

## July 2009

The Talkback section of the Council's website is where Council staff respond to questions raised on Cue Television's City Talkback show. Replies from senior Council staff will be available here.



### **Three bin system**

*David asked if the three bin system would mean sending out three different lorries. He said if so it would be wasteful if the bins weren't filled properly. He likes the present two bin system.*

Waste Minimisation Officer Donna Peterson said the proposed system would use two trucks as only two bins would be emptied each week: in Week 1 it would be the organic bin and recycle bin and in Week 2 the organic bin and rubbish bin.

### **Hedges obstructing motorists' views**

*Elizabeth and Coralie rang to report overgrown hedges that were obstructing motorists' views.*

Council Roading manager Tom Greenwood said the owners of the offending hedges would be asked to be cut them back to overcome any problems affecting pedestrians or sightlines at corners. He thanked the callers for reporting the problems.

### **Parking exemption for over-80s**

*Colin rang from Tauranga to ask for an explanation about the over-80s parking exemption.*

Parking and Mobility Services Manager Debbie McCallum said the Council has a scheme which allows people who have reached the age of 80, and still hold a current driving licence, free parking at city parking meters, subject to the time stated on the parking meter. Conditions include:

- \* The appropriate exemption label must be displayed.
- \* The exemption applies to the nominated driver only and is not transferable.
- \* The motorists must be Invercargill City Council ratepayers.
- \* The exemption becomes invalid on expiry of the holder's driving licence, and must be returned to the Council.

### **Sandwich boards**

*John rang to ask about the sandwich boards. When pulling into a parallel park in Yarrow Street three weeks ago he hit a board that protruded into the road and scratched his car. He spoke to a Council worker who said an inspector would be sent but that did not happen. He went to the Council twice but it was only on a third visit he was told the inspector would go out that day. He wanted to know the cause of the delay.*

Resource Management Principal Officer Terence Boylan said within 24 hours of John's initial contact with Council, a letter was sent to the Yarrow Street business reminding them of the requirement for sandwich board signs not to cause a nuisance. Council staff subsequently undertook a number of inspections of the area – the first of which was on June 18, the day after the initial complaint. All inspections showed that the sandwich board sign was in a position that would not cause a nuisance to parking vehicles or pedestrians. Council cannot remove a sandwich board sign without evidence of nuisance.

### **Bluff Hill scrub**

*John asked about Bluff Hill scrub.*

Parks Manager Robin Pagan noted that the area was DoC land, but said Parks was working with the Government department to find a solution.

**Mayoral car**

*Mary asked if there was a new Mayoral car. If so, she wanted to know what type it was how it was paid for.*

Communications Manager Eirwen Tulett said Mayor Tim Shadbolt had a budget, approved by Council, of \$50,000 to replace the Mayoral car. He replaced the existing Chrysler 300c with a new Chrysler 300c. The changeover cost to the Council was \$38,000. The Mayor has full private use of his vehicle. The value of full private use is determined by the Remuneration Authority and is deducted from his Mayoral salary.