

## Notes from a meeting held via ZOOM with KCSRA, Council and Marlborough Roads on 1 March 2022

**Attendees:** Mark Wheeler (CEO), Dean Heiford (Group Recovery Manager), Richard Coningham (MDC Assets and Services Manager) and Steve Murrin (General Manager Marlborough Roads); Andrew Caddie (President KCSRA) and KCSRA Committee members - Alistair Cameron, Adrian Harvey, Kevin Bright and Stefan Schulz (KCSRA Treasurer).

An agenda had been prepared and circulated by KCSRA earlier. KCSRA acknowledged that Kenpuru Road represented a significant area of work as a consequence of the July Storm event there but other Marlborough road networks eg Queen Charlotte Drive, Awatere Valley etc were also adversely impacted by the July event.

### Summary points

- 1. Ongoing Communication:** KCSRA noted that after some early hiccups the Councils communication channels to the affected communities had improved eg through the use of the weekly MRRT recovery bulletins. KCSRA requested that in the recovery phase this effort be maintained. KCSRA also reminded Council of its public undertaking to inform the wider community, with a public meeting, once the recovery program of works and approach was sorted.
- 2. CDEM Act:** It was noted that Dean and Marianne Atiken's roles as CDEM Act Group Recovery Managers were in the wind down phase with a transfer to Richard's team but there would be continuing overlap as various outstanding administrative matters/projects were attended to under the CDEM Act umbrella.
- 3. Generation of the detailed Program of Works Plan:** Steve advised preparation of this Plan (broken down by fault and with the proposed detailed design work for the subject fault) was well in hand and would be with Council - ideally a couple of weeks prior to Easter.
- 4. Funding:** Council took KCSRA through where things were at funding wise with central government (NZTA) and their understandings around the release of the next tranche (\$17 million). This was to be approved (hopefully) by the NZTA board mid April. Richard pointed KCSRA (and later provided a link) to the Marlborough Roads Recovery update report presented to MDC Councilors last week on this topic.
- 5. Road Service Level:** Steve outlined the work underway (a two stage process) to arrive at how the finalized/ongoing level of service or road capability would be arrived at. Richards and Steve's paper to Councilors' (point 4 above) refer to this as a - considering asset optimization options. General discussion took place as to the various trade offs and considerations to be worked through in this process. Steve indicated a target date of August for finalization of this work stream.

**6. Critical Faults on the Kenepuru Road discussion:** In addition to the four critical faults identified by KCSRA in the agenda Steve also noted another critical fault at RP 12.6. Alistair sought discussion on how the suggestions put forward by Mr Scott Watson as to a light weight wall system at the Portage /Torea Bay turn off drop out were being considered. Steve assured the meeting all options including Mr Watson's input were being considered.

Adrian, in the context of road service levels, initiated a discussion on the operational issues and short comings around the long term viability of barging of heavy stock and fertilizer trucks eg., weather related uncertainties, inadequate barging infrastructure, saltwater contamination to trucks and so on. Dean agreed the need for more consideration to be given to the suitability of marshaling areas available at both Fish Bay and Havelock, stock yard facilities and so on.

Mark made it clear that issues around heavy and ongoing traffic in terms of finalized road service levels would be something that they would have detailed discussions with Federated Farmers and Forestry representatives.

Andrew noted suggestions of surprise in some quarters at the likes of KCSRA wanting to access and be involved in the detail of the repair work rather than just wait for the work to be completed in due course. He noted the KCSRA position was based on a long history of issues around road maintenance and repair work being carried out in a competent, timely and cost effective manner.

He used the Solomon drop out area as a recent example as to why shortcomings there around the failure of aspects of recent remedial work colored and underlined their realization that a high level of involvement was required. Alistair also noted that some of these critical fault sites on K Road had a history of faults and then failure of the repair work and he was keen to take this opportunity break this cycle.

In this regard Andrew noted that in view of the importance to KCSRA members of securing a secure, reliable and safe Kenepuru road at the end of the recovery phase the Committee had decided to strengthen how it would structure its involvement.

Going forward Alistair Cameron would be the lead KCSRA operational person with Andrew providing higher-level administrative and strategic assistance and advice. The Council and MDC would appreciate that, as an experienced civil contractor, Alistair would be keen to have more on site meetings as matters progressed. KCSRA hoped that MDC/MR and the FH/Hebs JV staff would see this as a positive development.

**7. Availability of Gravel resource:** Steve outlined what MR was doing or planning in terms of sourcing ongoing supplies/access to gravel. KCSRA noted the vital importance of the availability of this resource to the road recovery operations and its past involvement with assisting MR source Kenepuru based gravel eg at Taradale. Some discussion ensued as to accessing river based sources and the difficulties therein. KCSRA

supported and encouraged Council to use innovative approaches to get past these obstacles given the extraordinary circumstances we were facing following the severe damage and disruption/stress wrought on the Kenepuru Road network and the affected community by the July storm event.

The meeting concluded with an expression of appreciation to Steve from KCSRA for his work to date in stressful and trying circumstances.

Andrew Caddie  
President KCSRA  
2 March 2022