Annual Plan 2026/2027

Written Feedback

Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

Volume 5

April 2026

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7002

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 wish to speak at hearings is no; this submission is written in constructive solution-focused terms.I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9%. For the average household this would be about $320 more per year in a context where rates have risen 85% since 2010 and real increases outpace inflation. I urge Council to pause and reconsider how wasteful spending can be trimmed before asking residents to fund core services through higher rates.Key points for consideration- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. Current payroll and support costs are disproportionately high and there is clear potential to

streamline functions without compromising essential services.- Curb consultancy and professional services spending. The Alliance notes $126 million per year in consultant costs across the Council group with the average consultant receiving around $200k. Reducing these costs should be a priority prior to raising rates further.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Reallocating funds to essential services would deliver more immediate community benefits.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. The submission notes that suspending non-essential recruitment could save at least $17 million promptly.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). As a ratepayer I believe the core responsibilities of local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over targeted investments that are not council obligations.Alternative budget approach- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposal suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%): $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contracts/vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. This would cap the rate rise at around 3% while maintaining essential services.ClosingI request that the Council adopt a more restrained spending plan and implement the outlined reductions before imposing further rate increases.Sincerely{name redacted}33 Queen Mary AveNew Lynn{email redacted}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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7005

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for real reductions in wasteful Council spending with a focus on delivering essential services more efficiently.Key concerns- The proposed average rate lift of 7.9 percent equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a rates bill that has risen from $2781 in 2022 to $4069 now. The real increase since 2022 is already around 30 percent far outpacing cumulative inflation and population growth. The breakdown shows 2 percent for maintaining existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. This level of increase is not

sustainable for ratepayers.- There is a clear need to curb expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current model relies heavily on consultants and highly paid staff with $126 million per year spent on consultants across the Council group and payroll costs of about $1.3 billion. Reducing these overheads is essential to keeping rates affordable.- Spending on consultancy and professional services should be reduced rather than continued rising. The average consultant earnings and the scale of external contracting drive up costs without guaranteeing better outcomes for ratepayers.- I support targeted staffing restraint including freezing recruitment for vacant non-essential roles. The submitter's position is that payroll reductions of this kind can deliver meaningful savings aligning with a prudent disciplined budget approach. A freeze or pause on non-essential hires could save at least $17 million immediately.Proposed alternative budget approach- I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap average residential rates growth at about 3%. Specific areas include: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from capped consultancy spending $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that the Council consider these savings to deliver essential services while protecting households from excessive rate 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7008

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

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 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and in favour of reducing wasteful Council spending. The proposed rise is not justifiable in the face of uncontrolled backroom costs and escalating consultancy payroll and discretionary spend.Key points:1) Oppose the 7.9% rates increase. The current average residential bill is about $4069 with real increases since 2022 of 30 percent far exceeding inflation. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. This is not acceptable.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. Total corporate

and business support costs are high and the pattern of escalating personnel and backroom spend must stop.3) Curb consultancy and professional services. Council and CCOs spend about $126 million on consultants annually; the average consultant salary highlights outsized external costs that should be prioritised for efficiency.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year it costs more in emissions than it saves and should be halted.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacant roles. A targeted freeze would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year on Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) is not a core local government function and should be redirected to essential services.7) All wasteful spending must stop immediately. The Council should implement an efficiency-focused restrained budget aligned with statutory and essential services and pursue priority reforms to curb overspend.Ratepayer-focused alternative: The Alliance's plan proposes reducing new spending by $150 million (2% cap) to hold average residential rates to around 3% through targeted reductions in personnel consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.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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- **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.

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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7032

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

This submission is made respectfully in opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and in support of substantial cuts to wasteful Council spending and backroom costs. The current average residential rates bill stands at $4069 with real increases since 2022 of about 30% while inflation has run around 12%. A rate hike of nearly 8% is excessive for households already strained by rising living costs.Key concerns and requests:1) Oppose the 7.9% increase and prioritise value for money. The rate rise should be aligned with inflation and population needs not entrenched by ongoing operating costs such as CRL expenses.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate

and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. The spend on consultants and professional services is excessive. In particular consultant costs of about $126 million per year across the group (with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent) are not justified by outcomes.3) Curb staff costs and hiring. Freeze non-essential roles and avoid filling vacancies where possible. A recruitment pause could save at least $17 million immediately.4) Limit contract costs and vendor arrangements. Renegotiate contracts consolidate vendors and prioritise statutory services over discretionary grants.5) Discontinue the Food Scraps Programme. It costs $36 million per year and per reform analyses emits more carbon than it saves.6) Reduce Māori-specific spend. The $10 million per year allocated to Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local-government function and should be reconsidered/discontinued. 7) Overall budget discipline. The council must monitor every cost more closely particularly roadworks tree maintenance water connections and related operations where overstaffing and highly inefficient practices have been observed routinely. Additional points: I support Mayor Wayne Brown but urge closer scrutiny of excessive administration and maintenance costs and a focus on core services and essential maintenance rather than unpopular expensive projects. And reduce bureaucratic layers.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?

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

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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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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7034

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. Rate rise and affordability- I oppose an average 7.9% increase which equates to about $320 for the average household and is well above current inflation. Since 2022 residential rates have risen by 30% in real terms while overall inflation has been about 12%. This is unsustainable for households especially as the Council raises costs to fund new and ongoing assets.2. Spending practices and efficiency- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation (78% from 2013â€“2023 vs 29% inflation) and payroll costs remain a significant driver of

rates pressure.- Reducing spend on consultants and professional services is essential. The Alliance notes consultant spending at roughly $126 million annually across the Council group with the average consultant remuneration around $200000 indicating potential room for savings through procurement reform and vendor consolidation.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. The proposal should prioritise essential services and reduce headcount growth to achieve immediate savings as suggested by the Alliance's plan to free up at least $17 million right away.3. Allocation principles- The Council must prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and pursue better value in contracting and procurement before approving further rate rises.ClosingI urge Auckland Council to adopt a plan that caps rate increases to a lower level by delivering meaningful savings in personnel costs consulting spend and corporate back-office functions thereby reducing the pressure on residential rates while maintaining core public services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7040,339169,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The proposed rise is well above inflation and would push the average household bill beyond what ratepayers can reasonably sustain.Key concerns- The 7.9% increase comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% (well above inflation and population growth). This trajectory is unsustainable for households facing cost of living pressures.- The Council should prioritise core statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and backroom functions. I support reducing corporate and backroom spend across the Council and CCOs and cutting consultancy and professional services expenditure.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for non-essential vacant roles. A targeted pause could save at least $17 million immediately.- Transitively reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) which I do not view as a core local government function.- The Council's current cost structure is unsustainable: payroll is around $1.3 billion with $590 million on consultants; direct operating expenditure has risen far faster than inflation; and 18 corporate functions cost $868.4 million. These figures indicate room to trim without compromising essential services.Proposed alternative budget- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rate increase at around 3% through: - $50 million from personnel cost reductions via organisational change and hiring freezes - $50 million from capping consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grantsAdditional points- Rates have risen annually while wages for ratepayers have not kept pace; living costs are rising and it is time for the Council to support ratepayers and investors alike by reining in wasteful expenditure.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7053,339156,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1) Opposition to the proposed 7.9% residential rates increaseI oppose the average 7.9% increase which equates to about $320 more per household and is far above inflation. The current average residential bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 indicating a real rate rise of about 30% since 2022 (vs. 12% cumulative inflation). A levy of this

magnitude is not affordable for households already bearing elevated living costs.2) Wasteful and excessive expenditure must be cut- Corporate and backroom functions: reduce expenditure across Council and CCOs.- Consultants and professional services: curb these costs rather than permitting continued growth.- Direct operating costs and personnel: payroll consultants and related costs have risen well beyond inflation; total payroll stands at about $1.3 billion with significant six-figure salaries.- Food Scraps Programme: cancel it as it costs $36 million per year and emissions appear to exceed any claimed savings.3) Specific measures to justify lower rates- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by halting non-essential hires including vacant roles. This alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-focused spending such as the Māori outcomes programme (Ngā Mātārae) which amounts to about $10 million per year on the basis that this is not a local government core function.- Targeted cost reductions: implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (roughly a 2% cut). This would cap average rates increases at around 3% and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. Specific areas for savings include hiring freezes cap on consultants contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.4) ClosingI request the Council to align the plan with prudent taxpayer-focused budgeting and to pursue decisive efficiency gains before seeking further rate increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7056,339153,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The expected rise represents around $320 for the average household (current average bill $4069) and reflects a real increase of 30% since 2022 far outstripping cumulative inflation.I urge the Council to adopt a disciplined budget approach that prioritises core statutory and essential services while cutting waste. Key positions:- Oppose the 7.9% uplift; the Council must keep rate increases aligned with or below inflation. The current trajectory excessively burdens households.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Consolidation and streamlined administration are overdue.- Cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to rise again. A cap on external advice is essential.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local-government function.I support the equivalent of the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases to about 3%). This includes $50 million saved from personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze $50 million saved from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.The Council should prioritise delivering statutory services and essential infrastructure while scrutinising all discretionary spend. The current trajectory including rising payroll and external contracting is unsustainable for households and competitive with population growth and inflation.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7067,339142,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in a formal respectful manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for reduced wasteful Council spending and more prudent financial management.I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with real increases well ahead of inflation since 2022. The proposed splitâ€”2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”highlights a heavy burden on ratepayers while focusing on ongoing operating costs rather than stronger efficiency gains. A more restrained approach is warranted.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget including reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap rates increases at around 3%. Specifically I propose:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze on non-essential roles saving $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants saving $50 million.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors saving $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.I urge the Council to cut wasteful expenditure in key areas:- Expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs needs significant reduction.- Spending on consultants and professional services should be capped and reallocated to essential services.- Cancel 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 which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reconsider Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government role.I also note that council spending appears out of control and I am paying more on rates now and receiving less value. I request a transparent independent review of high-cost line items and a credible plan to re-prioritise essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0 ,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7070,339139,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key concerns and positions- I oppose the 7.9% rates increase. The current average residential bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is about 30% in 2022 dollars far outpacing inflation. A prudent approach is essential given the scale of past increases and the burden on households.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure has risen well ahead of inflation and payroll plus consultant costs are unsustainably high.- Cancel or sharply reduce spending on consultancy and professional services. The Alliance notes $126 million per year across the Council group on consultants with average consultant pay around $200k. This is excessive for ongoing needs and should be reallocated to essential services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies. A hiring freeze and vacancy discipline would save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over targeted expenditure that sits outside core responsibilities.- The proposed budget relies heavily on CRL operating costs asset maintenance and growth-related spend. I support a re-balance that prioritises essential services maintenance and ratepayer affordability.Alternative budget stance- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increases at around 3% through targeted savings in personnel consultants contract

renegotiations and essential services prioritisation.Additional points- Prefer more cost-efficient service delivery including road works with cost-focused tendering and reconsideration of large-scale transit assets in favour of smaller nearer solutions for suburbs like St Heliers.- Community-focused maintenance (blocked drains parks) should be funded by reallocating non-core back-office costs.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7094,339115,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This would amount to roughly $320 for the average household and represents a real burden in the context of Council spending growth since 2010. The current average rates bill is $4069 with a 30 percent real increase since 2022 that far outstrips cumulative inflation. I urge Council to instead pursue substantial efficiency gains to keep rates growth aligned with or below inflation.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average residential rates increase at 3 percent. Key measures include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze saving around $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation totaling $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.I support the following specific actions to achieve lower rates while maintaining core services:- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continued growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and as claimed by supporters emits 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 including the approximately $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a function of local government.These measures would preserve essential services reduce waste and deliver more responsible governance of ratepayer funds. I request that Council consider these reductions in its planning and avoid a rate rise well above inflation.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7110,339099,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit my opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a reduction in wasteful Council spending. The council should not pursue rate rises well above inflation when there are clear efficiencies available.Key positions- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The current environment requires restraint and prioritisation of essential services over higher charges to households.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. There is scope to streamline administration and improve efficiency without compromising service delivery.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. Target reductions will help cap rate increases and reflect prudent budgeting.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and as proposed emits more carbon than it saves.- 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.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) noting that this is not a core local government function.Additional context- The proposed rate rise should align with the goal of keeping residential rates increases closer to inflation and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.- A conservative transparent approach to vendor contracts and project scoping will reduce waste and improve value for ratepayers.ClosingI request that Auckland Council adopt a plan that reduces new spending by at least $150 million (a 2% reduction) enabling an average residential rates increase of no more than around 3 percent. This includes the proposed allocations outlined above: $50 million from personnel $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations with vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7114,339095,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1) Rates and growth context- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 more per average household on an operating bill currently around $4069. Since 2022 residential rates have risen 30% in real terms well above inflation. This level of growth is unsustainable for households and undermines confidence in council governance.2) Spending reductions aligned to rate relief- Agree: The Council must cut corporate and backroom office spending across the Council and CCOs.- Agree: Reduce consultancy and professional services spending rather than allowing continued growth in these line items.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget shows $150 million in targeted reductions which would cap average rate increases at about 3% if implemented.3) Specific spending re-prioritisations- Agree: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme estimated at $36 million per year which results in more carbon emissions than savings.- Agree: Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a direct saving of at least $17 million immediately.- Agree: Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a statutory local government function.4) Governance and statutory services- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. Reallocating funds away from non-essential programmes will protect core services while delivering rate relief.ClosingI urge the Council to consider substantial reductions in non-essential and backroom expenditure to stabilise rate rises and protect households from disproportionate increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7123,339086,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The plan would mean an average household bill of about $320 on top of the already high current average of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85 percent far exceeding inflation and population growth. A rate rise of 7.9 percent is not affordable while many households face ongoing cost pressures.I support reductions in wasteful expenditure and a safer more efficient Council. Specifically:- Oppose the 7.9 percent average increase and seek a cap of roughly 3 percent funded by genuine efficiency gains.- The Council must reduce corporate and backroom office spend across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional

services rather than continuing to increase these costs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $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 a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori Outcomes' department cited at around $10 million per year arguing that this falls outside the core responsibilities of local government.Additional considerations for a responsible budget:- Direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation in recent years while personnel costs and other expenses have risen substantially; reform in these areas is overdue.- A rigorous review of consultants and vendors should be undertaken to renegotiate contracts and consolidate suppliers with a target to reduce these costs significantly.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to ensure core functions are funded before expansion of non-essential programmes.I request to speak at hearings to present these concerns in detail. If not possible I hope my submission will be given due consideration in the deliberations.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7124,339085,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key concerns and positions:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The proposed rise translates to about $320 for the average household at a time when real rate increases since 2022 have been 30 percent while general inflation has been around 12 percent.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services instead of continuing to grow these items.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.In line with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at about 3 percent through:- $50 million saving from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze.- $50 million saving by capping consultancy and professional services.- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I respectfully request that the Council publish a transparent plan detailing how these savings would be achieved and monitored along with a clear timeline. While maintaining essential services the objective should be to protect households from rate shock and to ensure that discretionary expenditure does not place an undue burden on ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7136,339073,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I write with respect and a sincere desire for sensible stewardship of ratepayers' money. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9%.Key concerns- The 7.9% rise equates to about $320 extra per year for the average household adding to the real (2022 dollar) rate rise of 30% since amalgamation far outstripping cumulative inflation. In a time of cost-of-living pressures a rate paid to a council must be genuinely justified by

the value delivered.- The proposed increase largely funds CRL operating costs (4.4%) new asset development (1.5%) and asset maintenance (2%). I question whether this level of growth in operating costs and capital spend is necessary when there is a history of elevated waste and escalating supplier expenditure.- The Council's spend on consultants and back-room functions is excessive. The alliance's briefing notes $126 million annually across the group with high average consultant pay. I support reducing consultancy and professional services and focusing on core statutory and essential services.- Cutting discretionary expenditure is essential. The Alliance proposes a prudent alternative budget: reduce total new Council spending by $150 million to cap rate increases at around 3% achieved through targeted personnel cost reforms tighter consultant spend contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Specific measures I support- Reduce personnel costs through organisational efficiency and a controlled hiring stance to curb escalating payroll.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to secure better value.- Prioritise essential statutory services over discretionary programmes including carefully evaluating programmes currently funded under 'Māori outcomes' and other non-statutory spending.Additional points- I urge a transparent independent review of all major line items to demonstrate value for money and to identify any wasteful or duplicative activities.ClosingI would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7137,339072,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful council spending before any rate rise is approved.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to roughly $320 for the average household on top of real rate increases that have outpaced inflation and population growth since 2010. The Council should not normalise such growth when many households are already stretched.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose ongoing Māori-specific spending of roughly $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Alternative Budget and common-sense measures- I back the Ratepayers' Alliance approach to cap average residential rate increases at around 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction). This includes: $50 million from personnel cost controls $50 million from capping consultancy spend $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Personal perspectiveWayne Brown was elected on cutting waste yet spending growth continues. I am disappointed that spending reductions have not been achieved and I urge the Council to demonstrate real reform before increasing rates.Please consider these points as the basis for a responsible lower-rate plan that focuses on essential services and genuine efficiency gains.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,

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7138,339071,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average increase. For context the current average residential rates bill is $4069 with real increases since 2022 of about 30 percent in 2022 dollars against 12 percent cumulative inflation. The breakdown shows 2 percent to maintain existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. I question whether this level of uplift is sustainable or properly prioritised.I support a comprehensive reduction in wasteful and non-core spending. Specifically:- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council should reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these items.- The Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and claimed to save carbon should be cancelled.- Staffing costs should be restrained: freeze hiring for non-essential roles and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Maori-specific spending should be reviewed including the roughly $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes function (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government responsibility.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap the average residential rates increase at 3 percent. This would be achieved by a mix of lower personnel costs capped consultancy spend contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In addition I request that the Council prioritise the review of direct operating expenditure and corporate functions recognising that personnel costs and 'other expenses' have risen faster than inflation in recent years.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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7142,339067,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1. Opposition to the rates rise and inflation alignment- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This represents a real burden on households with current average residential rates around $4069 and a cumulative increase since 2022 of about 30 percent in real terms far above general inflation. The proposed split shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs and the remainder for maintaining assets and growing assets; the overall impact is still excessive for ratepayers.2. Spending reform and core service emphasis- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council must cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continual increases.- I support the Council's plan to freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.3. Specific programme reductions and statutory priorities- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme at its current cost of $36 million per year noting it emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or significantly review targeted Maori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) as this is not a core local government role.- Align budget with statutory and essential services prioritising core responsibilities over discretionary grants and non-core programmes such as lavish cultural events.4. Alternative budget and funding approach- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap average residential rates at about 3 percent. This would be achieved through: (a)

$50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze (b) $50 million from cap on consultants (c) $30 million from contract renegotiations and (d) $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request the opportunity to present at hearings to further explain these positions. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7145,339064,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to prioritise responsible budgeting that protects households while funding core essential services.The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 more per average household on top of a rate bill that has grown from $2781 in 2022 to $4069 today. Since 2010 rates have risen 85%â€"well above inflation and population growth. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This reinforces the case that the bulk of the rise is driven by operating costs and expansion not necessary ratepayer relief.Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance analysis demonstrates that significant savings are possible through prudent expenditure reductions. I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rates) achieved by:- Freezing hiring for non-essential roles and limiting payroll growth to save $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants to save a further $50 million.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to save $20 million.In addition I request a transparent review of discretionary programmes. Specifically I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and according to the Alliance briefing emits more carbon than it saves. I also believe staffing efficiencies are necessary: freezing vacancies or reducing payroll costs would save at least $17 million immediately. I disagree with expanding Māori-focused spending beyond what is required of local government including the $10 million per year for the Maori outcomes office (Ngā Mātārae) and advocate focusing resources on statutory duties.These steps would enable a fairer rate outcome for residents while preserving essential services. I urge the Council to adopt a disciplined budget approach that curbs wasteful backroom spending and consultants before imposing further burden on 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.

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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7148

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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% which equates to roughly $320 for the average household and continues rates growth well above inflation. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen by 85%â€”far outpacing cumulative inflation (about 34%) and population growth (about 22%). The proposed split of the increaseâ€”2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”adds to the burden on households already squeezed by high living costs.I urge the Council to reduce wasteful expenditure and pursue a smaller more sustainable cost base. Specifically I support:- Reducing personnel costs through

organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services and reducing overall reliance on external advice.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve meaningful savings.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and aligning spending with core Council and CCO mandates.The Council should target a lower rate increase by implementing the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the rate rise at about 3%. This would be achieved through the combination above and through a more prudent approach to personnel consultants and corporate backroom functions. Current data shows Council payroll at about $1.3 billion and consultant/contractor expenditure around $590 million; cutting these areas would materially reduce the need to raise rates.I also urge scrutiny of non-core spend including the $171 million over 10 years on Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) and related programmes to ensure alignment with local government responsibilities and value for ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7153,339056,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to demand decisive action to cut wasteful Council spending. The proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household which is well above inflation and well beyond what residents can justify.Key points:1) The 7.9% increase should be rejected or substantially reduced. The Council should aim for an average increase closer to 3% by cutting discretionary and non-core spend not by raising rates on households already paying a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) amid 12% inflation over the period.2) Reduce corporate and backroom costs. Spending on consultants and other professional services is excessive with $126 million per year across the Council group and an average consultant salary around $200k. Cut these costs as part of an organisational efficiency program.3) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Not hiring non-essential roles and freezing vacancies would save at least $17 million immediately.4) Reprioritise spending away from non-core programmes. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which costs more in emissions than it saves and scale back or pause non-essential and ideological initiatives such as minority-targeted campaigns and cultural events not essential to core local government functions.5) Curb Māori outcomes spending. The $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as this is not a core local government role.Additional points:- The proposed 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets are not acceptable alone to justify such a large rise when wasteful spend continues elsewhere.- A realistic re-budgeting of staff costs consultants and vendor contracts plus a focus on essential services and statutory duties can cap rates increases at or below 3%.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7171,339038,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a focused credible plan to reduce wasteful spending while protecting essential services.Key points:- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about

$320 for the average household on top of already high bills (current average residential rates of $4069). Over the period since 2010 rates have risen 85% far exceeding inflation and population growth indicating a need for restraint and reform.- A substantial portion of the increase is driven by CRL operating costs (4.4%) new asset spending (1.5%) and asset maintenance (2%). I support prioritising essential services and statutory duties over discretionary spend and I object to continuing rises driven by backroom and consultancy costs.- Council spending on consultants totals around $126 million per year across the group with an average consultant pay around $200000. Direct calls for cost discipline are warranted including freezing non-essential roles and limiting external advisory work.- Payroll and personnel costs have risen sharply with payroll at about $1.3 billion and six-figure staff numbers increasing. I support freezes or reductions in staffing for non-essential roles and a pause on external hires that do not deliver core public value.- Spending on Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) is $171 million over ten years. I consider this a government function beyond local remit and urge rebalancing towards statutory responsibilities.Alternative budget measures I support:- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates to about 3% achieved by: freezing non-essential hires ($50m) capping consultants ($50m) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30m) and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants ($20m).- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36m/year) if it does not demonstrate net carbon savings.- Sell non-strategic assets such as Auckland Airport shares where appropriate.Additionally I propose freezing vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7185,339024,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,This level of increase equivalent to about $320 for the average household is excessive given that rates have risen 30 percent in real terms since 2022 (well above cumulative inflation) and that growth in population has not kept pace with spend. The current average residential rates bill sits at $4069 and the proposed uplift adds financial pressure on households already grappling with high living costs.I support the following positions as important cost-control measures for this Council and its CCOs:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.2) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continued growth in these areas.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Aligned with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget I urge a targeted reduction of new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3 percent. This should be achieved by:- $50 million via organisational change and a hiring freeze on non-essential positions- $50 million by capping consultancy/contractor spend- $30 million through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsIn summary a lower more sustainable rates path is achievable through disciplined cost control and a clear reallocation away from non-essential and non-core programs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,

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7193,339016,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and with the proposed increase the average household could see about $320 more per year. That is a real burden when inflation and living costs remain high.My positions:- Oppose the 7.9 percent increase and the overall growth in rates above inflation. The Council should prioritise value for money and restraint on operating and capital costs.- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs including staff and payroll costs where non-essential roles can be frozen or vacancies not filled.- The Council needs to reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme estimated at around $36 million per year which the Alliance argues emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this can deliver immediate savings potentially at least $17 million.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core local-government duty.- Stop the excessive spending on cycleways and oppose policies that reduce traffic lanes and worsen peak-hour congestion (e.g. in areas like Glen Innes).- Oppose any form of congestion tax that would add to cost of living for Aucklanders.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases) through targeted reductions in personnel costs consulting contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I request the opportunity to present my views in hearings to explain these points in person.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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7202,339007,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,To Auckland CouncilI {name redacted} of {address redacted} submit this formal objection to your proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to call for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending.1. Opposition to the rate rise- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. This represents a real-terms burden well above inflation since 2022 (30% real increase vs. 12% inflation) and should not be accepted without meaningful restraint.- The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. Such composition suggests there is room to limit non-essential spend rather than imposing the full uplift on ratepayers.2. Call for reductions in wasteful expenditure- Reduce personnel costs and freeze hiring for vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services; the current level is excessive and unsustainable.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to deliver other savings.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and pause non-core initiatives.3. Specific spending concerns and targets- Spending on consultants and contractors totals around $590 million; a cap is necessary.- Payroll costs are a major driver with 6123 council staff on six-figure salaries and 72 paid more than the mayor; structural review is overdue.- The Food Scraps Programme at $36 million per year should be cancelled if it emits more carbon than it saves.- Māori-focused spending including the $10 million/year allocated to Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) should be reconsidered as a core local-government function; redirect to

statutory services where appropriate.4. Alternative budget proposal- The Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) could cap average residential rate increases at around 3%: - $50 million from personnel costs - $50 million from consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grantsI request the opportunity to present at hearings to expand on these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7207,339002,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,With current average residential rates at $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of about 30% while cumulative inflation sits around 12% rates are rising well ahead of inflation and population growth. The proposed 7.9% increase is not affordable for households across Auckland.I support the need to curb wasteful Council spending and to constrain increases to essential services only. To ensure rates increase remains aligned with inflation and can be kept reasonable I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping the average residential rates increase at about 3%. Specific avenues include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping spending on consultants and professional services: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionI urge the Council to take immediate action on the following items which would also contribute to a more prudent financial trajectory:- Reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Curb expenditure on consultancy and professional services which has grown significantly.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which in my view emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could deliver substantial immediate savings (at least $17 million).- Reconsider MÃ¤ori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) allocation of around $10 million per year to ensure alignment with local government responsibilities rather than department-level mandates.Thank you for considering these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7232,338977,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to call for a reassessment of Council spending to deliver meaningful savings for households.I agree with the need to limit rate increases and to address wasteful expenditure. In particular:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council should reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continue to increase these items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spendingâ€”such as the approximately $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes'

department (Ngā Mātārae)â€”as this is not a core local government function.Additional context and reasonable expectations:- The business as usual approach including high consultants' fees and back-office payroll growth has contributed to rate increases well above inflation. A credible alternative budget would reduce new spending by about $150 million (2%) capping rates to around 3% by: cutting personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.- For simple tangible savings target corporate and administrative functions (eighteen corporate and business support functions) where substantial expenditure has occurred totalling hundreds of millions of dollars in recent years.We do not have cash trees and ratepayers cannot sustain further increases for limited outcomes. Rein in spending now.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7235,338974,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to cut wasteful spending and to better prioritise essential local services.Key points for consideration- The proposed 7.9% rate rise translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outstripping inflation and population growth. A more responsible path is needed to curb costs.- A substantial portion of the increase is linked to CRL operating costs (4.4%) plus ongoing asset maintenance (2%) and new assets for growth (1.5%). Given cost pressures on households these components must be scrutinised.- The Council's expenditure on consultants and backroom functions is excessive. The Alliance's briefing shows consultant spend at $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200000. This is an area ripe for savings through procurement reform and staff realignment.- I support reducing payroll and staffing costs by freezing non-essential hires and delaying vacant positions which could save at least $17 million immediately.- The Food Scraps Programme at $36 million per year is a costly initiative with questionable carbon savings. It should be cancelled or redirected to core council services with proven outcomes.- Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) allocation of about $10 million per year should be reviewed to ensure alignment with the statutory responsibilities of local government and essential services rather than expanding non-core programmes.Alternative budget and concrete savings- I endorse the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping rate increases to around 3% by: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze ($50 million) - Capping consultant spend ($50 million) - Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million) - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million)ConclusionA fairer more affordable plan is achievable by trimming wasteful expenditure and refocusing on core council responsibilities. Living costs are already rising; the rate increase must reflect that reality.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7239,338970,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in a personal and sincere tone to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending.The case for restraint is clear. The proposed

7.9% increase translates to about $320 extra per average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far exceeding inflation and population growth. A fairer more responsible path is to curb expenditure before increasing bills on residents.I support the following positions:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council must reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allow continued growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and 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 role.To align with more affordable services I endorse the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) keeping rates increases to around 3%. This would be achieved by a combination of personnel cost reductions capping consultancy spending renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional practical focus should include better control of Tree and Roading contractor spend and performance to ensure value for money and quality work.Closing:I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7252,338957,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed increase and support a plan to reduce overall Council expenditure rather than raise rates. The current trajectory shows rates rising far faster than inflation and population growth with a real increase of 30% since 2022 in the 2022-dollar terms well above consumer price pressures. The breakdown of the 7.9% increaseâ€”2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”highlights a tendency to push costs onto ratepayers without demonstrable efficiency gains.I call for immediate containment of wasteful spending. The Council should cut spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and urgently reduce consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to escalate these costs. The Food Scraps Programme at $36 million per year should be cancelled as it costs far more than it saves in carbon and does not deliver value for ratepayers.I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million right away. I also urge cutting Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.To achieve a more responsible rate path I endorse the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average residential rates increase at 3%. This would be achieved through a combination of personnel cost controls capping consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional point: living in Auckland city is becoming unaffordable and the current financial burden on households must be reversed through prudent expenditure controls rather than higher rates.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7258,338951,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing shows the current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent against 12 percent inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent increase (about $320 for the average household) is therefore not aligned with growth in living costs and is not justified by outcomes delivered.I agree with the following positions:1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. Rates should reflect inflation and realistic service needs not continuing above-inflation hikes.2) The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) The Council needs to reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.4) The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.5) 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.6) The Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) recognising that this is not a core local government function.Additional context and expectations:- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the rate rise at approximately 3 percent through targeted cuts to personnel costs consultant spending contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.- Direct operating expenditure has risen far faster than inflation and personnel costs remain a major share of expenditure. A focus on efficiency procurement consolidation and staffing discipline is warranted.Closing:I request the Council's careful consideration of these points and urge adoption of a more restrained rate outcome with explicit efficiency measures.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7262,338947,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The current rates rise and especially the 30 percent real increase since 2022 are not sustainable for households in our community when inflation remains substantial.Key concerns and requested actions:- Oppose the 7.9% average increase. This rate places an unfair burden on ratepayers particularly as the Council continues to incur high backroom and corporate costs.- Expenditure reductions are essential. The Council should reduce spending on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these budgets. The briefing shows about $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group with the average consultant around $200000.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year and with claims of carbon savings not materialising this programme should be halted to protect ratepayers from wasteful expenditure.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately addressing growing personnel costs and salaries that outpace inflation.- Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes function (Ngā Mātārae) is presented as a local-government issue; I believe this is not a core local government responsibility and should be reconsidered to prioritise statutory and essential services.I support the Ratepayers' Alliance's alternative budget approach including a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) to cap the rate increase at approximately 3 percent. Specifically: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory services

over discretionary grants.Thank you for considering these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7268,338941,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key points1) I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This would amount to approximately $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (vs. 12 percent cumulative inflation) and is not justified by the currently disclosed breakdown (2% for existing assets 1.5% for growth 4.4% for CRL operating costs).2) Spending reductions must precede rate increases. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget shows a feasible path to cap the rate rise at around 3 percent by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) including:- Freezing or restricting non-essential staffing and payroll; not hiring for vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reducing expenditure on consultants and professional services by $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation saving $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.3) Corporate and backroom efficiency. The Council and CCOs should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and curb consultant spend which currently totals hundreds of millions of dollars annually. The baseline figures indicate a need to rebalance spend toward core local government functions.4) Payroll and Maori outcomes spending. The submitter supports freezing staffing where possible and reducing payroll costs given concerns about rising personnel costs and the proportion of staff salaries relative to service delivery. I also oppose continued or expanded spend on Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) beyond what is necessary for statutory duties noting the $10 million per year allocation.5) Overall approach. Given the scale of rates increases since 2010 and the burden on households a prudent path is to prioritise statutory and essential services improve efficiency and curb non-essential growing spending before asking households to shoulder higher rates.Closing and hearing requestI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7271,338938,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Based on current data this is a real burden on households including mine and is not justified by the rate of inflation or the level of service growth.Key points in support of my position:1) Rates burden and efficiency: The proposed 7.9% increase roughly $320 for the average household compounds the 30% real rate rise since 2022 and continues a pattern of outsized increases relative to inflation. I urge council to limit the rate rise to no more than 3% consistent with a prudent and fair approach to spending.2) Leaner corporate and backroom functions: The council group spends heavily on corporate services and backroom functions. I support reducing expenditure in this area to better align with essential services and statutory functions.3) Consultancy and professional services: Spending on consultants and external advisers is excessive and should be capped. Reducing these expenses will help constrain rate rises.4) Food Scraps Programme: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves.5) Payroll and staffing: Freeze hiring for non-essential roles and aim to reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant positions â€” this could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Maori Outcomes spending: I oppose allocating $10 million

per year to Ngā Mātārae as a function of local government; prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.Additional context:The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes an alternative budget that reduces new council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rate increases to 3% through targeted savings in personnel consultants contractual renegotiations and essential services. I support pursuing similar savings to protect households from unnecessary rate 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7282

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 the Council to pursue meaningful savings and reallocation of funds to protect households from continuing above-inflation rate rises.Key points:1) Rates are already high and rising faster than inflation. The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 extra per average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far outpacing inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A more affordable path is needed.2) Reducing wasteful spending and backroom costs. The Council should cut expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and

CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services which are driving costs upward. The submission aligns with reducing such outlays to limit ratepayer burden.3) Specific programme cuts and payroll restraint. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in assessment emits more carbon than it saves. Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately. The Council should also cap or reduce spending on staff and consultants.4) Reconsideration of targeted programmes. I support reducing Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department as this is not a core local government function.Alternative budget approach:I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to about 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 and essential services over discretionary grantsClosing:I request to register opposition to the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to be considered for speaking at hearings as part of the submission process.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7283

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. The proposed increase represents a real burden on households with an average rise of about $320 per year for the typical Auckland home while your own data show rates have risen 85% since 2010 and activity costs have far outpaced inflation.1) Spending reductions must front the rate relief. Agreed: reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allow these to keep growing. The Council's annual consultation

should reflect a tighter value-for-money approach to administration.2) Stop or scale back discretionary programmes. Agreed: cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and as claimed emits more carbon than it saves. Reallocate any remaining funds to essential services with proven community benefit.3) Freeze staffing and payroll savings. Agreed: freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. The proposed frontline impact must not come at the expense of core services; freezing non-essential roles can deliver immediate savings (the figure cited is at least $17 million).4) Reprioritise Māori-specific spending. Agreed: cut expenditure on Māori outcomes such as the Ngā Mātārae department noting this is not a function of local government. Reprioritising to statutory and essential services will align with core council duties.5) Financial realism for households. The current trajectory is unaffordable for many residents including pensioners. With the real increases and broad cost pressures the Council should act to stabilise rates closer to inflation not accelerate financial strain on households already stretched by national and global conditions.Additional point: the ratepayer community cannot absorb a continued pattern of outsized growth in consultants six-figure salaries and discretionary grants without compromising essential services.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.
	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.
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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7304

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 trajectory shows rates rising far faster than inflation and population growth with a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 (vs. 12 percent overall inflation). The proposed 7.9 percent increase equating to about $320 for the average household is unacceptable without substantial efficiency gains.Agreed positions1) Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and support keeping the rise to around 3% by reducing new and existing expenditure.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) Curb spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these costs.4) Cancel the

Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits 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 Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Rationale and requested actions- The Council's spending on consultants totals $126 million annually across the group; the Auckland Council parent accounts for $60 million. A reduction in consultancy and backroom spend is the most straightforward path to lower rates while preserving essential services.- Direct operating expenditure grew 78% between 2013 and 2023 far outpacing inflation. A 2% reduction in overall new spending coupled with targeted payroll controls would meet the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget target and cap rates growth at roughly 3%.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. Reallocate funds from non-core programmes to maintain core municipal functions and safety.ClosingI request the opportunity to present my submission at hearings. 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.

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.)

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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7310

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 since 2022 real increases are 30 percent well above cumulative inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent rise with 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs 2 percent to maintain existing assets and 1.5 percent for new assets is not acceptable without meaningful efficiency and reform.I am calling for substantial reductions in wasteful council spending before any rate increase is approved. The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continue to grow these items. The documented level of consultant

spendâ€”$126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant receiving about $200kâ€”must be reduced. Personnel costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation; freeze non-essential hiring and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.I also urge scoping and cancellation of non-core programmes. Specifically:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or significantly scale back Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given it is not a core local-government role.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I support the Council's imperative to overhaul its operations toward a leaner budget curb fruitless spending and gain a clearer grip on the services provided to ratepayers.In summary reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent cap on rate rises is achievable) through:- $50 million from personnel costs and hiring freezes- $50 million from capping consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grantsClosing: 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7311

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 7.9% increase and support a constructive solution-focused path to keeping rates affordable. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with real increases since 2022 of about 30% while inflation has risen by roughly 12%. The proposed breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs and 2% for maintaining existing assets suggesting room to prioritise essential services and efficiency over higher charges to households.A practical way to moderate rates is to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rates increase at around 3%. This plan prioritises core services and

delivers concrete savings through:- Reducing personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes where appropriate (approximately $50 million).- Capping spending on consultants and professional services (approximately $50 million).- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors (about $30 million).- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants (about $20 million).I emphasise the need to reduce wasteful expenditure in corporate and back-office functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb the growth in consultancy and professional services. Direct operating expenditure and payroll have grown far beyond inflation with consultants costing the Council and related entities hundreds of millions in recent years. More prudent management of core service contractors is essential.I also call for cancelling non-essential programmes such as the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million/year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. I further request a reduction in non-essential Maori-specific spending including the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting this remit is better addressed by central government and iwi partners rather than local government.I appreciate the obligation to deliver value for ratepayers and urge the Council to adopt a more targeted approach that protects essential services while delivering tangible efficiency gains.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7323

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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

To Auckland Council1. Opening| {name redacted} of {address redacted} submit my strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27 and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending.2. Key positions- Oppose the 7.9% average rates increase. The proposed rise is inconsistent with tax-payer value and outpaces personal earnings growth and inflation.- Reduce corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs. The current cost base includes extensive contractor use and bloated back-office functions that must be trimmed.- Curb consultancy and professional services expenditure. Spending on consultants

remains high and should be capped and reprioritised toward core services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year it costs ratepayers and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. A immediate saving of at least $17 million is achievable.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae/Māori outcomes budget (approx. $10 million per year) on the basis that this is not a local government core function.- Stop commercial rate hikes that burden small businesses. Rates increases have already reached around 21% in recent years in the business sector threatening viability.3. Supporting data and rationale- The 7.9% rise comprises 2% for existing asset maintenance 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs.- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far exceeding inflation and population growth; this trajectory is unsustainable for households and businesses.- Significant expenditure on consultants ($126 million per year across the Council group) and six-figure salaries across staff indicate room for substantial savings without compromising essential services.4. Alternative budgeting approachPer the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) achieving a 3% cap on rates through:- $50 million savings from personnel costs and hiring freezes- $50 million from cap on consultants- $30 million from renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants5. ClosingI request consideration of these reductions and oppose any rate rise above inflation. 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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	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7335

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for restraint in Council spending. The proposed rise would place a real burden on households already contending with inflation and stagnant wages.Key points1) Rates and affordability: The 7.9% increase equates to about $320 more per average household on a current average bill of $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen far faster than inflation and population growth; the current plan continues this trend without demonstrable evidence of proportionate service delivery improvements.2) Spending reductions as the path to lower rates: The Council must prioritise

statutory and essential services over discretionary items. The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates how a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2% overall) could cap the rate rise at about 3% delivering relief to ratepayers.3) Targeted savings proposals: - Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services.- Pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to lower operating costs.- Reprioritise expenditure away from discretionary grants to essential services.4) Specific reductions from the current spending profile: - Stop the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and has carbon outcomes that are not net-positive.- Defer or scale back Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) allocation of around $10 million annually arguing that local government should focus on core statutory functions.5) Governance and efficiency: The evidence shows persistent cost growth in personnel and back-office functions. A comprehensive organisational review coupled with a hiring freeze for non-essential roles should be undertaken to reduce overhead and reallocate savings to critical services.I request that the Council consider these cost-saving measures and how they align with the priorities of ratepayers to maintain affordable essential services while reducing wasteful 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7340

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 input to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council expenditure with a focus on delivering essential services more efficiently.1. Rates and affordability- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 more per average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and 85% since theSuper City amalgamation far outpacing both inflation and population growth.- A more prudent approach is required. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes a 3% cap on the rates rise achieved by reducing new and ongoing spending.2.

Spending reforms and waste reduction- Reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Curb consultancy and professional services spend; the current level is unsustainable.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Rigorously review all expenditure including Māori development to ensure value for ratepayer money.3. Specific program and priorities- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (about $36 million/year) on the basis that it costs more in emissions than it saves.- Reassess the $10 million/year allocated to Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.4. Accountability and governance- There is an urgent need for accountability and tighter control on senior staff and contractors. The Council's payroll and consultant costs remain disproportionately high relative to outcomes.- A comprehensive expenditure review across all departments and CCOs should precede any further rate increases.In closing I request that the Council adopt controls on spending to keep rate rises to the lowest feasible level prioritise core services and implement concrete efficiency measures before seeking higher rates. 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7341

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 the Council to prioritise cost reductions and core services rather than continuing to enlarge expenditure on backroom functions and discretionary programmes.Key concerns and positions- Rates impact: The proposed 7.9% increase is well above inflation and places a heavier burden on households. The real increase since 2022 has already risen substantially while essential services and infrastructure must be maintained within more affordable levels.- Expenditure on corporate and backroom functions: The Council and CCOs should reduce corporate cost centres and reduce payroll and back-office spend. A leaner

organisational structure will better align costs with value delivered to residents.- Consultants and professional services: Freeze or significantly reduce spend on consultants and external advisers. A more constrained hiring and procurement approach is needed to curb unnecessary external costs.- Food Scraps Programme: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and purportedly emits more carbon than it saves. This is not a prudent use of ratepayer funds.- Staffing and payroll: Freeze non-essential vacancies and avoid new hires for non-critical roles. Stopping hires could save at least $17 million immediately.- Māori outcomes spending: Reconsider the approx. $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) area which is not a core local government function. Reallocating funds to statutory and essential services would better serve ratepayers.- Overall approach: Stop AT wasting money and ensure every dollar spent is justified by essential service delivery and community benefit.Additional points- The Alternative Budget framework suggests a reduction in new Council spending by $150 million enabling a targeted rate increase of around 3% through clear prioritisation of statutory and essential services.ConclusionI request the Council to revise the plan to restrain rate increases prioritise essential services and implement the proposed cost-saving measures above. 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7342

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 points1) Rate increase: The proposed 7.9% is well above inflation and places an undue burden on households. The current average bill is $4069 a rise of 30% in real terms since 2022 while inflation has been only 12%. A more prudent approach would prioritise essential services and cost containment.2) Spending reductions: The Council must cut back on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Spending on consultants is excessive (about $126 million per year across the group with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent). Average consultant pay is around $200k and payroll and related expenses have risen far faster than inflation.3) Specific

cost-saving measures: - Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and is not proven to save net emissions.- Freeze staffing or cut payroll by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Freeze or cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' programme currently about $10 million per year which is not a core local government function.4) Alternative budget stance: Following the Ratepayers' Alliance approach reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3% funded by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants and by renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors.5) Accountability and governance: Direct the Council to focus on core statutory duties reduce consultants and non-essential staff costs and pursue efficiency savings before imposing higher rates on ratepayers.Additional points: You serve the community we the ratepayers are not here to serve you. Do your job stop the waste and cut spending to serve the community. Auckland rail serves only a portion of residents; prioritise value for money sell non-core assets where appropriate and repay debt responsibly.ClosingI request the opportunity to speak at hearings to present these concerns in person but 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7349

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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% and urge a significant review of council spending to protect households from ongoing cost pressures.1) Rates and affordability- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rates rise of 30% since 2022 (well above cumulative inflation). I request the council to prioritise affordability and cap the rate rise at a level closer to inflation using responsible budgeting rather than further burdening ratepayers.2) Spending reform and backroom costs- The council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and

curb the rapid growth in consultancy and professional services. Current data show consultants cost about $126 million per year across the Council group with the Auckland Council parent accounting for a large share and average consultants earning substantial fees. Cutting these costs is essential to bring rates increases under control.3) Specific savings measures- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- 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.- Implement contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to free up funds for necessary services without escalating rates.4) Suburban accessibility and planning- Address the issue of subdivisions with no parking in lower-income areas. Cars are forced into limited spaces often leading to illegal parking and blocked roads. A better planning approach is needed to ensure residents have viable transport options and safe accessible neighbourhoods.I request that the council consider these reforms to constrain rates increases while maintaining essential services and improving efficiency. 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
	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7360

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 response in a constructive and solution-focused manner to oppose the proposed average 7.9% residential rates increase and to propose reductions in wasteful Council spending.1. Overall rates and affordability- I oppose the average 7.9% increase which would raise the typical bill by about $320 for the average household. This sits well above inflation and place pressures on households already stretched by cost-of-living pressures. I urge Council to aim for a much lower increase closer to 3% or less consistent with the need to constrain non-essential spending.2. Spending reforms to lower rates- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and

backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Curb spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.3. Specific programme savings- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Reduce or reallocate Māori outcomes spending; the $10 million per year directed to the Ngā Mātārae department should be reconsidered as a core local-government role.4. Structural and efficiency improvements- Overhaul traffic management compliance and overhead within roadworks and infrastructure projects especially in 50 km/h or less speed zones to save millions in project overhead and improve efficiency without compromising safety.5. Alternative budget approach- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap rates increases at around 3%. This includes: $50 million from personnel cost reforms $50 million from capping consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In closing I request that the Council consider these cost-saving measures seriously and respond with a plan to keep rates affordable while 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.

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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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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7364

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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

The rate rise is not affordable for households already struggling with inflation and the real increase in rates since 2022 is unacceptable.Key concerns and positions:1) Rates increase and cost drivers: The proposed 7.9% uplift equates to about $320 more per year for the average household (current average residential bill approximately $4069). Since 2022 rates are up by 30% in real terms while overall inflation has been 12%. A rise above inflation is unreasonable and unsustainable for residents.2) Wasteful spending and backroom costs: Council spending on consultants remains excessive at about $126 million per year across the group; average consultant payments exceed

$200000. There is a clear need to reduce corporate and backroom functions across both the Council and CCOs.3) Reducing non-essential payroll and hiring: Freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately. Personnel costs and other expenses have grown faster than inflation contributing to unaffordable rate demands.4) Contracting and governance: There should be tighter contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save around $30 million with a broader cap on consultancy spend at $50 million as part of an overall Â£150 million reduction in new Council spending.5) Discretionary programmes: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year due to its carbon impact being greater than the savings. I also oppose expanding spending on Māori outcomes at the current level; reducing the $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae department is appropriate as this is not a core local government function.6) Prioritisation: Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to protect core city functions and ratepayer interests.Alternative budget and outcome:Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) aiming to cap average residential rates at around 3% through the measures outlined above.I request consideration of these points and urge a responsible lower-rate outcome.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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	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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7370

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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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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 prioritising essential services and responsible financial management.1) Rate increase and financial restraint- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise is excessive when viewed against inflation and population growth. A more prudent target would be to hold increases to around 3% consistent with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget which would require reducing non-essential expenditure.- The Alliance proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) enabling a cap of roughly 3% on

residential rates. This would come from: $50 million saved by freezing hiring and reducing payroll costs for vacant non-essential roles $50 million saved by capping consultant and professional services expenditure $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.2) Wasteful spending and efficiency- The Council should reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and slash consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled: it costs about $36 million per year and based on available analysis emits more carbon than it saves.3) Staffing and Māori Outcomes- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose expanding or continuing expenditure on Māori-specific programmes that are not a core local government responsibility; specifically the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department which should be funded from core statutory responsibilities rather than new discretionary programmes.4) Overall objective- Prioritise statutory and essential services reduce duplication and ensure transparent accountable budgeting that aligns with residents' expectations and inflationary realities.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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	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7377

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

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**
- **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% increase is excessive. The Alliance data shows a real increase in rates since 2022 of around 30% far above the 12% general inflation. The breakdown of the increaseâ€”2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth in new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”illustrates a cost base that cannot justify another sharp rise on households already stretched by higher living costs. I oppose an average rise of at least 7.9% and support capping rates increases around 3%.I call for immediate reductions in wasteful expenditure. Core recommendations include:- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least

$17 million straight away.- Reduce spending on consultants and professional services; your briefing notes indicate $126 million per year across the Council group with average consultants earning around $200k. Cap this spend and pursue in-house capability where possible.- Cancel discretionary programmes that do not align with essential statutory services notably the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Renegotiate contracts pursue vendor consolidation and prioritise statutory services over discretionary grants.- Limit Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' programme at $10 million per year acknowledging this is not a core local government function.I support the Council's alternative budget approach: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping average residential rates increase to roughly 3% if accompanied by the above measures.Additional points: an independent annual audit of Council finances would improve accountability. If these funds are not used prudently ratepayers will rightly question the justification for continuing to fund a city-wide agenda that siphons money away from essential local services. Our rates should fund essential services not speculative reform projects.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7386

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 which equates to about $320 for the average household. The rate burden is already significant: current average residential bills are $4069 and real increases since 2022 are around 30% while inflation has been roughly 12%. The proposed mixâ€”2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”does not justify further burden on households.I support measures to reduce wasteful public expenditure and prioritise essential services. My positions are:1) Oppose the 7.9% rate increase and support capping rates growth to

around 3% by cutting wasteful spending.2) Reduce personnel costs by freezing hiring for vacant non-essential roles and pursuing organisational changes to lower payroll costs (this could save at least $17 million immediately).3) Curb spending on consultants and high-cost professional services; cap or progressively reduce these outlays.4) Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to achieve savings of about $30 million.5) Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants; reallocate to core Council functions.6) Reduce Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government responsibility.Additionally the Council should urgently address the overall cost structure: payroll eats a significant share of the budget (Council and CCO staff on six-figure salaries with many paid well above $200000; payroll currently around $1.3 billion; consultants and contractors about $590 million). Direct operating expenditure rose well above inflation over the past decade and many support functions show elevated costs. An alternative budget proposing a $150 million reduction in new spend (2% reduction) demonstrates that a materially lower rates rise is achievable: it relies on staffing discipline consultant caps contract renegotiations 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):

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- **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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	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7391

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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.

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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 strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to call for an immediate reduction in wasteful Council spending.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive this year. It represents a real burden on households already facing high living costs and comes amid a 30% real rates rise since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) while inflation has run 12% over the same period.- The breakdown shows roughly 4.4% of the increase covers CRL operating costs with only 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets tied to growth. This calls for stringent cost discipline before asking households to fund growth and

major projects.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these lines.- The Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year and said 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 which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cutting Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) is appropriate given the responsibilities of local government and the need to prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary targets.Budget alternativeI support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at around 3%. This should be achieved by: (i) reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze; (ii) capping spending on consultants; (iii) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; (iv) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingPlease consider that the community requires responsible stewardship of ratepayer dollars with restraint on discretionary programmes and a clear path to affordable rates.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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	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7392

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 up from $2781 in 2022 representing a real increase of around 30% since 2022 (versus 12% overall inflation). I urge Council to align rate rises with inflation and population growth not to exceed them.Key concerns and positions:1) Oppose the 7.9% average increase. A more prudent approach is required with a target to cap the rate rise at approximately 3% through targeted savings.2) Reduce spending on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. The current spend on consultants ($126 million per year) and the broader payroll/overhead burden are excessive for the delivery of essential services.3) Stop

staffing where vacant non-essential roles exist and stop increases in payroll costs. I support freezing hiring and reducing payroll costs to deliver immediate savingsâ€”at least $17 million right away.4) Curb consultancy and professional services. A reduction in these ongoing costs is essential to stabilise rates.5) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme estimated at $36 million per year. Hardly anyone is interested in this program I dont see very many bins out on collection day. Our household is not participating.6) Re-prioritise spending away from discretionary grants toward essential statutory services. Reducing non-core programmes will help stabilise rates.7) Reassess Māori-specific spending including Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) with a view to ensuring Governmental mandates focus on core local services and statutory requirements. Race based spending should have no place in council spend each rate payer should be treated equally no discrimination.Financial context and proposed alternative budget:- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a 3% cap on residential rates. This would be achieved by: - $50 million from personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes - $50 million from limiting consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grantsSound governance requires prudent management of ratepayer funds while maintaining essential services. Please consider these reductions to protect households from further unaffordable rate increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7398,338805,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The rate increase is not affordable for households already facing real cost pressures and it is well above inflation. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and since 2022 this represents a 30% real increase (with cumulative inflation at 12%) a burden that cannot be justified by spending that is out of step with community needs.I support the following positions:- Oppose the 7.9% rate increase and seek a cap closer to 3% funded by reducing wasteful or non-core Council spending.- Reduction of personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze on vacant non-essential roles which should deliver immediate savings of at least $17 million.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services rather than allowing ongoing growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce payroll by refraining from filling non-essential vacancies and re-evaluating staffing levels across the organisation.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.To illustrate the scale of waste the Council already spends heavily on backroom and corporate functions with $126 million per year in consultant costs across the Council group and 6123 staff on six-figure salaries. Direct operating expenditure has grown well beyond inflation and corporate services costs remain disproportionately high. A targeted reduction proposalâ€”reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) as outlined in the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budgetâ€”would deliver a more affordable rates outcome while preserving statutory and essential services.I urge the Council to prioritise core statutory duties and essential services and to reallocate or trim discretionary expenditure accordingly.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7400,338803,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I am submitting to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to call for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending with a focus on delivering better value for ratepayers.1) Opposition to the 7.9% rates rise and focus on value-for-money- The proposed increase is substantial equating to about $320 for the average household and adds to a real sustained rise in rates far beyond inflation since 2022.- Since the Super City amalgamation in 2010 rates have risen about 85% well above inflation and population growth. Ratepayers deserve a plan that restrains increases while maintaining essential services.2) Wasteful spending and spending controls- I support reducing spend on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- I support cutting consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to keep rising.- I oppose the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose ongoing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) unless a clear statutory local-government justification is demonstrated.3) Additional concerns- I am sick of continually increasing rates while receiving diminishing value. I will not use the compost bins and object to paying for them reinforcing the need for more targeted value-driven expenditure.Proposed budget alignment- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) capping rates rises to around 3% by: trimming personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. These steps should translate into a fairer more affordable rates outcome.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7428,338775,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan. I oppose the suggested average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and urge the Council to address wasteful spending before raising bills on households.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a cumulative real increase of 30% since 2022 (versus 12% general inflation). Such increases are unsustainable for households and fail to reflect value for money in light of documented cost pressures within the Council.- A substantial portion of the rise is allocated to CRL operating costs (4.4%) while only 2% is for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. I urge a rebalancing toward efficiency and core statutory services.- The Council's spending on consultants remains excessive with about $126 million per year across the group and an average consultant salary around $200000. Reducing external advisory spend is essential to control rates.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance budget proposal demonstrates that significant reductions are possible: cap new spending by cutting personnel costs limit consultant spend renegotiate contracts and prioritise essential services. A targeted saving of $150 million would cap rates growth to about 3% and restore affordability.Specific actions I support- Reduce corporate and backroom/administrative functions across the Council and CCOs.- Freeze non-essential vacancies or slow workforce growth to save at least $17 million immediately.- Cancel or substantially scale back the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is argued to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential roles.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year for the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā

Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.I request that the Council reconsider wasteful expenditure before approving further rate increases and consider a revised plan that prioritises essential services and affordability.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7437,338764,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit my opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a comprehensive reduction in non-essential Council and CCO spending with a focus on delivering essential services efficiently and at affordable rates.1. Rates and affordability- I oppose the 7.9 percent average increase which equates to about $320 extra per household and is not aligned with inflation or the higher cost of living pressures faced by ratepayers.- The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with real increases already well above inflation since 2022. Rates have risen 85 percent since the 2010 Super City amalgamation far outpacing population growth and inflation.2. Spending reductions and efficiency- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Expenditure on consultants and professional services should be curbed rather than continually increased. The Alliance's alternative budget shows $50 million saved from cap or reduction of consultancy spend and a further $50 million from supplier negotiations and vendor consolidation.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reconsider the $171 million allocated over 10 years to Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) as a local government function; prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which based on independent assessments costs more in emissions and does not demonstrably save carbon.3. Additional observations- There is public concern that thousands of new homes on former lots do not translate into proportional ratepayer relief; the Council should ensure money is directed to essential services and sensible capital work not outsized personnel costs or new roles that do not improve core outcomes.I request to speak at a hearing to present these points in more detail.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7454,338747,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a focus on cutting wasteful spending rather than expanding the rate burden on households.The council should implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which would cap average rates increases at 3% by reducing wasteful expenditure by at least $150 million (2%). Specific actions include:1) Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze saving $50 million.2) Cap spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.3) Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save $30 million.4) Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.Key context and concerns:- The proposed 7.9% rise translates to roughly $320 more per average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 far outpacing inflation.- Of the 7.9% increase 4.4% funds CRL operating costs while 2% and 1.5% cover existing asset maintenance and new assets respectively. A continued focus on debt-driven growth is not sustainable for ratepayers.- Spending on consultants is excessive with $126 million annually across

the Council group and an average consultant pay of about $200k; this undermines public confidence in prudent stewardship.- Direct operating expenditure has risen sharply (78% 2013â€“2023 vs. 29% inflation) while payroll dominates core costs (Â£1.3 billion) and back-office functions are disproportionately expensive.- The council's Māori Outcomes spend ($171 million over 10 years) warrants scrutiny given concerns about local governance priorities.Additional concerns raised by residents include questions about the City Rail Link charges affecting remote areas water metering cost escalations and broader affordability pressures on households. I request careful examination of these fiscal priorities and insist on reform before approving further rate increases.In closing 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.
	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7464

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This is well above inflation and places a heavier burden on households already stretched by rising costs.2. I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Substantial savings can be found by changing structures and improving efficiency rather than increasing charges to ratepayers.3. I urge a reduction in spend on consultancy and professional services. The current level of external advice appears unsustainably high and is a clear target for cost discipline.4. I call for the cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and

emits more carbon than it saves. This programme should not be funded at ratepayer expense if benefits are not proven or substantial.5. I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.6. I oppose continuing or expanding Māori-specific spending at current levels such as the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary expenditure in this area.7. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance's proposed alternative budget suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to keep the average rate rise to about 3 percent. This would be achieved through: (a) personnel cost reductions via organisational change and hiring freezes; (b) capping consultancy spend; (c) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; (d) prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.Closing: I request that my submission be considered as part of the public consultation process.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7470

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 make this submission in a constructive solution-focused spirit urging a prudent rebalancing of Auckland's 2026/27 spending in light of the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase.1) Opposition to the rate rise and recognition of cost driversI oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent which equates to about $320 for the average household. Since 2022 real rates have risen by 30 percent in comparison with a 12 percent overall inflation. The proposed splitâ€”2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”fails to justify continued expense growth without corresponding reductions.2) Reducing

wasteful expenditure and backroom costsThe Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Current data show Council-related spending on consultants of roughly $126 million per year with the average consultant earning about $200000. Direct payroll and related costs are high with 1.3 billion spent on payroll and $590 million on consultants and contractors. A focus on organisational efficiency is essential.3) Freeze hiring and control payroll growthFreeze staffing where roles are non-essential and where possible reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant positions. The submitter supports freezing hiring to deliver immediate savings that can be redirected to essential services and debt reduction.4) Targeted reduction to Maori Outcomes spendingReduce Maori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' department on the basis that these are not core local government functions. Reallocate to statutory and essential services while maintaining equitable opportunities.5) Budget reallocation and affordabilityThe Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the rate rise at around 3 percent through targeted savings in personnel consultants and procurement and by prioritising statutory services.In closing I urge careful scrutiny of every line item to protect ratepayers from excessive increases and to deliver value for money through leaner operating models and prudent outsourcing.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?

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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	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7475

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

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 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for reduced wasteful Council spending.Key points guiding my submission:- I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9%. The current rate burden is substantial and a more restrained approach is warranted.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allow continuing growth in these areas.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which the Alliance says could save at least

$17 million immediately.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year for the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government in my view.- I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate increase to around 3%. This would come from13 prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants plus savings from personnel costs cap on consultants and contract renegotiations.Additional context from my perspective as a rural ratepayer:As a rural property owner within the Auckland Council boundary I find it egregious to be asked to subsidise stormwater wastewater and potable water costs for urban areas when we self-provide on-farm infrastructure. We pay for our own rubbish have no street lighting or footpaths yet we face a significant rates bill for services we do not receive. I view the current framework as misaligned with rural realities and frankly as an inappropriate allocation of scarce ratepayer funds.In closing I urge the Council to rethink the proposed increase and pursue substantial efficiency gains including personnel discipline and consultancy reductions to deliver essential services at a more affordable rate. 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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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7492

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

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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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 point: the proposed increase is excessive amounting to about $320 more per average household while real rate increases since 2022 have already reached about 30 percent in current dollars well above inflation. The breakdown shows 4.4 percent of the rise going to CRL operating costs plus 2 percent for asset maintenance and 1.5 percent for new assets. This pattern signals that wasteful backroom spending is driving bills not essential services alone.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance approach to cap rates by cutting discretionary and non-core spend. Specifically:- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases) delivered by: reducing personnel

costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze on non-essential roles ($50 million) capping consultants ($50 million) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million) and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut spend on consultants and professional services rather than permitting continual growth in these lines.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme at $36 million/year given its carbon footprint and lack of net saving.- Freeze or wind back Māori-focused spending including the $10 million/year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that local government should prioritise statutory services.Additional context: personnel costs and 'other expenses' have risen faster than inflation with payroll at about $1.3 billion and consultants at $590 million. Reprioritising these costs aligns with prudent governance and less onerous rate increases for households already stretched by high living costs. In closing I urge a rigorous line-by-line efficiency review and an immediate plan to keep rates increases to around 3 percent or less consistent with a responsible budget.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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- **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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	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7499

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

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**
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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 opposition to the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and in favour of reducing wasteful Council spending. My position is informed by the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing which shows that the current plan embeds significant cost without delivering commensurate local value.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge Council to recognise that the real burden on households persists well above inflation. The proposed breakdown â€" 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs â€" signals structural cost pressures that should be managed through savings

first rather than rate hikes on residents.I support aggressive reductions in wasteful spending:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme at a cost of $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- 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.- Reduce spend on consultants and professional services; the Alliance indicates annual council group consulting costs are $126 million which is excessive.- Curb Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government function.I also support a disciplined overall approach to back-office functions across the Council and CCOs and I call for contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to realise significant savings. By prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants the rate burden on households can be moderated to around 3% if these savings are realised.As a rural resident I emphasise the impact of rate-funded projects on rural infrastructure transport and essential services. The current focus on urban-style amenities risks diverting funds from rural needs like roads lighting and basic connectivity.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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- **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?

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.

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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7507

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

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 submit in opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and in support of reducing wasteful Council spending.Key points- I oppose the 7.9 percent increase. The proposed rise would add approximately $320 to the average household bill on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (against 12 percent consumer inflation). The ratepayer cannot bear ongoing increases that outpace inflation and population growth.- Wasteful or non-core spending must be cut. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb the growth of consultancy and professional services instead of continuing to

increase these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year with emissions outcomes not clearly demonstrated to justify the cost the programme should be halted.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles should be implemented to deliver immediate savings estimated at least $17 million.- Prioritise essential services over discretionary grants. The Council should reallocate resources toward statutory duties and essential services rather than expanding discretionary programmes.- Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a function of local government and should be reconsidered in favour of core council responsibilities.Rationale and alternative approach- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing shows costs have risen materially: payroll and related expenses have grown significantly with high consultant engagement and a substantial portion of expenditure on six-figure salaries. Reducing staffing and consultancy aligns with the need to moderate rate increases in line with inflation and operating necessities.- An alternative budget could reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increase at around 3% by: (1) $50 million from personnel costs; (2) $50 million from consultants; (3) $30 million from contract renegotiations; (4) $20 million from prioritising statutory services.ClosingI request that the Council consider these reductions in its final plan and factor in a more modest rate increase.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I present the following points in a detailed and evidence-based submission:1) Rates increase and affordability- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a long-term trend of rising costs. The current average bill is $4069 which has risen substantially since 2022.- Since the Super City amalgamation in 2010 rates have increased by 85% far exceeding cumulative inflation (12%) and population growth (22%). I oppose further increases that outpace inflation and erode household affordability.2) Wasteful and excessive expenditure- Council spending on consultants is $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200k. This represents a recoverable inefficiency that should be prioritised for reduction.- Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen far faster than inflation including 6123 employees on six-figure salaries and 72 staff paid more than the mayor. Reducing payroll costs would help stabilise rates.- Corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs are subject to substantial cost and I urge reductions in these areas rather than increases to services that drive up rates.3) Specific programme and spend reductions- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) aligning governance with the statutory focus of local government on core services.4) Spending priorities and alternative budgeting- I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million as outlined in the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget to cap the rate rise at about 3 percent.- This includes cuts to personnel consultants and vendor costs with a reallocation toward essential statutory services over discretionary grants.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7514

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 expected rise about $320 for the average household is excessive in real terms and far above acceptable limits when inflation and population growth are considered.Key context from the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing shows:- The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022; the real increase since 2022 is 30 percent versus 12 percent inflation.- The 7.9% uplift breaks down to: 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% to cover CRL operating costs.- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% outpacing inflation and population growth by wide margins.Agreed positions and requests:-

Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and insist on substantial restraint with a target aligned to a much smaller increase.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs; curtail the spend on consultants and professional services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in the Alliance view emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.The Alliance's alternative budget framework suggests a $150 million reduction in new spending (about 2%) yielding a cap in rates increases around 3%. Concrete steps include: reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and hiring freezes capping consultancy spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I urge careful review of efficiency opportunities and a responsible approach to spending before approving any rate rise ensuring core services are preserved while wasteful expenditures are curbed.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7519

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 up from $2781 in 2022 and the real increase since 2022 stands at about 30 percent against 12 percent inflation. A 7.9 percent rise is unfair to households while rates of this scale have become a pattern since the Super City amalgamation with expenditure rising far faster than both inflation and population growth.I support a clear pause and reform of Council spending. The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb the growth of consultancy and professional services. Data show Council spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year including

$60 million by the Auckland Council parent with average consultants earning around $200000. Direct operating expenditure has grown 78 percent from 2013 to 2023 far outpacing inflation. It is essential to address these cost drivers if residents are to see relief on rates.I propose an immediate targeted budget correction aligned to the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2 percent) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3 percent. This should be achieved by:- Freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which can save at least $17 million now.- Curbing spending on consultants by $50 million.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save a further $30 million.- Reprioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to save $20 million.In addition I oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves; cancelling this would contribute to rate relief.I request that the Council consider these changes seriously to keep rates in check and to ensure prudent essential 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.
	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7527

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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% and urge the Council to prioritise responsible spending and value for ratepayers.1. Rate increases and household impact- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a rate bill that has risen from $2781 in 2022 to $4069 today. The real increase since 2022 is 30% far above cumulative inflation (around 12%). A rate rise of this magnitude is not affordable for many households and fails to recognise the burden on families and small businesses.2. Wasteful and excessive spending must be reduced- Council spending on consultants is excessive: $126 million

per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200000. This is not sustainable when combined with general ratepayer pressure.- Personnel costs have grown sharply with 6123 staff on six-figure salaries and 72 staff paid more than the mayor's $306741. Direct operating expenditure has grown 78% between 2013 and 2023 far outpacing inflation.- The expenditure on six-figure corporate and backroom functions totals nearly $868 million in direct expenditure across functions indicating potential inefficiency in governance and support services.- Aligned with this I urge the Council to cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce payroll by not hiring for non-essential vacant roles which 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). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.3. A fiscally prudent alternative- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rate rise at approximately 3% through: - Â£50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and hiring freezes - Â£50 million from limiting consultants - Â£30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - Â£20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grantsClosingI request that the Council considers these savings and modifiers to deliver fairer rates and more prudent 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

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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7539

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and call for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending before any rate rise is approved.Key points- The proposed average 7.9% increase is excessive. This equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and well above inflation. The current average bill now stands at $4069.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Specific

programme costs are not sustainable: I oppose the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which emits more carbon than it saves.- Payroll and staffing costs are excessive. Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- I disagree with expanding Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.- The Council should implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative: reduce new spending by $150 million (2% reduction) capping average residential rates increase at 3% through targeted measures: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze: $50 million - Capping spending on consultants: $50 million - Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million - Prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million- In addition consider operational efficiencies such as rectifying inefficiencies in bus-stop lane use that impede traffic flow.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt a prudent budget that prioritises core services and delivers rate relief rather than inflating bills with wasteful or non-essential 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

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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7547

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 constructive solution-focused manner to express firm opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for tighter Council spending.1. Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase- The proposed increase translates to about $320 for the average household on a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. A more prudent approach is required that respects ratepayers' households during a period of tightening finances.2. Target wasteful or excessive expenditure- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council

and CCOs.- Spend on consultancy and professional services must be curbed rather than increased.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- 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.3. Alternative budget approach- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) enabling a cap of around a 3% average rate increase. This would be achieved by: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze ($50 million). - Capping spending on consultants ($50 million). - Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30 million). - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).4. Additional context- Direct operating expenditure growth has outpaced inflation in recent years and payroll plus consultant costs are substantial. A tighter efficiency-first approach would protect essential services while delivering better value to ratepayers.ClosingI respectfully request that the Council prioritise restraint on new spending pursue targeted efficiency measures and reconsider the proposed rate rise in favour of a sustainable responsible approach that aligns with current economic conditions.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7551

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 a detailed evidence-based response opposing the proposed average 7.9% residential rates increase and urging a comprehensive reduction in wasteful Council spending before any further rate rises.Key concerns and positions- Oppose the proposed 7.9% average increase. With current average residential rates at $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of about 30% (versus 12% CPI) the community cannot sustain further above-inflation hikes. The 7.9% increase largely funds CRL operating costs (4.4%) asset maintenance (2%) and new assets (1.5%) not core services alone.- Reduce corporate and backroom spending. Council and CCOs should prioritise frontline statutory

services and pare back administrative overhead.- Cut consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants stands at about $126 million per year across the Council group; reducing this is essential to cap rate increases.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At about $36 million per year its carbon savings are not compellingly justified given cost and alternatives.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies. A vacancy freeze could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reconsider Māori-specific spending in Ngā Mātārae. The $10 million/year allocated to 'Māori outcomes' should be reassessed as a core local-government obligation especially if it diverts funds from essential services.Alternative budget approach- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap average residential rates increases at 3%. This includes: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze - $50 million by capping consultancy spend - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grantsClosingI urge the Council to adopt a fiscally responsible path that limits rate increases to inflation plus growth while 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
	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7555

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent well above cumulative inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent rise would add about $320 to the average household placing further pressure on households already stretched by rising costs.I agree with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance that the Council must tighten expenditure on backroom and corporate functions across the Council and its CCOs. The current level of personnel costs and 'other expenses' has grown well beyond inflation while direct operating expenditure rose 78 percent between 2013 and 2023. A targeted reduction is necessary to avoid simply passing costs to

ratepayers.I agree that cuts to consultancy and professional services are overdue. The Alliance highlights $126 million per year spent on consultants across the Council group with the parent Council alone accounting for about $60 million and average consultants earning roughly $200k. Freezing hiring for non-essential roles and cutting consulting spend would directly reduce rate rises.I support cancelling or reframing discretionary schemes that do not align with core municipal responsibilities. Specifically I oppose the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and purportedly saves less carbon than it emits. I also support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.Additionally I oppose expanding spend on targeted Māori outcomes such as Ngā Mātārae which amounts to about $10 million per year arguing that these are not essential local government functions.I propose the Council implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new spending by at least $150 million to cap rates increases at roughly 3 percent by cutting personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7573

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 and spending prioritiesI oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase. The increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real 30% rise since 2022 (well above the 12% cumulative inflation). The funding splitâ€”2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”demonstrates that costs are rising faster than essential service delivery should justify. The Finance Committee must prioritise restraint and efficiency over further rate rises.2) Wasteful expenditure and reform proposalsThe Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cut

spending on consultants and professional services. Annual consultant spend is about $126 million across the Council group with the average recipient around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well ahead of inflation while staff and other expenses have grown disproportionately since 2022. I support freezing staffing for non-essential roles and a hiring freeze to realise immediate savings consistent with the proposed $17 million reduction from frozen vacancies.3) Specific programme reductionsI support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme (costing around $36 million per year and not clearly delivering net carbon savings). I also oppose ongoing high Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that these are not core local government duties. The Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and spend.4) Structural reform and governanceI note the need to review and streamline organisational layersâ€”including consideration of merging Local Boards to 10â€”to reduce duplication and overhead. A broader efficiency drive is required to align spending with core community outcomes and ratepayer priorities.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?

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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7586

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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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 oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and request that Council take immediate steps to curb wasteful spend and prioritise core statutory services.Key points- The proposed 7.9% average increase is excessive in the current environment. If kept it would add about $320 to the average household bill on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (well above cumulative inflation).- I support reducing Council and CCO backroom and corporate spend. In particular consultant and professional services costs should be capped and reduced rather than continued growth.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. It costs approximately $36 million per

year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing growth and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Maori-focused spending should be reined in. The $10 million per year allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is in my view not a function of local government and should be redirected or scaled back.- I support the Council's Alternative Budget approach that would reduce new Council spending by about $150 million (2%) enabling a cap of around 3% on average residential rates growth. This requires organisational change a hiring freeze and vendor consolidation.Rationale- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. The current financial trajectory is unsustainable for ratepayers and undermines trust in Council stewardship.- The spending pattern shows a heavy tilt to consultants six-figure salaries and expansive staff costs. A focus on core services and a leaner operating model will deliver better value for residents.- Prioritising statutory responsibilities over discretionary programmes will ensure resources are directed to essential services that benefit the broad community.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):

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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?

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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7594

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

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 oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge drastic restraint on Council spending with a focus on reducing waste and prioritising core statutory services.I oppose the 7.9% increase on grounds of value for money and fairness. The plan embeds a 7.9% rise across the Auckland rate base with roughly $320 more per average household despite continuing cost pressures elsewhere. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% while inflation has advanced by 34% and population growth by 22%. This is unacceptable unless accompanied by meaningful reductions in wasteful expenditure.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position

to rein in corporate and backroom costs and to reduce consultancy and professional services. The current annual spend on consultants is $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen far faster than inflation while departments such as Māori outcomes appear over-resourced for the role of local government.Specific savings I support include:- Cancel 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 which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) recognising that this is not a core local government function.- Reduce expenditure on consultants and professional services renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to achieve substantial savings.I also support the proposed alternative budget framework to cap rate increases by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) achieving a 3% cap. Priorities should emphasise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and a stronger focus on efficiency across all Council and CCO functions.Local Boards should be reined in to ensure consistent council-wide discipline on spending.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.
	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7598

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 to oppose Auckland Council's proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to call for broad reductions in wasteful council spending. I want the submission to be considered in its plain fact-based context.1) Rate increase and affordability- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates rise; this represents an approximate $320 increase for the average household and a real burden on households already pressured by inflation.- The current average bill of $4069 has risen sharply since 2022 with a 30% real increase in rates (in 2022 dollars) versus 12% cumulative inflation a clear misalignment with what households can sustain.2) Spending reforms to achieve moderate

rate relief- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cut spending on consultancy and professional services; curb the growth of external advisers that inflate the rate base.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing around $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core local government function.3) Structural spending controls and alternative budgeting- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases) through targeted measures: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze - $50 million from capping consultants - $30 million through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants- The Council must also place tighter controls on spending by Auckland Transport to prevent further cost escalations being dumped onto ratepayers.I request consideration of these points and a move toward a smaller rate increase aligned with inflation funded by demonstrable efficiency gains and a focus on 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7603

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 and direct terms to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to call for immediate reductions in wasteful Council spending.The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive particularly given the real rise in rates since 2022 and the scale of inefficiency within the Council group. The plan allocates 4.4% of the increase to CRL operating costs plus 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. This compounds the burden on households at a time when households face significant cost pressures. The present rate levelâ€"about $4069 on averageâ€"has risen by 30% in real terms since 2022 far outpacing general

inflation.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance's call to curb wasteful spending and to prioritise core statutory services. Specifically:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing non-essential vacancies and slowing recruitment as this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut spending on consultants and professional services rather than permitting continual growth; the current $126 million per year across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent is unsustainable. The average consultant salary (~$200k) signals a need for tighter controls.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce payroll through organisational change and vacancy management; excessive salary levels and six-figure staff costs are not justifiable alongside shrinking returns to ratepayers.- Curb Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) particularly where this falls outside essential local-government duties.The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget provides a practical path: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increase at around 3% through targeted cuts in personnel consultants contracts and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.I urge the Council to adopt a disciplined spending approach prioritise core services and deliver a rates outcome closer to inflation not inflation-plus 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.

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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	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7640

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 capacity to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a clear reduction in wasteful council spending while protecting essential services for our community.I oppose the 7.9% increase as an average noting that the current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is approximately 30% (against 12% cumulative inflation). A rate rise of this magnitude risks affordability for households and communities already stretched by high living costs. The proposed split shows 4.4% directed at CRL operating costs with the remainder for maintaining and expanding assets; I question

whether all components reflect essential local priorities given the growth in staff costs and outsized consultancy spend.I support reducing Council expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and I oppose the ongoing rise in consultancy and professional services. The Alliance highlights $126 million per year across the Council group for consultants with the average consultant paid about $200k. A freeze on non-essential hires and a targeted reduction of these costs would help bring rates down.I am also calling for cancelling the Food Scraps Programme cited at $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Funds redirected to core services will better serve ratepayers.I urge freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure said to save at least $17 million immediately. Additionally I would cap or reduce Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae department's $10 million per year arguing this is not a primary local-government role.Alternative budget measures proposed by the Ratepayers' Alliance suggest reducing new spending by $150 million (2%) achieving a 3% rate increase. This includes a mix of personnel cost reductions vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory services.Mr Brown campaigned on lower rates increases. I ask the Council to consider delivering on that commitment.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7642

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 note the current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% in 2022 dollars against 12% cumulative inflation. I am concerned that the rate rise is not aligned with the needs of households and is driven by escalating operating costs and discretionary spend.I urge the Council to implement substantial savings by reducing wasteful expenditure across the Council and CCOs. In particular I support reducing spending on consultants and professional services which the Alliance highlights as a major cost driver. I also call for freezing staffing and reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million

immediately. Additionally I support capping contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to deliver significant savings.I oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and according to analysis emits more carbon than it saves. I also oppose increasing Māori-specific spending through the Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) portfolio noting the $10 million per year allocation as not a core function of local government.In line with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average residential rates increase at about 3%. This would be achieved by: (i) reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; (ii) capping spending on consultants; (iii) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; and (iv) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I respectfully request that the Council reconsider the proposed increase and pursue the outlined efficiency measures to protect households from excessive rate rises while maintaining 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.
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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7647

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 concerns and positions:- The proposed 7.9% average rates rise is excessive. On current data the average residential bill would be about $320 more per year well above inflation and Council's previously stated efficiency goals.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and slash spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- I support cancelling non-essential programmes that do not deliver clear statutory value. Specifically cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it

saves.- A meaningful pause on payroll growth is needed. Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose ongoing high spending on targeted Maori outcomes within local government. The $10 million per year allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be redirected as this is not a core function of local government.- The Council must implement the Ratepayers' Alliance proposed alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap average residential rates at approximately 3 percent. This includes: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes $50 million from capping consultancy spend $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.- Significantly reducing costs is essential to ensure rates remain affordable and to restore public trust in how ratepayer funds are allocated.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.)

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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7654

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

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 context and demand- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 in rates (2022 dollars) while cumulative inflation sits around 12%.- Breakdown of the increase shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% to maintain assets and 1.5% for new assets. This structure is not acceptable given the scale of wasteful spending identified elsewhere in Council.Agreed positions- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9% and cap the increase at about 3% by cutting unnecessary spend.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce the spend on

consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to grow further.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Maori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting this is not a function of local government.Rationale and alternative plan- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) enabling a rate rise of around 3% without sacrificing essential services.- Specific savings: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze $50 million from capped consultancy spend $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that the Council consider these reductions seriously and adopt a leaner more efficient budget that protects essential services while delivering a fairer rates outcome for 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.

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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7656

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 and affordability- The proposed 7.9% average increase amounts to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and inflation of 12%. I urge Council to limit rate increases to 3% by delivering meaningful savings elsewhere rather than continuing to misspend ratepayer money.2. Wasteful or avoidable expenditure- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to rise further.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which in my view would save

at least $17 million immediately.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants; this will improve core service delivery without unnecessary cost pressures.3. Specific programme eliminations and spending reform- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in our assessment emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reassess Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department funded at about $10 million per year as this is not a role of local government in the context of a general ratepayer-funded council.4. Framework and outcomes- Reduce waste and refocus on Council fundamentals: essential services safe infrastructure and responsible asset management.- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that cutting new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) can cap the rates increase at approximately 3%.ClosingI recognise the need to maintain Auckland's growth and assets but the current cost base is unsustainable for ratepayers. I strongly urge Council to adopt the above savings and reject 7.9% rate increases unless clearly offset by substantial verifiable efficiency gains.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7662

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 7.9% increase and urge Council to align rates with inflation or below. The proposed increase amounts to about $320 for the average household while the current average rates bill stands at $4069. Since 2022 rates have risen by about 30% in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation of 12%. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This escalation is unsustainable for households already feeling cost pressures.I support reducing wasteful Council spending. Specifically I call for cuts to corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs

and a reduction in consultancy and professional services rather than continued growth in these areas. The current spend is excessive: consultants costing around $126 million annually across the Council group with the average consultant paid about $200k and a payroll bill of $1.3 billion. Direct operating expenditure has grown 78% since 2013 well above inflation. There is also substantial spending on six-figure salaries (6123 staff 464 above $200k; 72 staff earning more than the mayor's $306741). I urge freezing non-essential roles and a reduction in payroll through restraint on vacancies.I disagree with ongoing expenditure on the Food Scraps Programme; it costs $36 million per year and is not shown to save net carbon. I also oppose widening funding for Māori outcomes as a separate department; the $10 million/year attributed to Ngā Mātārae is not appropriate for local government scope.I support the Ratepayers' Alliance's Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million to cap rates at about 3% via a $50 million reduction in personnel costs $50 million cap on consultants $30 million in contract/vendor renegotiations and $20 million prioritising statutory services.Wayne Brown's pledge to cut expenditure should start promptly.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7677

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 am writing to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge concrete steps to reduce wasteful spend across the Council and CCOs.1) Rates and public value- The proposed 7.9% increase (about $320 for the average household) is not reasonable when real growth since 2022 stands at 30% in rates while inflation has been about 12%. This outstrips the value delivered to ratepayers and risks affordability for many families.2) Reducing non-service and backroom costs- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Limit consultancy and professional services spending; stop the

continual growth in external advisers and renegotiate existing contracts.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.3) Payroll and staffing controls- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this step alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- There is an urgent need to review personnel costs including salaries at the upper levels to ensure spending aligns with essential services and ratepayer priorities.4) Specific departmental spending- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core local government responsibility and reallocate to essential services.5) Additional note- Stop putting more traffic lights on neighbourhood areas that do not need them as these add costs without clear benefit.ClosingI request that the Council adopt a lower rate outcome by constraining new expenditure and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. This aligns with a prudent value-for-money approach for all 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.

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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7693

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 as a resident concerned about the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27. I oppose this increase and urge Council to prioritise disciplined spending and reform to bring rates increases closer to or below inflation.Key points guiding my submission:- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 more per household on top of an average bill of $4069. This represents a real burden on households already stretched by high living costs.- 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 not sustainable

and contribute to higher rates.- Cancel 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; doing so could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that such roles fall outside core local government obligations.Alternative budgeting guidance (as advocated by the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance) suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million to cap the rate rise at around 3 percent. This would be achieved by:- $50 million savings from payroll reductions and organisational changes.- $50 million less on consultants.- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I recognise the necessity to maintain essential services but a lightweight approach to spending reform can deliver real rate relief. The current trend since 2010 shows substantial rate increases relative to inflation and population growth and reform is overdue.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7694

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. The current path of rising rates far outpaces inflation and population growth and it is essential that you constrain spend before asking households to fund a larger bill.Key concerns and positions:1) Rates increase: Oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9 percent. This level would push the typical household bill significantly higher (about $320 extra per year) and continues a pattern where rates have risen 85 percent since 2010 well above inflation and population growth. The council must not use growth and asset

maintenance as cover for excessive expenditure.2) Corporate and backroom costs: The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current level of payroll and related overheads is unsustainable and diverts funds from core services.3) Consultants and external professionals: Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. Annual consultant expenditure totals about $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200000. Curb this to preserve ratepayer value.4) Wasteful programmes: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.5) Staffing and payroll: Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Maori-focused spend: Cut Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a function of local government.7) Alternative budgeting approach: Consider the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap) to limit the rate rise to around 3 percent focusing on personnel consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services.In summary I urge you to prioritise essential services prune discretionary spend renegotiate contracts and end non-core programmes to reduce the rate rise and protect household budgets.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7701

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 respectfully to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to advocate for meaningful savings in Council spending to protect households from unaffordable bills.1) Position and rationale- I oppose the 7.9% average increase for residents which equates to about $320 more per household. Since 2022 residential rates have risen 30% in real terms far exceeding cumulative inflation (12%) underscoring the need for restraint.- The breakdown of the proposed increaseâ€”2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”indicates a structural uplift that amplifies cost pressures on households.2) Spending

reform I support- I support reducing Council and CCO expenditure on corporate and backroom functions and limiting consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to continue rising.- I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- I support renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to realise meaningful savings and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.3) Specific programme and equity concerns- I oppose the Food Scraps Programme as it costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves; funds would be better directed to essential services.- I oppose increasing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department given local government's core responsibilities and the need to focus resources on essential services.4) Alternative budget approach- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) to cap the average residential rate increase at about 3%. This can be achieved through the measures outlined above: personnel costs consultant spend contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services.ClosingI request that my submission be considered in formulating a more affordable rate proposal and a prudent budget focused on essential services and genuine 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.

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.
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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7706

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to advocate for meaningful reductions in wasteful Council spending. The proposed rise would increase the average residential bill by about $320 on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022. Rates have grown far faster than inflation and population growth while essential services are increasingly funded by higher charges on households.I support in priority order the following positions:1) Cut the overall rate rise. The Council should aim for a maximum 3 percent increase by aligning expenditure with ratepayer affordability and by removing non-essential spend.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate

and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs which drive wasteful overhead and do not deliver frontline benefits.3) Cut spend on consultancy and professional services. The current pattern of high contractor and consultant costs is unsustainable and should be stopped or materially reduced.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits 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) on the basis that this is not a core local government function.Additional points:- The council is overspending on consultancies and back-room staff; reducing these areas must be prioritised.- I expect the council and councillors to listen to ratepayers who have endured rate increases for years.- I am opposed to continuing to fund non-essential consultancies and non-frontline staff practices at the expense of essential services.In line with the foregoing I suggest the Council adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance approach of reducing new spending by about $150 million (2%) which would cap the average rate rise at about 3 percent through targeted cuts outlined above: personnel costs consultants contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I do not wish my submission to be spoken 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7707

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

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 opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urge urgent restraint on wasteful Council spending.1. Rates increase and affordability- The proposed average residential rates rise of 7.9 percent amounting to about $320 for the average household is unacceptable given the real increases since 2022. Rates have risen 30 percent in real terms since 2022 while inflation has been 12 percent. I oppose a rate rise that outpaces affordability and growth.2. Wasteful and excessive spending- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Stop increasing consultancy and

professional services; cut the spend on external advisers rather than expanding these costs.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- Reassess and cut Māori-specific spend including the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) as this is not a core local government function.3. Specific programmes and costs to trim- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves to fund essential services and reduce overall expenditure.4. Alternative budget and governance stance- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping residential rates increases to about 3 percent. This includes targeted reductions in personnel costs cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritisation of statutory services over discretionary grants.5. Additional context- Acknowledge the pressure felt by households with rising fuel costs and pensions and that the Council was elected to keep costs under control and deliver value to ratepayers.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
	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7708

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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- I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9% (roughly $320 for the average household) especially given the real increase since 2022 has been 30% in 2022 dollars with cumulative inflation at about 12%. The package breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. This is not acceptable when households are already stretched.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates that reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) can cap the rate rise at around 3%. Specific targets should be pursued: freeze non-essential staffing reduce

consultancy and professional services renegotiate contracts and prioritise statutory services over discretionary grants.- Critical concrete reductions include: stop the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million/year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves; freeze staffing or cut payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles (potential savings of at least $17 million immediately); reduce spend on consultants and contractors (target $50 million); and cancel or sharply reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Ngā Mātārae/Māori Outcomes function which should be a local government responsibility only where clearly statutory.- The Council's overall expense growthâ€”personnel costs and other expenses rising faster than inflation with payroll at about $1.3 billion and consultants at $590 millionâ€”demands priority reform. Eighteen corporate and business support functions cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure illustrating where efficiency improvements are required.- I also urge restraint on population-driven growth seeking greater efficiency and value rather than an ongoing growth 'spend' spiral that fails to deliver commensurate returns for ratepayers.ConclusionI urge Auckland Council to implement substantial reductions in corporate/CCO spend cut consultancy and discretionary expenditures and prioritise essential services to bring rates closer to inflation and more affordable for 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.

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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7715

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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

I submit in a Detailed and Evidence-Based manner to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to advocate for reductions in wasteful Council spending.1. Position on rates- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to roughly $320 for the average household given current bills of $4069.- The real increase since 2022 is already around 30% in 2022 dollars well above cumulative inflation of 12%. This burden is not acceptable for households facing tight budgets.2. Spending reforms aligned with the Ratepayers' Alliance briefing- Reduce corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs to cut waste and improve

efficiency.- Curb consultancy and professional services expenditure which has grown substantially; prioritise core statutory obligations over discretionary spend.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which also emits more carbon than it saves.3. Staffing and equity considerations- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Re balance funding away from non-core areas including reducing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a defined local government mandate.4. Additional context- The Council's current expenditure trends show growth in personnel costs and other expenses outpacing inflation; the focus should be on essential services and statutory duties. - The proposed savings plan should reflect a disciplined approach to cap rates increases targeting a maximum around 3% by trimming non-essential expenditure first.ClosingI request that the Council considers these reductions to deliver a more affordable rates outcome while maintaining 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):

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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?

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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7716

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

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% and urge a substantial reduction in Council expenditure to bring rates closer to inflation and to reflect prudent stewardship of ratepayer funds.The case for restraint rests on clear figures. The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of an already high current average residential bill of $4069. Since 2012 the rate burden has effectively risen by about 85% in real terms well above inflation and population growth. A 7.9% rise if maintained would compound this disparity and undermine essential affordability for households.Agreed positions:1) Oppose the 7.9% average rates

increase. The Council must cap rate rises to a level consistent with inflation and mandatory service delivery.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Consider structural efficiencies and consolidation to trim wasteful overhead.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than letting these costs climb. The Council's heavy reliance on external advisers should be reassessed with a clear prioritisation of in-house capability.4) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' programme currently described as a $10 million/year initiative. Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.I also note the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to decrease overall new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) which would cap the rate rise at around 3% by:- Reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze- Capping consultancy spend- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors- Prioritising statutory services over discretionary grantsClosing: I request that the Council consider these measures seriously and implement a budget approach consistent with restraint and value-for-money 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.

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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7724

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and in favour of substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending. The current trend since the 2010 Super City amalgamation shows rates have risen 85 percent far outpacing inflation (34 percent) and population growth (22 percent). It is unacceptable to ask households to bear another large rise while spending is not reined in.1) Rates and affordability- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. This is a real burden given the 30 percent real increase since 2022 and the cumulative inflation of 12 percent in that

period.- I support capping average residential rates increases to around 3 percent or less by cutting wasteful spending.2) Spending reductions and efficiency- Reduce personnel costs and freeze non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap and reduce expenditure on consultants and professional services; this category is excessive and contributes to rising operating costs.- Reform contracts and consolidate vendors to recover savings and avoid duplication.3) Specific programme and Māori-related spending- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reassess the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a core local government function and should be prioritised elsewhere or scaled back.4) Broader governance- Dismantling the 'super city' framework is necessary to restore accountable value-for-money governance at the local level.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) can cap rates increases to roughly 3 percent. The metrics cited above show room for significant efficiency and policy adjustments without compromising essential services.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

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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7729

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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% and urge a foundational re-prioritisation of Council spending to curb cost growth that far outstrips inflation.Key positions- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and expect the Council to explain how such a rise aligns with a prudent services-first approach to ratepayer affordability.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb the growth in consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $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 would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) department as this is not a function of local government.Support for targeted spending restraint is consistent with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget which demonstrates how a 2% reduction in new Council spending can cap rate rises to around 3%. Priority actions include: reducing personnel costs through organisational change capping consultancy spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional points- The ongoing cost pressures are not sustainable: rates have risen 85% since the 2010 amalgamation well above inflation and population growth. A credible plan is needed to bring operating and personnel costs back to more reasonable levels.- The proposed 7.9% rise is not justified by the current level of service beyond essential statutory functions.I prefer this to be a formal submission for Council consideration. 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7738

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 concerns and positions1. Rates and affordability: The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to approximately $320 more per dwelling for the average household adding to a cumulative real increase of 30% since 2022 (vs. 12% general inflation). This is not affordable for many ratepayers and the Council should not raise rates above inflation without demonstrable efficiency gains.2. Wasteful expenditure and backroom functions: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown substantially far outpacing inflation and population growth and there

is clear scope to streamline.3. Consultants and professional services: Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. A cap and a tighter procurement framework are warranted to curb outsized external contracting.4. Specific programme and services reductions: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Reallocating resources to essential services would deliver greater Community benefit.5. Staffing costs: 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. Māori outcomes spending: Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). This function is not a core local government responsibility and should be returned to a more appropriate funding framework.Additional note- The recent 25% increase last year is noted as being substantial; further large increases should be avoided while efficiency improvements are pursued.Alternative budget guidanceSupport the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to around 3% by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and applying the savings from personnel consultants and vendor negotiations.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):

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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7746

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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% and to advocate for urgent restraint on wasteful Council spending.Key concerns- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The current average bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 and residents have experienced a 30% real increase in rates since 2022 (against 12% inflation). The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs with only 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as the city grows.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spending on consultants and

professional services which currently total hundreds of millions of dollars across the group.- I support the Budget alternative proposed by Ratepayers: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rate rise to about 3% through targeted savings: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Specific savings and priorities- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- 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.- Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as it is not a core local government function.Rationale- Since the 2010 Super City reform rates have risen 85% while inflation rose around 34% and population grew 22% indicating a misalignment between rate increases and value delivered to households.- Reducing consultants backroom functions and non-essential programmes will protect critical services and taxpayers' financial health.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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- **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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	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
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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7748

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 which equates to about $320 for the average household. The current average rates bill is $4069 while real increases since 2022 run at 30% in 2022 dollars far outstripping inflation. It is unacceptable to push ratepayers' budgets beyond inflation for discretionary agendas.Key points1) I oppose the 7.9% average increase. The rate burden should be aligned with actual household income growthâ€"most New Zealanders' fixed incomes have only risen about 3.1% nationally while rates continue to climb well above inflation.2) Expenditure reform is essential. The Council must

reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services.3) Targeted cost cuts must be implemented now. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.4) Reprioritise budget to core services. Cut discretionary grants and focus on statutory duties. Cap Māori-focused spending (such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department) at a level consistent with local government responsibilities; in my view this spending is not a local government requirement.5) Alternative budget alignment. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% lower) which would cap the average rate rise at about 3%. This includes: $50 million from personnel cost reductions $50 million from consultant spend $30 million from contract renegotiations and $20 million from prioritising essential services.Supporting context- Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% exceeding both inflation and population growth.- The 7.9% plan largely funds CRL operating costs and ongoing asset maintenance; reform is needed to avoid overburdening ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7784,338414,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a program of significant spending restraint to protect households during a cost of living crisis.Key concerns and positions:1) Rates and affordability. The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a parallel 30% real increase since 2022. Rates increases must be aligned with inflation population growth and essential service delivery not open-ended tax rises.2) Wasteful spending and backroom costs. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut both the spending on consultancy and professional services. Current data show consultant spend across the group is about $126 million per year with the average consultant earning around $200000. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have grown far faster than inflation in recent years.3) Personnel costs. Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll where roles are vacant or non-essential. Not hiring for non-essential vacancies would save at least $17 million immediately and help stabilise rates.4) Expenditure on Māori Outcomes. The $171 million allocated over ten years to the Māori Outcomes budget (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as this is not a core local government function. Targeted essential priorities should be funded within a more stringent framework.5) An affordable budget approach. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%). This would cap average rates increases at around 3% by:- Reducing personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping consultant spend: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionAdditional point: Given economic realities any future funds should be revisited when the economy strengthens and household purchasing power improves.I request that the Council consider these restraints and publish a transparent deliverable plan to reduce wasteful spending before approving any rate increase.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7789,338409,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30% versus 12% inflation. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets; this structure does not justify a rate rise above inflation.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Total payroll and related costs are excessive with 6123 Council and CCO employees on six-figure salaries and hundreds paid over $200000 and staff costs rising faster than inflation.- Curb consultancy and professional services spend. The Council spends about $126 million per year on consultants across the group with the Auckland Council parent accounting for $60 million and average consultants earning around $200000.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme estimated at $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing/roster reductions to payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a statutory local government function.- Address traffic management inefficiencies. Ridiculous spending on trivial road worksâ€"two staff four traffic control operatives in trucks looking at phonesâ€"produces little productive value and should be eliminated or restructured.What I propose- Implement the Ratepayers' Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates growth at 3% by prioritising essential services freezing non-essential hires capping consultants renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7791,338407,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The current rate burden is already high with the average residential bill rising from $2781 in 2022 to $4069 today and a real rates increase well in excess of inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent rise would add approximately $320 for the average household continuing a pattern where rates have increased 85 percent since the 2010 amalgamation well above inflation and population growth.I support the Alliance's position to cap the rate rise by cutting unnecessary spend. Specifically:- Reduce Council and CCO corporate and backroom functions and restrain personnel costs. Freezes on non-essential roles and avoiding new hires would save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce spending on consultants and external professional services which the Alliance estimates at about $126 million per year across the Council group including substantial amounts at the Auckland Council parent.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to achieve meaningful savings (targeting a $30 million reduction).- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants; reduce or reallocate non-core programmes.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or restrain Māori-specific spend such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) budget of around $10 million per year reflecting a view that this is not a local-government core function.Additional context: operating and personnel cost growth has outpaced inflation with payroll consultants and other expenses rising markedly since 2022. A responsible approach is to implement a targeted cost rescueâ€"reducing new spending by about $150 millionâ€"to bring the average rate rise down to around 3 percent as outlined in the Alliance proposal.I urge the Council to prioritise essential services fix wasteful expenditure and adopt a modest rate increase aligned with inflation and productivity gains rather than a large uplift.I do not

wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7799,338399,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to urge a comprehensive review of wasteful council spending.Key position: I oppose the proposed 7.9% rate rise. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% (versus 12% inflation). The proposed increase should be restrained to align with inflation and the community's capacity to pay.I urge substantial restraint and reallocation of spending as outlined in the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget:- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rate rise at around 3%. This should be achieved by: 1) Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles saving $50 million. 2) Cutting spending on consultants to $50 million. 3) Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save $30 million. 4) Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to save $20 million.- Specifically target wasteful expenditure: - Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves. - Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. - Cut Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae/'Maori outcomes' budget of around $10 million per year given local government's remit.Rationale: Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far exceeding inflation and population growth. Substantial reductions in corporate and backroom functions consultancy reliance and non-core programmes are required to deliver lower rates increases and better value for ratepayers.I request that the Council consider these measures to protect households from unaffordable rate rises while ensuring essential services are maintained.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a serious reduction in wasteful Council spending before any further rate rises are approved.Key concerns1) Rates affordability and value for money. The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 more for the average household on top of a real rate rise of 30% since 2022 in nominal terms (well above inflation). Rates can grow only if households can justify it through service quality and efficiency neither of which is evident from current spending trajectories.2) Wasteful corporate and backroom spending. The Alliance identifies $126 million per year in consultant spend across the Council group with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent and average consultants earning around $200k. Personnel costs six-figure salaries and related administration costs have risen far faster than inflation undermining public confidence in value for money.3) Cuts to expenditure on consultants and professional services. The current path relies heavily on external advisers; this must be halted or capped to protect ratepayers.4) Discretionary programmes and staff costs. The Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) should be cancelled as it reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which would immediately save at least $17 million.5) Statutory vs discretionary spending. Prioritise essential services and statutory requirements over discretionary grants. Consider a targeted procurement strategy to lower costs and improve efficiency across services.6) Māori Outcomes spending. The Alliance advocates reducing Māori-specific spending (Ngā Mātārae) at $10 million/year arguing it is not a local government core responsibility. This should be reviewed in the context of core service delivery.Ratepayers' Alliance alternative: cut new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at about 3% by reducing personnel costs

capping consultant spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising essential services.I request the opportunity to speak at hearings if afforded subject to availability.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7804,338394,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household) and urge a credible reset to align with inflation and essential service needs. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 have reached about 30% in 2022 dollars far outstripping cumulative inflation. The breakdown shows 2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets to accommodate growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of growth is unsustainable for households and does not reflect prudent prioritisation.I support a comprehensive reduction in Council and CCO backroom and corporate spending and a halt to rising consultancy and professional services spend. In the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan a targeted $150 million reduction across the Council would cap rates at around 3% by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping consultancy expenditure: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionKey examples to address now include:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Additional areas for immediate efficiency: reduce personnel costs curb the spend on consultants and professional services and pursue aggressive contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation. Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to ensure core Auckland services are protected.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7808,338390,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key points- The proposed 7.9 percent uplift amounts to about $320 for the average household on top of a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent while inflation has risen around 12 percent. This outpaces that inflation and places unnecessary pressure on ratepayers.- A substantial portion of the increase funds CRL operating costs (4.4 percent) and continuing asset maintenance (2 percent) and new asset growth (1.5 percent). This pattern signals ongoing cost escalation rather than efficiency gains.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap rates increases at about 3 percent through: - Reducing personnel costs via organisational changes and hiring freezes: $50 million - Capping spending on consultants: $50 million - Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionAdditional explicit positions I support- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which

costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Rationale- Spending trends show payroll and consultancy costs rising well above inflation while core statutory services and efficiency measures are being neglected. A leaner organisation with a focus on essential services will deliver better value for ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7825,338373,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The current plan would add approximately $320 to the average household bill on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022. I urge the Council to prioritise rate relief for households and to re-focus spending away from backroom and consultant-heavy operations.Key points for consideration:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. Instead target no more than a 3 percent increase via reductions in non-essential expenditure.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current structure relies heavily on high staff and contractor costs that do not deliver commensurate public value.- Curb spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items. A more stable and in-house approach can deliver better value for ratepayers.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to the Alliance emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spend including the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) programme cited as about $10 million per year where such functions can be better aligned with core local government duties.I also support the Council's consideration of the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap rates at roughly 3 percent achieved through personnel cost controls consultant caps contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional note: I am concerned that ratepayers are being rated out of their homes especially given the promise by political leadership to cut waste and lower rates. I urge a disciplined review of every line item to reflect value for money and to deliver fair affordable rates.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7830,338368,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge you to adopt a plan that reduces wasteful spending and keeps rates affordable for households.Key points1) Rates affordability and outcomes. The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real increase since 2022 of 30% (in 2022 dollars) versus 12% cumulative inflation. I oppose rate rises above inflation and call for savings to cap the increase at around 3% by reducing non-essential expenditure.2) Wasteful spending and backroom costs. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to escalate these costs. Direct

operating expenditure and staff-related costs have risen well beyond inflation with payroll at about $1.3 billion and consultants at $590 million in total. A reduction of these ongoing costs is essential.3) Specific program and project delisting. I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme at $36 million per year which costs substantial funding and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. I also oppose new spending on pedestrian crossings and cycle lanes that are not widely used and I question funding for discretionary park projects such as cinema and movie programs if these do not deliver clear essential public benefit.4) Staffing and organisational controls. Freeze vacancies and non-essential roles to reduce payroll costs immediately which could save at least $17 million now. The Council should halt expanding staffing where positions are not essential to statutory or core service delivery.5) Māori funding. I oppose allocating significant sums specifically to Māori outcomes departments (Ngā Mātārae) in a way that diverts from core local government duties. If needed reallocate to essential statutory functions.Alternative budget approachI support the Ratepayers' Alliance call to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a maximum 3% rate increase through targeted savings: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and $20 million for essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7836,338362,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key context- The proposed increase is 7.9% (roughly $320 for the average household). The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022. Since 2022 real rate increases amount to about 30% well above cumulative inflation of 12%.- Breakdown of the 7.9% rise: 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as the city grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs.- Since the Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% far above inflation and population growth.Positions I Agree With- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9% and advocate for keeping increases in line with or below inflation (ideally not higher than CPI).- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council should curb spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allow ongoing growth.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.- Reallocate resources toward statutory and essential services halt discretionary grants where ratepayers are already financially stretched.Additional Points- My wife and I faced a 21% rates increase last year and cannot endure another sharp rise.- Consider stopping grants to community groups when ratepayers are financially strained.- A substantial workforce reduction would be prudent; payroll remains a dominant cost and promised savings must reflect reality.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7863,338335,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I note that the current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30% in 2022 dollars versus 12% cumulative

inflation. I urge Council to constrain the rate rise and curb wasteful spending as outlined below.Key concerns and recommendations1) Rates growth vs inflation and essential services- Oppose the 7.9% average increase. The proposed breakdown includes 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. The overall rise should be aligned with inflation and essential service delivery not driven by discretionary or non-core items.2) Targeted spend reductions to enable a lower rates outcome- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance framework to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a cap of around 3% for residential rates. This includes: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for vacant non-essential roles delivering at least $17 million savings. - Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million. - Renegotiations with suppliers and vendor consolidation to save $30 million. - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.3) Specific spending controls- Freeze or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies; payroll currently totals about $1.3 billion with significant expenditure on consultants ($590 million) and corporate functions ($868.4 million). Aggressive cost management here is warranted.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) noting it is not a core local government function.4) Rationale for these measures- Since amalgamation rates have risen 85% while population growth and inflation outpace growth; this calls for restraint in backroom and consultancy spend and a focus on core statutory responsibilities.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7883,338315,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The impact on the average householdâ€”about $320 more per yearâ€”far exceeds inflation and is not justified by current service levels.Key concerns and requests:1) Put a cap on rate increases by cutting wasteful spending. The Council and CCOs should urgently reduce corporate and backroom costs including consultants and six-figure salaries. Annual consultant spend sits at around $126 million across the Council group with the average external advisor earning about $200k. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown well ahead of inflation while 18 corporate and business support functions cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure.2) Freeze non-essential payroll and staffing. The current payroll bill is about $1.3 billion; freezing vacancies in non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately.3) Reduce reliance on consultants and professional services. Cut the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continue to increase these items.4) Reconsider specific programmes: cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.5) Reassess and reduce Māori-specific spending including Ngā Mātārae argued by some as not a proper local-government function. I support focusing funds on statutory and essential services rather than discretionary programmes.The proposed 7.9% increase comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Instead I propose adopting the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which would cap the rate rise at about 3% by reducing new spending by $150 million (2%) through:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze- $50 million from cap on consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and- $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Money should be spent on clever infrastructure and proper maintenance not on consultants and Maori-specific administration.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a

hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7890,338308,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this formal submission to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and to urge a comprehensive review of Council spending to protect households from unaffordable bills.Key position- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The planned rise equating to about $320 for the average household is well above inflation and places an ongoing burden on ratepayers.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is projected to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a core local government function.Supporting context- The proposed 7.9% breakdown comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs.- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far exceeding inflation (34%) and population growth (22%) underscoring a need for reform in spending priorities.- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget shows a path to capping rates increases at around 3% by reducing net expenditure by about $150 million notably through personnel cost controls caps on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional points- Local supplier engagement and hiring practices should be preferred over large outsized contracts with price escalations from national firms. I have observed substantial variations in costs when engaging larger corporate providers which warrants a tighter local-sourcing focus and price benchmarking.ClosingI urge the Council to prioritise a disciplined budget with meaningful savings and to present a credible plan to keep rates affordable while delivering essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7909,338289,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27 and urge a program of reduced Council expenditure to bring rates increases in line with inflation and population growth.Key points1) I oppose the 7.9% average increase. The proposed rise amounts to approximately $320 per average household on top of a cumulative real increase in rates since 2022 of 30% far outpacing 12% inflation. The breakdown shows 2% for existing asset maintenance 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs yet overall expenditure growth requires stronger fiscal discipline.2) Wasteful spending must be curtailed. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spending on consultants and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.3) Specific cost-saving measures I support:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core function of local government.4) Alternative budgeting approach. Adopt the Ratepayers'

Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. This includes: $50 million saving from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million from capping consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that the Council consider these reductions and pursue a more prudent budgetary path before finalising the 2026/27 plan. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7911,338286,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in a constructive solution-focused manner to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to advocate for restraint in wasteful Council spending.Key position- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This rise will add approximately $320 to the typical household bill on top of a long trend of rate increases far outpacing inflation.Expenditure and efficiency priorities- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continual growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone could 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 core local government function.Financial framework- The Council should implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to about 3%. This can be achieved through a combination of personnel cost controls capped consultancy spend contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.- Specific reductions include: $50 million from personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million from consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million from prioritising essential services.Additional point- Regarding CRL funding I urge careful consideration of fiscal balance between local and national contributions aiming to avoid unnecessary cost shifts to residents while ensuring critical infrastructure proceeds efficiently.Closing I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing. Please take note That it is NOT a 50/50 split on $5.5b,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7919,338278,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose this rise and urge the Council to instead reduce wasteful expenditure to keep rates closer to inflation and protect essential services.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 more per average household on top of a real growth in rates of 30% since 2022 (well above cumulative inflation). A substantial portion is allocated to ongoing operating costs for the CRL while other areas receive proposed growth that does not appear to deliver critical value to households.- There is clear opportunity to tighten non-essential spending. The Council group spends heavily on consultants and backroom functions with total consultant expenditure around $126 million per year and a payroll environment that includes thousands of six-figure salaries. Reducing these costs would

directly lower rate impacts.- The Food Scraps Programme represents funding that could be redirected. At approximately $36 million per year its carbon savings do not justify ongoing expenditure if other essential services are under pressure.- A freeze or reduction of staffing for non-essential roles would yield immediate savings. Halting new hires in non-critical areas and freezing vacant positions could save at least $17 million promptly.- Maori Outcomes funding (Ngā Mātārae) at about $10 million per year should be reconsidered for alignment with local government responsibilities prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.- Additional targeted efficiencies should include capping consultancy spending renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors where possible. Reducing corporate and back-office expenditure across the Council and CCOs is essential to stabilise rates.Additional points- Stop spending money on cycleways that do not deliver usage benefits such as the Apirana Ave and Morrin Road projects to reallocate funds to core services.I request that the Council consider the above efficiencies to cap the rate increase to around 3 percent through a $150 million reduction in new spending as proposed by the Ratepayers' Alliance.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,
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7923,338274,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in a formal respectful manner to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for a reduction in wasteful Council spending with a focus on prudent use of ratepayer funds.I support the following positions:- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council should reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the about $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) since this is not a core local government role.Additional cost-control measures I advocate include stopping wasteful expenditure and using our rates prudently as outlined in the referenced budget alternatives. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes an alternative approach to limit rate increases by prioritising essential services and reducing discretionary spending. In particular reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) would cap the average residential rates increase at around 3 percent through targeted reductions in personnel costs consultant spend contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation while maintaining statutory functions.I recognise the need for essential infrastructure and services but the current trajectory shows personnel costs consultant spending and related expenses rising faster than inflation. A tighter more focused spending profile will produce tangible rate relief for households and better alignment with community priorities.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,
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7931,338266,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this response to express strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9% residential rates increase and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from

$2781 in 2022 with a real increase of 30% since 2022 and cumulative inflation of about 12%. The proposed 7.9% increase would add approximately $320 to the average household well above inflation and population growth.Position and rationale1) Oppose the 7.9% rates rise. The burden on households should be kept in line with inflation and real value for services received.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner organisation is essential to deliver core services without price gouging on ratepayers.3) Cut spend on consultancy and professional services. The current level of $126 million per year across the Council group with high average consultant costs is unsustainable and should be restrained.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme at a cost of $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.5) 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.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.7) Stop excessive spending by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Budget alternativeI support the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rates rise at 3% through targeted reductions in personnel costs consultants contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation with a focus on essential services.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a
hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7948,338249,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Based on the Alliance briefing this rise translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. The real rates increase since 2022 is already about 30 percent while overall inflation runs around 12 percent. The breakdown of the 7.9 percent increaseâ€”2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”demonstrates spending that should be reconsidered in favour of essential services and efficiency.I support the following measures to reduce rates while maintaining core services:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.2) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these costs.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.The Council's own data show annual consultant spending of around $126 million across the Council group with the Auckland Council parent responsible for about $60 million. Payroll and related expenses have grown markedly with 6123 staff on six-figure salaries and 72 staff paid more than the mayor while personnel costs and other expenses rose faster than inflation from 2022 to 2025. Given these pressures I advocate an alternative budget that reduces new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average residential rates increase at around 3 percent. This would rely on prudent reductions in personnel costs cap spending on consultants renegotiate contracts and prioritise statutory services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a
hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,

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7957,338240,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1) Rates increase and affordability- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent (roughly $320 for the average household) as the real burden on households far exceeds inflation. Since 2022 rates have risen about 30 percent in real terms while cumulative inflation is about 12 percent. The plan's breakdown shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs in addition to asset maintenance and new asset spending which magnifies the impact on ratepayers.2) Wasteful spending and austerity measures- There is a critical need to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Spending on consultancy and professional services must be cut rather than increased. The Council currently spends around $126 million per year on consultants including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with average consultants earning about $200k.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) since this is not a core local government function.3) Budget alternative- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget shows reductions of around $150 million in new Council spending (approximately 2%) which would cap the rate rise at about 3 percent through targeted reductions in personnel costs consultants supplier contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge Auckland Council to prioritise essential services reduce wasteful expenditure and deliver a more affordable rates outcome for households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,
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7958,338239,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit a formal objection to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a firm reduction in wasteful Council spending. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069; a 7.9 percent rise equates to roughly $320 for many households. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85 percent far outpacing inflation and population growth. In light of this an above-inflation increase is unacceptable.I agree with and advocate for the following:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. The Council must constrain growth to reflect inflation and essential services only.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current structure is expensive and inefficient.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these items. Council and CCO consultants total about $126 million per year with the average consultant earning around $200k.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million/year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or cut Māori-specific expenditure such as the $10 million/year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a function of local government.I also support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases achievable) by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and implementing prudent vendor consolidation and contract renegotiations.As a practical path the

Council should prioritise efficiency gains and reform in personnel and external spend before asking households to bear higher rates. I request that the Council provide a transparent plan showing how savings will be achieved and a clear justification for any remaining rate increase.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7984,338213,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I make my submission in a personal and sincere capacity to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a substantive reduction in wasteful Council spending. The current cumulative impact on households is unsustainable with the proposed rise equating to about $320 for the average household and a real increase of 30% since 2022 (well above general inflation).Below are Key points for consideration- The 7.9% increase should be capped closer to inflation. The Ratepayers' Alliance outlines a feasible path to a 3% cap by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%). This includes reducing personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- There is a clear need to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb the spend on consultancy and professional services which have risen markedly.- I oppose the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- I also oppose Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing it is not a role of local government.- Additional accountability is warranted for roading contracts; better contract quality and contractor accountability are essential to prevent poor-quality work.- A potential land management incentive such as reintroducing fines for land bankers to control noxious weeds would support pest-free goals and reduce fly-tippingâ€”aligning with broader environmental aims.Additional points- Current spending on consultants and staff costs has grown at a rate exceeding inflation while operating expenditure and payroll have substantially increased; rebalancing these priorities is essential.- A more disciplined approach to discretionary spending and a stronger focus on essential services would better reflect the Council's core responsibilities.ClosingI request that the Council consider these reductions and re-prioritise spending to protect households from excessive rate increases while maintaining essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing due to the nature of my work rosters.

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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7989

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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

Auckland CouncilPublic Submission{address redacted}Dear Council1. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). This increase should be aligned with inflation not used to fund expanding and discretionary spend. The current average rates bill is $4069 and residents have already faced a real increase of about 30% since 2022.2. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance presents an alternative budget that would cap rate increases at around 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%). This is achievable through modest targeted efficiencies: reduce personnel costs via organisational change

and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles ($50 million) cap spending on consultants ($50 million) renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors ($30 million) and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).3. I urge the Council to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to halt or scale back the growing spend on consultancy and professional services. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen well beyond inflation while some essential services struggle to keep pace with population growth.4. I support removing wasteful or low-value programmes. In particular I oppose the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and on balance emits more carbon than it saves. I also believe staffing levels should be restrained: freeze hiring for vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.5. I oppose expanding Māori-specific spending beyond what local government should responsibly fund. The $10 million per year earmarked for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reviewed to ensure alignment with core council duties and statutory requirements.6. In summary I request that the Council reconsider the 7.9% rate rise adopt the Alliance's $150 million expenditure reductions plan and prioritise essential services over discretionary programmes. 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7990

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 rate rise is already well above inflation and place undue pressure on households that are trying to manage budgets in challenging times.Key concerns and positions:- The 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of real rate increases that have risen 30% in real terms since 2022. This is not a sustainable or fair approach to funding essential services.- Expenditure reductions are needed across the Council and CCOs. In particular there should be a strong focus on reducing personnel costs freezing non-essential hires and cutting back back-office functions that inflate operating costs without delivering commensurate public value.- The Council should curb

consultancy and professional services spending. The current level of $126 million per year (and $200k average for external consultants) is excessive and contributes to ratepayer burden without clear return on investment.- The Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves should be cancelled to reallocate funds to essential services with proven benefits.- Freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles would deliver immediate savingsâ€”potentially at least $17 million right away.- Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reviewed with governance to focus on core local government priorities. I believe this is not a function of local government if it diverts resources from statutory responsibilities.Additional points:As a small business owner I constantly seek ways to cut costs. The Council should adopt a similar mindsetâ€”stop simply increasing rates and pursue cost efficiency and better value for ratepayers through organisational change vendor consolidation and renegotiation of contracts. Targeted savings could help cap rate increases around 3% per year while maintaining essential services.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.
	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8013

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 ask the Council to align rates with inflation and real community needs.I base my position on these core points:- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 more per the average household in a current average bill of $4069. Since 2022 rates have effectively risen 30% in real terms far outpacing 12% cumulative inflation.- The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% to maintain existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. This spending pressure should be scrutinised and restrained.- There is substantial spending on consultants and backroom functions with an estimated $126

million per year across the Council group and $60 million by the Auckland Council parent. Reducing consultancy and corporate overhead is essential to any prudent budget.- I oppose continuing or expanding discretionary and non-essential programmes including the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Staffing costs represent a significant burden: freezing vacancies and avoiding non-essential hires could save at least $17 million immediately and overall payroll and related expenses have grown markedly.- I disagree with expanding Māori-specific spending in areas I view as not core local government responsibilities such as the Ngā Mātārae Māori Outcomes initiative which is cited at about $10 million per year.Proposed alternative: the Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) capping the rate rise to about 3% by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze ($50 million).- Capping spending on consultants ($50 million).- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million).- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).I respectfully request that the Council consider these reductions to protect households from excessive rate hikes while ensuring essential services remain funded.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8018

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: Hibiscus and Bays

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 have reviewed the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9%. For the average household this represents about $320 extra per year on top of substantial rate increases since 2022. The cumulative impact is unaffordable for many families especially as rates have risen 30% in real terms since 2022 while inflation has outpaced this growth.I support a more frugal and targeted approach to Council spending. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance outlines several practical steps to bring the rate-rise back in line with inflation and essential services:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing non-essential roles and not filling vacant

positions which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve meaningful savings.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and reexamine non-core programmes that do not deliver essential public outcomes.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce payroll costs to curb the growth in staff expenses including reductions in back-office and corporate functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reconsider Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department as this is not a statutory local government requirement.Given these measures the Alliance's alternative budget suggests a 2% reduction in new Council spending enabling a cap of around 3% for average rates. Specific initiatives include: $50 million saving from personnel and consultants $30 million from renegotiations and consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I urge the Council to adopt a disciplined expenditure programme that protects essential services while restoring public trust. The current trajectory risks compounding financial pressure on households and 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**
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- **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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	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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8029

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

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 impact on households is disproportionate with the current average rates bill at $4069 and the real increase since 2022 already at 30 percent (in 2022 dollars) while inflation runs around 12 percent. I oppose a further rise above inflation and call for targeted savings to bring rates in line with households' ability to pay.I urge Council to adopt a measured approach that prioritises essential services and reduces wasteful spending. In particular I support:1) Reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner central administration will help lower the overall rate increase.2) Cutting spend on consultancy and

professional services rather than continuing to escalate these costs. Council should favour in-house expertise and contract renegotiation where appropriate.3) Cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and based on the Alliance briefing emits more carbon than it saves.4) Freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local government function.To achieve the above I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap average residential rates increases at around 3%. This would come from: a $50 million reduction in personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes a $50 million cap on consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I request that my submission be considered in full and that these measures be part of the final rate setting ensuring spending aligns with ratepayers' needs and Council's statutory responsibilities.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I submit in a strong and direct tone opposing the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and urging a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending.1. Opposition to the rates rise and affordability- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. The real increase since 2022 is already 30 percent in 2022-dollar terms while inflation has run about 12 percent. Rates must be aligned with real household income growth and inflation.2. Demand for reduced expenditure in core back-office and consultancy- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Put a halt to rising spend on consultancy and professional services; these costs have ballooned while essential service delivery should not be compromised.- A targeted reduction of at least $150 million in new Council spending is required to cap the rate rise at roughly 3 percent as proposed in the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget.3. Specific programme cuts and hiring discipline- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits 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.- Curb Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.4. Context and accountability- Since the 2010 amalgamation rates have risen 85% well above inflation and population growth. The need for leaner operations and responsible budgeting is overdue and Len Brown's prior commitments to curb waste should be reflected now.I request the Council consider these points and implement a disciplined budget with lower reliance on consultants and payroll 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.

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- **Regional transport plans**
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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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	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
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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8037

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

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 formal respectful manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for urgent reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key points- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% as this adds to a real rate burden well above inflation and past growth. The proposed increase would amount to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069.- Wasteful or excessive spending must be curtailed. Specifically reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and slow or halt the ongoing rise in consultancy and professional services.- The Food Scraps Programme

should be cancelled. It costs about $36 million per year and based on available figures emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Maori-specific spending should be reconsidered. The $10 million per year attributed to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local government function and should be redirected or reduced.Reasoned context- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen by 85%â€”far above cumulative inflation (approximately 34%). The proposed mix of cost drivers (assets maintenance 2% new assets 1.5% CRL operating costs 4.4%) does not justify a rate rise of this magnitude when efficiency gains are achievable.- The Council's current spending profile includes high consultancy costs (approximately $126 million across the group annually) and extensive payrolls with many six-figure salaries. A disciplined budget prioritising statutory and essential services is warranted.Conclusion and request- I request that the Council adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach to cap rate increases at around 3% by reducing non-essential expenditure renegotiating contracts and prioritising core services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8044,338153,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The evidence from the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance indicates that the current plan embeds a real burden on households with an average increase of about $320 per household on a current average bill of $4069 while the real increase since 2022 stands at approximately 30 percent in 2022 dollars against 12 percent cumulative inflation. This is unaffordable for many ratepayers and undermines trust in local governance.I propose the following savings measures to cap the rate rise at around 3 percent and to reallocate funds to essential services:1) Reduce spending on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.2) Freeze hiring for non-essential roles and cap payroll targeting a at least $17 million immediate saving by not filling vacant positions.3) Cut spending on consultancy and professional services; reverse the ongoing rise in external advisors.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze or significantly reduce Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) portfolio which is not a core local-government function.6) Implement contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve cost efficiencies alongside prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.These measures align with the ratepayers' call to reduce wasteful expenditure and to constrain rates growth to a much more modest level. The current trajectoryâ€”funding CRL operating costs ongoing asset maintenance and new asset spendingâ€”requires careful scrutiny to ensure value for money and fair treatment of households already facing multiple price pressures. By curbing duplicative overheads reducing external spend and reassigning resources to core services the Council can protect ratepayers while still delivering essential infrastructure and transport priorities.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8057,338140,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The 7.9% uplift is not affordable for households while inflation sits well below the Council's proposed rise; in real terms ratepayers have already faced a 30% increase since 2022 with cumulative inflation at about 12%. I oppose this

increase and urge a pathway to affordability.I support the following measures to reduce budget pressure and protect essential services:1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9% and instead cap total rate rises by pursuing targeted savings.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to climb further.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget I urge the Council to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% cut) to keep the average residential rates increase to about 3%. This should be achieved through:- Organisational change and hiring freezes to save $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants to save $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to save $20 million.The Council must demonstrate prudent stewardship of ratepayer funds and align spending with core statutory functions rather than expanding discretionary activities and backroom costs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a
hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8064,338133,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose this increase and urge the Council to pursue meaningful savings in expenditure to keep rates affordable for households.Key concerns and positions- Oppose the 7.9% average increase. The proposed rise is well above inflation and would add about $320 to the average household bill at a time when rates have already risen 85% since 2010 while inflation has been far lower.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions. The Council and CCOs should streamline operations and cut waste in administrative spend.- Cut consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants and contractors is excessive and should be capped or reduced.- Freeze staffing or cut payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. A straightforward hiring pause could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). This is not a core local government function and funds should be redirected to statutory and essential services.- Structural savings to achieve a 3% cap: I support the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) prioritising essential services and reforming procurement.Additional points- Food scraps programme: while costly it reduces landfill waste; a re-evaluation of the programme could preserve some environmental benefits while reducing costs.- Public transport efficiency: consider reducing off-peak bus services that run nearly empty; adjust frequencies to reflect demand and save operating costs.RationaleAuckland's growth requires prudent financial management not perpetual rate increases. Since 2010 rates growth has outpaced inflation and population growth indicating inefficiencies that should be addressed first. Redirecting savings from personnel costs consultant contracts and ineffective discretionary spending will protect households without compromising essential services.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a
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8076,338121,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The rate rise is equivalent to about $320 for the average household on top of a real increase in rates since 2022 of 30% (in 2022 dollars) while overall inflation has run about 12%. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 yet Council continues to escalate operating and personnel costs and to expand non-core spending.I support the following positions:- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and seek a cap closer to 3% through expenditure restraint.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to grow.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing 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 spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local-government function.I also submit the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget framework which proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap the rate increase at 3%:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze.- $50 million from limiting consultancy and professional services.- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In addition to the above I urge a comprehensive review of all non-essential spend and a focus on delivering core municipal services efficiently. Direct operating expenditure increases have historically outpaced inflation and there is clear scope to reallocate and reduce spending without compromising essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8089,338108,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in a constructive solution-focused manner to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to advocate for significant savings in wasteful Council spend.Key concerns and proposed actions1) Rates increase- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rates rise of 30% since 2022 (with inflation at 12%). I support capping the increase to around 3% by tightening discretionary spending and reforming operations rather than continuing to grow rates in line with expenditure growth.2) Wasteful spend and back-office costs- Council spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year across the group; the Auckland Council parent accounts for $60 million with many consultants earning around $200k. Personnel costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation. A reduction in corporate and back-office functions is essential.- There are 6123 Council and CCO employees on six-figure salaries with 72 staff paid more than the mayor. Staff costs and other expenses rose at twice the rate of inflation from 2022 to 2025.- Eighteen corporate and business support functions cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure. I urge a program of organisational change and hiring freezes for non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.3) Specific budget trimming- Reduce consultancy and professional services spending by at least $50 million.- Freeze staffing for vacant non-essential roles to realise a substantial short-term saving.- Cancel or pause the Food Scraps Programme at a cost of $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Redeploy or reduce Māori-

specific spending including the approximately $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) where questions have been raised about its role within local government.4) Alternative budget alignment- In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap rates at roughly 3% including cap on consultants renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ConclusionI urge the Council to adopt a leaner operating model prioritise essential statutory services and implement the above savings to protect households from excessive rate increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8098,338099,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this formal response to the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the anticipated average 7.9 percent residential rates increase.I oppose the proposed rate rise of 7.9 percent. The plan would translate to about $320 extra per average household on a current average bill of $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of around 30 percent against 12 percent inflation. The substantial rate burden is not justified by the proposed use of funds.I support significant expenditure reform across the Council and CCOs. In particular:- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these line items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million promptly.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which I view as outside the core remit of local government.I note that the proposed budget includes significant costs in personnel and professional services with payroll and related expenses rising sharply since 2022. The Council should pursue a disciplined approach to restructuring renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and non-core programmes.Additional context from ratepayers' research shows that overall spending on consultants contracts and back-office functions has grown well beyond inflation while direct operating expenditure has outpaced inflation over the past decade. A more restrained approach to new spending will help cap rates increases and preserve essential services,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8105,338092,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in a constructive and solution-focused manner to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending.Position and rationale- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The current average rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 and the real increase since 2022 is already 30 percent far outpacing cumulative inflation (12 percent). The proposed increase should be restrained to better reflect prudent necessary spending.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it 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 measure alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- Māori-specific spending should be reviewed; the $10 million per year spent on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local government function and should be scaled back.Alternative budget approach- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average residential rates increase at around 3 percent. This would be achieved through: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million - Capping spending on consultants: $50 million - Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionConclusionA responsible budget should protect core services while eliminating or deferring nonessential programmes and waste. Implementing the above measures would deliver meaningful rate relief and restore confidence in prudent financial management.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8139,338058,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed rates rise and urge the Council to cap increases well below inflation. The current plan distributes 7.9% across costs with 4.4% for CRL operating costs and 2% for asset maintenance but this ignores the need to curb wasteful spending and the viable savings available. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates it is possible to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby limiting the average residential rates rise to about 3%. This requires immediate actions in four areas.First restrain personnel costs and payroll. Freeze non-essential vacancies and avoid additional hires to save at least $17 million immediately. Second cap consulting and professional services. Reducing reliance on external advisers by $50 million would directly lower operating costs. Third renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors. A $30 million saving is achievable through prudent renegotiations. Fourth prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. Redirect funds toward core services and critical infrastructure maintenance.I also oppose specific expenditures framed as non-core to local government functions. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Further reduce Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department reportedly around $10 million per year given this role is outside a traditional local-government remit.Additional points: We do not have endless income and we are not a monopoly like a council. Rates decisions should respect ratepayers as customers whom the Council must serve efficiently without unnecessary cost escalations.In summary oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and support a disciplined cost-cutting plan that prioritises essential services reduces consultancy and backroom spending and cancels non-core programmes.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8148,338049,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose this increase and urge the Council to adopt substantial savings to keep rates aligned with inflation and essential services.Key positions1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The current rate of rise is unsustainable for households especially given the 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars)

and cumulative inflation of around 12%. A more prudent path is to cap the rise at 3% by tightening spending in high-cost areas.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. There is a need to streamline support functions that do not directly deliver services to residents.3) Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services. Consulting and contractors are growing faster than inflation and should be capped to protect ratepayer funds.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which reportedly 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 such as the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) given that this is not a core local government responsibility.Practical compensating steps- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) enabling an average rate increase of around 3%. This includes $50 million in personnel cost reductions $50 million in consultant caps $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional points- Prioritise essential statutory services and avoid discretionary expenditure that does not directly benefit residents.I would prefer not to speak at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8157,338040,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I understand this would cost the average household around $320 more per year on top of a real increase in rates that has risen 30% since 2022 far outstripping inflation.I support adopting the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget to cap the average rates rise at about 3% by reducing wasteful spending. Specifically I urge the Council to:1) Reduce personnel costs by implementing organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles which could save about $50 million. 2) Cap spending on consultants and professional services at around $50 million to curb outsized backroom costs.3) Pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to deliver approximately $30 million in savings.4) Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving around $20 million.5) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.6) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.7) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.The Council should also recognise that current expenditure on consultants corporate functions and backoffice operations has grown significantly while direct operating expenditure rose well ahead of inflation. The Alliance's plan aims to reduce new spending by approximately $150 million thereby keeping rates increases within a responsible range.I request the Council consider these concrete reductions and align future budget decisions with essential core services transparency and value for money for ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8169,338028,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to prioritise savings and essential services over ongoing and

rising expenditure.Key basis for opposition- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of an already high current average bill of $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen far faster than inflation and population growth with a real increase of 30% since 2022 and cumulative inflation of about 12%. The mix of the increase includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs that must be scrutinised against tangible transport and growth outcomes.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and curb consultancy and professional services. Annual consultancy spending runs at about $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant salary around $200k and a large portion concentrated in the Auckland Council parent.- Wasteful or non-core programmes should be re-evaluated. I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in the view of its supporters emits more carbon than it saves.- Personnel costs should be restrained. Freezing staffing or reducing payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately. There is also room to streamline payroll with numerous six-figure roles and high overall personnel costs above inflation.Specific savings proposal (Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget)- Reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates increase to around 3%: - $50 million by freezing hiring and reorganising personnel - $50 million by limiting consultants - $30 million through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsI urge the Council to prioritise core services and affordable transparent budgeting and to publish a clear path to lower operating costs before returning a budget for public consideration. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8171,338026,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in a strong and direct manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and to urge a fundamental tightening of wasteful council spending.I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates rise. The plan allocates 4.4% of the increase to CRL operating costs with only 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets tied to growth. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% while inflation ran about 34% and population grew ~22%. A more restrained approach is required to avoid overburdening households already stretched by cost pressures.The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services. Current figures show $126 million annually on consultants across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen far faster than inflation while 18 corporate and business support functions cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure. These cost centres are ripe for reform without compromising essential services.I further urge cancelling non-essential programmes notably the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Additionally freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a move that could save at least $17 million immediately.I support reducing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). If this is not a proper local-government function redirect funds to statutory and essential services.I also request a more accurate property valuations process as the current assessment values feel misaligned with household realities.Alternative Budget alignment: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to around 3% by cutting personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my

submission at a hearing.The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 and the real increase since 2022 is 30 percent far exceeding overall inflation. The proposed 7.9% increase is neither fair nor affordable for households facing rising living costs.Agreed positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The Alliance's analysis shows rate rises far outpacing inflation and population growth since the Super City amalgamation; Auckland residents cannot sustain such increases year after year.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current spending on six-figure salaries staff and administration costs is excessive for a city already carrying high debt and rising operating costs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these lines. The Council's annual consultancy spend of about $126 million (roughly $60 million by the Auckland Council parent) with typical consultants earning around $200k is unsustainable and inefficient.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. A halt or conservative recruitment would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including approximately $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) function which the submitter regards as outside the core responsibilities of local government.Additional context and proposal- The Council should implement the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average residential rates increase at 3%. Priorities include personnel cost reductions cap on consultants renegotiation and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request to address these matters directly in hearings if possible and I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8188,338009,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1) Oppose the 7.9% increase. The current average rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 stands at about 30 percent far above inflation. The proposed breakdownâ€”2% for existing assets 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”reflects a cumulative cost burden that is unsustainable for households.2) Reduce backroom and consultant spend. The Alliance briefing shows Council spending on consultants at $126 million per year and payroll growth outpacing inflation. I support reducing corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and capping spending on consultancy and professional services to stop the continual outward drift of operating costs.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The proposed programme costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. Given competing priorities and limited ratepayer funds this initiative should be halted.4) Freeze staffing and curb payroll costs. I back freezing non-essential hires and reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. The briefing indicates this could deliver significant immediate savings (at least $17 million).5) Challenge Māori-specific spending. The Alliance proposes reducing the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing it is not a core local government function. I support reviewing this allocation to reflect Council's statutory responsibilities and essential services first.Alternative budget framework. Using the Ratepayers' Alliance model reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rate increases to around 3%. This would be achieved through organisational change hiring freezes vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.In closing I urge Council to adopt a prudent budget that values ratepayers and essential services over expanding spend in non-core areas. I do not wish to

speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8192,338005,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key points- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% equates to about $320 for the average household on an existing average bill of $4069. Since 2022 rates have risen 30% in real terms while overall inflation has been 12%. The disparity between revenue needs and citizen affordability is clear.- The rate rise is not spent solely on essential services. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This underscores the importance of scrutinising how costs are allocated particularly in non-essential areas.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes an Alternative Budget to cap the rate rise at about 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) including: freezing non-essential staffing capping consultant spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Agreed positions- 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 continuing to increase these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which emits 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 on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Additional points- Reallocate savings toward essential statutory services and transparent outcome-based budgeting. Prioritise accountability and limit discretionary grants.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8209,337988,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The current concern is not only the level of rates but how spending is allocated.Key positions- Oppose the 7.9% average increase. This rise if approved would add approximately $320 for the average household on a current bill of about $4069 representing a real burden on households already dealing with inflation and cost of living pressures.- The Council must cut expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current pattern of high personnel costs and extensive staff salaries undermines public trust and affordability.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants and contractors should be capped with a focus on achieving core statutory and essential services first.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect those funds to essential services and cost-saving initiatives.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae). In my view this is not a local government core function and should be redirected to essential services.- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap rate increases at about 3% including reallocations from personnel consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional points- Stop installing speed bumps everywhere and fix potholes that continue

to appear; infrastructure maintenance should be prioritised to reduce ongoing costs and improve safety.ClosingI request the opportunity to speak at hearings only if allowed otherwise I rely on this submission to express my views.I am strongly opposed to the proposed increases and support substantial fiscal restraint to protect ratepayers.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8219,337978,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 and since 2022 rates have risen by 30 percent in real terms well above inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent increase is not acceptable without substantial savings elsewhere.Key concerns and demands:- The 7.9 percent rise is unevenly allocated: 2 percent for maintaining existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. This structure should be rebalanced to prioritise core services and avoid escalating debt.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget shows a feasible path to cap rate increases at around 3 percent by cutting excessive expenditure. A $150 million reduction can be achieved by: a) freezing or reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and not filling vacant non-essential roles (saving at least $17 million immediately); b) capping consultancy and professional services spend (roughly $50 million); c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million); d) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million); total: $150 million.- There is excessive spending on consultants and backroom functions: $126 million per year across the Council group with $60 million by the Council alone and many six-figure salaries. Direct operating expenditure has risen far faster than inflation while payroll remains a major cost driver.- The Council should cancel non-essential programmes such as the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and appears to emit more carbon than it saves; and reduce Māori-specific spending such as Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) by rebalancing to core local-government priorities.I request that the Council provide a verified plan showing how its cost-cutting measures will deliver a three-percent rate increase with transparent timelines and measurable savings. The focus must be on essential services prudent stewardship of public funds and lifting efficiency across the organisation.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8229,337968,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit a constructive and solution-focused view opposing the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urging a credible plan to cut wasteful Council spending.Key concerns- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent (about $320 for the average household) is not affordable and far above inflation. Since 2022 rates would have risen by about 30 percent in real terms versus 12 percent cumulative inflation. Details show 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of uplift cannot be justified while critical services face efficiency opportunities.- I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than permitting ongoing growth in these areas.- I oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves.- I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-

essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose current Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) when it is not a core local government role.Ratepayer-led alternative and fiscal discipline- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the 7.9% rise at 3% through: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million from consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.- By prioritising essential services and delivering real efficiency the Council can protect ratepayers from disproportionate rises while improving value for money.Wayne you were elected to reduce spending. Please start doing that and stop the waste.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0 ,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8248,337949,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,After last year's near 30 percent rise this draft plan would push Auckland households further beyond inflation and take more than the Council can reasonably ask residents to bear.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9 percent increase is excessive. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30 percent far outpacing cumulative inflation. The breakdown shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs 2 percent for maintaining assets and 1.5 percent for new assetsâ€”leaving little room for essential well-prioritised services.- Wasteful spending must be reduced. The Council and CCOs collectively spend large sums on consultants (roughly $126 million per year) and six-figure salaries including many above the mayor's pay. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown well beyond inflation.- Specific reductions I support (Agrees) - Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. - Cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to continue rising. - Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which reportedly emits 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/year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.Alternative budgetingIn line with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to around 3 percent. This requires organisational change a hiring freeze renegotiation of contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional pointAfter last year's rate rise the Council must live within its means. The new rail link will not benefit me personally so funds should be redirected to core Auckland needs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing the expected increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rate increase of 30% since 2022 (well above cumulative inflation). I urge the Council to reconsider the mix of funding prioritising core statutory and essential services.I strongly agree with the need to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and to scale back consultancy and professional services. The current annual spend on consultants is about $126 million for the Council group with the average consultant paid around $200000 and payroll and related costs rising at twice the rate of inflation. These costs contribute to a rise in rates that far outpaces household income growth and population change.I therefore support the following specific measures to cap rates increases and reallocate resources toward essential services:- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap residential

rates at roughly 3% via: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles (saving about $50 million immediately). - Capping spending on consultants (saving about $50 million). - Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors (saving about $30 million). - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants (saving about $20 million).- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme estimated at $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (an immediate saving of at least $17 million).- Reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local government function.Additional point: improve efficiency by reducing overheads limiting vehicle use and ensuring staff productivity aligns with Council priorities.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?

N/A