

CASE STUDY

OAK AVENUE SLIP REPAIR

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INTRODUCTION

In October 2017, Abseil Access was engaged by Porirua City Council to stabilise a slip below a house on Kenef Road, Whitby, which posed a risk of undercutting the property and causing rockfalls onto Oak Avenue—a busy bus route. The works were designed by Engeo (Wellington) in collaboration with 41 South. The objective was to install a soil-nailed rockfall mesh wall to prevent further erosion while minimising disruption to traffic.

PROCESS

To accelerate progress, traffic control was managed by Traffic Management NZ, and drilling operations were supported by both a Canter truck with mounted crane and a crane truck—enabling the installation of 13 anchors in a single day. The design specified RB25 galvanised bars installed 4–5m deep into weathered greywacke at maximum 2m spacing, with the anchor layout following the natural undulations of the slope to keep the Macmat R mesh tight to the face. Two sacrificial test anchors were drilled and tested to 254kN to confirm rock strength and validate the design.

OUTCOME

The project was completed within the 3-week programme, meeting all quality assurance and health & safety requirements. The completed structure provided secure slope stabilisation and rockfall protection while successfully minimising traffic disruption along Oak Avenue.

