

Council - Tabled
Information - Reference
132/10C(A)

I will take very little of your time today and I did not speak to my written submission on Sunday car parkings but since the report in the paper after the Strategy and Policy meeting I have had a number of Sunday Chamber Music concert goers contact me as they had no idea this change was even being considered.

A number of the concert patrons live in the Hutt Valley and told me they were seriously considering not renewing their bookings for next year but will support similar concerts in Upper and Lower Hutt. As an example I have a friend who comes in from the Hutt, parks in Aitken or Molesworth Street where I pick her up so we only take one parking space either in the library or Harris Street.....we rarely have any trouble as the library patrons are coming and going all the time We meet about 2.15 and enjoy a coffee before the concert starts at 3 pm and they normally finish at five. So not only will I get a ticket but so will she in Thorndon. Similar situation was quoted to me by other women, many of whom for which it is their only outing as they do not like driving at night. I was also told by a number of women who have disability parking stickers and prefer either the MFC park or the Library and although they said they are normally allowed about 10 minutes over the two hours during the week they would be well over time as they too like to have a coffee before or after the concerts but would have to rush back to their cars....not that they can rush....A number of them also tell me it is a good opportunity to visit the library.

There are many other Sunday winter entertainment, to enjoy, concerts in the Cathedral and many of the inner city churches, and organ and choral recitals in the Town Hall, Air Force Band coming up and just yesterday I read there is to be a free Mayoral concert from 2 to 4 on Sunday, for Senior citizens, if this two hour limit is passed there will in the future be some unhappy patrons finding parking tickets on their windshields for up to \$57!!!! Adding considerably to the price of their tickets and a very expensive cup of coffee.

It is not quite true that parking wardens do not operate on Sundays, as a few years back I used to attend Tai Chi classes in the old scout hall in Grant Road and they apparently used to be out looking for out of date WoF , and even a front or back wheel just slightly over a yellow line!

I have also read that there is mixed feeling among retailers who are worried the proposed new time limit will be one more reason for shoppers not to come into the city to meet family or friends for lunch and some shopping....suburbs would win out, similarly movie theatres in Petone, Brooklyn, Hutt Valley etc. and soon I read Miramar.

If you are so hell bent on revenue would ask you to seriously consider a three hour time limit which would stop the exodus to the outer region and when you leave here tonight from your seven day a week free car park in the basement remember the many volunteers in our city who are giving of their time, visits to dentists etc and face \$4 an hour parking fees.

Pauline Swann
29th September 2010