

Join the fun at the ICC Surf to City



WARM UP: Invercargill City Councillors (from left) Darren Ludlow, Toni Biddle, Invercargill Mayor Tim Shadbolt and Alex Crackett warm up ahead of the 2017 ICC Surf to City, to be held on Sunday, 12 March.

THE ICC Surf to City is to be held on Sunday 12 March.

It is a fun, family run/walk or cycle event. You can bike, walk or run 12km, 6km or 3km - it's all about having fun!

The ICC 12km event starts at Oreti Beach, the ILT Foundation 6km starts at Otatara and the Farmlands Fuel-Challenge 3km starts on Bond Street.

All events finish at Queens Park.

To sign up to the event visit www.surftocity.co.nz. The ICC 12km starts at 9.30am; the ILT Foundation 6km starts at 10.15am; the Challenge/Farmlands 3km starts at 10.30am; and the AMI Kids in the City starts at 12.30pm.

The cost is \$10 per adult, \$5 per child (U16), and \$20 for a family (two adults and up to three children).

Please note that a late fee of \$5 per entry applies to anyone entering on the day of the event.

To collect your race number, you can either choose to have your number posted to you when entering online, or alternatively, you will be able to collect your number from Sport Southland (Invercargill and Gore) from March 1.

Buses will be available to transport you to the 12km and 6km start lines (\$2 per person) and depart from Queens Park's Feldwick

Gates and United Video South City.

Please note you cannot take prams or bikes on the buses.

You can also drive to the start lines, however please be aware of road closures. Details on these closures can be found at www.surftocity.co.nz closer to the time.

The AMI Kids in the City is a free, fun, 2.5km run/walk for kids aged under 12 years old. It takes place at the finish line of the ICC Surf to City, and entries will be taken on the day.

If you have items with you at the start line, you can leave them in gear bags which will be available, and Sport Southland staff will

transport these to the finish line for you. Please make sure you clearly mark the bags with your name, phone number and race number.

Bags will be available from the registration tents at the respective start lines and can then be given to Sport Southland staff.

The event is not open to dogs, other than service dogs.

You will not receive an official race time as it's not a timed event. It's about taking part and having fun!

There will be a clock at the finish line, so if you take note of what time you start you should be able to work out your time.

Queens Park sewerage line renewal begins



QUEENS Park users are being asked to take care around repair works which have started on the foul sewer line which crosses Queens Park.

Work on the line, which extends from Queens Drive to Kelvin Street, will be done in two stages and is expected to be completed in May.

The St Andrew's Track (between Queens Drive and Coronation Avenue) will be closed from February until the end of March to complete Stage One, and people will need to use alternate routes.

Following this, Stage Two will start and is expected to be completed in May. This part

of the line runs from Coronation Avenue to Kelvin Street. Park tracks will be unaffected but people are advised to avoid areas of work. Information boards will be placed in the park to tell people about the works.

Council's Drainage and Solid Waste Manager Malcolm Loan said the project was part of the Council's Sewerage Renewal Strategy.

"This will help to ensure that Invercargill continues to be provided with reliable and high-standard infrastructure. We appreciate that park users will be inconvenienced during the project, and thank them for their patience," Mr Loan said.

Have your say!

Make a submission with your views on the following:

* **Teviot Street Reserve Freehold Proposal**

For more information and submission details, visit the Council's website at: www.icc.govt.nz

Southlanders rally for fair electricity transmission pricing



SOUTHLAND'S four local authorities are encouraging Southlanders to give feedback on an electricity transmission pricing review, which would see them pay less for power compared to the current charges which benefit consumers further north.

The four councils (Gore District Council, Invercargill City Council, Environment Southland and Southland District Council) are asking people to support their four-week Facebook campaign, and to make submissions to the Electricity Authority's review of the Transmission Pricing Methodology.

The Electricity Authority started the review in 2015. Submissions are now open and close at 5pm, Friday 24 February.

Most of New Zealand's electricity is generated from renewable energy sources that exist in remote areas, including Manapouri, and generators in the South Island currently pay the whole cost of transporting electricity between the North and South Islands.

Currently North Island users consume 80 percent of New Zealand's power, but are only charged for 66 percent of transmission charges. The proposed review would see power grid investments occur only as they were needed, and these would only be charged to the areas using them, meaning fairer prices for consumers in other areas, like Southland.

Invercargill Mayor Tim Shadbolt said the current pricing undermined one of Southland's major advantages of close proximity to hydro power generation and it was grossly unfair for Southlanders.

"Currently Southland power stations supply a large amount to the national grid, but Southland businesses miss out on the benefits from it. It is unfair to expect our local



Should Southland homes be charged more for electricity transmission costs than those further north?

NO



YES

ABOVE: Southland's four local authorities are asking people to provide feedback to the Electricity Authority's submission process on transmission pricing. Submissions close at 5pm, Friday 24 February.

businesses to pay millions of dollars annually towards grid upgrades and infrastructure they don't use.

"It's a double whammy. Southlanders have to pay the full cost of getting commodities like fuel to Southland but also have to subsidise the cost of electricity transmission to the North Island," Mr Shadbolt said.

Gore District Mayor Tracy Hicks said it was an important issue not only for the Gore District and Southland, but all of New Zealand.

"What we are seeking is simply something that delivers fairness and equity. That's not how the present system works and that needs to change," Mr Hicks said.

Southland District Mayor Gary Tong said the South just wanted a fair go.

"Southlanders shouldn't have to pay more

than their fair share in transmission costs – not subsidising costs for people living further north, especially when we pay more for other things because of where we live.

"Southlanders need to make their voice heard, and join us in calling for a change," Mr Tong said.

Environment Southland chairman Nicol Horrell said the situation as it stood wasn't conducive to enabling prosperity in the region. "This is a regional issue and it's important we unite strongly to ensure Southland gets a fair deal on transmission pricing," Mr Horrell said.

To make a submission to the Electricity Authority, visit www.ea.govt.nz. Submissions close at 5pm, Friday 24 February. Further information can be found on each Council's website. Visit www.icc.govt.nz for more information.

Work starts on Kelvin/Herbert Street intersection

COUNCIL is asking drivers to take care at the corner of Kelvin and Herbert Streets as work to install traffic lights at the intersection starts, in a bid to reduce accidents at the corner and reduce delays.

The work, undertaken by contractor Fulton Hogan, will occur in several stages and is expected to be completed by the end of March. They will start by installing ducting within the road and footpaths, followed by a number of road pavement repairs. The signal poles, controller and lanterns will be installed, followed by the road markings to

complete the work.

Russel Street, between Herbert and Lewis Streets, will be closed to traffic throughout most of the project to increase safety by having less traffic-turning movements through the work site. Right-turning traffic into Herbert Street from Kelvin Street will be restricted for the majority of works. Following completion of the road works, traffic will only be able to enter and leave Russel Street by a left turn.

Council's Roding Manager Russell Pearson said once complete the intersec-

tion would provide right-turning traffic on both Herbert and Kelvin Streets with much safer travel options.

"Motorists will not have to make those difficult decisions if there is insufficient space between cars to make a safe turn. The traffic signals will also help ease traffic issues during the busy morning and afternoon periods," Mr Pearson said.

Property owners in the area have been contacted and the contractor will continue to advise them of any access or parking changes.



Council meetings

Notice is hereby given of the following meetings:

- Community Services**
Monday, 20 February, 4pm
- Regulatory Services Committee**
Tuesday, 21 February, 4pm
- Infrastructure and Services Committee**
Monday, 27 February, 4pm
- Finance and Policy**
Tuesday, 28 February, 4pm
- Events Committee**
Thursday, 2 March, 9am
- Council**
Tuesday, 7 March, 4pm
- Child, Youth and Family Friendly Sub-Committee**
Monday, 13 March, 4pm
- Bluff Community Board**
Monday, 20 March, 7pm
- Community Services**
Monday, 27 March, 4pm
- Regulatory Services**
Tuesday, 28 March, 4pm
- Resource Consent Hearing**
Wednesday, 29 March, 9am

Council meetings are held in the Council Chambers, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, 101 Esk Street, Invercargill and the Bluff Community Board meet at the Municipal Chambers in Bluff.
- www.icc.govt.nz



For more about the Council's Community News items contact the Communications Department on 03 211 1777.

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