

## EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS: KAIHU VALLEY TRAIL

<b>Project Name</b>	Kaihu Valley Trail	<b>Date of Report</b>	02/03/2021
<b>Current Phase</b>	Planning and Design	<b>Project Manager</b>	Jody Kelly

<b>COMPONENT</b>	Schedule	Amber	Budget	Amber	Risks/Issues	Amber
<b>PREV. MONTH</b>	Schedule	Amber	Budget	Amber	Risks/Issues	Amber

**Comment** (mandatory if status indicator red or amber)

Schedule is currently Amber to reflect the delay in construction start. This has been due to the requirement to source training funding elsewhere, find suitable candidates and prepare a suitable training package prior to appointing head contractor. Candidate training is now scheduled for April enabling the construction start date of May 2021.

Budget is currently Amber due to the open risk regarding landowner acceptance. Land easements and negotiations have commenced, putting Budget to Amber status until all sections are finalised.

Risks/ issues is currently Amber in reflection of the above and due to several new issues and risks, noting these could impact Schedule also.

OVERALL BUDGET (\$)	CURRENT FY BUDGET (\$)	SPEND TO DATE (\$)	BUDGET SPENT TO DATE (%)
4,000,000	628,000	129,588	3.2%
<b>PROJECT FUNDING ALLOCATIONS</b>			
Infrastructure Reference Group (IRG)			\$4,000,000
Provincial Growth Fund (PGF)			\$ -
Kaipara District Council			\$ -
Other (e.g. Waka Kotahi)			\$ -
<b>PROJECT BUDGET BY PHASE</b>			
INVESTIGATION (\$)	DESIGN (\$)	CONSTRUCTION (\$)	
540,840	275,000	3,184,160	
<b>COMMENT</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current FY budget is reflective of the delay in procuring Head Contractor</li> <li>Additional funding is being sourced to enable the training package between Wilsons Earthmoving (to be Head Contractor) and Ministry of Social Development (MSD)</li> <li>Waka Kotahi has put the KVT Ahikiwi Bridge and State Highway Crossings forward for funding under low risk/low cost projects, the outcome of this application should be expected April 2021</li> </ul>			

## PROJECT BACKGROUND

In Oct 2020, MBIE allocated \$4m of funding from the Infrastructure Reference Group (IRG) fund to construct sections of the Kaihu Valley Trail.

The \$4m funding allocation is less than the \$9m+ estimate of the original Business Case and it has been noted that it will not be possible to create a fully segregated facility at this stage. The allocated funding will deliver a 36km walking and cycle trail, providing a higher quality journey between Dargaville and Donnelly's Crossing. The track will form part of a longer planned 'Ancient Kauri Trail', eventually progressing from Maungaturoto to the southern headland of the Hokianga Harbour.

## UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH – LAST MONTH'S ACTIVITIES

- Training package negotiations progressing between Ministry of Social Development (MSD) and Wilsons Earthmoving (Head Contractor & Training Provider)
- MSDs trainee selection process has identified 7 suitable candidates, 2 are confirmed from Te Roroa
- Scheduled and confirmed candidate training slot of April 2021 (post Easter)
- Waka Kotahi engaged to identify possible funding opportunities within the trail and initial application submitted
- Landowner agreements are ongoing, and the preferred route has been now been presented to Council and the project advisory team
- A Project Reset session was held between Te Roroa and KDC project representatives, which involved a review of our ways of working and outlined alterations required to ensure the project is a true partnership. To provide the opportunity to reflect and amend, several activities have been placed on hold until the revised ways of operating are place
- The Ministry of Education (MoE) has identified KVT as a suitable project to provide a vocational focused event, targeting school aged children 10-14 years. MoE have offered to fund \$3,000 towards a Career Expo (to be held before July 21) for the Kaipara Community, with the overall objective to encourage our tamariki to stay in school and consider a variety of pathways available within the infrastructure sector

## ACTIVITIES GOING FORWARD – THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES

- Progress re-set activities as identified through the Te Roroa & KDC project re-set session
- Training package solution finalised and contract in place between relevant parties
- Trainee candidates to undergo a screening process with the Training Facilitator
- Candidate training underway, scheduled for April 2021
- Cultural Impact/Values Assessment underway
- Surveying & Geotechnical investigations to commence
- Traffic engineering on state highway crossings to commence
- Resource consent lodgement (pending outcomes of CIA)
- Preferred route shared with community
- Procurement plan for bridges design and build developed
- Kaihu Valley Trail information site (website) live
- Response anticipated from Waka Kotahi (NZTA) re. funding application (due April/May)
- MoE Career expo opportunity further investigated within the Project team and concepts developed

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / MEDIA ACTIVITY PLANNED – NEXT TWO MONTHS

- An information sheet has been drafted to complement the draft route map, this is to be shared with the Project Team for endorsement prior to circulating to affected landowners and the wider community
- Feedback from the community is that communications about KVT have been “stop and start” for the last few years and people want more information and someone to contact. We are engaging with every landowner along the Trail (where contact details are known) to introduce the projects Community Engagement Advisor as primary contact.
- Site visits are ongoing with highly affected landowners. Follow up visits are to be made once sketches are available. Thank you, emails are, bring sent out after site visits to thank owners for their time, to summarise the discussions had and to provide them with Community Engagement Advisor contacts details.
- 29 March 2021 is the Anniversary of when the last train travelled along the Rail Corridor in 1959. We hope to use that date to share the history and tell the community how KVT plans to recycle the use of the corridor to provide a recreational experience for residents and domestic tourists and an opportunity to boost economic development in Kaipara.
- MoE Career expo opportunity to be further investigated with the potential to hold an expo before the end of June 21

### DECISION PAPERS SUBMITTED: PENDING DECISION

- None

PROJECT MILESTONES	STAUS (R, A G)	BASELINE (PLANNED) COMPLETION DATE)	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	COMMENTS (MANDATORY IF STATUS INDICATOR RED OR AMBER)
Contract executed	Complete	Complete	Complete	
Award professional service contracts	Complete	Complete	Complete	
Obtain all consents	Amber	Dec 2020	May 2021	The extent of resource consent requirements require refinement and are reliant on CIA input
Award physical works contract	Amber	Dec 2020	March 2021	Dependant on confirmation of Training Package
Construction commencement	Amber	Jan 2021	May 2021	Delay forecast to allow time for training of resource (scheduled for April 21)
Construction complete	Green	Oct 2022	Oct 2022	Completion not anticipated to slip as result of delayed construction start
Opening Event	Green	Nov 2022	Nov 2022	

OPEN PROJECT RISKS	PREV MONTH (R,A,G)	STATUS (R,A,G)	OWNER	COMMENTS
There is a risk regarding achieving landowner agreements for proposed route	Amber	Amber	Jody Kelly	Site visits commenced and individual engagements with impacted landowners underway
There is a risk the scope of works for the preferred route may impact schedule or exceed budget	Amber	Amber	Jody Kelly	Implications of route will be closely monitored to ensure achievable within budget and schedule
There is a risk of negative community response to a preferred route	Amber	Amber	Jody Kelly	Te Roroa have indicated concerns surrounding community buy-in to the route. A review of the community engagement strategy is underway.
There is a risk of insufficient trainees to meet the required programme of works	Amber	Green	Jody Kelly	7 candidates identified, screening to be progressed
There is a risk the budget will be insufficient	Green	Amber	Jody Kelly	Funding to support high risk sections has applied for through NZTA Waka Kotahi and discussions with MSD regarding training funding support are still underway. The preferred route option has some new alignments that require pricing.
A property is for sale which was programmed for stage one works and there is a risk the transfer of ownership may impact the programme	New risk	Amber	Jody Kelly	The project team is trying to contact the new owner. Works related to this property may need to be pushed out in the programme, which would incur more establishment/disestablish costs this way.
There is a risk that Te Roroa are not brought into the project team as true partners resulting in a loss of confidence in the relationship and risk to overall project success.	New Risk	Amber	Jody Kelly	<p>The project re-set resulted in clear direction for change within the project, which will be actioned promptly by the team.</p> <p>The current pause on operations whilst the project team re-establishes ways of working (as per the Te Roroa re-set session) impacts the overall project delivery timeframe</p>

OPEN PROJECT ISSUES	PREV MONTH (R,A,G)	STATUS (R,A,G)	OWNER	COMMENTS
The training programme and funding continues to be under negotiation	Amber	Amber	Jody Kelly	This issue is being mitigated through supporting negotiations between with MSD and Wilsons Earthmoving
A landowner objection to a section of the route has been received, alongside a request that no KDC staff (or related) access to property	Red	Amber	Jody Kelly	Proposed that DoC take a lead on this section given they have ownership. Meeting with DoC in March.  Project team will continue working in respect to the landowner request (alongside DoC) and will progress with a view of identifying a mutual solution