

## Meola Stream Community Liaison Group

**Date of Meeting:** 10 May 2017

**Meeting Number** 3

**Attendees:**

Name

Affiliation/Interest

Alistair Shanks  
Stephen Grace  
Wendy John  
Pat Prescott  
Elizabeth Walker  
Graeme Easte  
Sel Arbuckle  
Frank Koenen  
  
Bernice Chiam  
David Ward  
Rhianna Drury  
David Abbott  
  
Dirk Hudig  
  
Andrew MacKintosh  
Gillian Dance  
Andrew Chin

Facilitator/Secretary  
Watercare  
Friends of Oakley Creek  
STEPS  
STEPS  
Local Council Board  
STEPS  
Mt Albert Grammar School Property  
Manager  
Watercare  
Watercare CI Project Manager  
Auckland Council  
Stop Auckland Sewage Overflows  
Coalition  
Stop Auckland Sewage Overflows  
Coalition  
STEPS  
Local resident  
Strategy & Resilience Manager for Healthy  
Waters, Auckland Council

**Apologies:**

Joby Barham

Auckland Council Parks

**Venue:**

Garlic Room, Mt Albert YMCA

NO.	ITEM	ACTION
1.	<b>Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 December 2016</b>	
	These were approved as correct subject to the following amendment under STEPS: Section 4.1 Planting Plans, and Ongoing Actions: Draft planting plans to be presented. The actions for these items should be noted as STEPS not Watercare.	
2.	<b>Update by Watercare</b>	
	It was reported that Watercare is near the end of the engineering design. The first iteration of the management plans for planting is being prepared. The next phase of the project is procurement. Tenders will go out to various international contractors. The tender	

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	<p>process will take about a year. Legal and commercial review of the tender documents will be undertaken.</p>	
	<p>The type of boring machine to be used will be selected by the contractor subject to meeting the Watercare specifications. The construction work will commence at the southern end after a contract has been let. Work will get to the Mays Road end by about 2021. The Miranda Street to Mays Road part will be constructed by 2023, and the remaining northern section in 2025. The timing of the various shaft excavations will be determined by the project staging so localised disruption is not longer than necessary.</p>	
	<p>The restoration management plans will not be finalised until the contractor is selected as the contractor will need to determine the methods to undertake the work. Outlines of the plans can be developed now.</p>	
	<p>The Roy Clements Treeway Enhancement Plan is being developed now so that this group can contribute to it. It will be ready for circulation to the group for comment in about 6 weeks time. About three weeks after, the next meeting of the group will be arranged so comments and the way forward can be discussed.</p>	<b>Watercare</b>
	<p>The shaft site plans are shown to the group but not made available to the public as the information is commercially sensitive at this stage. Concern was raised over the area of vegetation that may need to be removed during construction. The aim is to minimise this as much as possible. If the site is too restricted it makes the construction work difficult to undertake and increases health and safety issues. The Watercare Glen Eden Wastewater Storage Tank construction has been undertaken on a constrained site.</p>	
	<p>At the Lyons Avenue site there was discussion about the area to be cleared. This will be finalised with the contractor when they are appointed in early 2019.</p>	
	<p>A site visit to a tunnel construction site was discussed. Healthy Waters offered up to five people a site visit to the Artillery Drive stormwater tunnel. The work being undertaken is constructing the 2.5 metre diameter stormwater tunnel in Papakura. Andrew Chin will organise this.</p>	<b>Andrew Chin</b>
	<p>The environmental aspects of the project are being considered. These include energy use, transporting of materials and spoil, impervious paving, spoil reuse, and reclaimed material use in concrete. About 70,000 m<sup>3</sup> of concrete will be used in the project.</p>	

NO.	ITEM	ACTION
	<p>Most of this will be as precast liners for the tunnel.</p>	
	<p>Further details on the sustainability aspects can be discussed at the next meeting. Watercare has a long term goal to be energy neutral. The company's environmental goals and aspirations are outlined in the Watercare Annual Reports which are available on the Watercare web site.</p>	<b>Watercare</b>
	<p>The question was raised if Watercare could use two tunnel boring machines at the same time, one from each end. It is easier to bore only from one end. To have two operations going at once would increase the costs in the order of 15% and would be more disruptive to the communities nearby.</p>	
	<p>It is anticipated that the boring machine will work 24 hours per day for a six day week, using the seventh day for maintenance. It is unlikely that the machine noise will be heard above ground as the tunnel is between 25 to 100 metres deep below residential areas.</p>	
	<p>The tunnel is designed to take the overflows from the combined sewers and leave the stream flows in the stream. The remaining flows should be mainly stormwater. In flood events the stream will still be in flood but to a much lesser extent than is currently experienced. The tunnel is a storage and conveyance tunnel. The tunnel will be able to deliver 6000l/sec to the plant for treatment, with a storage capacity of about 220,000m<sup>3</sup>.</p>	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Healthy Waters</b>	
	<p>The discussion continued into the area of stormwater. It was thought that there needs to be an incentive for reducing stormwater runoff. For example in the US and Canada if there is an impervious area change there can be a charge. If this was implemented in NZ it would be like a tax, and seen as very political. Large commercial buildings and yards would be hit hard and it would be seen as not encouraging development of industry. There could be rate reductions for less impervious areas.</p>	
	<p>The Unitary Plan requires new development on existing sites to provide stormwater retention tanks so that the peak flow remains the same after the new development is complete.</p>	
	<p>The introduction of a zinc levy was proposed for stormwater off zinc roofs, but this was not adopted.</p>	
	<p>Various ideas have been considered at officer level but many of them are very political. There is scope for future Unitary Plan changes where variations could be sought to implement some of</p>	

**NO.****ITEM****ACTION**

these ideas.

The piping of streams is now a non complying activity under the Unitary Plan which encourages developers to keep open water courses. Off set mitigation can be used for projects, so some of this mitigation could go for mitigation work in the Meola Stream.

Daylighting and wetland development in the Meola catchment is likely to be 10 years away.

At specific sites in the combined sewer area, the stormwater and wastewater is separated within the site but then the separate pipes combine into the public sewer.

Canopy is a project where Healthy Waters are looking at optimum ways to get the least overflows in the combined sewer area. The goal is to develop a business plan for the council.

Retention ponds have been used but not in the densely built up areas. North Shore has reduced its overflows through decades of work including the construction of storage tanks. The formation of the Unitary Council in Auckland has helped in bring the trunk and local sewers under one authority.

Canopy has the Central Interceptor as the spine of the collector sewers. The questions being considered include what is the optimal mix, which areas should be separated, and where should there be argumentation. The plan is to get the conceptual design done now.

Then the question is about funding. Who funds what? This is a similar problem for transportation in Auckland.

This is seen as fresh thinking and is likely to span over decades.

<b>NO.</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
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**4. STEPS**

It was reported that there is a planting day on 21<sup>st</sup> May starting at 10.30am at the Kerr Taylor Reserve.

Sign replacement has been undertaken.

The STEPS AGM is on 27<sup>th</sup> June.

The Mt Albert Grammar School has decided to make a bush trail on their side of the creek. STEPs are supporting this. The track is outside the fence line

**5. Other Matters**

**5.1 Chamberlain Park**

Graeme Easte reported that an update on proposed works is being presented to Council on 31<sup>st</sup> May. This will effect 200 to 250 metres of creek in Chamberlain Park. The plan is to restore this to its original stream course. It was moved when the motorway was constructed and the stream lined with a concrete channel. It is thought that if this is returned to its natural state, fish will return.

**5.3 Other people to be Invited to the meetings**

Liz agreed to follow this up, including someone from Pasadena School.

**6. Next Meeting**

This is proposed for late August 2017. Notification will be sent out once a date is determined.

The Ray Clements Treeway Enhancement Plan will be further developed and then sent out for comment. The timing of the next meeting will be set to consider these comments.

### Ongoing Actions

Meeting Number	Action	Responsibility	Response
1	ESR and St Lukes Apartments to be invited to group	Watercare	Done
1	Discussion on day lighting	Healthy Waters	Discussed at meeting 2
1	Discussion on future creek flows	Healthy Waters	Discussed at meeting 2
1,2	Draft planting plans to be presented	STEPS	
2	Meet with STEPS to discuss best method of communication of plans	Watercare	On going
2	Stormwater from two developments in Meola Creek to be discussed	Healthy Waters	Discussed generally at meeting 3
3	Draft Ray Clements Treeway Enhancement Plan to be developed and distributed for comment	Watercare	
3	Site visit to Artillery Drive (a stormwater tunnel project in Papakura)	Healthy Waters	

3	Discussion of sustainability aspects of CI at next meeting	Watercare	
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