

S95-014 Coastal Erosion Strategy

Approved by the Council on 5 October 1995.

That having considered the report of the Coastal Erosion Strategy Working Party on the development of a Coastal Erosion Strategy for that area of coastline within the bounds of the New Plymouth District, and being aware that the frame of reference for the Working Party was the 1995 report 'Coastal Erosion Strategy' prepared by the Planning Department of the Council, and that in particular eight specified coastal areas are named in the report:

viz Tongaporutu

 Urenui

 Onaero Beach

 Onaero Township

 Waitara Foreshore

 Bell Block Beach

 Fitzroy Beach

 Oakura Beach;

and as recommended by the Coastal Erosion Strategy Working Party the Council resolves to take the following course of action in respect of the specified areas:

- a) Tongaporutu
 - i) Discussions be entered into with Natural Gas Corporation of New Zealand Limited with a view to negotiations for the repair or dismantling of the gabion baskets formerly installed by the Corporation to protect a natural gas pipeline; it being noted that the present state of the gabion baskets indicates a severe state of disrepair;
 - ii) Monitoring of the general area be undertaken, including a watching brief on private seawalls protecting riverside baches.

- b) Urenui
 - i) Planting and reshaping of the dunes in front of the Urenui Motor Camp, and the already approved boulder toe wall protection work due to commence December 1995 be determined as the appropriate erosion prevention strategy for this area;
 - ii) Preference be given for no more hard protection measures along this stretch of coastline;

- iii) Monitoring of the general foreshore area be undertaken, including the motor camp, golf course and the two rock promontories either end of the Urenui Beach.
- c) Onaero Beach
- i) Examination be undertaken of appropriate planting to stabilise the existing erosion problem at the beach including the maintenance of alternative improved access points to the beach;
 - ii) It be acknowledged that the premises of the Waitara Life Saving Club may require relocation at a future date;
 - iii) Monitoring of the general foreshore area be undertaken;
 - iv) A determination be made that the Onaero Beach (and not the Township) is the most appropriate area for the possible launch of rescue, and like craft.
- d) Onaero Township
- i) The intent of a Council resolution made 14 December 1992 (refer P92-012) on the issue of coastal erosion at Onaero be reinforced:

"That having considered the report of the Director of Parks concerning the request from the Onaero Ratepayers and Residents Action Group for the Council to repair the privately owned concrete structure at the western end of Onaero Beach, the Council resolves to confirm the existing policy with regard to coastal protection works in that only significant roads and/or reserves will be considered for erosion protection, and that the Onaero Beach esplanade reserve is not deemed to come into the category (District wide) of a significant reserve.";
 - ii) Consultation be entered into with the Taranaki Regional Council, the local residents` and the Ngati Mutunga Iwi with a view to constructing a seawall that ties in with existing private property protection measures;
 - iii) Facilitate ease of access to the beach for the general pedestrian public;
 - iv) Monitoring of the general foreshore be undertaken.
- e) Waitara
- i) In the first instance, investigate and establish a cost with a view to proceeding with the repair and maintenance of the training/protection wall on the east bank of the Waitara River Mouth in accordance with Resource Consents already approved;
 - ii) Further investigations and costings be also established for a training/protection wall on the west bank of the Waitara River Mouth;
 - iii) Monitoring of the general area be undertaken.

- f) Bell Block Beach
 - i) As this stretch of coastline can be considered a rare aeolian (wind blown) landscape feature, and as any stabilisation of sand dunes would be ineffective, no action be taken in this regard;
 - ii) Monitoring of the general area be undertaken.
- g) Fitzroy/East End Beach
 - i) Negotiations be initiated with Westgate Transport Limited and/or its shareholder Taranaki Regional Council for the restoration of the Fitzroy/East End Beach(es) potential or recreational usage, and the associated protection of the District infrastructure behind the dune area;
 - ii) Hard protection measures be seen only as a last resort protection option for this area;
 - iii) Monitoring of the general area be undertaken.
- h) Oakura Beach
 - i) No erosion protection measures be initiated as the Oakura Beach is at present stabilised;
 - ii) Hard protection measures be avoided where possible along the beach;
 - iii) Monitoring of the general area be undertaken.

That in order to give further impetus to certain proposed District Coastal Erosion Strategy measures as already recommended by the Coastal Erosion Strategy Working Party and again having regard to the document "Coastal Erosion Strategy" prepared by the Planning Department of the New Plymouth District Council September 1995, the Council resolves to receive the Coastal Erosion Strategy Report, and as recommended by the Coastal Erosion Strategy Working Party, adopt the following recommendations:

- a) The New Plymouth District Council expressly declares that only SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC ASSETS along the District's coastline will qualify for possible protection;
- b) Any developments proposed within the Coastal Hazard Zone (to be formulated within the District Plan) will have to meet additional performance standards before being allowed to commence, and that, as a complement to this notation will be entered on land titles under Section 36(2) of the Building Act 1991;
- c) A more detailed assessment of protection options be assessed and implemented at Fitzroy and Urenui beaches with a preference for soft stabilisation works;
- d) A monitoring strategy be formulated and implemented to assess the beach profile at all District beaches of SIGNIFICANT recreational value and that where appropriate the Council shall ensure the long term recreational viability of those beaches is not lost;

- e) It be recognised that all approved elements of an integrated Coastal Erosion Strategy are a Council responsibility, and that in the first instance the task of monitoring District coastal erosion areas devolves on the Community Services Manager, reporting to the Council through the medium of the Strategy Committee;
- f) Where it is judged that a coastal area requires protection a detailed analysis should be undertaken by the Council with an emphasis on designing with nature rather than against it and that works should only proceed if there is a net benefit to the Council and the Community from protecting these assets;
- g) Works be assessed and implemented as soon as is possible for the Onaero Township and the Waitara River Mouth;
- h) An accumulating fund be established and continued through the Council's Annual Plan for capital and maintenance funding for the protection of the significant public assets of the District's coastline;
- i) Any protection works to be carried out on a particular stretch of coastline shall involve consultation with the appropriate Iwi of the area;
- j) In all District Coastal Erosion protection works, it be vital that where appropriate public pedestrian access to coastal beaches be facilitated, and that in the first instance this responsibility devolve on the Community Services Department;

and that;

The Council reaffirms an early resolution of 14 December 1992 (refer P92-012) with regard to coastal protection works in that only significant roads and/or reserves will be considered for erosion protection.