

# NEWS

## MARCH 2006

17	<b>Retail eyesore</b> (East and Bays Courier Alexandra Bremner) In one of several articles on the subject, this latest covered the matter of graffiti and general vandalism, in destroying the visual appearance of a small block of suburban shops, located in Farringdon Road in Glen Innes. The problem exists throughout Auckland and this is merely one of the worst cases. Graffiti throughout the Auckland region is at epidemic proportions.
17	<b>Parnell Traffic Lights</b> (NZH Bernard Orsman) This article, ostensibly concerning opposition to proposed traffic lights at the intersections of Parnell Rise, Parnell Road and Cracroft Street, dealt with the wider issue of Local Authority planners in general and Auckland City Council planners in particular, for their propensity to approve projects affecting the wider community, without allowing community input. The article noted that in the past month Auckland City Planners had allowed developers to chop down 6 trees, including a mature Jacaranda at Eden Crescent and 2 Box Elders at the top of Vulcan Lane. Council had also attempted to go through the Resource Consent process to chop down trees in Queen Street without public notification, just prior to Christmas, but as will be recalled, this was followed by over whelming public opposition.
18	<b>Auckland Road Toll/Parking Levy Proposal</b> (New Zealand Herald Mathew Dearnaley) This in-depth article discussed a government plan to set tolls on inner Auckland and CBD roads and to impose parking levies in localities such as Central Auckland, Henderson and Takapuna. Widespread panic and opposition, from motorists, commuters and the business sector, would greet these plans.
18	<b>Road toll plans-government produces four user pay proposals</b> (New Zealand Herald Mathew Dearnaley) In a continuation of the road tolling saga, single cordon, double cordon, area charge and parking levies proposed to pay for New roads. <b>Note:</b> It transpires that Aucklanders will not be impressed.
20	<b>Household rates are up 11 in Auckland this year</b> (New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman) This article is followed by another on the 23rd of March by Wayne Thompson, showing proposed rate increases by various local authorities in the Auckland region, ranging from 4.9% to 9.5%. Strangely, in the second article the proposed Auckland increase is confirmed at 11%, but also quoted as being 4.9% to 7.3%.
27	<b>Esmonde Road progress.</b> (New Zealand Herald advertisement) Transit NZ announced that northbound traffic would now be using the new off ramp alignment and traffic lights.