

REFERENCE PROJECT Geotechnical (Rockfall Protection)

Location: PCC – Oak Avenue, Whitby, Porirua
Date: October 2017
Client: PCC (Porirua City Council)
Consultant: Engeo (Wellington Office) / 41 South

A slip below a house on Kenef Road threatened to undercut the house. Abseil Access was awarded the project to install 30 soil nails with a Macmat R rockfall mesh wall to prevent further erosion and rockfalls onto Oak Avenue below.

Works were to be completed as quickly as possible so as to minimise the impact on the traffic along Oak Avenue – a busy bus route. Traffic control was contracted to Traffic Management NZ. The Canter truck with mounted crane as well as a crane truck were used very successfully to expedite the drilling works. In one day 13 anchors were drilled!

The design incorporated RB25 galvanised bars 4-5m deep into the weathered greywacke rock at a maximum spacing of 2m. The anchor layout was formed to follow the ground undulations and keep the mesh tight over the rock face.

Two sacrificial test anchors were installed and tested to 254kN so as to confirm the rock characteristics for the anchor design.

The works were completed within the 3 week timeframe, and successfully adhered to all the QA and H&S requirements.

