



THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

Media release

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Technical assessment of Westport flood protection proposal nearing completion

Work to consider the Business Case engineering design and the technical review undertaken by Tonkin+Taylor is nearing completion by river engineers Graeme Campbell and Peter Blackwood.

With the appointment confirmed by the Resilient Westport Steering Group at the end of July 2023, the pair have been on site and walked the proposed alignment, met with the various parties involved in the development of the flood protection proposal as well as the reviewers, in order to progress to an agreed final design solution.

“Council engaged Graeme and Peter recognising that they are two of the most experienced river engineers in New Zealand and have the competency required to undertake this work,” said Peter Haddock, Chair of the West Coast Regional Council.

“The outputs of this work will provide the assurance required by Ministers Robertson and McAnulty on the soundness of the concept design in order for the funds to commence to the preliminary design phase of the flood protection scheme, detailed design and construction to be released.”

Chair Haddock said that this step has been instrumental in getting traction on the Westport Flood Protection project.

“We acknowledge that doing this has taken an extra few weeks, however given the co-investment of central government it is only fair that the responsible Ministers are confident that any technical issues are addressed for the structural flood protection components of the proposal.”

The final report is due to land with the West Coast Regional Council and the Steering Group in the next few weeks before going to Ministers.

“As we have previously reported, consultation with the community on the final design will be undertaken through the preliminary and detailed design phases.”

ENDS

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