

Esk Street reversal: So far, so good



ABOVE: Traffic Management Services Ltd staff member Emma Hill, with ICC staff Russell Pearson and David McCormick, as well as her colleague Lindsay Morton, on Esk Street.
PHOTO: Daniel Tobin/ICC

THE reversal of Esk Street has so far “gone exceptionally well,” Invercargill City Council Roding Manager Russell Pearson says.

Since Saturday, March 23, detours and alternative access routes were implemented throughout the inner-city to ensure public safety during demolition of buildings on the corner of Don and Dee Streets, resulting in the closure of Dee Street from Don to Esk Street.

Alternative access routes included Don Street being temporarily two-way, and Esk Street’s one-way system being reversed so motorists travelled from Kelvin Street to Dee Street, instead of from Dee Street to Kelvin Street.

Temporary parking spaces have also been created on Esk Street.

The changes were put in place to maintain business access during this phase of the project.

Mr Pearson said people had taken to the temporary reversal well.

“We were pretty happy to see Esk Street full of parked vehicles on Saturday,” he said.

However, it was important that both motorists and pedestrians took care and were considerate while using Esk Street.

“This is a significant departure from the norm, and it’s easy to fall back into habit and forget that traffic is now travelling in a different direction.”

Meanwhile, some BusSmart services are also affected, with bus stops being moved.

“We have had some issues with motorists not realising the bus stop outside the Library is not available for parking,” Mr Pearson said.

Mr Pearson asked that everyone remember these changes are temporary, with everything expected to return to normal from this Sunday, April 7.

More information on the temporary changes is available at www.icc.govt.nz

Works in Windsor progressing well



THOSE visiting Windsor in recent days will have noticed changes to works on King Street.

As part of a large project which will soon include Windsor Street, works on King Street are progressing well.

King Street, between Antrim and Dublin Streets, is now open to vehicles, with stormwater connections completed.

While the road is expected to remain open in this area, the footpath on the northern side of King Street will soon be closed while the kerb and channel is renewed.

King Street, between Antrim and Windsor Street, is currently closed to traffic.

This closure is likely to be in place for some time, until work to replace stormwater and foul sewer networks begins in Windsor Street, starting April 15.

The wider project is to renew the stormwater and foul sewer network, and is expected to continue until October.

Stage one began in February, in King Street, and has involved drainage work and footpath renewals.

The second stage will be renewal of the foul sewer and stormwater network (in the same trench) on Windsor Street between Herbert Street and King Street.

The third stage of the project will be the renewal of the stormwater network on Catherine Street.

Council is working closely with businesses in the area to limit disruption as much as possible.

For regular updates on the project, visit www.icc.govt.nz or www.facebook.com/invercargillwordonthestreet

Water main renewal in Dee Street continues

WORK to replace Invercargill's ageing water mains network is continuing along Dee Street.

The project began in February, near the intersection of Victoria Avenue and Dee Street.

The work affects the southbound lane closest to the centre plot.

With the work being undertaken block-by-block, contractors are currently working between Leet and Yarrow Streets, however the lane remains closed from Gala Street. This is to allow for the NZ Transport Agency contractors to come in and put down new asphalt across the entire lane.

This work is weather dependant, and likely to take several weeks. Please obey all road signs and take care, particularly given the amount of works happening throughout the inner-city at present.

The project to replace the 250mm asbestos cement water mains, which were installed in the 1950s, was originally planned for 2023, but was brought forward to coincide with the demolition work happening at the corner of Dee and Don Streets for the new ILT Hotel, as well as the proposed HWCP development.

The water mains renewal project includes Dee, Tay, and Clyde Streets.

The water mains which are being replaced are a critical part of Invercargill's network, so it's vital we upgrade this essential infrastructure to help protect and future-proof the city's access to its water supply.

For regular updates on the project, visit www.icc.govt.nz or www.facebook.com/invercargillwordonthestreet



ABOVE: SouthRoads contractors with a new water main connection in Dee Street.

Introducing: Shru Shrivastava, our new City Centre Co-ordinator

Following positive feedback from businesses, staff, and the general public, Invercargill City Council has appointed a new City Centre Co-ordinator. SHRU SHRIVASTAVA began her role with us on Monday, and we asked her to tell us a little more about herself.



LEFT: Your new Invercargill City Council City Centre Co-ordinator, Shru Shrivastava, centre, with McKnight & Brown owner Bernie Brown and former retailer and ILT Marketing & Sales Manager Angee Shand. Bernie and Angee generously gave their time to consider applicants for this crucial role, and were part of the appointment panel.

I AM a lawyer by profession and have worked in areas of Family, Criminal and Immigration Law. I was born in India and have studied, lived and worked in different cities including London, San Francisco and Melbourne. I came to Invercargill on Waitangi Day in 2017 and instantly fell in love with the city!

For the past two years I have been involved in different community activities. You can spot me donating blood, volunteering at the Lego Show or distributing comics on Free Comic Book Day. Other than getting involved with the community, I like sketching, hiking, swimming and a good yarn over a cup of coffee.

As a City Centre Co-ordinator, I hope to create an inclusive environment where everyone feels welcomed. I will be focusing on developing, co-ordinating and facilitating

programmes and activities that will help in:

- Bringing vibrancy to the inner-city
- Increasing community involvement
- Enhancing culture
- Supporting the business community

I am looking forward to having the opportunity to get involved more with the community and make a difference. I will provide support and links between retailers, inner-city businesses and the Council, with the aim to build and promote a strong, sustainable and engaging city centre.

I aim to find an amicable solution to any problem and in doing so I will welcome as many suggestions and ideas as possible. I am looking forward to working with the City Council and the community.

Oral History Training Sessions at the Library

Saturday, April 6:10am–3.30pm
Saturday, May 11:10am–3.30pm

This April and May the Library is hosting these training sessions for individuals wishing to undertake interviews for the Southland Oral History Project. Learn all about the project, and how you can get involved. Morning and afternoon tea is provided but attendees will need to bring their own lunch.

There is no enrolment fee for the training workshops, however spaces are limited and participants are asked to commit to at least 2 to 3 interviews for the Project each year. To register visit www.ilibrary.co.nz/sohp or get a volunteer form from any Library Help Desk.



Safe in the South bringing meth awareness to region

METHAMPHETAMINE awareness sessions will be held on April 9 in Te Anau, and April 10 in Winton.

This is the next stage of a community information project that was run successfully in Matura in December 2018. The focus of these sessions is to raise awareness about meth in the community.

The session would help people become more informed about current meth situation in Southland, ramifications of meth use, and what services are available. It will also encourage people who might be affected to seek help and motivate people to make healthy choices in relation to methamphetamine to prevent drug use.

Presenters:
Southern District Health Board specialist addiction service team manager Joe Oxley

Senior Sergeant Cynthia Fairley

The key note speaker Richie Hardcore.

Richie is a Muay Thai champion and a campaigner for social change. His big mission is to help make the world better by supporting people to live their best lives.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Picnic planned for Teviot Street Reserve

THIS Saturday, a community group lead by a local resident Kaye Fraser is holding an event “Picnic in the Park”. This is family-friendly event to celebrate the Teviot Street Reserve and gather insights on what people want to see happen in the reserve. If you live in the area, join us in the park at 1pm on Saturday, March 30, for a day of fun activities, sausage sizzle and prize giveaways, and have your say.



Council meeting date change

AT ITS meeting on Tuesday, Council approved changing its meeting scheduled for 2 July to Thursday 27 June.

The meeting schedule has been updated to

reflect this and is online here:

www.icc.govt.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/2019-Council-Meeting-Schedule-A2344404-1.pdf