

# **Hauraki Rail Trail - Kopu to Kaiaua Project Update**

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<b>TO</b>	Economic Development Committee
<b>FROM</b>	Greg Hampton - Area Manager Thames
<b>DATE</b>	18 August 2016
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Hauraki Rail Trail - Kopu to Kaiaua Project Update</b>

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## **1 Purpose of Report**

The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the Hauraki Rail Trail - Kopu to Kaiaua project (K2K).

## **2 Background**

The Hauraki Rail Trail project is one of the original seven "quick start" Nga Haerenga - NZ Cycle Trail projects initiated by the Ministry of Tourism in July 2009. The project concept was originally initiated and led by Hauraki District Council (HDC) in partnership with Thames-Coromandel District Council (TCDC) and then Matamata-Piako District Council (MPDC). The partnering councils agreed to joint fund the project with external funding being secured from central government.

The trail project was split into two stages due to financial constraints. The existing Stage One trail section is formed between Thames, Paeroa, Te Aroha and Waihi. Stage Two of the project is for construction of a trail from Kopu to Kaiaua (K2K) which will complete the originally agreed cycle trail concept.

Hauraki District Council is project managing the construction of the K2K trail section under an agreement with TCDC.

## **3 Issue**

This report provides an update on the K2K trail construction progress.

## **4 Discussion**

The K2K trail construction has experienced delays in construction through the winter due to weather and wet ground conditions. Bridge construction has been able to continue but trail construction is currently on hold. At the time of report writing, the Piako River bridge clip-on was scheduled to be tendered by HDC in the following week on behalf of NZTA. An update of progress and financials can be found in the HDC Project Status Report for June and July 2016 (Attachment A). The financials contained in the report are as at end of June.

A stakeholder working group meeting was held to collect stories for information and interpretation signage across the K2K trail. The signage plan is still under development and a draft will be presented to the Trust and Councils in the coming months.

The main risks to the project continue to be:

- Weather causing delays to completion of the trail surface in time for the originally proposed opening date of October 2016 (revised opening date of December 2016) and;

- Failure to secure external funding for the final section Miranda to Kopu. In this event cyclists will still be able to traverse the road from Kaiaua to the start of the formed trail.

## **5 Suggested Resolution(s)**

That the Economic Development Committee receives the 'Hauraki Rail Trail - Kopu to Kaiaua project Update' report dated 18 August 2015.

## **References-Tabled/Agenda Attachments**

***Attachment A*** *K2K - Project Status Report*

*Attachment A*  
Attachment A - K2K - Project Status Report