Annual Plan 2026/2027

Written Feedback

Waitematā Local Board

Volume 5

April 2026

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#5613

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: Waitematā

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?

N/A

Tell us why

N/A

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?

Waitematā

Waitematā Local Board Feedback:

1. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2026/2027?

Tell us why

2. What do you think about the proposed changes to service levels, fees and charges?

A. Reduce library hours at Central City, Little Leys, Grey Lynn and Parnell Libraries.

Do not support

B. Reduce maintenance for bollard and post-and-rail.

I don’t know

C. Reduce community grant funding and accommodation grant funding.

I don’t know

D. Increase fees for adult swim fees at council pools by up to $3.

Support

E. Reduce funding for environmental management activities.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

Do not support

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

#5614

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

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Tell us why

N/A

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?

Waitematā

Waitematā Local Board Feedback:

1. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2026/2027?

Tell us why

2. What do you think about the proposed changes to service levels, fees and charges?

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Do not support

B. Reduce maintenance for bollard and post-and-rail.

Support

C. Reduce community grant funding and accommodation grant funding.

Do not support

D. Increase fees for adult swim fees at council pools by up to $3.

Support

E. Reduce funding for environmental management activities.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

Do not support

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?
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Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

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

#5620

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Tell us why

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

Waitematā

Waitematā Local Board Feedback:

1. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2026/2027?

Tell us why

2. What do you think about the proposed changes to service levels, fees and charges?

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Do not support

B. Reduce maintenance for bollard and post-and-rail.

Do not support

C. Reduce community grant funding and accommodation grant funding.

Do not support

D. Increase fees for adult swim fees at council pools by up to $3.

Do not support

E. Reduce funding for environmental management activities.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

Do not support

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?
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Regulated rent & grocery discounts for students

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

#5623

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N/A

Tell us why

N/A

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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?

Waitematā

Waitematā Local Board Feedback:

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Tell us why

2. What do you think about the proposed changes to service levels, fees and charges?

A. Reduce library hours at Central City, Little Leys, Grey Lynn and Parnell Libraries.

Do not support

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Do not support

C. Reduce community grant funding and accommodation grant funding.

Do not support

D. Increase fees for adult swim fees at council pools by up to $3.

Do not support

E. Reduce funding for environmental management activities.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

Do not support

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?
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keeping libraries open helps create a vibrant community centre which students want!!

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

#5634

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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Tell us why

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

Waitematā

Waitematā Local Board Feedback:

1. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2026/2027?

Tell us why

2. What do you think about the proposed changes to service levels, fees and charges?

A. Reduce library hours at Central City, Little Leys, Grey Lynn and Parnell Libraries.

Do not support

B. Reduce maintenance for bollard and post-and-rail.

I don’t know

C. Reduce community grant funding and accommodation grant funding.

Do not support

D. Increase fees for adult swim fees at council pools by up to $3.

I don’t know

E. Reduce funding for environmental management activities.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

Do not support

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

#5734

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I am currently a student living in the city centre. I understand that development and infrastructure projects are necessary for a growing city. In many ways the city centre has improved over the years with better public spaces and facilities. However, as a student living here one practical challenge is the lack of affordable parking options (i do not drive but hear it from people).

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?

I am neutral about some of the development projects but I am concerned that increased rates may eventually lead to higher rents for students and tenants living in the city.

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)

City centre development has improved some aspects of urban living such as walkability and public spaces. However, it is important that infrastructure investments are balanced with the needs of residents who live in the area daily.

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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?

Public transport access in the city is good compared to other suburbs, but students who occasionally rely on cars face difficulties due to limited parking availability.

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?

Safety – a safer and more welcoming city centre, both day and night, for residents, workers and visitors.

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#5758

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Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

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

Do not support any

Tell us why

Many students like me come to Auckland hoping for good education and opportunities. However, the cost of living here has become very high. Rent, groceries and transport are already expensive. I also feel that safety in some parts of the city at night has become a concern. Because of this I do not go out much after evening. I hear a lot about the City Rail Link project but personally I do not use trains often.

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?

I am worried that if council increases rates, landlords will increase rent again.

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

Whau

Whau Local Board Feedback:

1. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2026/2027?

Support most

Tell us why

Infrastructure is important for the long term growth of Auckland. However residents should also feel the direct benefit from these projects. Many students living in the city centre depend on walking or buses, so projects that increase overall living costs indirectly affect us.

2. What do you think about the proposed key areas of additional investment?

A. Design and build a new destination playground at Avondale Central Reserve.

B. Promote community identity and diversity by funding a coordinator for Welcoming Communities, supporting the PAN African Hub, and refreshing the Whau Ethnic Peoples Plan.

Do not support

C. Engage and respond to youth needs, and co-design initiatives to address opportunities and gaps.

Support

D. Improve water quality and flood resilience of Whau streams and rivers through collaboration with volunteers, local schools, community hubs, organisations, and neighbouring local boards.

I don't know

E. Prioritise projects identified through the Whau Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan and leverage partnerships to provide a local facility network for the community.

I don't know

F. Develop a Local Parks Management Plan to guide decisions on managing use, development, and protection of all 146 parks, reserves and open space within the Whau.

Do not support

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

Engage and respnd to youth needs

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)

Public transport in the city centre is generally accessible but sometimes reliability and frequency can still improve. Students rely on buses heavily to travel to universities and part-time jobs.

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?

Better connections – improve links between the city centre, the waterfront and nearby neighbourhoods.,Safety – a safer and more welcoming city centre, both day and night, for residents, workers and visitors.,Streets and public spaces – improve streets, parks and public spaces so the city centre is a great place to live and spend time in.

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#5777

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 tax increase is too large

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?

The country's current economic decline has led to an increase in the cost of living. During the three years of National Party rule, issues such as employment, housing, and the cost of living have not been significantly resolved. If the cost of living is further increased by adding other taxes and fees, there is a risk of population loss. The provision regarding introducing a garbage bin/bag replacement fee is understandable and I support it. Regarding adjusting the boundaries of the Kingsland and Onehunga business improvement zones, I have visited both areas. I believe the transportation is very convenient, but the commercial facilities, especially the buildings, are generally quite old. Therefore, I would be more supportive of this project.

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
3	**Economic development and events –** growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
6	**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.
4	**Planning and infrastructure to manage growth –** planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
5	**Regional parks and environment –** looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
1	**Transport –** roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
2	**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?

Safety issues in downtown Auckland

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?

Better connections – improve links between the city centre, the waterfront and nearby neighbourhoods.,Getting around – make it easier to walk, drive, cycle and use public transport in the city centre and from east to west, including better traffic flow.,Safety – a safer and more welcoming city centre, both day and night, for residents, workers and visitors.,Streets and public spaces – improve streets, parks and public spaces so the city centre is a great place to live and spend time in.

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#5807

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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- **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 any

Tell us why

N/A

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?

Stop raising taxes! Reduce government waste!

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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6	**Transport –** roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
4	**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?

Events and city life – attract people to the city centre through events, culture and a strong sense of place.,Getting around – make it easier to walk, drive, cycle and use public transport in the city centre and from east to west, including better traffic flow.,Safety – a safer and more welcoming city centre, both day and night, for residents, workers and visitors.,Supporting businesses – help businesses succeed by making them easier to access by attracting more visitors to the city with well-designed streets and public spaces.

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#5808

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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

Stop raising property taxes! People can't make a living anymore! Look at how many people are leaving Auckland! Are you trying to force everyone to leave? The CRL is a black hole, an inexhaustible drain of funds!

Don't just raise taxes when you're broke! Learn how other countries and regions make money! The council needs to learn how to generate revenue! They could build a marine park along the beach to

attract tourists, and so on—there are so many ways to make money! Don't just focus on the residents' meager wages!

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

Stop raising taxes! Reduce government waste!

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)

Stop raising property taxes! Stop raising water rates! Reduce waste in government agencies! Auckland residents are not ATMs! Think about how to earn money. Residents are struggling to make ends meet!

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.)

Rank	Area
2	**Economic development and events –** growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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1	**Transport –** roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
3	**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?

Getting around – make it easier to walk, drive, cycle and use public transport in the city centre and from east to west, including better traffic flow.,Safety – a safer and more welcoming city centre, both day and night, for residents, workers and visitors.,Supporting businesses – help businesses succeed by making them easier to access by attracting more visitors to the city with well-designed streets and public spaces.

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#5814

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 any

Tell us why

I don't think CRL is what Aucklander needs right now. We have problem and needs way more urgent that need to be addressed.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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4	**Transport –** roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
3	**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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Annual Plan 2026-2027

#5857

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Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Other

Tell us why

I oppose a significant increase in property taxes, as the current cost of living is already very high.

If a substantial increase in property taxes is necessary to offset the NZ$235 million annual operating and holding costs of the Urban Rail Link (CRL), most of which consists of interest and depreciation on the council's share of the CRL, it would be neither fair nor reasonable. I suggest raising rail fares and adopting a pay-as-you-go principle would be more appropriate.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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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?

We oppose the introduction of fees for replacing trash cans and bags. Regarding the adjustment of the Kingsland and Onehunga business improvement zone project boundaries, we suggest considering shelving or postponing the project if finances become tight.

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

Waitematā

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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- **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
2	**Economic development and events –** growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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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?

Safety – a safer and more welcoming city centre, both day and night, for residents, workers and visitors.,Supporting businesses – help businesses succeed by making them easier to access by attracting more visitors to the city with well-designed streets and public spaces.

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#5875

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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?

N/A

Tell us why

N/A

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?

I completely disagree with raising land taxes. Why should we be the ones to subsidize it? I do not agree with raising land taxes.

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)

I strongly support the completion of the Te Whau Pathway. This project will connect communities across Auckland, linking the Waitematā and Manukau harbors and providing a safe and accessible route for walking, cycling, and wheelchair use. It will not only improve daily transport options but also encourage healthier lifestyles and reduce reliance on cars.

In addition, the pathway will enhance access to natural environments, supporting both physical and mental wellbeing. It also has the potential to boost local tourism and strengthen community connections. Importantly, the project contributes to restoring the mana of the Whau River and recognizing its cultural significance.

Overall, investing in the Te Whau Pathway is a sustainable and inclusive decision that will benefit Auckland's people, environment, and future development.

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

#5880

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: Waitematā

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?

Support all

Tell us why

N/A

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?

nothing

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

Albert-Eden

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)

I strongly support the completion of the Te Whau Pathway. I attended the opening of the southern section of the pathway, and I was very impressed by what I saw. The newly developed walkway is well-designed, accessible, and provides a great space for people to walk, cycle, and enjoy the natural environment.

This project will connect communities across Auckland, linking the Waitematā and Manukau harbors, and offer a safe and inclusive transport option for people of all abilities, including wheelchair users. It will also encourage healthier lifestyles and reduce reliance on cars.

In addition, the pathway enhances access to green spaces, which supports both physical and mental wellbeing. It also has strong cultural significance, following a traditional Māori portage route and contributing to the restoration of the Whau River.

Overall, I believe the Te Whau Pathway is a valuable investment for Auckland's future, and I strongly encourage the Council to continue funding and completing this important project.

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
3	**Economic development and events –** growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
5	**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.
4	**Planning and infrastructure to manage growth –** planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
6	**Regional parks and environment –** looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
1	**Transport –** roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
2	**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?

Events and city life – attract people to the city centre through events, culture and a strong sense of place.,Getting around – make it easier to walk, drive, cycle and use public transport in the city centre and from east to west, including better traffic flow.,Streets and public spaces – improve streets, parks and public spaces so the city centre is a great place to live and spend time in.



We have received your feedback.

Your input will help us make informed decisions for the Annual Plan 2026/2027.

You can return to the Annual Plan 2026/2027 page or the AK Have Your Say homepage.

You may now close this window.

Thank you.

I strongly support the completion of the Te Whau Pathway. This project will connect communities across Auckland, linking the Waitematā and Manukau harbours and providing a safe and accessible route for walking, cycling, and wheelchair use. It will not only improve daily transport options but also encourage healthier lifestyles and reduce reliance on cars.

In addition, the pathway will enhance access to natural environments, supporting both physical and mental wellbeing. It also has the potential to boost local tourism and strengthen community connections. Importantly, the project contributes to restoring the mana of the Whau River and recognising its cultural significance.

Overall, investing in the Te Whau Pathway is a sustainable and inclusive decision that will benefit Auckland's people, environment, and future development.

English

Question 4: Other feedback

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

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of the consultation document - 'Your rates and other items')?

I strongly support the completion of the Te Whau Pathway. This project will connect communities across Auckland, linking the Waitematā and Manukau harbours and providing a safe and accessible route for walking, cycling, and wheelchair use. It will not only improve daily transport options but also encourage healthier lifestyles and reduce reliance on cars.

Upload any supporting documents

Drop files or click here to upload




LE TOUR DE FRA

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6039

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: Waitematā

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 any

Tell us why

N/A

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
1	**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.
2	**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?

Events and city life – attract people to the city centre through events, culture and a strong sense of place.,Getting around – make it easier to walk, drive, cycle and use public transport in the city centre and from east to west, including better traffic flow.,Safety – a safer and more welcoming city centre, both day and night, for residents, workers and visitors.,Supporting businesses – help businesses succeed by making them easier to access by attracting more visitors to the city with well-designed streets and public spaces.

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6040

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 any

Tell us why

N/A

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?

Not supported

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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	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
2	**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?

Getting around – make it easier to walk, drive, cycle and use public transport in the city centre and from east to west, including better traffic flow.,Safety – a safer and more welcoming city centre, both day and night, for residents, workers and visitors.,Supporting businesses – help businesses succeed by making them easier to access by attracting more visitors to the city with well-designed streets and public spaces.

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6140

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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?

Support most

Tell us why

I often use the CRL and wnat it to be well funded

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?

I am not strongly educated on this to give an answer

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

Waitematā

Waitematā Local Board Feedback:

1. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2026/2027?

I don't know

Tell us why

2. What do you think about the proposed changes to service levels, fees and charges?

A. Reduce library hours at Central City, Little Leys, Grey Lynn and Parnell Libraries.

B. Reduce maintenance for bollard and post-and-rail.

C. Reduce community grant funding and accommodation grant funding.

D. Increase fees for adult swim fees at council pools by up to $3.

E. Reduce funding for environmental management activities.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

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)

I would like transport costs to decrease and mor events to occur througjout the year.

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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- **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
1	**Economic development and events –** growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
4	**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.
3	**Planning and infrastructure to manage growth –** planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
5	**Regional parks and environment –** looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
2	**Transport –** roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
6	**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?

Economic devlopment and events because it will support communities and city growth

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?

Better connections – improve links between the city centre, the waterfront and nearby neighbourhoods.,Events and city life – attract people to the city centre through events, culture and a strong sense of place.,Getting around – make it easier to walk, drive, cycle and use public transport in the city centre and from east to west, including better traffic flow.,Safety – a safer and more welcoming city centre, both day and night, for residents, workers and visitors.

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6149

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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?

Support most

Tell us why

N/A

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?

I disagree with the increase in property value, I support the construction of rural sewage scheme

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

Ōrākei

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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- **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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2	**Regional parks and environment –** looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
5	**Transport –** roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
6	**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?

Developing third spaces for teenagers and young people (parks, free game centres, etc)

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?

Events and city life – attract people to the city centre through events, culture and a strong sense of place.,Getting around – make it easier to walk, drive, cycle and use public transport in the city centre and from east to west, including better traffic flow.,Streets and public spaces – improve streets, parks and public spaces so the city centre is a great place to live and spend time in.

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6152

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Support all

Tell us why

because of the further investment in public transport

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?

I disagree with this as it'll worsen the cost of living crisis by adding more expenses

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

Waitematā

Waitematā Local Board Feedback:

1. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2026/2027?

Support most

Tell us why

I think that they're doing well on most issues but could do better too.

2. What do you think about the proposed changes to service levels, fees and charges?

A. Reduce library hours at Central City, Little Leys, Grey Lynn and Parnell Libraries.

B. Reduce maintenance for bollard and post-and-rail.

C. Reduce community grant funding and accommodation grant funding.

D. Increase fees for adult swim fees at council pools by up to $3.

E. Reduce funding for environmental management activities.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

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
2	**Economic development and events –** growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
3	**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.
4	**Planning and infrastructure to manage growth –** planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
5	**Regional parks and environment –** looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
1	**Transport –** roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
6	**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?

Transport to lessen traffic and to have more better transport options

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

#6177

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: Waitematā

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?

Support most

Tell us why

I think instead of investing in buying new buses for transport, first ensure that the transport is safe eg. getting security cameras + bus driver training! Awareness of potential dangerous passengers, especially during times like 3pm when students are taking the bus

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?

I think the bag exchange / refuse bin fee is a little extra.

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

Waitematā

Waitematā Local Board Feedback:

1. What do you think of our proposals for your local board area in 2026/2027?

Support most

Tell us why

2. What do you think about the proposed changes to service levels, fees and charges?

A. Reduce library hours at Central City, Little Leys, Grey Lynn and Parnell Libraries.

B. Reduce maintenance for bollard and post-and-rail.

C. Reduce community grant funding and accommodation grant funding.

D. Increase fees for adult swim fees at council pools by up to $3.

E. Reduce funding for environmental management activities.

Tell us why (please be clear which priority you are talking about)

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
3	**Economic development and events –** growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
2	**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.
5	**Planning and infrastructure to manage growth –** planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
6	**Regional parks and environment –** looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
1	**Transport –** roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around

4	**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?

Prioritise safe transport (public) + better economy to reduce inflation.

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?

Safety – a safer and more welcoming city centre, both day and night, for residents, workers and visitors.,Streets and public spaces – improve streets, parks and public spaces so the city centre is a great place to live and spend time in.,Supporting businesses – help businesses succeed by making them easier to access by attracting more visitors to the city with well-designed streets and public spaces.

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6231

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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?

N/A

Tell us why

N/A

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)

A few thoughts from me as a house owner in the Ponsonby Area:

1. Tree Management: over half our section is covered by the Council's Oak Tree. Despite this not being historically or culturally significant or even a native, it is highly protected. The consequence is that the people who bear the brunt of the consequences, can't manage the problem or remove the risks. It covers ALL of our outdoor area and drops large branches and acorns (which though small ********** hurt when they hit you and are a nuisance for rolled ankles) causing damage to private property, risks hurting my family including two young children and exacerbates allergies that didn't even exist before living next to this tree. In short it causes heath and safety issues and significant risk of property damage. It also costs us many thousands of dollar to remove YOUR waste from MY property. For 5 years I have been trying to engage with the Council in a professional and adult manner only to be effectively ignored or even worse when you finally get a council person to come out to discuss they make agreements and then just ignore actually living up to those commitments. Bear in mind, that we can't even manage this situation at our cost, because it is protected. In talking to other local house owners this is not uncommon. We love the tree, we want to live in a city with natural beauty but the Council should have a clear plan and process to manage unintended consequences and impact to rate payers. It is one thing for a tree to be fully on Council property and it impacting a house owner in an indirect way, but this tree literally dominates OUR property. If I was to dump my waste on Council land, what would happen? If I was to drop large branches or throw across at a park where children play, what would happen? Why is it different in reverse?

2. Parking: there is a local development that all their employees park around my property. Even before the development, parking was in high demand being so close to Ponsonby Road. Tradies take up all the parking, they park over road corners, over driveways, sleep in their cars, eat lunch in their cars and generally take over the area. They skirt the 120 minute parking rule by having

watchmen who notify people when a free park is available and then swap parks with a colleague so as to not be in one spot for over 120 minutes. I admire the skirting of laws, however the impact is that local home owners who PAY to park on the road can't find parks and can't access their driveways because people are parked over them. I have contacted the council probably 40 times about this and by the time the officer comes out three hours later the person has invariably moved on. I have also emailed AT directly, only be be fobbed off. I asked for yellow dashed lines to be painted over my driveway, just to make it super clear that it isn't a parking spot only to be told to ********** off after waiting three months for a response. If a developer ways to develop, then they need to ensure that local infrastructure can support this without materially negative impact to local rates payers who also pay additional for the ability to park on the road. The Council also needs practical and effective ways to manage this, not having such a slow and laboriously long process that it is in affect not actually supporting solutions. You have the gall now to increase this cost, when you can't even access what you are paying for? Does that sound correct and fair to you?

3. Overall my observation of trying to deal with the Council is that your people are not held accountable, they are more focused on evangelicalism (like the tree people) and are slow and cumbersome when they are actually dispatched. My feeling is that the Council spends more money on stuff around a process then actually focusing on making the process better, faster, more agile and impactful. I don't know how much the Council spends on tree experts, but making that more lean and spending more on working pragmatically with impacted rate payers feels like a better use of money.

4. As an aside, did you know that it takes over 40 minutes and multiple buses to get from Three lamps to Commercial Bay? A trip in a car that would take 5 minutes. Perverse right, if you really want people to take public transport?

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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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

#6601

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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

N/A

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
	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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	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

#6774

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing I oppose this increase and urge a rigorous reduction in wasteful Council spending to keep rates affordable for households.Key points:1) The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive. It 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 outpacing inflation and population growth. A more modest path is required.2) Reduce corporate and backroom spending. Council and CCOs must cut spending on consultants and professional services. The Alliance notes $126 million per year in consultancy across the Council group including

$60 million by the Auckland Council parent with average consultants earning around $200k. A freeze or reduction is essential.3) Cancel or reform discretionary programmes. The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. This is not a priority in a tight fiscal environment and should be cancelled.4) Freeze staffing and payroll costs. Non-essential vacancies should be frozen; stopping hires for non-critical roles could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year spent on Māori outcomes via Ngā Mātārae is not a core local-government function and should be reduced.6) Align the budget with a prudent alternative. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap average residential rates at about 3%. This would be achieved through personnel cost controls cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional context: Auckland is becoming unaffordable for many households. Either funds go to consultants or to staff but Auckland cannot afford both. If decisive reform is not possible leadership should consider stepping aside for someone who will. 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

#6780

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 register my opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for a programe of cost reduction across Council and CCOs.1) Oppose the 7.9% rates increase and seek practical savings. The proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rate rise of 30% since 2022 (vs. 12% CPI). I urge Council to cap the increase and focus on essential services rather than funding discretionary or backroom items.2) Target wasteful and outsized spending. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and curb consultancy and professional services spending which together

contribute to unaffordable rate rises. The current pattern of high payroll and high contractor costs is unsustainable.3) Freeze staffing and cut payroll where possible. I support freezing non-essential vacancies and prioritising essential roles. A payroll reduction is a direct immediate way to protect ratepayers while maintaining core services.4) Reconsider programme costs with climate and efficiency in mind. I oppose continuing with the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million/year that in my view emits more carbon than it saves. I also question ongoing Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' portfolio at $10 million per year which I do not believe is a statutory local government priority.5) Administrative and capital project oversight. The Weiti River Bridge crossing has demonstrated costly delays and engineering decisions with little justification. I urge a rigorous review of major projects to ensure value for money realistic timetables and prudent budgeting.To meet ratepayer interests I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates increase at about 3%. This should be achieved by personnel cost controls capping consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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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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- **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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	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

#6785

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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

Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing this rise is already out of step with inflation and carries a real impact on households with the average increase around $320 for the typical home. I urge Council to align rate movements with inflation and prioritise essential services over discretionary spending.I support concrete measures to reduce expenditure in order to keep rates affordable:1) Lower overall corporate and backroom office costs across the Council and CCOs and reduce spending on consultancy and professional services. The current level of external advice and management costs is excessive and unsustainable.2) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which is

stated to cost $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.3) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.4) Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $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.5) Reinvest savings to cap the rate increase at or near inflation reducing the burden on ratepayers.Additional context from the Alliance indicates that personnel costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation and that there is substantial spending on consultants six-figure salaries and non-operational functions. By pursuing an organisational refit renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services the Council can reduce the proposed rate hike while maintaining core city services.In summary I request that Auckland Council reduce new spending by targeted amounts (approximately $150 million) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3 percent and implement the measures above to deliver a more affordable efficient Council.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

#6789

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to urge council to reduce wasteful spending and reform expenditure rather than raise rates further.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 more per average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen 85% (well above inflation and population growth) and Aucklanders face a real burden that far exceeds essential growth needs.- The breakdown shows 4.4% of the rise is driven by CRL operating costs with 2% to maintain existing assets and 1.5% for new assets due to growth. This structure should be re-examined before imposing

higher bills on households already stretched by high living costs.- Spending on consultants is excessive: $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen far faster than inflation while core services are under pressure.- I oppose continued growth in backroom and corporate functions six-figure salaries and discretionary spending that inflate rates without demonstrable public benefit. The council must examine every non-essential cost before asking residents to shoulder more.Agreed positions (policy requests)- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rate increase; seek a cap around 3% by reducing new and ongoing expenditure.- Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb spend on consultants and professional services by at least $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and pursue vendor consolidation to save about $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and avoid funding that is not core local government service delivery.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year) due to limited net carbon benefit.- Freeze or scale back Māori-specific spending including Ngā Mātārae where appropriate and aligned with the scope of local government responsibilities.Additional points- Government-funded infrastructure and services (rail water roads public facilities) are rightly the government's primary duty; ratepayer funds should not be diverted to programs well outside core council responsibilities.ClosingI would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#6810

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase of 30% since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) despite inflation running around 12%. The proposed 7.9% increase breaks this trend and places a disproportionate burden on households.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to cap rate increases by cutting unnecessary expenditure and reforming procurement and staffing. Specifically:1) Reduce personnel costs: implement an organisational freeze and avoid hiring for non-essential vacant roles saving at least $17 million immediately.2) Curb consultancy and professional services: reduce spend on consultants and

professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.3) Cut back corporate and backroom functions: streamline functions across the Council and CCOs to remove wasteful overhead.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme: stop this $36 million/year initiative which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.5) Restrain Maori-specific spending: reduce the $10 million/year allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) consistent with the view that this is not a core local government function.In alignment with the Alliance's Alternative Budget I urge cutting total new Council spending by at least $150 million (2% of spend) to cap the rate rise to roughly 3%. This would be achieved through the measures above and through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.Additional context: since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% outpacing both inflation and population growth. Given these trends a 7.9% average increase is unwarranted and unfair to ratepayers who already face steep cost pressures.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

#6833

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 adopt substantial spending reductions to keep rates affordable for households. The current plan amounts to around $320 more per average household on top of a real rates rise since 2022 of about 30% in 2022 dollars far outpacing inflation.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to cap rate increases by implementing significant budget reforms and cost controls. Specifically I advocate for the following:1) Reduce corporate and backroom/office spending across the Council and CCOs. The cost pressures from consultants professional services and bloated payroll must be addressed to

avoid repeatedly passing costs to ratepayers. 2) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. Personnel costs and other expenses have risen well beyond inflation in recent years and a careful freeze is prudent while essential services are protected. 3) Cut expenditure on consultants and contract professional services and prioritise value-for-money procurement through renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save tens of millions. 4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves and reallocate any remaining funds to essential council services. 5) Reduce Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) function which is not a core local government responsibility.In addition I urge consideration of the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3% by cutting non-essential expenditure in the ways outlined above.I respectfully request that this submission be considered in full and that I be allowed to present at hearings to outline these points in person. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
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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

#6835

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 ratepayer perspective must be prioritised through prudent management of expenditure and a focus on essential services.Key points:1) The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive and unaffordable for households. The current average residential rates bill sits at $4069 with a real increase of 30% since 2022 far outpacing cumulative inflation (12%). The 7.9% rise breaks the long-term trend of affordability for ratepayers.2) Expenditure reduction is essential. The Council should reduce spend on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.3) Wasteful programmes should

be cut. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.4) Staffing controls. Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this would save at least $17 million immediately.5) Reallocate budget away from non-essential special spend. Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government and should be prioritised for statutory and essential services.Alternative budgeting approach:The Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average rates increase at around 3%. This would be achieved by: (a) $50 million from personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze; (b) $50 million from limiting consultants; (c) $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; (d) $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In summary I urge the Council to adopt a disciplined budget that prioritises core functions and essential services prevents unaffordable rate rises and demonstrates accountability for wasteful and discretionary 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.)

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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

#6876

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for a disciplined eï¬ective reallocation of Council spending to protect households and essential services.Key concerns and asks:1) Oppose the 7.9% average increase. The proposed rise about $320 for the average household is not compatible with local households' cost pressures. A more prudent approach is needed that aligns with inflation and real household affordability.2) Reduce backroom and corporate spend. The Council and CCOs should scale down corporate and backroom office functions to deliver savings that can be redirected to core services.3) Curb consultancy and

professional services. Minimise external advisors and vendors; prioritise in-house capability and governance that delivers value for ratepayers.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At about $36 million per year with carbon outcomes that in my view do not justify the cost or emissions footprint.5) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non‘essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately and reduce ongoing operating costs.6) Cut Māori-specific spending. I oppose continuing the $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as a local-government responsibility; reallocate funds to statutory and essential services.Context and alternative path:- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes an alternative budget that reduces new Council spending by $150 million (roughly 2%) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. This would be achieved through targeted personnel cost reductions capping consultancy spend contract renegotiations vendor consolidation and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.In conclusion I seek a more restrained rates path and concrete spending reforms that prioritise residents' needs and transparency. I would like to speak at hearings to explain these positions in more detail but I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

#6888

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: Waitematā

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 submission focuses on practical affordability for households and on responsible budgeting that prioritises essential services.1) Wasteful and excessive spending must be curb ed- I support reducing corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting consultancy and professional services instead of continual growth in these areas.- I urge cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and has not demonstrated net carbon savings.- 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.- I oppose

ongoing Māori-specific spending of about $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.2) A credible path to lower rate increases- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2 percent) to cap average residential rates increases to around 3 percent. This is achieved through: - $50 million savings from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes - $50 million savings from capping spending on consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants- Directing funds to essential services rather than expanding non-core programmes would better reflect household constraints while maintaining the Council's core functions.3) Overall context- Since the 2010 amalgamation rates have risen significantly (85%) outpacing inflation and population growth. Given households are already under pressure substantial expenditure restraint and a focus on core services are warranted.In conclusion I urge the Council to adopt a more prudent budget that reduces discretionary and consultant spend freezes non-essential staffing and prioritises essential services. This approach would align rates with household real-world affordability and deliver a more efficient core-focused Auckland Council.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

#6909

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Rates and affordability- I oppose the average 7.9% increase. For pensioners like me these rises are not affordable. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 and inflation around 12 percent. A cap at or near inflation is essential.2) Wasteful and excessive spend- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services which continue to rise.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and 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 immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I view as not a core local government function.- Overall personnel costs and other expenses have risen well ahead of inflation; direct operating expenditure growth has outpaced both inflation and population growth.3) Budget reform and an alternative plan- I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap rates growth at about 3%: - $50 million by freezing hiring and reducing personnel costs - $50 million by capping consultancy spending - $30 million through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants4) Governance and accountability- There is a clear need to curb wasteful projects and ensure ratepayer funds are directed to essential services. The public deserves transparent rationales for spending decisions and tighter controls on contractor and consultancy engagements.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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	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

#6921

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I am writing to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase in the 2026/27 annual plan and to urge a clear reduction in wasteful Council spending. My position is based on the need to protect households including retirees from a rate burden that outpaces inflation and growth.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The impact is substantial: the current average residential rates bill is $4069 with real increases since 2022 of about 30 percent (in 2022 dollars) against 12 percent cumulative inflation. The breakdown shows 4.4 percent funding CRL operating costs 2 percent for maintaining assets and 1.5 percent for new assets. This level of

rise is unsustainable for families and individuals on fixed incomes.I agree the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. In particular spending on consultants totals $126 million per year across the Council group with the Auckland Council parent spending about $60 million and many consultants averaging around $200k each. The mandate of a leaner organisation is overdue.I also agree the Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately. In addition I believe the Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a core local government function.Additional points: enough rate hikes; retirees cannot cope any longer.I request that the Council consider a 3 percent cap on rate increases by reducing new spending and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants as outlined in the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

- **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

#6927

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average residential bill is $4069 and Auckland Council must recognise that real rate increases since 2022 are already 30% in real terms (vs. 12% cumulative inflation). A further nearly 8% lift is unacceptable.I urge the Council to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb consultancy and professional services which are increasing ahead of inflation. The current spending on consultants is around $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200k. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen dramatically since 2013 outpacing inflation and

population growth. A more focused leaner organisation is required.I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also call for freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a move that could save at least $17 million immediately. In addition I request cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a function of local government.The Council should undertake a comprehensive review to reduce new spending by at least $150 million (2%) enabling an average residential rate rise cap of around 3%. This would be achieved by: a) reducing personnel costs through appropriate organisational change and a hiring freeze; b) capping consultant spend; c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; d) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional points: ARC rates should be set no higher than the average CPI of the previous five years. Any request for a rates increase must be subject to an Auckland Citizens Referendum.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
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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

#6932

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a substantial reduction in Council spending prior to any escalation in charges to ratepayers.Key context and why I oppose the rise- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to roughly $320 more per average household on top of a real rates gain of 30% since 2022 (versus 12% overall inflation). This continues a trend where rates have more than doubled while population growth has been modest.- The breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase funds CRL operating costs with only 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. In a period of record cost pressures a re-prioritisation is essential.Against this

backdrop I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance's call to cap rate rises by cutting wasteful and non-core spending:- Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze especially for non-essential roles. This aligns with the view that freezing vacancies can save meaningful sums upfront.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services; the current level is unsustainable and diverts money from core services.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to achieve better value for money.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to ensure ratepayer funds cover necessary functions first.Specific spending concerns I want acknowledged- The Food Scraps Programme at about $36 million per year should be cancelled given its net carbon impact versus savings.- Māori-focused spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reassessed as a local-government remit with funds redirected to core services.- The significant payroll and back-office functions (including high six-figure salaries and consultancy costs) should be reviewed to return to pre-COVID staffing levels and ensure staff work from Council facilities where appropriate.Additional points- Any increase is unacceptable in the current economic climate. Transparent monthly audits of all spending are essential; this includes scrutiny of ratepayer-owned assets and staff 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.
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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

#6935

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. I oppose the 7.9% increase. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 are 30% in 2022 dollars far above general inflation. The proposed increase is not justified by a proportionate improvement in essential services.2. Spending reductions are essential. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance argues that this Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these areas. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well ahead of inflation including $1.3 billion payroll and $590 million on

consultants and contractors. I support pursuing cost-saving reforms to align spending with actual core statutory and essential services.3. Targeted cost-saving measures. I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. I also support capping or reducing consultancy spend and pursuing contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve meaningful savings.4. Spending on Māori Outcomes and non-core programmes. I oppose ongoing expenditure on programmes like the $171 million over 10 years for Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) and the ongoing Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves. A focus on statutory and essential services should take precedence over discretionary grants or non-core initiatives.Additional point. A local example of wasteful spending is the Franklin Local Board's $75000 memorial for gravesites funded from the Māori Outcomes budget; this illustrates how funds can be diverted from core services to non-essential projects. Reallocating such funds would help achieve cost savings.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

#6956

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing the proposed rise would impose an average increase of about $320 for a typical household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (well above general inflation). I urge Council to align rate movements with inflation and year-on-year affordability.Agreed positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase of at least 7.9% and seek a cap near 3% by delivering targeted cost reductions.- 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 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 on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.- Support the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at about 3% and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional pointsMany households are already financially stretched including families with young children and pensioners. The current trajectory risks affordability and undermines confidence in local governance. Directing savings toward essential services and prudent governance is a responsible path that benefits ratepayers and supports sustainable city management.ClosingI request consideration of these savings measures and urge the Council to pursue a disciplined evidence-based reduction in non-essential spending to meet an affordable rate outcome.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and in favour of tightening Council expenditure to protect household budgets.1) I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). Since 2010 rates have risen 85% outpacing inflation and population growth. A rate rise this high is unaffordable for many families including my own.2) I support reducing wasteful and non-essential Council and CCO spending. Key targets should include cutting personnel costs and reducing backroom and corporate functions. The current payroll is about $1.3 billion and consultants/contractors total $590 million; direct operating expenditure rose well above inflation in recent years. We must prioritise core statutory services over discretionary items.3) I support reducing consultancy and professional services spend. The Alliance highlights about $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group with substantial salaries for consultants and backroom roles. A focused reduction is essential to cap rate increases.4) I oppose the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Canceling this project would free funds for essential services and rate relief.5) I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.6) I oppose continued expenditure on Māori outcomes as a separate department such as Ngā Mātārae ($10 million/year). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over targeted spend that sits outside core responsibilities.7) I propose an alternative budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap the rate rise to around 3%. This would be achieved by: (a) $50 million in personnel costs reductions via organisational change/hiring freeze; (b) $50 million cap on consultants; (c) $30 million in contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation; (d) $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional points: I have worked hard to raise my family and manage costs in today's economy. Please cut costs in your offices and avoid passing these pressures onto households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7013

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns and positions:- I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9%. The current average residential bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30% in 2022 dollars well above general inflation. A rate increase this high is unacceptable for households already stretched by rising costs.- 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 grow these line items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually 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 immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.- Ratepayers support a Targeted affordable approach: the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap average rates to about 3%: - $50 million from personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze - $50 million from capping consultancy spend - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsAdditional points:- There is growing concern about governance and accountability under the current leadership; residents deserve better stewardship and value for money from their council.I respectfully request serious consideration of the above priorities and transparent engagement on how these savings would be achieved while maintaining essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	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

#7017

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: Waitematā

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 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge a reduction in wasteful Council spending. 1) Core position on rates- I oppose the 7.9 percent average residential rates increase which equates to roughly $320 for the average household. Rates increases must be aligned with inflation and real value for residents not continued growth in operational costs.- The current trajectory shows a real increase in rates of 30 percent since 2022 far exceeding cumulative inflation of 12 percent. A prudent approach is to cap increases at or near inflation with any growth targeted to essential services.2) Spending reform

and efficiency- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Spend on consultancy and professional services should be curtailed rather than expanded; current data indicate substantial reliance on external advisers.- 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.- Implement contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to realise savings in annual operating costs.3) Specific program and Maori outcomes funding- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or re-evaluate discretionary Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae). This is not a core local government function and should be redirected to statutory services.4) Alternative budgeting approach- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance framework: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap the average rate rise at around 3 percent. This would be achieved through targeted personnel savings capped consultancy spending vendor renegotiations and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge Auckland Council to prioritise affordable essential services and demonstrate fiscal discipline through concrete reductions in wasteful spending rather than relying on higher rates. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	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

#7024

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: Waitematā

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 rate path is unsustainable for households already enduring a real-terms burden far above inflation.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 more per average household yet the overall rates burden continues to rise well beyond inflation. Since 2012 rates have risen 85% in real terms while population growth and service demand have not justified such escalation.- Spending on consultants and backroom functions is excessive. Council group-wide consultant costs total around $126 million per year with the average consultant earning roughly $200k. Corporate and business support functions alone account for $868.4 million in direct

expenditure across 18 areas.- Payroll costs are rising faster than inflation. The payroll and related expenses have grown sharply with many six-figure roles and a notable number earning above the Mayor's level while frontline services and statutory obligations are under pressure.- Discretionary and non-core programmes should be scrutinised. Specifically the Food Scraps Programme at an annual cost of $36 million and questionable emission savings should be cancelled. There is also room to trim Māori Outcomes spending (Ngā Mātārae) which has been cited as a non-core local-government function.- A prudent budget should cap new spending and prioritise essential statutory services over discretionary grants.Proposed alternative budget and call for reform- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget recommends a $150 million reduction in new spending (2%) yielding a 3% average rate increase.- This includes: freezing non-essential recruitment and reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant roles; capping consultant spending; renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.In summary I urge the Council to:- reject the 7.9% average rates increase or cap it around 3% with substantial savings measures.- implement concrete reductions in personnel costs consultants and discretionary expenses while preserving core services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

(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

#7029

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key points1) The 7.9% rise translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rate increase since 2022 of 30%. Rates have risen far faster than population growth and inflation; this must stop.2) The Council should implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) keeping rate rises to about 3%. This requires: a) freezing/hiring controls on non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately; b) capping consultancy and professional services at $50 million; c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors for $30 million; d) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants for

$20 million.3) I call for immediate reductions in corporate and backroom costs across the Council and CCOs including a sharp review of payroll and six-figure salaries. The payroll and related expenses have expanded far beyond inflation and a restraint is both prudent and fair.4) The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and per analysis emits more carbon than it saves. I urge cancellation of this programme.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone would save at least $17 million right away.6) I oppose spending on Māori-specific programmes such as Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) at $10 million per year arguing that this is not a core local-government function and should be redirected to essential services.Additional observations- Reprioritisation should focus on maintaining and repairing existing assets efficiently rather than funding new non-essential initiatives.- Greater transparency on vendor contracts and consultant use is essential to restore public trust.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

#7051

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: Waitematā

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

With the current average bill at $4069 and a real rates rise since 2022 of about 30% (versus 12% inflation) the proposed increase is unacceptable. The breakdown shows 2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This compounds pressures on households while failing to deliver proportionate value.I agree that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb the spend on consultancy and professional services. The current $126 million per year on consultants plus payroll costs and other expenses represents discretionary expenditure that can be reallocated to core services. I support

reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at about 3% as outlined in the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget. Specific measures include:- Freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Capping spending on consultants and renegotiating contracts with vendor consolidation to save at least $50 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving a further $20 million.- Reducing overall personnel costs through organisational change.I also oppose wasteful programmes and spending:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs about $36 million/year) which emits more carbon than it saves.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) consistent with the view that local government roles should focus on statutory obligations.Additional concerns include roading and parking pressures arising from Council housing developments and unit allocations and inadequate addressing of SW/SS matters for existing pipelinesthese contribute to inefficiencies and poor use of ratepayer funds.In summary I urge the Council to adopt a prudent targeted reduction in discretionary spending to keep rates growth within or below inflation restore value for money and focus on essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7060

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a personal and sincere tone to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to urge a substantive reduction in wasteful Council spending.I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9 percent. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 and since 2022 the real increase has been 30 percent far exceeding cumulative inflation (12 percent). The proposed 7.9 percent rise includes 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs on top of ongoing asset maintenance and growth-related costs. Given the scale of spending growth since the Super City amalgamation I question whether this rate hike is the right path for long-term value and affordability

for households.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce spending on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and to reduce consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. The briefing shows $126 million per year spent on consultants across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200000. I also note personnel costs have risen sharply and direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation.I call for freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which the Alliance estimates could save at least $17 million immediately. I also urge cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves and appears not to be widely used in parts of the city.I further advocate for reducing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given that this is a local government funding priority argument. I support prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and expenditures.In sum I propose a Menu of savings to cap rates increases at around 3 percent including: limited personnel growth capped consultancy spend renegotiated contracts and vendor consolidation and prioritising 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

#7068

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a personal and sincere tone to express strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to call for real restraint in wasteful Council spending.1) Rates and affordabilityI oppose the 7.9% average increase. The current average residential bill is $4069 and the proposed rise would add roughly $320 per household. This is a real increase well above inflation and places a heavy burden on households already struggling with high living costs. I urge the Council to cap the average rise much closer to 3% by cutting non-essential expenditure.2) Expenditure reform and backroom spendingThe Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and

backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure has risen faster than inflation and personnel costs have climbed sharply. 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.3) Consultants and professional servicesI support reducing spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items. The ratepayer burden is unsustainable if external advice and contractors drive higher costs year after year.4) Priority setting and statutory servicesI support prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. I also request reviewing and reducing non-core programmes including reducing Māori-specific spending where appropriate. In particular I oppose continuing large expenditures on the Ngā Mātārae/Māori Outcomes department at $10 million per year arguing that this is not a role of local government.Additional pointsThe proposed rates hike feels out of touch in the current economic climate; many Auckland households are already under financial pressure. A rates relief approach would better reflect the realities faced by ratepayers while ensuring essential services are funded.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.
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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

#7113

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 by at least 7.9%. The current average rates bill is $4069 and since 2022 rates have risen by about 30% in real terms far outstripping cumulative inflation. The breakdown shows 2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of increase is not acceptable when there is clear potential to trim non-core spending while preserving essential services.I call on the Council to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb consultancy and professional services expenditure. The Alliance's figures show $126 million per year on consultants

across the Council group with the average consultant paid around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown well ahead of inflation (20222025) while eighteen corporate and business support functions alone consumed $868.4 million in direct expenditure. A substantial reduction here is both practical and overdue.I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which the Alliance notes costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.I disagree with continuing to fund Māori-specific spending at current levels including the $10 million per year for the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is presented as a local government function but falls into non-core expenditure. Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants should guide allocations.I propose the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at around 3% funded by a hiring freeze cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services.Additional: Do what you said you would do and not increase rates. Hope your mot that you've got a chance.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

#7129

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a strong and direct tone to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% rates rise is excessive especially given the Council's spending and the real increases faced by households since 2022. The current average rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase of about 30% since 2022 and cumulative inflation of roughly 12%. The rate package allocates 4.4% to CRL operating costs 2% for existing asset maintenance and 1.5% for new assets; this mix is not affordable for households.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative

Budget shows how to cap rates at around 3% by cutting new spending by $150 million (2%) including $50 million from personnel costs and $50 million from consultants plus $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants. This is a responsible evidence-based path to protecting households.- Wasteful spending must be addressed. Council and CCO staff costs six-figure salaries and the high use of consultants total hundreds of millions in annual expenditures with payroll at about $1.3 billion and consultants at $590 million. There is a need to freeze non-essential recruitment and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant roles which could save at least $17 million now.- Specific programmes to reconsider include the Food Scraps Programme at $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. There is also a push to reduce spending on Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) which currently amounts to about $10 million per year arguing this is not a local government core role.Selected points I urge the Council to consider- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase.- Reduce corporate/backroom spend and consultants; prioritise essential services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme; freeze staffing or reduce payroll by avoiding non-essential hires.- Reconsider Māori outcomes expenditure; reallocate to core council responsibilities.- Rebalance budgets toward statutory duties over discretionary programmes; target a 3% cap as per the Ratepayers' Alliance approach.- Reintroduce library fines; remove options that undermine household finances.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

#7131

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the average household and believe a much lower increase is required to protect households from unaffordable bills.Key concerns and positions- Reject the 7.9% average rates rise. The current trajectory has seen rates rise by 85% since 2010 well above inflation and population growth. A responsible budget must prioritise essential services and affordability.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance shows consultant spend at $126 million

per year and staff costs escalating faster than inflation.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million per year) on carbon and cost grounds and reallocate that funding to essential services.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a core local government function.- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates at about 3% by prioritising statutory and essential services and renegotiating contracts. Specific savings: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.- Address fairness in rating ensuring the general rate per household and the value of capital as assessed reflect a more equitable distribution of rates across the city.Additional point- The general rate per household should better reflect value for money and a fairer distribution of capital value increases to reduce the wide rate disparities across Auckland.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

#7160

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to urge a substantial reduction in council spending to protect households from further unaffordable bills.I agree with and urge action on the following:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent; the household average bill would rise to about $4389 from $4069 a real burden as rates have grown 30% in real terms since 2022 while inflation runs higher than this in many years.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing

these costs to rise further.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) a function I believe is not a core local government responsibility.Additional points I wish to raise:- Stop planting flowers on roundabouts and traffic islands only to remove them later for concrete then replantingthis is wasteful and inefficient.- Do not waste money on 'name changers' for apses; the logic and cost do not serve ratepayers.- In council fitness centres avoid removing widely used equipment and then purchasing new items unnecessarily. Replacing 20kg bars with narrower bars has reduced usability and increases strain; priorities should be maintaining essential facilities for community use.I understand the Council's proposed share of costs includes 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. However the combined effect of cost escalations and discretionary spending is unacceptable while real household budgets tighten. My alternative budget calls for reducing new spending by $150 million (2%) capping consultants at $50 million and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants to cap rates 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:

- **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

#7172

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: Waitematā

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 submitting in a personal and sincere tone to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to advocate for restraint on wasteful council spending. The proposed rise would add about $320 to the average household bill in the context of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 and a 85% total increase since the Super City merger.I urge the Council to adopt a tighter budget framework focused on essential services and cost control. Specifically I repeat the following positions:1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and push for reductions aligned with a more affordable outcome for ratepayers.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom

office functions across the Council and CCOs. Streamlining central functions will help protect frontline services without compromising statutory duties.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. The current level of external advice and contracting drives up costs with uncertain long-term value.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme a $36 million/year initiative that emissions-heavy and in practice does not demonstrate net carbon savings.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core responsibility of local government.As an alternative I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which can cap rate increases to around 3% through measures including personnel cost controls capping consultancy spend contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I request that the Council consider these changes to protect households from unsustainable rate rises while ensuring core services are funded efficiently.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

#7183

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 which equates to about $320 for the average household. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 are already about 30% well above the 12% cumulative inflation. Rates should not grow faster than inflation and certainly not at a level that imposes a greater burden on households.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than permit ongoing increases

in these areas. In addition I call for cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in our assessment emits more carbon than it saves. A pause and review of this programme is warranted before further funding is approved.I also request a freeze on staffing and/or a reduction in payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. The Council should urgently review and cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department Ngā Mātārae as this role set is not a core local government function.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget provides a constructive path: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average residential rates increase at around 3%. Specific measures include: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million from capped consultancy spending; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I urge the Council to adopt these savings and deliver a more affordable rates outcome for households while preserving essential services. I request the opportunity to present my submission at hearings to further explain these concerns.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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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.
	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

#7220

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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%. At approximately $320 more for the average household this rise far outstrips inflation and local value. The rates increase should be capped far closer to inflation and linked to delivering necessary services not funding expanding backroom and consultant-heavy operations.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance analysis shows several areas where wasteful spending should be cut to bring rates back to a fairer level and to restore value for ratepayers. I urge the Council to:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Current staffing and overheads are excessive relative

to the core services delivered to residents.2) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. The heavy reliance on external advisers has driven up costs without corresponding transparency or measurable service gains.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. Prioritise alternatives that deliver real environmental benefits at lower cost.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. Halting new hires in non-critical areas could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary or non-core programmes.Additional point: the rates rise and the broader spend must deliver genuine value to residents. Get back to basicsdo what you were elected to do and focus on core services efficiency and transparency.Proposed budget adjustments should target a reduction of at least $150 million in new Council spending (2%) enabling an average residential rate increase of around 3% as outlined by a prudent alternative approach. This would better reflect current fiscal realities and respect ratepayers' willingness to contribute only where it delivers real public value.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

#7224

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key positions1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with real increases since 2022 of 30% against 12% inflation. A rates rise of 7.9% compounds this disparity and fails to reflect value for ratepayers.2) Reduce backroom and corporate spending. The Council and CCOs should cut spending on corporate and backroom office functions including the heavy reliance on consultants. Annual consultant spend sits at about $126 million across the Council group with the parent Council contributing $60 million and an average consultant earning around $200k. This is unsustainable as a baseline cost.3) Decrease

consultancy and professional services. The Council must freeze or meaningfully reduce these expenditures rather than continuing to grow them aligning with prudent budgeting and prioritising essential services.4) Cancel non-core programmes. The Food Scraps Programme costs around $36 million per year and based on the Alliance briefing emits more carbon than it saves. This is a clear area for cancellation to free up funds for essential services.5) Freeze staffing and payroll. Non-essential vacancies should be frozen; halting hires where not essential would save at least $17 million immediately and help restrain rate increases.6) Reduce Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a statutory local government obligation and should be reconsidered in favour of core municipal functions.Alternative budgeting. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%): $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. This would cap the rates increase to around 3%.ClosingI request that my submission be considered in forming a responsible affordable budget that prioritises essential services and restraint on wasteful 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

#7231

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9%. This would amount to about $320 more for the average household on a current $4069 bill while real increases since 2022 have already risen by about 30% in spite of 12% inflation. Rates should be kept to a level that recognises households' cost pressures and does not outpace inflation.2. I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting spend on consultancy and professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance notes annual consultancy spend of around $126 million across the Council group and $60 million by the Auckland

Council itself with many consultants earning around $200k. A focus on improving staff productivity and prioritising essential services can deliver savings.3. I oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme as currently constituted given its cost of about $36 million per year and its carbon impact relative to savings. I urge a review to ensure any waste management initiatives deliver clear net environmental and financial benefits.4. I support freezing staffing and reducing payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies. The Alliance identifies potential immediate savings of at least $17 million by cautious hiring and turnover management which would help stabilise rates.5. I oppose extensive spend on Māori-focused programmes such as the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) at about $10 million per year arguing that local government should prioritise statutory and essential services first.6. Additional operational considerations: Council should improve staff productivity avoid excessive four-day work patterns that reduce on-network presence and contractor engagement and minimise meetings to focus staff on meaningful field work and accountability. There should be clear performance checks to ensure work hours translate into real service delivery.7. The Council's alternative budget approachreducing new spending by $150 million (2%)offers a plausible path to capping rate increases around 3% while protecting essential services.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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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

#7240

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns and context- The proposed average 7.9% residential rates rise equates to about $320 more per average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 after adjusting for inflation. This is not sustainable for ratepayers especially while inflation remains elevated and household budgets are stretched.- Breakdown of the increase shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs with 2% to maintain existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as the city grows. Given the scale of prior cost growth the Council must prioritise efficiency before raising bills.Agreed positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on

corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council needs to reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continue to increase these expenditure items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million/year and emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million right away.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.Supporting rationale- The Council's payroll consultants and other expenses have risen far faster than inflation with significant workforce and contractor costs contributing to mounting rate pressure. A targeted reduction in non-essential staffing and consultancy coupled with renegotiation of contracts and vendor consolidation would deliver meaningful savings.- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling an average rates increase capped at about 3% while prioritising essential services.ClosingI request that the Council adopt rigorous spending controls and reject the proposed 7.9% rise until savings measures are implemented and validated.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.The proposed rise would mean an average household bill of around $320 more on top of continued inflationary pressures while spending decisions show room for efficiency without compromising essential services.Agreed positions for inclusion:- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase; seek restraint to align with or well below inflation.- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council needs to reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continue to increase these expenditure items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and on balance emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Additional context and rationale:The Alliance's briefing shows a real increase in rates since 2022 of about 30% (in 2022 dollars) far outpacing cumulative inflation. The breakdown of the 7.9% increase includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs and significant ongoing costs for maintaining and expanding assets. There is credible concern that staff and consultant costs have grown disproportionately (consultants at $126 million annually across the Council group with high average pay for many contractors) and that expenditure on non-essential or discretionary items could be redirected to essential services and rate relief.Proposed alternative: implement the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on spending) delivering a targeted 3% average rate rise through measures such as hiring freezes consultant caps contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I request consideration of these points and a sustainable path that respects ratepayers while preserving essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7269

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a plan that substantially reduces wasteful spend rather than raising bills for households already squeezed by inflation and population growth.1) Rates and affordability- The proposed 7.9% increase (about $320 for the average household) is excessive given that the real increase in rates since 2022 is about 30% while cumulative inflation runs higher. The rate rise should align with inflation and the Council's essential services only.2) Wasteful and bloated spending- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cut the spend on

consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- The current payroll and contractor costs are unsustainable; freezing non-essential roles and cutting vacancies would save money immediately (the submission notes at least $17 million).- Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen much faster than inflation; a broader rebalancing of personnel and 'other expenses' is required.3) Specific programme and Māori outcomes spend- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs about $36 million/year) as the programme reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or significantly reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) consistent with the view that this is not a core local-government role.4) Alternative budget approach- Adopt the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap the average rates increase at around 3%.- This involves cutting personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.5) Additional accountability- Stop unnecessary roadworks by Auckland Transport that create future maintenance costs and distort infrastructure priorities. Some projects appear misaligned with local needs and expense.ClosingI request that the Council considers these savings as a core condition of any rate increase and prioritises essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

(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

#7295

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a reduction in wasteful Council spending to protect households from unaffordable bills.Key concerns:- The 7.9% average rate rise is not affordable for many families. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% (versus 12% cumulative inflation). This cannot continue.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and rein in consultancy and professional services that are increasing costs without equivalent value. The Alliance's figures show $126 million per year in consultant

spend across the group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent.- The proposed budget relies heavily on ongoing CRL operating costs (4.4%) and new asset costs (1.5%) alongside maintaining existing assets (2%). Without structural savings rates pressures will persist.- The Councils' payroll and contractor costs have risen dramatically; personnel costs and other expenses grew faster than inflation between 2022 and 2025 with 6123 employees on six-figure salaries and 72 staff earning more than the mayor's $306741.- I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates growth at 3%. Specific measures include freezing non-essential roles (saving at least $17 million) capping consultant spend ($50 million) renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.- I also oppose the $36 million/year Food Scraps Programme which costs more in emissions than it saves; and I support cuts to Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year in the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing it is not a function of local government.- A further concern is blanket flood-zone mapping on properties that have not flooded which has driven up insurance costs without clear public benefit.In closing I request reductions in wasteful spend and a rates outcome aligned with inflation at most. 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:

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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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
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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

#7374

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9 percent. With the current average residential rates bill at $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent (well above inflation) ratepayers cannot absorb further large non-essential expense growth. The proposed breakdown2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsshows a heavy burden on households while some costs can be reduced through smarter management.In line with the Council and CCO efficiency agenda I support reducing corporate and backroom office spending and cutting consultancy and professional services. The Council should cancel non-essential programmes

including the Food Scraps Programme (costing $36 million per year) which currently emits more carbon than it saves. The Council must freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately. I also oppose continued or expanded spend on Māori-specific programmes such as the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae; I believe these functions fall outside the core responsibilities of local government and should be redirected to statutory services where appropriate.A sustainable alternative budget is possible. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rate rise at approximately 3 percent. This would be achieved by: (a) organisational change and hiring freezes to save $50 million; (b) capping consultancy spend at $50 million; (c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors for $30 million; and (d) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants for $20 million.Additional note: at a population under 2 million salaries across Council and CCOs are excessive; returning to core municipal responsibilitiesmaintained public spaces and rubbish servicesshould be the priority.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.Based on the council's own funding pressures and independent ratepayer analysis this level of increase is not warranted and should be restrained to protect households from unaffordable bills.Key points I urge the Council to consider:1) Cap rate increases and prioritise essential services. The current plan distributes 7.9% across existing and new assets plus CRL operating costs while ratepayers face substantial real increases since 2022. A prudent approach would cap the increase at around 3% by pursuing savings described below and protecting core statutory services.2) Reduce corporate and backroom spending. The Council and CCOs should streamline operations and reduce the spend on corporate functions management layers and backroom processes that do not directly benefit residents.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. Reducing external advisers and contractors will lower the cost of delivering services and projects.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The programme costs $36 million per year and according to its evaluations emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a role for local government and should be redirected to essential services.7) Consider a realistic leaner budget. The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates how a $150 million reduction in new spending could allow a 3% rate rise not 7.9% while maintaining critical services.Additional considerations:Our focus must be on ratepayersrepresenting them not the Council's own interests. Sewage stormwater car parking and parks must not be deprioritised in the pursuit of discretionary projects.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9 percent. With the current average residential rates bill at $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent (well above inflation) ratepayers cannot absorb further large non-essential expense growth. The proposed breakdown2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsshows a heavy burden on households while some costs can be reduced through smarter management.In line with the Council and CCO efficiency agenda I support reducing corporate and backroom office spending and cutting consultancy and professional services. The Council should cancel non-essential programmes including the Food Scraps Programme (costing $36 million per year) which currently emits more carbon than it saves. The Council must freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately. I also oppose continued or expanded spend on Māori-specific programmes such as the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae; I believe these functions fall outside the

core responsibilities of local government and should be redirected to statutory services where appropriate.A sustainable alternative budget is possible. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rate rise at approximately 3 percent. This would be achieved by: (a) organisational change and hiring freezes to save $50 million; (b) capping consultancy spend at $50 million; (c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors for $30 million; and (d) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants for $20 million.Additional note: at a population under 2 million salaries across Council and CCOs are excessive; returning to core municipal responsibilitiesmaintained public spaces and rubbish servicesshould be the priority.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

#7411

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: Waitematā

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 household impactThe proposed average increase of 7.9 percent equates to about $320 more per average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 in rates (vs. 12 percent cumulative inflation). This level of increase is not acceptable when core services and growth are already costing more than inflation and population growth combined.2. Wasteful and excessive corporate spendingThe Alliance highlights that Council spending on consultants runs at about $126 million per year across the group with a single parent Council affecting $60 million and average consultants earning around $200k. In addition personnel costs and other expenses have

grown faster than inflation while a substantial payroll exists across the organisation. I urge a sharp focus on reducing backroom and corporate functions to free resources for essential services.3. Concrete cost-cutting measures I support- Freeze hiring for vacant non-essential roles to immediately save costs (the equivalent of at least $17 million).- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which cost $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Cap and redirect spending away from non-core activities toward essential services.4. All spending should be only on core local government functions. All funds should be prioritised toward statutory and essential services.5. A responsible budget pathI believe the Council should consider capping the average residential rate rise to around 3 percent by reducing new Council spending (notably through personnel costs consultants and vendor consolidations) and prioritising statutory services.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

#7415

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: Waitematā

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 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to wasteful discretionary spending highlighted in the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing.1. Rates and affordability- Oppose the 7.9% average increase; this would be roughly $320 more per household in 2026/27. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 have already reached about 30% in 2022 dollars well above inflation.2. Spending priorities and efficiency- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate/backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services expenditure.- Cancel the Food

Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is appropriate because this is not a direct local-government responsibility.3. Accountability and alternative budgeting- The Council should adopt a more affordable path: align with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rate increase at about 3%. This would be achieved through the combination of: personnel cost reductions capping consultants contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.4. Policy stance and local service delivery- Given the above the current levy fails the test of affordability and prudent stewardship. The Council should focus on core services and essential functions ensuring ratepayer funds deliver value without bloating overheads or pursuing non-core programmes.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I submit this formal response to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a comprehensive reduction in wasteful Council spending. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with real increases since 2022 of 30% in the context of 12% inflation. A 7.9% rise equating to about $320 for the average household is unaffordable for many ratepayers and not justified by the scale of projects currently funded.I agree with the following positions:- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and instead support a more modest increase aligned with inflation or lower.- The Council needs to 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 continuing to increase these expenditure items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) recognising that this is not a core local government function.I further submit that the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates a viable path: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at about 3% by focusing on essential services renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors. Specific actions include targeted personnel reductions a cap on consultancies and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I request that the Council publish a transparent cost-benefit view of any proposed expenditure with clear identifications of non-essential or duplicative functions and provide a plan to reinvest savings into essential services that protect ratepayers from excessive increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7432

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27 and urge a program of expenditure restraint to avoid further rate rises above inflation.1. Rate increase and fiscal discipline- The proposed 7.9 percent increase equates to roughly $320 for the average household. Since 2022 residential rates have risen by about 30 percent in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation (12 percent) and population growth (22 percent). I support capping the rates rise at around 3 percent by cutting non-essential expenditure and refinancing priorities.2. Expenditure reductions at the core- The Council should reduce spending on corporate and

backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Limit consultancy and professional services; the current level is excessive and not sustainable. A reduction of $50 million is both plausible and prudent.- Freeze staffing for non-essential roles or at least pause vacancies to save at least $17 million immediately.3. Specific programme and priority adjustments- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Reprioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to ensure core functions are funded without burdening ratepayers.4. Staffing and remuneration discipline- Personnel costs have grown well above inflation; the payroll at $1.3 billion and consultants/contractors at $590 million demand restraint. A targeted freeze or reduction would help align costs with service delivery needs.5. Māori outcomes spending- I support limiting non-essential specialised spending; the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reviewed for alignment with local government responsibilities rather than broader sectoral functions.ClosingI request the opportunity to present my views at hearings to discuss constructive budget choices 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:

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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- **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

#7433

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful council spending. The evidence from the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing shows that the current plan would impose a heavy inflation-beating burden on households already facing rising costs.Key points:1) Rates affordability and justification. The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 more per average household on a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outstripping inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). The real burden on households is unsustainable.2)

Wasteful spending and back-office costs. Council spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant earning around $200k. Staff costs and 'other expenses' have grown well ahead of inflation and 18 corporate and business support functions alone cost nearly $870 million in direct expenditure. A sharper focus on core statutory and essential services is overdue.3) Targeted expenditure reductions to cap rates. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes saving $150 million by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze ($50 million);- Capping consultant spend ($50 million);- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million);- Prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants ($20 million).4) Specific programme cuts and governance reforms. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and emits more carbon than it saves. Freeze or reduce payroll by not filling non-essential vacant roles (£at least $17 million immediate saving). Curb Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local government remit.In summary a more prudent path is needed: constrain rates to inflation or lower and reallocate funds from consulting back-office administration and discretionary programmes toward essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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- **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

#7439

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: Waitematā

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 public consultation on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to pursue substantial savings in non-core spending before raising rates further.Key points1) The proposed increase is not affordable for households. The 7.9% rise equates to about $320 more per average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85%well above inflation and population growth. The Council should not require households to bear a cumulative 'real' increase that far outstrips budgetary needs.2) Reduce wasteful and backroom

costs. The Council should cut expenditure on consultants and professional services which total around $126 million per year across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with many consultants earning high fees. A smaller better-calibrated support function will deliver core services more efficiently.3) Freeze staffing and payroll where possible. Freezing vacancies and reducing payroll costs in non-essential roles would deliver at least $17 million in immediate savings. The Council should prioritise frontline and statutory services over discretionary expansion of payroll.4) Reassess Maori outcomes spending. The proposal to sustain a dedicated Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) at about $10 million per year is not a core local government function. Redirection to essential services will benefit all ratepayers.5) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At about $36 million per year with emissions that exceed any potential savings this programme represents wasteful spend that should be halted in favour of proven cost-effective measures.6) Alternative budget alignment. The Ratepayers' Alliance suggests a $150 million reduction in new spending (2%) which would cap the average rate increase to about 3% through targeted cuts to personnel consultants renegotiated contracts and prioritising statutory services.Additional observationI live close to Dominion Road and there are minimal local services for nearby properties underscoring the need for efficiency and targeted investment rather than broad rate increases.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

- **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

#7478

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a strong and direct manner to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to urge concrete reductions in wasteful Council spending. The evidence from the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance shows that the current rate path is unsustainable and footing the bill for excessive backroom costs.I oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. The proposed breakdown shows 4.4 percent tied to CRL operating costs plus 2 percent for maintaining assets and 1.5 percent for new assets. Since 2010 rates have risen 85 percent while inflation has run roughly 34 percent and population grew about 22 percent. The ratepayer

burden has outpaced inflation and growth for too long.I agree the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing growth in these areas. Data indicate Council and CCO staff costs are high with thousands on six-figure salaries and substantial consultant expenditure averaging $200000 per contractor. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well ahead of inflation.I agree the Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing or reducing payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles a move that could save at least $17 million immediately. I agree the Council should 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.I propose the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap the rate rise at around 3 percent by cutting personnel costs capping consultancy renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	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

#7511

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: Waitematā

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 urge Council to align rate increases with inflation and genuine essential needs not expanding already bloated backroom and discretionary spending.Key concerns and positions:- The proposed 7.9 percent increase is excessive. The average residential rate increases should be limited to around 3 percent based on an alternative budget that reduces new spending by about $150 million. This would cap rates at a more affordable level for households.- Expenditure on corporate and backroom functions must be reduced across the Council and CCOs. The current pattern of high-cost staff and extensive outsourcing is unsustainable.- Spending on consultancy

and professional services should be cut rather than expanded. Reducing reliance on external advisers will save significant sums.- The Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) should be cancelled as it adds cost and appears to produce limited net carbon savings.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacant roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Māori-specific spending should be reassessed including the roughly $10 million/year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Context and data:- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. The mix of the current plan2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for growth-driven assets and 4.4% for CRL costsdoes not justify a near-9% uplift.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that meaningful savings are possible through targeted reductions in personnel costs consultants and vendor costs plus prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional note:This country is financially stretched and ratepayers deserve accountable governance that prioritises core services over non-essential programs. I urge Council to act prudently pause the wasteful expenditures and deliver fairer leaner budgeting.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:

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

#7577

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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

Key concerns and requests- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9% with an understanding this would add approximately $320 to the average household bill. The current average residential bill is about $4069 and real increases since 2022 are running well ahead of inflation (roughly 30% in 2022 dollars vs. 12% inflation).- The proposed breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. I urge the Council to cap total rate rises and pursue substantial efficiency gains first.- 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 allow continual growth. The briefing highlights $126 million annually on consultants across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200k.- 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 non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reassess Māori-focused expenditure including the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting that this is not a core local government function.- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposal of a $150 million reduction in new spending (2% cap on rate rises) through prioritising essential services cutting consultants renegotiating contracts and freezing non-essential staffing warrants serious consideration.Additional contextAs a pensioner on a fixed income I seek reassurance that essential services are funded while costs of living continue to rise. A careful disciplined approach to spending and a modest rate rise would support prudent fiscal stewardship and protect households.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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- **Water service strategies**
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- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

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

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

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

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

#7583

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit to oppose Auckland Council's proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to urge a rigorous review of current and future expenditure to deliver essential services at a more affordable cost for households.The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to approximately $320 for the average household on top of a current average rates bill of $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen significantly (85% since the Super City amalgamation) far outpacing inflation and population growth. A more sustainable path would be to align rate rises with inflation and make targeted efficiency gains.I support the Council's need to reduce expenditure on corporate and

backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to cut spend on consultancy and professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a practical alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rates increase at 3% through:- Reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles (potentially at least $50 million).- Capping spending on consultants ($50 million).- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30 million).- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).Additional measures I support include cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves freezing staffing levels and not filling vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately. I also oppose spending on Māori-specific programmes such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department including the $10 million/year allocated to that area which I do not view as a core local government responsibility.In summary I urge the Council to restrain rates increases review and reduce non-essential and backroom spending and prioritise essential services. Maintaining a lean transparent budget will better serve ratepayers and affordability in Auckland.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#7625

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. Opposition to the rate increase and a call for disciplined spendingThe proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise is excessive particularly when inflation and population growth are not matched by commensurate service improvements. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance shows that the real rate increase since 2022 is 30% in 2022 dollars far outpacing cumulative inflation of 12%. I urge the Council to adopt a disciplined budget that prioritises statutory and essential services and reduces non-essential discretionary spend.2. Specific savings and reform proposals- Reduce corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs including personnel costs and outsourcing.- Cap

and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these expenditures.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) programme which I do not view as a core function of local government.3. A realistic alternative budgetI support and urge the Council to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rates increase at 3%. This would be achieved through:- $50 million savings from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze.- $50 million savings from capping consultant spending.- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that the Council consider these measures to avoid the 7.9% uplift and deliver a more prudent transparent budget focused on essential services and responsible stewardship 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

#7628

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase. The current average rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is already 30% in 2022 dollars with inflation at 12%. A 7.9% rise is unacceptable and inconsistent with protecting households from growing cost of living pressures.Agreed positions1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9% and push for a much lower outcome.2) The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.4) Cancel the Food Scraps

Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and/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 such as the $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government function.Additional pointsMy rates rose 12.5% last yearenough is enough. I have never received such a large pay rise and Council spending is out of control. The proposed budget should instead reflect tighter controls on operating and personnel costs with a clear emphasis on essential services and statutory responsibilities.Policy directionAdopt the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates increase at 3% through:- $50 million from personnel cost reductions and a hiring freeze- $50 million from capping consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsClosingI request consideration of these points and urge a focus on efficiency and discretion in Council 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.)

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	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

#7653

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a clear evidence-based reduction in wasteful council spending to hold rate rises to a sustainable level.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a long-term real increase in rates of 30% since 2022 far outpacing cumulative inflation. While maintaining essential services is important a large portion is driven by CRL operating costs and growth-related asset expenditure not core local services.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that cutting new spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) can

cap rate increases to around 3%. This requires action in four areas: reduce personnel costs through hiring freezes and organisational change; cap consultant spend; renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors; prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Specific savings measures I support include freezing non-essential recruitment (saving at least $17 million immediately) and cutting consultancy and professional services spending which currently appears to be a significant driver of cost growth. The data show high levels of contractor expenditure and six-figure salaries that warrant scrutiny.- I also urge reconsideration of non-core programmes. The Food Scraps Programme is cited as costing $36 million per year and emitting more carbon than it saves; cancellation should be considered in favour of preserving essential services. Additionally reducing Māori-specific spend such as the Ngā Mātārae outcomes function should be linked to a clear statement of local government responsibilities and demonstrable service outcomes.Focus on core services- The Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes ensuring basic duties are funded before expanding with add-ons. Wasteful back-office and consultancy expenses undermine public trust and inflate rates unnecessarily.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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	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

#7692

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key context and stance- The proposed 7.9% average rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of the already high bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. A more prudent budget is required.- The rate increase is heavily weighted toward operating costs and new assets including 4.4% for CRL operating costs while current spending shows a pattern of rising personnel costs and consultant expenditure that does not align with residents' needs.Agreed positions (what I want included)1) Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9% and seek restrained growth aligned to inflation and essential

service delivery.2) The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom/office functions across the Council and CCOs; e.g. cut nonessential operating costs and streamline administration.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these items; freeze or cap such contracts where possible.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending notably the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not an essential local-government function.Additional context- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a 3% cap on rates. Priorities include personnel cost reductions consultancy caps contract renegotiations and prioritisation of statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge the Council to revise the proposed plan prioritise core services and implement the stated reductions to bring rates growth back in line with residents' expectations and essential service delivery.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
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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

#7699

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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

With current average residential rates at $4069 and real increases since 2022 running well ahead of inflation a continued pattern of higher-than-inflation rate rises is unsustainable for households. The proposed 7.9 percent rise largely funds ongoing asset maintenance (2%) new assets as the city grows (1.5%) and CRL operating costs (4.4%) but at this pace rates are eating into household budgets faster than wage growth or inflation.I urge the Council to implement substantial savings by prioritising essential services and reducing wasteful expenditure. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a

2% reduction) can cap the rate rise at about 3 percent. Key measures include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants: $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million.Specific expenditure concerns and proposed reductions:- 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 which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Additional context: current spending on consultants totals about $126 million annually across the Council group with Auckland Council alone spending around $60 million and consultants averaging about $200000 each. Staffing and related costs have grown far faster than inflation (staff/payroll ~ $1.3 billion; direct operating expenditure up 78% from 20132023). A more disciplined approach to backroom and corporate spending is essential.I request that the Council consider these measures and adjust the 2026/27 plan to reflect a lower rate rise aligned with inflation and to protect essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7717

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 7.9% rates uplift. This exceeds inflation and does not reflect value for money for ratepayers. The ratepayer burden has risen by 30% in real terms since 2022 while many households face stretched budgets. A more prudent approach is needed that controls non-essential spending and protects essential services.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget shows how reductions in non-core costs could cap the rates rise to around 3%. I support this direction and urge the Council to implement targeted savings across several areas:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing non-essential hiring and pursuing organisational change to cut payroll

costs saving at least $17 million immediately.- Cap and reduce spending on consultants and professional services saving around $50 million.- renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to achieve a further $30 million in savings.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.I also urge the Council to cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. By focusing on core waste and recycling outcomes within existing mandates we can deliver better value for money.Additionally I request significant reductions in spend on Māori-focused areas. The current $10 million per year directed to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a local government core function. Redirecting these funds toward essential services that benefit all ratepayers is prudent.Other concerns I raise reflecting the broader ratepayer perspective include the perception that since the Super City amalgamation rates have risen sharply while service value has not kept pace. I also note that Auckland Transport appears to have substantial influence over decisions and there is a sense that CBD-focused priorities dominate at the expense of other communities across Auckland.I request that the Council consider these points seriously and adopt a plan that freezes or reduces payroll and non-essential expenditure to keep rates increases reasonable and sustainable.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

#7728

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my views on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the planned average residential rates increase.1) I oppose the proposed average 7.9% residential rates increase. For the average household this would mean about $320 more per year at a time when households are already under pressure from higher living costs. The level of increase should be constrained to reflect inflation and essential service needs not growth in operating costs.2) Expenditure reductions should come first. The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A more streamlined organisation would lower operating costs without

compromising essential services.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. The spend on consultants and contractors is excessive and should be capped or redirected to essential functions. This aligns with the need to deliver value for money to ratepayers.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year it costs more in emissions than it saves. The programme should be halted until a robust business case shows net public and environmental benefit.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles as a starting point would save at least $17 million immediately. A pause on non-essential recruitment would help stabilise rates.6) Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a function of local government. Reallocating or scaling back this spending is appropriate within the Council's core statutory responsibilities.7) Budget discipline in a recessionary period. Every dollar counts; a targeted reduction in new spending and a reallocation toward essential services will protect ratepayers.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget approach which proposes a 3% cap by reducing personnel costs caping consultants and renegotiating contracts to prioritise statutory services over discretionary grants.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
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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

#7771

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in formal opposition to the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a reset of council spending to protect households.The proposed 7.9% rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a long-run real-terms cost pressure faced by ratepayers. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% while population growth has been only 22% and inflation around 34%. The current plan concentrates costs on CRL operating expenses (4.4%) asset maintenance (2%) and new asset funding (1.5%) with insufficient justification for continuing to outpace both inflation and household budgets.To restore affordability I support the Auckland Ratepayers'

Alliance plan to cap the rates increase at 3% by reducing new and ongoing expenditure. Specifically I support:- reducing corporate and back-office spending across the council and CCOs- reducing consultancy and professional services expenditure rather than allowing continued growth in these areas- cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and has been shown to emit more carbon than it saves- freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately- cutting Maori-specific spending including about $10 million per annum on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) recognising that such roles are not core local government functionsAdditional context from the Alliance indicates a potential $150 million reduction in new spending (2% cut) to achieve the 3% cap by implementing organisational change a hiring freeze capping consultancy spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I urge the council to prioritise essential services and governance reform over high-cost discretionary initiatives and to provide transparent reporting on savings achieved. A tighter more accountable budget would better reflect ratepayer needs and protect households from further cost pressures.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

#7772

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Core positionI oppose the 7.9% average increase. The proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a long-run pattern of rising costs not matched by equivalent service improvements. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far outstripping both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A rates rise this high should be backed by clear measurable savings and demonstrable value to ratepayers.2) Wasteful spending and reform prioritiesThe Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. Annual consultant spend across the Council group

stands at $126 million with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent and individual consultants averaging $200k. Direct operating expenditure and payroll costs have grown well beyond inflation while eighteen corporate and business support functions alone cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure. A council with a genuine focus on efficiency should prioritise savings here.3) Specific savings proposals- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) on the basis of its carbon impact versus savings.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (Projected immediate saving: at least $17 million).- Cap spending on consultants and renegotiate vendor contracts to achieve substantial cost reductions.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and scale back non-core programmes including targeted Māori specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae/'Maori outcomes' department (about $10 million/year) which is not a core local government function.4) Additional contextOur teachers' salary increases should be considered in parallel with local government affordability; the Mayor's rate rise proposal does not align with these broader cost pressures.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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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

#7778

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 rate rise and urge the Council to adopt substantial spending restraint aligned with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget. The current path of rising costs is unsustainable for households particularly given the real rate increases since 2022 and the cumulative inflation that outpaces population growth. A targeted reduction in non-essential and backroom spend is essential before any further rate increases are considered.Key positions I support:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce the spend on

consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to 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 as 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 function of local government.In line with these positions I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget that proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rates increase at 3 percent. Specifically this would be achieved through:- Reducing personnel costs via 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 millionI recognise the need to fund essential services but the current plan must prioritise efficiency and value for money. Transparent reporting on any savings achieved and independent scrutiny of major cost lines will be essential.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

#7797

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed increase is excessive when set against inflation and real spending pressures faced by households. The 7.9% rise equates to about $320 more per average household on an average bill of $4069. Since 2022 residential rates have risen 30% in real termswell above CPI growth. The breakdown shows 2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets to accommodate growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Cumulatively rates have grown far faster than population and inflation underscoring the need for belt-tightening rather than further increases.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) cap the average

residential rates increase at 3% by cutting waste and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. Specifically:- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce personnel costs and back-office functions; curb corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to achieve savings.- Reprioritise resources away from discretionary programmes including those not core to statutory duties.The data available indicate substantial waste: $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group with the average consultant receiving about $200k; payroll and associated costs are rising faster than inflation; core staff and six-figure salaries are rising while direct operating expenditure outpaced inflation from 2013 to 2023. A targeted reduction in corporate and back-office functions together with a pause on non-essential hires would deliver real savings and enable a more affordable rates outcome.I urge the Council to adopt the Alliance's savings plan and keep rates to a sustainable level for Auckland households. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7835

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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

Key context and concerns:- The proposed increase represents about $320 more per average household on top of a current average rates bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%) and the real burden on households continues to grow'.- The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets tied to growthyet savings are still possible by cutting wasteful expenditures rather than raising rates further.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes a 2% reduction in new spending to cap the rate rise at around 3%

achieved by: reducing personnel costs via hiring freezes capping consultancy spend renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Agreed positions (key actions I support):- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rate increase; seek a rate rise aligned with or below inflation.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and back-office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than increasing these costs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs about $36 million/year and reportedly emits more carbon than saved).- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies; an immediate saving of at least $17 million.- Cut Māori-specific spending (e.g. the $10 million/year on the Maori Outcomes department Ngā Mātārae) arguing it is not a core function of local government.- Stop funding community organisations not Auckland-specific where possible (e.g. Citizens Advice Bureau) to avoid cross-regional subsidies.Additional point:- Re-prioritise expenditure by halting non-essential programmes and redirecting funds to core Auckland needs and statutory services.In closing I respectfully request the Council to reconsider the proposed rate rise in light of wasteful spend and to adopt the Alliance's proposed savings plan to protect households from excessive increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

#7841

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 rate position would push a typical household bill well beyond inflation with an average rise of about $320.Key concerns and rationale:- The 7.9 percent increase is not affordable and represents a real burden above inflation. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% far exceeding inflation and population growth. The proposed split shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs on top of other pressures which should be reviewed in light of efficiency gains.- There is substantial evidence of excessive backroom and consultant spending. Council and CCOs collectively spend about $126 million per year on consultants with the Auckland Council parent

alone around $60 million; the average consultant pays roughly $200000. Reducing such costs is both prudent and overdue.- Personnel and payroll costs have grown aggressively with 6123 staff on six-figure salaries and 72 employees paid more than the mayor. Freezing non-essential hires and capping payroll would yield immediate savingsarguably at least $17 million right away.- The ratepayers' alternative budget proposes a 2% cut in new Council spending to cap the rate rise at around 3% achieved by reducing personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants. This approach aligns with living within our means and avoiding unnecessary increases.- Specific programmatic savings requested: cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year and reportedly emissions-heavy); cut Māori-focused expenditure such as the $10 million per year for the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a local-government core function; and prioritise statutory services over discretionary items.Additional points:Ratepayers cannot simply refuse a pay rise to the Council; therefore the Council must set rates in line with inflation and live within its means. The CEO and senior management should be held to account for excessive remuneration 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):

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7870

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending. The plan should not punish households with a rate rise well above inflation when savings are possible through prudent management.Key concerns and positions1) Rates increase and affordability- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to roughly $320 per household while the current average rates bill is $4069. Since 2022 rates have risen 30% in real terms far outpacing inflation (12%). I support capping the rate rise at around 3% or lower by rebalancing expenditure.2) Expenditure reductions and fiscal restraint- The Council

must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Limit or halt growth in consultancy and professional services; reassess vendors and renegotiate contracts to achieve substantial savings.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled estimated at $36 million per year as it costs more in emissions than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies; saving at least $17 million immediately.3) Specific spending reforms- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) department about $10 million per year on the basis that this is not a function of local government.- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) achieving cap around 3% rate rise. This includes organisational changes hiring freezes capping consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional notes- Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well in excess of inflation; the Council should align payroll and contractor costs with mainstream expectations and statutory duties.- Focus on essential services and oversight to ensure residents receive value for money.ClosingI request to speak at hearings to present these points in person. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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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

#7886

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns- The proposed average 7.9% rates rise (about $320 for the average household) is excessive when the Council has increased rates by 85% since the 2010 Super City amalgamation well above inflation and population growth. The 7.9% comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs with limited justification for such a high rise.- The Council must address wasteful expenditure before asking households to pay more. Annual spending on consultants totals about $126 million across the Council group with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent; the average consultant earns around $200k. Direct operating expenditure

and staff costs have grown far faster than inflation in recent years.- The Council's 'Māori Outcomes' spend (Ngā Mātārae) totals $171 million over 10 years and payroll costs exceed $1.3 billion annually. These levels are not aligned with core local government roles and warrant reassessment.Substantive alternative budget (as proposed by the Ratepayers' Alliance)- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average residential rates increase at 3%: - 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 million- Specific reductions in spending identified by the Alliance include: - Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which emits more carbon than it saves - Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles (savings of at least $17 million) - Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori Outcomes departmentAdditional call to action- Increase efficiency reduce costs and lower rates to relieve ratepayers and households.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

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

#7895

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed increase would add approximately $320 to the average household bill on top of a real rates rise of about 30 percent since 2022 in the face of 12 percent total inflation.I support the following positions:- Oppose the average residential rates rise by at least 7.9% and seek a cap on increases that aligns with inflation and deliverable services.- 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 permitting continual growth.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and based on 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 Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Additional context:- The Council's current spending patterns show high reliance on consultants ($126 million annually across the group) and substantial payroll costs with direct operating expenditure rising far faster than inflation in recent years. A rebalancing toward essential statutory and core services is warranted.- An alternative budget approach could reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a maximum 3 percent average rate increase while preserving essential services.I request that the Council consider these targeted reductions as a priority before approving any rate increase and include transparent reporting on savings achieved through these reforms.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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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7900

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key points- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) while inflation has been 12%. This level is unaffordable for many ratepayers and does not reflect prudent restraint.- The Council should implement substantial cost reductions across corporate and backroom functions within the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services spend which currently adds materially to ongoing costs.- The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves; cancelling this programme should be considered as part of a leaner

spend profile.- Freeze staffing growth and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose ongoing funding for Māori-specific programmes such as the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) at roughly $10 million per year because this is not a local government core function.Rationale and requested actions- A credible alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap average residential rates increase at 3% by implementing: - $50 million in personnel cost reductions through organisational reform and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles - $50 million cap on consultants and professional services - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants- The cost and excessive use of orange cones has not been sorted and should be reviewed for potential efficiency gains.I respectfully request the opportunity to speak at hearings to present these points in further detail. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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- **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

#7902

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a constructive solution-focused manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a thorough review of Council spending to prioritise essential services and cost savings.1. Rate increase and spending priorities- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The proposed rise amounts to about $320 for the average household on top of a ratepayer base that has seen a real increase of 30% since 2022 (versus 12% consumer inflation). The current system has seen rates rise well beyond inflation and population growth.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council

and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services spend rather than permitting further growth.2. Specific program and staffing concerns- 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 immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government has statutory duties but such specific the allocations should be scrutinised for alignment with core council responsibilities.3. Alternative budget approach- The Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average rates increase at around 3%. This could be achieved through organisational changes a hiring freeze capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I appreciate Council's need to fund essential services; however ongoing 7.9% increases are unsustainable for many households. A targeted evidence-based reduction in back-office costs consultants and non-essential programmes would preserve essential services while keeping rates affordable.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

- **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

#7916

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: Waitematā

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 opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. The council must live within its means and prioritise essential services.Position and supporting points1. Rates increase tolerance. The proposed 7.9% average rise is well above inflation and place an ongoing burden on households. Since 2010 rates have increased by 85% far outstripping cumulative inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A more disciplined budget is required.2. Wasteful spending and back-office costs. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the

Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services which have grown far faster than inflation.3. Specific reductions proposed in the Ratepayers' Alliance framework. The Alternative Budget recommends reducing new Council spending by $150 million to cap rates increases at about 3%: $50 million by freezing personnel costs and halting non-essential hiring; $50 million by capping consultants; $30 million through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.4. Contested programmes and lines of expenditure. I oppose the Food Scraps Programme cited as costing around $36 million per year with questionable net carbon savings. I also oppose continuing to fund the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) at $10 million per year given that this is not a core local government function.5. Payroll and staffing. Freezing vacant non-essential roles or reducing payroll costs would yield immediate savings (at least $17 million) while still preserving essential services. The overall payroll and consultant costs including six-figure salaries require ongoing scrutiny to ensure value for money.ConclusionI request a careful reconsideration of the rate increase with a focus on cutting high-cost non-core programmes and back-office spending and adopting the Ratepayers' Alliance proposed savings plan to bring rates closer to 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.
	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

#7956

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 register my opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to call for substantial reductions in wasteful council spending.I understand the CRL and operating costs are significant drivers of the proposed increase but ratepayers are not seeing enough expenditure restraint. The current average residential rates bill is around $4069 with real increases since 2022 well above inflation. Since amalgamation rates have risen by 85 percent far outstripping population growth and inflation. I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance's Alternative Budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the

increase to about 3 percent.My positions include:1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. This level places an unfair burden on households already squeezed by rising costs.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut consultancy and professional services instead of allowing their continued growth.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.6) Seek smarter savings elsewhere including targeted cost containment on local board services and other discretionary items applying the same discipline households use with their budgets.Additional points: While CRL is a major factor expenditure cuts must be meaningful and well targeted. The apparent rise in staff numbers high consultant costs and six-figure salaries warrant thorough review and restraint.Thank 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**
- **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

#7961

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: Waitematā

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 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to urge a tightening of Council spending before asking residents to shoulder higher bills.Key concerns and positions:- Agree: The average residential rates increase should be capped at or below inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent (roughly $320 for the average household) is excessive given the real rate of increase since 2022 and the Council's spending patterns.- Agree: Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Administrative bloat and high backroom costs should be trimmed before asking households to fund more.- Agree: Cut spend

on consultancy and professional services. The amount spent on consultants and contractors is unsustainably high and should be restrained.- Agree: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (£36 million/year) as it appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Agree: Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Agree: Cut Māori-specific spending including the ~$10 million/year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) if this is not a core function of local government.- Additional point: Act as a financially responsible organisation by cutting wasteful expenditure and 'acting within means' to protect households from recurring rate shocks.A practical path forward is consistent with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rate rise to about 3 percent. This requires recommissioning funding priorities toward essential statutory services and disciplined procurement including renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors.I urge Council to prioritise core services reduce non-essential discretionary grants and implement the above cost-saving measures in preference to higher rates. These steps will ensure better value for ratepayers and a more sustainable financial path for Auckland.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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	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

#7963

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the 7.9 percent average rates increase. At approximately $320 more per household this is well above reasonable growth given the Council's recent spend profile. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. A substantial portion of the increase funds operating costs for the CRL and other areas that should be scrutinised for efficiency.The Council must reduce wasteful expenditure particularly in corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. The Alliance's analysis shows $126 million per year across the Council group on consultants with the average consultant earning

around $200k. Direct operating expenditure has risen far faster than inflation and staff costs have surged. I urge cap and reduce non-essential payroll expenditure and consultancy spend to align with a responsible prudent budget.Specific policies I support and urge be reflected in the plan:- 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 immediately.- Reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Ngā Mātārae/Māori Outcomes department as this is not a statutory function of local government.To align spending with core statutory and essential services the Alliance's alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average rates increase at approximately 3% and prioritise essential services over discretionary grants. This would be achieved by reducing personnel costs through freezes/hiring controls capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory obligations.I request that the Council adopt a more prudent approach to expenditure and rates ensuring affordability for households while delivering essential services efficiently.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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- **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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	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

#7982

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. At an estimated $320 more per household this pushes rates well above inflation and is inconsistent with the needs of households already squeezed by cost-of-living pressures. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of roughly 30 percent far outpacing 12 percent inflation. The breakdown shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs on top of other increases; this warrants scrutiny and restraint.I urge the Council to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and to cut consultancy and professional services rather than

continuing the growth in those areas. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance outlines options to reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) which could cap the rate rise to around 3 percent. Key measures include freezing non-essential hiring capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Specific savings proposals I support (and that align with a prudent responsible approach):- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year for the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given concerns about local government roles and responsibilities.- Reduce spend on consultants and to focus on core governance rather than external advisers.- Consider contracting renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve meaningful savings.- A broader concern is that expenditure appears concentrated in the city centre; suburbs should not be left underfunded.In closing I request that the Council adopt a measured pathway to reduce wasteful spending restrain rate increases to align with inflation and focus on essential services that benefit all ratepayers not only central-city interests.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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N/A

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

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

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- **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

#8031

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: Waitematā

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 detailed evidence-based submission in opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in support of downsized Council expenditure to protect households from excessive rate rises.Key points- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent (about $320 for the average household). Since 2010 rates have risen 85 percent far exceeding inflation and population growth. The current rate path is unsustainable for households.- The breakdown of the 7.9 percent increase2 percent to maintain existing assets 1.5 percent for growth and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costsshows a heavy burden funded by

ratepayers including large discretionary and backroom costs that must be reviewed first.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate/backroom functions across Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these areas. The Alliance data show consultants costing about $126 million per year across the Council group with substantial average individual payments.- The Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) should be cancelled as it costs more in emissions than it saves. Prioritise essential services and statutory obligations over discretionary programmes.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. This could save at least $17 million immediately and reduce ongoing personnel costs which have risen far faster than inflation.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government role. Local bodies should focus on core statutory responsibilities.- Ratepayers north of the Harbour Bridge receive little to no benefit from the rail link; these costs should be reviewed to ensure fair distribution of projects across the city.Alternative budget approachI support the Ratepayers' Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million to cap rates increases at around 3 percent achieved by targeting personnel costs consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingAs I am recovering from major surgery 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

#8045

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: Waitematā

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 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a programme of significant belt-tightening with full 100% attention on wasteful council spending before any uplift is approved.Key points- The proposed 7.9% rise equates to about $320 extra per average household on top of a long-run pattern of rates growth that far outstrips inflation. Since 2010 rates have risen ~85% while inflation has risen ~34% and population ~22%. This burden is unsustainable for households.- The rate increase should be restrained to core services (the false idea of maintaining services MUST be abandoned so as rational commonsense pervades all Council

does). The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and should freeze or phase down staffing by not filling non-essential vacancies. A vacancy freeze alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- The multiple corporate structures is merely a duplication of Bura-rats management and so created and generates cost and inefficiency 24/7. The removal of AT is a start but far from enough.- Spending on consultants and professional services is excessive and should be capped and reviewed. Reducing consultancy expenditure renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors would deliver meaningful savings. Either the Consultants must go or the EXCESS staff need to go. You cant have and don't need both.- The current spending on non-core initiatives must be scrutinised. In particular a good example of wasting public monies is the Food Scraps Programme this currently costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves; it should be cancelled. It fails to achieve a prime (but false) objective stated at the outset where is the accountability here?- There is a strong case to curb Māori-specific spending (give any name you like but it is actually APARTHEID 100% if you disagree then go look up the meaning of the word before you get that wrong. Example: - 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 programmes. There is no question on this it is a waste of public monies.The Council and especially the staff are living in a bubble/glass box devoid of reality. Hence what they think about do and say has not fact/reality about it. So here is a sample or three of the obvious fact/s that you seem to have missed...1 Tribalism is racism it is apartheid that is a simple 100% fact. You are wasting millions on that which if anything has a negative impact on the community 24/7. There is no benefits at all. This is clearly anti-democratic abhorrent and I would suggest that it borders on criminal as to intent to deliberately squander public monies in this way in any such way.2 The above provides no benefit at all for ratepayers never did never would and never could or will.3 Council must operate on the basis of being Colour blind the alternate is apartheid.4 All councilors should be 100% skeptical of all Bura-rat budgets no matter who or what they are created for. The reason is obvious... NEVER EVER will a Bura-rat suggest that their job is pointless costly meaningless and so on... NEVER EVER will a Bura-rat suggest that any co-seat warmers job is pointless costly meaningless and so on either. 5 Where Council staff use consultants there are obvious explanations for that and th e solution is equally obvious already... either: - (a) The Bura-rat is self artz covering at a huge cost to ratepayers or(b) They are incompetent hence the consultant...Solution: -Either they go or the Consultant goes pick one!6 When the AKL councils merged there was specific stated goals and benefits of that. The answer as to why rates hikes and inefficiency are rampant within Auckland Council 100% directly relate to the failure to achieve any (not one) of those goals. Example staff numbers were to reduce they significantly increase + the average rate of pay increased significantly. The problem is obvious the answer/s equally so.7 Consultants are usually pay themselves based around the perceived cost of the job so there is no incentive at all to be Cost effective on anything EVER. Worse they always want a lot of extras on a job and expect more $$ as fees for that also. There is no alignment of Council staff and or Consultants with what is best for Ratepayers = massive costs and massive debt and massive rate hikes. 8 NEVER will a Bura-rat suggest a budget reduction or savings the reason is also obvious its because of all the above9 The problem in Auckland (like many councils across NZ/AUS etc) is that these fundamental factors are cornerstone to the mess... (a) Full accountability to ratepayers = this is uncomfortable for Council staff as it means there is risk of their name being linked to bad decisions and wasteful spending... hence secrecy is preferred for self preservation purposes. (b) Full transparency to ratepayers all the time = ditto as above

(c) If all that Council does is real legit necessary... then there is no issue EVER with the above. (d) The true meaning intent and outcome of CCO's is: - - Meaning = is to move all away from EM's review involvement as much as possible i.e. to create separate silos so as all kinds of dodgy stuff can happen at great cost... no benefit for ratepayers from that. - Intent = to create more bura-rat jobs create autonomy from the Council itself self governing self determination with little/no overview. This is clearly illustrated by the T&C's and policy created around these CCO's. most/all exclude financial outcomes and accountability etc that is necessary. Why as that would limit the free-for-all autonomy desired by bura-rats. - outcome = huge costs to ratepayers without full accountability/transparency etc 24/7 massive staff number increases and massive payroll blowouts... Council staff then claim to be either Corporate of Council based that depends on the day of the week event self benefiting need etc... but none of the responsibility. Lets not forget that whatever Council tries to do ALWAYS...A It takes a long timeB Costs a massive amount an eye-watering amount in fact...C Consultants for Africa... overpaid and not necessaryAll that noted above inter-relates 100%NEVER forget that... more spend = more rates = more debt = <<repeat.Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposed approach (illustrative only) but a lot more must be achieved.- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) - enabling a rate cap of around 3% on residential rates by: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million from consultants; $30 million from contracts and vendor consolidation; $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Clearly Council staff and certainly all EM's have not got the basics right here. Start with this.. .all Council budgets MUST start at zero then justify every dollar spent. If properly done there would be no rate increase needed this year or for years... In summary a disciplined cost-reduction plan targeting payroll consulting and non-essential programmes will better serve ratepayers and keep rate increases within reasonable bounds.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

#8063

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: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current plan would push the average residential rates bill higher (about $320 more per household) at a time when the ratepayer base is already stretched.Key concerns and requested actions:1) Rates increase and affordability: The 7.9% rise is excessive when compared with inflation and population growth since the Super City amalgamation. A targeted reduction is needed to avoid compounding financial pressure on households.2) Reduce corporate and backroom expenditure: The Council should cut spend on corporate and backoffice functions across the Council and CCOs to improve value for ratepayers.3) Cut consultancy and professional services: Spending on

consultants and contractors is high and growing; I request a substantial reduction in this area with a view to delivering core services more efficiently.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme: The $36 million/year programme should be halted as it emits more carbon than it saves and is not a priority for essential services.5) Freeze staffing or replace vacant non-essential roles: Freezing staffing and not filling non-essential vacancies would save at least $17 million promptly and reduce ongoing payroll pressure.6) Cap Māori-specific spending: The $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as a non-essential local government function.In addition I note the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise at around 3% by restraining payroll capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. I urge the Council to adopt a similar restraint to protect households and ensure core services are funded.I request that my submission be considered in detail and that the Council pursue the responsible targeted reforms outlined above to align spending with actual essential needs and affordability.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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	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

#8084

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a comprehensive review of Council spending to prioritise essential services rather than growth in backroom costs.Key points:- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 per household on top of a long history of rising rates. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% while inflation and population growth have grown much slower. This level of increase is not affordable or sustainable for households.- I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner organisation can deliver essential services more

efficiently.- I support cutting spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to continue rising.- I oppose the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Funds should be redirected to essential services with clear benefits to residents.- I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which can save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose ongoing Māori-specific spend such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Alternative budget approach:Based on the Ratepayers' Alliance plan reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at about 3%:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze- $50 million from capping consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsI respectfully request that the Council consider these measures to deliver real restraint on rates and better value for households.Come on Mayor Brown. You are a sharp man with integrity. Please say no to the rabble of councillors and help get NZ back on its feet. We don't want to remember you as just another wasteful political mayor!!I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8142

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current rate rise is excessive in real terms: since 2022 rates are up about 30% in real terms (versus 12% inflation). The proposed 7.9% increase is not aligned with inflation or the level of service required.I support the following positions and ask them to be included in the submission package:1) Oppose the 7.9% average increase; target a much lower rise. A disciplined budget is required to keep rates affordable while preserving essential services.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. The current structure appears to absorb substantial costs that do not reflect direct service delivery to residents.3) Curb consultancy and

professional services spend. The Alliance notes $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k; this is not sustainable.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to stakeholders emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spend such as the $10 million/year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local government function.Additional context and expectations:- The Council's spending on consultants corporate functions and backroom operations should be scrutinised and rationalised before any rate increase is approved.- A leaner budget must prioritise statutory and essential services while limiting discretionary grants that do not directly benefit ratepayers.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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	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

#8180

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for a rigorous reduction of Council spending with a view to delivering lower rates through a zero-based budgeting approach and prioritising essential services.There needs to be a fundamental shift in values and behaviours whereby every member of council every employee and every contractor acts as though they were spending their own money. Only then might we see evidence of guardianship and stewardship rather than indulgence in pet projects and causes without regard or accountability.It is beyond belief that at a time of hardship and personal cutbacks that Auckland

Council considers it acceptable to create more financial pain for ratepayers. Instead it is time to address cost-of living as a crisis initiative.Specific suggestions:- Implement a zero-based budget including only essential services to determine how low rates can go.- Critically review the value delivered by every employee and contractor paid with ratepayer funds.- Enact a hiring freeze (consultants and employees) and temporary 10% reduction in salary and fee rates while the above actions are implemented.- Publish the current expense sign-off policy and increase transparency around spending decisions.- Halt subsidies for public transport projects and reconsider the case for continuing disbursements in that area.- Cancel all AT projects that do not have an immediate payback or provide significant reduction in personal safety- Consider disbanding or reconstituting Auckland Transport to align with a leaner core-service model.- Cancel the Food Scraps 'service' (costing $36 million/year) and revert household rubbish collection to pay as you go.- Eliminate all Māori-specific spending including te reo education the totally unnecessary introduction of replacing signage (place names schools etc.) and all payments for 'cultural advice'.I am happy to discuss these matters further if required.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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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

#8221

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 this response to the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and its average 7.9% residential rates increase.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and I urge the Council to cap rate rises closer to inflation. The current average residential bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30% in 2022 dollars far above the 12% cumulative inflation. The proposal allocates 4.4% of the increase to CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. This structure warrants scrutiny to ensure value for ratepayers and alignment with essential services.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance's alternative budget approach:

reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at about 3%. Specifically I advocate:- Reduce personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles saving about $50 million.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services by $50 million.- Undertake contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation for $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants for $20 million.In addition I urge the Council to cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year due to its carbon emissions profile and questionable net savings. I also urge freezing staffing and payroll cost reductions by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. I disagree with continuing to fund Māori-specific spend such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a local-government core function.I request consideration of a user-pays approach for certain services ensuring those who use a service contribute appropriately to its cost.I acknowledge the need to maintain essential infrastructure; however the current trajectory of spending on consultants backroom operations and discretionary grants is not sustainable for ratepayers. A tighter efficiency-focused budget will deliver more responsible governance.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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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

#8223

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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

Since 2010 rates have risen 85% in real terms far outpacing inflation and population growth. The proposed breakdown2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsadds to the financial strain on households while not delivering commensurate value.I support substantial reductions in Council expenditure particularly in corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and I oppose continued growth in consultancy and professional services. The Alliance's analysis shows annual consultancy spend of $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant paid about $200000 and a

payroll-first approach would deliver material savings. The Labour of the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) at $171 million over ten years and staff costs that have outpaced inflation are areas where prudent reprioritisation is warranted. Direct operating expenditure rose much faster than inflation between 2013 and 2023 while payroll and other expenses surged.I urge endorsing the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which caps the rate rise by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) including: freezing non-essential hires (saving at least $17 million immediately) capping consultancy spend ($50 million) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million) and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants ($20 million). I also request cancelling the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million annually and reportedly emitting more carbon than saved.Additionally I oppose ongoing expenditure on non-essential Māori-specific programmes. The Community expects Council to focus on essential statutory services first.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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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

#8245

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

This submission is made in a detailed and evidence-based manner in opposition to the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and in support of aggressive cost reductions across the Council and CCOs.Overview and positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household). Since 2010 rates have risen 85%well above inflation and population growth. The proposed split (2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth 4.4% for CRL operating costs) compounds these concerns.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional

services spend.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million/year which projects emissions reductions that exceed actual savings.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacant roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a municipal function.Rationale and data- The proposed 7.9% increase contributes to a real burden on households with current average rates at $4069 and a real increase of about 30% since 2022 (versus 12% overall inflation). Direct operating expenditure rose 78% 20132023 far exceeding inflation.- The council spends heavily on consultants: $126 million per year across the group including about $60 million by the council alone; typical consultant pay around $200k.- A disciplined budget would align with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) cap rate rises to about 3% through cuts and prioritise statutory/essential services.Additional pointThis city is not improving yet the rates increase. Cut costs please.ConclusionI urge the Council to adopt substantial expenditure reductions reflected in the Ratepayers' Alliance framework and to avoid further rate increases that exceed inflation and resident affordability. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8251

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. Rate rise and affordability- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% is excessive given the 30% real increase since 2022 and inflation running higher than that over the same period. The current average residential bill is $4069 yet households face continuing cost pressures while council costs soar.2. Spending reform and backroom costs- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- End the rise in consultancy and professional services; cap and renegotiate such spend rather than permitting continued increases.- Direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation; a pause and

reform of personnel and other discretionary costs is essential.3. Specific savings priorities- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or materially 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 Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) department approximately $10 million per year arguing this is not a local-government role.- Implement the Ratepayer Alliance's proposed budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at around 3% through personnel changes consultant caps contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services.4. Honesty about leadership and promises- The Mayor promised to curb wasteful spending; ratepayers expect action not rhetoric. The current high-rate trajectory is inconsistent with that commitment.- The claim that rates have already risen by 26% reinforces the need for decisive reform to halt further increases above inflation.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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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

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

#8273

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key positions:1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9%. This level is well above inflation and places a disproportionate burden on households especially given the cumulative rate rises since the Super City merger and the growing cost of living.2) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The programme costs approximately $36 million per year and as currently structured emits more carbon than it saves. Redirecting those funds to essential services would better serve ratepayers' interests and climate priorities.3) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. This measure would deliver immediate savings with potential reductions

of at least $17 million right away while preserving essential services.4) Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). I do not see a clear local-government need for continuing a dedicated Māori outcomes budget at this level and funds could be redirected to statutory and essential services.Context:The proposed 7.9% increase comprises allocations for asset maintenance new assets for growth and CRL operating costs but ratepayers face a real increase of 30% since 2022 in inflation-adjusted terms. Costs associated with consultants back-office functions and personnel have risen substantially while essential services should be protected.I support policies that prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary spending and seek a prudent targeted approach to cost management. A revised plan that caps average rate increases and focuses on core functions would better reflect ratepayer interests.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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8350

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

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 overall Council expenditure to avoid continuing a period of unaffordable rates for households.Key points- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The current average bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% against 12% inflation while services and population growth are not being matched by responsible spending.- Reduce Council and CCO backroom and corporate expenditure. The Alliance highlights that spending on consultants is $126 million per year with substantial payroll and six-figure salaries driving costs

higher than inflation. Curbing these costs is essential to bringing rates down.- Cut consultancy and professional services. Freeze or cap external contracts and renegotiate terms to slow the growth of non-essential external spend.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costing $36 million/year) due to questionable carbon savings and higher emissions than projected. Redirect funds to essential local services with clear proven benefits.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies. A pause on hiring could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). This is not a core local government function; resources should prioritise statutory and essential services.Alternative Budget stance- I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap average residential rates at about 3%: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze - $50 million from limiting consultants - $30 million from renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grantsClosingI respectfully request that the Council considers these reductions to deliver sustainable rate levels and better value for ratepayers. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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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

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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

#8464

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a constructive and solution-focused manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for targeted reductions in wasteful Council spending.Position and rationale- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. At roughly $320 more per household this outpaces both inflation and household affordability. Since the 2010 amalgamation rates have risen by 85% while inflation and population growth have not kept pace imposing a growing burden on ratepayers.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional

services. Current data show substantial spending on consultants averaging around $126 million annually across the group with the parent Council facing $60 million and many consultants earning six-figure sums. This spending clearly needs tightening.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme estimated at $36 million per year which current assessments indicate emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to essential services and lower-rate priorities.- 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 $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes'Ngā Mātārae department recognising that this is not a core local government function and should be prioritised accordingly.- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at around 3%: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contracts/vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional points- By pursuing a disciplined budget focused on essential services Auckland can preserve core infrastructure and sustain growth without inflating rates beyond inflation or taxpayers' capacity.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

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

#8465

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Waitematā

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive when viewed against inflation and our communities' needs. The agreed breakdown shows 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets due to growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen by about 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. A disciplined spending reduction is essential to avoid passing disproportionate costs onto households.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new council spending by $150 million which would cap the average rate rise at around 3%. Specifically I advocate:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational efficiency and a hiring freeze for non-

essential roles (potential savings of at least $50 million).- Capping consultants and professional services (potential savings of $50 million).- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors (around $30 million).- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants (about $20 million).I also urge action on patterns of spending that burden ratepayers unwisely:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles to achieve immediate savings.- Curb Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year directed to the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) department which I believe falls outside local government responsibilities.Other concerns from my community include wasteful backroom and consultancy expenses. The council's payroll and reliance on consultants as well as the broadened six-figure salaries contribute to higher operating costs that do not align with ratepayer affordability.Additionally stop wasting money on non-essential projects such as unnecessary planting (e.g. pulling palm trees when community issues like road repairs weeds and pests persist) and defend core transport services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

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Question 4: Other feedback

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

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