Annual Plan 2026/2027

Written Feedback

Rodney Local Board

Volume 7

April 2026

Sub #	Organisation Name	Page Number
	No organisation feedback in this volume	

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9569

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this objection to the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge real spending restraint across the Council and CCOs.1. Rates increase and fairness- The proposed 7.9% average rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average residential bill of $4069. This represents a 30% real increase since 2022 when adjusted for inflation while population growth is only 22% in the same period. Rates must rise no faster than inflation and in line with essential service delivery.2. Spending reform and waste reduction- The Council must curb expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cap and

reduce consultancy and professional services; current annual consultant spend is about $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant paid around $200k.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs about $36 million per year) due to its limited net carbon savings.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants; provide greater scrutiny of Māori-focused expenditure including the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which should be more appropriately managed within core local government obligations.3. Alternative budget and targets- Adopt the Ratepayers Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) delivering a maximum 3% average rate rise. This includes $50 million saving from personnel costs $50 million from consultant spend $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising essential services.4. Additional point- Ratepayers must hold elected officials to account; I support and insist on clear accountability for governance and spending.ClosingI would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9587

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Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

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Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a personal and sincere tone to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a rigorous reallocation of council spending toward essential services.Key positions:1) Oppose the 7.9% residential rates increase. The proposed rise is not affordable for households especially given the cumulative growth in rates far outstripping general inflation since the 2010 amalgamation.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Spending on staff consultants and six-figure salaries has grown materially while core service delivery faces pressure.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. The

Council's heavy reliance on external advisers should be reduced in favour of in-house capability and ongoing efficiency improvements.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to analysis emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which aligns less clearly with core local government roles and responsibilities.Context and proposed alternative:- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average rate rise at about 3%. This would be achieved through targeted personnel cost controls caps on consultants renegotiations and prioritising statutory essential services over discretionary grants.- Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well beyond inflation; a more prudent fiscal path is both possible and necessary for reliable affordable services.I request the opportunity to speak at hearings to elaborate these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9592

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

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Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 run about 30% far exceeding the 12% cumulative inflation. I oppose an increase that is more than inflation and puts an unacceptable burden on households.I base my position on the following points which I insist be considered in your deliberations:1) Rate rise and affordability. I oppose the 7.9% increase and support keeping rates increases aligned with or below inflation or targeted reductions to essential services only.2) Reduce backroom and corporate spend. The Council must cut expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs including substantial staff

costs and six-figure salaries.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. The Council should reduce spend on consultants and professional services rather than continue to escalate these costs.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves; it should be cancelled.5) Freeze staffing and payroll savings. Freeze non-essential vacancies or reduce payroll by not filling non-essential roles; this could save at least $17 million immediately.6)Reduce Māori-specific spending. Reconsider the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local government function.7) Additional point. Consider reimbursing exuberant rates for Rodney from last year where appropriate.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average rate increase at around 3% through targeted cuts to staffing consultants procurement and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I request the opportunity to present my views in person at hearings to reinforce the need for prudent financial management and restraint on Council spending.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

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Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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Question 6: City centre

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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9613

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Your feedback:

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Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to submit my formal views on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the announced average residential rates increase of 7.9%. I oppose this increase and urge a plan that reduces wasteful expenditure and protects essential services.Key concerns and positions1) Rates impact: The proposed average increase of 7.9% would add about $320 to the average household bill (from the current $4069). Rates have risen 85% since the Super City amalgamation far above inflation and population growth. I urge the Council to cap average residential rate increases at 3% by reforming spending.2) Wasteful spending and backroom costs: The Alliance highlights high corporate and

backroom functions and extensive consultant spend. I support reducing corporate and backroom expenditure across the Council and CCOs and capping consultancy/ professional services spending.3) Payroll and hiring controls: I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which the Alliance suggests could save at least $17 million immediately.4) Spending on Māori Outcomes: I oppose continuing the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as a core local government function and support redirecting funds to essential statutory services.5) Alternative budget and savings plan: I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a 3% rate rise cap through:- $50 million from personnel cost reductions and a hiring freeze- $50 million from capping consultancy spend- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsIn sum I urge the Council to prioritise value for ratepayers reduce wasteful and non-essential spending and deliver a more affordable plan for Auckland households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

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Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9630

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Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

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Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which is around $320 for the typical household and I urge the Council to instead pursue significant cost reductions to keep rate rises within or below inflation. Since 2010 rates have risen 85%well ahead of inflation and population growthwhile core services and assets continue to absorb rising costs. A more prudent path is to reduce wasteful spending and better manage people and projects.Key points I want considered:- Expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs should be reduced. Streamlining support functions will help lower operating costs without

compromising essential services.- Spend on consultancy and professional services must be curbed. The Council's reliance on external experts drives up costs and should be capped as part of a broader efficiency program.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies. In particular a hiring freeze could yield immediate savings; I estimate at least $17 million saved right away.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Maori Outcomes programme (Ngā Mātārae) which costs around $10 million per year. Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget provides a concrete path: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap rate increases at roughly 3%. This involves $50 million saved from personnel changes $50 million from consultancies $30 million from renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.I urge the Council to adopt a stance of fiscal responsibility transparency and efficiency ensuring rates support essential services and core obligations while reducing non-essential and low-priority outlays.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

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Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

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Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9670

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Local Board: Rodney

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Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

This level is well above inflation and imposes a heavy burden on households already stretched by rising costs. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30 percent while cumulative inflation sits around 12 percent. The proposed 7.9 percent increase if approved would compound this pressure.Key concerns and requests1) Rate increase and spending priorities- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase; seek a cap near 3% by delivering $150 million in spending reductions (2% of Council expenditure) as outlined in the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget.- Implement substantial reductions in personnel costs

including a hiring freeze for non-essential roles to deliver at least $17 million in immediate savings.2) Wasteful expenditure and backroom functions- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and lower consultancy and professional services spend. The current annual spend on consultants is about $126 million across the Council group with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent and an average consultant pay around $200k.- Address staffing costs: payroll is about $1.3 billion with many six-figure salaries and a growing number paid above the mayor's level; reduce these costs through organisational changes and vendor consolidation.3) Specific programme funding- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year) on the basis that it emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or re-prioritise Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department arguing this is not a core local government function.4) Additional priorities- Bring Auckland Transport spending under tighter control and halt wasteful changes to speed limits and 'passion projects' that lack demonstrable RoI; prioritise statutory and essential services.ConclusionI request that the Council consider a disciplined evidence-based budget that reduces wasteful expenditure and delivers meaningful essential services without imposing excessive rate increases on households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9681

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I appreciate the Council's role in delivering essential services but the current proposal would push rates above inflation and place an ongoing burden on households.Key concerns- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). Since 2022 rates have risen 30% in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation of 12%.- The proposed breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs and 2% for maintaining assets with 1.5% for new assets; I urge the Council to scrutinise these components for efficiency before approving further increases.- Expenditure priorities must change. The Council should reduce spend on corporate and backroom

office functions and cut consultancy and professional services instead of perpetually increasing these items. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes an alternative budget that caps the rate rise by reducing discretionary costs by $150 million (2%) including: - Reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze to save $50 million. - Capping consultancy spend at $50 million. - Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million. - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million.- Specific programmes should be reconsidered. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year) as it emits more carbon than it saves.- Payroll discipline matters. Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Māori-specific spending should be reviewed; the $10 million/year spent on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reassessed as local government has limited governance scope in this area.I urge the Council to adopt these cost-reduction measures to cap the rate rise closer to 3% and prioritise essential services over discretionary programmes. This approach would protect households while maintaining service delivery.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9684

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a strong direct voice to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending and backroom costs.Key positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the average household against a backdrop of excessive growth in costs since 2010. The current average bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% in 2022 dollars far exceeding cumulative inflation.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown far faster than inflation with

payroll at $1.3 billion and consultants/contractors at $590 million.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. From the information available non-essential vacancies should be paused to save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. The Alliance identifies $126 million per year across the Council group including about $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with average consultants earning around $200k.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costing $36 million/year) on the grounds of limited carbon savings and higher emissions than anticipated.- Cut Maori-specific spending including the $10 million/year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a core local government role.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to ensure core functions are funded without resorting to higher rates.Additional point- NO more rate increases while the cost of living remains extremely high; careful staffing and restraint on non-essential spending will help.I urge reviewing the proposed budget with a focus on reducing waste eliminating non-core programmes and delivering essential services efficiently.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9713

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
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This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The goal should be to protect households from a disproportionate jump in costs while delivering essential services efficiently.1) Rate increase and budget direction- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Given the real increases since 2022 and the substantial growth in operating costs since amalgamation this rise appears unsustainable for ratepayers. I support capping the rate rise to align with inflation plus necessary service levels.2) Expenditure reduction across the Council and CCOs- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions. Reducing consultancy and

professional services should be a priority not a continued rise in these areas.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves.3) Staffing and payroll savings- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- The data on payroll and six-figure salaries indicate room for reform to ensure a more efficient fit-for-purpose organisation.4) Specific program spending and governance- I oppose significant Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Ngā Mātārae/Māori outcomes department arguing that this is not a core local government function. Resources should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.5) Additional efficiency measures- There is too much waste of ratepayer money. All expenditure should be reviewed and I support using AI tools to identify cost-saving opportunities optimise staff allocation and reduce unnecessary staff costs.In conclusion I urge Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million to cap the rate increase at around 3 percent prioritising essential services and governance reforms.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

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- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9727

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful council spending and non-essential programmes.Key points1) Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates rise. This equates to approximately $320 for the average household while the real increase in rates since 2022 far outstrips inflation. The proposed split for that increase includes 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of spend is unacceptable given the council's track record on cost growth.2) Reduce backroom and corporate spend. The council should cut

expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Current reporting shows substantial payroll and corporate costs including high six-figure salaries and extensive use of consultants. Reducing these costs is essential before asking ratepayers to shoulder higher bills.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. There is a clear need to reduce spend on consultants and professional services rather than allowing these items to rise further. A disciplined approach to core functions should see savings redirected to essential services.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and according to independent assessments emits more carbon than it saves. It should be cancelled to lower costs and improve overall efficiency.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Freeze non-essential vacancies and avoid hiring for non-critical roles. This would deliver immediate savings of at least $17 million.6) Cut Maori-specific spending. The Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) represents about $10 million per year. In my view this is not a core local government function and should be scaled back to focus on statutory and essential services.ClosingI request the council consider these measures to cap rate increases and improve value for ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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- **Auckland's spatial plan**
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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9766

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real increase in rates since 2022 of 30 percent far outstripping cumulative inflation (12 percent). The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs with 2% for existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. Rates rises above inflation undermine household budgets and cost of living.- The Council should prioritise essential services and curb discretionary spend. A credible path is to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling an average rates increase of around 3%. This requires: a) freezing non-essential positions and reducing payroll

costs by not filling vacant roles (savings of at least $17 million) b) capping consultancy and professional services (save $50 million) c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million) and d) prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants ($20 million).Specific savings and policy shifts- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure including consultants has risen markedly; cutting this and reorganising functions is a prudent step.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing roughly $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by withholding recruitment for non-essential roles which would deliver immediate savings.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) budget of around $10 million per year aligning with the view that local government should not fund this as a core role.I urge a revised plan that caps rate increases and realigns expenditure toward essential transparent services. I am prepared to speak at hearings if invited.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
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- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

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N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9786

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge council to adopt a disciplined cost‘reduction path that protects ratepayers and real outcomes for essential services.Key positions1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The current 7.9% proposal translates to around $320 more per average household on a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% while inflation has been 34% and population growth 22%; the council must live within reasonable limits.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. There is significant overall spend on staff consultants

and corporate functions that does not align with the needs of ratepayers.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. Annual consultancy expenditure of about $126 million across the council group (roughly $60 million by the Auckland Council parent) and average consultants at $200k demand a reset.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non‘essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a local government function.Alternative budget guidance- Reduce new council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap average residential rates increase at about 3% achieved through: (a) personnel cost reductions via organisational change and hiring freezes; (b) capping consultant spend; (c) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; (d) prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I trust the council will consider these reductions seriously and respond with a plan that respects ratepayers' willingness to fund essential services while avoiding excessive increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9803

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30% in 2022 dollars well above inflation. The recommended 7.9% mix understates the need to curb wasteful spending while demanding higher charges from households already squeezed by high living costs.Key points1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cut consultancy and professional services. The current pattern shows high and rising reliance on external advisers with $126 million per year across the Council group and a typical consultant earning around $200k. A reduction here would directly lower rate demands.2) Stop or

scale back discretionary programmes that do not yield essential public outcomes. Specifically cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costing $36 million/year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves).3) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which the Alliance estimates could save at least $17 million immediately.4) Reconsider Māori-focused spending including the $10 million/year for the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) function unless it is demonstrably essential to statutory duties of local government.Additional context- Since the 2010 amalgamation rates have risen 85%far outstripping both inflation and population growth. The proposed CRL operating costs (4.4% of the increase) should be scrutinised for efficiency.- A robust review of personnel costs vendor contracts and organizational structure is overdue. As a starting point cut dead weight in leadership and back-office operations including reducing reliance on external consultants.I request that Council adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach achieving a 3% average residential rate increase by reducing new spending by $150 million and targeting savings from personnel costs consultants and vendor consolidation.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

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- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9821

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a detailed evidence-based manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for meaningful reductions in wasteful Council spending.1. Rate increase and spending priorities- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real increase of 30% since 2022 (against 12% cumulative inflation). This level is unaffordable for many ratepayers and is not justified by current asset maintenance needs (2%) growth-related assets (1.5%) and CRL operating costs (4.4%) alone.- I support reducing overall Council expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across

the Council and CCOs and I oppose continuing to expand consultancy and professional services at high cost.2. Specific cost-cutting measures- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: cut new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rate increases at about 3% via reductions in personnel costs consultant spend renegotiations and vendor consolidation and a focus on statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.3. Portfolio spend and equity considerations- There is need for a rigorous review of Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services with transparent outcome-focused spending.4. Closing- A sustainable path requires aligning rates with inflation and delivering core services efficiently with clear restraint on non-essential and discretionary expenditure.I would welcome the opportunity to present these concerns at hearings if possible. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9836

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Rates increase and affordability- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent is excessive given inflation and wage pressures. The current average bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30 percent well above population growth and cumulative inflation. I support cancelling or limiting the present rise to match sustainable budgeting.2) Spend on corporate backroom functions and consultants- There is a persistent pattern of high spend on consultants and backroom support. The Alliance briefing notes $126 million per year across the Council group for consultants with the average consultant earning about $200000. I urge a two-tier

approach: freeze non-essential recruitment and reduce reliance on external consultants redirecting these funds to essential services.3) Targeted program spending and staff costs- The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and purportedly saves minimal carbon. I oppose continuing this programme without thorough independent carbon accounting proving net benefit. Additionally freezing staffing for non-essential roles including pausing vacancies would save at least $17 million immediately.4) Civil governance and Māori outcomes spending- The Council's current spend on Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) of about $10 million per year should be reassessed in the context of local government responsibilities. I support prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes and ensuring spending aligns with core council functions.5) Alternative Budget and overall spend reduction- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cut total new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap rates increases at around 3%. This includes: $50 million from personnel cost restraint $50 million from consultant spend caps $30 million from renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million for prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9837

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
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- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. State of the proposal- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and 85% since the Super City amalgamation. I oppose rate rises above inflation and request that the Council align better with ratepayer affordability.2. Core spending reforms I support- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Curb spending on consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continued growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in my view emits more

carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a local government core function.3. Additional measures and considerations- The Council should pursue a more stringent efficiency agenda particularly in procurement vendor negotiations and consolidation of functions across the Council and CCOs.- If reductions in staff and consultants are implemented the Council must protect essential services and statutory obligations to residents.4. Alternative budgeting and affordability- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average rate increase at about 3%. This includes: personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze; capping consultants; contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.5. Additional request- The Council should consider paying residents for participation in recycling initiatives reflecting that the recycling system yields value to the community.In closing I request that the Council adopt a tighter spending discipline and reject a 7.9% rate rise in favour of a plan that realigns costs with ratepayer capacity.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9850

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this input to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge significant cuts in wasteful Council expenditure and backroom costs.1) Overall rates and spending priorities- The proposed 7.9% average increase is excessive especially given the real rate increases since 2022 and ongoing inflation. The impact on not only households but small businesses cannot be ignored.- The Council should cap the rate rise by delivering substantial reductions in discretionary and non-essential spend. A targeted reduction of $150 million (2%) from the Council group would allow an average residential rates increase of around 3%.2) Spending reductions

aligned with the submitter's priorities- Reduce personnel costs: implement organisational changes and freeze non-essential hires to save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb consultants and professional services: cut back on consultancy spend and renegotiate contracts to save about $50 million.- Vendor consolidation and contract renegotiation: pursue savings of around $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants; reduce spending on non-core programmes.3) Specific programme criticisms and reallocation- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (currently costing about $36 million per year) due to its limited carbon savings and higher emissions profile.- Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to Nga Mātārae (Māori outcomes) on the basis that this is not a function of local government.- Overall reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs; current payroll and administrative costs are excessive relative to outcomes.4) Accountability and transparency- The Council should provide clear verifiable savings from these reductions to demonstrate responsible stewardship of ratepayer funds.In addition to these measures I reiterate: stop the spending. It's just not happening.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

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N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9861

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a strong and direct tone to oppose Auckland Council's proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a plan that prioritises value for ratepayers and restraint on bureaucracy and waste.Key positions1) Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The proposed rise effectively costs the average household about $320 and represents a real-terms increase well above inflation. Since 2022 rates have risen 30% in real terms while inflation has been about 12%.2) Contain and reduce non-core council expenditure. The Council must shrink spending on corporate and backroom functions across both the Council and CCOs. A leaner organisation is

achievable through targeted efficiency not higher rates.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. Spend on consultants is excessive and should be capped; ongoing reliance on external advice is a drag on ratepayer funds.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year it costs ratepayers while emitting more carbon than saved. This is not a prudent use of limited resources.5) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs. Halting new non-essential hires and freezing vacant positions would save at least $17 million immediately and reduce ongoing payroll growth.6) Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) should not be a core local government function.Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at around 3%: ¢ $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze ¢ $50 million from consultants ¢ $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ¢ $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsClosingI urge acknowledgment that a prudent ratepayer-focused budget is possible without eroding essential services. Please consider these reductions as a substitute for the proposed 7.9% increase.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9878

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a personal and sincere tone to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending. The current rates increases have far outpaced inflation and population growth placing a heavier burden on households.Key concerns and requests1) Oppose the 7.9% average increase. A 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) against 12% inflation is unsustainable for households. The proposed breakdown2% to maintain assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsreflects ongoing cost pressures that should be addressed through efficiency rather than higher bills to

ratepayers.2) Reduce corporate and backroom spending. The Alliance data shows $126 million per year in consultant fees across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200k. I urge a comprehensive reform of corporate spend and backroom functions to prioritise essential services over discretionary costs.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. The continued rise in these expenditures drives rates higher. I support capping and restructuring these costs through renegotiations vendor consolidation and stronger procurement controls.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The programme costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. It should be halted or re-evaluated in favour of cost-effective waste reduction strategies that deliver real environmental benefits.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately and help stabilise rate rises.6) Cut Māori-specific spending (Maori outcomes). The $10 million per year spent on Ngā Mātārae should be reconsidered if this is not a core local government delivery focusing resources on statutory and essential services.ClosingI request that the Council consider these measures to cap rate increases and restore prudent oversight of spending. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9912

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns- The proposed 7.9 percent average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (inflation-adjusted) while rates have risen 85 percent since the 2010 amalgamation. This outpaces population growth and erodes household finances.- The breakdown shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs plus 2 percent for maintaining existing assets and 1.5 percent for new assets due to growth. The bulk of the increase is driven by operating costs not essential service delivery to residents.- Spending on consultants remains excessive: $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant paid around

$200000. Direct headcount and payroll pressures are rising while many ratepayers face financial strain.- Long-term staff costs and 'other expenses' have grown faster than inflation; payroll and contractor expenditure constitute a large portion of operating budgets. This is unsustainable if rates rise above inflation.Agreed positions and proposed actions- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and seek a cap near or below inflation focusing on delivering essential services efficiently.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Curb the spend on consultancy and professional services including pursuing renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve material savings.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs about $36 million per year) on the basis that it costs more in emissions than it saves and diverts funds from core council responsibilities.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies; this could deliver at least $17 million in immediate savings.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae/'Māori outcomes' allocation of about $10 million per year arguing that such roles are not a core local government remit.Additional points- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to shield ratepayers from unaffordable increases.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9941

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

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Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

This rise about $320 for the average household is well above household inflation and represents a real burden on ratepayers My Wife and I have Owned and lived at the above address since the house was built in 1973 We are both on the Super and the only reason We can manage at present is We don't have a Mortgage.Key concerns and proposed priorities:1) Rates affordability and value for money. Since 2010 rates have increased 85%far outpacing inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A 7.9% average rise is unacceptable when better value control is possible.2) Wasteful and excessive spending in non-core areas. The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and

backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultants and professional services rather than continually expanding these costs.3) Waste minimisation and operational priorities. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.4) Payroll and staffing controls. Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Containing Māori-specific spend. Freeze or significantly limit the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core function of local government even though My Wife and I are of Māori decent. 6) Alternative budget approach. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rates increase to 3% by:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes- $50 million from consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsAdditional note: Wayne Brown should listen to ratepayers and stop directing policy in a confrontational manner.I request that the Council adopt a more prudent budget approach prioritise essential services and implement the above efficiency measures to keep rates closer to inflation and within the expectations of households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9966

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
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Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for significant expenditure restraint across the Council and CCOs.Position and rationale- Oppose the 7.9% rates rise: the average household would see approximately $320 more per year on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (vs 12% overall inflation). The current rate of growth is unsustainable for households and undermines affordability.- Reduce corporate and backroom spending: cut spending on corporate functions across the Council and CCOs. The scale of payroll and ancillary costs is excessive relative to the service outcomes

delivered.- Curb consultancy and professional services: reduce spend on consultants and external contractors rather than continuing to increase these items. The current model is costly and not delivering proportional value.- End the Food Scraps Programme: discontinue the $36 million per year programme which reportedly costs more in emissions than it saves.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs: halt hiring for vacant non-essential roles and implement a targeted payroll freeze to deliver immediate savings (minimum $17 million).- Trim Māori-specific spending: reduce the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes/Ngā Mātārae function arguing that this is not a core local government responsibility.- Waste reduction in capital and transport projects: stop vanity or wasteful capital items such as unnecessary raised speed tables costly minor works and overemphasis on cycleways that remove parking or do not demonstrate high utilisation.- Reprioritise budgets toward essential statutory services and core infrastructure and reduce discretionary grants and tourism/promotion spend (e.g. Tātaki Auckland Unlimited).Alternative budget and impactFollowing the Ratepayers' Alliance framework reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap rates increases at 3%. Specific actions include: $50 million savings from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contracts/vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request the opportunity to present at hearings to expand on these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10005

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed 7.9 percent rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real increase in rates that has risen 30 percent since 2022. I request that the Council instead pursue responsible savings to protect households from perpetual cost-of-living pressures.Key grounds for opposition and proposed alternatives:- The rate rise is structured with 2% for existing assets 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. I urge consideration of a more substantial trimming of corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs to lower total operating costs.- I support reducing spending on consultants and professional services.

Current consultant spend is about $126 million per year across the Council group; I challenge continued growth in this area and advocate a cap and renegotiation of contracts.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. It costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This would deliver immediate savings potentially at least $17 million.- Reduce Maori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) budget of around $10 million per year recognising that this is traditionally a local government constraint rather than a sole discretionary programme.Alternative budget approach (Ratepayers' Alliance proposal): reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on the rate increase) through:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes;- $50 million from consultants and professional services;- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation;- $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.This approach would keep essential services funded and cap rates increases to around 3 percent delivering tangible relief to residents while maintaining core functions.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10059

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key points- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to roughly $320 for the average household on top of a real rates increase of 30% since 2022 (against 12% overall inflation). This is not acceptable without demonstrable permanent efficiency gains.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. The current levels are unsustainable and contribute directly to ratepayer burden.- I oppose continuing current spending on projects with uncertain value such as the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon

than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this immediate measure could save at least $17 million.- Curb discretionary and non-core spending by cutting Māori-specific operating costs such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' department (approximately $10 million per year) which is not a core local government function.- The alternative budget proposed by Ratepayers' Alliance shows that reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) can cap the average residential rates increase to about 3% through measures including personnel cost reforms consultant spend caps and vendor consolidation.- Additional noting: concerns exist that outcomes such as the promise not to raise rates beyond 2.5% are not being upheld undermining trust with Aucklanders.I urge the Council to prioritise statutory and essential services improve value for money and implement the proposed spending reductions prior to approving any rate increase. A more restrained and transparent approach will better reflect the fiscal realities faced by households and small businesses.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10102

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to express my opposition to the proposed average 7.9% residential rates increase and to set out concerns about wasteful Council spending and the need for meaningful savings.1) Rate increase: I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the average household. Since 2022 rates have risen by 30% in real terms while overall inflation has been around 12%. The proposed split2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsfails to acknowledge the need for restraint when many households are struggling with rising living costs.2) Wasteful spending and backroom costs: The Alliance highlights that

consultant spend across the Council group totals about $126 million per year with the average consultant receiving around $200k. Personnel costs have risen significantly with 6123 Council and CCO employees on six-figure salaries and payroll alone around $1.3 billion. I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and cutting the use of consultancy and professional services.3) Specific savings and budget priorities: I support the proposed Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which caps rate increases by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) achieved by:- Freezing staffing and/or cutting non-essential vacant roles to save at least $17 million immediately.- Reducing consultancy and professional services by $50 million.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors for $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants for $20 million.4) Programmatic spending concerns: I oppose continuing programmes like the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. I also question the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a core local government function.Additional point: While Council states it will examine expenditure closely practice to date suggests wasteful non-accountable spending continues with little positive impact. I urge a disciplined evidence-based approach that prioritises essential services and households' affordability.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10105

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this formal submission to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to advocate for substantial cuts in wasteful Council spending.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This equates to approximately $320 per household and represents a real burden on households already squeezed by inflation. Since 2022 rates have risen by around 30 percent in real terms far outpacing the 12 percent cumulative inflation. The proposed 4.4 percent allocation to CRL operating costs plus ongoing costs for maintaining and growing assets will compound the burden without clear measurable deliverables for ratepayers.The

Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and trim consultancy and professional services. Auckland Council currently spends about $126 million per year on consultants across the group with the average consultant paid around $200k. Direct operating expenditure has risen sharply and payroll costs are unsustainable for many ratepayers. A responsible alternative budget would cap average rates increases at 3 percent by saving $150 million through targeted reductions.Key proposed savings include:- Reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a staffing hiring freeze saving about $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants by $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation totalling $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to save $20 million.I also oppose ongoing expenditure on programmes with questionable value. In particular the Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million yearly; it is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves and should be cancelled. Additionally freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. I further oppose continued Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing it is not a core local government function.In summary I request that the Council pursue a disciplined budget prioritise essential services and implement the above savings to constrain rates growth.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10111

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I appreciate the opportunity to submit views during the public consultation on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a program of spending restraint to align rates with inflation and essential service needs.Key points:1) Rates trajectory and fairness. The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to around $320 for the average household. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% well above inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). Given this rates increases should be restrained to reflect inflation and prudent budgeting not open-ended growth in charges.2) Wasteful spending and back-office costs. The

council and its CCOs should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom/office functions. A substantial review is needed of payroll and personnel costs where total staff numbers and six-figure salaries have grown significantly. Freezing non-essential vacancies or delaying hires would save substantial funds and help cap rate rises.3) Consultants and professional services. Spending on consultants and contractors should be capped and redirected towards delivering core statutory and essential services. The briefing notes indicate high reliance on external advice; a tighter procurement strategy and vendor consolidation can deliver savings without compromising service levels.4) Specific program savings. The Food Scraps Programme has an annual cost of about $36 million and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves. It should be cancelled or replaced with more cost-effective measures.5) Payroll and staffing controls. Freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately and contribute to a more affordable rates outcome.6) Māori-specific spend. The council should reassess non-statutory Māori-focused spending (for example the Ngā Mātārae programme) which amounts to about $10 million per year recognising it is not a statutory local government obligation.Alternative budgeting proposal. I support the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates increases at about 3% by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Closing. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10142

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my views on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the intended average residential rates increase of 7.9%. I oppose this increase and believe restraint is appropriate given the council's spending patterns and the burden on households.1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The proposed rise would add roughly $320 to the average household bill on top of a current average rate of about $4069. Since 2022 rates have risen by around 30% in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation of ~12%. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This total is disproportionate to

actual service demand growth and warrants restraint.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The substantial spend on corporate functions and back-office support should be streamlined to protect frontline services.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. With about $126 million yearly across the Council group and the average consultant earning around $200k there is clear scope to cut and reallocate these costs.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to essential services with measurable benefits.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. A hiring freeze or targeted non-essential vacancies closure would deliver immediate savings of at least $17 million.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a local government core function. Reprioritise to statutory and essential services.I support the following approach in line with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3% through these measures: freeze hires cap consultants renegotiate contracts and prioritise statutory services over discretionary grants.Please consider these measures as a prudent path to maintain affordability for ratepayers while preserving essential services. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10159

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9%. With a current average bill of $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent (vs. 12 percent inflation) ratepayers cannot sustain further rises above inflation. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for existing assets and 1.5% for new assets; together they justify a careful review of how funds are allocated with a clear priority on essential services.I call for substantial reductions in wasteful expenditure. The Council should reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut the spend on consultancy and professional services rather

than allow continual growth in these areas. The {address redacted} Ratepayers' Alliance data indicate $126 million per year on consultants across the group including $60 million by the {address redacted} Council parent with average consultants earning around $200k.In addition the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and claimed to save carbon should be cancelled if it does not deliver net environmental and cost benefits. The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.I also urge cuts to Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). If local government is to focus on statutory and essential services this area should be re-evaluated to align with core responsibilities.To cap the rate rise at around 3 percent I support the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) achieved by limiting personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10163

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a comprehensive reallocation of spending to protect essential local services while reducing wasteful expenditure.Key points supporting my position:- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rates rise of 30% since 2022 (vs. 12% consumer price inflation). I urge a cap on rates increases to match or fall below inflation.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- The Food Scraps

Programme costing $36 million per year should be cancelled as it currently emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; doing so could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting that this is not a function of local government.- Work contracted out should be accompanied by stricter supervision to ensure value for money and proper delivery.I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget concept: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate increase at around 3%. This would be achieved by:- $50 million in personnel cost reductions through organisational change and a hiring freeze- $50 million cap on consultancy spending- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsThis approach would deliver more responsible stewardship of public money and better alignment with residents' ability to meet rising living costs while maintaining core services and critical infrastructure.I request that the Council consider these measures seriously and engage transparently with the community on prioritising essential services over discretionary expenditure. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10166

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a rigorous restraint on wasteful spend. The current average rates bill is $4069 and since 2022 rates have risen 30% in real terms far outpacing inflation. A 7.9% rise amplifies this gap and simply places the burden on households while assets and services expand.Agrees:- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continued growth.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costing $36 million/year) which

emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a move that would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.- Reduce spending on unnecessary road humps.Given the breakdown of the proposed increase2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsalternative budgeting is warranted. The Ratepayers' Alliance plan proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) delivering a cap of around 3% on the average rate rise. This would be achieved by: $50 million in personnel cost reductions through organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million capping consultants; $30 million in contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional point: reduce spending on unnecessary road humps to reallocate funds to essential core services that residents rely on daily.In closing I request that Council consider this reduction in wasteful expenditure as a priority before approving any rate increase. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10167

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to urge a program of spending restraint across the Council and CCOs.Key points:- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 more per average household on top of a 3.0% to 4.4% cost spread within the plan. Since 2022 average rates have risen from $2781 to $4069 a real increase of around 30% in 2022-dollar terms far outpacing cumulative inflation of roughly 12%. This is unsustainable for households especially given stagnant wages and rising living costs.- The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating

costs. The largest driver is CRL-related costs yet households face the burden of maintaining and expanding services without visible commensurate gains in public value.- I urge the Council to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new spending by at least $150 million to cap rates growth at about 3% via a targeted package of savings: - Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles: save $50 million. - Cap spending on consultants: save $50 million. - Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors: save $30 million. - Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: save $20 million.- Specific spending reductions I support include: curtailing corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs reducing consultancy and professional services cancelling the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) due to its carbon outcome and freezing staffing and payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles (projected saving at least $17 million immediately).- I also request a reduction in Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a core local government function.Additional point: I cannot afford further rate increases; pensioners are particularly strained.I respectfully request the opportunity to speak at hearings to amplify these concerns.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10168

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

Based on the Council's own figures and independent analysis this level of rate rise far outstrips inflation and population growth and will place an undue burden on households.Key points of concern:- The 7.9% increase comprises 2% to maintain assets 1.5% for new assets tied to growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% well above inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A 7.9% uplift is inconsistent with responsible stewardship of ratepayers' money.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb spend on consultancy and

professional services which the Alliance highlights as excessive.- The Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million annually and purported to emit more carbon than it saves should be cancelled.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure capable of saving at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce Māori-specific spending notably the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' (Ngā Mātārae) department on the basis that this is not a core local government responsibility.Additional context:- The ratepayers' alternative budget proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) bringing the average residential rates increase down to approximately 3%. This would be achieved through a combination of personnel cost controls cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.- The Council's payroll totals and related costs have grown markedly; tightening non-essential roles and back-office functions should be a first step before increasing charges on residents.I request to speak at the hearings to further outline these points and provide practical implementation pathways aligned with a more affordable outcomes-focused Council.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10181

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing I oppose the rate rise and urge a focused evidence-based reduction in non-essential and backroom costs.1) Rate increase and fiscal discipline- Oppose the average residential rate increase of 7.9 percent. The current average rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent (versus 12 percent inflation). The proposed split includes 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs; this burden should be re-examined alongside major efficiency gains.2) Reducing non-core and backroom spending- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council

and CCOs.- Cut consultancy and professional services rather than sustaining or increasing these costs (noting $126 million per year across the Council group and average consultant pay around $200k).3) Specific cost-cutting measures aligned with a practical budget- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which is argued to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) under the understanding this is not a proper local government function.4) Overall approach and equity- The Ratepayers' alternative budget shows a feasible path: reduce new council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates increases to about 3 percent. This includes: organisational changes to personnel costs ($50m) capping consultants ($50m) renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30m) and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants ($20m).- Reducing wasteful spending protects homeowners and avoids driving people from their homes or away from Auckland.I would welcome the opportunity to speak at hearings; however I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10186

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

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Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

This level of increase is not affordable and fails to recognise the real burden on ratepayers while the Council continues to expand discretionary spending.Key concerns and constructive position1) Rate increase remit and affordability: Since 2022 residential rates have risen by about 30% in real terms well above inflation. The 7.9% increase is not justified by the stated breakdown and this burden should be restrained to well below inflation with a target aligned to essential services only.2) Wasteful spending and backroom costs: Council and CCOs incur excessive costs in consultants ($126 million per year) and six-figure salaries (thousands earning over $200000). A smaller more

focused workforce is needed to deliver core services not bloated corporate functions.3) Cuts to discretionary and non-essential spend: The Council should reduce expenditure on consultants and professional services renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to deliver substantial savings.4) Specific programme and Māori spend: The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and according to the briefing emits more carbon than it saves. The Council should cancel this programme to fund essential town services and avoid non-essential spend. Additionally I support reducing Māori-specific spending such as Ngā Mātārae where appropriate for local government scope and prioritise statutory responsibilities.5) Staffing controls: Freeze non-essential vacancies and avoid hiring for non-core roles to deliver immediate savings (at least $17 million). Prioritise essential services and major infrastructure maintenance.6) Core services over woke initiatives: Get back to core local government duties limit iwi consultations where not statutorily required and halt expensive infrastructure experiments such as certain bicycle lanes that do not reflect broad resident needs.Alternative Budget alignment- Reduce new spending by $150 million (about 2%) capping the rate increase to around 3%: ¢ $50 million from personnel costs (organisational changes hiring freeze) ¢ $50 million from consultants ¢ $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ¢ $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grantsI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

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- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10201

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

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Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

Position and rationale1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 per household). The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% against 12% inflation. The proposed rise is not affordable for households facing cost-of-living pressures.2) Expenditure reform to fund a lower rate increase. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that reducing new Council spending by around $150 million (a 2% cut) could cap the rate rise at about 3%. In particular I support actions to:- Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles ($50

million).- Cap spending on consultants and professional services ($50 million).- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors ($30 million).- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).3) Reduce wasteful and non-essential spending. I urge cutting back on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and slowing or stopping the growth in consultancy and professional services.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The programme costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to essential services and proven waste-reduction measures.5) Freeze staffing and payroll where possible. Halting new hires for vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately and reduce ongoing payroll growth.6) Reconsider Māori outcomes spending. The Alliance' proposal views the $10 million per year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as not a core local government function. A reallocation to statutory services would improve value for ratepayers.Additional point- A leaner council focused on essential services and prudent procurement will better protect households from unnecessary rate rises while maintaining core infrastructure.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

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Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

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Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

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