

12 November 2024

OIA IRO-776

Tēnā koe

Request for information – Willow Park upgrade

I refer to your email of 14 October 2024 asking for the following:

1. *What is the additional cost of:*
 - *Constructing the board walk.*
 - *Preparing the groundwork for the concrete path then “deconstructing” that work and restoring the ground to a grassed area.*
2. *who approved the initial plan and budget for a concrete path and why that was subsequently changed to a board walk with the consequent additional cost.*

Your request is responded to in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA – the Act) 1987.

The cost of the boardwalk, the concrete path connections either side is \$160,000, which was managed within the overall project budget.

The initial project scope included a boardwalk which was replaced by a concrete path prior to construction to reduce costs. The storm events during construction, including the event in August, prompted a review of this decision due to risks of interrupting and reducing stormwater storage and flow through the reserve. The health and safety of park users and pedestrians was also considered.

In collaboration with Upper Hutt City Council it was decided to add the original boardwalk back in to the construction scope to align with the Pinehaven Flood Management Plan's objective to 'maintain or improve recreation use or community accessibility in the area'.

The excavation already completed for the concrete path was used as a path to move equipment during construction of the boardwalk to reduce the impact to the surrounding grassed and landscaped area.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly at <https://www.wellingtonwater.co.nz/about-us/official-requests/official-information-act-responses/> with your personal information removed.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to email us at official.information@wellingtonwater.co.nz

Nāku noa, nā



Group Manager
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