



Walk from Wellington to heighten awareness of the need for disaster recovery planning

Situation

Emergency disaster planners predict the possibility/probability of a major incident, which will affect the Wellington region resulting in serious damage to infrastructure. Recovery may be slow and people must be prepared to take care of themselves for several days or longer.

Of particular concern is the thousands of Johnsonville, Tawa, Porirua, Mana and Kapiti residents who commute to Wellington daily and damage to roads is likely to mean the only way home from Wellington for them will be on foot. This project will provide up to 150 commuters with the opportunity of testing their equipment and ability to complete the walk.

While it is well understood that in a real disaster a direct route via damaged roads even on foot may be difficult, this exercise will at least give an indication of the reality of such a journey.

Mission

1. To heighten awareness of the need for workers in Wellington of the necessity to have to walk 50+km home, following a major disaster.
2. To provide an opportunity for workers to experience for themselves, the reality of such a walk
3. To better understand and test what emergency equipment would be needed to facilitate the journey.
4. To reach a wide audience through media coverage of the event to encourage better personal disaster planning.

Execution

Phase 1: The walk will commence at Wellington Railway Station [at 9am](#) on a Saturday and follow the seaward side of the Old Hutt Road to Ngauranga Gorge, up the gorge, through Johnsonville, along the Old Porirua Road to Takapu Road, through Tawa to Porirua (utilising the Kenepuru Stream Walkway), cross the motorway ramp at the north end of Porirua and follow the walkways via Paremata Railway Station to Ngatitua Domain, where the first day's walk will terminate

Risk points identified to date include crossing highway at the bottom of Ngauranga Gorge, negotiating the roundabout at the north end of the Johnsonville shops, lack of a footpath on part of Old Porirua Road north of Churton Park

Phase 2

Assemble at Ngatitua Domain [at 9am](#). The walk will then the walkway which runs through to Plimmerton, then utilising the walkway up and over the Pukerua Bay Hill, follow the footpath along the Centennial Highway into Ames Street at Paekakariki, through the village, along The Parade, through the Queen Elizabeth Park walkway to Raumati, along Raumati Beach, and finish at the Marine Gardens to a Mayoral welcome and BBQ.

Registration

To register visit www.enteronline.co.nz

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