Annual Plan 2026/2027

Written Feedback

Whau Local Board

Volume 4

April 2026

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7438

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: Whau

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 residential increase is well above inflation and not affordable for ratepayers. The average bill would rise by about $320 and the current average is $4069. Since 2022 rates have effectively risen 30% in real terms far outstripping inflation (12%) and population growth (22%).- Wasteful/backroom expenditure must be cut. I support reducing corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and I oppose further increases in consultancy and professional services. The current pattern shows consultant spend at about $126 million annually across the Council group with the average consultant earning roughly

$200k.- Eliminate or scale back non-essential programmes. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which costs more in carbon than it saves.- Staffing and payroll controls. Freeze hiring for non-essential roles and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant positions a move that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Redress targeted spend including Māori-focused allocations. I oppose ongoing large-scale Māori Outcomes spend (Ngā Mātārae) of about $10 million per year arguing this is not a core local government responsibility.Agrees (submitter's positions):- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%.- Reduce expenditure on corporate/backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing growth.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36m/year) due to net emissions concerns.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles saving at least $17m.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) $10m/year.Am I proposing a constructive path? Yes. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at around 3%. This entails: $50m for personnel cost reductions $50m for consultancy caps $30m in contract/vendor renegotiations and $20m prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.Additional points:Rates increasing well above inflation year after year is not fair or sustainable. I am alarmed by perceived wastage in 'woke projects' and expect prudent stewardship aligned with ratepayer interests.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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7477

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

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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

The Alliance briefing shows the current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30 percent against 12 percent inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent rise at roughly $320 for the average household is excessive given the growth in inefficiencies identified in Council budgets.I urge the Council to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce spending by at least $150 million which would cap the average residential rate increase at around 3 percent. Specifically:- Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles saving about $50 million.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services at

$50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.Agreeing points to include:- 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 spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase 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; this alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- 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.These steps align with responsible stewardship of ratepayers' money and would prioritise essential services while restoring public trust. I request that staff presents options showing how a 3 percent cap could be achieved given these measures.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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

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NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7651

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The plan allocates 4.4% to CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% while inflation has run about 34% far outpacing population growth. A more restrained approach is required.- Wasteful or non-essential spending should be cut first. The Council spends heavily on consultants ($126 million per year across the group; $60 million by the Auckland Council parent) and on staff payroll with 6123 employees earning six-figure salaries and 72 paid more than the mayor. Direct operating expenditure has grown well above inflation and corporate and business support functions already

account for a substantial portion of direct expenditure.- I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reducing consultancy and professional services spend rather than turning to higher rates.- I oppose ongoing discretionary spending and agree with prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled given its $36 million annual cost and its net carbon impact. This aligns with a focus on core municipal responsibilities and evidence-based outcomes.- I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- I disagree with allocating significant funds to Maori-specific spending such as the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) at approximately $10 million per year given the role of local government.An alternative budget approach (as proposed by ratepayer groups) aims to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to about 3%: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. This would protect essential services and maintain ratepayer affordability.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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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NA

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

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NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7663

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I wish to register formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27. This would equate to roughly $320 for the average household on an current average bill of $4069 despite living with a real increase well above inflation since 2022. The proposed increase is not affordable for households facing higher living costs and represents a continuation of growth in rates that has outpaced inflation for years.I support targeted savings and a smaller rates rise by reducing wasteful council spend and reforming cost structures. Our community needs a Council that prioritises statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and backroom expenses.

Specifically:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.2) Reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to rise.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing and/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 including the roughly $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Proposed alternative: an Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance budget scenario to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%). This would be achieved through: $50 million from personnel and hiring pauses; $50 million from capping consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.These steps are consistent with responsible stewardship of ratepayers' money and would align budget with the community's expectations for prudent spending and value for money.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?

NA

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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NA

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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7731

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write as a ratepayer concerned by the rising cost of living and the historical pattern of expenditure that outpaces inflation and population growth. The proposed 7.9% average increase represents about $320 more per household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen by 85% far exceeding inflation (34%) and population growth (22%) and the real burden on households continues to grow.I oppose the 7.9% increase and urge a reduction in wasteful and non-essential expenditure. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets to accommodate growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. A credible path to affordability is to

reform internal cost structures and reduce back-office spend. 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.- Curb personnel costs and overall payroll growth which have risen substantially alongside consultant and contractor spending.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to secure savings.The Council also spends heavily on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and on consultants. Direct operating expenditure has grown well beyond inflation and the payroll burden remains significant. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance's alternative budget shows how to cap average rates growth to about 3% by reducing new spending by $150 million: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I also seek a reduction in Maori-specific spending including the $10 million/year for the Maori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department which I believe is not a core local government function.Additional note: the cost-plus mindset and 'feathering the nest' at ratepayer expense must end particularly as AI-enabled productivity could reduce some administration costs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

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Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7783

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Local Board: Whau

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a revised approach that reduces wasteful spending and caps rate rises to reflect inflation and core services.1. Why I oppose the 7.9% rise. The plan would deliver about a $320 increase for the average household on top of a cumulative real increase of 30% since 2022. Rates have risen far above inflation and population growth since the Super City era and this pace is unsustainable for households already feeling cost-of-living pressure.2. Wasteful spending must be cut. The council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb the growing spend on

consultancy and professional services. Direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation and consultants cost Aucklanders approximately $126 million annually across the group.3. Specific efficiency measures. 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 also support renegotiating contracts and vendor consolidation to target about $30 million in savings and a broader cap on consultant spending by a further $50 million as part of a practical enforceable efficiency plan.4. Reconsider discretionary programmes. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which purportedly saves carbon but appears to emit more than it saves. Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and closely review non-core programmes before any new or continuing funding.5. Māori outcomes funding. I oppose continuing or expanding the $10 million per year spent on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as a local government function; these responsibilities should be addressed within core council/CCO services if necessary with transparent justification.In summary reduce new spending by at least $150 million (2%) enabling a rate increase closer to 3% and a real visible improvement in efficiency and core 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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7840

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this formal submission to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for a reduction in wasteful Council spending. The plan to lift rates by nearly 8% is not acceptable given sustained spending growth and underwhelming returns in essential services.1) Rate increases and spending priorities- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9% given the real increase in rates since 2022 is already 30 percent (in 2022 dollars) while overall inflation has been 12 percent. The current average bill is $4069; a $320 rise per household is excessive when savings are possible.- Introduce an alternative budget that caps

rate rises at around 3 percent by reducing Council expenditure by about $150 million (2%) focused on personnel costs consultants and non-essential spend.2) Specific expenditure reductions- Reduce personnel costs by freezing hiring for vacant non-essential roles and pursuing organisational change to cut payroll costs saving at least $17 million immediately.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save around $50 million.- Limit discretionary and non-core programmes. Specifically cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in the assessment considered emits more carbon than it saves.- Cut Māori-specific outlays including the $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) aligning with the view that such roles are not a core local government function.3) Other observations- The Council has seen rapid growth in operating costs and personnel expenses since 2010. A tighter operating framework and a focus on statutory/essential services should take precedence over discretionary grants and back-office inflation.- The proposed funds allocated to CRL operations asset maintenance and new assets should be reviewed for efficiency with a preference for sustaining essential services over capacity expansion.Conclusion and hearing preferenceI request that the Council consider greater efficiency measures to bring rate increases closer to inflation-adjusted expectations while protecting 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**
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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?

NA

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)

NA

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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- **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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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7938

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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 this rate rise and urge the Council to pursue substantial cost reductions before increasing bills on households.Key reasons and constructive alternatives:1) Rate impact and affordability: The proposed 7.9 percent average increase amounts to approximately $320 for the average household on an average residential bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% in real terms far exceeding inflation. It is essential to align any rise with real growth in services and inflation not simply past ambitious project spending.2) Expenditure restraint and organisational efficiency: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council

and CCOs. A tighter more efficient administration would relieve pressure on homeowners without compromising essential services.3) Consultancy and professional services: Spending on consultants and contractors remains high. The {address redacted} Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that capping consultancy spending by $50 million alongside other efficiencies can keep rates increases to around 3 percent.4) Discretionary and non-core programmes: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. Reallocating those funds to essential services would better serve ratepayers.5) Staffing and payroll: Freeze non-essential hiring and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Maori outcomes funding: Consider reducing Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given concerns about local government roles and priorities.Wayne Brown campaigned on keeping rates lower through cost reductions; the current plan does not reflect that pledge. I urge the Council to prioritise statutory and essential services pursue efficiency gains and deliver a materially lower rate increase.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?

NA

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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NA

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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7985

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and advocate for significant reductions in wasteful Council spending.1) Rate increases vs. inflation and affordability- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase is excessive. The ratepayer burden is already rising far above inflation with a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and cumulative inflation at ~12%. The community cannot sustain further price shocks while essential services are under pressure.2) Wasteful and excessive backroom and consultancy costs- Council spending on consultants is $126 million per year across the Council group with the average

consultant paid around $200k. Payroll and backroom costs have grown far faster than inflation and population growth. The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and cut consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these items.3) Specific programme and personnel cost concerns- The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves; it should be cancelled. - There should be a freeze on hiring for non-essential roles and/or reductions in payroll costs by not filling vacant positions which could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose significant Māori-specific spending levels such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.4) Alternative budgeting approach- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) could cap the average residential rates increase at about 3% through: cutting personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge Auckland Council to adopt prudent targeted cost reductions focused on reducing consultants backroom expenditure and non-essential programmes rather than imposing a near-8% rates hike. Clear priority: essential services first reduce wasteful spending and apply the proposed $150 million reduction plan to keep rates affordable.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?

NA

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)

NA

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

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

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

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

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

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8006

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Since 2022 rates have effectively risen by 30% in real terms while inflation has been 12%. The proposed breakdown2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth 4.4% for CRL operating costsdoes not reflect prudent restraint in current spending.I support comprehensive reductions in non-core backroom and consultancy costs. The Council's expenditure on consultants amounts to about $126 million annually across the group with the Auckland Council parent accounting for $60 million and average consultants earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown 78% from 2013 to 2023 outpacing inflation. There should be an immediate organisational reset to deliver essential

services more efficiently.I also call for stopping wasteful projects and re-prioritising statutory services. The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I urge freezing staffing and reducing payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million right away. In addition I Support reducing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae); this is not a function of local government.Additional call to action: stop unnecessary pet projects and avoid gold-plating essential projects beyond bare essentials. The Council must demonstrate restraint and accountability to ratepayers who fund essential services while bearing the burden of inflation and population growth.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?

NA

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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NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8011

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns and asks:- The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive for households already facing high bills. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 with real increases since 2022 at roughly 30% (in 2022 dollars) despite 12% cumulative inflation. A rate rise of this magnitude compounds the financial strain on families.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and cut consultancies and professional services. Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance data show $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group (Auckland Council parent $60 million; average consultant pay around $200000). Direct operating expenditure and

staff costs have grown well above inflation; personnel costs and other expenses rose more quickly than inflation between 2022 and 2025 while payroll stands at about $1.3 billion.- Implement a credible restraint on staffing and payroll. Freeze non-essential vacancies or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reallocate funds away from discretionary areas toward essential statutory services. Our alternative budget proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) enabling a cap around a 3% rates rise. This would be achieved by: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change/hiring freezes $50 million from cap on consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.- Targeted savings should also include reform of project governance and procurement to reduce spend on consultants and contracted services and to improve returns on core services to residents.Additional note: The overblown spending has to stop. We must go back to basics and execute well.Closing:I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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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NA

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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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8021

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: Whau

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. We oppose the proposed increase and advocate for reducing wasteful council spending. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% while population grew 22% and inflation has been far below the rate of rates growth. A 7.9% average rise is not acceptable when inflation and living costs remain high.2. We support reducing corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing shows substantial spending on consultants ($126 million per year across the Council group) and large payroll costs. We urge a comprehensive efficiency review to identify savings without compromising essential services.3. We oppose continuing to escalate

consultancy and professional services spend. The current trajectory would be better directed to core services rather than external advisers with no impact on essential operations.4. We call for cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme cited as costing about $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves. Redirecting these funds to essential services would benefit households.5. We support freezing staffing and reducing payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies. If vacancies are left unfilled a saving of at least $17 million could be achieved immediately.6. We present an alternative budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. This includes: a) a $50 million saving from personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze; b) $50 million from capping consultancy spend; c) $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; d) $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.7. Additional context: the current average residential rates bill stands at $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30%. A smaller more sustainable increase would lessen the financial burden on households like ours.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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8036

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: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and to urge a reversal toward responsible value-for-money spending. The current trajectory is unsustainable for households already burdened by inflation and population growth since the 2010 amalgamation.Position 1: Oppose the 7.9% increase. The plan allocates 4.4% to CRL operating costs plus 2% for maintaining assets and 1.5% for new assets. Since 2022 rates have risen 30% in real terms far outpacing inflation (12%). A 7.9% average rise deepens ratepayer hardship and disproportionately funds operating costs rather than essential service improvements.Position 2:

Reduce corporate and backroom spending. Council and CCOs should cut spending on consultants and professional services. Annual consultant expenditure is $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200000. There is a clear opportunity to streamline and consolidate functions.Position 3: Cut discretionary and non-essential spend. Cancel non-value-adding programmes such as the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which in our assessment emits more carbon than it saves and refocus on core statutory services.Position 4: Freeze staffing or reduce payroll where non-essential roles exist. A hiring freeze and/or reduction in vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately and help curb overall payroll growth.Position 5: Reprioritise spending away from targeted Māori-specific programmes. The $10 million/year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a local government core function and should be redirected or reduced.Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance suggests a prudent alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping rates to around 3% by:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisation changes and a hiring freeze- $50 million from consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grantsLive within the Council's means and focus on essential services first.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?

NA

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)

NA

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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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8103

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: Whau

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 a real-terms burden with the current average residential bill at $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of 30% against 12% inflation. I oppose the 7.9% rise and insist on urgent spending restraint and reform.Key positions:1) Oppose the 7.9% average increase and seek a cap around 3% by reducing wasteful spending.2) Reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs; reduce spend on consultancy and professional services.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves).4) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (expected

immediate saving of at least $17 million).5) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which I view as not a core local government function.Rationale and data:- Since 2010 rates have risen 85%well above population growth and inflation. The breakdown of the proposed 7.9% includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining assets and 1.5% for growth-related assets highlighting systemic cost pressures rather than service level improvements.- Council spends heavily on consultants (about $126 million per year across the group) with significant payroll costs (over 6100 staff on six-figure salaries; 72 staff earn more than the mayor's $306741). Direct operating expenditure rose far faster than inflation (78% 20132023 vs 29% inflation).- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget shows a feasible path: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping rates at about 3% through targeted reductions in personnel consultants and renegotiations.Additional points:While this is a template response via the Auckland Ratepayers Alliance I represent my interests as a ratepayer. I request that Council prioritise essential statutory services and reduce discretionary expenditure accordingly.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?

NA

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)

NA

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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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8220

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: Whau

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 proposed 7.9 percent increase is excessive particularly when the Council's spending outlook shows persistent drift in personnel and consultant costs. The rate rise would add roughly $320 to the average household bill on top of a real rates increase since 2022 of about 30 percent while inflation over the period has been around 12 percent. This is not sustainable for households in real terms.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance's direction to:- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to continue growing.- Cancel the Food Scraps

Programme which costs $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 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) acknowledging this is not a core local-government function.A credible alternative budget is required. By reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2 percent reduction) average residential rates could be capped around 3 percent. Concrete steps to achieve this include:- $50 million redirected from personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles.- $50 million cap on consultants and external contractors.- $30 million in contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- $20 million prioritised toward statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Mayor Brown was elected on promises to cap rates and curb waste. You are urged to honour those commitments and deliver real cost control instead of another rate rise.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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8222

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
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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. Rate increase stance- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This rise translates to roughly $320 for the average household on top of ongoing cost pressures faced by residents. The current rate burden has grown significantly since 2022 with real increases of about 30 percent in 2022 dollars well above cumulative inflation.2. Spending reductions aligned with an alternative budget- I support reducing new council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap residential rates increases at around 3 percent. Specifically: - Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: potential savings of $50 million. - Cap spending on consultants and

professional services: $50 million. - Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors: $30 million. - Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million.3. Specific cost concerns and changes I seek- Cut back on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Freeze or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-focused spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given I believe this is not a role of local government.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme currently costing about $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.4. Context and responsibility- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen by about 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. The council's current expenditure on consultants contractors and six-figure salaries for staff and executives appears disproportionate to core council functions.Given these points I urge the Council to adopt a restrained budget pathway prioritise essential services and implement the proposed reductions to bring rates back toward a sustainable level 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?

NA

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)

NA

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

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

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

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

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8230

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my views on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the advertised average residential rates increase of 7.9%. I oppose this increase and advocate for substantial efficiency gains and targeted reductions in wasteful spending.1) Rates and affordability- The proposed 7.9% increase is well above inflation and would push the average residential rates bill higher with an estimated rise of around $320 for the average household. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. I support reducing operating costs to keep rates affordable for households.2) Expenditure reforms and cost drivers- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and

backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reducing spend on consultancy and professional services is essential; the current level is unsustainable. - Direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation and payroll and other personnel costs have risen sharply. A freeze on non-essential vacancies and restraint on hiring would yield immediate savings.3) Targeted reductions aligned with the Ratepayers' Alliance plan- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing levels or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which can save at least $17 million right away.- Cut spending on Māori-specific programmes including the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) budget of about $10 million per year on the basis that this is not a core local government function.4) Budget framework and alternative approach- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rate rise at about 3% focusing on essential statutory services and prioritising core responsibilities over discretionary grants. This includes $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and $20 million from policy prioritisation.ClosingI urge Council to pursue these efficiencies and reject the proposed 7.9% rise. 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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8326

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 extra per average household on top of a long track record of rate rises. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85%well above cumulative inflation and population growth. It is essential that any increase be tightly limited to essential services and demonstrably justified.- The Council should prioritise delivering statutory and essential services over discretionary programs. In particular the current trajectory of high operating and consultancies costs is unsustainable.Preferred path and supporting points- 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 allowing these items to grow.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and according to the Alliance briefing emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to essential services with measurable community benefit.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a move that could save at least $17 million promptly.- Curb Māori-specific and similarly narrow interest group spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given the view that local government should focus on core statutory duties.- The Alliance's alternative budget suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a cap on rates increases at about 3%. This should be achieved through a mix of personnel cost controls cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.I urge all departments to re-think every program from the ground up justifying each action and expenditure as essential to the city's functioning. Tough but necessary decisions are required to deliver 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?

NA

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)

NA

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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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8327

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and support a tighter control of Council spending. The current plan effectively raises rates well above inflation while delivering limited demonstrable gains for ratepayers. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far exceeding cumulative inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A more disciplined evidence-based approach to spending is required.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance framework to reduce wasteful expenditure. Specifically:- Reduce Council 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 continue increasing.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in the Alliance view emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a move that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a direct local government function.In addition I endorse the Alliance's broader budget approach to cap the average residential rates increase at 3 percent by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze.- Capping spending on consultants.- Undertaking contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I urge the Council to publish a transparent independently verified cost-saving plan that demonstrates how these reductions would translate to ratepayer relief while ensuring essential infrastructure safety and regulatory functions are maintained.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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- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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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NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8343

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and urge a disciplined reduction in wasteful Council spending to protect households from a rate rise well above inflation.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a long history of rate increases that far outpace inflation (30% real increase since 2022 versus 12% overall inflation). The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs with only 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. This pattern warrants scrutiny before further increases are approved.- The Council should curb wasteful spending. In particular

reduce spending on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and rein in consultancy and professional services which are rising while core services face pressure.- The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves; I support its cancellation as part of prioritising essential services.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Māori-specific spending should be reviewed; the $10 million/year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a role of local government and funding should be redirected to statutory and essential services.Alternative budget and recommendations- I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance recommendation to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average residential rates increase at about 3%. This includes: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles; $50 million by capping consultancy spend; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Adopt a culture of lean administration: prioritise essential services streamline payroll and renegotiate external contracts to protect households from excessive rate increases.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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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?

NA

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)

NA

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

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

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

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8344

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to cap rate increases in line with or below inflation. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with the real increase since 2022 at about 30% against 12% cumulative inflation. The proposed 7.9% split2% for existing assets 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsshows a disproportionate burden on households.Agreed positions and requests:- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase; seek a maximum increase of 3% or less aligned with prudent affordability for households.- 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.- 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 such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government function.- Focus funding on core serviceswater rubbish and sewageas opposed to non-core items such as cycle lanes park beautification and community safety initiatives.Additional points:- A leaner organisation and renegotiated vendor contracts can provide significant savings; prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- An alternative budget approach suggesting a $150 million reduction in new Council spending would cap rates increases at about 3% and improve affordability for ratepayers.Closing:I respectfully request the opportunity to present at hearings to elaborates 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:

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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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8353

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current environment requires prudent budgeting not rate hikes that far outstrip inflation.Key points for consideration1) Rates increase: The proposed 7.9% average rise translates to approximately $320 for the average household on top of a real 30% increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars). This burden is excessive given ongoing inflation and population growth.2) Wasteful expenditure and backroom costs: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Personnel costs and 'other expenses' have risen faster than inflation; payroll alone sits at about $1.3 billion with consultants and contractors at $590

million. A moratorium on non-essential roles and a hiring freeze would yield immediate savings.3) Consultants and professional services: Spend on consultants is unsustainable. Cap and reduce consultancy and professional services and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to realise meaningful savings.4) Specific programmes to reconsider: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme estimated at $36 million per year which this submission argues emits more carbon than it saves. Reallocate funds to essential services with measurable outcomes.5) Staffing and Māori outcomes: Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential positions which could save at least $17 million now. On Māori-focused spending the $10 million/year for the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local government function and should be redirected to statutory responsibilities.6) Alternative budget approach: Adopt a responsible cap on rates by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) aligning with the goal of a 3% rate increase and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In summary I urge the Council to prioritise fundamental services and restraint on non-essential spending reduce staff and consultant costs and abandon wasteful programmes before imposing higher rates on households. Simply stop wasting money on egotistic things and get back to doing the basics.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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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NA

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

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

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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8373

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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

Key concerns and requests- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The current average rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 representing a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 (versus 12 percent inflation). A 7.9 percent rise magnifies pressure on households already bearing the substantial cost of growth and asset maintenance.- Target wasteful spending and reform backroom operations. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services which are growing faster than inflation.- Cancel or scale back discretionary programmes with high

emissions or marginal public value. Specifically cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Freeze vacancies or refrain from hiring for non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Reprioritise funding away from Māori-specific spending that is not essential to local government. The proposed $10 million per year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as part of a value-for-money assessment for statutory responsibilities.Supportable funding reforms (based on the Alliance alternative budget)- Cap the average rates increase at 3 percent by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent). This includes: $50 million from personnel cost reductions and hiring freezes; $50 million from capping consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Rationale- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% outpacing inflation and population growth. A leaner better-prioritised budget will preserve essential services while protecting households from unsustainable 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?

NA

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)

NA

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

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8404

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for meaningful reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key points- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent equates to about $320 for the typical household on top of a long pattern of rate growth. Since 2010 rates have risen 85 percent well above inflation (34 percent) and population growth (22 percent). The current average rates bill is $4069.- The breakdown of the 7.9 percent rise includes 2 percent for maintaining existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. A sustained above-inflation increase is

not affordable for households facing higher living costs.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes an alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap the average rates increase at about 3 percent. Achieve this by: reducing personnel costs via organisational change and freezes ($50 million) capping consultants ($50 million) renegotiating contracts and vendor consolidation ($30 million) and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).Specific reductions and waste I urge the Council to consider- Corporate and backroom office functions: reduce expenditure across the Council and CCOs.- Consultancy and professional services: slow or freeze growth in consulting expenditure; redirect to core statutory services.- Food Scraps Programme: cancel the programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Staffing costs: freeze hiring for non-essential roles and reduce payroll cost by not filling vacant positions which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Māori-specific spend: reassess the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government role.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?

NA

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)

NA

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

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

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

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8443

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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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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 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent. The proposed 7.9 percent increase comprises 2 percent to maintain existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets as the city grows and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. This level of increase far outstrips inflation and counciless growth in population.I support the following priorities for reducing ratepayer burden and improving value for money:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent and support capping growth at around 3 percent funded by reducing new council spending by $150 million (2 percent).- Reduce expenditure on

corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continual increases in these 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; this measure alone would 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.- Stop spending on non-core projects and re-prioritise to essential statutory services and core obligations.These steps align with the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reallocate resources toward essential services while limiting ratepayer exposure to unnecessary growth. In addition I urge contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve further savings and a prioritisation of 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:

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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?

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8479

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30% in 2022 dollars against 12% cumulative inflation. A 7.9% increase compounds this imbalance and places an unfair burden on households.Key concerns- The rate rise is not matched by commensurate efficiency gains. The breakdown attributes 4.4% to CRL operating costs 2% to maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. This places excessive weight on operational costs while ignoring the potential savings from reforming backroom functions.- Wasteful spending across the Council group is well documented. Annual consultant costs total about $126 million with the average

consultant earning around $200k alongside extensive payroll and six-figure salaries. Direct operating expenditure rose much faster than inflation (12% vs 78% between 2013 and 2023 in key periods) signalling room to reduce overheads.- The Council should pursue substantial savings in personnel and professional services. A freeze on vacant non-essential roles and a broader efficiency review could save at least $17 million immediately aligning payroll costs with service delivery needs.- There is a clear imperative to re-prioritise spend. The proposed plan allocates significant funds to Māori outcomes; however I believe a focus on statutory and essential services must take precedence with scrutiny of discretionary grants and non-core projects.Alternative Budget stanceBased on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3% achieved by:- $50 million from personnel cost reductions and hiring freezes- $50 million from caps on consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants

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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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8491

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Based on recent real increases and inflation this level of rise is excessive and unfair for households. The current average rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 and the cumulative increase since 2022 is well above inflation. The proposed breakdown shows 4.4% to cover CRL operating costs alongside growth and maintenance costs; this should be scrutinised alongside wasteful expenditure and efficiency opportunities.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap rate increases by reducing wasteful Council spending. Specifically:1) Reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Target savings should be found in governance and overhead

structures to restrain the growth of non-service costs.2) Reduce expenditure on consultancy and professional services. The Council's reliance on external advisors has risen alongside payroll costs; this must be curbed to protect ratepayers.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 which could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year dedicated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not the proper scope or obligation of local government.Additional context:- The proposed 7.9% increase appears to be supporting existing assets new assets for growth and CRL operating costs rather than prioritising essential services and core council functions.- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% in real terms outpacing population growth and inflation underscoring the need for a principles-based budget that prioritises core services and value for money.I request the opportunity to speak at hearings to present these views in more detail. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

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

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8623

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

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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

1) Opposition to the proposed rates increase- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent is not compatible with current inflation and living costs. The current average residential rates bill stands at $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent (versus 12 percent cumulative inflation). A 7.9 percent rise largely directed at operating costs and asset maintenance would compound financial pressure on households.2) Spending reform: focus on backroom and corporate costs- I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The ratepayer case for significant efficiency gains is supported by spending

patterns showing high personnel and contractor costs and substantial 'other expenses' that have grown faster than inflation.3) Immediate payroll discipline- The most tangible step is freezing staffing growth and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This aligns with the argument that redirecting or withholding non-critical hires can deliver immediate savings contributing to a targeted rate increase cap of around 3 percent. Based on prior analyses this measure alone could save at least $17 million.4) Context and justification- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have increased by 85% far outpacing inflation. Current cost pressures include CRL operating costs and broader asset maintenance but this should not come at the expense of households. A disciplined transparent review of non-essential expenditures is warranted before permitting further rate hikes.5) Alternative budgeting approach- A prudent alternative would reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a 3 percent average residential rate rise. Specific avenues include: personnel cost containment capping consultant spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that Council consider these cost-saving measures and adopt a restrained rate path aligned with inflation and 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?

NA

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)

NA

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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	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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8639

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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

For the average household this equates to about $320 on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 in rates (versus 12 percent overall inflation). The current average rates bill is $4069 and ratepayers should not subsidise Council waste through ever-higher charges.I call for immediate reduction in non-service-related expenditure and reform of backroom costs. In particular Council must:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing recruitment for vacant non-essential roles and pursuing sensible downsizing where appropriate which could save at least $17 million right away.- Cut spending on consultants and professional services which currently dominates operating expenses.

The Council should implement stricter cap and renegotiation measures.- Reform vendor contracts and consolidate services to lower costs and achieve better outcomes for ratepayers.I also support the following measures as part of a responsible budget.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze non-essential payroll growth and scale back Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this role is not a statutory function of local government.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget I urge Council to reduce new spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3 percent. This would be achieved by: $50 million savings from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million from capping consultancy spend; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I request that the Council prioritise accountability and value for money ensuring essential services are protected while wasteful and non-essential activities are scaled back.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?

NA

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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NA

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

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8647

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a program of substantial spending restraint across the Council and CCOs.Key positions- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9 percent. The current bill is already high and real increases since 2022 have run well ahead of inflation.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Eighteen corporate and business support functions cost hundreds of millions; this is not an essential driver of community benefit.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow

these items. Council and CCO consultants currently total about $126 million per year; cap this to protect ratepayers.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme estimated to cost about $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. A targeted freeze would 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 function of local government.Context and rationale- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% while population grew 22% and inflation ran about 34%. The proposed 7.9% increase translates to roughly $320 extra per average household (current average bill $4069).- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) enabling a 3% rate rise by prioritising essential services and reforming payroll and procurement.- Concrete savings paths include freezing vacant positions capping consultancy renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors.Additional pointPlease stop wasting my money.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8658

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Opposition to the rates increase and request for spending restraint- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household). This would take the current average bill to about $4069 and represents a real increase far above inflation with rates since 2022 up 30% in real terms (versus 12% cumulative inflation).- The proposed rise is driven by 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets linked to growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Given spending pressures across the organisation I urge a cap on rate increases to align with inflation plus modest growth as reflected in the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget.Spending

reductions I support- The Council must 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.- Implement a staffing freeze or capitalise on vacancy savings: not hiring for non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Maori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae/'Maori outcomes' department expenditure of around $10 million per year arguing that these are not core local government responsibilities.- Consider the Ratepayers' Alliance proposed saving package: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) including $50 million from personnel cost reductions $50 million from consultants $30 million from renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional considerations- Remove all roadside cycle lane bollards as they are dangerous and rarely used by cyclists reallocating resources to essential services.ClosingI request that the Council consider these reductions to bring average residential rate increases closer to 3% and reserve necessary funds for essential services and statutory obligations. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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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NA

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8665

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household). Since 2022 rates have risen by about 30% in real terms which far outpaces cumulative inflation. The current average rates bill is $4069. A more prudent path is to reform the Council's budget to protect essential services while reducing wasteful spending.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap rate increases by reducing expenditure in key areas:1) Reduce personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.2) Curb spending on consultants and

professional services rather than allowing these items to rise; propose savings of $50 million.3) Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to achieve a further $30 million in savings.These steps would enable a prudent reallocation of funds to essential services and bring the rate rise to about 3% if implemented as proposed in the Alliance's supplementary budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% overall reduction).Specific spending to reconsider include:- Food Scraps Programme: cancel the $36 million/year programme which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Māori-specific spending: pause or re-evaluate the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting this is not a core local government function.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to ensure ratepayers' money goes to services councils are legally bound to provide.I urge the Council to tighten its belts like ratepayers and businesses and to empower elected leadership to set policy rather than permitting backroom expenditure growth. The current trajectory of rising payroll six-figure salaries and high consultant spend is unsustainable for households facing higher bills.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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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Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8681

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current proposal would mean an average increase of about $320 per household on top of a long-run pattern of rate increases well above inflation.Key concerns and positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. The real burden on households must be tempered given that rates have risen 85 percent since 2010 far outstripping both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%).- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current spending on 18 corporate and business support functions totals around $868.4 million in direct expenditure with payroll and back-office costs consuming a large

share of funds.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. Council group spends about $126 million per year on consultants including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent; the average consultant salary is substantial and there is a need to curb this growth.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) on grounds of cost and limited net carbon savings.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department cited as $10 million per year as these are not core local-government responsibilities.- Improve programme prioritisation: prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and cap new spending to keep rates increases in line with inflation.- No more bike lanes or excessive new cycling projects; retract or pause extensive bike-lane expansions and focus on essential transport and infrastructure needs.Conclusion and hearing requestI urge the Council to adopt a measured approach that reduces wasteful expenditure contains rate rises to align with inflation and reallocates funds to essential services. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8732

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: Whau

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 is unsustainable for households facing inflation and cost-of-living pressures and the Council must curb wasteful expenditure before asking ratepayers to shoulder higher bills.Key positions:1) Oppose the 7.9% average rise. The proposed increase is excessive when viewed against persistent inflation and years of above-average rate rises since 2010. An average residential bill of $4069 already reflects substantial growth and the continued escalation imposes a disproportionate burden on families.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions. The Council and CCOs should streamline governance and administration to lower operating costs

rather than regularly increasing charges to ratepayers.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants and contractors is high and growing; capping these costs is essential to prevent further rate hikes.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. This project costs about $36 million per year and according to the briefing emits more carbon than it saves. It should be stopped pending a transparent independent review of its value.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for non-essential vacant roles would save at least $17 million immediately and relieve upward pressure on rates.6) Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as this is not a core local government function.7) Alternative budget approach. The Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the rate rise at about 3% through targeted reductions:- $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 from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsAdditional point: Rather than tax us more you need to cut spending. We are not an endless well for woke bureaucrats to plunder.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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8769

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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 submission to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate measures to reduce wasteful Council spending.The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive amounting to about $320 extra per average household while the rate of increase since 2010 has been 85%far outpacing both inflation (about 34%) and population growth (22%). A more prudent approach is needed. The current plan allocates 4.4% of the increase to CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. This structure compounds spending without delivering commensurate public value.I support urgent

actions to reduce wasteful expenditure across the Council and CCOs. Specifically:- Cut back on consultants and external professional services which total about $126 million per year across the Council group (roughly $60 million by the Auckland Council parent) with many consultants earning around $200k.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year and emitting 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.- Reduce Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given that this is not a core local government function.I also support adopting the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rate increase at 3% achieved through personnel cost controls a cap on consultants contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.In summary I urge the Council to prioritise restraint on non-essential expenditure and to align rates with inflation and essential service delivery. This will protect households from excessive bill increases while ensuring core functions are 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?

NA

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)

NA

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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	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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8787

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key positions1) Oppose the 7.9% increase. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and rates have risen 85% since 2010 well above inflation and population growth. The proposed 7.9% rise is not justified by the stated breakdown (2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets 4.4% for CRL operating costs) and fails to deliver value proportional to the hardship imposed on households.2) Reduce wasteful Council expenditure. The Council should reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curtail consultancy and professional services rather than expanding these costs. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance data

indicate $126 million per year across the Council group spent on consultants with the average consultant earning about $200000.3) Eliminate or re-prioritise discretionary items and non-core programmes. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (about $36 million/year) which the Alliance notes emits more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing and cut payroll costs. Freeze non-essential recruitment and vacancies to save at least $17 million immediately; address payroll growth where personnel costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation.5) Rebalance around statutory and essential services. Cut Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) budget of about $10 million per year aligning local-government spending with statutory responsibilities.A proposed budget adjustmentI support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. This would be achieved through: $50 million in staff cost reductions via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million in consultant spend reductions; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million redirected to prioritise statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI respectfully request consideration of these measures and urge a rate increase no higher than the proposed 3% target with improvement in efficiency and clarity 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?

NA

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)

NA

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

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8791

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Our position- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% with recognition that this equates to about $320 extra per household and sits in the context of a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) amid 12% overall inflation.- The rate rise should be restrained to reflect inflation and prudent budgeting not funded by ratepayers to prop up expanding administrative overhead and discretionary projects.2) Wasteful spending and reform priorities- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services; ongoing increases in these items are

unsustainable.- Cancel or pause the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million/year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this change alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given this is a function more appropriate to central government than local government.3) Budget alternative- Support the Ratepayers' Alliance's proposed budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap) to keep the average rate rise to about 3%. This should be achieved through the measures above and a focus on essential statutory services over discretionary grants.4) Accountability and process- Any ongoing procurement and vendor contracts should be renegotiated and consolidated to gain best value and reduce costs.- Prioritise statutory and essential services with transparent reporting on savings achieved and progress toward a leaner more focused Council suite of activities.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?

NA

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)

NA

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.**

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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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8808

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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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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 rise would impose an average additional bill of about $320 for households on top of a long trajectory of rate hikes since 2010 that far outpace both inflation and population growth. The current average rates bill is approximately $4069; real increases since 2022 amount to about 30 percent while inflation has risen around 12 percent. It is unreasonable to approve a further increase that accelerates this imbalance.I agree that the Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to lift these items. The ratepayer burden should not be

concentrated in consultant fees and six-figure payrolls. The Alliance's alternative budget calls for a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2 percent) to cap rates growth at about 3 percent. This should be achieved by:- Freezing hiring or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles (this alone would save at least $17 million immediately);- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million;- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors for $30 million in savings;- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants for $20 million.I also support cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $171 million allocated over ten years to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core Local Government responsibility; redirecting these funds would contribute to a more affordable rates outcome while preserving essential services.Additionally I reiterate that rates should never increase faster than inflation. The council is effectively asking ratepayers to subsidise non-essential programmes and backroom functions reducing accountability to households that fund the Council through rates. As a retiree on superannuation and homeowner I find the prospect of further rate increases untenable.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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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NA

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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8811

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average 7.9% residential rates increase for 2026/27.1. The proposed 7.9% rise is excessive. The average household would pay about $320 more on a current average bill of $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. I urge the Council to constrain rate increases to no more than inflation plus essential growth needs.2. Reduce spend on corporate and backroom functions. The current spending on six-figure salaries consultants and back-office costs is unsustainable. A targeted reduction in corporate and CCO functions is essential to lower the rate burden on households.3. Curb consultant and

professional services expenditure. Council and CCOs spent about $126 million per year on consultants; the average consultant earns around $200000. Reducing reliance on external advisers is necessary to bring rates down.4. Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs. I support freezing vacant non-essential roles and limiting new hires to essential positions. A payroll reduction that freezes non-critical vacancies would deliver meaningful savingsestimated at least $17 million immediately.5. Cut Maori-specific spend. The $10 million per year allocated to the Maori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) programme should be reviewed as this is not a core local government remit. Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.6. Align with an accountable budget framework. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposed an Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap average residential rates increases at 3%. This includes $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.7. Other context. The current operating expenditure growth has outpaced inflation since 2013 and personnel costs have risen disproportionately. A disciplined evidence-based approach to spending will help restore confidence and ensure essential services are funded without placing an undue 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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9036

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: Whau

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 formal opposition to the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in favour of reducing wasteful Council spending and backroom costs.Key concerns and positions:- I oppose the 7.9% average rate increase. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 representing a real increase of 30% since 2022 (versus 12% headline inflation). The proposed 7.9% breakdown (2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth in new assets 4.4% for CRL operating costs) is not justified by outcomes that warrant such escalation.- Expenditure controls are essential. The Council should reduce spending on consultants and

professional services which total about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k.- Cancel or rethink discretionary programmes. In particular the Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Payroll restraint. Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Targeted reductions in Māori-focused spend. Stop or scale back the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a local government core role.- Structural efficiency. Reduce the size of staff to align with comparable councils such as Brisbane and pursue organisational change vendor consolidation and renegotiated contracts to lower operating costs.Alternative budget framework:I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap the average rates increase at around 3% by:- $50 million saving from personnel costs through restraint and efficiency- $50 million saving from capping consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsThis approach would deliver tangible rate relief while maintaining essential services and accountability.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?

NA

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)

NA

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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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9046

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The submitted briefings show that rates increases since 2010 have risen 85% while inflation and population growth have been far more modest. An increase of nearly 8% is not affordable for households and it moves beyond keeping ratepayers in step with inflation.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap rate increases by reducing spending on non-essential and backroom functions. Specifically:- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cut) to cap the average increase at around 3% via: reduce personnel costs through organisational changes and a freeze on non-essential vacancies ($50 million); cap spending on consultants ($50 million);

contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30 million); prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).- Cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to rise further given annual consultancy expenditure of $126 million across the Council group.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than saved.- 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 including the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes portfolio (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local-government function.Other data from the briefing supports restraining operating costs: payroll currently around $1.3 billion with a substantial proportion of six-figure salaries; direct operating expenditure rising well ahead of inflation; and significant costs in corporate and business support functions. A focus on essential services and renegotiation of contracts should lead to meaningful savings.Given these points I request that the Council consider an alternative budget that prioritises core services reduces non-essential spending and aligns rate increases with 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?

NA

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)

NA

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9084

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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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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

Position and rationale1) Oppose the 7.9% rise. The proposed increase translates to about $320 more per average household on top of a rate bill currently around $4069. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85%well above inflation and population growth. A more restrained inflation-aligned approach is necessary for households already stretched by rising costs.2) Reduce corporate and backroom spending. The Council and CCOs should cut spend on corporate and backroom functions to restore value for ratepayers.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants has been high (about $126 million across the Council group annually; the

average consultant earns around $200k). Reducing this spend is essential.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The initiative costs about $36 million per year and on balance emits more carbon than it saves. Reallocate these funds to essential services.5) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately and reduce ongoing payroll pressures.6) Cut Maori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as this is not a core local government function.Additional pointsRates increases have outpaced inflation and place a disproportionate burden on households. The focus should be on delivering core servicesgarbage collection drainage and essential infrastructurewithin affordable budgets. A targeted review of all discretionary spend and a binding cap on new non-essential initiatives is warranted.ClosingI request a hearing to speak should it be offered 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?

NA

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)

NA

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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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9103

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is about 30 percent in 2022 dollars far outpacing overall inflation. I oppose the 7.9% uplift and urge a plan to bring rates increases in line with inflation or lower.I support the following positions:- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and seek a cap closer to 3% by reducing wasteful Council spending.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce the 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 in my view

emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Critically examine Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) and consider that such functions should be within core local government responsibilities only if directly linked to statutory duties.I note the Council's current spending patterns: consultants and contractors total about $590 million staff costs are substantial and operating expenditure has grown well beyond inflation. A prudent budget would prioritise statutory essential services over discretionary grants and pursue a targeted $150 million reduction in new Council spending to cap rates increases at around 3% (as per the Ratepayers' Alliance plan). This would be achieved through: personnel cost reductions via hiring freezes and organisational change capped consultant spend renegotiated contracts and vendor consolidation.I request that you consider these measures to protect ratepayers and ensure core services are funded 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**
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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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

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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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9111

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a program of cost reduction across the Council and CCOs to protect households.I oppose the 7.9 percent increase and propose a target to cap average residential rate rises at 3 percent. The current context shows a real rates increase since 2022 of 30 percent (in 2022 dollars) against 12 percent inflation while spending has grown faster than inflation in several areas. The Council should address wasteful expenditure and refocus on essential services.Specific positions I support:- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.-

Curb the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- 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 such as the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) recognising that core local government functions should not be outsourced to or budgeted for external governance of these areas.I also note that according to publicly discussed figures Council payroll is around $1.3 billion and consultants and contractors amount to about $590 million with almost 6200 staff on six-figure salaries and 72 staff earning more than the mayor's own salary. Direct operating expenditure has risen significantly over the past decade and certain corporate functions carry substantial costs. While I recognise the need for essential services the current trajectory is unsustainable for ratepayers.The Council's Alternative Budget framework is helpful and aligns with my aim: reduce new spending by about $150 million to keep rate increases to around 3 percent prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and renegotiating contracts to realise savings.I respectfully request the Council to consider these measures as part of the final decision on the draft plan. 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?

NA

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)

NA

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.

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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9133

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: Whau

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% (approximately $320 for the average household) and urge a hard cap on rates growth to align with inflation and the Council's own efficiency opportunities.Key concerns- The 7.9% rise is not affordable for many households and does not reflect the broader economic pressures facing residents. The current average rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% vs. 12% inflation and rates have risen 85% since the Super City amalgamation.- A substantial portion of the increase funds CRL operating costs (4.4%) while much of the remainder goes to maintaining and expanding assets. There is significant room

to trim non-essential expenditure.Agreed positions and recommendations- Oppose the 7.9% average increase and support measures to reduce spending across the Council and CCOs prioritising essential services.- Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb consultancy and professional services spending; the Council and CCOs collectively spend about $126 million per year on consultants (with the Auckland Council parent about $60 million and typical consultants earning around $200k). A substantial cut is warranted.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce payroll by capping staffing and avoiding hires for vacant non-essential roles.- Reassess Māori-focused spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting this is traditionally a local government function.Budget alternative- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping rates growth to about 3% by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants. Specific reductions include personnel costs ($50m) consultants ($50m) contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation ($30m) and essential services over discretionary grants ($20m).ClosingI request that the Council consider these efficiency measures and the alternative budget to deliver a more affordable rates outcome.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.The current average rates bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 have already reached 30% in current dollars well above inflation. A further near-8% rise is not warranted while indicators show wasteful and non-core spending consuming scarce ratepayer dollars.I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The ratepayer burden should be eased by trimming non-essential administration and streamlining governance structures. I also urge a reduction in consultancy and professional services spend which remains a major driver of cost and often delivers limited long-term value.I oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and yields carbon savings that do not justify the expenditure. A thorough evaluation should be conducted with funding redirected to essential services where the benefit is clearer and measurable.I support freezing staffing and reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. That measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately. In addition I advocate capping or reducing Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae department's roughly $10 million per year given that many local-government functions are distinct from cultural or tribal administration responsibilities.The Council's own data indicate significant spend on consultants contractors and six-figure salaries which has outpaced inflation. To protect ratepayers I propose the following alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (approximately 2%) limiting average rates increase to about 3%. This would be achieved through: $50 million from personnel cost reductions via organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million from capping consultancy spend; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Thank you for considering a more prudent financial path that preserves essential services while delivering genuine value to Aucklanders.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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9156

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: Whau

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 Council has spent well beyond the rate of inflation since 2010 with rates rising 85 percent while inflation has been around 34 percent and population growth about 22 percent. A 7.9 percent rise in this context is not justified for ordinary households.I agree with the call to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and to cut spending on consultancy and professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget shows how targeted reductions can keep rates increases reasonable without compromising essential services: reduce new spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap the increase at about 3 percent. This

includes:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping consulting and professional services: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionSpecific reductions I urge include:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $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.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Other efficiency focus areas should include cutting spend on consultants and corporate back-office functions and renegotiating contracts to deliver better value. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown well above inflation in recent years; a focused freeze and renegotiation programme would protect essential services while alleviating rate pressure 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?

NA

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)

NA

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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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9222

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: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to urge a substantial reset of Council spending so rates reflect inflation not further cost shifts onto households.Key concerns and reasons- The 7.9% increase amounts to about $320 more per average household and contributes to a 30% real increase since 2022 far outpacing cumulative inflation. Ratepayers on fixed incomes including pensions are particularly exposed.- A core reform is needed: reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services that steadily drive up operating costs.- The Food Scraps

Programme is expensive at approximately $36 million per year and should be cancelled given its emissions profile and lack of evident net savings.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll by not filling non-essential vacancies. This change alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut spending on Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) currently about $10 million per year since this is a function multiple local governments do not carry as a core responsibility.- The Council should adopt a disciplined budget approach: prioritise statutory and essential services and implement vendor consolidation and renegotiations to lower operating costs.Support for an alternative budgetBased on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing reduce new Council spending by about $150 million (2%) capping residential rates growth at around 3%. This requires practical measures: $50 million from personnel costs through organisational changes $50 million from limiting consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.Personal contextOur family's rates bill has risen sharply while we lack mains water sewer connection street lighting or pavements yet we were charged extra last year with little benefit. The term low-hanging fruit comes to mind; as pensioners this is unsustainable.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?

NA

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)

NA

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

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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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	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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9286

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: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and request a plan to reduce wasteful Council spending. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 and a 7.9 percent increase would add roughly $320 for the average household. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85 percent far exceeding inflation and population growth. I urge the Council to reconsider how it funds essential services.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and curb consultancy and professional services costs. The Council's spending on consultants amounts to about $126 million

per year across the Council group with the average consultant receiving around $200000. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well above inflation while the payroll and contractor expenses remain high. A deliberate reduction in these costs is both prudent and necessary.I further support zeroing or substantially reducing non-essential programmes. Specifically:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I view as outside local government's core responsibilities.I also urge a broader efficiency focus: renegotiate contracts consolidate vendors and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. Returning to a leaner corporate structure will help cap rate increases closer to 3 percent as proposed by the Ratepayers' Alliance.Additional considerations I favour include practical transport and infrastructure choices that prioritise road user safety and efficiency and ensuring that ratepayer funds deliver broad community benefit rather than single-use facilities.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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9357

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Rates increase and justification- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). Ratepayers are already bearing a real increase since 2022 of 30% (in 2022 dollars) while inflation has been 12% and the Council's spending growth far outpaces residents' ability to pay.2) Spending reductions aligned with the Ratepayers' Alliance plan- Reduce new and existing Council spending by at least $150 million (2%) to cap rates growth at around 3%. This includes: - Reducing personnel costs through an organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles saving about $50 million. - Capping spending on consultants

and professional services at $50 million. - Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save $30 million. - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.3) Specific programme and structural savings- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and purportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut spending on Māori-specific programmes such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local government role.4) Governance and accountability- Council spending on consultants and backroom functions should be reduced; current levels are excessive with a substantial proportion of staff on six-figure salaries and outsourcing costs growing faster than inflation.5) Additional points- Increases are not truly 'average' for ratepayers given property values and capital-value rating; high-value homes bear a disproportionate burden.- The current leadership's approach appears unsustainable; urgent spine-led action is required to rein in wasteful spending and protect Aucklanders.ConclusionI urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget and restrict rate rises to around 3% or less by implementing the above savings.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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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NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9366

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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

This submission is provided in a detailed and evidence-based format to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for meaningful reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key positions and supporting points1) Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The increase represents a substantial real burden on households with the current average residential rates bill at $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of 30% (versus 12% cumulative inflation). A more ambitious restraint is warranted.2) Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget. Cap the average residential rates increase at 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150

million (2%) achieved through:- Reducing personnel costs via 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 million.3) Cut back on wasteful and non-core items. This includes reducing corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and limiting spend on consultancy and professional services.4) Cancel non-essential programmes with high cost or uncertain benefit. Specifically cancel the Food Scraps Programme (£36 million/year) which based on the Alliance briefing costs more in emissions than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and payroll where non-essential roles remain unfilled. A freeze or targeted reduction in payroll for vacant positions could realise around $17 million immediately.6) Reassess Māori-specific spending. The Alliance proposes reviewing the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a core local government function. This review should be evidence-based and transparent.7) Additional monitoring of contracts. Monitor current service contracts (e.g. Ventia) to ensure value for money and to identify opportunities for efficiency gains.Closingl request that my submission be considered in full and that 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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9417

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: Whau

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

I submit in a strong and direct voice to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to demand a real freeze and reprioritisation of Council spending.1) Rate increase and spending priorities- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent; this represents an average rise of about $320 for households already facing high cost pressures. Since 2010 rates have risen 85 percent far above inflation and population growth and this proposed rise compounds that inequity.- The Council must reduce wasteful and backroom spending. Specifically cap consultancy and professional services reduce payroll where vacancies exist and renegotiate

supplier contracts to avoid ongoing cost escalation.2) Specific reductions proposed- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacant roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut spend on consultants and professional services by 50 million dollars and prune corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cancel discretionary programmes with high cost and uncertain benefit. In particular cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.- Reprioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to ensure core responsibilities are funded before non-essential programmes.3) Expenditure and equity concerns- Contain costs by negotiating better terms with vendors and consolidating contracts; this would help keep rates closer to inflation and protect households from unaffordable increases.- I acknowledge calls for Māori outcomes spending but I request a critical review of where funding is allocated to ensure alignment with local government responsibilities and measurable public benefit avoiding expenditure seen as outside core mandate.4) Additional point- I support public safety and city amenity but I urge focus on practical accountable measures rather than expanding fringe programmes.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**
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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?

NA

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)

NA

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
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	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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9419

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a strong and direct opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and I urge a substantial reduction in Council spending to bring this below inflation and closer to essential services.Key points:- 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 85% far outpacing cumulative inflation (12%) and population growth (22%). This is unsustainable for households.- The rate rise breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. In total this is not acceptable as a blank

cheque for expanding overhead while many households still struggle.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves; it should be cancelled.- 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.- I disagree with continuing to fund Māori-specific spending at this level 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.Alternative budget approach:- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rate increase at 3% by: - 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 millionI request these lines be considered in the submission process. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9447

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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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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 also write as a former Finance Director having successfully removed tens of millions yet improved services and outcomes at one of the biggest DHBs in the country a sector that is extraordinarily challenging. I note the proposed average increase of 7.9% equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a long-term pattern of rising rates. Since 2010 rates have increased by about 85% far outstripping inflation and population growth. It is essential that the council demonstrates tighter control of costs before asking households to bear further increases particularly given the current breakdown: 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and

4.4% for CRL operating costs.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget which caps rate increases by reducing new council spending by $150 million (2%). Specific measures include:- 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 millionIn addition I call for:- Reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cutting spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and at present emits more carbon than it saves.- Freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (this could save at least $17 million right away).- Cutting Māori-specific spending (such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.I am prepared to speak at hearings and present these concerns directly. Your consideration of these measures would address ratepayer expectations for responsible budgeting and reflect a greater focus on essential services over discretionary programmes.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**
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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?

NA

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)

NA

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

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

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

(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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9463

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a formal respectful manner to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. At approximately $320 more per household this rise far exceeds both household inflation and the real growth in Council costs. The proposed breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs; this allocation contributes to a cumulative burden on ratepayers that has outpaced inflation since 2010 (rates up 85% vs. 34% inflation) and population

growth (22%).The Council should implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget reducing new spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at around 3%. Specific measures include:- 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 millionKey areas of wasteful expenditure that must be addressed include:- Consultants and contracted services: current levels at about $126 million across the Council group with high average consultant pay calling into question value for money.- Corporate and backroom functions: 18 corporate and business support functions costing $868.4 million in direct expenditure; payroll and contractor costs have risen well ahead of inflation.- Spending on Māori Outcomes and related programmes: $171 million over 10 years with further calls for cutting the $10 million/year allocated to Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) as these are not fundamental local government responsibilities.- The Food Scraps Programme: $36 million/year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves; its continuation is not justified.I request that the Council prioritise essential services and reallocate funds away from discretionary programmes and I emphasise that rates relief for households is essential not a premium burden.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?

NA

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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NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9476

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current price pressures on households cannot be ignored and a rate rise this high is not acceptable when it is not matched by commensurate gains in essential services.1. The proposed 7.9% average rates increase is excessive. This would equate to around $320 more per year for the average household on top of a Council spending path that already shows unsustainable growth. Since 2022 rates have effectively risen by about 30% in real terms well above inflation (12%). The burden on households must be tempered by a focus on core statutory services and essential infrastructure.2. Spending reform is essential. The Council should prioritise a reduction in corporate

and backroom functions across Council and CCOs and halt the ongoing growth in consultancy and professional services. The Alliance's alternative budget proposes a 2% overall spend reduction that caps rate increases at around 3% by:- Freezing or reducing personnel costs through moratoriums on non-essential roles and vacancies ($50 million);- Capping consultancy spending ($50 million);- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million);- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).3. Targeted savings achievable now. Freezing staffing levels for non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately. Cutting outsized and duplicative spending in consultants and winding back non-essential corporate functions can deliver meaningful relief without compromising core services.4. Specific programme reductions. The Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million annually and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves should be cancelled.5. Reforms to reduce payroll burden. The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which would provide immediate relief.I urge the Council to adopt a prudent fiscally responsible path that reduces wasteful expenditure and aligns rates increases with inflation and essential service delivery. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9486

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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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- **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. The case against a 7.9% increase- The proposed increase is well above inflation and represents a real public burden on households. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 a real increase of about 30% since 2022 while overall inflation has been around 12%.- The breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase goes to CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. The core issue is that higher charges should be tied to demonstrable outcomes for residents not used to underwrite growing operating costs.2. Spending reforms proposed- The Council should 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 grow these items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million per year) which as argued 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.- Cut Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local-government function.3. Alternative budgeting approach- Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap residential rate growth at around 3%: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and hiring freezes - $50 million from consultants and professional services - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants4. Observations on governance- Wayne Brown's mandate focused on sorting Auckland infrastructure yet spending has grown significantly. A sharper focus on essential services and fiscal discipline is warranted.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?

NA

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)

NA

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

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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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9506

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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 write as a resident seeking responsible stewardship of ratepayers' money. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to pursue meaningful savings before asking households to shoulder higher bills.Key concerns and positions:- The proposed 7.9% rise is excessive for homeowners already facing a real increase in rates of 30% since 2022 in current dollars far outpacing cumulative inflation. A responsible approach would seek near-inflation increases or better.- The Council should substantially reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across Council and CCOs and curb the spend on consultancy and professional services

rather than allowing continued growth in these areas.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves and I people use in sink waste disposals or in my case compost their waste.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- I disagree with continuing to spend on Māori-specific programmes at current levels. For example the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a role of local government and spending should be redirected to statutory and essential services.Supporting data and context:- The 7.9% increase is partly allocated to maintaining assets (2%) new assets for growth (1.5%) and CRL operating costs (4.4%). Given where rates have landed over time I believe a tighter budget and reallocation to core services are appropriate.- The Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at about 3% through concrete steps: personnel costs consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional point:- When will councils listen to what the people want and stop telling people how to live? The day the council functionaries focus on enabling the requirements of the citizens of Auckland rather than adding non-core activities to the council bill will be the day the rates will start to decrease and the connection to council as a service to the people will return. Successive Mayors councilors and public servants have failed to grasp the relationship of cutting their cloth to their means. They have increased rates even in the face of adverse times for their customers/employers. This is not a service relationship but a dictatorship that will inevitably bring hardship to everyone. An attitude change could bring long term acceptance and more progressive potential.The disconnect strains our democracy and erodes trust in local governance.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?

NA

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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NA

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

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

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

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9513

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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 target should be an increase aligned with inflation not a broad automatic uplift that disproportionately burdens Auckland households.Key concerns and positions1. Rates and affordability- The 7.9% average rise translates to about $320 extra per household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (relative to 2022 dollars) and 12% cumulative inflation. The current average residential bill is $4069 well above historical affordability benchmarks.- The proposed split shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets due to growth. This structure demands scrutiny to ensure value delivered for ratepayers.2. Wasteful

spending and backroom costs- Council spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year across the group; the Auckland Council parent alone accounts for $60 million with many consultants averaging around $200k each.- Personnel costs and other expenses have risen well beyond inflation (and in some periods by roughly double the rate of inflation). Payroll alone is about $1.3 billion with a sizeable number of six-figure salaries; this is a target area for reform.3. Specific savings measures (preferred by ratepayers)- Freeze staffing for non-essential roles and pursue organisational change to reduce payroll costs potentially saving at least $17 million immediately.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services; pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save at least $50 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants; reduce non-essential programmes.- Reconsider certain long-standing programmes: cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which by some assessments emits more carbon than it saves.- Reduce Māori-specific spending (e.g. Ngā Mātārae) estimated at $10 million/year as a matter of relevance to local government functions.Additional note- Stop wasteful resource use such as unnecessary speed bumps in urban areas where safety gains do not justify the costs.Alternative budgeting- The Alliance proposes a $150 million reduction in new spending (2%) achieving an estimated 3% cap on residential rates.ClosingI urge that the Council prioritise essential services improve efficiency and cap rate increases to reflect inflation and affordability.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?

NA

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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NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9519

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed 7.9 percent increase is excessive especially when current average residential rates are $4069 and real increases since 2022 total around 30 percent far above broader inflation. The breakdown shows 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. On principle rates increases should be aligned with inflation and constrained by demonstrable efficiency gains and priority services not a blanket escalation.I believe the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. In particular I support the Ratepayers'

Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%): cap payroll costs by freezing hiring for non-essential roles (saving at least $17 million immediately) cap spending on consultants by $50 million pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation for $30 million and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants for $20 million. These measures would cap the average rate rise to around 3 percent.I also oppose the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves and I advocate canceling it. Additionally there is a need to freeze staffing where vacancies do not threaten essential services and to scrutinise Maori-specific spending such as the proposed $10 million per year for Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) which I view as inappropriate for local government.The Council's payroll (£1.3 billion) and high consultancy/contract costs (nearly $600 million for consultants) demand urgent change; six-figure salaries and rising top-end remuneration should be reviewed against measurable service delivery and value. Since amalgamation rates have risen well above inflation and population growth a trend that must reverse.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

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

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9541

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 and the real increase since 2022 is 30 percent well above cumulative inflation. I oppose a rate rise that consumes households' budgets while failing to demonstrably curb wasteful spend.Key concerns and requested actions- I oppose the 7.9% average increase and support reducing overall expenditure to cap rates at about 3%. A 3% cap is achievable only by cutting wasteful costs not by repeating the pattern of cost escalation.- The proposed breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs and 2% for maintaining existing assets with 1.5% for new assets due to growth. I call for reprioritisation and restraint on CRL

operating costs and non-essential asset programmes where possible.- The Council should reduce personnel costs and hiring including freezing vacancies for non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- The spend on consultants and professional services must be reduced rather than increased. A cap and efficiency drive would save significant sums.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year) as it emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or sharply reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year spent on Ngā Mātārae given local government's statutory duties and the need to prioritise essential services.- Reign in corporate and backroom office spending and consolidate vendors including renegotiating contracts to reduce duplication.- Additional note: rein in moronic speed bump and wasteful road 'improvement' spending that diverts funds from essential services.Alternative budget approachI support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to achieve a 3% rates increase focusing on personnel consultants and contract savings with prioritisation of statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request to speak at hearings to present these points in person. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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)

NA

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9554

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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 sustainable value-for-money path for Auckland Council and its CCOs.1) Rate impacts and alternative budget- The proposed 7.9% average residential increase is not affordable and exceeds inflation. The average household would face about $320 more per year at a time when ratepayer finances are stretched.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget provides a practical path: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping residential rates increases at 3% through targeted savings. This includes a freeze or reduction of staffing for non-essential roles caps on consultants and contract

renegotiations.2) Reducing wasteful and outsized costs- Pressing need to cut personnel costs and payroll growth: freeze hiring for vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services: reduce these costs to restore prudent budgeting.- Renegotiate contracts and pursue vendor consolidation to achieve ongoing savings of about $30 million.3) Reprioritise statutory services over discretionary items- Prioritise essential statutory responsibilities while limiting discretionary grants and non-core programmes.- Cancel non-essential programmes such as the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in the submitter's view emits more carbon than it saves.4) Targeted reductions in departmental spend- Reduce Māori-specific spending (Ngā Mātārae) by redirecting funds to core local government duties. The proposed level of $10 million per year for the Māori outcomes function should be reviewed to reflect local government's core responsibilities.5) Additional points- The Council should be relieved of certain roading contracts and traffic control spending with independent auditing of road works and traffic safety investments to ensure value for ratepayers.ClosingI request the Council to consider these savings and support the Alternative Budget to limit rate increases prioritise core services and improve 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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9583

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge you to deliver substantial restraint on wasteful Council spending. The current average residential bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 have already reached 30% far above cumulative inflation (12%). A 7.9% rise is unaffordable for households and does not align with the needs of Auckland ratepayers.In evaluating alternatives I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping the rate rise at around 3%. Key steps include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles saving at

least $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.Specific areas that warrant immediate reform include:- Corporate and back-office spending across the Council and CCOs must be trimmed; current data show the Council group spends heavily on consultants ($126 million per year) and six-figure salaries (6123 staff 464 above $200k; payroll currently $1.3 billion). Redirecting these funds toward core services will better serve residents.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could deliver at least $17 million in savings now.- Reject Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the grounds that this is not a local government remit.These measures will preserve essential services while aligning rates with inflation and family budgets. I request that you provide clear evidence of savings plans and timeline for these reforms.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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- **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?

NA

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)

NA

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**
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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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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9696

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I urge a decisive shift toward reducing wasteful expenditure and delivering core statutory services efficiently.Key positions1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This rise is unaffordable for households already facing a real increase in rates well above inflation since 2022.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current cost base includes substantial spending on consultants and six-figure staff with direct operating expenditure rising far faster than inflation. A leaner organisation will better protect essential services.3) Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services. Council and CCOs

collectively spend hundreds of millions on external advice; this must be capped and better prioritised to core needs and deliverables.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and based on available data emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect capital and operational savings to essential community services.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 without compromising service levels.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.7) Alternative budget approach: Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increase at around 3 percent. This can be achieved through organisational change a hiring freeze capping consultancy spend renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors while maintaining essential services.Additional pointSince the supercity formed Council spending has grown substantially often into programs that ratepayers do not want. I urge halving the size of the Council to restore value for money and restore confidence.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:

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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?

NA

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)

NA

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

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

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

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9707

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a programme of belt-tightening and efficiency across the Council and CCOs.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive equating to about $320 for the average household while real rates increases since 2022 stand at 30% in real terms against 12% inflation. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for asset maintenance and 1.5% for growth-related new assets. This burden is not supported by results on value for money.- There is clear evidence of excessive backroom spend. Council and CCOs employ a large payroll and high-cost

consultantsconsultants cost $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant at about $200000. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown far faster than inflation.- The Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary spending and reduce non-core programs that add cost without proportional benefit.Agreed positions and proposed reductions- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase; seek a cap near 3% by reducing new and ongoing spending.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Freeze staffing for vacant non-essential roles and/or implement a hiring pause to cut payroll costs (estimated immediate saving of at least $17 million).- Cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continued growth in these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spend (e.g. $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a local-government core role.- Pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to deliver at least $30 million in savings with a broader aim of reducing corporate overheads by at least 20% in management.Alternative budget framing- The Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to achieve a 3% rate rise cap through a mix of staff freezes capped consultants and discretionary restraint.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27 and urge a hard focus on reducing wasteful Council spending and reforming backroom costs.Key concerns and positions:- The proposed 7.9 percent average residential rise is excessive. The average residential bill is currently about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent far outpacing cumulative inflation. The breakdown shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs and 2 percent for maintaining existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets due to growthyet the overall burden remains unsustainable for households.- Wasteful spending must be curbed. The Council group spends about $126 million per year on consultants and personnel costs plus other expenses have risen faster than inflation. A structural reduction of corporate and backroom functions is essential alongside reducing reliance on external advisory services.- Implement the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget. A $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2 percent cap) can deliver an average rates increase of around 3 percent. This requires: a $50 million reduction in personnel costs through hiring freezes and organisational changes; a $50 million cap on consultants; $30 million in contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation; and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. It costs approximately $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves not aligning with prudent spend or climate priorities.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reconsider Māori-specific expenditures including the $10 million per year on the Ngā Mātārae/Māori outcomes department which I view as not a core local government function.I urge Council to prioritise essential services pursue substantial cost reductions and support a more prudent inflation-matching rates path.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?
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Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9709

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

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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

1. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which represents a real burden on households when inflation and cost of living are already high. The proposed increase translates to approximately $320 for the average household and adds to a cumulative rates rise since 2022 that far outstrips general inflation.2. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. Current data show consultant spending at around $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown

well above inflation in recent years. A more disciplined approach to staffing procurement and vendor contracts is needed.3. 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 and help cap rate increases at a more modest level while preserving essential services.4. Reprioritise budgets by cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). I believe local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and allocate resources to core responsibilities for all ratepayers.5. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget provides a constructive path: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) including $50 million saved from personnel costs $50 million from consultant spend $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.6. I urge the Council to pursue responsible reforms that reflect a tighter efficiency-focused approach to spending while maintaining essential services for communities.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9754

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a detailed and evidence-based manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key concerns and positions1) Rates increase and affordability- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real 30% rates increase since 2022 (versus 12% cumulative inflation). This is unaffordable for many ratepayers and outpaces inflation and population growth.2) Wasteful spend and backroom costs- The Council and CCOs collectively spend large sums on consultants with $126 million per year across the group and the

average consultant earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure has risen far faster than inflation (78% 20132023 vs 29% inflation). Payroll and 'other expenses' rose at twice the rate of inflation from 2022 to 2025. A detailed review is needed to curb these costs and avoid unnecessary duplications.3) Specific reductions proposed- I support cutting non-essential corporate and backroom functions and reducing consultancy and professional services spending.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year as it 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.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year on the Maori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) function which is not a core local government role.Alternative budget approach- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance proposed cap: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling an average rates increase of about 3%.- Specific measures: $50 million savings from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes $50 million from limiting consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.- Consider shifting staff to one-year self-employed contracts with a review after 12 months; explore user-pays where appropriate.Additional points- I request policy focus on essential services and statutory obligations first with restraint on discretionary programmes.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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9758

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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 percent. Based on the Alliance briefing this would amount to about $320 for the average household while real rates increases since 2022 have been 30 percent against 12 percent inflation. The present plan disproportionately funds operating costs (4.4% for CRL operating costs) and asset maintenance rather than pursuing prudent restraint on overall expenditure.I urge the Council to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to scale back consultancy and professional services. The Alliance briefing shows annual consultancy spending of $126 million

across the Council group with the core Auckland Council paying about $60 million and average consultants earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and payroll costs have risen well above inflation indicating significant efficiency opportunities including personnel costs and other expenses rising at twice the rate of inflation between 2022 and 2025.I support freezing staffing levels or reducing payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately. Additionally I urge contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve meaningful savings of around $30 million with further savings possible through restraint in discretionary grants and prioritising statutory essential services.I further request the Council to cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is reported to emit more carbon than it saves. I also request a reduction in Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) department on the basis that this is not a core local government function.Given these measures the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the rate rise at around 3 percent.As a two-time voter for Mayor Brown I feel betrayed by current spending trajectories and urge a reconsideration of priorities to protect household-ratepayer affordability.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9804

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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 translates to approximately $320 extra per household on top of a long history of rate increases well above inflation.Key concerns and positions:1) Oppose the 7.9% increase. The real burden on households is escalating when rates have risen 85% since 2010 while inflation runs at about 12% in that period. A 7.9% uplift is inconsistent with affordability and prudent stewardship.2) Reduce corporate and backroom costs. The Alliance briefing highlights $126 million annual spend on consultants across the Council group with the parent council alone contributing about $60 million and consultants averaging $200k each. This is excessive and should be trimmed.3) Cut

consultancy and professional services. Freeze or cap outsourcing and redirect resources to essential services.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year and with questionable carbon savings this programme should be stopped.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles can save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Maori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department should be reconsidered as a function of local government.7) Follow a responsible budget path. The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative would reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) capping average rate increases at 3% through a combination of personnel reductions contractor caps vendor renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional point: Prioritise reducing waste firstincluding staff and consultantsbefore contemplating further rate increases.I urge the Council to adopt these savings and present a responsible budget that aligns with inflation affordability and core statutory functions.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
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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?

NA

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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NA

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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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9958

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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 urge the Council to prioritise cutting wasteful spending before raising rates on households.Key points- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% will cost the average household about $320. This is well above inflation and well above what households can reasonably absorb.- Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% (well above inflation and population growth). The current plan continues this trajectory with a real burden on households that outpaces household income growth.- The rate breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase goes to CRL operating

costs while 2% is for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. The bulk of pressure is unsustainably directed at ratepayers rather than delivering proven value.Agreed positions and requested actions- Oppose the 7.9% average increase and press for a cap of around 3% achievable by reducing new and ongoing spend.- Reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs; current payroll six-figure salaries and expanded back-office costs are not aligned with essential community service delivery.- Curb consultancy and professional services spending rather than continuing to rise. In particular the $126 million per year across the Council group is excessive; renegotiation and vendor consolidation should be prioritised.- 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 alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that it is not a core Local Government function.Additional points- A broader reduction in council spending is essential. Consider options such as selling minority shares in strategic assets (as a non-intrusive revenue measure) and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.- I support reducing overall council expenditure even if it requires restructuring and refocusing activities to essentials.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?

NA

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)

NA

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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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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9968

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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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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 average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a program of reduced expenditure across the Council and CCOs. The current rate trajectory has seen a 30% real increase since 2022 far outpacing 12% overall inflation and the 7.9% proposal would compound that further.Positions I support- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. A more restrained increase is warranted given the scale of cumulative cost pressures on households.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Current payroll and related costs along with high-salary staff counts are excessive

relative to core service delivery.- Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items. The Council's consultant spend is unsustainably high at approximately $126 million per year across the group.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in the view of ratepayers emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would deliver immediate savings of at least $17 million.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the reportedly $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes function Ngā Mātārae given that this is not a core local government responsibility.Rationale and expected impact- The proposed 4.4% of the rate increase for CRL operating costs plus ongoing asset maintenance and growth costs translates into unaffordable bills for many households. A disciplined reduction in non-core and non-essential spend can keep rates more affordable while preserving essential services.- Targeted savings from staffing freezes vendor consolidation renegotiations and controlling consultants can plausibly cap rate increases closer to a modest inflation-aligned level.ClosingI request the opportunity to speak at hearings to present these points in person. 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?

NA

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)

NA

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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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9974

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit 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 on top of the already high Council costs borne by ratepayers.Key concerns:1) Rates increases vs. real household burden. Since 2022 the real increase in rates stands at about 30% (in 2022 dollars) while cumulative inflation is around 12%. The proposed 7.9% increase is not affordable for households and it outpaces the growth and needs of our community.2) Wasteful and expanding back-office spend. The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct

operating expenditure has grown 78% from 2013 to 2023 well above inflation and personnel costs and other expenses have risen at twice the rate of inflation 20222025. A substantial reduction in these areas is both necessary and overdue.3) Cuts to consultants contracts and discretionary programmes. The share of spend on consultants and contractors remains high. The Council should cap and reduce spending on consultancy and professional services and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to deliver savings.4) Specific programme eliminations and payroll controls. I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. The Council should freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a move that would save at least $17 million immediately. I also oppose continued Māori-specific spend such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department which I view as not a necessary local government function.Alternative Budget and outcome:The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at about 3%. This includes personnel cost reductions consultant caps contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Closing:I request that my submission be considered ahead of the deliberations and that the Council delivers substantial efficiency gains before approving any above-inflation rate rise.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?

NA

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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- **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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9992

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: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Rates increase and spending priorities- I oppose the average 7.9% residential rates rise (about $320 for the average household). Since 2012 rates have risen 85% far exceeding inflation and population growth. The current plan distributes 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs while delivering little accountability for value.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. The Alliance reports about $126 million annually on consultants across the Council group with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent

and average consultant pay around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen well ahead of inflation.2) Specific wasteful programmes and savings- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing growth and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies 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) as this is not a core local government responsibility.3) Alternative budget approach- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance plan: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increases to about 3%. This includes: $50 million from personnel cost reductions $50 million from capping consultant spend $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge Auckland Council to acknowledge these cost-saving measures and revise the proposed plan to protect households from a near-flatlining of essential services under tax increases well 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?

NA

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)

NA

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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- **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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	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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10033

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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 stated 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household in a total average rate bill of $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen by about 85% far exceeding inflation and population growth. I urge the Council to tighten its budget first before asking households to shoulder further cost and to consider reform of non-essential spending.Specific positions I support:- Oppose the 7.9% rates rise and advocate for reductions that bring growth in line with inflation and essential service needs.- 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 at a cost of $36 million/year which also appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year for the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a core local government function.I also support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach to cap rate increases at around 3% by reducing new Council spend by about $150 million (2%): - $50 million from personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze- $50 million from limiting consultancy spend- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsI respectfully request that the Council consider these reductions as a priority before imposing higher rates on households ensuring that core services are preserved and waste is curtailed.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?

NA

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)

NA

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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	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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10054

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key points:- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 more per household on a current average residential rates bill of $4069. Since 2022 residential rates have risen by around 30% in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation of roughly 12%. This is not sustainable for ordinary households.- The Council should prioritise essential services and curb escalating costs in areas that do not directly protect ratepayers' core interests. In particular reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services. The Alliance's briefing highlights annual spending on consultants at about $126 million across the Council group with the Auckland Council itself

contributing around $60 million and typical consultants earning about $200000. This is a clear area for efficiency.- I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which is projected to cost about $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves. Alternative simpler waste reduction measures should be pursued instead.- I urge freezing staffing levels and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. The briefing indicates payroll totals are high and that freezing non-essential hires could save at least $17 million immediately.- I support cutting Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that such roles fall outside the statutory responsibilities of local government. Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes is appropriate.In addition to these measures I urge the Council to pursue an alternative budget that reduces new spending by at least $150 million (2%) to cap the rate increase at around 3% by: limiting personnel costs through organisational change; capping consultancy spend; renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; and preserving core services over discretionary grants.Closing:I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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)

NA

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

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

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

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

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

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10143

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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 submit in a strong and direct tone to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key concerns and positions- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. With current average rates at $4069 and a real rise of 30% since 2022 this level of increase is unaffordable for households and outpaces inflation.- The Council must slash wasted expenditure especially in corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure has grown well beyond inflation and personnel costs and 'other expenses' have risen twice the rate of inflation.-

Cut consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants stands at $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant paid around $200k funding that would be better deployed to essential services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is said to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this measure could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes department Ngā MātÃ¤rae as this is not a local government core function.Alternative Budget and impact- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increase at 3%: - $50 million via personnel cost reductions and freezing non-essential hires - $50 million by capping consultants - $30 million through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsClosingThese steps would restore budget discipline protect essential services and prevent a further real-terms rise in 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:

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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?

NA

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)

NA

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

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

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

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

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10171

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to submit a constructive solution-focused response to the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the planned average residential rates increase of 7.9%.I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and urge the Council to stabilise rates by delivering genuine savings. The rate rises need to reflect departmental efficiencies and careful prioritisation of statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance has outlined a feasible path: reduce new and existing spending by real deliverable amounts to cap rate increases at around 3% by cutting non-essential costs.Key areas for savings and reforms:- Reduce expenditure on

corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continued growth in these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million a year and is claimed 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.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) where such roles are not a core municipal function.These steps align with a prudent reallocation of resources toward essential services and infrastructure maintenance while respecting ratepayers' ability to pay. In addition I support the broader goal of prioritising statutory duties and critical infrastructure over discretionary grants.An alternative budget framework such as a $150 million reduction in new spending (about 2%) would enable a more modest rate rise or near-stability without compromising core services. All proposed savings should be accompanied by transparent reporting and independent scrutiny to ensure accountability and real delivery.Stop these ridiculous increases and control council costs. Most costs incurred by council are superficial and wasteful. Look inwards first before further increases to rates payers.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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10203

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in support of budget measures to curb wasteful Council spending.The proposed 7.9% increase translates to roughly $320 more per average household on an average rates bill of $4069. This is a real increase of 30% since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) well above both inflation and population growth. The breakdown 2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs is inappropriate if it is not matched by equivalent reductions in spending elsewhere given the Council's recent spending trajectory.I agree with calls to reduce expenditure on corporate

and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb consultancy and professional services. The Council's annual spend on consultants is $126 million across the group with the average consultant earning around $200k. Reducing this and other staff-related costs is essential to stabilise rates growth.I also support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in the view of many ratepayers emissions do not justify the programme's carbon savings. In addition freezing staffing or reducing payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles would deliver immediate relief with potential savings of at least $17 million.I oppose ongoing or expanded Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). If local government is to focus on statutory and essential services this line item should be reassessed accordingly.As an alternative I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) capping the average residential rates increase at around 3%. This would involve targeted measures: $50 million saved from personnel cost reductions $50 million from capping consultancy spending $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million 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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10248

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: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my views on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the announced average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent.I oppose a rates rise of 7.9 percent as the baseline increase. The ratepayer burden has grown markedly since 2022 with real increases of around 30 percent in rates (in 2022 dollars) while broad inflation ha7s been about 12 percent. It is essential to align rate increases with household realities and to prioritise value for money in council spending.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb consultancy and professional services spending.

In addition I urge consideration of immediate savings by freezing non-essential staffing and vacancies which could save at least $17 million now. A broader review should also prioritise essential statutory services over discretionary grants.The proposed budget should reflect a cap on new spending. I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would enable a more modest average rate increase of around 3 percent. This would require targeted actions such as:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze where roles are not essential.- Capping consultancy and professional services spending.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- Prioritising statutory obligations and core services over discretionary programmes.I oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme at a cost of $36 million per year given its carbon outcomes and questionable net benefit. I also oppose allocating funds to Māori-specific programmes such as the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) at $10 million per year where local government roles are not clearly defined as appropriate responsibilities.In summary I urge the council to reduce wasteful spend avoid a large rate increase and focus resources on essential services. A smaller well-targeted increase funded by identified efficiency savings would better reflect households' circumstances and Parliament's expectations of prudent local government.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?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10326

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

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 submit my view on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan.I oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase. This level is unaffordable for many households including mine and risks pushing ratepayers to the edge while not delivering clearly demonstrated value. I supported the council's need to maintain essential services but the current plan relies heavily on CRL operating costs and general increases that outpace inflation. A more disciplined approach is needed to control costs and protect household budgets.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to reduce wasteful spending and to cap rate rises through targeted savings.

Specifically:- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council needs to reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continue to increase these expenditure items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emissions less carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.Additional concerns include reports that staff and consultant costs have risen faster than inflation and that there are inefficiencies in project delivery. Ratepayers are already bearing a large cumulative burden since 2010 and I urge the council to prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes and to pursue vendor consolidation and cost controls.If the council adopts even moderate reductions in non-essential expenditure it could keep the average residential increase far closer to 3 percent as suggested in alternative budget analyses ensuring services remain reliable without imposing disproportionate hardship on households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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)

NA

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?

NA

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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10344

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Whau

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this in a strong and direct manner to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to advocate for meaningful reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key concerns and positions:- The proposed 7.9% average increase is excessive relative to inflation and the real cost to households. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 a real increase of about 30% since 2022 while overall inflation is around 12%. The breakdown shows 4.4% of the lift goes to CRL operating costs with only 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. This is not acceptable as a blanket rate rise.- The Council must

reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- 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 including the approximately $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core local government function.- I support reallocating savings to essential statutory services rather than discretionary grants aligning with a responsible value-for-money approach.Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget guidance provides a credible path: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rate increases to about 3% through targeted reductions in personnel costs consultant spend contract negotiations and vendor consolidation while protecting essential services.Specific requests:- Implement a thorough review and freeze on non-essential hires; pause discretionary outsourcings; renegotiate major contracts; and consolidate vendors where feasible.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over fringe or prestige programs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

NA

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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)

NA

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

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