



# HOBSON HEADLINES

REPLACEMENT OF THE HOBSON BAY SEWER WITH A WASTEWATER TUNNEL  
UNDER HOBSON BAY AND THE ORAKEI RIDGE

ISSUE 6

APRIL 2007

## Hobson Bay construction to commence

The first stage of construction work on the project to replace the 90-year-old sewer bisecting Hobson Bay with a wastewater tunnel will begin shortly. Following an extensive period of consultation Watercare Services Ltd now has in place the required consents to proceed with the project which will see the existing pipeline replaced with a larger and better underground tunnel.

Project Manager Mike Sheffield said the upgrade will practically eliminate wastewater overflows in Hobson Bay, allow for projected population growth in the area, improve views across the bay and open it for recreational use.

"The recreational and environmental benefits of this project are huge," Mike said. "We look forward to advancing this exciting project and delivering a solution which will be of benefit to the whole community."

Mike and his Project Hobson team are now developing detailed plans to cover key issues including noise and traffic management arrangements. When these are complete they will be submitted to both the Auckland City Council and the Auckland Regional Council for approval.

Once sign-off is achieved the first stage of construction work will begin. This involves the construction of temporary site offices, storage areas and associated parking at the southern end of Orakei Domain, in between Okahu Bay Bowling Club and Teachers Eastern Rugby Football Club. This work is scheduled to commence in mid-May.

Construction of the main shaft is expected to take place in June, with tunnelling commencing by the end of the year.

The total cost of Project Hobson is \$118.6 million. This includes the construction of a 3.7 metre-diameter, concrete-lined wastewater tunnel 3 kilometres in length, the demolition of existing works, Watercare's costs and risk provision. The project offers significant stormwater and wastewater management benefits to Auckland City Council and the local network operator, Metrowater.

Under the terms of resource consents, hours of construction for surface work are restricted to 7.30am-6pm, Monday-Saturday.

Mike said: "Both Watercare and its contractors are keen to minimise any disturbance to residents. While it is likely that some disruption will be experienced by those in the immediate area we will be working hard to keep that to an absolute minimum."



### Timetable of Work

March 2007	Construction contract awarded
Mid-May 2007	Orakei Domain site works
Mid-June 2007	Construction of main shaft
November 2007	Shore Road site works
December 2007	Tunnelling
April 2008	Victoria Avenue and Logan Terrace shaft work
February 2010	Demolition of existing Hobson Bay pipeline



## Construction contract awarded

The contract for the construction project to replace the 90-year-old sewer bisecting Hobson Bay with a wastewater tunnel has been awarded following a tender process to a joint-venture consortium comprising The Fletcher Construction Company Ltd and McConnell Dowell Constructors Ltd.

The Fletcher Construction Company is the country's largest full-service contractor, delivering significant infrastructure and commercial building projects throughout New Zealand and the South Pacific. It is a subsidiary of Fletcher Building Ltd, the second-largest company on the New Zealand Stock Exchange.

McConnell Dowell Constructors Ltd is the New Zealand subsidiary of McConnell Dowell Corporation, a leading multinational engineering, construction and services company. It has an extensive track record in marine and tunnelling construction in the water and wastewater sector.

## Community Liaison Group

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Ron Wright – Chairman of the Project Hobson Community Liaison Group.

Ron had been involved with the Project Hobson project since April 2006. His fair-minded chairmanship was appreciated by all.

Watercare extends its sympathies to Ron's family and friends.

## New project manager appointed

**Mike Sheffield** has been appointed as Watercare's Project Manager for the construction stage of Project Hobson.

Mike has extensive experience gained over the past 35 years, in the civil, mechanical and electrical engineering and telecommunications fields.

Originally from the United Kingdom, he holds a B.Sc (Hons) in Civil Engineering and has been responsible for delivering projects in the Pacific Islands, Australia, South East Asia, Indian Ocean, and Middle East, as well as New Zealand.

A long-time resident of Mission Bay, Mike looks forward to playing a role in delivering this exciting project.

**Paul Swinburne**, has been appointed as the Project Manager and Contractors' Representative by The Fletcher Construction Company Ltd and McConnell Dowell Constructors Ltd. Paul has over 30 years' experience onsite delivering a wide range of civil engineering projects throughout New Zealand.



Watercare's Project Manager Mike Sheffield.

## Feedback

For more information, please contact Project Manager Mike Sheffield on 09 539 7364 (work), 021 577 364 (mobile), or by email at [msheffield@water.co.nz](mailto:msheffield@water.co.nz)