

Project update for Whirinaki 2C property owners

20 May 2025



Introductions and welcome

Hawke's Bay Regional Council:

Martin Williams, Councillor, Ahuriri | Napier – Chair for the Meeting

Jerf van Beek, Councillor, Ngaruroro

Andrew Caseley, Manager Regional Projects | Programme Director

Harry Donnelly, Senior Project Manager Whirinaki

Luke Cahalin, Project Manager Whirinaki

Jacqui Davis, Engagement Team Leader

Kim Thomas, Engagement Advisor

This meeting will cover:

- Overview of the NIWE programme
- How we got here – an update 2C landowners on the Whirinaki project
- The proposed new alignment
- About the new alignment: Residential, State Highway, and Industrial segments
- Project funding
- Flood modelling update
- Project timeline
- Category shift

There will then be a Q&A session followed by refreshments and opportunity to move around the breakout areas and talk to the team.

NIWE programme overview

11 Projects in total (Crown Funding Agreement programme sum - \$254m)

Pōrangahau (\$14.6m)	Pākōwhai (\$50m)
Ōhiti / Omāhu (\$10m)	Waiohiki (\$10m)
Whirinaki (\$23m)	Wairoa (\$70m)
Havelock North (\$10m - being delivered by HDC)	Pump Station upgrade (\$30m)
Telemetry (\$5m)	Scheme Reviews (\$4m)
Stopbank Levels of Service (\$30m)	

All Project Delivery Plans (PDPs) have been approved by Ministers

How we got here

- A Crown Funding agreement was signed in October 2023, with \$11m allocated for Whirinaki on the assumption TREC would meet any required State Highway costs
- As further modelling, design and QS was completed, costs blew out to \$34.5m for the original alignment:
 - \$18m for the State Highway
 - \$16.5m for the other flood mitigation works
- NZTA could not contribute within their defined funding parameters and other sources of funding highly unlikely
- Had to fully reconsider and complete value engineering assessments and have now arrived at an entirely new alignment predominately to avoid the costly works required to upgrade the Whirinaki Drain State Highway culvert and associated road raising
- A revised project budget of \$23m has been assessed with HBRC committing an additional \$3m and the Crown has repurposed \$9m to the project from an underspend on Cat 3 buyouts to bridge the funding gap of \$12m (\$23m - \$11m)
- The Government approved project delivery plan is for a 100-year return period level of service (as is the case for all other NIWE projects) for residential properties and the reinstatement of the 500-year return period L of S for industrial properties.

The proposed new alignment

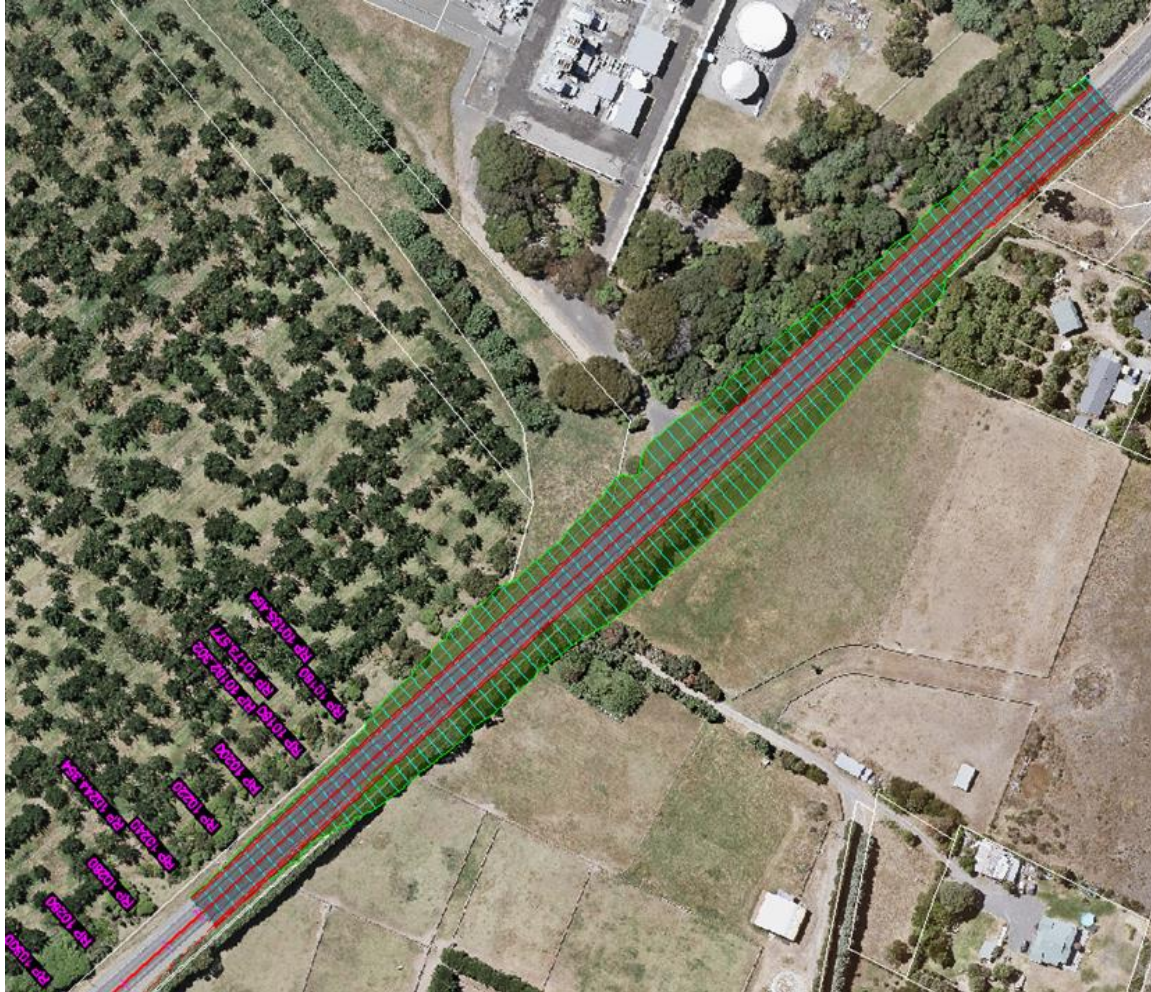


About the new alignment: Residential



- Residential stopbank will provide protection from a 100-year return period flood
- 38 residential properties along Pohutukawa Drive, North Shore Road and Whirinaki Road currently in Category 2C
- This stopbank will allow them to move to Category 1
- Approximately 1250m total length
- Approximately 1-2.5m high depending on location

About the new alignment: State Highway



- State Highway raising will form part of the industrial sector's flood protection
- Approximately 400m total length
- Approximately 1.8m high at the apex at the entrance to Transpower and Contact Energy

About the new alignment: Industrial



- The Esk and Whirinaki Flood Control Scheme was originally designed to protect the Whirinaki Mill and power station from a 500-year return period flood
- Pan Pac, Contact Energy and Transpower have approximately \$2 billion worth of critical infrastructure in the area
- Pan Pac alone sustained an estimated \$300million worth of damage
- This project will re-instate their flood protection and provide future resilience against flooding
- Approximately 1200m total length

Project funding

How will it be paid for?

The \$5.75 million will initially be paid for by HBRC borrowing the required funds, and will be apportioned across the two assets, therefore resulting in being funded by the two rating schemes as below.

Following the consultation on the Three-Year Plan 2024-2027 Council agreed to rate for each of the schemes as follows:

	Initial capital	Operating and maintenance
Whirinaki (Industrial)	70% TR : 30% GR	70% TR : 30% GR
Whirinaki (other)	100% GR	70% TR : 30% GR

TR= Targeted Rate, GR = General Rate

The amount that is rated for each scheme will depend on the final costs and how they fall to each asset. Our current capital budget estimates for this work estimates, as follows:

	LTP 2024-27 estimates	Current capital estimate
1:500 Industrial asset 70% TR : 30% GR	\$1,605,000	\$3,690,000
1:100 Residential asset 100% GR	\$1,145,000	\$2,060,000
Total Initial Capital contribution	\$2,750,000	\$5,750,000

New alignment flood modelling

- We are currently updating the modelling based on the new alignment
- This will be completed by mid-June
- The consequential flooding report will be updated as part of the modelling work to be completed. But the new alignment is expected to improve this situation as it will provide more storage for the flood water within the Pan Pac Seed Orchard
- It's a requirement of the consent application that consequential flooding impacts are fully assessed
- Additional landowner agreements are being secured.

Project timeline

Please note dates are indicative and subject to change



Funding confirmed
April 2025

Design and planning

May 2025 to October 2025

Final design of the stopbanks are completed.

Cultural, environmental and technical assessments.

Consent application lodged.

Tender for contract in market.

Pre-construction works

August 2025 to November 2025

Sometimes called 'enabling works' these can include building, access tracks, haul roads, ramps and the stockpiling of construction material

Community engagement

Ongoing

Mana whenua and community engagement.

Construction

December 2025 to December 2026

Contract(s) awarded, Stopbank and road construction underway.

Category shift:

Requirements for Category 2C to move to Category 1

Category 2C will move to Category 1 on confirmation that:

A sound concept that has a
consenting pathway;

and

A legal interest in favour of
HBRC in the relevant land;

and

Available funding

Stay informed

Go to hbrc.govt.nz and search #Whirinaki for:

- Latest updates
- Project team and contact information
- Previous newsletters
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



Need help?

project.enquiries@hbrc.govt.nz


HAWKES BAY
REGIONAL COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O TE MATAU-A-MĀUI

IRP
Infrastructure
Resilience Programme
NGĀ MAHI TŪROA