Annual Plan 2026/2027

Written Feedback

Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

Volume 7

April 2026

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9219

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key position- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% which would equate to about $320 for the average household while real cost pressures since 2022 have already risen by around 30 percent in rates against 12 percent inflation. A rates cap aligned with inflation is reasonable and fair.Wasteful spending and cost-cutting measures- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.-

Freeze staffing and/or significantly reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb Maori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Rationale and context- Since the 2010 amalgamation rates have risen by 85%â€”well above inflation and population growth. The council must prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes and back-office expansion.- The proposed 2% for maintaining assets and 1.5% for growth plus 4.4% for CRL operating costs does not reflect prudent affordability for households facing tight budgets.Alternative approach- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) achieving a more modest 3% average rates increase through targeted savings in personnel consultants and vendor consolidation and prioritising essential services.ClosingI request that Auckland Council seriously consider these reductions and adopt a more affordable rate path focused on core services and responsible spending.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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9227,336830,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9%. This level exceeds inflation and places an ongoing burden on households with the typical bill rising by about $320 for the average home. The rates path since 2010 has already increased by 85% far outpacing both inflation (about 34%) and population growth (roughly 22%).I encourage the Council to reduce wasteful expenditure particularly in corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and its CCOs and to curb consultancy and professional services spending. Current data show $126 million per year spent on consultants across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200000 and spending on consultants and contractors at $590 million. Staffing and operating costs have risen markedly with personnel costs and other expenses increasing at twice the rate of inflation between 2022 and 2025. The payroll totals $1.3 billion and eighteen corporate and business support functions cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure.I support the Council reducing discretionary and non-essential spend including capping new project costs and focusing on statutory and essential services. I endorse the proposed 3 percent cap on rates total by implementing a responsible budget that prioritises core services over new non-essential programmes.I also support reducing spend on Māori-focused initiatives such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department (approximately $10 million per year) on the basis that this is not a core local government responsibility. I believe the Council should reframe spending to maintain essential services first while seeking efficiencies elsewhere.The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget provides a workable approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) delivering a 3% rate increase by cutting personnel costs capping consultant spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services.Additional concerns include the anticipated costs of integrating AT and Council teams into Shared Services; promised savings have not yet materialised. There is also uncertainty about where savings will come from if staff job security is maintained and most remain in current offices.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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9236,336821,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1) Position on rates and spending- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The current average bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 representing a real increase of 30% since 2022 well above cumulative inflation.- The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for maintaining assets and 1.5% for new assets. This pattern is unsustainable for households while core council costs outpace inflation.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget is essential: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at about 3%. This requires reducing personnel costs via a freeze on non-essential hires ($50m) capping consultants ($50m) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30m) and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants ($20m).2) Wasteful and non-core spending to cut- Oppose continued high spending on consultants and professional services; current spend is approximately $126m per year across the Council group with the average consultant at about $200k.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36m/year and emits more carbon than it saves).- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17m immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae Māori outcomes department (about $10m/year) consistent with a view that this is not a core local government role.3) Additional points- People's pockets are already stretched. Focus on core services and efficiency not further net zero targets DEI initiatives or vanity projects like excessive cycle lanes and new speed humps.ClosingI request that the Council consider reducing expenditure in line with the above and implement the proposed alternative budget to limit the rate rise to around 3%.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9240,336817,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I write to register formal opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to urge targeted reductions in wasteful Council spending. The proposed increase is beyond what households can reasonably bear and outstrips inflation.Agreed positions- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9 percent. A more sustainable path would cap annual rate rises closer to 3 percent as outlined in the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to continue rising.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in our assessment emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Rationale- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing cumulative inflation and population growth. The 7.9% increase comprises 2% for asset maintenance 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs; a continued reliance on higher charges to fund growth and projects undermines affordability.- The Council's spending on consultants and contractors totals hundreds of millions with substantial payroll costs alongside high six-figure salaries. A structural reduction in personnel procurement and contract costs is necessary to restore prudent financial stewardship.- The 8â€“10% rate rises requested are unsustainable for households. A targeted principled reduction in discretionary spending will protect essential services while keeping rates affordable.I request that the Council consider the above measures and the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget as part of the consultation. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9249

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to pursue substantial reductions in wasteful spending and to protect core local government services.Key points for consideration1) Rate rise and affordability: The proposed 7.9% increase amounts to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rates rise since 2022 of 30% (in 2022 dollars) while cumulative inflation is around 12%. This is well above inflation and places financial pressure on households.2) Wasteful and excessive spending must be curbed: The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce

spending on consultants and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items. Direct operating expenditure has risen far faster than inflation over the past decade and payroll costs and other expenses have increased disproportionately.3) Stop or pause discretionary programmes and reallocate funds to essential services: The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves; it should be cancelled. The Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.4) Workforce and procurement reforms: Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. Curb external consultant use by about $50 million as part of a broader effort to rationalise procurement renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors.5) Māori-specific spending: I disagree with ongoing Māori-specific expenditure such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). This is not a core local government function; savings should be redirected to maintaining essential services.6) Alternative budget approach: The Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) would cap the rate rise to around 3% and protect core services. Do core services well and forgo the frills.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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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9250

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find 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. This would amount to approximately $320 for the average household on top of a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) well above general inflation. Rates rises should align with inflation and progress on core statutory services not hidden cost overruns.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing highlights several areas where wasteful and expanding expenditure should be curtailed to keep rates under control. I strongly support:- Reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reducing the spend on consultancy and professional

services rather than continuing to grow these costs.- Cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant nonâ€‘essential roles a move that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cutting Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) department which I do not see as a core local-government remit.I recognise that a portion of the rate increase is attributed to maintaining existing assets (2%) funding new assets as Auckland grows (1.5%) and CRL operating costs (4.4%). However the scale of overall growth in personnel costs and external contractors cannot be ignored. The Council's payroll and related costs including consultants and contractors are substantial and a targeted credible reduction is both fair and necessary to avoid further erosion of household budgets.I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach: reduce new spending by $150 million (about 2%) and reallocate savings to cap rates increases around 3 percent via concrete measures such as personnel restraint 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:

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9254

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in support of reducing wasteful Council spending and backroom costs.1) Rate rise objection and spending priorities- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 more per average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 despite 12% headline inflation. This is unsustainable for households and contradicts the principle of keeping rates in line with inflation and essential service needs.- A significant portion (4.4%) covers CRL operating costs while only 2% is for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. I urge the Council to target efficiency

gains that justify any increase and to prioritise core statutory and essential services over discretionary expenditure.2) Wasteful and excessive spend that should be cut- Council and CCOs' consultants and backroom costs are excessive: $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant paid around $200k. A reduction here is both prudent and necessary.- Corporate and business support functions alone cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure across 18 functions; this is not sustainable at current growth rates.- The Food Scraps Programme at about $36 million per year and claimed carbon savings that are uncertain should be canceled.- Staffing and payroll costs should be restrained: freezing vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately. Further cutting or freezing Māori-specific discretionary spendingâ€”such as the roughly $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae)â€”is appropriate given local government's statutory responsibilities.3) Alternative budget approach- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) enabling a target rate rise of around 3%. This would be achieved by: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze ($50 million); - Capping consultancy spending ($50 million); - Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million); - Prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants ($20 million).ClosingI respectfully request that the Council consider these reductions and approve a lower rate increase consistent with inflation and essential services. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9259

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and call for immediate cost-reduction measures across the Council and its CCOs.I oppose the 7.9% average increase. The impact on households is significant: the plan implies about $320 extra per average home on top of a long-running 30% real increase since 2022 (versus 12% inflation). The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This is excessive when combined with the historic spending trajectory.The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and

cut consultancy and professional services. Current data show $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group with the Auckland Council parent accounting for $60 million and an average consultant at roughly $200k. Direct operating expenditure has risen far faster than inflation (78% 2013â€“2023 vs 29% inflation). It is clear a leaner organisation is feasible.I also call for cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and according to advocate analysis emits more carbon than it saves. In addition I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. Reducing Māori-focused spend such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is consistent with prioritising essential local government functions.A comprehensive alternative budget is essential. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) would cap the rate rise at about 3%: $50 million saved from personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million from consultancy caps; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. We must prioritise core services and stop unnecessary projectsâ€”like beach steps on the North Shoreâ€”that do not represent prudent use of ratepayer funds.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9260,336796,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for reducing wasteful Council spending.Key points- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates rise (approximately $320 for the average household) and note that this augments a real increase in rates since 2022 of about 30% while inflation runs higher than the City's wage growth.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continual growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given that this is a function outside core local government responsibilities.Supported directions and revisions- The Council's current spending mix shows a heavy tilt toward consultants and contractors payroll and six-figure salaries with a notable rise in personnel costs and other expenses since 2022. A shift toward efficiencies in corporate services and renegotiated contracts is warranted.- I support pursuing the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about a 2% reduction) to cap the average rate rise at around 3 percent. This includes: a) a hiring freeze and organisational change to reduce personnel costs; b) capping consultancy spend; c) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; d) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional pointsIf a credible plan demonstrates a clear rate reduction benefit to ratepayers I would support targeted moves in Group Shared Services and Transport Reform. I believe there is a lot of value to be had for example in software and platforms simplification & alignment and consolidation of core functions.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9264,336792,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a reset of Council expenditure toward essential value-for-money services for Auckland ratepayers. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022. The real increase since 2022 is 30% (in 2022 dollars) far above cumulative inflation of 12%. The proposed 7.9% increase is not affordable for households already grappling with cost-of-living pressures.I support the following positions:1) Oppose the 7.9% rates increase and advocate for reducing average rate rises to around 3% by constraining new spending and improving efficiency.2) The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) The Council must cut spending 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 emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government role.Additional points:- Stop developers building units without carparks or garages which would reduce downstream costs and improve urban livability.- Align priorities to fund statutory and essential services before discretionary grants.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance view that a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (a 2% cut) can cap the rate rise to roughly 3% through: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million from limiting consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Please consider these changes to deliver affordable efficient and necessary services for Auckland households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9265,336791,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Auckland Council Attention: Submission Review I am {name redacted} of {address redacted} email {email redacted} submitting in formal opposition to Auckland Council's proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for reductions in wasteful spending across the Council and CCOs. I oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase. This rise when set against a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and 85% since the Super City amalgamation far exceeds inflation and population growth. The ratepayer burden must be curbed to reflect real value and essential services. The rate increases should be aligned to the relative inflation and to priorities that deliver statutory and essential services. I support the Council reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and reducing spend on consultancy and professional services. Current annual consultancy spending totals about $126 million across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with many consultants earning six-figure sums. Reducing these costs would help to cap rates increases. I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Resources should be redirected to core services and essential infrastructure. I also support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. In addition I advocate reducing Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department Ngā Mātārae as this is not a core local government role. I urge returning to basics and prioritising statutory and

essential services over discretionary grants. The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes a 2% spending reduction to cap the rate increase at about 3% funded by savings from personnel costs consultants contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation totaling about $150 million. Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9274,336782,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge consideration of a sustainable path that aligns with inflation and household affordability. The current average rates bill is $4069 with real increases since 2022 of about 30%. The proposed breakdown (2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth-related assets 4.4% for CRL operating costs) signals rising costs that will outpace many Auckland households.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap rate rises at around 3% is a constructive benchmark when coupled with targeted efficiency measures. I support the Alliance's Alternative Budget which reduces new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a more affordable rate outcome while protecting essential services. Key elements I support include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze on non-essential roles saving $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation at $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants at $20 million.I also support measures to reduce wasteful expenditure:- Stop the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million/year and in my assessment emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) in line with the view that core local government responsibilities should not be diverted to NGO-like initiatives.- Reduce expenditure on consultants and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and pursue tighter vendor consolidation.Additionally I request avoiding additional city costs being charged to rural properties which would disproportionately impact non-urban ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9276,336780,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit my opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urge a clear focus on cutting wasteful Council spending.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent (about $320 for the average household). Since 2022 the real increase in rates is 30 percent far outpacing cumulative inflation of 12 percent. The proposed breakdownâ€”2% to maintain assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”details a spending path that worsens affordability for ratepayers while continuing to escalate costs.I support a reallocation of priorities and a reduction in wasteful expenditure. Key actions include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for vacant non-essential roles which I understand could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cutting spend on consultants and professional services rather than allowing these costs to rise further.- Capping consultancy spending and renegotiating contracts to achieve better value along with vendor consolidation.I also urge limit on discretionary spending in favour of

essential statutory services. In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance view I support reducing new Council spending by about $150 million (2%) which would cap the average rates increase at around 3 percent.Regarding departmental spending I oppose sustaining or expanding non-core spend such as the Maori Outcomes budget. The $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae should be reassessed to ensure prudent use of public funds and alignment with the core responsibilities of local government.I acknowledge the need for essential services and asset maintenance but the current rate path is unsustainable for households. A prudent leaner budget would stabilise rates growth protect essential services and improve value for money for Auckland ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9300,336755,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive equating to about $320 for the average household on top of a real increase in rates since 2022 of 30% (in 2022 dollars) while inflation has risen around 12%. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. I urge prioritising efficiency and restraint.- There is clear scope to reduce wasteful corporate and backroom spending. Council spending on consultants is reported at $126 million per year across the Council group with an average consultant earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen well ahead of inflation yet services relied on by residents must be safeguarded.- I oppose expanding payroll and six-figure salaries; payroll alone is about $1.3 billion and 72 staff earn more than the mayor. A hiring freeze for non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reducing consultants and professional services should be a priority. The Council's spend on consultants and contractors totals $590 million; renegotiations and vendor consolidation could realise meaningful savings.- I oppose spending on the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which purportedly saves less carbon than it costs. I also oppose the $10 million/year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe falls outside the proper scope of local government.- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance's proposed budget: cut new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping residential rate increases to 3% by: reducing personnel costs freezing non-essential hires capping consultant spend and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional pointsElection promises have become unreliable; immediate practical changes are needed from Day 1 of any new term.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9304,336749,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The proposed rise would impose an imminent burden on households already stretched by inflation and limited real gains in public services.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). The current average rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 representing a real increase of 30% since 2022 well above cumulative inflation of 12%. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for new assets to accommodate growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This magnifies the argument for restraint and reallocation toward essential services.Agrees: The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and

reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. The spending on consultants at about $126 million per year across the Council group with many receiving around $200k is unsustainable in the face of ratepayer pressure. The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year if it emits more carbon than it saves. I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. I also support cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) given this is not a function of local government.Additional points: The Council should freeze any rates rise and cut all unnecessary spending spending only on very necessary services and upkeep. A targeted reduction in personnel costs renegotiation of contracts and vendor consolidation would help cap rates increases toward more affordable levels.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9308,336745,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I appreciate the opportunity to contribute to sensible evidence-based budgeting for our city.I support focusing on reducing wasteful council spend and delivering essential services efficiently. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing highlights that current spending patterns exceed inflation and population growth with consultants and backroom functions consuming substantial funds. In particular total staff costs consultants and contractors and non-service corporate expenditures appear to be out of step with to-the-ground needs. I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing non-essential vacancies and pursuing organisational change which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services to curb ongoing reliance on external advice.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to achieve meaningful savings in operating expenditure.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants that do not directly improve residents' everyday experience.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to the Alliance briefing emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or significantly curb Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae unless a direct statutory role for local government is demonstrated.These measures align with the goal of limiting rate rises to reflect only unavoidable costs of maintaining necessary infrastructure and services. The current plan shows a proposed 7.9 percent average residential increase with substantial components tied to maintaining assets new growth-related assets and CRL operating costs. For households a more restrained approach to spending could reduce the rate burden while still preserving core municipal functions.In sum I urge the Council to implement the Alliance's proposed reductions as a means to cap rate increases while safeguarding essential services. The community deserves transparency about how savings are achieved and assurances that funds fund mandatory services first.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9309,336744,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Auckland CouncilPublic SubmissionsPrivate Bag 92300 Auckland 1142I am {name redacted} of {address redacted}. I oppose the proposed

average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and expect a credible plan to reduce wasteful and excessive Council spending. The current context shows rates have risen 85% since 2010 far outpacing inflation and population growth. A fairer path is to cap rates increases and reinvest in essential services not bloated backroom costs.1) Opposition to the 7.9% increase- The proposed rise translates to about $320 more per average household on top of a long-term pattern of outsized rate growth. A reasonable controlled path is required with a target closer to inflation plus population growth.2) Wasteful expenditure and reform proposals- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Curb spending on consultancy and professional services; avoid continual increases in these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and historically emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a savings of at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local government function.3) Alternative budgeting and funding approach- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance plan: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap average residential rates increase at 3 percent through targeted savings: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes - $50 million from capping consultancy - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsClosingI urge Auckland Council to adopt substantial spending reforms and to implement the 3% cap-path rather than a 7.9% levy. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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9310,336743,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1. Rates increase and cost justification- I oppose the 7.9% average increase (about $320 for the average household) and note that since 2022 real rate increases are 30% while inflation has been 12%. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. This is excessive in a cost-of-living crisis.2. Wasteful or excessive spending to cut- Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: save $50 million.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services: save $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors: save $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: save $20 million.3. Specific programme and sector spending- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (about $36 million/year) on the basis it emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this would deliver at least $17 million in immediate savings.- Reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a core local-government function.4. Overall financial direction- The Council must align spending with value delivered to ratepayers not expanding backroom and consultant-heavy structures. Direct operating expenditure has risen well ahead of inflation while payroll and contractor costs have ballooned. A disciplined Council-wide expenditure review is essential before any further rate increases.Additional point- In the midst of a cost-of-living crisis it is immoral for Auckland Council to proceed with large spend-ups on non-essential items. I am deeply concerned and disillusioned with current city governance.ClosingI request to speak at hearings to present these points in person. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a

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

9314,336739,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and in favour of reducing wasteful Council spending. The rate rise is not affordable for households and spending decisions show a need for substantial belt-tightening.1) Agreed positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase of at least 7.9 percent. The current average bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 run at about 30 percent wellabove inflation.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. There is clear scope to trim overheads while maintaining essential services.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services instead of continuing to grow these items. The current pattern relies heavily on contractors which must be tightened.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and that project should be assessed for its carbon impact and true savings.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core municipal function.2) Additional points- The Council should prioritise spending like a well-run business. Spending is currently out of control and if leadership cannot deliver a reassessment of the current office structure and leadership approach is required.3) Financial context- Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% outpacing inflation and population growth. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have surged far faster than inflation while consultants and corporate functions absorb significant resources.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9342,336711,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This would represent roughly $320 more per household on a current average bill of $4069 and translates to a real increase well beyond inflation since 2022 (approximate 30 percent in real terms versus 12 percent CPI). The breakdownâ€”2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”signals that a large share funds operating costs rather than essential demonstrably efficient services.The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. Annual consulting spend sits at about $126 million across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with average consultants earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown well beyond inflation in recent years while staff numbers and salaries have surged. These patterns must be reversed if rates are to be kept affordable for households.A freeze or reduction in payroll costs is essential. I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. Reducing staff costs should go hand in hand with capping consultancy spend and renegotiating contracts to secure better value.I also call for cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) as this function is not a core local government responsibility. Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants will ensure funds are used where councils have clear

statutory obligations to deliver.I request that the Council consider these measures to limit the rate rise to a more affordable level and reallocate funds to essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,
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9344,336709,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and in support of reducing wasteful Council spending as outlined in the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing.1. I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The proposed rise represents a real burden on households with the current average residential bill around $4069 and a 30% real increase since 2022 far outstripping 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 Alliance highlights $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group and $1.3 billion payroll with $590 million on consultants and contractors. Reducing these costs is essential to keep rates affordable.3. I support cancelling discretionary programmes that do not align with core statutory responsibilities. In particular I oppose the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million/year that allegedly emits more carbon than it saves. Redirecting funds to essential services will help stabilise rates.4. I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. Personnel costs have risen sharply with six-figure staff totals and a high number paid above the mayor's salary.5. I support reducing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a primary local government role. Prioritising statutory services over discretionary cultural programmes will curb rate rises.Other points: I urge the Council to exercise greater control over top-class manager payroll and ensure alignment with essential service delivery and affordable rates.Closing: I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,
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9350,336702,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average 7.9 percent rise. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 exceed 30 percent far outstripping inflation. A 7.9 percent increase is not consistent with the financial realities facing households many of whom are already struggling with rising utilities housing costs and living expenses. Ratepayers need evidence of value for money and prudent restraint.I support targeted expenditure restraint and organisational reforms to fund essential services without disproportionate rate rises. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget shows that a $150 million reduction in new council spending could cap the rate rise at around 3 percent. This would come from:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping spending on consultants: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionI urge the council to cut wasteful and duplicative spending especially in corporate and backroom functions across the council and CCOs and to reduce consultancy and professional services rather than expand them. I also question the value and carbon impact of the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year. A pause and review could identify better uses of those

funds. Freezing staffing or not filling non-essential vacancies would save at least $17 million immediately. Staffing costs and other expenses have risen well beyond inflation; reform is overdue.I oppose continued and expanding Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae arguing that local government should prioritise statutory and core services first.Given Aucklanders' current financial pressures ratepayers deserve disciplined budgeting clear value for money and expenditure restraint before any further increases. I request that the council consider in good faith the outlined savings and keep the rates increase to a sustainable level.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9356,336696,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9 percent (approximately $320 for the average household). The current average rates bill is $4069 and real rate increases since 2022 amount to 30 percent well above general inflation. The breakdown shows 2 percent for maintaining existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have increased by 85 percent far outpacing inflation and population growth.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a responsible alternative: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) capping the rate rise at around 3 percent. This would be achieved by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping spending on consultants: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionSpecific spending reductions supported by this submission include:- Corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs: essential to reduce to match core service delivery- Spending on consultancy and professional services: must stop rising and be curbed immediately- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million promptly- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department which is not a core local government functionThe proposed 7.9 percent increase is unacceptable if it funds non-essential programmes at the expense of ratepayer affordability and core services. I request that the Council adopt the above reductions to limit rate increases and refocus on essential duties.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9365,336687,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and to call for immediate reductions in wasteful Council spending and in backroom costs.Key points1) Rates affordability and impact. The proposed 7.9% increase is not acceptable when households already face a real cost of living challenge. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with the real increase since 2022 running at about 30 percent in 2022 dollars far outpacing cumulative inflation. A reduction to funds used inefficiently will better protect households.2) Wasteful spending and back-office focus. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating costs and staff remuneration have grown far faster than inflation; consultant and

contractor spend is excessive with $126 million per year across the group and average consultant pay around $200k. A substantial portion of payroll costs and 'other expenses' has risen well beyond inflation.3) Reducing consultancy and professional services. The Council must halt the continual rise in consultancy spend and pursue internal improvements better procurement and vendor consolidation to deliver essential services more cost-effectively.4) Specific savings proposals (aligned with the submitted talking points). - Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a step that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given the role of local government to provide statutory services first.5) Alternative budget framework. I support the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) achieving a rate rise closer to 3% by focusing on personnel controls capped consultancy spend renegotiated contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.In short reforming wasteful expenditure and safeguarding essential services should precede further rate rises. Necessary steps should be taken to cut down cost as every average household is doing. I'm sure there would be many processes where there are significant inefficiencies. Thanks.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9370,336682,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27. This rise translates to roughly $320 more per average household on top of a council that has increased rates by 85% since 2010â€”well above inflation and population growth. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This is not acceptable when there is clear evidence of wasteful expenditure that can be cut without harming essential services.I call on the Council to urgently reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb consultancy and professional services spend. The current rate of outsourcing is unsustainable with $126 million spent annually across the Council group and an average consultant cost of around $200000. Direct operating expenditure and payroll costs have risen far faster than inflation while essential services are squeezed.I also urge the Council to cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and aligns poorly with its claimed carbon savings. Freezing staffing or reducing payroll by not filling vacant non-essential positions would deliver immediate savings (estimates suggest at least $17 million). In addition I oppose continuing or expanding Māori-specific expenditure such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government has a core mandate to deliver statutory and essential services not to fund targeted cultural programmes beyond that remit.To achieve a more affordable rates outcome I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates at around 3%. This would be achieved by: reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and hiring freezes; capping consultants; renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I voted for Wayne Brown initially due to promises to cut waste but his administration has not delivered on that pledge eroding trust.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9403

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to submit my views during the public consultation on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan.I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household). Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% in real terms far outpacing both inflation (about 34%) and population growth (22%). The current plan 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 level of increase is not acceptable.I support reducing Council expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and I oppose ongoing growth in consultancy and

professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a 2% reduction in new Council spending delivering about $150 million in savings to cap rates at around 3%. Specific measures I support include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles saving about $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation at $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants at $20 million.I also urge cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in the Alliance's view emits more carbon than it saves. In addition freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately. I support cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) where I believe such functions are not a local government responsibility.I request greater transparency: there should be a clear published spending criteria with full explanation to justify all expenditure.In closing I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9416

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key points- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. This represents a real increase of about 30% since 2022 far exceeding cumulative inflation of 12%.- The rate increase is not narrowly targeted to essential services; 4.4% funds CRL operating costs while only 2% covers maintaining existing assets and 1.5% aligns with new assets for growth.- Council spending on consultants amounts to $126 million per

year across the group; the average consultant earns around $200000. Personnel costs and other expenses have risen well above inflation while the payroll sits at $1.3 billion and consultants/contractors at $590 million.- The Council spends heavily on non-essential items and backroom functions (eighteen corporate and business support functions cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure). This is wasteful spending that could be better redirected to essential services.Agreed positions I want included- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council must reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continue to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (about $36 million/year) if it emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Additional points- It is too easy to tax homeowners.- Consider adopting a model like Argentina's President to axe unnecessary bureaucracy and save money.- AKL Council has consistently raised rates without justification for decades.- Rates increases should at most equal inflation.Alternative budgeting proposed: reduce new council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at about 3% by cutting personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9440

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed rise is not affordable for many households and would outpace inflation while the Council continues to expand discretionary and backroom costs.1) Rate rise and affordability- The 7.9% increase (about $320 for the average household) adds to a real rates burden that has risen 30% since 2022 in 2022 dollars with cumulative inflation around 12%. A rate rise of this magnitude should be accompanied by demonstrable efficiency gains and service prioritisation; instead excessive growth in operating costs is driving the increase.2) Wasteful expenditure and efficiency measures- Council spending on consultants totals approximately $126 million per year across the

group including about $60 million by the Auckland Council itself with many consultants earning around $200k. Personnel costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation while direct operating expenditure grew 78% from 2013 to 2023. There is clear scope to tighten backroom functions and reduce reliance on external advisers.3) Specific cost-reduction proposals (aligned with agreed positions)- Reduce new spending by cutting personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze targeting at least $50 million.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save a further $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.4) Specific programme and Māori outcomes spend- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing for vacant non-essential roles to realise at least $17 million in immediate savings.- Reassess and significantly limit Māori-specific spend including the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) allocation of about $10 million per year as this is not a core local government function.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach to cap the rate rise around 3% by making these efficiency and restraint measures.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9446

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urge a comprehensive review of Council spending to protect households and deliver essential services more efficiently.1) Rates awareness and alternative budget- The 7.9% increase is above inflation and would meaningfully raise the burden on residents with the average household bill rising by about $320. If Council implemented a targeted 3% cap as outlined by the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance the financial pressure on families would be substantially reduced while still funding essential services.- A targeted reduction in new Council spending by $150 million (2%) is feasible and would

support a lower rate rise. This includes cutting personnel costs through an organisational review freezing non-essential hires and vacancies and cutting consultant and professional services.2) Spending priorities and reductions- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Limit spend on consultancy and professional services which remains high and grows faster than inflation.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and according to stakeholders 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 $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given this is not a core local government duty.3) Overall governance and service delivery- Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown well beyond inflation in recent years; a rebalancing toward essential statutory duties and core services is overdue.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to households.ClosingI request that Hearings be considered for further discussion but I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9448

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. Oppose the 7.9% rates rise. The proposed increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (well above cumulative inflation). Rates growth since the 2010 amalgamation has outstripped inflation and population growth and residents cannot bear further above-inflation rises.2. Reduce wasteful Council and CCO spending. The Alliance's briefing highlights substantial spend on corporate and backroom functions across the Council group ($868.4 million for 18 corporate and business support functions) and high payroll costs. We urge you to prioritise essential statutory services and curb discretionary spending.3. Curb

consultants and professional services. Spending on consultants and contractors totals $590 million with consultants frequently paid at high rates. Freeze or cap such expenditure and pursue in-house capability where appropriate.4. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The programme costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. This must be halted and funds redirected to essential services.5. Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles will save at least $17 million immediately. A thorough freeze on non-essential positions supported by targeted efficiency reviews should be implemented.6. Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local-government function and should be redirected to essential services.7. Alternative budget alignment. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling an average rate rise cap of about 3%. This would be achieved through the measures above: personnel cost controls cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.In summary I urge Auckland Council to limit rate increases to inflation-aligned levels and to implement concrete expenditure reductions outlined above to protect households and ensure funds are directed to essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9456

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the 7.9 percent average rates rise. The proposed increase approximately $320 for the average household is excessive given the real-rate pressure households already face. Since 2022 residential rates have risen by about 30 percent in real terms far outstripping cumulative inflation. A plan that raises costs by nearly 8 percent on average requires clear evidence of tangible value-for-money benefits to local communities which is not demonstrated by current spending patterns.I urge the Council to cut back on wasteful corporate and backroom expenditure across the Council and CCOs. The Alliance's analysis highlights high consultancy costs extensive six-figure payrolls

and expanding 'back office' spend that does not align with essential services. Reducing these costs should be a priority before raising rates. In particular cap and reduce consultancy and professional services and prioritise frontline and statutory services over discretionary programmes.The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and claims to save carbon yet evidence of net benefit is unconvincing. Redirect funding toward essential services that directly improve Aucklanders' everyday lives.Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. A targeted hiring freeze could save at least $17 million immediately helping to limit rate increases.I also call for a reduction in Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' spending of about $10 million per year. Local government should focus on core statutory duties and essential services rather than pursuing programmes perceived as cultural or equity initiatives outside core remit. The excessive council spending must stop.I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: a $150 million reduction in new spending to cap the average rates increase at about 3 percent through personnel cost reductions caps on consultants vendor renegotiations and prioritisation of statutory services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9468

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write as a resident concerned about proposed rate increases and the level of spend within Council and CCOs. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a focus on reducing wasteful spending rather than perpetual rate rises.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the typical household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2022 rates have effectively risen 30% in real terms well above general inflation while population growth has outpaced budget constraints.- A substantial portion of the increase funds CRL operating costs (4.4%) leaving little room to improve essential services or lower the burden on

households.- The Alliance's analysis shows excessive spending on consultants ($126 million per year across the Council group) and a payroll bill of $1.3 billion with many six-figure salaries and a growing number of staff paid above the mayor's level. This is a clear area where efficiency can be improved.Proposed measures to reduce rate impacts- Limit new or non-essential expenditure and prioritise statutory services over discretionary grants. If we are to stabilise rates the Council should refocus on core functions and essential services.- Implement the Ratepayers' Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increases at 3%. This includes freezing non-essential hires capping consultancy spend renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors.- Freeze staffing for vacant non-essential roles to deliver immediate savings of at least $17 million.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a core local government role.In summary I urge the Council to prioritise efficiency cut unnecessary expenditure and adopt a more conservative rate path aligned with inflation and real service needs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9470

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
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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

Averaging this rise equates to about $320 for the typical household on top of a current average bill of $4069. The real increase since 2022 is already about 30% well above cumulative inflation and cannot be justified by current service demands.Key concerns and constructive asks1) Rate rise cap and targets: I oppose the 7.9% increase. The Council should prioritise keeping rates increases at or below inflation and provide a credible plan to stabilise costs over time.2) Expenditure on corporate and backroom functions: There is excessive spending on corporate and back-office functions across the Council and CCOs. A thorough organisational review is needed to identify savings while

preserving essential services.3) Consultancy and professional services: The Council should reduce spend on consultants and professional services. A disciplined procurement approach and in-house capability should be prioritised to achieve cost savings.4) Food Scraps Programme: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.5) Staffing and payroll: Freeze non-essential hires and pause vacant roles to deliver immediate savings. A targeted pause on hiring could save at least $17 million promptly.6) Maori outcomes funding: Reconsider Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae. Local government responsibilities must be prioritised for statutory and essential services not programme-specific spend.7) Alternative budgeting: The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates that reducing new spending by about $150 million (2%) can cap the rate rise at roughly 3% when combined with targeted efficiency measures.Additional notes- Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well above inflation; a focus on efficiency and vendor consolidation should underpin a leaner operating model.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to align with households' expectations.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**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9510

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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- **Water**
- **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 am {name redacted} of {address redacted}. I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to call for meaningful reductions in wasteful Council spending to constrain rate rises.Key points- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase in rates since 2022 (vs. 12% overall inflation). The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets which signals ongoing cost pressures that can be controlled.- Ratepayers expect restraint in non-core spending. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and

backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and slash consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continual growth in these areas.- The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year. It should be cancelled if it emits more carbon than it saves aligning with prudent fiscal and environmental stewardship.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- There is scope to cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) where this function is not a core local-government role.Alternative Budget- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at about 3% prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Specific savings: $50 million from personnel costs and hiring freezes; $50 million from capping consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million from prioritising essential services.ConclusionGiven Auckland's rates history cutting wasteful spend and reforming non-essential services is essential to restore affordability. The proposed increase is not acceptable without substantive cost containment.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9516

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the 7.9 percent increase which equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 in a period where cumulative inflation is around 12 percent. The breakdown shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs plus 2 percent to maintain existing assets and 1.5 percent for new assets due to growth. This is not sustainable for ratepayers particularly when there is a clear opportunity to curb non-essential spending.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes concrete savings to cap rate increases at or below inflation. This includes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2 percent) achieved by:- Reducing personnel costs

through organisational changes and a hiring freeze: $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services: $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million.Taxpayer funds should be directed to essential services not to propped-up backroom functions. The Council's payroll stands at about $1.3 billion with $590 million spent on consultants and contractors; 6123 staff hold six-figure salaries and 72 staff earn more than the mayor. There is a clear imperative to freeze vacancies in non-essential roles and to pause further increases in payroll until efficiency gains are realised. Direct operating expenditure has grown well above inflation and eighteen corporate and business support functions account for nearly $868 million in direct expenditureâ€”areas ripe for consolidation.Specific programmes raised by the Alliance warrant revisiting including the cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which has not demonstrated carbon savings commensurate with its cost. The $10 million/year allocated to Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) should be re-scoped as a core local government function not a discretionary spend.These steps would keep rate increases closer to inflation reduce waste and protect essential services for Aucklanders. I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9520,336526,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to roughly $320 more per average household adding to a real rates rise of about 30% since 2022 in the context of 12% cumulative inflation. This burden is not justified by the recent pace of asset maintenance and new asset costs nor by CRL operating cost escalations.- Spending patterns must be reined in before pushing more costs onto ratepayers. Since 2010 rates have risen significantly faster than inflation and population growth while operating and personnel costs have surged. There is clear scope to reduce corporate and backroom functions and to cut consultancy and professional services expenditure.Agreed positions (as submitted)1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and seek a more affordable path aligned with inflation and essential service delivery.2) 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 increase these items.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and purportedly emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.Rationale and alternative approach- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance model suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% cap) to limit rates to around 3%. This includes savings from personnel costs capped consultant spending contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.- Targeted reform of administrative functions and supplier arrangements can lower operating costs without compromising core services.- Given the current expenditure profile immediate actions such as pausing non-essential hires and curbing external consultancy can deliver tangible rate relief while maintaining essential services.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9534,336512,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I am writing to express strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9% residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to urge a real programme of spending restraint across the Council and its CCOs.I oppose the 7.9% increase and note that if approved the average household would pay about $320 more per year on top of rates already at $4069. Since 2010 rates increases have far outpaced inflation and population growth and I believe spending restraint is necessary to restore value for residents. The Council should prioritise essential services and statutory obligations not discretionary or backroom items that do not directly benefit ratepayers.I support reducing wasteful Council expenditure and cutting reliance on consultants and contract professionals. The ratepayer community should see savings from organisational change a hiring freeze on non-essential positions and tighter contract negotiations. In particular I urge:- Reducing personnel costs by freezing non-essential hires and reassessing payroll- Capping consultant and professional services spend- Consolidating vendor contracts and renegotiating terms to achieve savings.I oppose ongoing expenditure on non-core initiatives. In particular I call for cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. I also oppose the significant spend on Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) and the broader line items described as dedicated 'Māori-specific' funding; I believe local government should prioritise statutory and essential services.Given the scale of inefficiency observed in past budgets I support aligning rates increases with inflation or below by delivering the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) and target savings from personnel consultants and contracts as outlined above. I urge considering an additional measure to reduce rates for pensioners where appropriate.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9538,336508,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this public submission to oppose Auckland Council's proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for reductions in wasteful Council spending. The proposed rise would translate to about $320 more per average household on top of a real increase in rates of around 30% since 2022 far exceeding consumer price inflation.My positions1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. A rates rise of this magnitude is not reasonable given the substantial growth in operating costs and the services delivered. I support a cap on rate increases to align with or below inflation and I urge Council to pursue saving measures within existing budgets before raising charges on households.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance analysis identifies sizable costs in personnel consultants and centralised support functions. I request a thorough review and significant reduction of corporate and backroom spend to prevent unnecessary ratepayer burden and to prioritise frontline services.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. This project is not cost-effective or aligned with prudent waste management. I urge its cancellation and a reallocation of funds to essential services and proven environmental measures.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. A hiring freeze or targeted vacancy management should be implemented to bring payroll costs in line with core Council responsibilities and avoid automatic increases that compound ratepayer bills.5) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). I

believe this is beyond the appropriate responsibilities of local government and should be redirected to statutory and essential services.I am not requesting additional speaking time; I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9548,336498,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and argue for substantial restraint on Council spending to protect households already stretched by rising costs.Key points- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a context where the current average rates bill has risen to $4069 and real increases since 2022 amount to around 30%. Rates have risen 85% since 2010 far outpacing inflation and population growth.- The affordability impact is worsening while spending is concentrated in backroom and discretionary areas. The breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase is for CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. This is not acceptable if households face ongoing price pressures.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continued growth in these areas.- I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this immediate step alone could save at least $17 million.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year on Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) which I believe is not a core local government function.Alternative budget alignmentI support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate increase at about 3%. This would be achieved via: $50 million by reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million by capping consultants; $30 million in contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional noteBe a little more realistic and show empathy with Auckland residents' concerns about cost of living.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9550,336496,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9%. For the average household this equates to about $320 and I urge Auckland Council to target a much lower increase ideally around 3 percent in line with a responsible cost base. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth and a more prudent path is needed to preserve affordability while delivering essential services.I support adopting the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget to cap rate increases and reduce waste. Specifically I want to see a reduction in:- Corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Consultancy and professional services spend stopping automatic growth in these areas.- The Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Staffing costs by freezing vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.I also call for cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local

government in my view.The Council's current expenditure patterns show rising personnel costs and external contracting that outpace inflation. The proposed 4.4% for CRL operating costs combined with existing high payroll and consultant expenses warrants a re-prioritisation toward statutory and essential services rather than discretionary programmes.To fund essential services without imposing an unsustainable burden on households I urge:- Reducing new spending by $150 million (2% cap) to keep rates in check.- Targeted efficiency measures including procurement reforms and vendor consolidation.I request the opportunity to speak at the hearings to present these views in more detail.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9555,336491,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key concerns and positions- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rate increase. The current average bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30% far outpacing cumulative inflation. I support aligning rate rises with inflation and population-driven needs not a blanket rise that adds burden on households.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backâ€‘office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services. The briefing shows $126 million per year on consultants and contractors including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with an average consultant salary around $200000.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Reallocating those funds toward essential services improves value for ratepayers.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant nonâ€‘essential roles. This could deliver immediate savings of at least $17 million.- Cut Māori-specific spend such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given questions about roles that local government should not carry.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap rate increases at about 3% through targeted reductions: - $50m from personnel costs via hiring freezes/organisational change - $50m from caps on consultants - $30m from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20m from prioritising statutory rather than discretionary grantsRationale and requestBy prioritising essential statutory functions and tightening nonâ€‘essential expenditure Council can protect core services while delivering more prudent budgets. The goal is transparent accountable governance that respects households facing high living costs.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9566,336480,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I am submitting in a personal and sincere capacity to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to advocate for reductions in wasteful Council spending.I understand the proposal includes a 7.9% rate rise with an average household bill increase of about $320. While I recognise the need to fund essential services the current trajectory shows a real increase well beyond inflation and population growth. Since 2010 rates have risen roughly 85% far outstripping inflation (34%) and population change (22%). I urge the Council to reconsider the overall spending profile and to align rate rises with real essential service needs.In particular I support the Council's reduction of expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and I oppose ongoing rises

in consultancy and professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that lowering new spending by about $150 million could cap the rate increase to around 3 percent. Achieving this would require: freezing non-essential vacancies or curbing payroll growth capping consultancy spend pursuing contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I also support specific measures to reduce wasteful programmes. The Food Scraps Programme at roughly $36 million per year should be cancelled as it costs more in emissions than it saves. Additionally freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for non-essential vacant roles could save at least $17 million immediately. I also oppose expanding or maintaining Maori-specific spend such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a function of local government.In summary please consider adopting a strategy to reduce non-essential expenditure and to limit rate increases to a sustainable level consistent with essential services and the community's capacity to pay.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,
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9571,336475,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1. Opposition to the proposed rates riseI oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. Based on current data this translates to approximately $320 for the average household while real household costs have already risen substantially since 2022. Rates increases should align with inflation and focus on essential services not broad and sizable rises.2. Call for reductions in wasteful and discretionary expenditureThe Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing highlights several areas where savings are achievable without compromising core services:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing recruitment for non-essential roles and pursuing organisational changes to lower payroll.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services; significant savings are possible by renegotiating contracts and reducing external advice.- Reprioritise spending toward statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.3. Specific spending reductions proposed- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and according to analysis emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a step that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce expenditure on Māori outcomes including the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae as this is not a core local government function.- The broader aim is to trim corporate and backroom office costs across the Council and CCOs and to cap consultancy and contractor expenditure.4. Alternative budgeting approachI support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3 percent. This would be achieved through the measures above and a focus on maintaining essential services while eliminating wasteful expenditure.5. Additional contextI am dissatisfied with promises not kept related to fiscal management. I urge the Council to act as a prudent steward of ratepayer funds and to prioritise transparency and value-for-money in all spending decisions.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,
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9599,336447,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the average household. This level of increase

is not affordable when real increases since 2022 stand at 30% (in 2022 dollars) while cumulative inflation is around 12%. The breakdown of the 7.9% riseâ€"2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€"adds up to a disproportionate burden on households. I believe the ratepayer can reasonably expect better value for money and restraint on non-essential increases in the face of rising living costs.I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget which calls for reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap average residential rates increases at around 3%. Specifically:- Freeze or reduce staffing by not filling vacant non-essential roles saving at least $17 million immediately.- Curb personnel costs and the broader payroll by reforming staffing structures.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services at a sustainable level.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to remove duplications and inefficiencies.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.The Council's current spending on consultantsâ€"approximately $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant around $200kâ€"alongside a payroll expenditure near $1.3 billion represents a clear area for savings. In addition the $171 million over ten years on Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) and a growing corporate services footprint raise questions about value for money and alignment with core local government responsibilities.I request that the Council seriously consider these efficiency measures and adopt a prudent inflation-aligned approach to rates. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9603,336443,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong and direct terms to express concern about the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to outline feasible steps to reduce wasteful Council spending while protecting essential services.Key points:- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. This aligns with evidence of excessive payroll and administrative costs that have grown well beyond inflation over recent years.- Spending on consultants and professional services must be cut not expanded. The briefing shows consultant spending at approximately $126 million per year across the Council group with the typical consultant earning around $200k yet there is little evidence that this is delivering commensurate value.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million annually and emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect resources to essential waste management and recycling operations with clear measurable outcomes.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million right away.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). As a local government entity the Council must prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.Alternative budget approach:- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling an average residential rates increase of around 3 percent. This can be achieved by: (1) a $50 million reduction in personnel costs through organisational change and selective hiring freezes; (2) a $50 million cap on consultant spend; (3) $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; (4) $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I urge the Council to adopt tighter expenditure controls and a transparent outcomes-based approach to spend ensuring that rates rises reflect essential services and proven cost savings rather than prolonged drift.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,

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9614,336430,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This equates to around $320 for the average household on top of a long-running real increase in rates since 2022 of 30 percent far outstripping cumulative inflation. The current average residential rates bill sits at $4069 and is rising faster than households can sustain.I believe the Council must reduce wasteful expenditure and reform expenditure practices to bring rates growth in line with households' ability to pay. My positions are as follows:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current cost base is unsustainable relative to ratepayer burden.2) Curb spending on consultancy and professional services. The ratepayer-funded reliance on external consultants has grown unnecessarily and should be capped and reallocated to core services.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local government function.Additional point: Council must be accountable for income and costs as a business would be with transparent reporting and justifiable efficiency gains.The alternative Budget framework suggested by ratepayers links a $150 million spending reduction (2%) to capping average rates increases at around 3%. This includes departmental reorganisations a hiring freeze vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I request the opportunity to speak at hearings to elaborate on these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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9618,336426,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27.The proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have climbed 85%â€"well above inflation and population growth. The breakdown of this year's 7.9% increase shows 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This large entrenched lift in operating costs is unacceptable while wasteful expenditure persists.I urge the Council to implement the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap rate increases by reducing expenditure not increasing charges on households. Specifically:- Cut corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce spending on consultants and professional services; the current level is unsustainable.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) department currently around $10 million per year which is not a core local government function.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and non-core programmes.The proposed budget shows substantial growth in personnel costs six-figure salaries and consulting spend (over $126 million annually across the Council group with average consultants earning substantial sums). Direct operating expenditure has risen far

faster than inflation while18 core functions and corporate support costs are disproportionate to outcomes. There must be accountability for the wasteful amount already spent before increasing charges on ratepayers.I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the rate rise to around 3% and prioritise essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9621

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a comprehensive review of council spending to deliver a more affordable results-focused budget for households.1. Rate increase and fiscal reality- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a persistent real rise in rates since 2022 of 30% (vs. 12% cumulative inflation). A rate rise at this level is not sustainable for households businesses and growth in Auckland.2. Wasteful and excessive spend driving the increase- The Council and CCOs spend heavily on consultants and backroom functions with $126 million per year across the group

and an average consultant earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure has risen well beyond inflation (78% 2013â€“2023 versus 29% inflation).- Corporate and staff costs matter too: payroll is about $1.3 billion with thousands of six-figure salaries and a noticeable expansion in staff costs since 2022.- There is a pattern of spending on discretionary items rather than essential services which underpins the need to freeze vacant non-essential roles and curb payroll growth.3. Specific cost-cutting measures aligned to the submitter's preferences- Reduce personnel costs by freezing hiring for non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap and reduce spending on consultants and professional services; renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save substantial amounts.- Cancel non-essential programmes that do not deliver clear public benefit notably the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which has not demonstrated net carbon savings.- Pause or scale back targeted spending on Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) and other non-statutory programmes recognising that core local government duties should come first.4. Alignment with a disciplined budget- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes a two percent reduction in new council spending capping the rate rise to around 3%. It prioritises statutory services and essential functions over discretionary grants.ClosingI request the Council to seriously consider these cost-saving measures and to expose a transparent plan to deliver critical services with restrained expenditure without imposing a 7.9% rate hike.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9622,336422,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I write as a ratepayer who believes in responsible budgeting and accountable spending. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to pursue meaningful reductions in wasteful spending before raising bills on households.Key concerns:- The proposed 7.9% increase equating to around $320 for the average household is excessive in light of two decades of high cost growth. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. A more affordable path is needed that prioritises core services over costly overhead.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these costs. Current data show substantial reliance on consultants and high payroll and contractor expenses.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. It costs $36 million per year and according to the Alliance briefing emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as a local government function ensuring funds align with statutory duties and essential services rather than discretionary programmes.Alternative budget approach:- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. This includes: $50 million from personnel costs through organisational changes and hiring freezes; $50 million from limiting consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In closing I request a disciplined review of wasteful expenditure and demand a transparent plan to protect essential services while keeping rates in line with inflation and household affordability. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,

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9633,336411,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed 7.9 percent increase. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and since 2012 rates have risen by about 85% in real terms far outstripping inflation and population growth. A significant portion of the increase is driven by CRL operating costs while new asset provisions and asset maintenance continue to grow. Given these pressures I urge Council to prioritise affordability for households and to pursue cost reductions first.I support substantial reductions in expenditure across the Council and CCOs particularly in corporate and backroom functions and in consultancy and professional services. The Council should implement the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new spending by $150 million (roughly 2%) which would cap the rate rise at about 3 percent. Concrete measures include:- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap spending on consultants by $50 million and renegotiate contracts to achieve better value including vendor consolidation where appropriate.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving around $20 million.I also urge rejecting non-essential high-cost programmes such as the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. In addition I oppose Māori-specific spending beyond what is necessary for core local government functions; the $10 million per year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as part of the savings package.These measures would deliver a fairer more sustainable approach to funding Auckland's needs and would prevent rate increases well above inflation. I request consideration of the proposed alternative budget as the framework for any final plan.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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9635,336409,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in my own name regarding the proposed 2026/27 annual plan.I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent (about $320 for the average household) and I urge Council to constrain rate rises to around 3 percent or less. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 and cumulative inflation at 12 percent. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets to accommodate growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of growth is unsustainable for households.Agreed positions1) Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and push for substantial savings to bring costs in line with inflation and household affordability.2) The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) The Council should reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continued growth in these areas.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which feasibility indicates emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government role.Additional points- The continued spending increases are unaffordable for hard-working residents who voted for change. Staff earning well above the national average without delivering commensurate value underscores the need for reform.- An alternative

budget approach is needed. A reduction in new Council spending by $150 million (2%) can cap rate rises at around 3% prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9644,336400,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The proposed 7.9% rise translates to about $320 for the average household on top of an overall rates bill now near $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen by 85% in real terms far outpacing inflation and population growth. A more prudent path is needed: cap the average residential rates increase at 3% by trimming non-essential and discretionary expenditure.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance approach of reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) prioritising essential services and responsible governance. Specifically:- Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services which currently totals hundreds of millions across the Council group by implementing cost controls and vendor consolidation.- renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to realise measurable savings on operating expenses.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to ensure core public functions are maintained without unnecessary frills.I also call for targeted cuts to projects and programmes that do not clearly deliver public value or climate outcomes aligned with local government duties:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce Maori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) department as this is not a direct local government mandate.These measures will enable a responsible evidence-based reduction in rate increases while maintaining core services public safety and essential infrastructure.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9658,336385,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit my strong objection to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful spending before any further rate rises.1) Oppose the 7.9% increase. An increase of this magnitude exceeds inflation and the Council's own growth needs. The proposed rise represents about $320 more per average household and the cumulative impact since 2022 far exceeds consumer price inflation. I call for restraint and a cap on rates rises that aligns with real household affordability.2) Reduce corporate and backroom spend. The Council should cut spending on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner organisation will help contain costs without compromising essential services.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. The spend on consultants and external professionals must be reduced rather than continually increased. Internal capability should be built where possible with a clear value-for-money objective.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and based on independent assessments emits more carbon than it saves. This is an area where savings can be redirected to essential services.5) Freeze staffing or cut payroll costs. Freeze filling vacant non-essential roles and reassess payroll commitments. Not hiring for non-essential positions could save

at least $17 million immediately and reduce ongoing costs.6) Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local government function. Reducing this expenditure would help bring rates closer to reasonable levels while preserving statutory services.Alternative budget approach: I support the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at about 3%. This includes staffing freezes capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I request these points be considered in the final plan and request to speak at hearings to provide further context if required.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9671,336372,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The current soundness of rate rises must reflect inflation not a continuing divergence where rates have risen 85 percent since 2010 while population grew modestly.1) Oppose the average 7.9% increase. The proposed split shows 2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for growth assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of increase far in excess of inflation and household wage growth is untenable for Auckland families. The average residential bill would rise by about $320 on top of ongoing cost pressures households face.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. The Council group spends heavily on consultants ($126 million per year) and on six-figure salaries across many staff. This is not sustainable when a significant portion of costs are directed to non-core activities.3) Curb consultancy and professional services spending. The budget shows a continuing rise in these items while core service delivery can be protected with stronger internal capacity and renegotiated contracts.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year it costs more in emissions savings than it delivers in carbon reduction. Resources should be redirected toward essential statutory services.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. A pause on non-essential recruitment would save at least $17 million immediately and improve value for money.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). This is not a function of the local government remit and should be redirected to core services that serve all ratepayers.Additional points: The council is there to serve not to lead. Its leadership has failed the people it serves as reflected in Queen Street's status as NZ's no.1 community location. Outrageous!I request to speak at hearings to present these points in detail. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9674,336369,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent (approximately $320 for the average household). Since 2010 rates have risen by 85 percent well above inflation and population growth. The proposed splitâ€”2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”fails to recognise the scale of wasteful expenditure and growing payroll and consultancy costs.I agree the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. Current data show $126 million per year in consultancy across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k and payroll and other expenses rising faster than inflation. Direct operating expenditure has grown 78 percent since 2013

far outpacing inflation. The Council should implement a rigorous organisational review freezing non-essential hires and reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.I also agree the Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to analyses emits more carbon than it saves. Additionally I support capping spending on consultants by renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I further support cutting Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae department ('Māori outcomes') which totals around $10 million per year as this is not a core local government function.Additional points: reduce costly roadworks with expensive and unnecessary concrete islands and raised pedestrian crossings; this is not a justification for higher rates and reflects ineffective prioritisation of asset projects.In closing I request that Council revise the draft plan to cap rates increases to a much lower level by pursuing the proposed $150 million reduction in new spending as outlined by Ratepayers' Alliance measures pursuing a 3 percent cap if feasible.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9675,336368,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I am submitting in opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in support of reducing wasteful Council spending.Key concerns and positions:- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a Council bill that has risen from $2781 in 2022 to $4069 today. The real increase since 2022 is 30 percent far outstripping overall inflation.- The breakdown of the proposed rise is unsustainable: 2 percent to maintain existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets tied to growth and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. I urge a tighter focus on essential services and capital planning before expanding operating costs.- The Council should aggressively cut back in corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to grow.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a formal local-government responsibility.- I support an alternative budget approach: trim new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap rates increases at around 3 percent prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional context:- Spending on consultants and contractors as well as processing and back-office costs appears disproportionately high compared with the core requirements of Council functions. A tighter organisational approach would help align expenditure with community needs and affordability.- We barely can afford current rates; further increases without demonstrable efficiency gains are untenable.Close:I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9682,336361,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I write to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge you to re-focus spending on core council

functions.Key concerns and requests- Rate increase: I oppose the average 7.9% rise. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up 30% in real terms since 2022 while inflation has grown 12%. The proposed split shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. This is not affordable for households especially when coupled with high living costs.- Wasteful expenditure and backroom costs: Reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The burden of high payroll and contractor costs is unsustainable. Direct operating expenditure has risen well above inflation and population growth.- Consultants and professional services: Curb the spend on consultants and professional services rather than continuing to increase these costs. The Alliance's briefing shows $126 million per year across the Council group with typical consultants earning around $200k.- Core services over branding: Return focus to essential services. Cancel non-core programmes such as the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million per year) which does not deliver carbon savings proportional to its cost.- Staffing and payroll: Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Māori outcomes funding: Reconsider the $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) aligning spending with the role of local government and core statutory functions.Additional points- Reprioritise away from marketing large events subsidies and branding exercises. Concentrate resources on rubbish roads and parksâ€”the areas most visible to residents and essential for daily life.I support a 3% cap through a targeted Budget package (reduce new spending by $150 million) by tightening personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9692

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. The current trajectory shows rates growth well above inflation with a 30% real increase since 2022 and a 85% rise since the Super City amalgamation. This is unsustainable for households and contradicts the Council's duty to manage ratepayer funds prudently.Agrees: I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and support an approach that caps rate rises closer to 3% or less by cutting excessive expenditure. I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and

CCOs and reducing spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continued growth in these costs. I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves. I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. I support cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I do not regard as a local government core function.The Council's current spending patterns show unsustainable growth: consultants and contractors total about $590 million; payroll exceeds $1.3 billion with significant six-figure salaries and more than 70 staff paid above the mayor's level. Direct operating expenditure rose by 78% from 2013 to 2023 outpacing inflation. The proposed plan's allocation toward CRL operating costs at 4.4% is a further pressure on households.Ratepayer-focused alternative: adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling an average rate increase of around 3%. This should be achieved by: a) organisational changes and a hiring freeze saving $50 million; b) capping consultant spend at $50 million; c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors for $30 million; d) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants $20 million.I request to present at hearings to elaborate these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9703

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I am submitting in a strong and direct tone to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to call for substantial restraint in wasteful Council spending.Key concerns- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% is excessive particularly given the real rate increases since 2022 have reached 30% in real terms with cumulative inflation around 12%. The burden falls most heavily on households already stretched by rising living costs.- The Council should adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the increase at around 3%. This includes: - 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 millionSpecific spending concerns and proposed actions- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs; payroll and back-office costs have risen faster than inflation and warrant scrutiny.- Cut spending on consultancy and professional services which has grown markedly; preserve capability through core staffing where essential and cost-effective.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in the Alliance view emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' programme estimated at around $10 million per year on the basis that this is not a core function of local government.ClosingI urge the Council to prioritise essential statutory services and to pursue aggressive efficiency across operations procurement and personnel before increasing rates. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural 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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- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9712

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Rates increase opposition and affordability- I oppose the proposed average residential rates rise of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household) which far exceeds inflation and local affordability. Since 2010 rates have grown 85% outpacing inflation and population growth and we cannot continue funding growth in Council costs on the back of ratepayers.2) Spending reform aligned with a core focus- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spending on consultancy and professional services instead of continuing to increase these items.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-

essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and approve a selective core-service focused budget.3) Specific programme and allocations- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Curb Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a core local government role.4) Alternative budget and outcome expectations- The Council should concentrate on core issues and work for ratepayers not self-promotion. The Ratepayers' Alliance recommends reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% cut) to cap average residential rates increases at around 3% through targeted reductions in personnel consultancy contracts and vendor costs.ClosingI request a hearing to present these concerns and the rationale for prioritising essential services and responsible spending.Sincerely{name redacted}508/2 Beach RdAuckland CBD{email redacted}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.

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9715

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find 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- Oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household). This represents a real burden on households already facing inflation and living costs given that the current average rates bill is $4069 and a 30% real increase since 2022.2) Spending reform and efficiency- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- It must reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items (Council spends about $126 million per year on consultants across the group).- Freeze staffing or reduce

payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants; reassess and reduce spend on non-core activities.3) Specific cost-cutting targets- Cap and rationalise contractor and consultant costs with a focus on renegotiations and vendor consolidation to deliver meaningful savings.- Cut Māori-specific spending where it is not a core local-government role including the Ngā Mātārae/Māori outcomes allocation (approximately $10 million per year) to align with a more traditional local-government mandate.4) Fiscal context and alternative approach- Since the 2010 amalgamation rates have risen by 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. A targeted program-by-program review is essential to restore affordability and value for ratepayers.In sum I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach reducing new spending by $150 million to cap rates growth at around 3% and to implement the above reductions now rather than later.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)

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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9720

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns and positions- The proposed 7.9% rates rise is excessive especially in the context of steady population growth and inflation. The $320 average increase represents a real burden on households already facing elevated costs.- A substantial portion of the increase funds CRL operating costs (4.4%) with additional cost pressures from maintaining existing assets (2%) and financing growth (1.5%). These allocations should be questioned given the current fiscal context and the availability of efficiency savings.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance shows that total council spending has risen well ahead of inflation and population growth since 2010 including a 78%

rise in direct operating expenditure (2013â€“2023) and a payroll bill of $1.3 billion. There is clear scope to reduce non-essential cost drivers.Financial reform and efficiency measures- I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to grow further.- I oppose discretionary projects that do not deliver essential statutory services. Specifically I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million per year) on the basis that it costs more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. This is a practical measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose current Māori outcomes spending including the Ngā Mātārae budget and support re-prioritising funds toward statutory obligations and essential services.Alternative budget alignment- Reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) can cap rates increases to around 3% by: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes - $50 million from capping consultancy spend - $30 million through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsConclusion- A focused reduction in wasteful or non-essential spendingâ€”including staffing controls and consultancy limitsâ€”can deliver a lower rates outcome while protecting core services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9723,336320,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit my opposition to the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a comprehensive review of Council spending to protect households especially those on fixed incomes.I understand the plan forecasts an average 7.9% rates rise (about $320 for the typical household). However this rise is not sustainable for many ratepayers including pensioners and families given the real increase in rates since 2022 has reached 30% (in 2022 dollars) while inflation has been around 12%. I cannot support a rate rise that outpaces both inflation and household earnings and that funds ongoing operating costs for CRL at roughly 4.4% of the increase alongside maintenance (2%) and growth-related assets (1.5%).I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to reduce Council overall spending especially on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb consultancy and professional services. The current spend on consultants at about $126 million per year plus $1.3 billion in payroll and $590 million on consultants and contractors is excessive. Reducing these costs would help keep rates within a more modest band and protect essential services.I oppose the continuation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and is argued to emit more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing and reducing payroll by not filling non-essential vacancies which the Alliance suggests could save at least $17 million immediately. A broader pause on non-essential hires would contribute to maintaining essential services without overburdening ratepayers.I also request a measured approach to Māori-specific spending. The current $10 million per year directed to Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) should be reconsidered as a priority for local government ensuring core statutory roles and essential services remain funded.As a Superannuitant rising rates threaten home ownership and living standards. I urge careful targeted reductions in discretionary spending to keep rates affordable and protect vulnerable households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,

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9726,336317,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key concerns and evidence:- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to roughly $320 for the average household while the current average rates bill is $4069. Since 2022 rates have risen by about 30% in real terms well ahead of cumulative inflation. The distribution shows 4.4% of the increase funding CRL operating costs with 2% for existing assets and 1.5% for new assets tied to growth. This pattern reinforces the need to curb overall spend before imposing higher bills on households.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that reducing new council spending by $150 million (2%) could cap the rate rise to about 3%. Proposed reductions include: $50 million from personnel cost controls $50 million from capped consultancy/contractor spend $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.- Specific areas of wasteful expenditure that should be trimmed include: consultants ($126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant around $200k) and six-figure salaries across staff (6123 employees 464 paid over $200k). Direct operating expenditure rose 78% from 2013 to 2023 against only 29% inflation. A substantial portion of non-essential costs must be reassessed.- Commendably the proposed 'Māori Outcomes' spend (Ngā Mātārae) and some discretionary grants are areas where reallocation towards core statutory services would benefit all ratepayers. I support prioritising essential services and revisiting non-essential programmes such as the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and based on available assessments emits more carbon than it saves.In closing I urge Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance approach: freeze non-essential staffing cut consultant spend renegotiate contracts and refocus funding toward essential services. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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9731,336311,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose this increase and urge the Council to instead cap rate rises and curb wasteful expenditure.Key concerns and positions:1) Rates target: The proposed 7.9% average rise is excessive. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 and since 2022 real increases have amounted to roughly 30% while inflation has been about 12%. A more sensible path is to limit increases to around 3% by restraining discretionary spending as proposed by the Ratepayers' Alliance.2) Expenditure on backroom functions and consultants: The Council's spend on consultants stands at $126 million per year across the Council group with the Auckland Council parent accounting for about $60 million and average consultants earning around $200000. Direct operating and personnel costs have grown well beyond inflation with staff costs and other expenses rising at twice the rate of inflation between 2022 and 2025. A comprehensive reduction in corporate and backroom functions is essential.3) Spending on new initiatives and specific programmes: The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves; this should be cancelled or redirected. There is also a call to freeze staffing growth and pause hiring for non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.4) Māori outcomes funding: The proposed $10 million per year for the Maori outcomes program (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local government responsibility and should be Ù…ØØ¯Ù̂Ø¯ with funds redirected to statutory and essential services.5) Alternative budgeting:

The Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap average rate increases at around 3%. This includes $50 million savings from personnel costs $50 million from reducing consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I request that the Council take these points into account and pursue a responsible path that protects essential services while significantly reducing wasteful expenditure and tax burden on ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0 ,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9746,336295,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and in support of reducing wasteful Council spending.1) Rate increases and affordability- I oppose the 7.9 percent average rise. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is already about 30 percent far above inflation. A more prudent approach is to cap increases at around 3 percent by implementing the Alternative Budget proposed by the Ratepayers' Alliance which would require sensible reductions in spending rather than hovering increases on ratepayers.2) Spending reductions that could fund lower rates- Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles saving $50 million.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services by $50 million and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation for $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and on balance emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would provide immediate savings of at least $17 million.- Reconsider Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae as this function should be within core local government remits.3) Specific concerns from rural ratepayers- Rural ratepayers including myself as a landowner in Tomarata oppose funding the $235 million CRL operating costs through the General Rate arguing this unfairly subsidises urban infrastructure. We request a reduction in the rural rating multiplier to reflect the distribution of benefits and avoid inappropriate cross-subsidisation.4) Additional considerations- Consider enabling long-term rural landowners to sever curtilage portions to remain on their land while freeing capital for living costs potentially supporting more efficient land use and capital for rates.ClosingI would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0 ,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9747,336294,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this on a personal sincere basis with concern for responsible stewardship of ratepayer funds and for priorities that preserve essential services while rooting out waste.I support reducing non-essential Council expenditure and reshaping spend to better reflect urgent community needs. Specifically I urge the Council to pursue substantial savings by reforming corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. This includes an immediate freeze on staffing for vacant non-essential roles to realise savings of at least $17 million promptly and a cap on spending on consultants and contractors to rein in discretionary expenses.I also call for a reduction in targeted Māori-specific spending including the

Ngā Mātārae/Māori outcomes portfolio which currently amounts to about $10 million per year. In my view these functions should be aligned with statutory local government responsibilities and core service delivery rather than creating new administrative layers.The submitted alternative budget framework proposed by the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance offers a practical pathway: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. This includes: $50 million through personnel cost controls and hiring freezes; $50 million by capping consultancy expenditure; $30 million via contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. I believe these steps provide a credible balance between necessary services and responsible budgeting particularly in light of high past rate increases and inflationary pressures.Additional points I would welcome addressing include ongoing inflation risks from external factors and ensuring that public funds are directed to outcomes that directly benefit local communities while avoiding spending that does not serve core municipal duties.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9749,336290,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a program of spending restraint to bring rates increases in line with or below inflation.Key points- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise translates to approximately $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. This is well above the rate of inflation and places a heavy burden on retirees like myself.- The rates increase is poorly targeted if it largely funds CRL operating costs (4.4%) and new acquisitions (1.5%) while demanding higher charges from households already squeezed by 30% real increases since 2022.- The Council should implement the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cut total new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to about 3%. This includes: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million. - Capping spending on consultants and professional services: $50 million. - Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million. - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million.Additional considerations- Expenditure on consultants totals about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200k. This is not sustainable while ratepayers face rising bills.- There is notable growth in payroll and other expenses; direct operating expenditure rose 78% from 2013 to 2023 far above inflation.- I also oppose the continuation of the Food Scraps Programme at $36 million per year which I understand emits more carbon than it saves and support freezing staffing or not filling vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.- I disagree with continued heavy spend on Māori outcomes separate from local government responsibilities; redirecting funds away from Ngā Mātārae aligns with prudent budget management.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9750,336289,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,This level is unaffordable for households already bearing real rate rises well above inflation and population growth.Key points- The proposed

7.9% increase translates to about $320 more per average household while the current average rates bill has risen to about $4069. Since 2022 rates have effectively increased by 30% in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation (12%).- The breakdown of the increase is inappropriate: 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This just compounds a long-term trend of escalating costs without commensurate accountability.- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% more than double inflation and near quadruple population growth. The burden on households is unsustainable.Agreed positions and requested changes- 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 spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continue to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.- All non-essential council staff should be placed on two days per week unpaid leave; savings to service debt should be prioritized and all spending related to mitigation of fraudulent man made climate change should cease immediately.Alternative budget and savings plan- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance plan: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) keeping rates to around 3% by freezing non-essential payroll capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request the opportunity to present my submission at hearings. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.Key points- The proposal implies an average $320 extra per household on a current average bill of $4069. Since the 2010 amalgamation rates have risen 85% far outstripping inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). The 7.9% increase comprises 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% to maintain assets and 1.5% for new assets. This is not sustainable without reform.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget shows how to keep rates closer to or below inflation by cutting wasteful expenditure: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) delivering an average rate increase of around 3%. This requires reductions in personnel costs consulting vendor consolidations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Agreed positions (to be included)- Oppose the average residential rates increase of at least 7.9%.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services instead of continuing to increase these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year and emits more carbon than it saves).- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (this alone could save at least $17 million right away).- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) where local government roles are not a proper function.Additional measures- All non-essential personnel should be given two days a week of unpaid leave until the debt is reduced as a further immediate restraint on spending.ClosingI request that the Council consider these reductions and opportunities for efficiency before approving any significant rate increase.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9774,336259,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The rate rise of about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 is excessive given ongoing cost pressures on

households and the Council's own spending patterns.Key context and concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. A large portion is driven by non-essential growth in operating costs and project pressures rather than direct service improvement for residents.- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% well above inflation and population growth indicating a structural drift that requires reform.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at about 3%. This includes: reducing personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes ($50m) capping consultants ($50m) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30m) and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants ($20m).Agreed positions to be included1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and advocate for a cap near 3% by reducing spending across the organisation.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services stopping the ongoing rise in these costs.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.7) New leadership tone is needed; a new Mayor should be sought to implement the necessary reform.Additional points- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants; ensure transparency and accountability for all costs.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9777,336255,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1) Opposition to the proposed rates increase- I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household). This level is well above inflation and places an undue burden on households particularly those on fixed incomes including pensioners. The current average rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30% against 12% inflation. It is essential that rates increases are aligned with inflation and families' ability to pay.2) Wasteful expenditure and savings- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reinvest savings into essential services.- Limit or suspend growth in consultancy and professional services; the current pattern of outsourcing is unsustainable and diverts funds from core services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Trim Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.3) Alternative budgeting approach- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance principle: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap residential rates increases at around 3%. This would require organisational changes freezes on non-essential hires capping consultant spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.4) Practical and local considerations- Many households in our community manage their own basic services (e.g. sewerage and water) and receive limited benefits from non-essential council programmes. A more restrained efficiency-focused budget would better reflect local needs and affordability.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a

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

9790,336241,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key concerns and positions:1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. The burden on households is already rising faster than inflation with the current average bill at $4069 and real increases since 2022 of about 30 percent. A 7.9 percent rise is unsustainable for ratepayers.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. The scale of administrative cost including 6123 staff on six-figure salaries and $1.3 billion payroll cannot continue alongside large rate increases.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. Council consultancies total about $126 million per year with the average consultant earning around $200000. This is a clear area for reduction to stabilise rates.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At about $36 million per year it costs more to operate than it saves in emissions and benefits making it a poor use of ratepayer funds.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for non-essential roles. Halting vacancies would save at least $17 million immediately and help protect households from further rate rises.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). This is not a core local government function and should be scaled back.I believe a prudent path is to reduce new Council spending by about $150 million (roughly 2 percent) to cap the rate increase at around 3 percent prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and non-core programmes.Closing:I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9806,336224,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I am writing to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge serious reductions in wasteful Council spending. The public should not be asked to pay more while evidence shows growing excess cost pressures in non-core areas.Key points guiding my submission:- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a rate bill that has risen to $4069. Since 2022 rates have risen by around 30% in real terms far outpacing inflation.- A major driver of the increase is CRL operating costs (about 4.4%). I urge the Council to cap these costs and reallocate funds toward essential services that directly benefit ratepayers.- I support reducing overall Council expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these line-items.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Staffing costs must be restrained. Freeze hiring for non-essential roles and/or reduce payroll by not filling vacant positions to save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose additional Māori-specific expenditure such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) department about $10 million per year as many believe local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.- A practical finance path is to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap) to keep rates increases to about 3% including a $50 million reduction in personnel costs $50 million in limiting consultancy spend $30 million from contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising essential services.I acknowledge Government changes to water governance have

affected Watercare funding but ratepayer relief remains essential. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9807,336222,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed increase and urge the Council to cap rate rises at or below inflation. The Alliance's analysis shows the current plan includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets leading to a 7.9% overall rise. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far exceeding inflation and population growth. A more prudent approach is required that prioritises core statutory services and affordability for households.I support a targeted reduction in wasteful spending and a realignment of priorities. In particular the Council should:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing non-essential hires and pursuing organisational changes that cut payroll costs which would deliver substantial near-term savings (as noted at least $17 million).- Curb spending on consultants and professional services rather than permitting continued growth in this area.- Renegotiate contracts consolidate vendors and pursue cost-effective operational efficiencies to save tens of millions.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and has not demonstrated carbon savings commensurate with the cost.I also urge reallocation away from discretionary spend toward essential services. The Council should cut Maori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department Ngā Mātārae arguing that this is not a core local government function and should be re-directed to statutory obligations.To fund a more sustainable path I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) achieving an average residential rates increase of about 3 percent. This would be achieved through the measures above and a stronger emphasis on essential services over discretionary grants.I request careful consideration of these points and a plan that preserves services while delivering genuine savings.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9818,336210,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1. Principal position- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household). This level exceeds inflation and places an undue burden on households especially given the 30% real increase in rates since 2022 versus 12% cumulative inflation.2. Spending reform and revenue alignment- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core function of local government.3. Alternative budget and rate outcome- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which caps the average residential rates increase at about 3% through: - $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/essential services over discretionary grants4. Additional context- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing both inflation and population growth. Direct operating expenditure has grown well above inflation and payroll/costs have expanded materially.I respectfully request that Auckland Council consider these savings and deliver a plan that prioritises essential services while moderating rate increases to align with inflation and household capacity.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0 ,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9832,336196,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The level of rate rises is not sustainable for households when inflation has averaged significantly lower than the proposed uplift and when a substantial portion of the increase funds operating costs and new assets without clear value to ratepayers. I oppose the 7.9% increase and expect a rigorous rebalancing toward affordability.1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real increases in rates of 30 percent since 2022 against only 12 percent inflation. A more modest increase is warranted.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cut consultancy spend. Current data show $126 million per year on consultants with the Auckland Council parent spending about $60 million and average consultants earning around $200000. A substantial portion of backoffice and consultancy costs should be redirected to essential services.3) Cancel discretionary items and pursue supplier reductions. Specifically freeze staffing for vacant non-essential roles (potentially saving at least $17 million immediately) and cut consultancy and professional services where possible. Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save tens of millions annually.4) Refocus funding away from non-essential programmes. I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves and I oppose expanding or maintaining programmes like Māori outcomes spending beyond what is essential for local government including the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae. Emphasise statutory and essential services.I propose the Council operate within a revised budget target with a $150 million reduction in new spending (2%) enabling a cap of roughly 3% on rates growth. This should be achieved through personnel cost controls a cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants. You have a budget; stick to it.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0 ,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9842,336185,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The burden of rates has grown far faster than inflation and population growth since 2010 and the current proposal does not reflect value-for-money in essential services.Key points1) Oppose the 7.9% average rate increase. The proposed 7.9% rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rates increase of 30% since 2022 in 2022 dollars. This is unaffordable for many households and out of step with inflation and budgeting realities for residents.2) Reduce corporate and backroom spending. The Alliance briefing shows $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group with the parent Council alone spending $60 million and average consultant pay around $200k. A comprehensive review of

corporate and backoffice spending is required before further rate increases.3) Curb consultancy and professional services. The spend on consultants and professional services should be reduced rather than increased to protect ratepayer value.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The programme costs $36 million per year and per the briefing emits more carbon than it saves; it should be halted.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles can deliver immediate savings; the briefing suggests this could save at least $17 million right away.6) Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a local-government responsibility per the Alliance briefing and should be reassessed.7) Alternative budget approach. A reduction of at least $150 million in new Council spending (2%) would cap rates increases to about 3% if targeted as outlined in the Alliance plan: limiting personnel growth capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional pointsStop the overspending; many households face financial pressure and rate bills are risking home ownership. Immediate tangible savings are essential.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9847,336180,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The current trajectory shows a real burden on households with the proposed increase equating to about $320 for the average home on top of ongoing cost pressures.Key concerns and positions1) Rate relief aligned to inflation. The proposed 7.9% rise far exceeds inflation and household budget realities. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates a feasible path to cap the rate rise at around 3% by reducing non-essential spending and improving efficiency.2) Real savings from cutting corporate and backroom costs. I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs which drives up operating costs without improving frontline services.3) Stop spiralling consultancy and professional services. The Council should halt or substantially cut spending on consultants and external contractors replacing with internal expertise where possible.4) Freeze staffing and payroll growth. Freeze hiring for non-essential vacancies and reduce payroll costs to achieve meaningful savings quicklyâ€”at least $17 million immediately.5) Target discretionary and non-core spend. Cut non-essential programmes and focus funds on statutory and essential services. In particular cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department which I believe should be the remit of central government rather than local councils.6) Alternative budget framework. By reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% of the total) the average residential rate increase can be restrained to around 3% delivering tangible relief to ratepayers.Additional context- The current average residential rates bill stands at $4069 with a 30% real increase since 2022 when adjusted for inflation.- Council spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year with payroll and staff costs rising faster than inflation.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9848

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% rise is excessive given the real increases faced by households since 2022 (30% in 2022 dollars) and cumulative inflation at around 12%. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% to maintain existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. A rate rise well above inflation is unjustified.- Substantial wasteful spending drives pressure on rates. Council and CCO payroll costs consultants and back-office functions have grown far faster than inflation or population with 6123 staff on six-figure salaries and $1.3 billion payroll plus $590 million on consultants and contractors. Eighteen corporate and business support functions cost

$868.4 million in direct expenditure.- The council should prioritise core statutory services over discretionary grants and cut waste. This includes reducing personnel costs (freeze non-essential vacancies to save at least $17 million immediately) and capping consultancy and professional services (save $50 million).- Specific programmes waste capacity and money. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' budget of around $10 million per year which is not a core local government function.- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that a 3% cap on average residential rates is feasible if we reduce new spending by about $150 million focusing on staff costs consultants renegotiations and vendor consolidation.Additional points- I will not be voting for Wayne Brown in the next election.In summary I urge the Council to reverse the planned 7.9% increase and pursue meaningful cost reductions as outlined above to protect households and prioritise essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9856

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Rates and affordability- I oppose the 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urge the Council to instead cap the rise at no more than 3 percent aligning with cost pressures faced by households. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a 30 percent real increase since 2022 when adjusted to 2022 dollars far exceeding general inflation. A more restrained increase is essential to protect household budgets.2) Spend controls across Council and CCOs- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services spending which remains a large growth area.- The

Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. It costs about $36 million per year and in the submitter's view emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this would deliver substantial immediate savings (at least $17 million).- Cut spending in Māori-specific programmes including the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' department cited as approximately $10 million per year given local government's mandate to focus on statutory and essential services.3) Proposed alternative budget direction- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget shows a credible path to a 3 percent cap by reducing new Council spending by about $150 million (2 percent). Proposed areas include $50 million from personnel cost reductions through organisational change and hiring freezes $50 million from cap of consultancy spend $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request the Council to consider these affordability-focused reforms and the alternative budget framework in its deliberations. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9873

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a programme of substantial cost reductions across the Council and CCOs. The community cannot sustain increases well above inflation while wasteful spending continues.1) Core concern: a 7.9% average increase is excessive. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 and real rates rise since 2022 is 30% (vs. 12% inflation). A 7.9% rise compounds hardship for households especially when most costs are rising faster than incomes.2) Wasteful and unsustainable expenditure must be cut. The Council should reduce spending on corporate and backroom functions

and curb consultancy and professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance notes annual consultancy spend of $126 million across the Council group with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent and average consultants earning about $200k. Direct payroll and contractor costs are untenable at current growth rates.3) Specific programme and staffing reforms. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which purportedly saves emissions but costs significant money upfront and diverts funds from essential services. Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies; such measures could save at least $17 million immediately. Consider capping or restructuring Māori-focused spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) budget of around $10 million/year which is not a core local-government responsibility.4) Budget framework and priorities. The Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to secure savings. A targeted reduction of new Council spending by $150 million (2%) would cap rate increases at around 3%.Rates are a ridiculous price to pay for governance that is not tightly controlled. I urge the Council to adopt these reductions and deliver rate stability aligned with inflation and community needs.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.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9874

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in constructive solutionâ€'focused terms to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge a rigorous review of spending across the Council and CCOs.1) Rates and spending context- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase is disproportionate to inflation and local needs. The current average residential bill is $4069 with real rate increases since 2022 running at about 30% in 2022 dollars far outstripping cumulative inflation.- The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. Given the scale of asset and operating costs a cap on increases is warranted

while prioritising essential services.2) Wasteful and excessive spending must be cut- Council spending on consultants: $126 million per year across the group; average consultant pay around $200k. This is unsustainable and should be cut.- Spending on six-figure salaries: 6123 employees on six-figure packages; 72 staff earn more than the mayor's $306741. Personnel costs have risen faster than inflation and should be restrained.- Direct operating expenditure rose 78% from 2013 to 2023 well ahead of inflation. A broader efficiency drive is needed.- Eighteen corporate and business support functions cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure; rationalisation and vendor consolidation are overdue.- The Council should cancel non-essential programmes and focus on statutory duties. In particular the Food Scraps Programme has a $36 million annual cost and purported carbon savings that exceed actual reductions should be re-evaluated.3) Specific affordability and governance measures- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non- essential vacancies immediately which could save at least $17 million right away.- Reduce expenditure on consultancy and professional services; pursue cost-effective in-house capabilities and renegotiate contracts.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants; reallocate funds away from Māori-specific projects such as the Ngā Mātārae department where appropriate for local government scope.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9886

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

This would mean an average household bill rise of about $320 on top of a real continuing burden since 2022. The current average residential rate bill sits at $4069 and despite population growth rates have risen 85% since the 2010 amalgamation well ahead of inflation and growth. The proposed 7.9% breakdownâ€”2% for existing asset maintenance 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”fails to justify the scale of increase in a period of documented cost pressures.I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which caps the rate rise by reducing new spending by $150 million (2%) delivering a targeted 3% average increase. Specific

measures include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze on non-essential roles saving $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants to $50 million.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors for $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants for $20 million.There must be a serious review of backroom and corporate functions across the Council and CCOs. Spending on consultants totals around $126 million per year with the average consultant earning about $200000. Direct operating expenditure has grown far faster than inflation; staff costs and other expenses have risen sharply since 2022. A substantial portion of payrollâ€"$1.3 billionâ€"drives ongoing costs; cutting unnecessary roles and procurement could materially reduce rate rises.I also oppose the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year on the basis that it costs more in emissions reductions than it delivers. I support reducing Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae department (Māori outcomes) by approximately $10 million per year arguing this is not a core function of local government.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing I oppose the rate rise and urge a substantial reduction in non-essential expenditure.Key positions:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9% which translates to roughly $320 for the average household given the current average bill of $4069.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year on the basis it emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Rationale and proposed reallocation:- Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% well above inflation and population growth. The proposed 4.4% of the increase for CRL operating costs should be scrutinised in favour of essential services and infrastructure maintenance not ongoing cost blowouts.- The ratepayer burden must reflect prudent budgeting: reduce consultant/contractor spend (current figures indicate high reliance on external expertise) and pursue vendor consolidation and renegotiations to achieve meaningful savings.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget shows that reducing new Council spending by about $150 million (a 2% reduction) could cap the rate rise to around 3% prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional notes:- Direct operating expenditure and payroll growth have outpaced inflation in recent years; a disciplined approach to staffing and outsourcing is warranted to protect core local services.Closing:I request the opportunity to present my views in person at hearings though I am currently prepared to submit in writing.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing I oppose the rate rise and urge a substantial reduction in non-essential expenditure.Key positions:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9% which translates to roughly $320 for the average household given the current average bill of $4069.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year on the basis it emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Rationale and proposed reallocation:- Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% well above inflation and population growth. The proposed 4.4% of the increase for CRL operating costs

should be scrutinised in favour of essential services and infrastructure maintenance not ongoing cost blowouts.- The ratepayer burden must reflect prudent budgeting: reduce consultant/contractor spend (current figures indicate high reliance on external expertise) and pursue vendor consolidation and renegotiations to achieve meaningful savings.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget shows that reducing new Council spending by about $150 million (a 2% reduction) could cap the rate rise to around 3% prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional notes:- Direct operating expenditure and payroll growth have outpaced inflation in recent years; a disciplined approach to staffing and outsourcing is warranted to protect core local services.Closing:I request the opportunity to present my views in person at hearings though I am currently prepared to submit in writing.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9892

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to roughly $320 more per year for the average household on top of an ongoing real increase in rates since 2022 of about 30% while inflation has been around 12%. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as the city grows. This level of increase is not sustainable for households particularly when it is not matched by commensurate gains in core services.I strongly support the Council's need to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to cut consultancy and professional services rather than

continuing to increase these items. In addition I request the Council to cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also urge freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. Further I oppose ongoing Maori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department Ngā Mātārae; I do not see this as a core local government function and believe funds should be redirected to essential statutory services.In line with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap the average residential rate rise at around 3%. This would be achieved through: (1) a personnel cost reduction via organisational change and a hiring freeze; (2) capping consultancy spend; (3) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; (4) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing. I would be pleased to provide further written detail if required.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9894

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed 7.9% increase in residential rates. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and since 2022 rates have risen by about 30% in real terms far outpacing general inflation. The proposed split of the increaseâ€”2% to maintain assets 1.5% for new assets to accommodate growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”appears to compound this pressure on households already stretched by high living costs.I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which caps the average residential rates increase at around 3% by reducing wasteful and non-essential spending across the Council and CCOs. Specifically:- Reduce personnel

costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles saving an estimated $50 million.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services by $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and pursue vendor consolidation to save a further $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.- Overall reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would directly support a lower rates rise.I highlight key areas where spending should be restrained:- Corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs require consolidation and efficiency improvements.- Spending on consultants and contractors should be reduced rather than continually expanding.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could deliver at least $17 million immediately.- Reconsider Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department which costs around $10 million per year to ensure funding aligns with core local government responsibilities.I would welcome the opportunity to contribute ideas during hearings 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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- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9895

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for meaningful reductions in wasteful Council spending. The burdens of a 7.9% rise fall heavily on households with the current average residential rates bill at $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of about 30 percent in dollars that can ill be afforded amid ongoing cost pressures.I support the following positions:- 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 spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing growth in these areas.-

Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million right away.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government role.Additional points:- Roading costs on motorways around southern extra lanes have stretched over more than ten years; contractors appear to benefit from the delays. A rigorous review of project timing and value-for-money is warranted to ensure spending aligns with actual transport needs and budget constraints.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget I urge the Council to cap the rate rise at about 3 percent by reducing new spending by about $150 million through targeted measures including:- A payroll and hiring freeze for non-essential positions.- Capping consultant spend and renegotiating contracts.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I respectfully request that this submission be considered in the public hearing process and that the Council adopts a fiscally prudent path that limits rate increases and curbs wasteful expenditure.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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work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9907

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the 7.9% increase as the average residential rates rise already represents a substantial burden. The current average rates bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 are already 30% in 2022 dollars far outpacing cumulative inflation. The proposed 7.9% mixâ€”in particular 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”adds to households' financial pressure without demonstrable proportionate benefits to essential local services.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce Council spending by $150 million capping the rate rise to about 3% and I expect the Council to implement such reductions through targeted measures:- Reduce personnel costs via organisational

changes and hiring freezes for vacant non-essential roles saving at least $17 million immediately.- Cap and reduce spending on consultants and professional services saving $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save a further $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.Additional specific measures I request include:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and has not shown net carbon savings comparable to its cost.- Freeze or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential positions and review six-figure salaries given the current payroll and contractor expenses (Council payroll around $1.3 billion; consultants $590 million).- Reconsider Maori outcomes spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae recognising that local government should prioritise core statutory responsibilities.These steps will address wasteful corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs reduce reliance on consultants and avoid further burdening ratepayers while ensuring essential services are preserved.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9913

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

For the average household this represents about $320 extra per year on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 in a period of 12 percent cumulative inflation. I urge the Council to prioritise cost containment and essential services over further rate rises.Key concerns and demands- Rate increase: Oppose the 7.9% average rise. The Council must deliver a responsible budget that targets inflationary relief for ratepayers.- Expenditure reform: The Council must reduce spend on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Wasteful programmes: Cancel

the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Payroll restraint: Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; such action would save at least $17 million immediately.- Māori outcomes spend: Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.- Overall financial plan: I support the Ratepayers' Alliance approach to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) thereby capping average residential rates to about 3%. This aligns with a focus on statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Broader governance: Have a serious look at everything that is not core council business and re-evaluate priorities accordingly.Additional points- The current fiscal trajectory shows personnel costs and other expenses rising faster than inflation with payroll and consultant costs consuming a significant share of budgets. A disciplined transparent review of every line item is essential.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9922

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed rise translates to about $320 more per household adding to a current average residential bill of $4069. Since 2022 rates have increased by 30 percent in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation of 12 percent. This is unsustainable for households while the Council continues to expand operating and staff costs.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown far faster than inflation with payroll and related expenses contributing to a significant rise in total costs.- The Council should reduce spend on consultancy and professional

services rather than continue ongoing increases. Current figures show high reliance on consultants with substantial annual costs that could be better allocated to core services.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. There is a need to reallocate funds to essential services with demonstrable benefits.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. An immediate freeze would save at least $17 million improving the affordability of rates for households.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). As a local government body focus should remain on statutory and essential services.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget I request that Council reduce overall new spending by about $150 million (2 percent) to cap the average rates increase at roughly 3 percent through targeted savings in personnel consultants and vendor contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9924

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
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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

The council must recognise that residents are already bearing a real rise in rates well above inflation and population growth since 2010. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase of about 30% in 2022 dollars versus 12% headline inflation. A further 7.9% average increase is unacceptable.I support reductions in Council and CCO spending on corporate and backroom office functions and a halt to rising consultancy and professional services costs. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance figures show consultant spend at approximately $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant payout around $200000.

Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown far faster than inflation in recent years. In this light I call for a cap on new spending and a program of organisational change that freezes non-essential vacancies and reduces payroll costs. I agree with reducing payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.I also call for cancelling the Food Scraps Programme (costing about $36 million per year) on the grounds of limited net carbon savings. I further oppose ongoing expenditure on Māori outcomes including Ngā Mātārae amounting to about $10 million per year as this is not a function of local government.To achieve relief for ratepayers I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) delivering an average rate increase of about 3%. This includes: $50 million from personnel cost reductions $50 million from capping consultants $30 million from renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. I also believe Rural Rodney should not bear the costs of inner-city infrastructure.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.

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9981

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find 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 a real increase of about 30% since 2022 and well above inflation. The proposed 7.9% increase comprises 2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of increase is unacceptable when better value could be secured by trimming non-core costs.I agree that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to scale back consultancy and professional services. Auckland's payroll and external contracting costs are unsustainable at current levels with consultants costing roughly $126 million annually

across the group and direct consultancy spend contributing to a substantial overall cost burden. A tighter operating model is required.In addition I strongly oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme as presently structured which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. The programme should be cancelled or re-scoped to ensure genuine net environmental benefit.I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately. The Council should also reduce 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.To the extent possible I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: a 2% reduction in new Council spending that caps the average rate rise at around 3% by prioritising statutory and essential services implementing organisational change a hiring freeze capping consultancy spend and contract renegotiations.I request that the Council consider these constraints and deliver a more prudent value-focused plan that preserves essential services while controlling costs.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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9994

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

My position is grounded in a detailed review of Council expenditure and alternative budgeting options that would protect essential services while restraining rising rates.Key points- I oppose increasing average residential rates by at least 7.9%. The current rate burden has risen substantially since 2022 with real increases of about 30% in 2022 dollars outpacing cumulative inflation of roughly 12%.- Expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs must be reduced. In addition spending on consultants and professional services should be capped or reduced to ensure ratepayer money is directed to core services.- The Food Scraps Programme

costing $36 million per year should be cancelled as it provides limited net carbon savings compared with its costs.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- Maori-specific spending should be reconsidered including the $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). As local government Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.Rationale and alternatives- The proposed breakdown of the 7.9% increase (2% maintenance of existing assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets 4.4% for CRL operating costs) does not adequately address the fundamental need to control operating costs and align with ratepayer capacity.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) capping average residential rates at around 3%. This would be achieved by: (1) reducing personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze; (2) capping consultants; (3) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; (4) prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.- Broadly payroll consultants and other operating expenses have risen far faster than inflation over recent years while core services require stronger alignment with ratepayer interests.I request to be heard at hearings to present these observations and proposals. 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10002

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a programme of fiscally responsible reform to protect households especially pensioners like me.I urge the Council to implement substantial cost reductions rather than further rate rises. In particular:- Oppose the 7.9% uplift; cap average rates increases at a much lower level by reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce consultancy and professional services spend rather than continuing to grow these expenditures; the current level of contractors and consultants is unsustainable for ratepayers.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not

filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million promptly.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core local government function.I note the broader financial context: since 2010 rates have risen about 85% outpacing both inflation and population growth. Direct operating expenditure has grown far faster than inflation and payroll remains a major cost driver. Given this a focused review of non-core and back-office functions is essential to restore affordability for households.I understand some spend is directed to critical services; however prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants is prudent. It is also reasonable to expect that the Council explores vendor consolidation and contract renegotiations to achieve meaningful savings.As a pensioner I cannot absorb large increases; I rely on ongoing government support for essential living costs and a New Zealand-wide cost-of-living squeeze makes rate increases untenable.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10015

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to the associated path of rising charges that far outstrip inflation.I strongly oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household). Since 2022 rates have risen about 30% in real terms while inflation has run around 12%. The proposed split shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as the city grows; this is not affordable for households already stretched by cost-of-living pressures.The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and

cut spending on consultancy and professional services. Current figures show about $126 million per year in consultants across the group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with average consultants earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation in recent years.I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. If this programme cannot demonstrate net environmental benefit it should be halted.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 and I oppose further payroll growth where roles are not essential to statutory or core services.I oppose continuing or expanding Māori-specific spend such as the Māori outcomes budget of about $10 million per year (Ngā Mātārae). Local government must prioritise statutory and essential services before discretionary grants.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal I urge a cap on rates increases to 3% by: reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze ($50 million) capping consultants ($50 million) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million) and prioritising essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).I am happy to speak to this but don't think it's necessary to.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10019

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my views on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the plan to increase average residential rates by 7.9%.I oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase. In real terms rates have risen substantially since 2022 (about 30% in 2022 dollars well above general inflation). The proposed breakdown shows 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth-driven new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This structure worsens the burden on households already stretched by rising costs. A rate rise solely linked to operating costs and growth cannot be justified without demonstrable efficiency gains in how rates are spent.I urge the Council to reduce expenditure on

corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb consultancy and professional services. The Alliance's briefing highlights $126 million per year in consultant spending and a payroll-heavy back-office expenditure profile. I support reducing these spend areas including freezing non-essential staffing and pursuing organisational changes that avoid new hires for vacant non-essential roles. A freeze or reduction in payroll costs could save at least $17 million immediately.I also oppose ongoing discretionary spend that does not directly serve statutory responsibilities. In particular I call for cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is said to emit more carbon than it saves. I support prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and I advocate capping off new spend in Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) at a level consistent with local government roles given concerns about the scale of Māori-specific funding in this context.I request that the Council prioritise a responsible targeted approach to capital and operating expenses including contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve meaningful savings. I also urge scrutiny of stadium-related spend arguing for value-for-money projects that deliver for ratepayers without unnecessary cost escalation.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10020

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this review in a strong and direct frame opposing the proposed average residential rates increase and calling for urgent reductions in wasteful and non-essential Council spending.Key concerns and requests:- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). This level is not affordable when inflation has outpaced gains and the Council's own spending increases have outstripped population growth and inflation in recent years.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. The briefing shows $126 million per year

in consulting across the group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with high individual consultant pay.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Context and a practical path forward:- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the increase at about 3%. This can be achieved through targeted personnel cost control a cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.- Additional measures include prioritising essential services and adopting vendor consolidation to deliver major savings without compromising core responsibilities.In closing I urge the Council to adopt a disciplined value-for-money approach and to implement the proposed savings to deliver meaningful rate relief for households while maintaining essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10022

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a rigorous program of waste reduction and cost discipline before any rise is approved.Key concerns and preferred actions:- The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive in the current inflationary environment. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs with 2% for existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. This level of growth is unsustainable for households already dealing with rising living costs.- Spending controls are overdue. Auckland Council and CCOs collectively spend heavily on consultants ($126 million per year) and on backroom corporate functions ($868.4 million across 18 functions). The average

consultant earns about $200k illustrating potential efficiency gains through restructures and vendor consolidation.- Wasteful or non-core programmes should be paused or redirected. The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and as proposed emits more carbon than it saves. This should be cancelled to free up funds for essential services.- Payroll discipline is necessary. Freezing non-essential vacancies and slowing hiring would save at least $17 million immediately. Additionally reducing payroll costs by pursuing strategic workforce changes would contribute meaningfully to affordability.- Reducing targeted expenditure including some 'Māori outcomes' spending is warranted if it is not aligned with core local government responsibilities. The $10 million per year spent on Ngā Mātārae should be reviewed to ensure alignment with statutory responsibilities and value for ratepayers.Alternative budget approach:- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rate rise to around 3%. This would be achieved by: $50 million in personnel cost reductions $50 million in consultant spending caps $30 million in contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Closing:I urge Council to prioritise affordability transparency and value-for-money in the plan and to adopt meaningful cost reductions before approving any rate increase.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10055

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to prioritise belt-tightening and reform to control costs.Key concerns and positions:- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise is excessive when the current average bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 have reached 30% (inflation ~12%). This level of increase is unaffordable for many households including pensioners and fails to reflect the need for prudent stewardship of residents' money.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut consultancy and professional services costs rather than allowing these items to

rise further.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to the Alliance framing emits more carbon than it saves. Resources should be redirected to essential services with measurable benefits.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) department which has around $10 million per year; in my view this is not a core function of local government.Additional point:- As a Superannuitant I cannot afford further expenses. A lower rates outcome would be more fair and sustainable for households like mine.Alternative budget approach:- The Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) achieving a cap of roughly a 3% rate increase through targeted reductions in personnel costs cap on consultants renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I urge the Council to adopt a responsible budget that protects core local services curtails wasteful spending and delivers a modest inflation-aligned rate increase. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10069

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I note this would equate to approximately $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069 with real increases since 2022 of around 30 percent against 12 percent inflation. I urge council to align rates with inflation and to prioritise essential services over discretionary or speculative spending.I support the following positions and ask that you reflect them in the plan:- Oppose the 7.9% average increase and seek substantial restraint in overall expenditure.- 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 appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.In addition I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping the rate rise at roughly 3 percent through targeted savings: $50 million from personnel costs via hiring freezes and organisational changes; $50 million from capping consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I request that the Council provide clear justification for any costs in excess of inflation and demonstrate how savings measures will be implemented without compromising core services. I welcome the opportunity to engage through written submission but I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10085

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a in-year reduction of wasteful Council spending. Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing I request that the Council cap rate increases by prioritising savings and structural reform.1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The proposed increase would amount to about $320 for the average household on top of a long-term pattern of rising costs that far outstrips CPI and population growth.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Current spending on six-figure salaries consultants and

direct operating costs is excessive. A targeted reduction is essential to align costs with a more prudent service delivery model.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. The Council's reliance on external consultants has grown sharply; capping or slowing this spend will help keep rates affordable.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year it costs more in emissions saved than realised benefits and funds could be redirected to essential statutory services.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for non-essential vacant roles. A pause on non-essential recruitment would save at least $17 million immediately and improve long-term cost discipline.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes). While well-intentioned this is not a core local government role and redirecting these funds would support core services with greater accountability.7) Support the Council's Alternative Budget framework which proposes a reduction of $150 million in new spending to keep rates near 3 percent achieved through personnel changes cap on consultants vendor renegotiations and prioritising statutory duties over discretionary grants.I request a constructive consideration of these measures to ensure essential services are preserved 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10086

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed 7.9% rise is excessive. The average residential rates bill has already risen to $4069; since 2022 real rate increases total 30 percent far outpacing cumulative inflation. The breakdown of the 7.9% increaseâ€”2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”demonstrates a misalignment of priorities. Rates should be restrained with savings pursued in non-core activities before asking ratepayers to fund growth and specific projects.Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance provides a credible pathway to cap rate increases at approximately 3 percent by delivering $150 million in annual savings across the Council group. This

requires: reducing personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes ($50 million); capping spending on consultants ($50 million); renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million); and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million). These steps are essential given that payroll costs total about $1.3 billion and consultants/contractors about $590 million with numerous six-figure salaries and a trend of expenditure rising faster than inflation.I urge the Council to cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in our assessment emits more carbon than it saves. I also call for freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. Further I oppose expanding Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Ngā Mātārae department arguing this is not a core local government function.Personal and community impacts are real: families in Auckland and in Taupo are affected by bloated council spending; with such large staff there is little justification for heavy reliance on consultants. Ratepayers deserve better service and clear accountability for how their money is spent.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10099

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a personal and sincere capacity to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to urge targeted reductions in non-core Council spending. The current path risks placing an unaffordable burden on households while failing to curb wasteful expenditure.Key concerns1) Rates affordability: The proposed average 7.9% increase translates to about $320 more per year for the average household on a current bill of $4069. This represents a real increase well above inflation and well above the rate of population growth over recent years. I urge Council to cap the increase at or near 3% by prioritising essential services and reforming spending.2) Wasteful

expenditure and backroom costs: The Council's spending on consultants and six-figure staff costs is excessive. Reforming personnel costs freezing non-essential vacancies and reducing consultancy spend are essential steps to restore value for ratepayers.3) Specific spend reductions to bring the rate rise down: A targeted approach outlined in the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget could save at least $150 million enabling a maximum 3% rates increase. This includes:- Freeze hiring for non-essential roles and reduce payroll costs by at least $17 million immediately.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save about $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving around $20 million.Additional points- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) on the basis that this is not a core local government mandate.ClosingI request that Council seriously consider these reductions to achieve a more sustainable ratepayer-focused budget for 2026/27. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10100

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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- **Transport**
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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 rates bill sits at about $4069 on average with real increases since 2022 at 30% while cumulative inflation runs around 12%. A more prudent approach is needed.- A responsible budget must focus on reducing wasteful spending. I urge reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. The Alliance's analysis shows annual consultancy spend of about $126 million across the Council group with substantial payroll and contractor costs in backroom functions that drive ratepayers' bills higher than necessary.- I support

cancelling non-essential programmes that do not deliver commensurate public benefit. In particular I request cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to its proponents emits more carbon than it saves.- I urge freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately and help keep rates increases closer to inflation.- I oppose current levels of Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) resulting in an average rates increase of around 3%. This includes a mix of personnel cost reductions capping consultancy spend contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.In closing I request that Council adopt more affordable budgeting that cuts waste aligns with inflation and protects 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.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10104

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is about 30 percent far exceeding inflation. The proposed 7.9% breakdownâ€”2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”offers no justification that residents will receive commensurate value.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance outlines a practical path to cap rate rises and restore fiscal discipline. I support reducing corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs and cutting the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continual growth in these areas. In particular I call for cancelling the Food Scraps

Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. I also 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 further urge restraint on targeted spend such as Māori-specific programmes. The $10 million per year allotted to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as this is not a direct function of local government. A reallocation toward statutory and essential services will better align with ratepayer priorities.To deliver meaningful relief I endorse the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget:- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at around 3%.- Achieve this through personnel cost reductions a hiring freeze for non-essential roles and renegotiation of contracts with vendor consolidation.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional point: set the Uniform Annual General Charge to the maximum allowable limit for Rodney ratepayers and spend Rodney rates income on Rodney tar-sealing metal roads and local community development. This would prevent subsidising Auckland CBD and CRL maintenance from small rural households.In closing I urge a substantial reduction in the rate increase and a reset of priorities toward core services and local connectivity consistent with ratepayer interests.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10148

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I note the current average residential rates bill is $4069 and that the proposed increase would add approximately $320 for the average household. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far exceeding both inflation (about 34%) and population growth (22%). A more disciplined approach to spending is required to halt this trajectory and protect households.I urge the Council to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs as well as to curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these line items. The Council should also cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in the

submitter's view emits more carbon than it saves.A key immediate measure would be to freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This pause could save at least $17 million right away. In addition I support reducing Maori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) on the basis that this is not a function of local government. Greater emphasis on statutory and essential services over discretionary grants should be prioritised.The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates that reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) can cap the average residential rates increase at about 3%. Implementing a combination of organisational change hiring freezes capping consultants renegotiating contracts and vendor consolidation would deliver these savings.I request that the Council consider these measures to rein in waste and deliver value for ratepayers while maintaining essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10165

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I object strongly to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and submit that rates should be constrained to no higher than 3 percent.Key points for consideration- The proposed 7.9% average rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (vs. 12% overall inflation in that period). This is unaffordable for many ratepayers particularly when essential services must be protected.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have grown well beyond inflation while productivity and core service delivery suffer.-

Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This step alone could save at least $17 million immediately and help avoid further ratepayer burden.- Curb the spend on consultancy and professional services. Reducing external contracts would lower overall operating costs and improve fiscal discipline.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in the submitter's view emits more carbon than it saves. Reallocating those funds to essential services would deliver greater value to residents.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.- Focus on core services and not non-essential projects. The cycle lane programmes have consumed significant funds without delivering proportional benefits to many ratepayers.Proposed alternative budget- Endorsing a 2% reduction in new Council spending and capping average rates at around 3% by implementing the following: $50 million saving from personnel costs $50 million from consultancy $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising 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.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10169

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and urge the Council to pursue substantial efficiency and spend-reform before any further rate hikes.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real 30% rates rise since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and a cumulative 12% inflation. This is unaffordable for many ratepayers.- The rate rise breakdown highlights cost drivers that demand scrutiny: 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. The bulk of pressure comes from operating costs rather than essential maintenance alone.- Council

and CCO spending on consultants totals $126 million per year with Auckland Council itself bearing about $60 million and an average consultant earning substantial fees. Personnel costs and other expenses have grown faster than inflation while core services must be protected.Agreed positions and requests- 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 spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these lines.- 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 filling vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the around $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department as this is not a core local government function.- Get back to core responsibilities: rubbish water roads.Alternative budget approachI support the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap the rate increase by reducing new spending by $150 million (about 2%) achievable through: $50 million from personnel cost reductions $50 million from capping consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request to speak at hearings only if offered but I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10182

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to pursue substantive spending reforms before asking households to pay more.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase represents a real burden on households with rates now around $4069 on average and a real increase since 2022 of 30% far exceeding inflation. A growth in costs driven heavily by CRL operations and asset maintenance should not be funded by households alone.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. Current

spend on consultants is excessive with $126 million per year across the group and poor value relative to outcomes.- The Food Scraps Programme is not cost-effective costing about $36 million per year and emitting more carbon than it saves. It should be cancelled.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.- Additional practical reductions include stopping spending on items like covered picnic tables in Tui Glen which do not align with essential council services. Pensioners are already struggling with rising costs; this further highlights the need for restraint.Alternative budgetingI support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases) through:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisational reform and hiring freezes- $50 million from capping consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsIn sum a targeted restraint on non-essential high-cost items will better protect households while maintaining 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.

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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10184

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to the overall trend of rapid rates growth that far outstrips both inflation and population growth.Key concerns and positions:- I oppose the 7.9% average rise. The proposed increase would add approximately $320 to the average residential bill when the current average is about $4069 even as inflation not accounted for already erodes household budgets.- Wasteful backroom spend must be cut. Council spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year across the group with the Auckland Council parent alone accounting for around $60 million and an

average consultant pay of about $200000. A substantial reduction is both prudent and necessary.- Reduce payroll and staffing costs. There are 6123 Council and CCO employees on six-figure salaries including 72 staff paid more than the mayor's $306741. A hiring freeze or freeze on non-essential roles would deliver essential savings and help rein in escalating personnel costs.- Curb consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants and contractors amounts to $590 million with direct operating expenditure rising far faster than inflation. A cap on consultancy and renegotiated contracts are essential.- Prioritise core services over discretionary grants and non-core programmes. The Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves should be cancelled. I also support freezing or reducing Māori-specific spend (such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department) as this is not a core local government function.- Budgetary discipline is essential. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the rate rise at about 3% and reallocate funds to essential services rather than expanding bureaucratic overhead.Additional point:I'm paying almost $10k per year and largely receiving rubbish collection along with ongoing maintenance of the burn. This is unacceptable and underscores the need for value-for-money in Council services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10207

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a strong and direct tone to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to demand a programme of expenditure restraint focused on core statutory services rather than backroom or discretionary items.Key concerns and positions:1) Rates increase and affordability. The proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise is excessive in a city where current average rates are $4069 and real increases since 2022 run at 30% (in 2022 dollars) versus 12% inflation. The rate rise should be capped at or below inflation not at an average 7.9%.2) Wasteful spend and backroom functions. The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom

office functions across the Council and CCOs including substantial use of consultants.3) Consultants and professional services. Freeze or reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continued growth.4) Waste and environmental programmes. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.5) Staffing and payroll controls. Freeze vacancies and reduce payroll by not filling non-essential roles; a pause could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Māori-specific spending. Reconsider and reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting it is not a core local-government function.Budget alternative and impact:Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% cut) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. This would be achieved by: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million from capped consultancy spending; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I urge the Council to adopt these reforms and demonstrate accountable stewardship of ratepayer funds prioritising essential services and restraint over utility-scale rate hikes.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10217

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current trajectory shows rates rising far faster than inflation while essential services suffer under pressure. The proposal would add approximately $320 to the average household bill on a current average of $4069 at a time when real increases since 2022 total 30% (vs. 12% inflation). This is unaffordable for many ratepayers and undermines trust in local governance.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to cap rates increases at around 3% by reducing new and ongoing Council spending. Specific measures include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze on non-essential roles saving at least $50 million.- Cutting

spending on consultants and professional services by $50 million.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save about $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants with $20 million in savings.In addition I oppose the continued expenditure on programs with questionable value. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and as projected emits more carbon than it saves. Freeze or pare back Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) department where local government responsibilities do not justify ongoing funding at this level.The proposed breakdown of the rate increaseâ€”2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for growing assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”highlights how operating costs and backroom spending drive cost pressures. The Council must address waste in corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs where consultant activity and high payroll costs contribute disproportionately to the rate burden.I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance plan and bring the average rate rise down to about 3% through targeted cost reductions and efficiency gains rather than imposing a burdensome levy on households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10223

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase amounts to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (inflation-adjusted) while council spending has outpaced inflation by large margins. The breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase covers CRL operating costs with the remainder for asset maintenance and growth. This is unaffordable for households already squeezed by cost of living pressures.- The Council should cut spending on corporate and backroom

functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce consultancy and professional services which total around $126 million per year across the group.- The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves; it should be cancelled.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) where the alignment with local government remit is questionable.Alternative budget approachRatepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rates increase at 3%:- $50 million from personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze- $50 million from capped consultancy spend- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsThese adjustments would deliver continued essential services while avoiding excessive rate hikes and improving value for money.I request that the Council prioritise restraint on non-essential programmes and tighten personnel and consultant expenditures to protect households while maintaining 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):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10225

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

My position is clear: oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and insist on meaningful reductions in non-essential and backroom spending before any rate rise is advanced.Key context and concerns:- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household atop a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% while inflation has grown by around 34% and population by 22%. This is unaffordable for many households and out of step with real cost pressures.- The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. In aggregate this compounds across services and projects

with limited direct benefit to ratepayers in return for escalating costs.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates a path to cap increases at around 3% by saving about $150 million through targeted reductions in payroll consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services.Agreed positions to include:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council must reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year and emits more carbon than it saves).- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (this alone would save at least $17 million right away).- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government role.Additional points:Rates must be affordable; rate payers are not an endless revenue source. Prioritise must-have services and eliminate 'nice-to-haves' that do not directly serve statutory or essential municipal functions.Closing:I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10239

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I lodge this submission to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for a fiscally responsible path that prioritises essential services and cuts wasteful spending.The submitted material from the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance highlights that the proposed 7.9% increase breaks down as 2% to maintain assets 1.5% for new growth assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% well above inflation and population growth. Given this context I support reducing Council expenditure rather than imposing a large rate rise on households.I agree with the calls to:- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office

functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these costs.- 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 hiring for vacant non-essential roles a step that 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) given this is not a core local government function.To achieve a fairer outcome I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which caps average residential rates increases at around 3 percent by saving about $150 million through targeted reductions:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze.- $50 million from limiting consultants.- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In short I urge Auckland Council to prioritise core services restraint in expenditure and a tangible reduction in the rate burden on households. This approach aligns with long-term affordability and responsible stewardship of Auckland's assets and services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10251

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a constructive solution-focused manner to express strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful council spending. The current rate burden is already high with the average residential bill at about $4069 and real increases since 2022 approaching 30 percent in real terms far above inflation.The proposed 7.9 percent rise is not affordable for households and does not align with responsible stewardship of public money. I urge the council to cap the rate increase at a much lower level by implementing the Ratepayers' Alliance's alternative budget approach which targets $150 million of

new spending reductions (about 2 percent) and would bring the average rate increase closer to 3 percent. This would better reflect statutory obligations while protecting essential services.Key areas for urgent savings and reform:1) Corporate and backroom efficiency: Reduce spend on corporate and back-office functions across the Council and CCOs. There is ample room to streamline governance reporting and administrative overhead without compromising service delivery.2) Consultancy and professional services: Put a hard cap on external consultancy and professional fees; prioritise in-house capability and renegotiate existing contracts to deliver better value for money.3) Food Scraps Programme: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and according to independent assessment emits more carbon than it saves.4) Staffing and payroll: Freeze non-essential vacancies and refrain from backfilling non-critical roles. A targeted hiring freeze could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Māori-specific spending: Reconsider the $10 million per year allocation to Ngā Mātārae assessing whether such expenditure is a core local government function and better aligned with statutory duties.I also emphasise prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and pursuing contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to improve value for money. Stop the grandstanding and do the job you were elected to do: reduce 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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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10254

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The Ratepayers' Alliance briefing highlights that rates have risen 85 percent since the 2010 Super City amalgamation far outpacing inflation and population growth. The current plan would push further burden on households with the average residential bill now around $4069 and an expected increase of about $320 for the average home. A more responsible path is to prioritise essential services and rein in non-essential costs.Key points I wish to emphasise are:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Streamlining governance layers will help lower operating costs materially.2) Decrease spending on consultancy and

professional services. The briefing reports approximately $126 million per year across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with many consultants earning substantial sums. This must be capped and redirected toward core services.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Investment should be redirected to essential services and waste reduction where measurable benefits exist.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This could save at least $17 million immediately and reduce ongoing personnel pressures.5) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.Additional plan considerations:- Implement staff working from home charging practices that accurately reflect hours worked ensuring no inflated costs.- Consider the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a target around a 3 percent rate rise through a mix of personnel cost reductions a cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services.In summary I urge the Council to adopt a leaner operating model refocus on essential services and align rate levels with inflation and real need rather than expanding 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):

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- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10281

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase in the 2026/27 annual plan and urge a focus on reducing wasteful Council spending to protect household budgets.I note the current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the proposed increase comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen by 85%â€”far outpacing inflation and population growth. This level of increase is unsustainable for households particularly when real per-household costs have grown substantially.I therefore support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance

position to cap rate rises by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about a 2% reduction). Specifically I urge:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze on non-essential roles to save $50 million immediately.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.In addition I urge the Council to adopt a rigorous cost-cutting approach aligned with the Alliance's focus on wasteful expenditure:- Treat corporate and backroom office functions as a priority for cost reductions across the Council and CCOs.- Stop or substantially reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services to halt the ongoing growth in these costs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits 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.- Reassess Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) department funded at around $10 million per year ensuring such activity is a core local-government function.I appreciate the opportunity to contribute and respectfully ask the Council to prioritise affordability for ratepayers while maintaining essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

10285,335727,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,My focus is on accountability for spending and on practical evidence-based ways to deliver essential services without unnecessary cost growth.1) Support for targeted spending reductions- I agree the Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. It costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves.- I agree that Māori-specific spending should be reviewed including the Ngā Mātārae department's approximately $10 million per year allocation. Local government has a core mandate to provide services to all residents; excessive or exclusive-program spending risks undermining broader community expectations.2) Spending efficiency and value for ratepayersThe Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing highlights substantial expenditure in areas that warrant scrutiny:- High reliance on consultants (approximately $126 million across the Council group annually) and elevated payroll costs with significant six-figure salaries.- Direct operating expenditure growth well above inflation in recent years with personnel costs and 'other expenses' rising twice the rate of inflation from 2022 to 2025.- A substantial share of the budget going to corporate and backroom support functions.Alternative budget approach- I urge the Council to adopt a conservative efficiency-focused approach that prioritises statutory and essential services and caps discretionary spending. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) which could help keep average residential rate rises to more modest levels.- Specific areas for restraint include personnel cost management through organisational change and temporary hiring freezes capping consultants and renegotiating contracts with vendor consolidation.ClosingI request that the Council consider these points seriously and pursue a leaner budget that protects essential services while reducing wasteful expenditure. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

10311,335701,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose raising rates by 7.9 percent. The current average residential bill is $4069 and real rates growth since 2022 has been about 30 percent well above inflation. A more prudent path is to reduce wasteful expenditure and bring the rate increase in line with or below inflation while protecting essential services.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to cut wasteful spend and to pause or reduce non-essential programmes. Specifically:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs; 2) curb consultancy and professional services rather than increasing them; 3) cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which purportedly saves less carbon than anticipated; 4) freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately; 5) cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given this is not a core local government function.The alternative budget proposed by Ratepayers' Alliance offers a credible path: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap average residential rates increase at 3 percent. This would be achieved through organisational change and hiring freezes ($50 million) capping consultants ($50 million) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30 million) and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million). These steps align with responsible stewardship of public funds and with the expectations of ratepayers.I urge the Council to adopt a disciplined spending approach restore fiscal responsibility and avoid a rate rise that outpaces both inflation and household affordability. The focus should be on delivering core services efficiently and transparently not on expanding non-essential programmes or increasing payroll costs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

10331,335681,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase and urge a disciplined reallocation of funds to protect essential local services and households.Key concerns and asks- The Council should prioritise core activitiesâ€”parks roads and rubbishâ€”and stop expanding non-essential programmes. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have grown far faster than inflation while many backroom functions and consultants have risen substantially. A more targeted focus on core services is long overdue.- I support a reduction in personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for vacant non-essential roles which would deliver immediate savings of at least $17 million.- I urge canceling the Food Scraps Programme which costs approximately $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- I call for capping expenditure on consultants and professional services and for contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve meaningful savings.- I oppose continued or increased spend on Māori-specific programmes that fall outside core local government obligations; in particular the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) allocation of about $10 million per year should be reviewed in the context of statutory responsibilities and essential services.- Drawing on the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget I endorse reducing overall Council spending by at least $150 million to cap the average residential rate rise to around 3 percent. Specific reductions include: $50 million from personnel costs through reform and hiring freezes $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Rationale- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far above inflation and population growth. A sustainable path requires prioritising core services and eliminating wasteful spending not perpetuating a large blanket rate rise.- Standing up for prudent

budgeting aligns with residents' ability to pay amid ongoing cost pressures.Please consider speaking with me at hearings; I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

10334,335678,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this formal submission regarding the proposed 2026/27 annual plan.1. Fiscal responsibility and rate affordabilityI recognise the need to fund essential services but the current trajectory of expenditure is unsustainable for ratepayers. The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average residential rates increase at about 3%. This would be achieved by: reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze ($50 million); capping spending on consultants ($50 million); pursuing contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30 million); and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million). These measures align with the principle that ratepayer cash should be directed to core functions rather than backroom or discretionary programs.2. Wasteful spending and reform prioritiesI support reducing corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting spending on consultancy and professional services. The current expenditure on consultants and contractors is excessive and targeted reductions would deliver meaningful savings without compromising core services. I also advocate for reviewing staff costs and vacancies to avoid paying for non-essential roles. Freezing staffing and not filling vacant non-essential positions would save at least $17 million immediately which would help stabilise rates.3. Specific program and Maori-spending considerationsI oppose continued growth in non-core programmes to deliver limited value. In particular I support cancelling non-essential initiatives such as the Food Scraps Programme if it is not demonstrably cost-effective. I also question the proportionality of high Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae portfolio if its outcomes can be delivered within statutory local-government duties and essential services. Reallocating funds toward essential services will benefit all residents.4. Additional contextRates are already a significant burden; many households cannot afford further increases. I urge the Council to pursue the alternative budget path and demonstrate tangible efficiency gains before approving any further rate rises.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

10341,335671,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a clear path to lower spending and more cost-effective governance.Key points for consideration- I support reducing Council and CCO backroom expenditure recognising that wasteful corporate and backoffice functions drive costs without delivering commensurate community value. - I strongly support cutting the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than perpetually escalating these items. The current pattern inflates costs and delays tangible service delivery.- I call for cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in our assessment emits more carbon than it saves. Redirecting these funds would improve efficiency and reduce waste.- I endorse freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately and would better reflect prudent needs-based

budgeting.- I oppose continued or expanded Maori-specific spending that many ratepayers view as outside the core remit of local government. In particular I question the ongoing $10 million per year spent on Ngā Mātārae/'Maori outcomes.' A more focused allocation of resources to statutory and essential services should guide budget decisions.Context and justification- Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% while inflation has grown around 34% and population roughly 22%. The proposed 7.9% rise compounds this imbalance and is not sustainable for households especially given the cumulative impact since 2022.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) can cap rates growth around 3% by prioritising essential services and reforming personnel and contractor costs.In summary a prudent path is to constrain rate increases by delivering meaningful savings from payroll consultants and discretionary programmes prioritising statutory services and core community outcomes over non-essential initiatives.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

10348,335664,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key points- I oppose increasing rates above inflation. The proposed 7.9% average rise (about $320 for the average household) would push Aucklanders further behind inflation and wage growth while the overall rates bill has risen 85% since 2010 far outpacing inflation (34%) and population growth (22%).- The breakdown of the 7.9% increase includes 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as the city grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. I question the necessity of rising operating costs at this pace given the available evidence of wasteful spending.- I support reducing wasteful and non-essential Council spending. Specifically I urge cuts to corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to limit consultancy and professional services which total about $126 million per year across the Council group (with the Auckland Council parent accounting for much of this) and an average consultant pay of about $200k.- I support eliminating or significantly scaling back the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- I favour freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacant roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose continued or expanded Māori-specific spending beyond what is essential for local government functions. The $10 million per year spent on the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' department should be reevaluated as a statutory duty and not a core Council function.Alternative budget pathway- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (approximately 2%) capping the average residential rates increase to about 3 percent. This would be achieved by: ($50m) reducing personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes; ($50m) capping consultancy spend; ($30m) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; ($20m) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request a constructive consideration of these savings and a path to moderate rates increases aligned with inflation and essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

10352,335660,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27 and in support of reducing

wasteful Council spending.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9 percent increase comprising 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs far outpaces reasonable savings and the ratepayers' ability to pay. Since 2010 rates have risen 85%â€”well above inflation and population growth. A rates rise tied to ongoing operating costs is not sustainable for households.- The Council should reduce spend on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these items.- The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves; this is a discretionary expense that should be halted.- Payroll costs are excessive. Freezing staffing and not filling vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately.- Maori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local government responsibility and should be reconsidered.Constructive alternative- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increases at around 3% by: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes: $50 million - Capping consultancy spending: $50 million - Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors: $30 million - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million- These steps would better align rates with real growth in services protect households from unaffordable increases and address wasteful spending without undermining core functions.ClosingI request the opportunity to present my views in person at hearings only if possible; otherwise I submit this written statement to inform decision-making.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10358

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I am expressing strong concern about the scale of proposed growth in spending and the lack of priority given to essential services over costly discretionary expenditure.1) Wasteful corporate and backroom spending- The council and CCOs must substantially reduce corporate and backroom office functions to lower operating costs. Current high overheads do not reflect value delivered to ratepayers and drive unnecessary rate increases.2) Curb consultancy and professional services- Spending on consultants and external professional services should be capped. Reducing these costs is essential before contemplating higher rates.3) Food Scraps Programme- Cancel the Food

Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. This aligns with a prudent outcome-focused use of public funds.4) Staffing and payroll controls- Freeze non-essential hiring and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Māori outcomes spending- Reconsider and reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) department. Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over more targeted spending.Additional point- The current trajectory risks affordability for households. While some projects may be well-intentioned many are discretionary and do not reflect urgent community needs. Given the magnitude of waste identified further rate increases should only be considered after meaningful cuts to non-essential and discretionary spend have been implemented.In summary I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance approach: reduce new spending by at least $150 million (2%) through targeted personnel controls consultant caps contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. This approach would materially constrain rate rises and better reflect the financial realities faced by households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10365

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit a submission in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in support of significant cost reductions across the Council group to protect ratepayers.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9 percent increase is not affordable for households especially given the real rate increases since 2022 and persistent inflation. The 2026/27 plan must prioritise value-for-money and avoid unwarranted growth in core costs.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that by reducing new spending by $150 million (2%) a cap of about 3 percent on the average residential rates increase is achievable while

maintaining essential services.Agreed positions to be included- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council needs to reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing 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 spendingâ€”such as the roughly $10 million per year spent on Maori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae)â€”on the basis that this is not a core local government function.Rationale- Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown well beyond inflation in recent years while the value delivered to ratepayers has not been demonstrated as commensurate with the costs.- A disciplined programme of cost containmentâ€”reducing consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory/essential servicesâ€”offers a credible pathway to limit rate increases 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.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10369

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Hibiscus and Bays

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a strong and direct voice against the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27.The case for restraint is clear. The current plan would see an average residential rates bill rise by about $320 per household on top of a long string of increases since 2010. The 7.9% uplift is not justifiable when core drivers include significant operating costs for CRL asset maintenance and growth. The Council should instead pursue meaningful reductions in non-core and backroom spending to protect households from continued above-inflation increases.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance programme of reducing wasteful Council expenditure

rather than increasing rates. Specifically I urge:1) Reducing personnel costs by freezing non-essential vacancies and avoiding hires which would save at least $17 million immediately. 2) Capping and reducing spend on consultants and professional services to avoid perpetually escalating external advisory costs (the current pattern of high consultant fees must stop). 3) Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to extract savings of about $30 million. 4) Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants with a view to redirecting funds away from nonessential programmes. 5) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves. 6) Curb Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government function.I also note the broader financial context: the Council's overall spending on staff and three-party costs has grown faster than both inflation and population growth while the ratepayer burden has risen since 2010. The Ratepayers' Alternative Budget demonstrates that a $150 million reduction in new Council spending can cap the rate rise to around 3 percent by focusing on personnel control consultant reduction renegotiations and essential services.Closing: I request that the Council seriously consider these reductions as the basis for a more affordable leaner budget that protects household budgets while delivering essential services.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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- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural 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.

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(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?

N/A