

Flood protection stakeholder notes – 09.02.24

Need for improved community communication – plan to be confirmed.

Discussion around improved information sharing for stakeholder group - shared Dropbox.

New group members again raised the need for a whole catchment approach.

Explanations around Multi-Criteria Analysis (MCA). Considerations include hydrological, property, ecological, cultural, geotechnical, and archaeological impacts and costings.

Concern cultural impact wasn't prioritised.

Based on the decision-making timeframe, landowner negotiations, the consenting process, and construction timeframes, the completion of a flood protection scheme could still be years away.

Discussion why short-term solutions aren't being activated now while waiting for the long-term solution – mainly compliance.

Need to consider additional funding streams raised.

Potential options refined, with an indication of preferences.

Discussions re spillway options and models including placement, depth, width, moving around marae, urupa, combinations, bend in spillway, railway bridge. Requested detailed overlay maps to show previous flooding, cultural sites, Māori land.

Discussion on MCA, implications around costings, impacted properties/houses, landscape and archaeological impacts. The group stressed the importance of cultural impacts on intergenerational land, taonga such as marae, and challenges with whenua Māori under multiple ownership.

Need to start thinking now about property management and the impacts of taking a solution to the community, the need to provide background information to support the preferred options/s and the possibility of a full judicial review and high court hearing.

Bar management raised the importance of recording the group's strong feelings about improved management in the future.

Group stressed the importance of an extensive peer review of any proposal to ensure it is the best solution for Wairoa.

Group to meet again within the next fortnight. Hope to finalise preferred options by the end of February and share these with the public in March.