

19th September 2005

Invercargill Mayor and City Councilors.
PO Box 90104
Invercargill

Dear Mayor Shadbolt

The Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce Southland and as a result of debate at the last Directors meeting has asked me to write to you and your Councilors to express their concern of the current inner-city surveillance systems.

The Chamber had active representation on the steering committee responsible for the installation of the current surveillance system and recalls that at the time the system was installed to meet the security requirement of the day and to best utilise the most up to date technology within the funding available.

Since the original installation the CBD has undergone a transformation in the dynamics of retail, other outlet types and the placing of these, there has also been a dramatic change to the community social structure and usage of the area.

From the feed back of inner-city business and from observation of the social and behavior patterns that seen to have emerged since the original surveillance system were put in place, we believe that the time is here for a review of the current needs with a view to updating systems to take on board available new technology and improved security techniques for the changed environment.

The original systems were not put in place with future proofing in mind and were only to meet the requirement of the day the current configuration and methodology applied to the usage of the systems is not necessary appropate for today's environment.

We would urge Council to take action in formulating a security strategy for the CBD that takes into account the new business and social environment that now populates this area.

Yours Faithfully

Richard Hay,JP.
C.E.O
Chamber southland