

PLANNING FOR NEW WATER PIPELINE UNDERWAY

Council has started work to confirm the location of the new pipeline that will provide drinking water from the Oamaru Water Treatment Plant to residents in the Herbert, Waianakarua, Hampden and Moeraki areas.

The pipeline is being built to provide the community with water that meets the Government's Drinking Water Standards. It will also ensure a more reliable supply during droughts and floods, and enable growth in the area.

Council decided to build the pipeline last year after considering a range of other options for upgrading the supply and feedback from the community. All going well, the new pipeline will be built and in use in 2017.

Before design and construction can start, we need to identify the route the pipeline will take and make sure the land on that route is suitable.

Confirming the pipeline location

Using aerial photographs, we have recently identified a potential route for the pipeline.

We are planning to build the pipeline through private land wherever possible, rather than through the State Highway corridor. This will significantly reduce the construction time, which will reduce the cost to ratepayers. It is also a safer option for road users and construction crews.

Before we can confirm if this will be the preferred route, our contractors need to do a walk-over survey of the land to determine whether its topography is as it appears on the aerial photographs.

This is because land use may have changed since the photos were taken, and the geology or topography of the land may not be as it appears in the photos.



Accessing private land

Within the next week or so, we will contact everyone who owns property on the potential pipeline route seeking permission to access their land for the walk-over survey.

This visit will involve one surveyor and one engineer walking over the possible pipeline alignment on each property using a GPS to take recordings of ground levels, land use, topography and geology.

Following the visit, our engineers will review all possible pipeline routes and select the one that is the most cost-effective and has the least impact on the community and the environment.

Depending on the results of this review, some of the surveyed properties may not end up being on the preferred pipeline route.

Once the preferred route is confirmed, we will contact affected property owners to negotiate agreement for pipeline construction on their land.

OUR TEAM

To make sure the pipeline is completed on time and on budget, and to get the best outcome for the community, we have assembled a highly experienced team.

Rationale

Rationale Ltd, an Otago-based company, have considerable experience with large infrastructure projects and are managing the pipeline project on Council's behalf.

Fluent Solutions

Fluent Solutions, the Otago-based company whose staff were responsible for the design and project management of the Oamaru Water Treatment Plant and other major infrastructure projects, will undertake the pipeline design.

Rationale and Fluent will be supported with advice and information from Council engineers and community representatives, including members of the Rural Water Supply Sub-Committees.

Once the design work is completed, a contractor will be appointed next year to build the pipeline.



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KEEPING YOU INFORMED

We will keep you informed with newsletter updates as the project progresses.

For information on the project and more regular updates, visit Council's website:



www.waitaki.govt.nz

If you would like to contact us directly about the project, please email:



h2ourhealth@waitaki.govt.nz



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