

KEEP WITHIN LIMITS ON ONTARIO BRIDGE

Motorists using the newly repaired Ontario Bridge are being asked to keep their speed down and truck drivers to keep their loads within the required load restrictions.

The bridge was closed for two weeks recently while work was carried out to replace all of the decking.

"The bridge is now in good condition but we are concerned about the number of over-weight vehicles using this bridge. Overweight vehicles together with the speed that vehicles are travelling over the bridge have both contributed to the damage," says Gore District Council roading consultant, Denis Mander.

A weight restriction (90% of class 1) and a speed restriction of 10km for heavy traffic apply to the bridge.

The Council is investigating traffic calming options that would encourage drivers to reduce their speed when using the bridge and Gore Police are also assisting with enforcing weight restrictions.

"It's important for the life of the bridge that drivers reduce their speed and also that load weights are kept within the requirements," says Denis.

Roading staff would like to thank motorists for their patience and consideration while the work was being carried out.



Contractors replacing the decking on the Ontario Bridge.

RATES REMINDER

The next instalment date for quarterly rates is due 26 August. To make sure you don't miss a payment and pay any more than necessary, the Council encourages people to set up a direct debit. To find out more about this or getting your rates notice by email, please call our customer service team on 209 0330 or visit our website.

TESTING FOR WATER LEAKS NEARLY COMPLETE

Work to make sure Gore's water system is operating as efficiently as possible with minimal water wastage is almost completed.

Over the past few weeks our 3 Waters Team has been carrying out minimum flow testing to identify any water leaks in the system.

The testing meant that water needed to be shut down at off-peak times to parts of town, and the team thanks residents and businesses for their patience and consideration while the work was done.

Tests measured the amount of water lost over a 'zone' of between 300 to 500 residential and business water connections.

Over the next few weeks the team will be doing further leak detection work in four of the zones that were identified as having a higher average water loss reading than expected. Different equipment will be used so no water shutdowns are required.

"During our testing we found four major leaks that haven't been visible on the surface and these have been repaired. We also found a handful of smaller leaks that we'll be focusing on in the coming weeks," says 3 Waters Project Manager, Sam Bunting.

Around three-quarters of the leaks located so far have been between the toby tap at street level and residential properties.



PRE-ELECTION REPORT

This short report is now available on our website. It brings together historical and forecast information from the Council's annual report, annual plan and long-term plan, to help candidates and voters with their decision making in the lead up to the local body elections.

A TREAT FOR FILM BUFFS

Eastern Southland locals will be treated to the best of the world's recently released films when the New Zealand International Film Festival screens at the SBS St James Theatre in August.

The festival features at least 30 films produced both in New Zealand and internationally.

Gore is the only Southland location to host the festival which runs from 11-20 August.

Pick up a programme from the SBS St James Theatre and get your tickets! You can also view the programme online here: nziff.co.nz/2016/gore.

CALLING ALL DOG OWNERS

Woof, woof! It's that time of year when our canine friends' need their registration renewed.

Did you know there are 3,354 dogs registered with the Gore District Council?



If you're a dog owner, you've probably already received your registration reminder in the post. Your registration fee covers 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.

The fee for an urban dog is \$120. However this can be reduced if your dog lives on a fenced or controlled property, if there's been no complaints, impoundments or infringements within a two-year period in relation to your dog, or if your dog has been neutered or spayed.

The fee for a rural dog is \$25, with a further fee added if the Council has received complaints about your dog, if it has been impounded or if an infringement notice has been issued within a two-year period.

The registration fee goes towards meeting the Council's responsibilities in relation to the care and control of dogs.

You have until 12 August to pay your dog registration. Late registration fees incur a penalty so it pays to pay on time!

SOUTHLAND'S FUTURE

More people is the key to Southland's social and economic future. As part of the Southland Regional Development Strategy programme, nine teams of Southland's best leaders are developing action plans to hit the big goal of 10,000 more people in Southland by 2025.

Be part of making a difference to Southland's future. Join Tom Campbell, chair of the strategy governance group and Gore mayor, Tracy Hicks, as they update the Eastern Southland community on the strategy's progress. There is no cost but please RSVP.

When: Thursday 4 August 5.30-7.30pm
Where: Thomas Green, 30 Medway Street, Gore

RSVP to office@commercesouth.com or phone (03) 218-7188 by 2 August.