

Word of the Street

Autumn Edition



CBD Upgrade Update

We are pleased to see the Esk Street project now starting to take shape after what seems a long time. The Contractor, Fulton Hogan, has started at Dee Street and is looking to complete the work in stages. By working in stages we hope to minimise the impact on everyone.

Stage 1, which includes the planting of the first area, is to be completed by April 3. Stage 2 will see the middle area completed by April 10. Stage 3A (the pocket park northside), will begin after Easter and includes excavation and reshaping of the road and laying the foundations for stone walls, shelters and surface paving.

The Stage 3A work will require having a traffic lane narrowed and moved slightly south. Access to underground car parking and potential truck access to the street will be discussed with businesses when planning for the work is being carried out in the next few weeks. Stage 3B (the pocket park southside), will see everything finished for the pocket park including all stone walls, paving, decking, structures and plantings, with a goal end date of late May.

We are pleased with how the public and Contractor have been working safely together. We have been able to work through those few complaints we have had and Fulton Hogan and their sub-contractors have chosen to work some evenings to get areas

underway where this would have caused access and traffic issues.

The positive feedback we have been receiving is great and the vision we have for the project is now becoming clear as the areas work towards completion. We are looking in detail at what happens when we start on the pocket park outside the Cambridge Place Arcade and how we need to manage traffic as this will create a reasonably congested area.

We have also been working with PowerNet to coordinate changes to their cables and we are positioning their new power boxes in suitable areas at the same time.

We look forward to completing the project and creating a great area for people visiting and working in the Inner City to enjoy.

Update from Council's Team Leader for Capital Projects Simon Collie.



Simon Collie



Fulton Hogan Southland thanks Esk Street businesses for patience.



With works in Esk Street well under way, Fulton Hogan is pleased to be associated with this exciting project and would like to thank the business owners and their customers for their patience and assistance through the project so far.

We hope that our efforts to minimise disruption but still have a safe work environment have not caused too many problems for everyone. We have found everyone very accommodating - realising that we need to get the job done. We appreciate that at times we make extra noise and restrict some areas but hopefully everyone is starting to see what the finished areas will look like.

Esk Street is a busy place and trying to get our work done safely and quickly and to a high standard whilst not disrupting the businesses is a very complex balancing act.

Our project approach was to start at Dee Street and divide the work up so we could concentrate on one area and finish it rather than having a huge open area.

The project is tracking well and we are happy with progress so far. We expect to have all the works complete by the end of May. If anyone has any issues they are welcome to contact us on 0272 802 516 to discuss them and see if we can find a good outcome.

Geoff Gray

Project Manager for Esk Street
Fulton Hogan Southland



Timeline for Esk Street Upgrade

Stage 1: Dee Street

Improvements are nearing completion and planting of the first area is planned to be finished by April 3.

Stage 2: Middle Area

The foundations will be started and are planned to be finished and planted out by April 10.

Stage 3A: Park Area

Work will begin on this section and will be moved across the site. Foundations will be laid for the building of half the park area and shelters. Exact timing is to be expected by early May.





Invercargill
CBD EXTRAVAGANZA
 FRIDAY MARCH 27 2015

INVERCARGILL CBD EXTRAVAGANZA
Fun, shopping and activities!

Do you remember late night Friday shopping in Invercargill? Well join us for a trip down memory lane as Invercargill once again comes alive on a Friday night. The CBD Extravaganza will provide a mix of activity, shopping and fun - things to see, do and experience. Dress up in your favourite era costume; check out the heritage window displays; have a go at our scavenger hunt; and enter our selfie competition. There will be vintage cars, old movie screenings, street performances, music, an antique roadshow, opportunities to reminisce and lots more.

› **WHEN** Friday 27 March
 › **TIME** 5pm - 9pm
 › **WHERE** Invercargill CBD
 › **CONTACT** Becs Amundsen, phone 027 225 2664 or email: southlandheritageforum@extra.co.nz

CBD Extravaganza

This fun family event is being held this Friday night, March 27 from 5-9pm. It's not too late to get involved, and the easiest way is to extend your open hours.

There will be a wide range of activities happening around the CBD including demonstrations, displays, competitions, horse and cart rides and entertainment.

The CBD activities will be held within the boundaries of Tay Street, from the Civic Theatre to the Crescent; Dee Street to E Hayes & Sons; Esk Street from the Scottish Hall; Kelvin Street; and the one way section of Don Street.

A map identifying where the activity is happening has been created for distribution to the public. It also includes the treasure hunt for young people.

For more information check out our Heritage South Facebook page, www.facebook.com/HeritageSouthNZ or scan the QR code below.

We are grateful to all our supporters and sponsors who are helping to make this a great fun and family friendly event including the ICC and the ILT Foundation. We are also grateful to all the businesses who are taking the opportunity to get involved.



Pocket Park, Northside

ection after Easter. Traffic road to enable the and still have traffic flow. for the stone walls and being finalised but it's

The Stage 3 work is the most detailed. For work to continue the traffic lane will be narrowed and moved south. Access to underground car parking and truck access to the street will be discussed with businesses as the work is planned out in the next few weeks.

Stage 3B: Pocket Park Southside

Early May work will begin to complete the Pocket Park and with arrangements for the final plantings to be finished late May.





Council examines Earthquake-prone Buildings Survey results

Council has received the results from the Earthquake-prone buildings survey undertaken last year, and Council's Director of Environmental and Planning Services Pamela Gare says they provide a valuable snap shot of what the community thinks.

"A large majority of respondents were residential ratepayers which was part of the wider community response. That was the idea of the survey – to provide us with a snap shot."

"The survey was delivered to all CBD ratepayers, and then subsequently opened to the public. The online survey received 74 responses and the results highlighted two distinct camps of respondents for most questions - either a relatively even split or a strong majority decision," Mrs Gare said.

Approximately 60% of respondents were in favour of making low interest loans available for the strengthening of heritage buildings. Almost 75% of respondents felt the Council should provide a waiver of Council fees (e.g. building consent fees) for earthquake strengthening and 60% of respondents felt the maximum amount the Council should provide as a low interest loan should be \$75,000 (rather than \$25,000 or \$50,000).

Many of the questions received evenly split responses such as; "Should Council provide a grant towards earthquake strengthening?" Following this question, respondents were equally split between choosing one of three total amounts people should receive in grants for their building.

Slightly less than half of the respondents were in favour of seeing grants being available only for strengthening of heritage buildings, while more people were in favour of seeing Council providing low interest loans towards earthquake strengthening of all buildings.



Westpac bank building on the Kelvin/Spey Street corner of the CBD showing an example of earthquake strengthening.

The research questions and proposed options were based on a system that Dunedin City Council had implemented to assist local businesses with earthquake-prone buildings, Mrs Gare said. "The Dunedin City Council designed a series of packages and we are looking to see if any of these would be relevant to Invercargill."

"Not all old buildings are earthquake prone, and some have been strengthened. Some businesses, such as local banks, have been proactive in their buildings being strengthened to meet the requirements. An example of a strong ageing building is the First Church which recently received an 80% pass of the National Building Standard.

"The feedback gave an indication of what locals would like to see when it came to help dealing with earthquake prone buildings in Invercargill, though they would need to wait for the Government to release its decision on changing the Building Act. When legislation changes, we will do specific consultation with CBD owners and occupiers," Mrs Gare said.

