

## **Chief Executive's Report: 26 August 2009**

### **Introduction**

This month there are three parts to the report

- Part One           Activities Report**
- (a) Summary of Activity
  - (b) Looking Forward
- Part Two           Organisational Monitoring**
- (a) Dashboard
- Part Three         Council's 2008/09 Financial Report**
- To 30 June 2009

# Part One: Activities Report

## a) Summary of Activity

### 1 General

#### 1.1 The Solomon Islands visit Dargaville

It looks like we are ahead of the pack yet again. For a small Council we really do punch above our weight. Jane Rawlings, Kaipara District Council's Records and Archive Officer, immediately saw opportunities for both international and local cross-pollinisation of ideas and information relating to records and archives when expressions of interest were invited to host two people from the Solomon Islands in Records and Archives was published on the New Zealand Records List Serve in April 2009.

This request came from Archives New Zealand on behalf of the administrators of New Zealand's International Aid and Development Agency Training and Technology Transfer programme. Bernard and Louisa's visit to the Kaipara is part of a six week stay in New Zealand with the balance of their time will being spent in Wellington at Archives New Zealand and Marist Archives.

On Sunday 9 August, Bernard Rizu and Louisa Laeken arrived in Dargaville to spend two weeks learning and working with the Kaipara District Council Information Team after being awarded funds through the Pacific Training Scheme to come to New Zealand for short term vocational experience from their home in the Solomon Islands where they work for the National Archives.

Jane worked with Mark Crookston of Archives New Zealand, who is Assistant to the Secretary General, Pacific Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives and Murray McDowell, Operations Executive for the Short Term Training Award Team from Training and Technology Transfer, New Zealand's International Aid and Development Agency, to arrange the logistics of the visit. Kaipara District Council has been able to step into the gap and offer placement for Bernard and Louisa -a good thing, as no other local government agency in New Zealand had expressed interest.

The Information Team at Kaipara District Council have arranged a busy schedule for our guests including visits to:

- Far North District Council
- Whangarei District Council
- Kauri Museum at Matakoho
- Northland Regional Council
- Dargaville Museum Archives
- Dargaville Library

Of course, these visits will also serve to strengthen ties and make new connections with our colleagues in other Northland councils and groups of common interest. Bernard and Louisa will be with us until Saturday 22 August. To date, their visit has been exciting and educational for all involved.

## **1.2 Appeal by Northland Regional Council Against Council Decision on Subdivision**

In June this year the Judicial Committee granted consent to a four lot subdivision of land in Tara Road currently being used as an avocado orchard. Two of the lots were less than four hectares in area, so it was a non-complying activity. Public notification of the application resulted in several submissions being received, including one from the Regional Council. The Regional Council was the only submitter represented at the hearing. After considering all the submissions and the planner's report which recommended approval, the Judicial Committee reached its decision to grant consent subject to a number of conditions.

In their Notice of Appeal the Northland Regional Council raised concerns about changes to the character and amenity of the area, fragmentation of versatile soils, reverse sensitivity, precedent effects, and conflict with both the Northland Regional Policy Statement and the purpose of the Resource Management Act.

A copy of the subdivision plan is appended to this report for Council's information.

## **1.3 Mangawhai EcoCare Financial Issues**

At the commencement of the Mangawhai EcoCare project, Council developed a Rates and Charges model the objective being that the project was self-contained financially and achieved a zero cash balance after 25 years, with all debt repaid within the 40 years average life of the project. Council consulted extensively with the community over a number of years as it was important that the community understood the ramifications of the project.

The modelling was based on a large number of assumptions and projections e.g. inflation rate; maximum number of residential sections; growth profile. Some of the key aspects of the project were:

- User pays principle in that the sewerage scheme must be funded by the community the scheme services;
- Operating costs would be recovered through Uniform Annual Charges; and
- Uniform targeted rates, uniform Annual Charges and Development would be used to recover capital costs including the financing charges.
- Consequently, the charges struck have been based on the above.

Since the rates were struck, Council has been inundated with enquiries from Mangawhai residents their concerns principally being that they have only been given two options for payment and the issue of affordability has been raised. However, there is concern that if Council deviates from the funding model by extending payment arrangements, such actions could jeopardise the long term financial viability of the scheme.

## **1.4 Omamari Hill - Growing Solution**

In early August changes to drainage on the Omamari Hill caused significant scouring on the hill. The community got together to stop the ongoing scouring with help from the maintenance contractor.

The slope is a candidate for an environmental repair solution.

Our engineers and contractors are working with RST Environmental Solutions and the community to build a willowbrush sock wall in sandy country. The willowbrush will be laid between long socks filled with a mix of kikuyu grass seed. The geotextile fabric of the socks is part of the new technology which has seen a revival of using willowbrush for slips. In addition to the socks the willowbrush is a new purpose grown variety for slip repairs. In 18 months time we will have a lush green brush helping to secure the hillside that provides a vital link between Kai Iwi and Omamari.

### **1.5 Youth in the Pool (At Midnight)**

The Kaipara District Council and the Kauri Coast Community Pool Trust are working closely together on a unique fundraising event. The event will see a rock concert staged in the soon to be opened new 50 metre swimming pool complex at Selwyn Park, Dargaville.

The event is planned for Saturday 19 September 2009, with top New Zealand band, Midnight Youth secured as the headline act. Supporting Midnight Youth will be three other bands, Sink or Swim, Diesel Phoenix and Tempist Fujit. Marketing and planning preparations are well underway to make this an event to remember.

To the best of anyone's knowledge nothing like this has ever been done before. It is a once only opportunity before the pool is filled with water.

A huge thank you to Barfoote Construction who is helping to make the construction site work for the event and to the many other agencies and community people behind this unique fund raising event.

### **1.6 Sold Out Sign Goes Up**

A month in advance of the Yulia concert planned for Sunday 30 August 2009 tickets have sold out. Council's Community Development Facilitator has worked with many different local, national and international people in the planning of this event. It is an event that will showcase some great national and international talent and also some of what the Kaipara has to offer.

Mangawhai will be showcased on the day with an array of locally produced goods available to tempt all that go to watch the show.

### **1.7 Pool Takes Shape**

Construction of the new 50 metre community swimming pool continues at a great pace with the main pool floor now laid and all side panels in place. The side entrance ramp into the pool is being constructed and backfilling around the main pool is almost complete. In other areas of the facility the floor area in the hydro/learners pool is being laid, the plant room walls are now up and the reception foundations complete. The grandstand bleachers are also onsite and hopefully will be up by September. Due to wet weather the contractual finishing date is now 17 December 2009 but Barfoote Construction are working hard to pull this date back closer to the beginning of December as the job progresses and weather conditions improve.

Barfoote Construction have contacted local schools and arranged tours of the site and many have shown great interest in this. The opportunity to look over a construction site is invaluable for high school engineering/technical students and is a way for them to see the practical side of theories learnt

in the classroom. A site visit is being planned for the Northland Regional Council when it holds its Council meeting in Dargaville. It will also be an opportunity for Kaipara District Councillors to visit the site at the same time to look over process.

### **1.8 Cycle Way Route Outlined**

Council Staff along with Councillors Tom Smith and Julie Geange have put a lot of work into Kaipara's proposal for a cycle route through the District.

Central Government has allocated \$50million towards development of a number of great cycle rides in New Zealand in an effort to stimulate sustainable economic growth through tourism. Together with Far North District Council, Whangarei District Council, Northland Regional Council, Enterprise Northland and Sport Northland work is being underway to identify possible routes in each district that would be suitable to develop potential cycle routes of a multi day length which also takes them off the main highway system.

This has seen a lot of pouring over Kaipara maps to identify areas where this may be possible in the Kaipara and would see the route take in interesting areas of the Kaipara otherwise not seen by tourists to the area. The cycle route proposed is uniquely Kaipara in its character.

The Far North proposal has secured funding for the first stage of its planned route. Work is at a stage where before the exact route is made public and the proposal put to Central Government, a feasibility study of the proposed route is needed along with discussions with community and property owners. Council staff have been in discussions with Iwi and the Department of Conservation over the likely route as it crosses their areas of interest in several locations.

A presentation of the routes chosen by each Northland Council was given to Whangarei Member of Parliament Phil Heatley recently as he is a supporter of Northland getting more than the one route and already guaranteed funding. For the proposal to be a success in the Kaipara it will require funding to be made available to somehow continue with the development of the route and its submission to Central Government.

### **1.9 Mangawhai EcoCare – August 2009**

#### **Reticulation, House Drains and Pump Stations**

The first connections to the sewer system commenced on 15 July 2009 in the Village. At this time final connections are proceeding at a relatively slow rate to allow the treatment process to become established. A total of approximately 50 connections have been made at this time. The rate of connection will be progressively increased as the plant processes establish.

As noted last month, provision of house drainage under the Scheme will continue for several more months whilst project management and house drainage construction staff remain on site. However, these works cannot efficiently continue after that. At this time over 800 of the 1200 house drains expected to be completed under the subsidy arrangements have been constructed.

The following dates have been set for cessation of house drainage construction. This has been covered in newsletters and the substantial amount of outstanding private consents are now reducing.

The 3 month period between landowners consent and completion of construction is necessary to provide sufficient time for planning, materials purchase management, and final construction:

- Final date for landowners to provide consent 31 August 2009
- Final date for house drains to be constructed by Council 30 November 2009

Modification works (additional sewers including those to service Jack Boyd Drive area) and some minor clean up remain to be completed.

### **Treatment Plant**

The treatment plant has its various process units progressively coming on line as influent flows increase.

No discharge has yet been transferred to the Brown Road storage and all waste flow to date is being held and processed within the treatment plant.

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

The transfer main and storage dam are complete. Work is continuing on the farm irrigation system. All of the irrigation pipelines and sprinkler mounting posts have been installed. The irrigation pump station and control system is under construction.

### **Modifications**

Further sewer reticulation areas are progressively being assessed based on:

- Financial viability; and,
- Environmental importance.

Unfortunately, some developments completed prior to the establishment of EcoCare have been constructed by Developers incorporating limited sewer assets and some of these are not financially viable at this time due to the cost of assets required to connect between the development and EcoCare.

### **Financing**

An agreement was reached with Water Infrastructure Group for an earlier combined Commercial Acceptance date which was achieved on 28 July 2009. This resulted in settlement with the Royal Bank of Scotland on the 31 July 2009.

A cashflow analysis covering the initial expenditure on the project and projecting forward 5 years has been prepared in order to:

- Monitor receipt of rates and Development Contributions;
- Compare actual revenues and expenditure with the projections used on the original rating model.

There are current pressures on the financial position due to the reduced level of Development Contributions below those included in the original model. This is due to a combination of the present development slump and the timing of collecting the contributions. The matter is managed to ensure revenues are maximised.

An application is presently being prepared for the Ministry of Health requesting additional Sanitary Works Subsidy Scheme funding which Council is entitled to. However, we have been advised that no funding is available and this may require action at a political level if it is to be successful.

## 2 Contracts

Contract	Project Name	Tender Closes	Work Start	Work Finish
<b>KDC AWPT Projects 2008/09</b>				PC = Practical Completion Date
577	Whakapirau Road	18 December 2008	9 February 2009	PC Issued
578	Mititai Road	13 November 2008	4 December 2008	PC Issued
579	Tomarata Road and Insley Street (Includes Stormwater project)	25 September 2008	4 December 2008	PC Issued
583	Robertson Road and Te Kowhai Road	16 October 2008	14 January 2009	PC Issued
584	Waihue Road Baylys Coast Road (Including Seal Extensions of Bridge Approaches and Intersection)	21 October 2008	19 January 2009	PC Issued
593	Gorge Road (Including Intersection sealing of Doctors/Hill and Valley/Laurence)	23 April 2009	September 2009	Late Nov 2009 (Over Winter)
604	Matakohe Museum East and West (Included Slip @ RP 350)	31 March 2009	September 2009	Nov 2009 (Over Winter)
<b>KDC Seal Extension Programme 2008/09</b>				
585	Balrock Road Stage 1 (R - fund) (Including Balrock/Gibbons Road)	19 March 2009	11 May 2009	Mid Nov 2009 (Over Winter)
566	Balrock Road Stage 2 (R-Fund)	23 October 2008	12 January 2009	Nov 2009 (Over Winter)
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	9 February 2009	Contract has been awarded	October 2009
	Central Road Bridge 47	Financial analysis being carried out		
<b>KDC Bridge Replacement Programme 2007/08</b>				
	Omana Road Bridge 158 replacement	Financial analysis being carried out		
<b>KDC Minor Safety Programme 2006/07</b>				
546	Molesworth Drive safety footpath	EcoCare Liaison		Complete
543	Insley (Tomarata) Road footbridge	Further funding required		
<b>KDC Minor Safety Programme 2007/08</b>				
	Mangawhai Road Carter Road Curve Easing	Design Commenced		
<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	Mid Aug 2009
582	Paparoa Oakleigh Road RP 1340 (July 07 slip)	3 March 2009	Mid May 2009	July 2009
594	Lawrence Road and Tokatoka Road Package 1	13 August 2009	September 2009	November 2009

<b>Contract</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Tender Closes</b>	<b>Work Start</b>	<b>Work Finish</b>
<b>KDC Slip Repairs 2008/09</b>				
600	Paparoa Oakleigh Rd RP 4730, 7100, 17700, 17800 Package 2	July 2009	Late August 2009	Mid Nov 2009
610	Whakapirau Rd RP 3620, 3733, 3830 Package 3	27 Aug 2009	October 2009	December 2009
611	Murray Road and Houto Road Package 4	September 2009	October 2009	December 2009
612	Tinopai Road RP 7600, 7690, 7970 Package 5 Slips (June 2008 Storm Event)	September 2009  NZTA Funding approved (Being Designed)	October 2009	December 2009  26 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 06/07</b>				
561	Baylys Street	November 2008	November 2008	July 2009
561	Ripiro Drive drain (Baylys Beach)	14 February 2008	April 2009	July 2009
562	Edward Street (Day to Victoria St)	30 June 2008	September 2008	Complete
<b>KDC Stormwater Programme 2007/08</b>				
	Completion of stop banks at boat club Estuary Drive detention/treatment pond	Invited Agreement Reached with Kaizen Inv 29/12/2008	May 2008	Review Solution
	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>				
579	Insley Street (Piping of open drains) Included in AWPT Project	25 September 2008	4 December 2008	PC Issued
559	Moir Street West Stormwater (Portion A)	11 March 2008	25 September 2008	PC Issued
559	Moir Street West Footpath (Portion B)	13 March 2008	25 September 2008	PC Issued
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

The practical completion (PC) date is defined in our contract documents as the time when the works can be used for their intended purpose. For example when the road has been sealed with markings painted or a pipe used to supply water or drain stormwater. Council usually hold up to 10% of the contract value in Retentions to ensure that minor items of work are properly finished. In most cases Council also hold a Contractor's Bond of 10% to make sure the contractor completes the contract.

Depending on the contract type, site reinstatement may occur before or after the Practical Completion Date. Council usually then requires the contractor to look after the works for a further period of one year called the Defects Liability Period. At the end of the Defects Liability Period, Council will inspect the works and require any apparent defects to be repaired before finally signing the Defects Liability Certificate. Once the Defects Liability Certificate is issued Council will release all Retentions and the Contractor's Bond.

### **3 Roothing**

#### **3.1 Road Safety**

The road toll for Kaipara is holding at 2, this is comparable to the same time last year.

The Kaipara Road Safety Committee met at the end of July with the next quarterly meeting scheduled for October.

Progress is being made with the Fatigue Coffee Breaks in Kaipara. This pilot project is still in the planning stages with three Kaipara cafes selected. There is a likelihood that if this project gets off the ground this will become a Northland-wide project.

The Recidivist Drink Driver Programme has commenced with 10 committed participants. This course aims to reduce the rate of recurring drink driving for serial offenders. The course has been hugely successful in Whangarei. This is the first course for Kaipara and we look forward to achieving positive results with this programme. We will keep you informed of the results when these are to hand.

#### **3.2 Road Safety Plan**

The Northland Regional Road Safety Plan 2009-2012 has just been released by Roadsafte Northland and a copy will be distributed to all at this meeting. Council has participated in the development of this document.

#### **3.3 New Zealand Transport Agency Procurement**

The NZ Transport Agency released its new Procurement Manual in July 2009. In order to comply with the procurement procedures in the manual Council must have an endorsed procurement strategy in place by October 2010. Northland approached the NZ Transport Agency earlier this year to undertake a Regional Procurement Strategy. This approach was approved and work has begun on the Northland strategy. The opportunity to develop a strategy document for Northland which can address the individual needs of each Road Controlling Authority will be more cost effective than developing 3 or 4 individual procurement strategies. Dave MacDonald of OPOET Limited has been engaged to draft the strategy.

#### **3.4 Maintenance Contracts**

The end of the financial year has resulted in the Maintenance budgets being achieved. We are starting the new financial year with the network in relatively good condition despite a wet autumn, with no backlogs in programmed work.

<i>Network Condition</i>	A high intensity short duration rainstorm in the northern part of the district on 19 and 20 July caused widespread scouring of banks, drains and unsealed pavements, as well as blocked or overtopped culverts, but no significant slips. There were a small number of new slips in the southern area. This has entailed significant clearing of roads with graders, and following up with metalling as required. No roads were closed for more than a few hours.
<i>Unsealed Pavements</i>	Grading is ongoing, and many roads are 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 marking culvert markers with route positions as suggested by the previous NZ Transport Agency audit.
<i>Drainage</i>	The rolling programme of culvert cleaning, repair, extensions and renewals is continuing. Where undersize culverts are found they are replaced with larger pipes.
<i>Vegetation Control</i>	The only spraying carried out at present is on selected areas of noxious weeds. A full cycle of spraying will be carried out in early spring.  Roadside mowing is continuing but as the growth rate slows more emphasis is being placed on vegetation envelope cutback.
<i>Ordered Works</i>	The programme of guardrail on selected bridges in both areas was completed in the last year.
<i>Financial</i>	First month of the new financial year - 79.5% of budget - good result while we are still awaiting official approval of the NZ Transport Agency programme.
<i>Performance Evaluation</i>	The performance increased slightly from last month. We are in the Average Proactive range, which is a good result for this time of year.
<i>Slip Repair</i>	The geotechnical investigation of slips is continuing. More slip repairs are being carried out by the maintenance contractor. Others are being tendered.
<i>Other projects</i>	Birch Road slip / road realignment have been completed.

### **3.5 Resealing Contract 2008/11**

The list of roads to be sealed for the next three years has been compiled and the reseal of 2009/10 will commence towards the end of this calendar year.

### **3.6 Pavement Marking Contract**

Night inspections are in the process of being carried out. Sections of sealed roads requiring upgrades of reflectorised raised pavement markers (RRPMs) will be included in this year's contract.

### **3.7 Signs Maintenance Contract**

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

### **3.8 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 being Central Road / Arcadia Road Intersection and Tokatoka Road / Rehia Road Intersection. The design of this group of projects is more than 80% complete. Construction is programmed to commence in October 2009.

Tenders have closed for the Bickerstaffe Road project, with 11 tenders received. Construction will commence in September 2009. This contract will be undertaken with funding from the developer on this road.

### **3.9 Regional Development Projects**

Funding for Kaipara Regional Development Fund 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.

### **3.10 R-Funded Projects**

The contract for the initial section of Baldrock from State Highway 1 to Gibbons Road commenced 12 January 2009. The Maungaturoto Water Pipeline from the Bygraves/Anderson Dam is being thrust along the new road. These two projects are running concurrently.

The final stage of Baldrock Road has received NZ Transport Agency funding approval. This contract has been awarded and construction on some short lengths started in May. Works have been ceased for the winter, with completion planned for November 2009.

### **3.11 Bridge Replacements**

The Wairere Overbridge contract was awarded to GHK Piling Limited in February 2009 and construction has commenced. However it was necessary to stop construction at a stage that would safely allow the passage of the Rally of Whangarei in early June 2009. This project will re-commence to allow completion by November 2009.

### **3.12 Bridge Maintenance**

Council has 334 bridges and large structures. The programme of minor and structural work on these structures has resulted in eradicating a backlog of identified works including Monteith Road Bridge No.139. A stormwater scour of the abutment has been sand bagged and the retaining wall backfilled to improve drainage. Omamari Road Bridge No.155 twin circular culvert has a scoured abutment and this has also been sand bagged between washouts, backfilled and drainage improvements made. Parore West Road Bridge No.201 has scoured bridge abutment piles which have had rock spalls placed between piles.

A new cycle of inspections is well advanced, and details of required work will be passed on to the roading contractor without delay.

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

The preliminary programme for 2009/10 is progressing well with several significant pedestrian and cycling projects identified. The design of the Mangawhai Road curve easing near Carter Road has been completed and will be refined based on comments received from staff.

The preliminary programme is included as a separate agenda item for approval.

### **3.14 Street Lighting**

The programmed street lighting upgrade for 2008/09 is now almost complete. Outstanding is two lights at Ruawai Wharf, where the contractor is awaiting specific lighting brackets.

### **3.15 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.

### **3.16 Slip Repairs**

On 26 and 30 July 2008 a weather event resulted in 74 slips across the District at an estimated \$4.5 million worth of damage and repair funding was approved by NZ Transport Agency and each slip was ranked in order of priority. Slips ranking 8 to 10 were first visited by a Geologist, a geotechnical remediation report received and survey and designs undertaken. Where possible, slips with low remediation estimates were repaired through the maintenance contract. A second (lower ranked) level of slip repairs was identified and the investigation, design and repair process repeated. These were all been investigated and grouped together into contracts, or repaired under the maintenance contract.

Due to inclement weather this month some slip repair works are on hold until dryer ground conditions prevail.

2007/08 Historic Slips – Contract 582 for Mangawhai Road RP 2690 and Paparoa Oakleigh Road RP 1344 slip repairs is almost complete. Structural design repairs for Lawrence Road and Tokatoka Road slips is out to tender. Matakoho East Road slip tender has been awarded in conjunction with the Area Wide Pavement Treatment project.

2008/09 Slips – Geologist reports for all of the slips have been received. Omamari West Road slip repairs have been completed, although further cracking extends for some 600 metres. NZ Transport Agency finance approval and repair design being undertaken. Five contract documents are being prepared for tender, tenders for four slips on Paparoa Oakleigh Road are being evaluated, and work has started on Mangawhai Road slip RP 2,690. Slips on Birch, Mangatu, Kaikohe, Summer and Waimatenui Roads have been completed. The total number of slips repaired this year is now 34. The Garbolino Road RP 900 slip designed has been completed, however the slip has extended and further design will be required dependant on additional geotechnical reporting this month.

The road reserve boundaries have been surveyed and road re-alignment past slippage on Birch Road at Mr Oud's property using the maintenance contractor. Further regression of Birch Road and Summer Road slips is not anticipated.

The following is an updated status report on all 2007/08 and 2008/9 slips.

Road	Route Position	Status	Indicative Start Date
Judd Road	520	Geologist Report Received	
Tara Road	2,511	Geologist Report Received	
Tara Road	3,681	Geologist Report Received	
Oneriri Road	14,950	Geologist Report Received	
Arcadia Road	2,225	Further Investigation	
Bickerstaffe Road	5,770	Further Investigation	
Mititai Road	18,230	Further Investigation	
Bickerstaffe Road	5,015	Geologist Report Received	
Bickerstaffe Road	5170	Geologist Report Received	October 2009
Pukehuia Road	15,720	Survey for Realignment	
Mangarata Block Road	650	Alternate design	July 2009
Omana Road	8465	Alternate design	September 2009
Omana Road	9200	Alternate design	September 2009
Tangowahine Valley Road	19,280	Alternate design	July 2009
Omana Road	9,600	Design	October 2009
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	3,470	Design	July 2009
Pukehuia Road	18,140	Design	
Rowland Road	685	Design	
Tinopai Road	13,700	Design	
Tinopai Road	7,600	Design	August 2009
Wairere Road	657	Design	
Girls High School Road	1,140	Maintenance Repair	July 2009
Girls High School Road	7,460	Maintenance Repair	July 2009
Oneriri Road	13,764	Maintenance Repair	August 2009
Oruawharo Road	9,950	Maintenance Repair	
Tain	1,200	Maintenance Repair	
Waihue Road	22,150	Maintenance Repair	
Waimatenui East Road	4,780	Maintenance Repair	
Waimatenui East Road	5,430	Maintenance Repair	
Waimatenui East Road	6,150	Maintenance Repair	
Whakahara Road	970	Maintenance Repair	
Hook Road	107	Preparing Contract Documents	October 2009
Houto Road	3220	Preparing Contract Documents	September 2009
Mangawhai Road	1,769	Preparing Contract Documents	
Murray Road	4,050	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Pukehuia Road	19,010	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Tinopai Road	7,690	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Tinopai Road	7,970	Preparing Contract Documents	July 2009
Whakapirau Road	3,733	Preparing Contract Documents	September 2009

Whakapirau Road	3,620	Preparing Contract Documents	September 2009
Whakapirau Road	3,830	Preparing Contract Documents	September 2009
Lawrence Road	3,546	Tendered	September 2009
Tokatoka Road	295	Tendered	September 2009
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	4,730	Tender Closed	August 2009
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	7,100	Tender Closed	August 2009
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	17,700	Tender Closed	August 2009
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	17,800	Tender Closed	July 2009
Matakohe East Road	350	Tender awarded	July 2009
Mangawhai Road	2,690	Works started	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	
Birch Road	960	Completed	
Mangatu Road	6,580	Completed	
Mahuta Gap Road	1,625	Completed	
Girls High School Road	3,100	Completed	
Girls High School Road	3,470	Completed	
Girls High School Road	4,070	Completed	
Girls High School Road	5,180	Completed	
Kaikohe Road	10,100	Completed	
Katui Road	2,060	Completed	
Linton Road	948	Completed	
Mountain Road	8,076	Completed	
Old Mill Road	340	Completed	
Old Mill Road	390	Completed	
Omamari West Road	9,800	Completed	
Opanake Road	3,920	Completed	
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	1,344	Completed	
Pebblebrook Road	100	Completed	
Pukehuia Road	20,260	Completed	
Summer Road	2,765	Completed	
Trounson Park Road	1,720	Completed	
Waimatenui East Road	250	Completed	
Waimatenui East Road	610	Completed	
Waimatenui East Road	7,740	Completed	
Waimatenui East Road	8,103	Completed	
Waimatenui East Road	8,473	Completed	
Walker Terrace Road	90	Completed	

Further new slippages occurred on 14 June 2009 and a funding application to NZ Transport Agency has been launched. The following 8 sites have been identified:

Road	Route Position	Status	Indicative Start Date
Arapahoe Road	7,700	Made safe	
Huarau Road	2,610	Made Safe	
Omana Road	3,875	Inspected by Geologist	
Omana Road	10,900	Inspected by Geologist	
Paparoa Oakleigh Road	12,000	Inspected by Geologist	
Paparoa Station Road	3,900	Made Safe	
Porter Road	1,100	Made Safe	
Wairere Road	3,515	Inspected by Geologist	

Some existing slips incurred further movement and were made safe by the maintenance contractor.

2009/10 Slips – On 13 July 2009 high ground water levels and intense rainfall caused new slippages and some existing slips to fail further.

Road	Route Position	Status	Indicative Start Date
Bull Road	7,160	Made safe	
Kirikopuni Valley	7,780	Inspected by Geologist	
Rehia Road	4,085	Made safe	
Rocky Creek Road	200	Made safe	
Taipuha Settlement Road	2,170	Made safe	
Tangowahine Valley Road	6,925	Inspected by Geologist	

## 4 Wastewater and Water Supply

After a flurry of activity in June, July has seen a return to more normal activity levels. Some of the July highlights include:

- Baldrock pipeline installation complete
- Council operators and Northland Health meet to assess Dargaville water supply grading
- Maungaturoto Wastewater Treatment Plant enters its performance testing period. Control of the site operation is now in the hands of the Council contractors. Practical completion certificates issued for Ruawai bore installation and Dargaville desludging.

### 4.1 Governance of Water

A proposal on the Governance of Water was received from the Turnbull Group in July 2009.

The proposal outlines possible Water Governance Reform in light of the Government's initiated reform of the Resource Management Act and associated governance structures. The proposal outlines an example from Scotland as a possible model to be adapted to the New Zealand situation which reduces the number of services entities and implementing volume-based charging with provision for supporting areas on low incomes and isolated rural communities. The current three tier structure for Water

Management ie National - Minister for the Environment, Regional - Regional Councils and Local - District Councils would be replaced with a two tier structure with functions divided between the Ministry for the Environment/ EPA and local councils.

The proposal also suggests that the non-resource management activities of regional councils (including parks and public transport) together with an agreed portion of any regional council assets (notably the shares in port companies) would transfer to local councils. An interest proposal is available on request.

## **4.2 Operations Contract Water and Wastewater**

Downer Edi Water is into the second year of contract 527 Water Supply and Wastewater Operations 2007/10.

### **4.2.1 Operations Water**

#### **4.2.1.1 Maungaturoto Water Supply**

The Treatment Plant Pressure Filters have had remedial welding work on splits around the top joints that rusted. This is to improve future reliability of these units. Plant flow was maintained during this work. Replacement of the filters is scheduled as part of the upgrade work being reviewed for Ministry of Health (CAP's) subsidy.

Maintenance work continues and we do not envisage major problems in the near future.

Recent cold weather and heavy rain falls have not caused any problems with the treatment plant operation.

#### **4.2.1.2 Ruawai Water Supply**

The borehole upgrades have commenced with the drilling of a new borehole.

No major issues on the maintenance and supply operations.

#### **4.2.1.3 Dargaville (including Baylys) Water Supply**

The water supply in the catchment is well stocked after the recent rains.

The Parore pump is being run on alternate weeks with Mamaranui pump to keep it in good working order.

Fire Hydrant testing is continuing in Dargaville to ensure adequate fire fighting supplies meet requirements. This is an annual ongoing rolling programme.

Maintenance is continuing without major issues.

#### **4.2.1.4 Glinks Gully Water Supply**

The treatment plant continues to have regular maintenance checks, with no issues to report.

#### **4.2.1.5 Kaiwaka Wastewater System**

The ponds are in good condition with no maintenance issues to report.

Pipeline to Pump Station became blocked jetting required to clean pipe and resume normal flow.

#### **4.2.1.6 Maungaturoto Wastewater System**

New Membrane Plant is in the process of being tested.

No major problems found during routine maintenance.

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

Pump station maintenance is ongoing.

Pump Station No. 1, which is the largest pump station in the Dargaville network, has been identified as requiring new pumps as these are now due for replacement in this financial year. This will be undertaken from the Pipe and Pump Renewal Budget. We intend to change the brand of pump to ensure that these pumps can be serviced locally with more timely parts supply. The previous pumps required a three month supply lead time from Sweden.

Regular spraying of Rice Grass in the effluent disposal ponds has been undertaken in the month. This is routinely needed on a reasonably regular basis due to the high nutrient load from effluent.

There have been some problems with a blocked sewer line in Plunket Street. The problem was exacerbated by a Telecom cable laid through the old sewer tile line, however the line was very old and due for renewal as one of the highest priority sewer lines in the Asset Management Plan.

#### **4.2.1.8 Glinks Gully Wastewater System**

Effluent field performing well, with no other issues to report.

#### **4.2.1.9 Te Kopuru Wastewater System**

Effluent pond performing well, with no other issues to report.

### **4.3 Capital Works Water and Wastewater**

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

#### **4.3.1 Water Capital Works**

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

##### **4.3.1.1 Maungaturoto Water Supply**

The new water supply pipeline from Baldrock dam to the existing pipe on State Highway One is progressing well. Installation of the pipe and electrical cable is now complete. Components to build the pump station have been arriving on site with construction of the station itself programmed to begin in early August following upgrade of the farm access track.

Progression of the Maungaturoto water treatment plant upgrade that is being completed with the help of a Ministry of Health subsidy is awaiting finalisation of funding agreements between Ministry of Health and Council. This work will focus on replacing aging infrastructure in the water treatment plant to improve its reliability and ease of operation.

The culmination of both an improved treatment process using Ministry of Health assistance and improved supply security from Baldrock dam with Fonterra's assistance is a tremendous outcome for the community, particularly given that there will be very little community cost.

#### **4.3.1.2 Ruawai Water Supply**

The new water supply bore has been drilled and developed successfully.

Water from the new bore will not be connected to the supply network until Council's engineers are certain that it can be properly treated in the existing treatment plant and that protocols associated with getting Ministry of Health funding assistance are met.

Council engineers have been preparing documentation about the new bore for the Northland Regional Council so that resource consent to take water can be finalised. This information includes a bore field management plan, results of the water quality and hydraulic tests, and soil profiles.

As for Maungaturoto, progression of the Ruawai water treatment plant upgrade is on hold awaiting the final agreement being established between Ministry of Health and Council.

#### **4.3.1.3 Dargaville (including Baylys) Water Supply**

The hydraulic model of the Dargaville reticulation system has been completed and the model testing has found that the flows and pressures predicted by the model can be verified by recent hydrant tests which improves confidence in the model outputs.

Council engineers are currently using the model to help determine the best way to service Baylys and making sure that providing increased water supply to Baylys in the future will not affect Dargaville water users.

The model will also enable better decisions and planning for the renewal of the pipes in the Dargaville township.

#### **4.3.1.4 Toward the Future**

Our communities are changing and growing and this requires forward thinking to make sure that the right infrastructure is in place before it is needed.

The implementation of the projects discussed above represent significant improvements to the Districts Water supply systems. With an eye to the future Council is also planning on staged renewal of assets, such as pipelines in Maungaturoto and Dargaville, and updating resource consents for the use of water. There are also plans in place to look at water supply security issues in Dargaville and determine the best way to support the Baylys community.

#### **4.3.2 Wastewater Capital Works**

A discussion on capital wastewater projects currently underway is provided below.

#### **4.3.2.1 Maungaturoto Wastewater System**

The wastewater system was handed over to the Councils operators on 9 July and the Engineer approved that the plant could go into its performance verification testing period on 16 July.

During the performance verification period Council engineers will be monitoring it closely to make sure it meets its contractual requirements.

As with all new systems there has been the odd teething issue, such as trying to keep the eels and fish that live in the oxidation pond out of the new pumps. These issues will be ironed out over the next month.

Regional Council and Department of Conservation staff have been to the new wastewater treatment plant site and have been impressed with the ten thousand fold improvement in effluent quality. The effluent from the new plant is so clear that a number of people have raised the concern that people might think the new effluent pond is a swimming pool, even though it is fenced off. We have instructed the contractor to install a grate over the outlet to protect the outlet pipe and prevent anyone from being sucked out the outlet should they be adventurous enough to go for a swim in the effluent pond.

#### **4.3.2.2 Dargaville Wastewater**

Practical completion certificates were issued for the Dargaville maturation pond desludging project in July 2009.

Contract documents for Desludging the main pond are currently being prepared. It is proposed that these documents be issued for tender early enough to allow works to begin in early January 2010 so that most can be made of the good weather.

#### **4.3.2.3 Te Kopuru**

A site inspection has identified that due to an increase in wave action on the pond there is some damage occurring to the wave band. This will be addressed by minor remedial works with further monitoring undertaken to determine if a more extensive capital project is required. Similarly the wetland area needs some minor work to address erosion around the edges of the wetland.

With regard to renewal of the Te Kopuru wastewater consent, Council staff have been in discussion with the main submitter, Department of Conservation, and the Northland Regional Council to finalise conditions of consent. There appears to be a clear way forward and good will is being shown from all parties. This will allow a practical consent to be issued without the need for a formal hearing.

Because the application was made early, the existing consent can be rolled over until the new consent is processed and granted.

#### **4.3.2.4 Kaiwaka Wastewater Consent Renewal**

A site meeting was held the Department of Conservation in July to further discuss the renewal of consent for the Kaiwaka wastewater treatment plant. The Department is an affected party and has a particular interest as the discharge is on to land that they manage.

The particular issues that this raises is currently being investigated, particularly in relation to whether a concession is needed for the actual discharge point.

Further discussions are needed with other parties, including landowners, Te Uri O Hau and Northland Regional Council in order to obtain renewed resource consents.

## **5 Urban Stormwater**

### **5.1 Dargaville**

All physical works have been completed for the year. Any further work either design or construction will only progress following a workshop with Council that will look to determine the level of service that Council wishes to provide to the community.

The Edward Street Stormwater Improvements have been completed. These improvements were undertaken to reduce flooding in the Edward Street / Normandy 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 has been completed for stormwater improvements at Montgomery Avenue and Gordon Street. No physical work is planned for this financial year until development plans are approved.

### **5.2 Mangawhai**

The Insley Street stormwater project has been completed.

The Moir Street West stormwater project has 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 2009/19*. Awarding of this contract and advertising the associated physical works contract is expected prior to December 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. Physical work is planned for the 2010/11 financial year.

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

### **5.3 Baylys**

Pipe construction and sealing work on Baylys Street has been completed. Scheduled work on Ripiro Drive has been completed, with the only outstanding item being the re-design of the drainage as requested by the community.

Further to last months Council meeting the design of further works at Cynthia Place will be completed after discussion with stakeholders. The design will be discussed with the community and modified to ensure that it meets expectations in terms of amenity and safety.

## **6 Community Facilities**

### **6.1 Pool Deed**

The Kauri Coast Community Pool Trust has amended its Trust Deed so as to embrace the operational focus of the pool. This Trust Deed will allow for a governance level and a management level and will allow for the employment of a Pool Manager. This Deed should be in place by 1 September and best case scenario, a pool manager employed by October to allow for a smooth opening transition.

Council staff have been active in title searches on Council properties with several properties having been identified for sale. Council's lawyers are working on these and working through the Public Works Act where needed to move these sales forward. Work has also begun on listing all Council assets which will help identify what assets it has and what if any are surplus to Council and community needs. This has been done in the past but needs to be updated and to be in a form that can easily be accessible and changed as necessary.

### **6.2 Pool Funding**

In July the Kauri Coast Community Pool Trust received notification that they were to be given \$50,000 from Skycity in Auckland. This means that with the \$10,000 from the Logan Campbell Trust a total of \$60,000 has come from Auckland. The Trust has also put a second application in to the Community Facilities Fund and will now focus its attention on the Significant Projects Fund. While there is no guarantee with any funding, the amount that could be sourced from the Significant Projects Fund is considerably larger than Community Facilities. The Significant Projects Fund applications close on 17 September 2009 and are decided in March 2010.

### **6.3 Halls**

Council's Commercial Manager has been working on Council's Halls funding and investigating ways of speeding up the hand over process. Letters have gone out to all hall committees with a request to meet and discuss progress on any structural works, the handover of the halls as well as meeting the new Portfolio Holder, Councillor Julie Geange. This will also be an opportunity to reinforce Council's Policy on Halls to the committees concerned and give an update on the direction Council is heading with the handover of halls to their committees.

## **7 Recreation**

### **7.1 Northland Walking Tracks**

Enterprise Northland along with New Zealand Trade and Enterprise has commissioned a report on establishing Northland as a major New Zealand walking destination. Council staff were invited to a workshop in Kerikeri where this report was released to district councils and other interested parties. The report looks at the current situation with walking and tramping in Northland, the environment and tourism, economic benefits, the appeal of Northland to walkers, access to the walks and key markets for walkers along with identification and prioritisation of the walking tracks and the packaging of the walks as a product both nationally and internationally.

Kaipara was mentioned briefly in the report as having some walks of interest however most of the walks identified in the report fall outside of our district. Waipoua and its walks were highlighted however this falls within Far North District's rohe.

Discussion on the day centered around the need to have an iconic walk in Northland similar to the great walks in the central North Island and the South Island.

Northland is considered a great location because its climate provides walking opportunities all year round unlike the south island which is more seasonal.

The report recommended the formation of a walks working group, the establishment of a walking track information template and the continued improvement of identified walking tracks as the main priorities to a sustainable Northland walking experience.

## **7.2 Community Gardens**

Taha Awa, one of the Kaipara's premier open space areas has seen a lot of activity in the last few months, some of which has not been of the positive kind. The Gardens are one of Dargaville's most visited locations with families, children and visitors using it daily, however as well as these people there is an element that seem hell bent on vandalizing and writing graffiti at the community gardens. This despite there generally being someone in the gardens at most times it is open. The Garden Trust is keen to install a camera in the Gardens as they believe this would help to curb the continued destruction of property. The Trust has been working with several parties on this project to find a way to make it happen including the local Police.

Kaipara District Council contractors who maintain the Gardens on a daily basis have continued through winter to keep the Gardens in the best possible condition despite the wet ground conditions. Weeding has continued throughout the gardens and sand is now being placed in the Harbour garden after a clean up of the area. With spring on the way work will continue on weeding of the various gardens to get them in the best possible condition, this will include re-barking of some areas as needed and infill planting as required.

## **7.3 Norfolk Island Pines**

Council has been made aware that one of the several Norfolk Island pine trees in Tinopai has been poisoned. Council's Community Open Spaces Manager along with a local arborist inspected the trees in question and found several drill holes in one of the mature trees. An independent arborist's report on the condition of the poisoned tree was forwarded to Council. This report also commented on the remaining trees and recommended the immediate removal of the poisoned tree and that consideration be given to the removal of the other trees as well. The report went on to say that the poisoned tree had loss approximately 70% of its foliage and was in a state of decline.

On inspection by the Community Spaces Manager and the local arborist, it was indeed found that one of the trees had been poisoned. This had occurred sometime ago and the tree had been endeavouring to heal and recover from the poisoning. The arborist noted that there were in fact signs that the tree was still spending some energy towards recovery with new growth shown in some areas of the tree where die back had occurred. His opinion was that the tree was of no immediate danger to the

surrounding properties and provided the removal of the dead branches was done there was no need to remove this tree or any of the others. The arborist recommended that an eye is kept on this tree over the next few months to see if the improvement continues. The arborist also indicated that costs associated with the felling of this one tree would run into several thousands of dollars.

## **8 Planning and Reporting**

### **8.1 Kaipara Heritage Assistance Fund**

The Kaipara Heritage Assistance Fund is being offered again this year, with applications open from 1 September to 31 October 2009. \$10,000 has been set aside to help and encourage people to protect and preserve resources of heritage value within the Kaipara.

Applications received will be assessed in November and December with the final decision going to the January 2010 Council meeting. We will be following similar guidelines as last year with the committee involved including at least one Councillor. We will be looking forward to receiving requests for a variety of projects.

## **9 Regulatory**

The monthly reports of the Council's Monitoring Officer and the Building Team are attached for the information of Council (Appendix B). A more recent matter of interest relating to the building activity area is a Determination which was recently issued by the Department of Building and Housing in relation to our decision not to issue the Code Compliance Certificate for a house at Mangawhai. The Code Compliance Certificate signifies that the building project is complete, and complies with the approved plans in all respects. Generally once the Code Compliance Certificate is issued, the ten year durability period during which Council is liable for defects, starts to run. In this case the finishing work was so deficient that it could result in premature failure of the building's weathertightness so that Council could have got caught up in the cost of repairing it. The owner had the right to get a second opinion on this by way of the Determination from the Department of Building and Housing, and the Council's approach was fully vindicated by them in the decision that was issued. As directed in the Determination, a "Notice to Fix" has been issued, with a requirement that an independent report be prepared which thoroughly identifies all the remedial work to be done. This experience can be taken as an endorsement of the quality of Council's building consent systems.

## **10 Community Development**

### **10.1 Lighting Up The Night Sky**

On Saturday 7 November 2009 Kaiwaka is having its big party to celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. The star attraction of the event will be the Wearable Lights contest. Planning and developing of designs has already started by many who are taking this event and the opportunity it presents very seriously.

The Wearable Lights contest will see three design categories being best original, funniest and evening wear. Council staff is supporting the Committee organising the celebration with the planning of this

event and the Committee meet regularly to ensure no stone is left unturned to make the event one for the Kaiwaka community to be proud of.

## **11 Finance**

The principal task during July for rating personnel was the calculation and dispatch of 13,500 first instalment rate assessments for 2009/10, including the EcoCare billings. As a result, staff were particularly busy answering enquiries from EcoCare rate payers; forestry owners; rate payers whose land had increased in value due to revaluations and the fact that their rates were higher than they had expected; and 102 rate rebates applications were processed, which totalled \$49,500.

For the accounting staff, the major task was the commencement of the preparation of the financial content of the 2008/09 Annual Report. A three day visit from Audit New Zealand also took place. The Finance Manager acted as Principal Administrative Officer in the absence of the Chief Executive, and was involved, in an administrative sense, in the EcoCare commercial acceptance handover that took place on 31 July 2009.

## **12 Staff**

### **12.1 Staff Safety**

Councillors will recall an Agenda item on staff safety which came to Council in May. As a result of the discussions around that item it has been decided that the customer service team will put on an extra staff person between 4.00 and 5.00 pm. This means that one person can be out of sight but within hearing so that they can call the emergency services if necessary. This option is being trialled as the cheapest of any of the options suggested by the Council to address the concerns raised about staff safety.

## **13 Meetings**

I attended the following meetings:

23 July	Te Uri O Hau and Te Roroa - District Plan
26-29 July	Local Government New Zealand Conference
31 July	Te Roroa - Economic Development
5 August	BECA - District Plan
11 August	District Plan Working Group
17 August	Northland Intersectoral Forum
18 August	Peter Higgins' Funeral - Tauranga
19 August	Te Roroa - District plan

## **Part One – Activities Report**

### **b) Looking Forward**

- |          |                     |   |
|----------|---------------------|---|
| <b>1</b> | <b>14 September</b> | <b>Taharoa Domain Governance Committee</b>  |
|          | <b>23 September</b> | <b>Council Workshop and Council Meeting</b> |