Annual Plan 2026/2027

Written Feedback

Rodney Local Board

Volume 6

April 2026

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8196

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a detailed and evidence-based manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for significant reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key points- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 in rates (2022 dollars) despite 12% cumulative inflation. This outpaces necessary service delivery and undermines household affordability.- The breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase goes to CRL operating costs with only 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets required by growth. This highlights a need

to reallocate focus from expanding costs to efficiency and core services.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates that a 3% cap is achievable by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) prioritising essential services and curbing non-essential expenditures.Agreed positions (priority reforms)- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and press for lower growth in line with inflation.- Reduce corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs; curb the growth of personnel costs and payroll.- Reduce consultancy and professional services expenditure; halt or slow increases in external advising and contract work.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (£36 million/year) if evidence shows it emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or cut payroll by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) clarifying the role of local government in this area.Additional observations- Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen far faster than inflation in recent years; a rigorous efficiency review is warranted to protect ratepayers.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to ensure core Auckland functions are funded responsibly.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8199

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. Principal position- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This constitutes a substantial real increase for households already bearing a cumulative rise in rates since 2022 of about 30 percent well above inflation. A cap closer to inflation and growth realities is essential.2. Spending reductions and efficiency measures- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current spend on consultants and contractor services is excessive alongside bloated payroll costs and warrants a comprehensive cost-reduction strategy.- 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 contributing to a more sustainable rates path.3. Specific programmes and reforms- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to essential services that support core council responsibilities and ratepayer value.- Do better: pursue a disciplined approach to prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and pursue vendor consolidation and renegotiations to sharpen efficiency.4. Additional context- The current ratepayer burden reflects a long-term trend of rising costs and expanding services that do not align with ratepayer capacity. A credible alternative budget should demonstrate a material reduction in new spending to keep rates increases reasonable and focused on core services.ClosingI request that this submission be considered in the consultation process and that the council provide clear evidence of a path to restrain rate increases while maintaining essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8201

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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 strong and direct voice to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to demand a real programme of cost reduction across the Council and CCOs.- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). The current average bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30% in 2022 dollars far exceeding inflation (12%). Rates should rise only in line with inflation and essential service needs.- Reduce wasteful Council spending especially in corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct and indirect costs of staff six-figure salaries and broad-based payroll growth are not

justified by performance or population growth.- Cut expenditure on consultancy and professional services. The Council spent about $126 million per year on consultants including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with average consultant pay around $200k.- 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 could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.- In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget reduce new Council spending by at least $150 million (2%) capping rates increases to about 3% by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors.Additional point: stop spend on biscuits or morning/afternoon teas now; focus every dollar on core services.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8205

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to urge immediate reductions in wasteful Council spending.1) Rates and affordability- I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9 percent. This is well above inflation and places a heavier burden on households with the typical bill expected to rise by about $320 per year. The Council must prioritise affordability for ratepayers over new or excessive spending.2) Wasteful expenditure and backroom costs- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council must reduce the spend on

consultancy and professional services rather than continue to increase these expenditure items.3) Specific programs and payroll- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone would save at least $17 million right away.- 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.4) Budget alternative- I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to around 3 percent. This includes targeted savings from personnel costs consultant capping contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.5) Governance and accountability- If the incumbent leadership cannot deliver spend that aligns with ratepayer interests and promises leadership should be reassessed.I request that my submission be considered in full and that the Council implement meaningful cost controls to stabilise rates in the near term. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8206

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Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concern: the 7.9% rise is excessive in the current context. The impact on households will be about an average $320 more per year on top of a 2022“2023 real increase of 30% since the Super City amalgamation far outpacing cumulative inflation (12%) and population growth (22%). The proposed split2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsfails to justify the overall levy in light of mounting backroom costs.Agreed position: reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs; cut consultancy and professional services; cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36m/year) which

emits more carbon than it saves; freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling non‘essential roles (a saving of at least $17m immediately); and cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10m/year on Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) which is not a core local government function.The Council's spending on consultants and contractors is unsustainable: $126m per year across the group with a $60m load on the Auckland Council parent and average consultants earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well ahead of inflation and 18 corporate and business support functions consumed $868.4m in direct expenditure. These figures must be addressed before any further rate increases are considered.Alternative budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150m (2%) capping average residential rates increase to about 3% through a targeted package of savings:- Reduce personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50m- Cap spending on consultants: $50m- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors: $30m- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20mAdditional context: as a resident of Mt Eden I note rate increases since 2020 have been 72% and I reject the framing that sensationalises CRL costs while ignoring long‘term debt and interest commitments. Government caps on rates increases are worth pursuing.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8207,337990,,Rodney,Do not support most,The proposed increase would add about $320 for the average household taking the current average bill to $4069 a real increase well above inflation since 2022.I oppose raising rates by 7.9 percent for the following reasons:- The breakdown shows 4.4 percent of the increase is for CRL operating costs while only 2 percent is for maintaining existing assets and 1.5 percent for new assets. This is not a fair alignment of costs to essential services.- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen by 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. This is unsustainable for households and discourages growth.- Council spending on consultants runs at about $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant earning around $200000. This is excessive given the breadth of services required.- There is a troubling level of corporate and backroom costs including six-figure salaries for 6123 staff and 72 staff paid more than the mayor's salary alongside overall payroll and external costs rising faster than inflation.- Direct operating expenditure has grown 78% from 2013 to 2023 well above CPI and staff costs are a major driver of this growth.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget that seeks to cap rate increases at around 3 percent by reducing wasteful expenditure including:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze on non-essential roles.- Cutting spending on consultants and professional services.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional point: Wayne Brown promised cost reductions during his campaign; many ratepayers are awaiting delivery of those commitments.I request that the council consider these reductions to bring rates closer to inflation and relieve households from excessive cost pressures.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I write to object to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to urge a fiscally responsible path that protects households in a cost-of-living crisis.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 more per household on top of a long-running 30% real increase since 2022 far exceeding overall inflation. In this period rates have risen sharply while essential services face rising costs.- A large portion of the increase funds CRL operating costs (4.4%) and new asset growth

(1.5%) while everyday ratepayer concerns require restraint on corporate and backroom spending that drives these bills up.Agreed actions to reduce wasteful spending- Reduce personnel costs: freeze non-essential vacancies and cap staff growth to save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb consultants and professional services: cut the spend on consultancy and contracting rather than allowing it to rise with a target of meaningful annual reductions.- Cut spending on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and pursue procurement and vendor consolidation wherever possible.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is said to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or re-prioritise discretionary grants to focus on statutory and essential services.Specific funding reductions aligned with a prudent 3% cap- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposal recommends reducing new Council spending by about $150 million (roughly 2%) to cap average residential rate increases at around 3%. This includes: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from capping consultancy spend $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.- In line with this consider limiting Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' programme to avoid unnecessary obligations on ratepayers (noting the plan suggests significant ongoing costs).Cost-of-living contextIf rates remain at or near the proposed level households will face mounting pressures. Please reflect the hardship of ongoing cost pressures when finalising the plan.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8208,337989,,Rodney,Do not support most,I am submitting my views on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending.Key concerns- The 7.9 percent increase translates to about $320 more per average household on top of a current average residential rates bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85 percent far above inflation and population growth. The Council should not seek to raise rates again without demonstrable efficiency gains.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance shows significant opportunities to curb wasteful expenditure. In particular I support reducing corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continued growth in these areas.- I agree with freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- I agree the Council should cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) programme which I do not view as a proper responsibility of local government.Additional context- The proposed plan allocates 2 percent for maintaining existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. Given the scale of past cost increases and the imperative to deliver core services I urge the Council to prioritise essential services and statutory obligations over discretionary programmes.- The Budget must reflect prudent financial stewardship. The current trajectoryrising staff costs high consultant spend and broad operational expensesneeds a targeted review with a focus on productivity and value for ratepayers.I request a reduction in overall expenditure and a tailored plan to cap rates growth well below the present proposal while safeguarding essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8232,337965,,Rodney,Do not support most,Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase constitutes a real burden on households with the average bill rising by about $320. Since 2022 the real increase in rates stands at 30% far outpacing cumulative inflation of 12%. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs with 2% for existing asset maintenance and 1.5% for new assets. This structure risks unsustainable growth in charges for residents.- Wasteful and discretionary spending must be trimmed. Council spending on consultants averages $126 million per year across the Council group with the Auckland Council parent accounting for $60 million and typical consultants earning around $200000. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown far faster than inflation with payroll totalling about $1.3 billion and consultants/contractors at $590 million.- A pragmatic spending cap is needed. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap average residential rates increase at around 3%. This would be achieved by: (a) freezing non-essential hiring and reducing personnel costs by $50 million; (b) capping consultant spend at $50 million; (c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors for $30 million; (d) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants for $20 million.- Specific programs should be reconsidered: cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.Agreeing positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- Advocate reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Advocate reducing spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continual increases.- Support canceling the Food Scraps Programme.- Support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.ClosingI respectfully request that Council consider implementing the proposed $150 million efficiency measures to constrain rates increases to around 3% and prioritise essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8246,337951,,Rodney,Do not support most,Based on the Council's own figures the average residential rates bill is already $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30% in 2022 dollars far above inflation. An average rise of 7.9% (roughly $320) adds unnecessary financial pressure on ratepayers particularly when inflation remains elevated and household budgets are constrained.Agreed positions1) Expenditure reductions across the Council and CCOs. The Council should target wasteful backroom costs and reduce corporate and management spending to deliver a more affordable rates outcome.2) Lower consultancy and professional services spend. The Alliance highlights $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200k. A material reduction in these costs is essential.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At a cost of $36 million per year the programme should be halted if it emits more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing or cut payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. A targeted hiring freeze could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a statutory local government requirement.6) Alternative budget framework. The proposed 'Ratepayer-Friendly' approach to cap an average rate increase at 3% is achievable by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) including $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge the Council to

adopt a prudent spending plan that prioritises essential services while restoring confidence in ratepayer stewardship. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8255,337942,,Rodney,Do not support most,1. Core position- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9%. The projected rise equates to about $320 for the average household and is not affordable in the context of inflation and wage growth.- The real increase in rates since 2022 has already reached about 30 percent in 2022 dollars while cumulative inflation sits around 12 percent. Rates growth has far outpaced both inflation and population growth since the Super City reforms.2. Spending priorities and waste reduction- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- A reduction in consultancy and professional services is essential; current levels are unsustainable. Curbing these costs should help limit rate increases.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and according to independent assessments emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut discretionary and non-essential spending including targeted reductions in Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). This is not a role of local government and should be redirected to essential service delivery.3. Alternative budget approach- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance approach to cap the rate rise by reducing new Council spending by about $150 million (2%): allocate funds toward essential services and manage growth within existing resources.- Specifically target savings from personnel costs consultancy spend contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation as outlined in the Alliance plan.ClosingI request that the Council recognise the need to tighten expenditure and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8262,337935,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit in opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27.I note the plan allocates 2% to maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen by 85%well above inflation and population growth. A 7.9% increase risks further erosion of household financial security while delivering uncertain gains in service levels.I support a rigorous reallocation of Council resources to curb wasteful expenditure. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% saving) to cap the rate rise at around 3%. This would be achieved by:- Reducing personnel costs through an organisational change and hiring freeze: about $50 million- Capping spending on consultants: about $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: about $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: about $20 millionSpecific spending concerns include:- Consultants and contractors cost about $590 million with $126 million per year across the Council group. Average consultant pay is high; a reduction here is prudent.- Spending on six-figure salaries and backroom functions remains excessive; 6123 employees earning six figures and 72 staff paid more than the mayor signal potential overstaffing in

non-essential roles.- The Māori Outcomes programme (Ngā Mātārae) consumes about $10 million per year which should be reassessed in light of local government's statutory responsibilities.- The Food Scraps Programme costing around $36 million annually should be cancelled as it emits more carbon than it saves.Additional steps to protect ratepayers include freezing non-essential hires and avoiding further growth in payroll costs and negotiating better terms with suppliers to reduce direct operating expenditure.I request that the Council provide clear transparent reporting on the impact of any proposed reductions and ensure essential services are funded.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8264,337933,,Rodney,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent (about $320 for the average household). The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with the real increase since 2022 at 30 percent well above cumulative inflation. The breakdown shows 2 percent for maintaining existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. Rates rises have far outstripped population growth and inflation since the Super City amalgamation.Agreed points:- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council must reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than letting these items rise.- The Council should 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 which would save at least $17 million right away.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.- Money not spent on infrastructure repair should be redirected; persistent rework due to poor execution is inefficient and wasteful.Additional points:- The alternative budget proposed by the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance shows reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap the rate increase at 3 percent via: personnel cost reductions consultant caps contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.In summary I urge the Council to adopt substantial cost-cutting measures to bring rates increases in line with or below inflation prioritise essential services reform backroom functions and avoid wasteful programmes. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8282,337915,,Rodney,Do not support most,I oppose rate increases that are not matched by substantial demonstrable reductions in wasteful Council spending. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing shows multiple areas where savings are achievable without compromising essential services. To deliver a more sustainable rates path I urge the Council to prioritise fiscal restraint and reform.Key points for consideration:- Reduce personnel costs: freeze non-essential hires and trim payroll by not filling vacant positions. This would deliver immediate savings estimated at least $17 million.- Curb consultancy and professional services: cap and review spending on consultants and contracts; the Alliance suggests cutting this area to align with prudent budgeting.- Cutting non-core programmes: cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million annually and according to analyses emits more carbon than it saves.- Focus on essential

services: prioritise statutory duties and essential services over discretionary grants and reallocate funds toward core urban management rather than backroom or corporate functions.- Reform Māori-specific spend: re-evaluate expenditure in the Māori outcomes area (Ngā Mātārae) estimated at $10 million per year ensuring funds support essential municipal aims rather than separate agency outcomes.- Corporate and backroom efficiency: address the six-figure salaries across the Council and CCOs and streamline corporate business support and procurement to reduce overhead.Additional point:- Retain Takapuna Golf Course it is self-funding and contributes revenue to the Council thereby offsetting some costs.Overall an Alternative Budget approach that trims at least $150 million of new spending could cap average rate increases to a more sustainable level. The proposed distribution2% for asset maintenance 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsrequires scrutiny to ensure it reflects prudent priorities and measurable outcomes for Aucklanders.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8285,337912,,Rodney,Do not support most,Key context and stance- The proposed average residential rates increase is 7.9 percent (about $320 for the average household). I reject increases above inflation and support holding rates to roughly 3 percent by implementing meaningful savings.- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. It is essential to rebase operating costs and stop the continual escalation of backroom and corporate spend.Specific budgetary directions I support- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than sustaining rising external advice costs.- 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 filling vacant non-essential roles a move that 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) which I consider not a core local government function.Additional context- A disciplined reallocation could align with an alternative budget approach that caps the rate rise while safeguarding essential services. Reducing personnel costs capping consultant expenditure renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors collectively offer tangible opportunities to bring the rate rise down toward sustainable levels.Statement of position- I oppose the 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and advocate for immediate expenditure restraint prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8290,337907,,Rodney,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9 percent (roughly $320 for the average household) and urge the Council to instead pursue meaningful budget reductions to protect households from excessive cost-of-living pressure. The current rate rise proposal would push the cumulative impact far beyond acceptable inflation-adjusted expectations while spending patterns have shown a persistent drift toward higher personnel consultant and discretionary costs.In particular I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance positions to:- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce

spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to continue increasing.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and it is claimed emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) noting that this is not a function of local government.Additional points for consideration:- Curtail expenditure on non-essential items such as free entertainment events including cinema in parks and other cultural activities which should not be funded at ratepayer expense when core services are under pressure.The proposed expenditure trajectory shows substantial growth in staff costs consultants and corporate functions. A targeted reduction of around $150 million in new spendingvia frozen hires capped consultancy and renegotiated contractscould cap the rate rise to around 3 percent while preserving statutory and essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8292,337905,,Rodney,Do not support most,1. Rates increase- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent (approximately $320 for the average household). This rise compounds real increases since 2022 and is not justified by a commensurate improvement in core services.2. Spending and efficiency- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services; the current trajectory of these items is unsustainable.- 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 including the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.3. Specific program disinvestments- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.4. Budget framework and alternative proposal- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap the average rates increase at about 3 percent. This is achieved through the measures above and by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.5. Rationale- Since 2010 rates have risen 85 percent outpacing inflation and population growth. The current plan reflects a continuation of costly backroom functions and growth in corporate overhead rather than direct community services.ClosingI urge Auckland Council to adopt a leaner base of operating costs and a disciplined approach to one-off or discretionary programmes with a focus on essential services and affordability for ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8293,337904,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit as a ratepayer concerned about the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase which equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real 30% increase since 2022 (inflation to date ~12%). The current average rates bill is $4069. The proposed increase is not affordable and reflects growing misallocation of funds.I oppose the proposed 7.9% increase and support a revised budget that caps rate rises by prioritising core statutory and essential services and cutting wasteful spending. My positions are:1) Reduce

expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.2) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these lines.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 would save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.I understand the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3%:- $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 and essential services over discretionary grantsThese changes are essential to restore ratepayer trust and ensure funds are directed to core unavoidable services rather than discretionary programs and overheads.I urge the Council to adopt a fiscally responsible path that protects essential services while delivering real savings. Please consider these cuts as a first step toward an affordable sustainable budget for Auckland.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8298,337899,,Rodney,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to instead prioritise prudent fiscal restraint and better value for ratepayers.My positions:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. A rate rise of this level is above inflation and well above household income growth placing unnecessary pressure on households.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to rise.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; such a measure would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core remit of local government.- The Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and seek smarter procurement contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve savings.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget approach which demonstrates how reducing new Council spending by about $150 million (a 2% reduction) could cap the average rate increase at around 3%. Specifically targeted savings from personnel costs consultants contract renegotiations and non-essential services can deliver meaningful relief for ratepayers without compromising core services.Please get the bureaucracy under control. They are small in mind and mean in spirit. Act on the good of the people of Auckland.Closing:I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8301,337896,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit in opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and in support of reducing wasteful Council spending and unnecessary back-office costs.Key considerations- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase equates to approximately $320 for the average household. This is well above inflation and

fails to reflect ongoing efficiency gains possible within the Council and CCOs.- Substantial savings are achievable by reducing corporate and back-office functions across the Council and CCOs and by curbing consultancy and professional services which total about $126 million per year across the group (including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent) with average consultants earning around $200000.- The Council should not fund discretionary programmes that do not align with core statutory duties. In particular I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Personnel costs are excessive relative to impacts. Freezing staffing and/or not filling vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately.- There is limited justification for continuing high Maori-specific expenditure in the Ngā Mātārae/'Maori Outcomes' function with around $10 million per year given the appropriate scope of local government responsibilities.Alternative budget and concrete reductions- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rates increase at around 3%. This would be achieved by: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million from capping consulting spend; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.- These steps are practical need-based and consistent with keeping essential services funded while avoiding unnecessary growth in the rate burden on households.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8307,337890,,Rodney,Do not support most,The proposed increase translates to about $320 for the average household on a current average bill of $4069. Since 2022 rates have risen 30 percent in real terms far outpacing overall inflation. I urge the council to align rates with inflation and to prioritise core statutory services over discretionary spending.I support the following positions:- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%; pursue a sustainable increase closer to or below inflation.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) recognising that this is not a core local government function.Context and data informing these positions:- The 7.9% increase comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs.- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far exceeding cumulative inflation and population growth.- Council spending on consultants and contractors totals hundreds of millions; personnel costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation.A constructive alternative budget approach is warranted. The Rates Alliance proposal suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) enabling a cap around 3% average rate increases through targeted savings in personnel consultants and vendor costs and prioritising essential services.I would welcome the opportunity to provide input at hearings if required but I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8314,337883,,Rodney,Do not support most,On the basis of the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing I oppose this rise and urge a focused reduction in wasteful and non-core spending to keep rates affordable for households including retirees like myself.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% rise translates to about $320 extra per average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (compared with 12% overall inflation). I cannot support further increases while spending in non-essential areas continues to rise.- I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reducing the spend on consultancy and professional services which have grown far beyond reasonable levels.- I oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- I agree the Council should 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.- I oppose ongoing spending on Maori-specific departments such as Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) which currently amounts to about $10 million per year as this is not a core local government function.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance suggests a prudent path: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the rate rise at around 3% including: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional pointsAs a retiree continual increases erode financial stability in households. We do not use many council facilities so increases should reflect essential community needs and core services first not expansive discretionary programmes.I request to present a submission at hearings to provide further context if possible. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8316,337881,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit in formal opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in support of reducing wasteful Council spending.1) Rate increase opposition- I oppose the average 7.9% residential rates rise. This level is well above inflation and places an undue burden on households. The proposed breakdown including 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs highlights that the bulk of the increase funds ongoing costs rather than demonstrable productivity gains. A more prudent approach is needed that respects ratepayers while preserving essential services.2) Wasteful spending to target- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and as argued by ratepayer advocates emits more carbon than it saves. This is a clear area where funding can be redirected to core statutory services.- Reduce Māori-specific spending notably the approximately $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government has a stewardship role but this level of expenditure is not a core function of council and should be reviewed to ensure alignment with statutory responsibilities and ratepayer priorities.3) Alternative budgeting approach- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a targeted reduction of new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which could cap the average residential rates increase to around 3% by: cutting personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze; capping consultancy spend; renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- While I do not oppose prudent efficiency measures I emphasise that any savings should be directed toward relieving ratepayers and preserving essential services rather than continuing a pattern of escalating operating costs.ClosingI request Council consider a more frugal

outcomes-focused budget that prioritises core services transparency and accountability to ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8336,337861,,Rodney,Do not support most,The impact of a cost of living increase already at 7.9 percent would be borne by {address redacted} households with the average impact estimated at about $320 per year.Key concerns and positions:1) Rate increase and affordability. The proposed 7.9 percent rise is not aligned with prudent budgeting. The council should cap rate increases closer to or below inflation by prioritising essential services and cutting back on non-essential spending.2) Expenditure reductions. The Council must reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services which have risen significantly.3) Specific programme reductions. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.4) Payroll and staffing. 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.5) Māori-specific spending. Curb Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year for the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.6) Alternative budgeting. I support the {address redacted} Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases) through cuts to personnel costs cap consultancy spending renegotiate contracts and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional note: I oppose any spending framed as climate 'emergency' activism that is not essential to core {address redacted} governance. Real priorities are essential services affordable rates and responsible financial stewardship.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8342,337855,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and advocate for a fundamental review of council spending to protect households in a cost-of-living crisis.The proposed 7.9% average increase would mean about $320 extra per year for the average household on top of a long-run rise in rates that has outpaced inflation. Since 2022 rates have effectively risen 30% in real terms while inflation has risen around 12%. I urge Council to align budgeting with the community's financial realities and avoid rate increases that exceed inflation.To achieve this I support the Ratepayers' Alliance approach to reduce new and ongoing Council spending by at least $150 million which would cap the average residential rate increase at around 3%. Specifically I call for:- Reducing personnel costs through 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 about $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.I also urge immediate deferrals and reductions in discretionary programs to reflect community priorities:- 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 filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million right away.- Reconsider Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori

outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.There needs to be greater accountability in how taxpayer money is spent. Focus on essentials reduce backroom and consultancy costs and avoid accumulating wasteful expenditure. These measures would ensure a fairer rates outcome while maintaining core city services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8348,337849,,Rodney,Do not support most,I oppose the 7.9% average rates rise. The proposed increase is inconsistent with taxpayers' ability to pay and follows a period where rates have risen 85% since the 2010 Super City amalgamation far outstripping inflation and population growth. A targeted reduction in expenses is essential to keep rates affordable.I support reducing Council and CCO spending on corporate and backroom office functions and cutting consultancy and professional services. Current figures show consultant spending of about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation and personnel costs have risen markedly. A disciplined focus on core services is warranted.I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles as this would save at least $17 million immediately and reduce ongoing payroll pressure. This aligns with the need to prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary items.I support cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department on the basis that this is not a function of local government. Resources should be allocated to statutory essential services rather than backfilling non-core mandates.I do not support continuing to increase expenditure through high-cost external contractors and non-essential programmes. Instead I urge a reallocation plan that caps new spending and targets savings to keep rate rises to a maximum of 3 percent as outlined in the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget.In addition I request the Council to provide detailed disclosure of where savings are achieved and how any remaining shortfalls will be addressed.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8355,337842,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit this evidence-based submission to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for reductions in wasteful Council spending.1) Rate increase and spending contextThe proposed average residential rates rise of 7.9 percent translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a long-run rise in rates since 2010. Since 2010 rates have increased 85% far exceeding inflation (roughly 34%) and population growth (22%). The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of increase is not affordable for households and should be capped by reducing wasteful expenditure.2) Focused cost reductions aligned with the submitter's positionsThe Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. Data from the Alliance highlights $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group with an average consultant receiving $200k. The payroll and related personnel costs also weigh heavily: 6123 employees on six-figure

salaries with 464 paid more than $200k and 72 staff earning more than the mayor. Direct operating expenditure has risen far faster than inflation.3) Specific program and spending reductionsThe submission supports cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. It also supports freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately. Additionally it argues for cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year for the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) asserting this is not a function of local government.4) Alternative budgeting and proposed impactThe Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average rate increase at around 3 percent. This would be achieved through: reducing personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes; capping consultant spend; contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that the Council seriously consider these reductions to protect households from excessive rate increases while ensuring essential services are maintained.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8357,337840,,Rodney,Do not support most,The alliance's briefing shows the current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent well above inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent increase translates to about $320 more per average household which is unacceptable while wasteful spending continues.I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which would reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) and cap the rate rise at 3 percent. To achieve this I support:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze on non-essential roles saving $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation saving $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.Key line items in need of urgent reform include:- Expenditure on consultants: $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant paid about $200000. This is excessive and unnecessary for core services.- Corporate and backroom functions: 18 corporate and business support functions costing $868.4 million in direct expenditure; cutting these supports is essential.- Food Scraps Programme: $36 million per year which in my view emits more carbon than it saves and should be cancelled.- Payroll and vacancies: freeze staffing and reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which can save at least $17 million immediately.- Māori-specific spending: $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). While I respect local priorities this is not a core local government function and should be trimmed.I oppose the 7.9 percent rate increase and urge the Council to prioritise essential services reduce backroom costs and implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget to limit the impact on households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8381,337816,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average 7.9% residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a program of restraint on Council spending to

align rates with inflation and essential services.Position and rationale- I oppose the 7.9% average increase (approximately $320 for the average household). Rates have climbed 85% since the 2010 Super City reform well above inflation and population growth. A restrained approach is warranted to protect households and local business.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services spending which currently inflates operating costs without commensurate service gains.- I support the proposed pause or reduction in non-essential payroll and staffingfreeze vacancies for non-essential roles and target a payroll review to cut costs immediately which could save at least $17 million.- I oppose continued growth in costs tied to external consultants and contract services. Reducing reliance on consultants and renegotiating contracts should be prioritised to restrain operating expenditure.- I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves.- I oppose increased spend on Māori-specific programmes. The $10 million/year for the Ngā Mātārae/Māori outcomes area should be reviewed as part of prioritising statutory services over discretionary programmes.Alternative budget approachThe Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at around 3%. Key steps include: $50 million from personnel costs and hiring freezes; $50 million from limiting consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations; and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional considerationsAddress future parking pressures by exploring very low-cost or free interventions to divert vehicles from saturated streets and consider road design constraints to prevent gridlock and improve efficiency for residents and essential services.ClosingI request to speak at hearings to present these points in person.Sincerely{name redacted}{address redacted}{email redacted}I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8386,337811,,Rodney,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9 percent. The current average rates bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 are already about 30 percent with cumulative inflation around 12 percent. A rate rise above inflation undermines affordability for households and households cannot absorb ongoing cost pressures without impacting essential living standards.I support a disciplined reduction in Council expenditure focusing on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. I also support reducing spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. The Council should cancel wasteful programmes including the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.In line with prudent fiscal management I endorse a freeze on staffing and/or reduction of payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately. I also advocate cutting Māori-specific spendingsuch as the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae)as this is not a core function of local government.Cost-saving proposals align with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which aims to cap the rate rise by about 3 percent through a $150 million reduction in new Council spending. Practical steps include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes: $50 million- Capping spending on consultants: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionAdditional point: there are too many almost-empty buses along the northern bus lane; adjusting schedules in off-

peak times could save fuel and reduce wear and tear.I request to present my submission at hearings to provide further context if required. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8395,337802,,Rodney,Do not support most,I oppose the rate rise and support meaningful reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key concerns- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The current average residential bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 (vs. 12 percent overall inflation). The proposed 7.9 percent is above inflation and well above what households can bear.- Expenditure reductions are essential. The Council must reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than permit continual growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. It costs $36 million per year and per independent assessment emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local government function and should be halted or redirected.Supportive positions from Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance findings- The Council should implement the Ratepayers' Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap average rates increases at about 3 percent through targeted measures: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes - $50 million from reducing consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants- Put simply: wasteful spending must be eliminated and targeted Māori-spending should not drive general rates up.ConclusionThe proposed budget must be voted down if it keeps these wasteful items intact. I request that all feasible reductions be considered to keep rates within inflation and protect essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8417,337780,,Rodney,Do not support most,Key points- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase which equates to about $320 for the average household on the basis that rates have already risen 30% in real terms since 2022 while inflation has run around 12%. The proposed split shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for existing asset maintenance and 1.5% for new assets suggesting much of the increase funds long-term projects rather than essential services alone.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb spending on consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continual growth in these areas.- 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 or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; the submission notes that halting non-essential hires would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year allocated to the Mātauranga“Ngā Mātārae/'Māori outcomes' portfolio on the basis that this is not a direct local government responsibility.Alternative budget approach- Adopt a Council-wide reduction of $150 million (2%) to cap average residential rate increases at around

3%. This would be achieved through: reducing personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze ($50 million); capping consultant spend ($50 million); renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million); prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).Rationale- Since the 2010 amalgamation rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. It is reasonable to expect belt-tightening not further rate increases when many operating costs have risen faster than inflation.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8419

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 extra per average household pushing the current average rates bill toward $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85%far above a 34% inflation rise and nearly four times population growth. In plain terms ratepayers are footing a growing bill while basic goods and services face cost pressures. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of growth is not affordable for many households.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap rate increases by reducing total Council expenditure by at least

$150 million (about 2%) through targeted measures:- Freeze or reduce staffing and payroll by not hiring for non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut spending on consultants and professional services and renegotiate contracts to reduce costs by $50 million.- End or slow discretionary and non-essential expenditure prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).- Coupon back and streamline backroom functions across both the Council and CCOs which would trim six-figure salaries and overall personnel costs.- Pause or cancel non-core environmental programmes that do not align with core local government duties including the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Re-examine Māori-focused spending including the $10 million per year for Ngā Mātārae to ensure resources are aligned with statutory local-government responsibilities.I previously supported Mayor Brown but request prudent stewardship that prioritises essential services and value for money. The current trajectory risks unsustainable debt for ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8441

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 more per household against a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far exceeding inflation and population growth. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as the city grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsyet these increases come on top of a history of bloated operating costs and high backroom spend. I urge a reallocation of funds toward essential services not perpetual preservation of expanding corporate overheads. Any proposed rate hike will not only hurt my wallet and my ability to sustain a living but also hurt the wallets of the businesses that I

am a customer to. While I am not the owner of my current place of residence I contribute to paying my part of the residential rates so this proposed hike will definitely and directly affect me. Given the current economic circumstances that NZ is facing because of the external geopolitical events my employer has had to reduce my working hours by a moderate amount so I have had to cut down some of my expenses myself. I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap average residential rates increases at about 3% by delivering substantial savings across the Council group. This includes:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services and pursuing contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save $50 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants with a $20 million reallocation to core responsibilities.Specific programmes and spending identified for restraint or decline should be revisited:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and purportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Accelerate reductions in payroll costs and corporate/ backoffice expenditure which have grown far faster than inflation and reduce the use of consultants and contractors.A reduced rate increase paired with targeted expenditure reductions will protect households from unaffordable bills while ensuring essential services are funded. I request that the Council adopt the proposed $150 million in efficiency savings to cap rates increases at roughly 3 percent.It is unfair on me and my household that we should be the ones who have to budget more strictly while Auckland Council proposes to spend even more without considering that they should be the ones who cut back their own spending to avoid straining the average ratepayer's bank account balance. There are smarter ways to resolve your bugdeting problems as stated above and a rates hike is not the solution. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8444

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I am writing to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to urge immediate steps to reduce wasteful expenditure across the Council and CCOs.I understand the Council faces a 7.9% increase with components including 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growing assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of increase is well above expected inflation and places a disproportionate burden on households particularly those on fixed incomes. I cannot support rate increases of this magnitude.Agreeing with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance the Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the

Council and CCOs and cut the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items. The current level of external consultancy averaging around $200k per adviser and the overall $126 million per year spent on consultants merit a rigorous review and substantial reduction. The Council must pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve meaningful savings and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I also urge cancelling the Food Scraps Programme reported as costing about $36 million per year while emitting 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. In addition I support reducing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) unless a clear local-government role and measurable public benefit are demonstrated.Additional points: We simply cannot afford large rate increases. Please review where rates are spent and cut costs accordingly. As a start consider a practical reduction in non-essential expenditure such as travel and hospitality costs and ensure councillors' spending aligns with restrained budgets. I did vote for responsible stewardship and I expect leadership that reins in unnecessary spending.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8502

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and I urge the Council to prioritise spending discipline and essential services over additional growth in expenditure. The current average residential rate bill is $4069 and the 7.9% proposed increase would add about $320 for the average household. This level far exceeds inflation and places disproportionate pressure on households.I agree with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services spend. The briefing shows annual

consultant spending of about $126 million across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with many consultants earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and payroll costs have grown well beyond inflation while eighteen corporate and business support functions cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure. These figures illustrate a structural drift toward higher costs rather than delivering commensurate public value.I also support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which the briefing indicates could save at least $17 million immediately. In addition I advocate cancelling the Food Scraps Programme cited as costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves. I call for a review and where appropriate the realignment of funding toward statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I disagree with and therefore oppose continued or expanded Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise core local services not replace or duplicate national functions.An alternative budget approach proposed by the Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at about 3%: $50 million saved by personnel cost controls $50 million by limiting consultants $30 million through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory services.I voted for Wayne Brown with the expectation of financial discipline; the current trajectory suggests otherwise. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8506

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

My position is constructive and solution-focused seeking affordable services while improving value for ratepayers.1) Rates and overall fiscal approach- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. This rise would add approximately $320 to the average household bill on top of a real rates increase of 30% since 2022 far outpacing cumulative inflation. A more disciplined budget is essential.- I support the Rates Alliance plan to cap rate rises to around 3% by reducing new Council spending by about $150 million. This includes: freezing non-essential recruitment cutting consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.2)

Spending reform priorities- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services costs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (approx. $36 million/year) as it is not cost-effective and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reassess Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) allocation of about $10 million per year given governance responsibilities lie with local government in consultation with communities.3) Accountability and value- With payroll at about $1.3 billion and significant consultancy expenditure prioritising core services and essential statutory functions is prudent. The focus should be on delivering those services efficiently and transparently with measurable outcomes for ratepayers.I appreciate the Council's mandate to invest in essential growth projects but affordability must be central. A rebalanced budget that reduces waste and unnecessary spending will better serve Aucklanders in 2026/27.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8542

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Rates and budgeting contextThe proposed 7.9% increase comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85%well above inflation and population growth. A more prudent approach is required with emphasis on essential services and value for money rather than continued expenditure growth.2) Spending reductions aligned with the Council's own needsThe Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap average residential rates at about 3% through:- Reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a

hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping consultancy and professional services: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million3) Specific cost-containment measures supported by the submitter- Oppose the current level of consultant and professional services expenditure; pursue real reductions rather than continued increases.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and has not been shown to deliver net carbon savings.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) area on the basis that this is not a function of local government.4) Accountability and value for moneyGiven the scale of payroll consultant costs and backroom functions a rigorous review of corporate and back-office spend is essential. The goal should be to protect core statutory obligations while ensuring ratepayer funds are directed to services that deliver tangible public benefit.ClosingI request consideration of these measures to keep rates affordable and ensure prudent use of ratepayer funds. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8547

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in favour of substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30 percent well above inflation. A 7.9 percent rise particularly allocated as 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs is unfair to ratepayers.I support the following positions:1) Oppose the 7.9 percent average increase and seek a cap around 3 percent by cutting wasteful expenditure.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) Curb spending on consultancy and professional services

rather than continuing to increase these items.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a local government core role.7) Implement a completely transparent and independent financial accounting system with personal accountability for all money spent as would occur in any well-governed business.I note that the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to deliver an approx. 3 percent rate increase: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional points I want considered: full transparency in financial books and clear accountability for all personnel and spending.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8575

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. Positions Agreed- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves).- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (this measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately).- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year allocated to the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) given that this is not a

local government core role.2. Observations and context- The proposed 7.9% rate rise comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets due to growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far above inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). This level of expenditure growth is not sustainable for households or local businesses particularly in a tightening economic environment.- Current and projected spend on consultants staff and overhead shows a pattern of rising costs relative to service delivery. A targeted reduction of payroll contractor use and corporate functions would alleviate pressure on ratepayers without compromising essential public services.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending capping the rate increase at about 3% by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.3. Additional points- All businesses and households are tightening costs; Auckland households should not bear an outsized burden through higher rates while overheads expand.- With AI and modern management it is reasonable to expect reductions in overhead and more efficient service delivery.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8589

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which translates to about $320 for the average household and I urge the Council to pursue substantial savings before raising bills on ratepayers.Key context: since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). The proposed 7.9% increase comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This places a heavier burden on households at a time when many households face rising costs.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget approach which proposes reducing

new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases) to deliver an average rate rise of around 3%. Specifically I advocate:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze to achieve at least $50 million in savings.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to save $20 million.In addition I urge the Council to cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves. Given the budget pressures this is a prudent step toward waste reduction and better value for ratepayers.I accept that some level of investment is necessary for infrastructure and services but the current trajectory relies too heavily on external consultants and backroom functions. The Council should prioritise core statutory services and essential maintenance while eliminating or defunding projects that do not demonstrably improve outcomes for Aucklanders.I would welcome opportunities to contribute to hearings to discuss practical measures that protect essential services while delivering responsible sustainable reductions in rate increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8606

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed 7.9 percent rate rise is excessive when real gains in services are not evidenced. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. This is not sustainable for ratepayers especially as many households struggle with cost-of-living pressures.I-agree that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. The current level of consultant costapproximately $126 million per year

across the Council group with six-figure salaries and many staff paid above the mayor's salaryindicates a need for organisational efficiency. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown well beyond inflation; a reduction in personnel costs and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles would deliver immediate savings.I-agree the Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. I-agree the Council should freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million right away. I-agree the Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) if this is beyond the core remit of local government.I-agree the Council should reduce road cone spending by at least half. In addition I urge contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save funds and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In summary reduce new spending by at least $150 million to cap the rate rise to around 3 percent and avoid burdening households beyond inflation.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8625

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current rates burden has grown substantially since 2022 (real increase 30 percent in 2022 dollars versus 12 percent inflation) and further increases at this pace will amplify affordability pressures for households already feeling the squeeze.The proposed 7.9 percent rise is composed of 2 percent to maintain existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. Rather than accepting ongoing growth in operating costs I urge the Council to pursue substantial savings in backroom and corporate spend. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance shows annual Council group spending on consultants at $126 million with the average consultant

earning around $200000 and staff costs rising faster than inflation. Direct operating expenditure has grown well beyond inflation in recent years. These are areas where savings can be found without compromising essential services.I support the Alliance's proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap the rate rise at about 3 percent. Specific measures I support include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors where possible.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I also oppose current expenditure on non-core programmes that do not deliver clear public value. In particular:- The Food Scraps Programme at an annual cost of $36 million should be cancelled if it is not demonstrably reducing emissions or delivering net benefits.- Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori Outcomes' department (approximately $10 million per year) should be reassessed as not a core local government function.Additional point: many citizens are struggling even those with previously solid incomes and relief from rate pressures is essential not further burdens.I would welcome the opportunity to provide further details at a hearing if invited.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8629

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Rate change and affordability- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to approximately $320 more per residential household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 in a period of 12% inflation. Given this context I urge the Council to prioritise affordability and seek a cap closer to 3% consistent with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget.2) Wasteful spending and reform priorities- The Council should reduce spend on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cut consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to rise. Current data show high reliance on consultants (about $126 million annually across the

Council group) and staff payroll costs of $1.3 billion with vacancies and non-essential hires contributing to elevated payroll costs.- 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; this measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. In particular reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role constitutionally required of local government.3) Aligning budget with ratepayer interests- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) achieving a 3% rate increase cap through targeted savings in personnel costs consultant spend contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.ClosingI request that the Council take these reductions seriously and reconsider the proposed rates increase in favour of disciplined transparent savings that protect household budgets while maintaining essential municipal services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

#8642

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a personal and sincere tone to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to call for a rigorous reduction in wasteful Council spending. The current context shows rates rising far faster than inflation with the proposed 7.9% increase adding about $320 for the average household on top of already high bills.I agree with the aim to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb the spend on consultancy and professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance provides a credible path: an alternative budget that reduces new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate

increase to around 3%. This would be achieved by freezing non-essential staff cutting payroll costs capping consultancy spending renegotiating contracts and prioritising essential statutory services over discretionary grants.Specific actions I urge include:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs about $36 million per year) as it emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and 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 allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core local government function.- Reduce personnel costs and contractors by improving organisational design and consolidate vendors to achieve meaningful savings.- Rethink direct operating expenditure including reducing reliance on consultants and back-office functions that do not directly deliver statutory services.These measures would help ensure essential services are funded while avoiding unjustified rate increases. I also note the broader concern that public money should be spent where it truly benefits residents not on bloated administration or discretionary programs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8668

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write in a personal and sincere capacity to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge a disciplined reallocation of spending to protect essential services.Key points1) Rates and affordability: The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent would cost the average household about $320 extra per year. This is substantially above the rate of inflation and outstrips household income growth raising real financial pressure on families.2) Spending reform as a prerequisite to rate relief: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and

professional services. These areas appear ripe for significant savings that would directly support a lower rates rise.3) Payroll discipline: Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. The Alliance notes that such a measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately contributing to a more responsible rate outcome.4) Restraint on targeted spend: I support reductions in Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local-government function. A focus on statutory and essential services should take priority.5) Alternative budgeting pathway: I back the Ratepayers' Alliance's proposed approach to cap rate increases by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction). This would balance service levels with affordability and align with a more prudent fiscal strategy: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. This aligns with the objective to keep rates to around 3 percent.Additional pointAddress the broader spending culture and concentrate resources on core services rather than discretionary non-essential items.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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- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8683

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write as a member of the public who wants responsible stewardship of ratepayer funds. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a reset to focus on essential services and value for money.Key concerns and positions1) Rates affordability and fairness. The proposed 7.9% increase (about $320 for an average household) is well above inflation and places a growing burden on households. The current average rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% in 2022 dollars far outstripping 12% inflation. A rates path aligned to essential services with a cap around 3% is more reasonable.2) Reduce wasteful and backroom spending. The Council

should cut expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance has highlighted that consultants cost around $126 million per year across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent.3) Targeted reductions in discretionary programmes. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves to rebalance toward core statutory duties and essential services.4) Freeze or trim staffing and payroll where non-essential. Freeze hiring for vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately and pursue broader payroll efficiency measures to curb rising personnel costs. Reducing six-figure payroll and renegotiating contracts would help bring expenditure in line with service delivery needs.5) Focus on essential services and reconsider specific programmes. Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) given that this is not a direct local-government mandate.ClosingI request careful consideration of a revised budget that prioritises essential services reduces non-core spending and targets a more modest rate rise aligned with inflation and value delivered. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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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

#8698

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the average household. Given Auckland's recent rate risesan 85% increase since 2010 with a real increase far exceeding inflationthe plan should prioritise restraint and value for money. The rate rises should be aligned with inflation and essential service delivery not an ongoing expansion of payroll and backroom costs.Key concerns and positions:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current structure includes substantial costs in corporate services that do not demonstrate proportional community benefit.2) Reduce

spending on consultancy and professional services. Council spending on consultants is high (about $126 million per year across the group with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent) and the average consultant pay is reported as around $200000. This is excessive if it does not translate into commensurate outcomes for residents.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. I understand this alone could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this aligns poorly with the role of local government.Alternative approach:The Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) could cap the average residential rate increase at about 3%. This includes: 50 million from personnel cost reductions via organisational change and hiring freezes; 50 million from capping consultancy and professional services; 30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; 20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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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?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8728

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

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 and direct terms to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to call for restraint on wasteful Council spending.1) Rate increase: The proposed 7.9% average rise represents a real burden on households already facing high inflation. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with real increases since 2022 of about 30% against 12% inflation. A rate rise well above inflation erodes household living standards and undermines trust in local government.2) Spending reductions: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating

expenditure has grown 78% from 2013 to 2023 outpacing cumulative inflation. There is clear scope to trim staff-driven and non-essential costs through organisational review and a hiring freeze for non-critical roles.3) Consultants and professional services: Spending on consultants and contractors totals approximately $590 million with consulting costs at $126 million per year across the group. I support capping consultancy expenditure and prioritising in-house capabilities and essential services.4) Specific programme rationalisation: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which reportedly costs $36 million per year and according to the briefing emits more carbon than it saves. Redirecting resources to essential services delivers better value.5) Payroll discipline: Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Māori outcomes spending: Curb Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year for the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) subject to statutory requirements and refocus funds on core local government functions.7) Alternative budget target: The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the rate rise at around 3% by cutting non-core spending aligned with the above points.I request that the Council seriously consider these reductions to bring rates back in line with inflation and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary expenditure.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8747

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Opposition to the proposed increase- I oppose an average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This rate rise would cost the average household about $320 adding to a real increase in rates since 2022 of 30 percent with cumulative inflation at roughly 12 percent. Rates should not outpace inflation and population growth by such margins.2) Wasteful spending and departmental reforms- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Spending on consultancy and professional services should be cut rather than increased.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it 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; this alone would 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 direct local government function.3) Alternative budget framing- Implement the Ratepayers Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average rate increase at around 3 percent. Achieve this by: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze: $50 million - Capping spending on consultants: $50 million - Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million4) Additional points- Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well beyond inflation over recent years; a focus on core statutory responsibilities and essential services will better protect ratepayers.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8761

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose this rise and believe that rates should be aligned with inflation and household affordability. The Alliance briefing shows the current average residential bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% in 2022 dollars far above general inflation. A 7.9% rise exacerbates this burden on Auckland families.Position 1: Oppose the average rate increase of at least 7.9%.Position 2: Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.Position 3: Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continual growth.Position 4: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which emits

more carbon than it saves.Position 5: Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.Position 6: Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that these roles fall outside typical local-government obligations.Rationale and requested actions:- The rate increase breakdown (2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for growth 4.4% for CRL operating costs) indicates a disproportionate burden on ratepayers for operational and growth pressures that could be mitigated through efficiency.- The Alliance data shows annual consultant spend at roughly $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant paid about $200k alongside high payroll growth (staff costs up 64% under the current administration). A minimum approach would be to cap consultants and implement organisational change and hiring freezes to prioritise essential services.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled to avoid unnecessary expenditure and carbon impacts.- Reducing non-essential staffing and discretionary programmes will help bring rates increases closer to inflationary levels.I request that the Council consider an Alternative Budget model to reduce new spending by about $150 million which would cap the average residential rates increase to around 3%.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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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.

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

#8767

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. Rate increase and spending priorities- I oppose the 7.9% average increase which would cost the average household about $320 more per year. Rates have already risen 85% since 2010 outstripping both inflation and population growth. The Council should limit increases to align with inflation and essential service delivery.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb spending on consultancy and professional services which have risen rapidly and contribute to higher rates without proportional public benefit.2. Wasteful programmes and staffing costs- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs

$36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reassess and downscale Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given concerns about whether such roles fall within local government core responsibilities.3. Budget alternatives and financial discipline- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) thereby capping the average residential rate increase to around 3%: - $50 million from personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze - $50 million from capping consultant spend - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants- Prioritise statutory and essential services ensuring public funds are used for core Auckland needs.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt a prudent services-focused budget that recognises ratepayer affordability rejects excessive backroom spending and delivers value for money.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8776

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **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 7.9 percent residential rates increase. The current average residential bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30 percent and cumulative inflation around 12 percent. The 7.9 percent uplift includes 2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for new assets due to growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. I urge a focus on value-for-money and affordability for households especially given the scale of ratepayer burden in recent years.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce Council expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to cut spend on consultancy and professional services

rather than allowing these costs to rise further. The Alliance highlights that consultants cost about $126 million annually across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200000. Reducing these costs should be a priority.I also call for cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is argued to emit more carbon than it saves. Redirecting these funds to essential services would better serve ratepayers.I endorse freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. In addition I support cutting Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that direct local government roles should prioritise statutory and essential services.An alternative approach is to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the rate rise at roughly 3 percent by: (1) reducing personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze; (2) capping consultancy spend; (3) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; and (4) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8788

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I appreciate the opportunity to make a formal submission on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan. I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a policy shift toward cutting wasteful spend and delivering core council services more efficiently.Key concerns and positions1) Rates and affordability: The proposed 7.9% increase equating to about $320 for the average household adds to a real-terms rise of 30% since 2022 (above cumulative inflation of 12%). I support keeping rates increases in line with or below inflation and where possible below population growth and essential service costs.2) Expenditure reductions as a priority: The Council must reduce expenditure on

corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. High payroll and consultant costs including 6123 staff on six-figure salaries and $126 million per year spent on consultants are unsustainable given constrained household budgets.3) Controlling professional services: The Council should reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items. This aligns with the broader need to streamline operations and deliver value-for-money for ratepayers.4) Food Scraps Programme: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Resources should be redirected to essential services with measurable outcomes.5) Staffing and payroll discipline: Freeze hiring for non-essential roles and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant positions. This could save at least $17 million promptly and demonstrate prudent financial management.6) Māori outcomes funding: Consider limiting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) where this activity is not a core local-government role.Alternative approachI support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) capping the average residential rates increase at around 3% by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendor arrangements.ClosingI request consideration of this submission and respectfully ask the Council to prioritise restraint in non-essential spending and focused expenditure on essential community services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8823

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong direct terms to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and to demand a rebalancing of Council spending toward essential services and proven efficiencies.The proposed 7.9 percent average increase translates to around $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and a rates bill that now stands at approximately $4069. This is unsustainable for many ratepayers and out of step with inflation and household budgets. I support the Ratepayers' Alliance's alternative budget: cap the rate rise by reducing new and existing expenditure by at least $150 million (2%) delivering a targeted

3 percent increase.Key areas require immediate restraint:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing non-essential hiring and prioritising vacant positions for cancellation where discretionary; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb consultants and professional services; current spend on consultants is $126 million per year across the Council group with the majority borne by Auckland Council itself.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save at least $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants; refocus on core local government duties.Additionally I oppose ongoing spend on non-core initiatives:- The Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year should be cancelled given its questionable carbon savings relative to cost.- Maori outcomes spending (Ngā Mātārae) and related Māori-specific programmes warrant scrutiny; while community well-being is important this is not a core local government mandate and should be reviewed for alignment with statutory responsibilities.- The heavy payroll and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs require tighter controls; personnel costs and other expenses have risen far faster than inflation and the current structure is unsustainable.In summary I urge Auckland Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million constrain payroll and consultancy costs renegotiate contracts and protect statutory services. This would cap average rate increases closer to 3 percent while preserving essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8836

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a constructive solution‘focused manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful spending.Key concerns and positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The proposed increase about $320 for the average household far outpaces inflation and represents a significant real burden on ratepayers.- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Spending on six‘figure salaries consultants and non‘essential functions should be trimmed to protect essential services.- Reduce the spend on

consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items. Current consultant expenditure is excessive and unsustainable for ratepayer wallets.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect resources to core statutory and essential services.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non‘essential roles; doing so could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori‘specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government responsibility.Additional context and a proposed path- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap average residential rates increase at 3%. This would be achieved by: (i) reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze ($50 million); (ii) capping spending on consultants ($50 million); (iii) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30 million); (iv) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).- These steps would restore fiscal discipline while protecting essential services and local accountability.ConclusionI urge the Council to align the budget with inflation emphasise core services and adopt clear savings to avoid a steep rates rise.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8843

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I note the 7.9% increase translates to about $320 more per average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (and 85% since the Super City amalgamation). This level of growth is not affordable and is out of step with inflation and population pressures. The breakdown2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsalready signals a reliance on ratepayer funding for projects that should be prioritised or deferred.I agree with the need to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb consultancy and professional services. The current pattern of spending on consultants and six-

figure salaries inflates bills to households. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen far faster than inflation and the payroll and contractor numbers demand scrutiny.Specific measures I support as part of an alternative budget:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.- Cap overall new spending by reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze cap consultancy spend optimise contracts and vendor arrangements and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I request that Council publish a credible plan to reduce non-essential costs by at least $150 million (2%) achieving a target rate rise near 3% and 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**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8844

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current trajectory shows rates rising well ahead of inflation and population growth with real increases since 2022 at about 30% while inflation sits around 12%. This is unsustainable for households especially when many essential services are under pressure.I urge the Council to pursue meaningful savings by cutting back on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and by slowing the growth of consultancy and professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance highlights that consultants cost about $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant rate and overall spend contributing to ratepayer pressure. Reducing

these expenses is both prudent and achievable.I also support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. This is a clear example of a policy that should be reassessed in favour of measures with demonstrable net benefits.Additionally freezing staffing and not filling vacant non-essential roles would deliver immediate relief with potential savings of at least $17 million right away. There is also a case to reduce Maori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) programme costing about $10 million per year as this is not a core function of local government.The Council could implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget by saving about $150 million in new Council spending (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3%. This would involve a hire freeze capping consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I seek a constructive proportionate approach that preserves essential services while preventing disproportionately high rate rises. Please consider amending the proposed budget to reflect these savings and the proposed cap on rate increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8858

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to outline practical budget measures that would reduce wasteful spending and protect households from large rate rises.I oppose the average residential rates increase of at least 7.9%. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 has been 30% in 2022 dollars far outpacing cumulative inflation. A more affordable path is needed.Key cost-reduction priorities:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The scale of centralised functions appears excessive and should be streamlined.2) Reduce spend on

consultancy and professional services. With $126 million per year across the Council group and an average consultant receiving about $200k a cap or tighter authorisation is warranted.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to essential services with demonstrable cost-effectiveness.4) 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.5) 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.Additional context and framing:- The proposed 7.9% breakdown includes 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Before accepting further rate pressure the Council should demonstrate substantial savings from non-core activities.- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap rate rises at around 3%: prioritising statutory and essential services and reforming staff and contractor costs.Closing:I urge Auckland Council to adopt a prudent spend-reducing approach that protects ratepayers and focuses on core essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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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?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8864

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The proposed rise together with a 30% real increase since 2022 and 85% since the 2010 Super City amalgamation far outstrips inflation and population growth. A cap on rates growth is necessary to protect households already struggling with cost of living pressures.2) Wasteful and excessive Council spend must be reined in. The briefing highlights high levels of corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs with $126 million annual spend on consultants (and average consultants earning around $200k) and a payroll burden of $1.3 billion. There should be a concrete plan to reduce such costs including freezing non-

essential vacancies and cutting upper-tier payroll where non-essential roles exist.3) Reduce and re-prioritise consultancy and professional services. The current trajectory of increased spending on external advisers is unsustainable. The Rates Alliance alternative budget shows possible savings of $50 million from personnel costs and $50 million from capex on consultants which should be adopted.4) Cancel non-essential programmes and reallocate funds to core services. In particular the Food Scraps Programme estimated at $36 million per year should be cancelled if it emits more carbon than it saves. The focus should be on statutory and essential services rather than discretionary grants.5) Freeze staffing and curb payroll. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately and contribute to more responsible budgeting.6) Question Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a local government core responsibility and should be reassessed. Resources should be directed to essential services first.Last year Wayne you said the average increase would be around 7% mine and many others I know in effect went up by close to 25%. You lied then and now your plans are to jack them up around 7% again - does that mean another 25%. All this council bloat and waste goes on and on despite what you promised. You have little managers building their own little empires within council nibbling away at costs on the fringes and harassing front line staff with trivia then claiming that THEY have saved some money. Getting rid of this layer alone would help as a start. In summary reduce new Council spending by at least $150 million (2%) capping rates increases at around 3% by prioritising essential services consolidating vendors and reforming back-office costs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8872

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to drive meaningful savings by reducing wasteful expenditure and refocusing on essential services.Key points:- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household with the current average bill at $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen 85% in real terms far outstripping inflation and population growth. The breakdown shows 2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs yet the growth in operating costs and non-essential spending warrants scrutiny.- The Council must address wasteful Council spending. The Alliance highlights $126 million

per year in consultant costs across the Council group with average consultancies of around $200k per engagement plus escalating personnel costs. Direct operating expenditure has grown well beyond inflation and corporate and back-office functions comprise substantial ongoing costs.- I support the proposed alternative budget from the Ratepayers' Alliance: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate increase at approximately 3% by freezing non-essential and vacant positions reducing consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Specific measures I support (agrees): reduce personnel costs by freezing/hiring restrictions; cap consultancy spend; renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors; cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) due to limited assumed savings and higher emissions; freeze staffing and cut payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (potential savings of at least $17 million); cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae function of Māori outcomes (approximately $10 million/year) arguing it is not a core local government role.Additional points:- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants; pursue a prudent transparent and targeted approach to spending.Closing:I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8881

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose this level of increase and urge the Council to bring the rates rise down to around 3 percent by prioritising core statutory services and cutting wasteful spending.Key concerns and evidence-based positions:1) Rate affordability and value for money. The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to approximately $320 for the average household on top of a real rate rise since 2022 of 30% (vs. 12% inflation). Since the 2010 amalgamation rates have risen by 85%far exceeding inflation and population growth. A more disciplined budget is required.2) Wasteful and expanding backroom costs. The Council group spends about $126 million per year on consultants with the Auckland

Council parent alone accounting for around $60 million and an average consultant earning about $200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown 78% from 2013 to 2023 well above inflation.3) Scope and scale of staff costs. Payroll stands at about $1.3 billion with six-figure salaries rising under current leadership. There are many staff paid above the mayor's level and overall personnel costs have risen more quickly than inflation.4) Specific spending to cut. The Budget should focus on practical savings:- Freeze hiring for non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services to reduce waste.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to unlock $30 million in efficiency.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.5) Policy and programme reforms. I support cancelling or reassessing expenditure such as the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also oppose funding for Māori outcomes spending (Ngā Mātārae) in its current form given concerns about local government roles and accountability.Proposed alternative budget impact:Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a 3% rate increase cap and preserving essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8882

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a formal respectful manner opposed to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and the associated spend proposals. My position is aligned with reducing unnecessary Council expenditure and prioritising core services.1. Rates and overall fiscal stance- I oppose the 7.9 percent average residential rates increase which equates to about $320 for the average household during a period of inflation and cost pressures for households.- The Council's spending growth including a 85% rates rise since 2010 and a 30 percent real increase since 2022 is not matched by proportional service improvements. I support holding increases to around 3 percent by reducing

discretionary expenditure.2. Targeted spend reductions- The Council must 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 grow these items.- The proposed defensive increases for outsourced advice and non-essential contracts should be reviewed downwards.3. Specific programme and payroll controls- 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 filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this role belongs more to central government and statutory responsibilities rather than local government.4. Other efficiency and equity measures- Remove charges for swimming pools where possible and prioritise essential services.- Improve public footpaths as a quality-of-life investment while ensuring value for money and avoiding unnecessary tax leakage into non-core functions.In sum a responsible budget would reduce new Council spending by around $150 million (2%) cap rate increases and reallocate funds toward core services with better value to ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8897

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a program of spending restraint to protect households from a cost of living shock.I note the stated 7.9% increase comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far outpacing inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A responsible plan must prioritise essential services and restrain discretionary spend. I support the Council's obligation to review and reduce wasteful back-office and corporate costs across the Council and CCOs as well as to curb consultancy and

professional services that have grown rapidly.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to cap rate rises by cutting non-essential expenditure. Specifically:- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce expenditure on consultants and professional services rather than allow continued year-on-year growth.- Cancel non-value-adding programmes where the cost exceeds the benefits including the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is not demonstrated to deliver net carbon savings.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and pause or reduce targeted spend that is not core local government function.I also oppose the projected spend on targeted Māori outcomes as a separate department within the council framework (Ngā Mātārae) at about $10 million per year arguing that this is not a core local government responsibility. A focused efficient council should deliver essential services to all ratepayers and ensure value for money rather than expanding new or parallel spend streams.If adopted the Ratepayer-led alternative budget would reduce new council spending by $150 million (about 2%) capping the rate increase to around 3% and prioritising core services through:- $50 million from personnel cost reductions- $50 million from consultancy caps- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million from prioritising statutory servicesI urge consideration of these measures in the forthcoming plan.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8906

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a programme of real spend restraint to protect households from unsustainable cost pressure.Key points:- The proposed 7.9% rise equates to about $320 more per average household on a current average rates bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. The Council must align rate rises with real household incomes and actual service delivery needs.- The 7.9% increase consists of 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. A prudent alternative is essential; the

Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance' plan caps the increase at around 3% by cutting wasteful spending.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. Current spending on consultants is $126 million per year; payroll and external contracts have risen well ahead of inflation.- Specific measures proposed: cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) due to its net emissions and questionable cost“benefit freeze staffing or reduce payroll by avoiding hiring for non-essential vacant roles (potential savings of at least $17 million) and cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year for the Ngā Mātārae/Māori outcomes function which is not a core local government role.- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget shows $150 million in annual spending reductions (2%) enabling a 3% cap on rates increases. This includes $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultant spending and other efficiency measures.Public accountability is vital. I urge the Council to prioritise statutory and essential services and to scrutinise discretionary grants to ensure value for money. Please consider the speed of public submissions and respond to community concerns.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8909,337209,,Rodney,Do not support most,My position is guided by a concern for affordability and the efficient use of ratepayer funds.1) Rates and affordability- I oppose the average 7.9% increase; I expect rates rises to be aligned with inflation and household affordability not Council growth agendas. The current average residential bill is about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% in 2022 dollars against 12% inflation which is unsustainable for households.2) Spending reductions and efficiency- The Council must 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 keep growing.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non‘essential roles which could save at least $17 million promptly.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) on grounds of cost and limited net carbon savings.- Cap and prioritise spending: reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) department arguing this is not a local government core function.3) Alternative budgeting and broader context- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance's proposed saving plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the rate rise at about 3% if implemented via targeted personnel consultant and procurement reforms.Additional perspectiveAs an immigrant from the Netherlands I note that I am not aware of local infrastructure funding through rates in many European countries. Please assess how comparable funding is sourced elsewhere to inform Auckland's approach.ClosingI request that the Council consider revising the 7.9% proposal in light of the outlined efficiency measures and the known cost drivers and engage with communities on a sustainable lower-cost path.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8919,337197,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and in favour of substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending.1) Rates and affordability- The proposed 7.9 percent increase translates to about $320

more per average household eroding household budgets and outpacing inflation. Since 2022 rates have risen by about 30 percent in real terms while cumulative inflation sits around 12 percent. This is unsustainable for Auckland families.2) Wasteful expenditure and backroom costs- Council and CCOs collectively wasteful millions on consultants and six-figure payrolls. Annual consultant spend is $126 million across the group; the average consultant receives around $200k. Payroll costs are $1.3 billion with 6123 staff on six-figure salaries and 72 staff paid more than the mayor.- There are numerous high-cost discretionary areas that should be capped or cut. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and cut consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to climb.3) Specific programs and staffing- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department about $10 million per year arguing that this is not a core local government function. Recommend prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.4) Alternative budget alignment- I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap rates increases at around 3%. This would be achieved by: $50 million from personnel cost reductions/hiring freeze $50 million from limiting consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising essential services.ClosingI request that the Council consider these savings and oppose the 7.9% average rise ensuring ratepayer funds are directed to essential services and lower costs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8931,337179,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit my views on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan during the public consultation period.1) I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9%. This rise is not affordable for many households and the increase far outpaces both inflation and residents' real wage growth. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of around 30%. I urge the Council to cap the rate rise at 3% by trimming spending rather than passing costs onto households.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current cost structure includes substantial payroll and function duplication across the group. A more streamlined organisation would lower operating costs and help achieve a more modest rate rise.3) Cut spend on consultancy and professional services. Council and CCOs collectively spend large sums on external advisers; reducing this spend is a practical way to lower rates without compromising essential services.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costing about $36 million per year). This programme emits more carbon than it saves and diverts funds from core services that residents rely on.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. A hiring freeze would deliver immediate savings; the Ratepayers' Alliance estimates this could save at least $17 million.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department cited as around $10 million per year. This is a local government function that should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.7) Increase transparency and public consultation on important issues. The Council should provide clearer information and involve ratepayers meaningfully in major spending decisions.If adopted the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget could reduce new spending by about $150 million (2%) enabling a 3% rate rise while

preserving essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8961,337143,,Rodney,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and a 12 percent cumulative inflation over that period. Rates have risen 85 percent since the 2010 Super City amalgamation far outpacing population growth (22 percent) and inflation. A more prudent path is needed to protect household budgets and support essential services without eroding household prosperity.The breakdown of the 7.9 percent increase shows a substantial portion directed to ongoing assets maintenance (2 percent) and new assets driven by growth (1.5 percent) with 4.4 percent allocated to CRL operating costs. While some expenditure is necessary the scale of growth in operating costs and the overarching cost drivers do not appear sustainable given current fiscal pressures on households.I support sensible reforms to align expenditure with consumer realities and statutory priorities. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance has outlined a plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million aiming to cap average rates increases at around 3 percent. Key elements include reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze capping consultancy spend contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. These measures offer a credible route to stabilise rates while protecting core services.I also urge closer scrutiny of contractor engagements and procurement. Anecdotal concerns about overcharging and inefficiencies suggest more competitive tendering clearer performance benchmarks and stronger contractor oversight could yield meaningful savings without compromising outcomes.In closing I request that the council consider these reforms as part of the plan and I ask that you provide transparent reporting on progress toward expenditure reductions and rate stabilisation. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8966,337135,,Rodney,Do not support most,Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive. It amounts to roughly $320 more per average household on top of a real increase since 2022 of 30% (against 12% inflation). The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for existing asset maintenance and 1.5% for new assets all contributing to a rate rise well above households' ability to pay.- Wasteful spending is a core driver of the rate rise. Council and CCOs incur substantial consulting costs (about $126 million per year with the average consultant earning around $200000). Payroll and staff costs have risen sharply while direct operating expenditure rose 78% from 2013 to 2023 far outpacing inflation.- The Council should prioritise essential services and reduce discretionary expenditure including excessive backroom and corporate functions and reduce reliance on consultants and contractors. The proposed plans expand non-core expenditure instead of delivering savings to households.Agrees (submitter positions)- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant

non-essential roles; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Māori Outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.Alternative budget guidance- Implement a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) enabling a cap of around 3% for residential rates by: halving consultant spend freezing non-essential recruitment and renegotiating contracts.ClosingI request that the Council consider these savings as a priority to protect households and deliver essential services without untenable rate increases. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0 ,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8974,337121,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit my opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and I urge the Council to pursue meaningful reductions in wasteful expenditure before raising rates further.Key concerns and positions1) Rates increase and affordability. I oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential increase. The current average rate bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 total 30% in 2022 dollars far exceeding overall inflation of about 12%. A rate rise tied to inflation plus a reasonable efficiency drive is necessary.2) Reducing non-essential expenditure. The Council must cut spend on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce consultancy and professional services. Auckland Council"level consulting costs total about $126 million annually with the average consultant earning around $200000. Direct operating expenditure has risen well above inflation while staff numbers and salaries have grown significantly.3) Reprioritise essential services and retire discretionary items. I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. I also oppose ongoing funding for discretionary programmes that do not directly serve core statutory responsibilities.4) Food Scraps Programme and emissions. I call for cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves.5) Indigenous and Maori-specific spending. I oppose the ongoing level of funding for programmes such as the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) valued at around $10 million per year noting this is not a core local government function.6) Alternative budgeting approach. The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rate increases at about 3% by cutting personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI respectfully request that the Council consider these findings and adopt a prudent efficiency-focused budget that aligns with both ratepayer affordability and core municipal responsibilities. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?
Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?
(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9011

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. Opposition to the proposed rates increaseI oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to roughly $320 for the average household. Rates have risen 85% since 2010 significantly outpacing both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A more restrained approach is required to ensure essential services are funded without burdening households beyond inflation.2. Expenditure priorities and reductions- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Spending on consultancy and professional services must be reduced not increased.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll

costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cancel or pause the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Curb Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting this is not a core local government duty.3. Alternative budget approachThe Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average rates rise at about 3%. This would be achieved by:- $50 million savings from personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze.- $50 million from capping spending on consultants.- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.4. ClosingI urge the Council to adopt a fiscally responsible path that prioritises core statutory functions and essential services while controlling non-essential or duplicative spending. Such an approach protects ratepayers and delivers value for money.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9014

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current trends and spending patterns under the Council call for restraint not further rate increases.1) Rate increase and spending priorities. The proposed 7.9 percent rise would amount to about $320 extra per average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 and an 85 percent rise since the 2010 amalgamation. The breakdown shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs plus growth and asset maintenance. This level of rise is not acceptable when core services are being funded alongside substantial spend on back-office and consultancy costs.2) Wasteful or discretionary expenditure. The Council and CCOs spend heavily on consultants and contractor

services with about $126 million per year across the group and a typical consultant earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation and personnel costs rose sharply. I urge a reduction in corporate and backroom functions and a cap on consultancy and professional service spend to protect ratepayers from further increases.3) Specific cost-saving measures proposed. The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget recommends reducing new spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap rates increases at around 3 percent:- Cut personnel costs by freezing non-essential hires and organisational changes (about $50 million).- Cap consultant spending (about $50 million).- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors (about $30 million).- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants (about $20 million).4) Specific program savings and priorities. I oppose ongoing expenditure on non-core programs:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) due to its higher carbon emissions than savings.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles (projected immediate saving of at least $17 million).- Reduce Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae Department ($10 million/year) as this is not a core local government function.Closing: I respectfully request that the Council revise proposed spending and adopt a restrained rates 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?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9035

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% rise is inconsistent with inflation and represents a significant burden on households. The average residential bill would rise by about $320 on top of a rate of 4069 for today. Since 2010 rates have grown 85% while inflation has run about 34% and population growth about 22%.- The plan relies heavily on CRL operating costs (4.4%) while a meaningful portion of the pressure comes from maintaining and funding new assets (3.5% combined). A more rigorous review of asset spend and operating efficiency is required before further increases are considered.Agreed

positions (priority reforms)- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%. Cap the rate increase to no more than 3% by reforming expenditure.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs; reduce spend on consultancy and professional services.- 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 could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Alternative budget framework- Align with the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping rates at around 3%. This would be achieved through: - $50 million saving from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes - $50 million cap on consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsClosingI urge Auckland Council to adopt a prudent value-for-money approach that recognises ratepayers cannot sustain double-digit increases when inflation and household budgets are under pressure.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9038

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current trajectory shows rates rising far faster than inflation with the 7.9 percent increase delivering about $320 more per average household on top of a 4-year period where the average bill has grown to $4069 and rates have risen 85% since 2010.Key concerns and positions:1) Rate increase and affordability. I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and instead urge a cap aligned with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget. This plan reduces new Council spending by $150 million (2%) aiming to hold the rate rise to around 3% which better supports households amid cost-of-living pressures.2) Wasteful backroom expenditure. 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 $126 million per year in external advice across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k. A freeze or targeted reduction is essential.3) Specific programme and staffing costs. The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and should be cancelled given its carbon savings are uncertain. I also support freezing staffing or reducing payroll by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately.4) Maori outcomes spending. I oppose ongoing expenditure of about $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing it should be a function of central government rather than local authorities to align with core statutory responsibilities of councils.Additional observations: I welcome genuine engagement on district development that preserves amenity and avoids overbuilding; developers' contributions to infrastructure must be more clearly tied to planned upgrades. Value for money should guide all decisions and ratepayer concerns about perceived blame-shifting must be addressed with transparent accountable actions.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9049

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this public submission in a constructive solution-focused manner opposing the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urging reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key concerns- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (roughly $320 for the average household). Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. Given persistent cost pressures ratepayers deserve a more disciplined approach to spending.- The breakdown of the increase shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for maintaining assets and 1.5% for new assets. I seek transparent justification for these ongoing costs and stronger

mechanisms to deliver essential services within a more modest rate rise.Agreed positions and requests- 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 lines.- 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 could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) noting concerns about the role of local government in this area.- Learn to live within your means and set a sustainable path that aligns with ratepayer capacity.Proposed alternative budget approach- The Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) achieving a cap of approximately 3% rate rise through targeted savings: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes - $50 million from capping consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsClosingI urge the Council to adopt a rigorous efficiency program and allocate resources to core statutory functions while restraining non-essential growth. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9054

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge the Council to prioritise ratepayer affordability and core statutory services over discretionary spending.Key concerns and recommendations:1) Rates increase and affordability- The proposed 7.9% average rise equates to about $320 extra per average household. This is a real increase well beyond many households' means and it compounds the 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) while population growth has been far lower. I support capping rate increases to the rate of inflation or a maximum of 3% via targeted reductions in non-essential spending.2)

Expenditure reductions across Council and CCOs- Substantial reform is needed in corporate and backroom functions. The Alliance' figures show around $126 million per year in consultant spend and $868.4 million in direct expenditure for 18 corporate and business support functions. I expect meaningful reductions here before any rate increases are approved.- Freeze or scale back payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles and renegotiate vendor arrangements to reduce external contracting. The briefing highlights that staffing cost pressures and consultant use have risen dramatically; I support freezing staffing where roles are not essential to core services.3) Specific program and priority adjustments- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on grounds that local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over such discretionary programmes.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to ensure ratepayer funds are allocated to where they are most needed.4) Financial discipline- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance proposed budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) achieving an average rate increase around 3% through targeted cuts in personnel consultancy renegotiations and vendor consolidation.Additional pointsNO funds for anything not ratepayer requirements. Mayoral and Councillor leadership must read the room; ratepayers are not unlimited cash cows especially given the current economic pressures.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a clear reduction in wasteful Council spending before asking residents to bear higher bills.Key concerns and positions:- The proposed 7.9 percent increase is excessive especially given that the real rates rise since 2022 is around 30 percent while inflation has been about 12 percent. The increase should be capped well below the rate of inflation and in line with value delivered to ratepayers.- A substantial portion of the rate rise is allocated to CRL operating costs (4.4 percent) with 2 percent for maintaining existing assets and 1.5 percent for new assets. This allocation warrants scrutiny to ensure efficiency and necessity not simply inertia.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current cost structure is unsustainable for households already stretched by living costs.- Spending on consultants and professional services must be curtailed. The Coalition's consultant costs are high and appear to be increasing faster than inflation without clear demonstrable outcomes for ratepayers.- Freeze staffing where possible and avoid hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately reducing the pressure to raise rates.- The level of Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae portfolio should be reassessed in the context of local government duties and practical delivery goals. The total funding over ten years ($171 million) requires justification in terms of statutory obligations and tangible services to residents.- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that a disciplined reduction in new spending by about $150 million can cap the rate rise to around 3 percent by targeting personnel costs consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services.Additional points: canceling non-essential discretionary expenditures and ensuring every dollar serves core Council obligations.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?
Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

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

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

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

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?
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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9057

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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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 trajectory of rate increases far outpaces inflation and population growth and fails to reflect prudent management of public funds.Key concerns1) Rate burden and affordability: The proposed 7.9 percent increase equates to about $320 more per average household and contributes to a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 far above cumulative inflation. This burden is unsustainable for many households.2) Wasteful and excessive spend: The Council and CCOs collectively spend heavily on consultants and backroom functions with $126 million per year across the group and an average consultant payout of $200k. Direct operating expenditure has risen well

ahead of inflation and payroll costs remain high with thousands of staff on six-figure salaries.3) Spending priorities and reforms: The Council should reduce expenditure on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these costs. There is a need for major efficiency gains through organisational change hiring freezes for non-essential roles and renegotiation of contracts to reduce duplication and overhead.4) Specific budget items to reconsider: I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing or reducing payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Māori outcomes funding: I oppose continuing to spend $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department viewing it as outside the core responsibilities of local government.Alternative funding approachI support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which caps the rate rise by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) including cuts to personnel costs caps on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services.ClosingThank you for considering these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
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- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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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

#9059

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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- **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 average residential rates increase of 7.9%.1) Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. This level is excessive in the current cost of living crisis and far exceeds both inflation and real gains in household disposable income. The proposed increase would add roughly $320 to the average Auckland household's rates bill compounding financial stress for ratepayers already struggling with high prices.2) Advocate for reducing wasteful council spending. The Council must urgently cut expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and

professional services rather than allowing these items to rise. Current figures show consultant costs at about $126 million per year and payroll and other expenses growing well beyond inflation; this is not sustainable.3) Oppose the Food Scraps Programme as currently configured. The programme costs about $36 million per year and on balance emits more carbon than it saves. Redirecting these funds to essential services would better serve ratepayers.4) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Halt hiring for non-essential roles and freeze vacancies where possible to achieve at least $17 million in savings immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending. I oppose continuing the $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department which I believe is not a core local-government obligation.Additional points. The City Rail Link (CRL) is not solving CBD problems and represents misallocation of ratepayer funds. The Council should prioritise core statutory services and essential functions over discretionary projects and oversized executive remuneration. The cost of living crisis requires restraint; Aucklanders deserve targeted efficient spending and rate relief where possible.In summary please constrain the rate increase to reflect a tighter budget adopting the proposed reductions in personnel consultants and discretionary spend. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9112

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The Council should resist treating ratepayers as an endless cash source and instead run the organisation within a fixed budget delivering essential services efficiently and without the built-in unavoidable 30 percent real increase since 2022.Key positions- Oppose the 7.9% average rates rise. In-context this would equate to about $320 extra per average household while real costs have outpaced inflation and population growth for years.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom/officer functions across the Council and CCOs. A flatter leaner public sector structure is essential to stabilise rates.- Cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than

allowing these items to grow further. The current level ($126 million per year across the group) is excessive and inefficient.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme estimated at $36 million per year which emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing 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 such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.- Focus on prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to realise savings of about $30 million.- Limit overall expenditure growth by targeting a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) to cap rates increases at around 3 percent.Additional points- Emphasise that ongoing staff and consultant cost escalations are not acceptable and undermine public trust in governance.- Encourage transparent budgeting and frequent reporting on progress toward reduced operating costs.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9115

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the 2026/27 annual plan. I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to propose concrete cost reductions to keep rates affordable and to better align spending with core municipal responsibilities and value delivered to residents.1) Rate increase and overall spend controls- I oppose the 7.9% average increase and support capping rates growth closer to or below inflation through substantial reductions in spending. The Alliance's analysis shows a 30% real increase since 2022 far outpacing population growth and inflation. A targeted reduction in discretionary and backroom costs is

essential.2) Expenditure reductions proposed- Reduce personnel costs by freezing vacant non-essential roles and limiting hiring to essential positions which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb consultancy and professional services expenditure rather than permitting continual growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which purportedly emits more than it saves in carbon.- Freeze or roll back Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) programme which amounts to about $10 million per year as this is not a core local government function.- Endorse an independent audit of all council expenditure to identify further savings and ensure value for money.3) Budgeting and governance- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and non-core initiatives. Consider vendor consolidation and renegotiations to achieve further savings.- The Alliance's alternative budget suggests a $150 million reduction in new spending (2%) sufficient to cap rate increases to around 3% if implemented across the portfolio.In addition I request consideration of independent oversight to ensure transparency and accountability of all cost-cutting measures and investments.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9132

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Rates increase and affordability- I oppose the proposed average residential rates rise of 7.9% which equates to roughly $320 for the average household. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 representing a real increase of about 30 percent since 2022 versus cumulative inflation of around 12 percent. This level of increase outpaces essential living cost pressures for households.2) Spend on corporate and backroom functions- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Directly addressing these overheads is essential to delivering value for money and to limit ratepayer

burden.3) Consultants and professional services- The Council must rein in spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. In the current climate such expenditure is an area where efficiencies can be gained without compromising core services.4) Food Scraps Programme- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Funds redirected to essential services would better support ratepayer interests.5) Staffing and payroll- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This alone could save at least $17 million immediately and help cap rate increases.6) Māori-specific spending- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary initiatives.7) Proposed budget alternative- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average rate increase at 3 percent achieved through personnel cost reductions capping consultants contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that my submission be considered with due regard to fairness affordability and value for money for Auckland ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

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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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	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9154

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a Detailed and Evidence-Based tone opposing the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rate increase and calling for decisive reductions in wasteful Council spending.1. Opposition to the rates increase and accountability for spending- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real increase in rates since 2022 of 30% (in 2022 dollars) and 12% cumulative inflation. Given the scale of the cost drivers a rates rise above inflation is not justified.- The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for existing asset maintenance and 1.5% for new assets. This structure warrants

scrutiny to ensure funding aligns with statutory duties and essential services not discretionary spend.2. Reduce wasteful and non-essential spending- Council spending on consultants is excessive: $126 million per year across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with average consultants earning about $200k. This is a clear area for savings.- There is a need to cut staff and backroom costs. Freeze hiring for non-essential roles and seek organisational change to reduce payroll costs contributing to a substantial saving (at least $17 million immediately).- Capping consultant spend and renegotiating contracts plus vendor consolidation would deliver meaningful savings while protecting core services.3. Specific programme and funding priorities- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which should be within local government's core statutory roles.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to rein in expenditure growth and protect ratepayers.4. Alternative approach- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap rate increases at about 3% achieved through personnel cost reductions cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising core services.Additional notesMayor Brown campaigned on balancing the books; spending on consultants and 'Maorification' appears to have grown. Return focus to core responsibilities and reduce back-office 'deadwood' expenditure.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
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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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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9161

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
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This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose Auckland Council's proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. The proposed increase amounts to roughly $320 for the average household on top of a real rates rise of 30 percent since 2022 while inflation has been about 12 percent. This is unacceptable policy given the current financial pressures on households.My positions (agree):1) Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%. A more responsible approach is to limit increases to a rate closer to inflation and prudent efficiency gains.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the

Council and CCOs. The current waste in back-office spending does not justify a continued rise in rates.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to grow. Do not keep funding higher external advisory costs as a default.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and on analysis emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This alone could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.7) Cut feel-good projects and discretionary grants in favour of sustaining statutory and essential services.Additional points:- The Council should prioritise core services and statutory duties over discretionary programmes that do not demonstrably improve resident outcomes.- A revised budget with a compulsory cap on new spending and a focus on efficiency would better reflect ratepayers' interests.In summary the proposed rate rise should be paired with a comprehensive efficiency drive and targeted spending reductions. I request that the Council consider substantial cuts to non-essential expenditure and do not proceed with the 7.9% average increase as proposed.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

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- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9179

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending to restore affordability for households.Key concerns and positions- The proposed 7.9% average increase is excessive. It implies about $320 more per year for the average household at a time when the current average bill has already risen to $4069 and real rates increases since 2022 exceed 30% while inflation runs higher.- Spending reductions are essential. The Council should cut expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb the surge in consultancy and professional

services rather than continuing to push these costs up.- Major programmes must be re-prioritised. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year) on the basis that it emits more carbon than it saves and represents discretionary spend better redirected elsewhere.- Payroll and staffing reforms are necessary. Freeze filling vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately and pursue broader reductions in payroll costs through sensible organisational changes.- Targeted spending cuts should extend to statutory services and Māori-specific spending. The $10 million/year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reviewed to reflect the role of local government with a preference for reallocating funds to essential services.Support for a responsible budget- A credible Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3% including $50 million from personnel costs and $50 million from consultants plus renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30 million) and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants ($20 million). This approach aligns with the need to curb waste improve efficiency and protect households from unaffordable rates.Additional points- As a taxpayer affected by inflation and rising fuel costs Auckland households deserve a leaner public sector and better value for money. The mantra must be: How do we save costs?I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
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	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9183

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to pursue substantial reductions in wasteful spending and reform of backroom cost drivers.Key points- The proposed 7.9% average increase is excessive. It translates to about $320 more per average household on top of rates already rising sharply since 2022. The real rise since 2022 is 30% in rates far above cumulative inflation (12%) and well above population growth.- A credible path to a lower rates rise is to cut wasteful Council spending. The Ratepayers' Alliance recommends reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at 3%: this includes a freeze on non-

essential hires reductions in consultants renegotiations and prioritising essential statutory services.- Specifically reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for vacant non-essential roles (savings of at least $17 million immediately). Curb consultant and professional services expenditure by $50 million and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation for $30 million. These steps would directly address the large cost drivers.- Cancel or pause discretionary programmes with high carbon or cost footprints. In particular cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year with questionable carbon savings) and refocus on essential services.- Target Maori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) department justified as a focus of local government but given budget pressures it should be carefully reassessed within statutory responsibilities.- The broader payroll and back-office costs are excessive. Total staff numbers on six-figure salaries and payroll expenditure are substantial and there is work to be done to ensure staff activity aligns with tangible service delivery. The observation that many staff appear idle or inefficient supports a more disciplined workforce reform.Additional pointsSo many workers employed by the Council seem to be sitting or standing around; project timelines and outcomes often stretch unnecessarily. Streamlining back-office functions and improving procurement efficiency should be priorities.ClosingI request the Council to consider these reforms as part of the submission process and to reflect on a lower rates outcome 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?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9208

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and insist on a credible plan to reduce wasteful Council spending before asking households to pay more.Key points:- The proposed 7.9 percent rise translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a now burdensome $4069 annual rates bill. Since 2012 rates have risen far faster than inflation and the cumulative impact is unsustainable for many households including retirees like myself.- I support immediate reductions in corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs and a halt to growth in consultancy and professional services. The Council should deliver essential services

more efficiently not fund expansion of vendors and advisers.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. It costs $36 million per year and according to the Alliance briefing emits more carbon than it saves. Funds should be redirected to essential service delivery with measurable environmental outcomes.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies. Saving on vacant positions would deliver quicker relief to ratepayers and demonstrate prudent fiscal management.- Māori-specific spending should be reviewed including the $10 million per year for the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government has statutory responsibilities; targeted areas should be pursued within core functions not as a blanket spend.I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to about 3 percent. This entails tighter personnel controls capped consultant spend renegotiated contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. These steps would better align Auckland's finances with the needs of households particularly retirees who are feeling the squeeze of rising living costs.Additional concern: my rates are pushing me out of my home as I am retired and can't afford to stay in my home of 20+ years. I urge council to apply a fair inflation-aligned approach that protects vulnerable residents.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

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- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
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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?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9246

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The baseline is challenging for ratepayers: the current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30 percent far outpacing cumulative inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent rise comprises 2 percent to maintain existing assets 1.5 percent for growth in new assets and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. This underscores a pattern of escalating costs that exceed what households can bear particularly when population growth alone does not justify such ongoing increases.I Agrees with:- Opposing the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent.- Reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions

across the Council and CCOs.- Reducing spending on consultancy and professional services.- Canceling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves.- Freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core responsibility of local government.I also support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach which proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2% cap on rate increases) achieved through personnel cost reductions capping consultancy spend renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional notes: Direct operating expenditure has risen well ahead of inflation and personnel costs including consultants remain a major driver of rate increases. A focused reallocation toward essential services and a streamlined organisational structure will better reflect residents' expectations and the Council's statutory duties.I would appreciate the opportunity to present at hearings but I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9271

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance has reviewed the plan and I join in calling for a more responsible approach to Council spending that protects households from excessive rate rises.Key points:- The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive given the real funding pressure on households. The plan allocates 4.4% to CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. This structure compounds the burden on ratepayers while the Council continues to grow spend in backroom and discretionary areas.- I agree that the Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut

consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to climb further. Currently consultant spending sits at $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant earning about $200000.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. It costs around $36 million per year and as cited by ratepayer advocates emits more carbon than it saves. A review of non-core programmes is essential before any further funding is released.- 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 Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core function of local government.- The Council should also prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and renegotiate contracts to achieve savings of $30 million with a further $20 million redirected to essential services effectively supporting a smaller rate rise.Alternative Budget framing:- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increase at 3% through targeted reductions in personnel costs consultant spend and vendor contracts while preserving core statutory services.In summary I call on Auckland Council to implement meaningful cost reductions before raising rates further and to provide transparent accountable mechanisms for spending decisions.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

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- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9275

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose an average 7.9% rates rise. A fair approach is to cap annual increases closer to or below inflation and ideally around 2"3%. The proposed 7.9% translates to about $320 more per average household and continues a pattern of rates growth far above household incomes and population growth. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase since 2022 of around 30% versus 12% cumulative inflation.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget highlights tangible savings that would keep rates affordable while protecting essential services. Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average

residential rates increase at about 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 also urge immediate action on specific wasteful or discretionary items:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million right away.- 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.- Reduce spending on consultants and professional services rather than allowing ongoing growth in these areas.- Improve efficiency by streamlining corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs; the current pattern shows excessive costs in these areas.Learn to budget for no more than a 2% increase per year like households do to restore trust and ensure essential services are preserved.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9284,336772,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit in formal opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in support of reducing wasteful Council spending.1. Rate rise and overall spend- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase is excessive equating to about $320 for the average household at a time when real rate increases since 2022 total 30% in 2022 dollars versus 12% inflation. I urge the Council to limit the increase to reflect inflation and achieve savings in operating efficiency.2. Wasteful expenditure and backroom costs- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services which currently amount to substantial sums. The current level of consultants and contractors is unsustainable and not aligned with value-for-money outcomes.3. Specific program and staffing costs- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and which emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a role of local government.4. Alternative budget approach- The Ratepayers' Alliance propose halving the rise in new Council spending and capping average residential rates increase at about 3 percent by: reducing personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes ($50 million); capping consultancy spending ($50 million); renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million); prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million). This would deliver tangible rate relief while preserving core services.ClosingI request that the Council adopt a disciplined cost-control strategy deliver substantial reform of backroom and consultancy costs and implement the outlined reductions to bring rates in line with inflation and essential service delivery.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9303,336750,,Rodney,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The proposed rise effectively adds about $320 to the average household bill at a time when real increases since 2022 have already reached 30% (in 2022 dollars) and cumulative inflation stands around 12%. The breakdown of the 7.9% rise2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsexemplifies a focus on ongoing costs rather than delivering clear value to ratepayers.I advocate significant reductions in Council and CCO spend on corporate and backroom office functions consultants and professional services. Current annual consultant spending is about $126 million across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with average consultants earning around $200k. Direct payroll costs are high with 6123 employees on six-figure salaries and 72 staff paid more than the mayor. These cost drivers are unsustainable for ratepayer households.I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing or eliminating non-essential vacancies to reduce payroll costs by at least $17 million immediately plus curbing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a function of local government.To balance the budget while staying principled I endorse the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rate increase to 3% by trimming personnel costs capping consultancy spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.In closing I request that the Council seriously consider these measures and adopt a leaner more accountable approach to spending. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9324,336729,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit this formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27 and urge a comprehensive review of Council expenditure to protect household affordability.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% rate rise largely funds CRL operating costs (4.4%) with only 2% for asset maintenance and 1.5% for new assets. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% in real terms well above inflation and population growth. This pattern undermines household budgets and undermines trust in Council stewardship.- A sustained focus on cutting wasteful expenditure is required. The Alliance highlights that Council spending on consultants totals about $126 million annually with high average consultant pay and that personnel costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation. Direct operating expenditure grew 78% from 2013 to 2023 outpacing inflation by a wide margin.- I support reducing backroom corporate and business support costs and limiting consultancy/professional services rather than continuing to grow these lines.- I oppose discretionary programmes that divert funds from essential services. The Food Scraps Programme (costing about $36 million/year) should be cancelled if it does not demonstrably save net emissions or costs.- I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could yield substantial near-term savings (the Alliance cites at least $17 million).- I oppose specific per-capita spending on Māori outcomes as a fiduciary priority for local government such as the $10 million/year for Ngā Mātārae where the functions could be aligned more tightly with statutory responsibilities.Alternative budget approachTo cap the rate rise at around 3% the Alliance proposes a $150 million reduction in new spending (2%) achieved through: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over

discretionary grants.I urge you to consider these financial realities and deliver a more affordable plan that protects ratepayers' household budgets while ensuring core services are maintained.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9329,336724,,Rodney,Do not support most,I am submitting opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a substantial reduction in Council spending. The current average residential rates bill sits at $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30% while cumulative inflation is around 12%. An increase of 7.9% far exceeds inflation and offers little justification beyond maintaining and expanding current spending.I agree the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The ratepayers should not subsidise bloated overheads while households face pressure from rising living costs. In addition I agree the Council needs to reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these expenditure items. Spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant receiving around $200000. This is unsustainable and diverts money from essential services.I also oppose ongoing costs such as the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. The programme should be cancelled to redirect funds to critical and proven services. In line with this 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.Additionally I believe the Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function. A drastic overall reduction in spending coupled with better alignment to statutory duties will deliver meaningful rate relief. Our family notes Auckland Council has far more staff per capita than comparable Western cities; reducing head count to align with those benchmarks would enable a rate cut while preserving essential services and infrastructure.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9335,336718,,Rodney,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (well above cumulative inflation). The breakdown shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs with 2 percent for maintaining existing assets and 1.5 percent for new assets to support growth. This level of increase is unsustainable for ratepayers.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap rate rises by reducing wasteful expenditure. Specifically I call for a reduction in corporate and backroom office functions a reduction in consultancy and professional services and a freeze on non-essential staffing. A targeted saving of $150 million (2%) through:- Reducing personnel costs and freezing non-essential hires (savings of at least $17 million immediately)- Capping consultancy and professional services spending at $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30 million)- Prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).I also oppose continued expenditure on the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and purportedly saves little carbon; funding should be

redirected to core council services. I oppose the $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government function. The Council should focus on statutory obligations and essential services first.Additional points for consideration include concerns about overall personnel costs and 'other expenses' rising faster than inflation and questions about executive pay and governance efficiency such as the Watercare CEO earnings relative to the Mayor. Finally the idea that 15 and 10 story buildings are appropriate for Auckland's growth should be re-examined in light of infrastructure capacity and community impact.I request that the Council consider the Alternative Budget and implement a 3 percent or lower rate rise by cutting non-essential spend as outlined above.I do wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9347,336706,,Rodney,Do not support most,The current average residential rates bill is approximately $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 and the real rates increase since 2022 is around 30 percent in 2022 dollars well above cumulative inflation. A 7.9 percent rise which equates to roughly $320 for the average household is unacceptable given the rate of growth in costs and the evident inefficiencies within the Council.I urge the Council to pursue substantial savings by cutting wasteful back-office and corporate spending across the Council and CCOs and to reduce expenditure on consultancy and professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance has highlighted that consultant spend totals about $126 million per year across the Council group with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent and average consultants earning around $200000. Direct operating expenditure has risen far faster than inflation and staff costs continue to rise while essential services are strained. The Council should not fund persistent high-cost advisory services while households face squeezed budgets.I also support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves. In tough economic times prioritising core statutory services over discretionary programmes is prudent. The Council should freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. In addition I oppose continued Maori-specific spending in this form including the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a role of local government.A targeted alternative budget proposal would cap average residential rate increases at around 3 percent by reducing new spending by $150 million (2 percent). This would be achieved by personnel cost reductions capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.Homeowners are already struggling with the cost of living; further rate hikes compress household budgets. I urge careful scrutiny of all spending before imposing higher rates.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9369,336683,,Rodney,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase. The Council should prioritise delivering essential services at prudent cost not prosecuting continued growth in other spend. The current cost trajectory is unsustainable for households with a real increase in rates far exceeding inflation since 2010 and a proposed 7.9 percent rise that would add roughly $320 to the average household bill.I support a disciplined alternative budget that reduces wasteful Council spending and caps rate rises at around 3 percent.

The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance model would reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services: $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million.Additionally I oppose continued expenditure on programmes that do not represent value for money. Key examples include:- The Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which purportedly emits more carbon than it saves; canceling this would free resources for core services.- Ongoing Māori-specific spending such as the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department at around $10 million per year; this is not a function of local government and should be redirected to essential services.- Wasteful backroom office and consultancy costs across the Council and CCOs where consultants and contractors total hundreds of millions and corporate functions remain costly.I emphasise focusing on core statutory responsibilities and essential services rather than climate 'virtue signalling' measures that do not meaningfully impact outcomes. If the Council achieves these reductions the rate increase could be contained to around 3 percent while preserving essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9391,336661,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit my opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and present constructive cost-saving measures to protect households from excessive rises.1) Rates and spending priorities- I oppose the 7.9% average increase. The current average bill is $4069 and rates have risen 30% in real terms since 2022 far outpacing inflation. A 7.9% rise is not affordable for many families.- The Council must cut wasteful corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs. The briefing highlights $126 million per year on consultants and $1.3 billion payroll; these are discretionary costs that should be reined in.2) Specific savings proposals- Reduce consultancy and professional services spend instead of continually increasing these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles 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) on the basis that this is not a core local government function.3) Alternative budget approach- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap rates increases at roughly 3%. This aligns with ensuring essential services are funded while restoring value for ratepayers.Additional point- Costs are rising faster than households can bear; further large-scale increases without substantial restraint on non-essential functions risks eroding trust and affordability.In closing I request that the Council re-balance its priorities curb wasteful spending and present a sustainable affordable plan for 2026/27. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9401,336650,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit in strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key positions1) Rate increase: I oppose an average

residential rates rise of 7.9% and urge Council to bring the increase closer to inflation. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with real increases since 2022 of 30% (in 2022 dollars) against 12% inflation. The proposed mix2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth assets 4.4% for CRL operating costsdemands a tighter cap and prioritisation of essential services.2) Wasteful spending reductions: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cut consultancy and professional services. Auckland spends $126 million on consultants annually with the parent Council alone about $60 million and an average consultant earning roughly $200000. Direct operating expenditure rose 78% from 2013 to 2023 while inflation was 29%.3) Specific programme cuts: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves and reallocate savings to essential services.4) Payroll and staffing controls: Freeze hiring for vacant non-essential roles or reduce payroll costs as such actions could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Māori-specific spending: Cut Māori Outcomes ($10 million per year for Ngā Mātārae) as a core local-government function; refocus on statutory and essential services rather than discretionary grants.Alternative budget expectationSupport reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3% through: $50 million saving 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.ClosingI request that the Council consider these reductions seriously and adjust the draft plan accordingly. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9458,336592,,Rodney,Do not support most,I submit respectfully to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for reduced wasteful Council spending. This submission is constructive and solution-focused.1. Core position- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. Rates should keep pace with inflation and population needs not outstrip them by a large margin.2. Spending and efficiency reforms- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone would save at least $17 million right away.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Curb spending on Māori-focused initiatives such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) since this is not a core local government role.- Target a reduction in overall personnel costs and renegotiate contracts. The Alliance suggests a model to cap rate increases by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) with concrete steps: $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.3. Additional concerns- The Council appears to rely heavily on external contractors for services such as traffic control. I support bringing essential functions in-house where feasible to reduce costs and improve accountability.ClosingI request the option to speak at hearings is not required for this submission but I welcome engagement on these issues. I trust the Council will consider reducing wasteful spending and stabilising rates.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,

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9461,336589,,Rodney,Do not support most,With the current average residential rates bill at $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent this proposed rise is unacceptable particularly given ongoing inflation and cost-of-living pressures.Key concerns- The 7.9 percent increase is lopsided with 4.4 percent allocated to CRL operating costs and only 2 percent for maintaining existing assets. The balance of the burden should be scrutinised and essential services must come first.- Since 2010 rates have risen 85 percent far outpacing inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). The ratepayer cannot accept further increases that outstrip actual needs.- Spending on consultants remains excessive at about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200000. This must be linked to tangible service improvements not perpetual growth in external advice.- Payroll and other operating costs have grown well beyond inflation and there is a strong case for freezing non-essential newly recruited positions and reducing payroll where roles are non-critical.- Specific spend areas should be challenged: $36 million/year on the Food Scraps Programme (which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves) and the $10 million/year allocated to Maori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.Proposed alternative and focus- Support the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increase to ~3%. This should be achieved by: (i) freezing non-essential recruitment and curbing payroll costs by not filling vacant roles; (ii) capping consultant and professional services; (iii) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; (iv) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Reprioritise spending away from DEI-focused programmes and non-core projects that do not directly serve Aucklanders' essential needs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9466,336583,,Rodney,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household) and urge a rebalancing of spending to protect households and ensure money is used efficiently.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% rise should be treated as unacceptable given the Council's spending patterns. Since 2010 rates have increased 85% well above inflation and population growth. I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs to help cap the rates rise.- The Council should reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. The current level including $126 million per year across the Council group is excessive and unsustainable.- The Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million/year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves should be cancelled.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose continuing or expanding Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). This is not a core local government function and diverting funds from essential services is inappropriate.- The Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and explore contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to realise savings.- My view is that if the Council rebalances priorities and tightens governance the average residential rate increase could be kept much lower addressing households' real cost pressures.Additional pointTo

many of you paid too much for what you do.I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new spending by $150 million cap the rate increase and protect essential services for communities. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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9469,336580,,Rodney,Do not support most,Key points- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household) as currently proposed. The Council has already delivered a real increase of 30% since 2022 in contrast to 12% cumulative inflation and ratepayers cannot sustain further above-inflation rises.- The rate increase is breakdown-inflated: 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This structure distracts from immediate efficiency gains and accountability.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget offers a credible path to cap increases at around 3% by cutting wasteful expenditure including: reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze ($50m) capping consultancy spend ($50m) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30m) and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants ($20m).Agreed positions for action- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council needs to reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these costs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to current assessments emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government function.Additional point- The justification that rate rises fund the CRL is unconvincing for many ratepayers; the costs should be borne by those who directly benefit from high-capacity public transport not all Auckland households as most Auckland households avoid travelling into the CBD.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,
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9489,336557,,Rodney,Do not support most,1. Why the rate rise is unacceptable- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 2022“2025 real-rate increase of 30% in a period of only 12% inflation. This is excessive and undermines affordability for Auckland households.- The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% to maintain assets and 1.5% for new assets. Without substantial savings in other areas this package compounds the burden on ratepayers while many core services should be prioritised.2. Agreed measures to reduce spending- Oppose the current expenditure trajectory by cutting back corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which is argued to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including about $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local-government function.3. Targeted budget approach- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by around

$150 million (a 2% cut) would cap the rate increase at about 3% and prioritise essential statutory services over discretionary grants.- Possible savings: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational and hiring changes $50 million from capping consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services.ClosingI request that the Council recalibrate its budget with these savings in mind and present a revised plan that caps rates increases well below inflation while safeguarding essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**

- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9511

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed increase would add approximately $320 to the average household bill on top of a real rates rise of 30% since 2022 far outstripping cumulative inflation. I acknowledge the Council faces rising costs but the current path is unsustainable for ratepayers.I agree with and urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance position to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3% funded by cutting unnecessary expenditure. The proposed 7.9% breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs and substantial growth in personnel and consultant costs. To align with affordability I support a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) achieved

through:- Reducing personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes on non-essential roles saving roughly $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save about $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.Specific reductions I support and urge be implemented now include:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is not shown to save net emissions.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori Outcomes' programme valued at about $10 million per year as this role is not a core local government function.- Reform backroom and corporate functions: address the $868.4 million spent across 18 corporate and business support functions; rationalise the use of consultants (already a concern at $126 million per year) and reduce external advisory spend.Finish the SUPPER City project; it has cost us more not less as we were told it would.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9517

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in opposition to the proposed average 7.9% residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in support of significantly reducing wasteful Council spending. I request that the Council adopts an alternative budget that holds rates increases to around 3% by cutting non-essential expenditure.Key points:- The proposed 7.9% average residential increase equates to about $320 per household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since the 2010 amalgamation rates have risen by 85% while inflation has run about 34% and population growth about 22%. The burden on ratepayers has become unsustainable.- A primary reform is needed of corporate and backroom

functions across the Council and CCOs. Directing resources to core statutory services rather than 'overhead' spending is essential.- Spending on consultancy and professional services should be reduced rather than continued growth. The Council's heavy reliance on external advisors is a major driver of cost increases.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. It costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Payroll and staffing should be controlled. Freeze vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.- Maori-specific spending should be reviewed. The $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a function of local government and should be redirected to essential services.A practical path is the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap) to deliver a 3% average rate rise by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping consultancy spend: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionI urge the Council to adopt these savings and reallocate funds to maintaining essential services rather than delivering a steep tax rise to ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9525

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average rates bill is $4069 and rates have risen 85% since 2010 far outpacing inflation and population growth. I oppose any increase above inflation and urge the Council to reduce wasteful expenditure before asking households to fund further growth.Key concerns and preferred actions:1) Expenditure reduction across the Council and CCOs. The Council should prioritise essential statutory services over discretionary spending and cut back office and corporate functions where possible.2) Cut consultancy and professional services. Annual consulting spend is unsustainably high; reduce by reassessing contracts renegotiating terms and consolidating

vendors.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At a cost of $36 million per year it emits more carbon than it saves and does not represent value for money for most households.4) Freeze staffing and curb payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Reduce Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local government responsibility and should be reconsidered in favour of prioritising statutory services.Additional context:- The proposed 7.9% increase is broken down into 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growth-driven new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Given past growth in rates and limited real improvements a lower increase is warranted.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget outlines a $150 million reduction in new Council spending capping the rate rise to about 3% when combined with structural savings outlined above.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9536

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

This is unnecessarily burdensome for households already experiencing high cost pressures. The proposed 7.9% increase translates to roughly $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 in a time of persistent inflation. The ratepayer cannot be asked to fund further non-core or discretionary spend while essential services are under pressure.Agrees: the Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. Current figures show consultant spend of about $126 million per year across

the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k; payroll and related costs are rising far faster than inflation. There is ample room to reallocate resources toward core services.Agrees: cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. Agrees: 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.Agrees: cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). It is not the primary function of local government to fund this and reducing it would help bring rates down without compromising essential services.Agrees: prioritise the Council's statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. The wasteful spending highlighted in the Alliance briefsuch as $1.3 billion payroll $590 million on consultants and contractors and 18 corporate and business support functions costing $868.4 milliondrives up costs and undermines trust in ratepayers' money.In light of these points I urge the Council to adopt a 3 percent cap by reducing new spending by at least $150 million as outlined in the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget and to pursue urgent efficiency measures before imposing further rate rises.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9543

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this response to the proposed 2026/27 annual plan to oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending. My position is constructive and solution-focused seeking prudent reallocation rather than further rate burden on households.Key points1) Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The proposed increase would add approximately $320 to the average household bill on top of a long-run cost trend that has seen rates rise 85% since 2010 far outpacing inflation.2) Target wasteful and unnecessary expenditure. The Council should reduce spending on corporate and backroom

functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than allow continual growth in these areas.3) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Halting hiring for vacant non-essential roles and freezing salaries where appropriate would deliver immediate savings aligning with a target of at least $17 million in savings.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. This initiative costs $36 million per year and according to assessments emits more carbon than it saves.5) Reprioritise and reduce targeted spending. I support cutting Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department by reallocating to statutory and essential services as local government should focus on core duties.Alternative budget approachThe Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average rates increase at around 3%. This would be achieved by:- $50 million saving from personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze.- $50 million saving from capping consultancy/contractor spend.- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt a disciplined spending plan that restrains rate increases and focuses on essential services with transparent prioritisation 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?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

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- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9562

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

This submission is prepared on a Detailed and Evidence-Based basis in opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in support of reducing wasteful Council spending.Key facts underpinning my position:- The proposed average residential rates increase is 7.9% (about $320 for the typical household) on top of a long-term cumulative rise far above inflation. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% well above inflation (34%) and population growth (22%).- The 7.9% rise comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This pattern compounds the burden on households while

spending areas appear outsized in the current budget context.Agreed positions (priorities the submitter supports):- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9% and seek restraint to align increases with inflation and productivity gains.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continued growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in the submitter's assessment emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core function of local government.Additional points for consideration:- The Council's payroll is around $1.3 billion with substantial spend on consultants and contractors ($590 million). A focused cost‘control driveparticularly on six-figure salaries and external adviserscould yield meaningful relief without compromising essential services.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates that a targeted $150 million reduction in new spending (2%) could cap residential rate increases at about 3%.Closing:I request that the Council seriously consider these savings measures and restructure costs to protect households and ensure essential services are maintained without disproportionate rate increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9565

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

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Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

This rate increase far exceeds inflation and fails to reflect prudent management of ratepayer funds.Key points I support and reiterate:1) Oppose the 7.9% average increase. The ratepayer burden has risen 30% in real terms since 2022 while inflation has been far lower. The breakdown shows 2% for asset maintenance 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsyet overall operating costs have grown disproportionately.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The annual spend on consultants is $126 million across the Council group with the Auckland Council parent accounting for $60 million and an average

consultant pay around $200k.3) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling non-essential vacancies and renegotiate contracts to prioritise core statutory services. Freezing non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately.4) Cut consultancy and professional services spend rather than allowing it to climb. The payroll and 'other expenses' increases have outpaced inflation; reform is necessary.5) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.6) Freeze or reduce 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 per my view.Additional points:- The Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and reallocate funds toward maintaining core Auckland services.Closing:I request that the Council adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach aiming to cap the rate rise at roughly 3% by reducing new spending by at least $150 million through the measures outlined above.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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