

ONLY A FEW DAYS LEFT TO PAY RATES

Greater Bendigo residents who are not paying by installment are reminded that their annual rates are due to be paid in full by Wednesday February 15, 2012.

City of Greater Bendigo Director Organisation Support Marg Allan said with over 17,000 rate notices valued at \$22 million still outstanding for the 2011/2012 financial year the City of Greater Bendigo is preparing for a last minute payment rush.

"More than 52,500 rates notices worth \$72 million were sent out last year with 22,000 properties opting to pay their rates via installments.

"Residents who fail to pay their rates by the due date risk being charged interest which will be backdated to July 6, 2011.

"This is something that we don't really want to happen and ratepayers who may be experiencing difficulty in paying the full amount are advised to contact the City of Greater Bendigo Customer Service Centre on 54346000 to discuss a suitable payment arrangement.

"Rates payment time is always a very busy time for our staff and I would like to remind residents that they don't have to waste time lining up in long queues at the Council offices to pay their rates in person as there are a number of other payment options available.

"Rates can also be paid in person at any post office or branch of the Bendigo Bank or through the post to P.O. Box 3500 Bendigo DC 3554.

"There is no extra charge to pay at Bendigo Bank or Australia Post and it does provide residents with more options because of the number of local bank and post office branches that exist within Greater Bendigo," said Ms Allan.

Rates due to be paid in full by February 15 can also be paid:-

- by BPay using debit or credit card
- by credit card by phoning 1300 721 235
- online at www.bendigo.vic.gov.au using Visa or Mastercard
- by phoning Postbillpay on 13 18 16 or online at

www.postbillpay.com.au

Inquiries: Ros Manning 54346114