coast Road (Including Seal Extensions of Bridge Approaches & Intersection)	21 October 2008	19 January 2009	12 June 2009
593	Gorge Road (Including Intersection sealing of Doctors/Hill & Valley/Laurence)	23 April 2009	Early June 2009	Mid Nov 2009
604	Matakohe Museum East & West	31 March 2009	Late May 2009	Mid July 2009
<b>KDC Seal Extension Programme 2008/09</b>				
585	Baldrack Road Stage 1 (R - fund) (Including Baldrack/Gibbons Road)	19 March 2009	11 May 2009	Mid Nov 2009
566	Baldrack Road Stage 2	23 October 2008	12 January 2009	Nov 2009
591	Awakino Point East Road	13 November 2008	27 November 2008	16 February 2009
592	Central/Arcadia and Valley/Laurence Road Intersections	Being Designed	October 2009	December 2009
596	Bickerstaffe Road	Early July 2009	September 2009	December 2009
<b>KDC Bridge Replacement Programme 2006/07</b>				
503	Wairere Road Bridge 318 Central Road Bridge 47	9 Feb 2009 Financial analysis to be carried out	Contract has been awarded	October 2009
<b>KDC Bridge Replacement Programme 2007/08</b>				
	Omana Road Bridge 158 replacement	Financial analysis to be carried out		
<b>KDC Minor Safety Programme 2006/07</b>				
546	Molesworth Drive safety footpath	EcoCare Liaison		Complete
543	Insley (Tomarata) Rd footbridge	Further funding required		
<b>KDC Minor Safety Programme 2007/08</b>				
	Mangawhai Road Carter Road Curve Easing	Design Commenced		
522	Komiti Road Safety Footpath Protection	Invited	September 2008	Complete
	Montgomery Avenue Traffic calming Devices	Invited	November 2008	Complete
	Streetlight improvement (programme extended)	Invited	April 2008	September 2008

Contract	Project Name	Tender Closes	Work Start	Work Finish
<b>KDC Reseals 2008/09</b>				
586	Reseals 2008/09	16 October 2008	Feb 2009	Complete 08/09
<b>KDC Slip Repairs 2007/08</b>				
582	Mangawhai Road RP 2690 (July 07 slip)	3 March 2009	Mid May 2009	Late June 2009
582	Paparoa Oakleigh Road RP 1340 (July 07 slip)	3 March 2009	Mid May 2009	Late June 2009
522	Pebblebrook Road RP 100	18 December 2008	March 2009	April 2009
594	Lawrence Road & Tokatoka Road Package 1	11 June 2009	July 2009	September 2009
<b>KDC Slip Repairs 2008/09</b>				
600	Paparoa Oakleigh Rd RP 4730, 7100, 17700, 17800 Package 2	June 2009	June 2009	September 2009
610	Whakapirau Rd RP 3620, 3733, 3830 Package 3	June 2009	June 2009	September 2009
611	Murray Road & Houto Rd Package 4	June 2009	TBA	TBA
612	Tinopai Road RP 7600, 7690, 7970 Package 5 Slips (June 2008 Storm Event)	June 2009 NZTA Funding approved (Being Designed)	TBA	TBA 24 have been completed
<b>KDC Wastewater 2007/08</b>				
574 and 576	Maungaturoto WWTP Consent Renewal upgrade	Closed	September 2008	April 2009
602	Dargaville Pond Desludging	Closed	February 2009	April 2009
<b>KDC Water 2006/07</b>				
529	Maungaturoto - Baldrock Dam Pipeline	Closed	Late April 2009	Oct 2009
608	Ruawai Groundwater Bore Installation	Closed	June 2009	June 2009
<b>KDC Stormwater Programme 2006/07</b>				
561	Baylys Street	November 2008	November 2008	3 April 2009
561	Ripiro Drive drain (Baylys Beach)	14 February 2008	April 2009	June 2009
562	Edward Street (Day to Victoria St)	30 June 2008	September 2008	Completed
<b>KDC Stormwater Programme 2007/08</b>				
	Completion of stopbanks at boat club	Invited	May 2008	Review Solution
	Estuary Drive detention/treatment pond	Agreement Reached with Kaizen Inv 29/12/2008		
	Coastal outfalls	TBA	TBA	TBA
	Piped outlet from Pohutukawa Place and Quail Drive to Molesworth Drive	Design 2009	TBA	TBA
<b>KDC Stormwater Programme 2008/09</b>				
	Taranui PI Improvements (EcoCare)			Completed
	Cullen St Improvements (EcoCare)			Completed

Contract	Project Name	Tender Closes	Work Start	Work Finish
579	Insley Street (Piping of open drains) Included in AWPT Project	25 September 2008	4 December 2008	9 April 2009
559	Moir Street West Stormwater (Portion A)	11 March 2008	25 September 2008	March 2009
559	Moir Street West Footpath (Portion B)	13 March 2008	25 September 2008	Mid May 2009
601	Moir Street East (Piping open drains), Molesworth Drive & Pearson Street	TBA	TBA	TBA
603	Mangawhai Stormwater Pipe Supply (for Contract 601)	January 2009	TBA	TBA
606	Gordon Road and Montgomery Avenue	TBA	TBA	TBA

### 3 Roothing

We are approaching the end of the financial year and the beginning of winter. For roading this means crunch time budget spending wise as well as preparing the roads for winter. Our roads are in a good condition going into the wet winter weather. Contingency planning, such as putting more metal on problem roads and clearing water tables has been done. In addition our maintenance reactive teams are ready for any event. It is anticipated that there will be more demand on our resources thus requiring us to be innovative and to work smarter and harder.

Whilst the roading network is in good condition the wet May has hindered completion of several construction projects. Some ongoing projects that may otherwise extend into winter have been curtailed as we are mindful that autumn has arrived and different maintenance strategies are required within the Road Maintenance contract.

The 3 year funding programme for both maintenance and capital works is being put through the new Regional Transport Committee for the first time. This committee is feeling its way through the process and there some uncertainty over the funding approval process that NZ Transport Agency will take at a national level that is clouding the strategic direction of the committee.

Whilst in previous financial years the maintenance programme has been approved in April, we have been told that approval will only be made by 31 August 2009. Whilst this is very late being two months into the financial year NZ Transport Agency noted that we should continue our operations in the usual way. The projects that will be affected by this late approval are capital projects such as seal extensions and bridge replacements.

#### 3.1 Road Safety

The road toll for Kaipara at the end of May stands at one. This compares with two for the same period last year.

Highlight of the month sees the introduction of a pilot scheme for fatigue stops in the Kaipara.

The Kaipara Road Safety Forum approached Roadsafe Northland about the possibility of providing free coffee for drivers at selected cafes in Kaipara. This is similar to a scheme that is offered widely in

Australia where motorists are encouraged to take a fatigue break by being offered a free cup of coffee to the driver at selected cafes along highways.

The three cafes to be approached in Kaipara will be located in Kaiwaka, Maungaturoto and Ruawai.

### **3.2 Maintenance Contracts**

<i>Network Condition</i>	The network is in generally good condition although the extended wet weather periods have created extra work for the potholing crews on our unsealed roads.
<i>Unsealed Pavements</i>	Grading had been suspended for about 3 days at the end of last month because of the dry weather but most roads are now suitable for wide grading and reshaping.  When we are able, we will continue to grade selected road sections, with attention to corrugations, crossfall and cut-outs.
<i>Sealed Pavement</i>	Maintenance crews are out continually patching sealed and unsealed potholes, attending to edge breaks, edge markers and culvert markers.  Culvert markers are now being marked with an ID number and Route Position in line with NZ Transport Agency requirements.
<i>Drainage</i>	A rolling programme of culvert cleaning, repair, extensions and renewals is continuing. With winter approaching the contractor is checking the network for blocked culverts and clearing them as they are identified.
<i>Vegetation Control</i>	The cycle of sealed and unsealed roadside spraying is virtually complete and showing a good kill rate.  Roadside mowing is continuing but as the growth rate slows more emphasis is being placed on vegetation envelope cutback where required.
<i>Ordered Works</i>	Good progress has been made with the minor structural bridge repairs to date and these are continuing as a result of last years annual inspections. A new round of structural bridge inspections is due to start in June encompassing all timber and steel structures and one third of our concrete bridges.  In June we will focus on the structures in the Mangawhai and Pouto areas.  The programme of Minor Safety Armco railing on selected bridges in both areas is complete for this year.
<i>Financial</i>	Maintenance budget over-expenditure incurred during the wet spell at the beginning of this financial year is being clawed back, and expenditure now stands at 101% of budget. We still expect to end this financial year on budget.
<i>Performance Evaluation</i>	Performance has decreased by 2.8% mainly due to the problems with the potholes and standing water on the high maintenance roads in the south. All areas apart from this are still in the average / proactive range. Work is ongoing to bring the southern area high maintenance roads back in line with the rest of the network.
<i>Slip Repair</i>	The geotechnical investigation of slips is continuing. A number of smaller slip repairs have been completed by the maintenance contractor.

*Other projects* Pebblebrooke slip repair / road realignment is complete.  
Footpaths on Pahi Road and Settlement are complete.  
Summer road slip repair / road realignment is complete check.  
Birch Road slip / road realignment has started and is expected to take three weeks to complete.

### **3.3 Resealing Contract 2008/11**

The 2008/11 Reseal Contract 586 was awarded to Black Top Construction Limited on 12 February 2009 and the physical works programme was completed in April 2009. The end result would appear to be equal to the superior results of the previous two years.

### **3.4 Pavement Marking Contract**

Coastline Road Markers commenced work on 18 February 2009 and have now completed this year's programme.

### **3.5 Signs Maintenance Contract**

The contractor is performing well, replacing damaged and faded signs, and re-erecting signs that have been knocked over.

### **3.6 Seal Extensions**

We have been able to confirm funding for Bridge Approach and Intersection sealing projects. These have been grouped to allow smaller contractors access to this work. Most of this work has been completed with the only outstanding projects being Central Road / Arcadia Road Intersection and Tokatoka Road / Rehia Road Intersection. With this group the design is more than 50% complete and the construction will commence in October 2009. The Bickerstaffe Road project design was undertaken by the developer's Engineers and was tendered this month. This contract will be undertaken with funding from the developer on this road.

### **3.7 Regional Development Projects**

Funding for Kaipara Regional Development Projects has been deferred until 2009/10. In preparing the programme for 2009/10 we have included projects that should have been completed this year and programmed these for completion using the forestry targeted rate in future years.

### **3.8 R-Funded Projects**

The contract for the initial section of Baldrock from State Highway 1 to Gibbons Road commenced on 20 January 2009. This project will be wintered over and will commence again once weather improves in the spring.

The final stage of Baldrock Road has received NZ Transport Agency funding approval. This contract has been tendered and site preparation started in May with completion planned by the end of December.

### **3.9 Bridge Replacements**

The Wairere Overbridge contract was awarded to GHK Piling Limited in February 2009 and the planned works have started. It will be stopped at a practical stage for the International Rally in early June 2009. This project will be wintered over and will then commence after winter and is planned to be completed by November 2009.

### **3.10 Bridge Maintenance**

Maintenance work continues to follow the inspection reports. Good progress has been made throughout the year with further repair work programmed for this month on various bridges. The new inspection cycle is to start this month and will be completed by August 2009.

### **3.11 Minor Improvement (Minor Safety Works)**

This programme is progressing with design of the last batch of projects programmed up to the end of the financial year. The substitute programme of pedestrian projects has been developed to replace the Tomarata Road Pedestrian Bridge. This will be presented to Council as a separate agenda item. Design of the Mangawhai Road curve easing near Carter Road has commenced and will be completed by the end of this month.

### **3.12 Street Lighting**

The programmed Street Lighting upgrade is now complete.

### **3.13 Unsubsidised Roding Programme**

The proposed footpath on Moir Street was completed as part of the ongoing stormwater contract 559 which was started in September 2008. The start of footpath construction had been dependent on completion of the EcoCare pipelines and is now completed.

### **3.14 Slip Repairs**

On 26 and 30 July 2008 a weather event resulted in 74 slips across the District at an estimated \$4.5million worth of damage. Due to quick thinking we were able to secure NZ Transport Agency funding for this huge project at a very favourable subsidy rate. After each slip site has been visited, a survey and geologist report is done, and this information is then used to determine the most economical solution for each slip.

2007/08 Historic Slips – Contract documents are being finalised for Lawrence Road and Tokatoka Road slips. Slip repair contract for slips at Mangawhai Road RP 2690 and Paparoa Oakleigh Road RP 1344 has been awarded and work commenced at the Paparoa Oakleigh Road site.

2008/09 Slips – Geologist slip reports for the remaining slips were received early this month. Omamari West Road slip repairs for first 90 metres have commenced utilising the maintenance contractor. Six contract documents are being prepared for tender, including slips on Tinopai Road, Whakapirau Road and Paparoa Oakleigh Road. The Garbolino Road RP 900 slip repair is being designed and will be tendered. For the Birch Road slip, the reserve boundaries are being surveyed for realignment past slippage at Mr Oud's property using the maintenance contractor. The Summer Road realignment past slip at RP 2780 is 90% and will be finished in June 2009.

The following is an updated status report on slips ranking 8 to 10.

<b>Road</b>	<b>RP</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Indicative Tender</b>
			<b>Acceptance Date</b>
Birch Road	960	Surveyed	June 2009
Pukehuia Road	15,720	Surveyed	Possible Realignment
Tinopai Road	13,700	Design	Possible Realignment
Lawrence Road	3,546	Design Review	July 2009
Tokatoka Road	295	Design Review	July 2009
Matakohe East Road	350	Design Review	June 2009
Houto Road	3220	Awaiting Geologist Report	July 2009
Omana Road	8465	Awaiting Geologist Report	June 2009
Omana Road	9200	Awaiting Geologist Report	June 2009
Bickerstaffe Road	5170	Awaiting Geologist Report	August 2009
Hook Road	107	Awaiting Geologist Report	June 2009
Tara Road	2,511	Awaiting Geologist Report	Not Funded Yet
Tara Road	3,681	Awaiting Geologist Report	Not Funded Yet
Mangawhai Road	1,769	Awaiting Geologist Report	June 2009
Bickerstaffe Road	5,015	Awaiting Geologist Report	
Mititai Road	18,230	Further Investigation	
Bickerstaffe Road	5,770	Further Investigation	
Pukehuia Road	18,140	Further Investigation	
Tinopai Road	7,690	Further Investigation	July 2009
Tinopai Road	7,690	Further Investigation	July 2009
Mangarata Block Road	650	Maintenance	June 2009
Oneriri Road	13,764	Maintenance	June 2009
Pukehuia Road	19,010	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Mangawhai Road	2,690	Works Awarded	April 2009
Omamari West Road	9,800	Works Awarded	
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	1,344	Works Awarded	
Whakapirau Road	3,733	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Whakapirau Road	3,830	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Murray Road	4,050	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	4,730	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	7,100	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Tinopai Road	7,600	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Tinopai Road	7,970	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009

Road	RP	Status	Indicative Tender
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	17,700	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	3,470	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	17,800	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Aranga Station Road	4,090	Completed	
Avoca East Road	250	Completed	
Avoca East Road	420	Completed	
Bickerstaffe Road	6,357	Completed	
Bickerstaffe Road	6,463	Completed	
Bickerstaffe Road	7,286	Completed	
Bickerstaffe Road	9,165	Completed	
Bickerstaffe Road	11,954	Completed	
Mahuta Gap Road	1,625	Completed	
Walker Terrace Road	90	Completed	
Pebblebrook Road	100	Completed	

This list will be updated again in July.

## 4 Wastewater and Water Supply

### 4.1 Water and Wastewater Operations Contract

Downer EDI Water is into the second year of contract 527 Water Supply and Wastewater Operations 2007/10. The following is a summary of the works completed in the reporting period for each utility.

#### 4.1.1 Maungaturoto Water Supply

The efficiency of the Maungaturoto water supply has been improved with the refurbishment of the treatment plant clarifier and the installation of additional valves at the Piroa pump station. This has also helped improve the quality of the water.

All the pumps at the main treatment plant, along with the Piroa pump station pumps have undergone routine maintenance and servicing. This maintenance is an important part of ensuring that Maungaturoto receives reliable, good quality water. As a result, recent heavy rains have not caused any problems with the treatment plant operations and there are no problems to report.

#### 4.1.2 Ruawai Water Supply

The Ruawai water scheme has been operating well and there are no significant maintenance or supply issues. The maintenance team are preparing to integrate the borehole upgrades into the system.

#### **4.1.3 Dargaville including Baylys Water Supply**

The successful commissioning of the Rotu water supply in April of this year has already produced a number of benefits. The Rotu supply was used as a contingency supply while a fracture in the Dargaville raw water main was repaired. A reliable backup at Rotu enabled the repair to be undertaken immediately before there were any significant supply issues at Dargaville. In addition, during recent periods of heavy rain, the main catchments were experiencing poor water quality and the Rotu supply was periodically utilised during these times as the water was easier to treat.

We have advanced the annual testing of fire hydrants in Dargaville following comments from the Fire Service after the Foster's fire. During this process we test for both flow rate and pressure. Where deficiencies are identified we develop improvements and incorporate these into the capital works programme.

#### **4.1.4 Glinks Gully Water Supply**

The treatment plant is continuing to work well as a result of the regular maintenance checks.

#### **4.1.5 Kaiwaka Wastewater System**

Improvements have been made to the soakage field at the outlet of the pond system with the construction of a stock proof fence. This will prevent cattle gaining access to the soakage field and pugging up the ground. The system itself is in good condition with routine maintenance being undertaken.

#### **4.1.6 Maungaturoto Wastewater System**

The maintenance team are operating the current system to allow the new plant to come on line seamlessly. The capacity of the pond has been increased by raising the height of the bund by 600mm. This has enabled more flexibility in management of the pond during heavy rainfall events and better control of outlet flows.

#### **4.1.7 Dargaville (including Baylys) Wastewater System**

Low gully traps have been identified as being the most common cause of storm-water entering the sewage system. Although CPG Limited need to carry out more analysis of the completed smoke testing, it is possible that raising gully traps will help resolve the problem. This will involve contacting all affected land owners and arranging for gully traps to be raised.

Dargaville wastewater pond's new pumping station has been commissioned and the spray lines cleaned out. The Manchurian Rice Grass has been sprayed to keep the treatment plant discharge points clear. This is an ongoing programme.

A couple of major sewer blockages, one near Normanby Street (near Parore Street) and one near the Selwyn Park toilets have been completed successfully. Two sewer lines have been identified for re-lining after the smoke testing programme and CCTV investigations, one on Kauri Street with old pipes under a building and one on Hokianga Road which has been giving the crews problems over a number of months.

#### **4.1.8 Glinks Gully Wastewater System**

This effluent field is performing adequately with no other issues to report.

#### **4.1.9 Te Kopuru Wastewater System**

This effluent pond is performing well, with no other issues to report.

### **4.2 Water Supply Capital Works**

An overview of capital water projects currently underway is provided below.

#### **4.2.1 Public Health Risk Management Plans (PHRMPs)**

Northland Health has advised Council of the outcome of their Public Health Risk Management Plans review of Ruawai and Dargaville, conducted in April 2009. A number of actions are required at Ruawai to meet the programme; including providing a new water supply bore and upgrading the water treatment plant. Northland Health has also requested additional water monitoring to improve managing the risk of reduced treated water quality.

#### **4.2.2 Maungaturoto Water Supply**

An improved and more reliable water supply for Maungaturoto is well ahead of schedule. A pipeline is currently being installed between a dam located near Baldrock Road and Maungaturoto and is progressing well. The section along State Highway 1 has been completed and work has started on the sections of pipeline from Baldrock Road across farmland to the dam.

An electricity supply was installed to the new pump station at the dam by the middle of this month. The design of the pump station is now well advanced. The design has focussed on making long term maintenance as easy as possible while minimising impacts on the dam and the surrounding farm.

#### **4.2.3 Ruawai Water Supply**

The new bore, which will tap into a deeper water source, is expected to produce a better quality of water for Ruawai. The tender for drilling the new bore has been let and drilling has commenced. An initial site meeting has been held with the contractors. This project has been enabled by the development of a Public Health Risk Management Plan for Ruawai and applications for funding to the Ministry of Health.

#### **4.2.4 Dargaville Water Supply**

Work is continuing on the modelling of the reticulation system so that the capacity and integrity of the system can be understood. This will assist in the planning of the renewal of the system.

The Drinking Water Standards require the Dargaville Water Supply to use ultraviolet disinfection by 2011. We are designing the system to meet this deadline.

Fire safety in Dargaville has improved with the replacement of three fire hydrants with new ones in the central Dargaville area.

We are working through the safety review of the Waiatua Dam which provides water to the Dargaville Water Supply system. Overgrown vegetation has been hiding parts of the drainage system for the Dam. Weeds and vegetation has been sprayed revealing that runoff from a nearby hill is starting to wash out the toe of the spillway. A new culvert is being installed to redirect the runoff so that the spillway is not damaged.

#### **4.2.5 Glinks Gully Water Supply**

We have installed a ultraviolet disinfection unit at Glinks Gully due to the identified contamination risk to the supply as outlined in the Public Health Risk Management Plan. This is an important step in creating a healthier water supply for the community by reducing the risk of germs or viruses getting through the water treatment system.

Improvements to the management of the treatment plant are continuing with the installation of better telemetry so that the plant's performance can be closely monitored and to ensure that any problems are responded to quickly.

#### **4.2.6 Mangawhai Campground Water Supply**

A programme for installing telemetry and monitoring equipment to meet consent condition requirements is being developed.

### **4.3 Wastewater Capital Works**

A discussion on capital wastewater projects underway is provided below.

#### **4.3.1 Mangawhai - Wood Street Wastewater**

EcoCare is due to replace this system during 2009, and therefore the system is being maintained and monitored with no further development work planned.

#### **4.3.2 Maungaturoto Wastewater**

Maungaturoto is about to switch on a new high tech wastewater treatment system which will help improve the quality of the Wairau River and the upper reaches of the Kaipara Harbour. All of the main construction work has been completed including the raising of the walls around the oxidation pond which will provide more flexibility in the management of the ponds, the new lined storage pond and discharge pipes and the membrane filtration plant itself.

The electrical work and control panels were tested earlier this month and the pump systems are operational. The new plant will be commissioned in June with extensive testing and monitoring to ensure that it is performing to expectations. The plant will then undergo a two month performance review followed by a 5 year warranty period for the membrane.

#### **4.3.3 Dargaville Wastewater**

This item is a follow on from the earlier item "The slime that climbed".

Future planning for emergencies has been made easier with the completion of a study into the capacity of sewage pump stations to cope with overflow emergencies as a result of storm events or mechanical breakdown. This is a major step toward identifying steps that need to be taken to

ensure that the Dargaville sewerage system and its operators are prepared for a range of eventualities so that public health and the environment are protected as far as practicable.

A draft trade waste agreement has been developed. Discussion with relevant companies that discharge into the Dargaville Wastewater Treatment Plant is expected to commence soon in order to control those discharges.

#### **4.3.4 Te Kopuru Wastewater**

An application to renew the consent to discharge from the Te Kopuru Wastewater Treatment Plant was lodged with the Northland Regional Council. Because the application was made early, the existing consent can be rolled over until the new consent is processed and granted.

A pre-hearing meeting was held with the Department of Conservation who submitted on the consent application. Negotiations are continuing and Regional Council will circulate draft conditions for agreement. The Department of Conservation have raised some issues relating to how the Regional Council monitor the consent.

#### **4.3.5 Kaiwaka Wastewater**

An informal discussion relating to the Kaiwaka Consent renewal has been held with the Department of Conservation. The Department is an affected party and has a particular interest as the discharge is located next to land that they manage. We are balancing the needs of the Regional Council, Department of Conservation and the Ministry of Health to ensure optimal environmental and public health outcomes.

## **5 Urban Stormwater**

As part of the development of both current and future stormwater projects we anticipate defining levels of service that match community needs. Currently the programmes for most areas except Mangawhai are based on historic information and need to be revisited.

### **5.1 Dargaville**

The Edward Street Stormwater Improvements have been completed. These improvements were undertaken to reduce flooding in the Edward Street / Normanby Street area. The works duplicated stormwater lines and cleared the existing drains to allow better flows from the area and provide storage to accommodate higher tides and heavy rainfall events.

Design is progressing for stormwater improvements at Montgomery Avenue and Gordon Street. Community consultation and land entry agreements will follow completion of the design and approval by Council. No physical work is planned for this year.

### **5.2 Mangawhai**

The Insley Street stormwater works have been completed. This will see the complete reconstruction of the road. Only minor work is required for the project which will be completed by the end of this month.

The Moir Street West stormwater project has also been completed.

Piping open drains on Moir Street East and Molesworth Drive is the next major project in the Mangawhai Stormwater Management Plan scheme as noted in *Kaipara's Future – Working Together*. A report on the Mangawhai Stormwater scheme will be presented to Council in July 2009.

A contract to supply pipes for the Moir Street East and Molesworth Drive South has closed. Awarding of this contract will ensure a four week delivery time for pipes preventing problems experienced with the Moir Street West contract. Tenders for the physical works contract will be advertised with construction programmed for July-November 2009.

Design of stormwater improvements at Pohutukawa Place and Quail Way has commenced. Community consultation and land entry agreements will follow completion of the design and approval by Council. No physical work is planned for this financial year.

Liaison is ongoing with EcoCare regarding all stormwater projects in the Mangawhai area.

### **5.3 Baylys Beach**

Pipe construction and sealing work on Baylys Street has been completed. Scheduled work on Ripiro Drive is mostly complete and the only out standing item is road markings which to be completed by the end of this month. This work has balanced the drainage needs of the roading network to provide a comprehensive drainage solution for both the Baylys Street and Ripiro Drive catchments. It is recommended that the piped stormwater system be extended a further 55 metres to improve safety and amenity at the end of Cynthia Place, this is the subject of further agenda report.

## **6 Land Drainage**

### **6.1 Raupo Drainage District**

Spalling of the stopbank (1000cm<sup>3</sup>) from the boat club slip way to Awaroa Creek has been completed. Repairs to the stopbank near Floodgate No.2 have also been done requiring only placement of existing spalls.

A new steel door has been fitted to Floodgate No.1 and the existing door is to be repaired and held as a spare.

Repairs have again been made to the breast work of Floodgate No.2. Spalls have been placed behind the breast work to prevent further slipping.

Spot spraying of drains as required is still ongoing due to rapid weed growth this year. At a recent Raupo Drainage Board Committee meeting it was decided to have the first season spray round in October as normal. A second complete spray round would then be done in February and then only resprays as required prior to winter. It is hoped that this would achieve better control of weeds and assist in keeping to the drain spraying budget.

Machine cleaning of the spillway area for the Wallace Road flood pump has been completed. The decking for the Wallace Road pump bridge has been replaced.

Machine cleaning of G canal below Sunset Bridge is due to start next month. Prices are being obtained for the refurbishment of the Drainage Board's rental house prior to new tenants moving in.

Floodgate inspections of the district have been completed with no serious problems showing up and only normal maintenance required this summer. Stopbank maintenance has been completed for the year with only log removal and spall placement to be done now as required.

## **6.2 Hore Hore Drainage District**

A meeting was held recently with the Hore Hore district to discuss the installation of a new floodgate in the Bellamy property on Island Road. This area is prone to flooding in severe weather events due to over flow of the Carlson Drain. The area involved had previously had a floodgate but not in the district scheme. This had been removed and not replaced. After much discussion the meeting voted against including the floodgate into the drainage district budget.

## **6.3 Awakino Valley Drainage District**

Machine cleaning of the Awakino River on both sides above the bridge on State Highway 12 has been completed. Cleaning of the southern side below the bridge has also been completed.

## **6.4 Otiria Drainage District.**

Machine cleaning of the main river outlet has been completed.

## **6.5 Kopuru Swamp Drainage District**

Resource consent for a floodgate to be installed in The Makaka Creek Bickers Road is still under way. If obtained any earth works will not now be done until the summer months.

## **6.6 Kaihu Valley Drainage District**

Repairs are underway to a floodgate on the Lupton property. The floodgate assembly was successfully removed as a unit and is to be placed back in position at a higher level once a suitable foundation has been installed.

## **6.7 Owairangi Drainage District**

A price to replace an existing flood gate in the Owairangi district has been received. The existing floodgate is a wooden structure and is starting to collapse due to nail corrosion. The district is to hold a meeting regarding the replacement of the floodgate as a rate increase would be required

## **6.8 Green Hill Drainage District**

Machine cleaning of the main drain below the road bridge to the Green Hill Quarry area is to be done when the long reach digger is available

## **6.9 Koremoa Drainage District**

Machine cleaning of the main outlet is also to be done when the long reach digger is available.

## **6.10 Manganui River Drainage District**

Machine cleaning of the Manganui River from the Alspach boundary to the Webster boundary has been completed. The last section had only the bull rush removed as required leaving funds for other problem areas to be sprayed.

### **6.11 Notorious Drainage District**

Repairs to the floodgate wing wall and floor have been done on the Windust property. The stopbank in this area has been raised and a culvert put into the ring drain.

## **7 Community Facilities**

### **7.1 The Kaipara is alive with the sound of music**

Dargaville's War Memorial Town Hall will come alive to the sound of music on the afternoon of Sunday 30 August 2009. World famous singer Yulia along side the German Accordion Orchestra are coming to town to celebrate the retirement of Kaipara's own Kevin Friedrich as President of the World Accordion Association, a position which Kevin has held for eight years.

Along with the concert, people will be able to come along and be tempted to taste and buy some of the best wine, olives, tamarillos, fruits, nuts, cakes, tarts and cheeses that the Mangawhai community has to offer along with an assortment of other produce from around the District. With a feel and taste of the Kaipara accompanied by an international singing and musical line-up, the afternoon and evening is fast becoming a "not to be missed" event.

### **7.2 Community Interaction Centre funding**

Commonly called Halls.

All expected applications for the 2009/10 Annual Halls Grant have now been received by Council's Commercial Manager. The grants funding criteria, along with recommendations, will be discussed with Council's Halls portfolio holder this month as well as an update on the process to date.

Recommendations for funding as per Council's Halls policy will then be reported to Council's July 2009 meeting.

## **8 Regulatory**

### **8.1 Dog Control in the Southeast of the District**

At the recent draft *Kaipara's Future - Working Together* Plan deliberations mention was made of the inadequacy of dog control services in the south-east of the district, particularly Mangawhai. The contractor acknowledges that he is having problems in recruiting suitable staff in that area which he says has a lot to do with the hours and days they are required to operate. This situation may be about to change. To his knowledge there have been two complaints since last October regarding response times. On both occasions they were attending other noise complaints at the same time and as a result there was a delay in responding to the other incidents complained about. He is interested to hear of specific incidents so that he is able to investigate and act upon to remedy. Environmental Northland Limited has a 0800 number.

## 9 Finance

The major tasks during May were the continued preparation for the 2009/10 Rate strike.

Mike Fleming joined Council on Monday 25 May as the new Finance Manager. Many thanks to Bruce for his invaluable assistance over the last ten years.

## 10 Meetings

I attended the following meetings:

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| 2 June     | Far North District Council Chief Executive          |
| 5 June     | Northlink/Rodney North Harbour Health Trust         |
|            | Northland Regional Council - One Plan Working Group |
| 8 June     | Awa Whanui Big River Radio Board Meeting            |
| 10 June    | Audit New Zealand                                   |
| 11/12 June | Rural Sector Meeting                                |
| 15 June    | Northland Intersectoral Forum                       |
| 19 June    | Society of Local Government Chief Executives Forum  |

## **Part One – Activities Report**

### **b) Looking Forward**

- |          |                |  |
|----------|----------------|--|
| <b>1</b> | <b>29 June</b> | <b>Taharoa Domain Governance Meeting</b>   |
| <b>2</b> | <b>22 July</b> | <b>Council Workshop and Meeting</b>        |
| <b>3</b> | <b>24 July</b> | <b>District Plan Working Group Meeting</b> |