

Further community involvement in the Kapiti Coast Water Supply Option Selection Process

## You are invited to attend the annual Sustainable Home and Garden Show

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2010 9am - 4pm Saturday, 10am - 4pm Sunday Kāpiti Primary School Rimu Road Paraparaumu

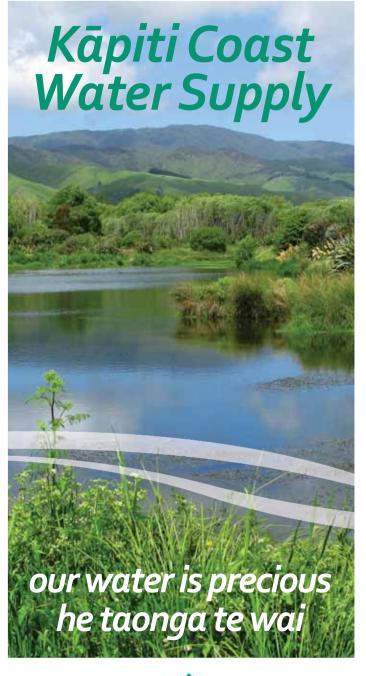


## **Contacting the Water Project Team**

## Phillip Stroud

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March 2010

## our water is precious - he taonga te wai

I would like to thank you for the interest you have shown in the Water Project and am pleased to write to you with an update. Earlier this month, Council unanimously confirmed a shortlist of possible solutions to secure additional supply for the Waikanae/ Paraparaumu/Raumati catchment. The shortlist consists of six possible solutions, or combinations thereof, within the Waikanae/ Paraparaumu/Raumati catchment and includes:

- Lower Maungakotukutuku Dam (option 18)
- Kapakapanui Dam (Option 12)
- Ngatiawa Dam (Option 13)
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery (Option 27)
- Extended Borefield and Storage (option 23 & 38)
- Groundwater River Recharge (Option 29)

The six options will now be investigated in some depth. Whatever option is finally chosen will to a large degree depend on whether it can provide high quality water – the criteria that our recent public consultations have shown is most important to people in the district. Other major considerations, based on the community's views, are security of supply, cost of construction and operational cost. Our engineering consultants are now preparing conceptual designs and undertaking environmental investigations for all six options which will allow us to make meaningful comparisons. We will also be talking to landowners and other parties affected by the options.

If you want to find out more about the six options listed above, and how the shortlist was arrived at, you can view the full options report that went before Council on our website at www. kapiticoast.govt.nz. Please go to the "Water Use" section and there you can find the Options Selection Report under "Building a supply capacity".

Whilst Council is favouring the shortlist of in-catchment solutions, Council has also decided to ask local communities and tangata whenua whether out-of-catchment solutions, such as a pipeline from the Otaki River, should also be considered. The water supply question is of such importance that we have to consider all possible solutions that the community can support. We need to be able to prove that we have investigated all possible options if we want to be successful in gaining resource consent for whatever solution we finally choose.

We are delighted with having arrived at the shortlist, a milestone for our project. We are still on target to present a preferred solution to Council in June.

There has also been significant progress in our water conservation work. Council has confirmed an update to the bylaw which will enable Council staff to more closely monitor and combat water wastage. We are aware of large draw-offs of water through illegal connections/abstraction, usually from water fire hydrants, and we are taking action to stop this from happening. Illegal taking of drinking water from the Council network threatens the safety of our drinking water and can also potentially damage water assets.

Illegal takes are usually made by businesses, not private individuals. Yet there is no need for people to break the law as Council has established water filling points at Council depots where water carriers can fill up through back flow prevention devices, using a swipe card system. We are asking people in the district that if they see a water hydrant being used by parties other than the Fire Service or Council staff, please phone us with details and we will follow up.

As part of the Annual Plan process, Council will also be finalising a Water Conservation Plan that will outline measures to help achieve the Council's 400 litres/person/day over the next five years. Education, a financial incentives package, technical innovation and water loss reduction are areas that are addressed as part of the Water Conservation Plan. Better monitoring of water flows and



data collection on consumption is also high on the agenda. You will be able to discuss and comments on this plan as part of the Annual Plan process.

Finally, I would like to invite you to the annual Sustainable Home and Garden Show which takes place in Paraparaumu on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March. We will have a 'Water Tent' at the show where we will show details of the six water supply options, and where we will be happy to discuss with you any aspects of our Water Project.

I thank you for your interest in this important topic for the district. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me or send me an email to *preciouswater@kapiticoast.govt.nz* 

Yours sincerely,

Jemy

Jenny Rowan, QSO JP Mayor Kāpiti Coast District