Annual Plan 2026/2027

Written Feedback

Papakura Local Board

Volume 5

April 2026

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8999

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: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

This submission sets out a clear respectful case for tightening Council expenditure and reforming spending before approving further rate burdens on households.1) Spending reform and prioritisation- I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- I support reducing the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- 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 roughly $10 million per year spent on the Māori

outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local government function.2) Specific cost-reduction targets- I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping the average residential rates increase at about 3%. Concrete reductions proposed include: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze $50 million from capping consultancy spend $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.3) General spending discipline- Spend it in the right places and only if you have it. Create wealth for the future not cronies lining their pockets.- Halving administrative overheads would be an admirable target and would help align rates with inflation and service need.Additional points- Direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation; a more disciplined approach to operating and staff costs is essential to restore confidence in ratepayer value.I note the proposed average residential rates increase is currently framed as necessary but the evidence suggests substantial opportunities to deliver essential services without unsustainable rate rises. I request the Council consider these reforms seriously and engage with the public on a credible plan to fund essential services while keeping rates affordable.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9030

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Local Board: Papakura

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average residential rates bill is already $4069 and New Zealand households cannot absorb a sustained real increase well above inflation. The agreed position is to oppose the rate rise by at least 7.9%.I support the Council reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and I support cutting consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continued growth in these areas. The current level of reliance on external advisers and consultants drives up costs without delivering commensurate public value.I request cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according

to the Alliance briefing emits more carbon than it saves. Redirecting those funds to essential services would be more prudent.I advocate 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. This would be a tangible step toward aligning staffing with Council needs and ratepayer capacity.I also call for cutting Māori-specific spending including the approx. $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department Ngā Mātārae as this is not a core local government function. Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants should guide allocations.Additional point: $2 million was reportedly wasted on 'enhancing' Pigeon Mountain. This reinforces the need for tighter project approvals clearer business cases and restraint on discretionary expenditure.In line with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget I urge reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rate increase at about 3% through targeted savings in personnel consultants contract negotiations and vendor consolidation 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

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9050

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a constructive and solution-focused manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to request a robust review of Council spending aimed at reducing waste and delivering core services more efficiently.1. Core position- I oppose an average residential rates increase of at least 7.9%. This rise in the context of a 30% real increase since 2022 (and cumulative inflation of about 12%) is not affordable for households. A rates increase should be aligned with inflation and the actual delivery of essential services.2. Spending reform to support lower rates- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the

Council and CCOs.- The Council should reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these expenditures.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a move that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.3. Alternative budgeting and broader context- I support the Rates Freeze principle and a targeted reduction in discretionary spend to cap the rate rise to around 3% consistent with improving efficiency rather than expanding expenditure.- An additional ongoing measure is to pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve meaningful savings and to prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.4. Additional considerations- There is a global economic context including disruptions in energy markets that affect household budgets which strengthens the case for restraint on rate hikes and prudent fiscal management.ClosingI request the opportunity to present at hearings to expand on these points in person. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you 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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9109

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and insist on meaningful reductions in wasteful Council expenditure. The rate rise would be approximately $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 while inflation has risen about 12% in the same period.I support the following positions:- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%.- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council needs to reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continue to increase these expenditure items.-

The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million 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 (this could save at least $17 million right away).- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.In addition the Council should implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise at around 3%. This includes freezing non-essential hires capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well ahead of inflation; a targeted restraint now will protect households from unsustainable cost increases.Budget discipline is not about denying services but about aligning spending with households' means. Do what many households do when funds are tight: budget within means.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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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?

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Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9363

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a comprehensive reduction in wasteful council spending before any rate rises are approved.Key concerns and positions:- Oppose the 7.9% increase (approximately $320 for the average household). The current average rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase of about 30% since 2022 and inflation running higher than that. The rate rise would compound affordability stress for households already doing it tough.- Expenditure reductions are essential. The Council must curb spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the

Council and CCOs and reduce consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continued growth.- Budget priorities must change. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Do not fill non-essential vacancies; freezing roles could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reprioritise Maori-specific spending. Cut the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' allocation of around $10 million per year as this is not a function of local government and redirect funds to essential services.- Alternative budget benchmark. The Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a cap of around a 3% rate rise if implemented by: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes - $50 million from capped consultancy spending - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million to prioritise statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsAdditional points:Stop wasting taxpayers money! The Council should pursue efficiency modernisation and value-for-money governance rather than rate increases that outpace inflation and population growth.Closing:I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

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Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9428

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and in favour of reducing wasteful Council spending. The Alliance briefing shows the proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household when real increases since 2022 stand at 30 percent against 12 percent inflation. This is an unacceptable rate of growth for a city that should be improving efficiency not expanding the payroll and outsourcing bill.I urge the Council to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget which caps the average residential rate increase at 3 percent by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%). Specific measures include:-

Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze saving $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to save $20 million.Key spending weaknesses to address include:- Corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs where spending continues to grow despite no demonstrable gains in service quality.- Consultancy and professional services that should be reduced rather than expanded.- The Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which evidence suggests emits more carbon than it saves; cancelling this programme would free resources for core services.- Payroll and staffing costs: freeze vacancies and non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.- Māori-specific spending including the around $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) function which I believe falls outside the appropriate remit of local government.Given historic spending growth (Council payroll near $1.3 billion; consultants/contractors at $590 million; six-figure salaries 6123 staff) and the poorly correlated outcomes a disciplined budget focused on essential services is warranted. The current trajectory risks eroding public trust and imposes disproportionate costs on households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9518

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: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. Opposition to 7.9% increase- The proposed average increase is excessive amounting to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real rise since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and 85% since the Super City amalgamation. A 7.9% hike prioritises Council spending growth over household affordability.2. Spending reform and reductions- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cut spending on consultancy and professional services; the current level is unsustainable and diverts funds from essential services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon

than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes function (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government responsibility.3. Alternative budgeting and rate cap- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average residential rates increase at about 3%.- Specific savings: $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 prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that Auckland Council adopt a responsible path: substantially reduce wasteful expenditure prioritise essential services and limit rate increases to around 3% rather than 7.9%.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9558

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urge council to cap rate rises at no more than 3 percent with substantial reductions in wasteful spending and backroom costs.Key points- The proposed 7.9% rise translates to roughly $320 extra per average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (well above CPI). This rate cannot be justified by maintaining assets funding new growth or CRL operating costs alone.- The Council must curb expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs as well as reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. Current data show

significant invoices to consultants and high payroll costs pushing operating costs well beyond inflation.- The Food Scraps Programme at $36 million per year and with limited net carbon savings should be cancelled. Prioritise essential statutory services over discretionary programmes.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Directly curtail Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) unless a clear statutory rationale for local government is demonstrated.Proposed alternative budget (consistent with a 3% cap)- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) allocated as follows: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and hiring freezes; $50 million from consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In summary the rate increase should not exceed 3% while wasteful spending is identified and rescinded. Real savings can be achieved by freezing non-essential recruitment cutting consultancy and backroom costs cancelling non-critical programmes and revising Māori outcomes funding to align with core local government responsibilities.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9637

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive with an average household bill rising by about $320. Since 2022 rates have risen 30% in real terms far outpacing cumulative 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 demonstrates that most pressure comes from ongoing operating costs and project costs rather than essential services alone.To curb this I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget which proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the rate rise at around 3%. Specific measures include:- Reducing personnel costs

through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services: $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million.I also urge immediate action on wasteful spend identified by the Alliance. Key targets include reducing corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting spending on consultants and contractors which presently account for significant expenditure. The Council's payroll and outsourced services have grown faster than inflation and reform here is essential to protect ratepayers.I oppose funding for the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also oppose expanding Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) department which I believe is not a role of local government. Freezing staffing and reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately.I request that this submission be considered in full and that the Council adopt an unequivocal plan to restrain rates growth while preserving essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9647

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing 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 rate rise is well above inflation and well beyond what households can absorb with an average bill increase cited around $320 per household.Key positions1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The rates rise reflects ongoing growth in operating costs (notably CRL) and maintaining assets while household budgets struggle against inflation. A more prudent path is to cap rate increases and redirect savings to essential services.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. There is clear potential to streamline staff support functions and consolidate administration to lower total payroll and overhead costs.3)

Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. The current level of external contracting drives up costs without delivering commensurate public value. A tighter cap on consultants will help restrain rates.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect funding to essential services that deliver clear community benefit.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately and reduce ongoing operating costs.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government. Reallocate to statutory services that are mandated and evidenced to deliver material community benefit.Additional points- Stop back-room deals and expose all works contracts to smaller local businesses. Improve transparency.- Review traffic management and safety protocols for minor works to avoid over-engineering and unnecessary costs including berm mowing practices.Alternative budget alignmentI support the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at about 3 percent through the outlined measures.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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9788

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

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

Dear Council MembersI am submitting to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27 and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending. The current context shows a real increase in rates since 2022 of 30 percent in 2022 dollars far outpacing cumulative inflation. A more prudent approach is required to protect households and maintain essential services without an excessive rate burden.Key points for consideration:1) Rate increase and affordability: The proposed 7.9 percent average rise translates to approximately $320 for the average household on top of a long trajectory of rising rates since the Super City

reorganisation. Rates growth has outpaced both inflation and population growth demanding that the Council focus on efficiency before continuing to push costs onto ratepayers.2) Wasteful expenditure and backroom costs: The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb spend on consultancy and professional services. Current figures show about $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group with the average consultant earnings reflecting high back-office costs that contribute to higher rate demands.3) Specific program and Māori-related spending: I oppose the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and according to the briefing emits more carbon than it saves. I also oppose ongoing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a role for local government.4) Alternative budgeting approach: The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap the average rates increase at about 3 percent funded by personnel cost reductions fewer consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. This aligns with a responsible fiscal path that protects essential services while controlling costs.In conclusion I urge the Council to adopt a disciplined cost-reduction plan before raising rates further. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9791

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

My submission is written in a personal and sincere tone reflecting my pensioner budget constraints and concern for our community's future.1. Opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase- I oppose the average 7.9% increase and request that the Council cap residential rate rises well below this level. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is already 30% in real terms with inflation running higher than 12%. A rate increase of this size will push households especially pensioners beyond what we can sustainably absorb.2. Reducing waste and non-essential spending- The Council should reduce

expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council must curb consultancy and professional services spend instead of continuing to increase these items.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; such a measure could save at least $17 million right away.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori Outcomes' programme (approximately $10 million per year) as this is not a core local government function.3. A responsible alternative budget approach- I support reducing new Council spending by at least $150 million (about 2%) which would enable a much smaller rate increasetargeting around 3%through a package including:- $50 million savings from personnel cost reductions and hiring controls- $50 million from capping consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million by focusing on essential services over discretionary grantsAdditional note- Until the financial situation stabilises many households cannot afford higher costs and I am particularly concerned for pensioners on tight budgets including myself. I urge prudent responsible management of the Council's budget to protect vulnerable residents and avoid unnecessary expenditure.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9796

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: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 which equates to around $320 for the average household given the current average bill of $4069.Key concerns and positions:- I oppose the 7.9% increase. Rates should be kept in line with inflation and population needs not treated as a default growth path. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far exceeding inflation and population growth and residents deserve restraint.- Expenditure reductions are essential. The Council must reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs as well as curb rising consultancy and professional services costs.- Cancel

the Food Scraps Programme. This project costs about $36 million per year and on balance emits more carbon than it saves; funds would be better redirected to essential services.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately and help align operating costs with core services.- Cut Māori-specific spend. The $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as this is an area not typically treated as a core local government responsibility.Alternative budget alignment:- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. This includes: a) $50 million from personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze; b) $50 million from capping consultant spending; c) $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; d) $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I urge the Council to adopt these priorities and deliver a responsible affordable plan for ratepayers focusing on essential services efficiency and value for money.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9831

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: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge a comprehensive reduction in wasteful spending so rates reflect inflation and Council priorities remain focused on essential services.1) Oppose the average 7.9% residential rates increase. The current climate for households is tight and a rate rise of this magnitude is excessive. The burden on the average household (about $320 extra per year) is set against real rate increases well above inflation since 2022.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. A substantial portion of spending on consultants corporate services and back-office

functions appears to be discretionary. Reducing these costs should be prioritised to lower the rate increase.3) Curb spend on consultancy and professional services. The Council should stop the ongoing rise in consultancy and professional fees and redirect funding to essential services and rate relief where possible.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves. This is not a prudent use of ratepayer funds and should be halted.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. A targeted hiring freeze in non-essential areas could save at least $17 million immediately and support a more affordable rates outcome.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government role. Reprioritising these funds toward statutory and essential services will better serve all residents.Additional points: Maintain essential service delivery including routine maintenance such as mowing berms sweeping streets and drains cleaningvital functions that protect liveability and safety especially as autumn and winter approach.I support a Budget that prioritises core services and sustainable expenditure. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9903

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: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing 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 level far exceeds inflation and places an unnecessary burden on households in a time of cost pressures. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent (vs. 12 percent inflation). The 7.9 percent rise comprises 2 percent to maintain assets 1.5 percent for new assets due to growth and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. I cannot support this pattern of expenditure.I support targeted measures to reduce wasteful spending and to protect essential services. Specifically:1) Reduce personnel costs and hiring activity. Freeze vacant non-essential roles and slow non-critical recruitment to save at least $17 million immediately.2) Curb

consultancy and professional services. Cap and reduce the spend on consultants and contractors; the current level is unsustainable and diverts funds from core services.3) Cut corporate and backroom functions. Reform organisational structures and consolidate functions across the Council and CCOs to achieve substantial savings starting with $50 million in reductions.4) Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to unlock a further $30 million in savings.5) Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ensuring ratepayer funds are used for core Auckland responsibilities first.6) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. It costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves; the programme should be discontinued.7) Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as local government should focus on statutory duties.These measures align with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap rates increases to around 3 percent by targeting personnel costs consultants contracts and essential services.We just cannot afford the continuing increase on rates.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9921

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing 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% rise (about $320 for the average household) for three reasons: first the rate increase is not aligned with inflation or household budgets and the real increase since 2022 has already reached 30 percent in constant dollars while overall inflation sits around 12 percent. Second the breakdown shows 4.4% of the proposed increase goes to CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland growsthis signals ongoing cost escalation rather than productivity gains. Third the council should address spending before asking ratepayers to carry more.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap rate increases by

reducing non-core expenditure by at least $150 million targeting reductions in personnel costs consultants contract negotiations and non-essential discretionary grants. Specifically:- Freeze non-essential hiring and reduce payroll costs where vacancies are non-essential;- Curb spending on consultants and professional services which totals around $126 million per year across the Council group;- Remove iwi funding - Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to achieve noticeable savings;- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes including reform of the Maori outcomes budget (Ngā Mātārae) and related spending.Additional points I want considered:- Auckland does not face a revenue problem but a spending problem. The payroll and consultant costs have risen sharply while real productivity gains remain unclear.- The Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and showing limited net carbon savings should be cancelled to reduce annual outlays.- A wage freeze or reduction in non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately.- A review to remove or sharply reduce specific iwi funding and non-essential back-office roles will help prioritise core services.I request that the Council adopt the proposed 3% maximum increase by implementing the outlined cost reductions and focusing on 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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10004

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: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing 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. For context the current average residential rates bill is about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent while general inflation has risen 12 percent. The proposed breakdown shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs alongside 2 percent for existing assets and 1.5 percent for new assets. I request the Council reallocate and reduce spending to cap rate increases closer to 3 percent as outlined in the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget.Key points I support and request to be considered:- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cut spend

on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continued growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which in my view emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce Māori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this function is not a core local government role.Rationale and proposed approach:- The Council's spending profile shows large increases in personnel costs consultants and other expenses often outpacing inflation. A disciplined targeted reprioritisation is required to sustain statutory services while reducing wasteful expenditure.- Implementing the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) would cap average rates increases at around 3 percent prioritising essential services.I request the opportunity to speak at hearings to elaborate these points if possible.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10023

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: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing 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 urge the Council to recognise that rates increases must be aligned with inflation and the actual value of services delivered.My positions are:1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This represents an about $320 rise for the average household on top of already high bills (current average residential rates bill is $4069). In real terms rates have risen 30 percent since 2022 far outstripping cumulative inflation of 12 percent and well beyond population growth.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services. The briefing shows consultants cost about $126 million per

year across the Council group with the council parent handling about $60 million and an average consultant earning around $200000. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen faster than inflation while a large portion of budget goes to corporate and support functions ($868.4 million for 18 functions).3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. It costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves; this should be discontinued.4) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles. The briefing indicates a substantial payroll burden and freezing vacancies could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spend including the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). As a local government matter this funding should be reconsidered in favour of core statutory and essential services.I propose an alternative budget approach to cap the rate rise at 3 percent by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent). This should be achieved through: a) limiting personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes b) capping consultancy spend c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors and d) prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I would welcome the opportunity to speak at hearings to elaborate. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10026

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: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing 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 following points reflect my position.1) Rates increase and affordability- I oppose the average 7.9% uplift which equates to about $320 extra per household and a real increase well above inflation. Since 2022 rates have risen by 30% in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation.2) Wasteful and excessive spending- Council spending on consultants is unsustainable: $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k. The Council must reduce consultancy and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown far faster than inflation; payroll alone is

around $1.3 billion with 6123 staff on six-figure salaries and 72 staff paid more than the mayor. A freeze on non-essential vacancies and a review of payroll could generate meaningful savings.3) Spending priorities and potential savings- Reduce new discretionary spending and focus on essential statutory services. A reallocation away from non-essential grants is warranted.- The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves; it should be cancelled.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce spend on consultants and professional services and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save at least $50 million.4) Targeted reductions in Māori outcomes spending- The Alliance advocates capping Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) department arguing this is not a core local government function.5) Alternative funding approach- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at about 3%: $50m from personnel costs $50m from consultants $30m from contracts/vendor consolidation and $20m from prioritising statutory services.ClosingI anticipate the Council will consider these measures to deliver essential services at a more affordable rate burden while reducing wasteful expenditure.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10088

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: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing 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 voice to oppose Auckland Council's proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to demand a responsible review of Council spending. The proposed rise around $320 for the average household from a current bill of $4069 represents a real-terms increase far above inflation and a continuation of spend-without-sufficient accountability.Key concerns- The 7.9 percent increase consists of 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This is not acceptable when rates have risen 85% since 2010 outpacing inflation and population growth. A more prudent path is to rein in costs

and prioritise essential services.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and slash consultancy and professional services spend. Current levels of external advice and non-core costs are unsustainable for ratepayers.- 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 by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose ongoing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services.Alternative budget proposalRatepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rate rise at about 3%. This includes: $50 million by reducing personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze; $50 million by capping consultants; $30 million through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional points- The decision to close Western Springs and the perceived waste on the stock car track and consultants should be revisited.- Stop allocating funds toward Maori functions as if they are the only pathway to community events; other groups must be treated equitably.- Stop favouring 'rich mates' through spend that does not directly benefit ratepayers.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10108

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: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and urge a focus on reducing wasteful Council spending and backroom costs.Key points:- The proposed 7.9 percent increase is excessive. At approximately $320 more per average household this adds to a 30 percent real rise since 2022 (versus 12 percent overall inflation) while only a portion funds necessary asset maintenance. A rate rise should be aligned with inflation and essential service delivery not broad-based uplift.- Expenditure controls are essential. The Council must reduce spend on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and

professional services rather than continuing to expand these lines. Annual consultant spending sits at about $126 million across the group with the average consultant around $200k driving up costs without commensurate public benefit.- Specific programs and payroll costs merit scrutiny. The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and by current analysis emits more carbon than it saves; cancelling this programme would realign resources to core services. Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. There is also excessive spending on Māori outcomes and high payroll costs including 72 staff paid more than the mayor and a total payroll of $1.3 billion with consulting/contractor expenditure at $590 million.- Absolute prioritisation is required. Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to realise savings. The proposed new spending on CRL operating costs and growth-related assets needs justification against measurable community benefits.- Additional note: The rail project's huge expense should be considered by North Auckland residents who may not benefit sufficiently. If users cannot pay consider cancellation or reallocation of funds.In summary I urge adopting the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach to limit average residential rate increases to around 3 percent by capping new spending lowering personnel and consultancy costs and eliminating non-essential programmes.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10152

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: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing 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

To Auckland CouncilMy name is {name redacted} residing at {address redacted}. I am submitting this formal submission as part of the public consultation on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and request serious consideration of expenditure reductions to align rates with inflation and essential services.1) Funding and expenditure reform- I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reducing spend on consultancy and professional services. The current level of consultants and contractors is excessive and unsustainable.- 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.- I advocate capping staff wages to align with inflation and actively exploring ways to reduce non-essential staff through retirements or voluntary departures.2) Spending priorities and efficiency- I back prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and non-core activities ensuring ratepayer funds are spent where they deliver the greatest public value.- I request a rigorous review of non-essential programmes including looking for alternatives to high-cost items (for example preferring lower-cost safety measures such as rubber speed humps where appropriate) to maintain service levels while reducing costs.3) Specific funding debates- I support reducing Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year attributed to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). In local government core statutory functions should take precedence over specialised spend.- I urge the Council to pursue savings through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation as well as by using in-house expertise to reduce external consultancy fees.4) Financial framework and proposed budget- Based on the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average residential rate increase to 3%: - $50 million from personnel cost reductions and hiring freezes - $50 million from capped consultancy spend - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential servicesClosingI request the Council to seriously consider these measures to protect households from an excessive rates rise and to improve efficiency and value for money. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10158

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) despite inflation of around 12 percent. 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. I believe the Council must prioritise restraint and efficiency to avoid inflating bills for households already under financial pressure.Agreed positions on expenditure control and policy choices:- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The

Council should reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a core responsibility of local government.Additional context and alternative budget approach:- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2 percent) to cap average residential rates increases at 3 percent financed through targeted savings: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million from capping consultancy spend; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Closing:I urge Auckland Council to adopt a prudent demand-driven budget that protects core services while delivering meaningful rate relief to households. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10267

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns and positions:- The Council should reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner administrative base is essential to limit pass-through costs to ratepayers.- Spending on consultancy and professional services should not continue to rise. Capping external expertise will help restrain rate increases.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the

approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I consider outside the core responsibilities of local government.Additional considerations:- Northshore rail benefits are proposed to be funded by ratepayers; I question the priority given to such projects when households must live within tight budgets. The Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary initiatives and consider better value-for-money in major capital projects.Budget alternative:- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance approach to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) aiming to keep residential rates closer to a 3% rise.- Specific measures include: $50 million from personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles; $50 million from capping consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I request that my submission be considered as part of the formal process and that the Council pursue the above efficiency measures to cap rate increases and deliver essential services with greater fiscal discipline.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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10274

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: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this input during the public consultation on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan. I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and believe a disciplined approach to spending is required to protect ratepayers in these cost-of-living times.Key concerns- The 7.9 percent rise is not affordable for many households and represents a real-terms increase well above comparable inflation. The burden falls most heavily on everyday Aucklanders who already face significant cost pressures.- The Council should prioritise core statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and urgently curb wasteful spending that inflates rates.Agreed positions (as

submitted)- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continued growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. The current approach would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Additional perspectiveI am concerned by ongoing cost blow-outs and the perception that ratepayers are asked to subsidise a growth agenda funded by consultants and non-essential programmes. An alternative budget that emphasises cost control restraint on budgets and prioritisation of essential services without lavish back-office expansion is prudent and fair.Demands- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget approach to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3 percent with clear verifiable cost savings as outlined above.- Improve public transparency about how every dollar is spent and how savings will be delivered.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?

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10306

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns and positions- The proposed 7.9% rate rise is strongly misaligned with household affordability. The current average rates bill is $4069 having risen substantially since 2022 while overall inflation has eroded real household purchasing power. A more prudent approach would prioritise foundational services and curb growth in operating costs.- The Council should reduce wasteful backroom and corporate spend. Auckland Council and CCOs collectively incur high personnel costs and significant expenditure on consultants and contractors. The Council's payroll consultant and contractor spend along with numerous corporate support functions contribute to

rising rates without clear evidence of proportional gains in service delivery.- A targeted reduction in non-essential and discretionary spending is warranted. The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. This is a candidate for redirection to essential services with demonstrable community benefit.- Personnel costs should be controlled. Freeze hiring for vacant non-essential roles and pursue organisational change to reduce payroll costs. Cutting non-essential positions alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Rebalance capital and policy priorities by limiting non-essential Māori outcomes spending. The current level of Māori-specific spending (Ngā Mātārae) amounts to around $10 million per year which is not a core local-government function and should be reviewed for alignment with statutory responsibilities.Quantitative proposal- Adopt the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap average residential rates increases at roughly 3%: - $50 million savings from personnel costs via hiring freezes and organisational changes - $50 million savings from capping consultancy and professional services - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsConclusionI urge the Council to prioritise core statutory functions curb wasteful spending and prevent further rate shocks to 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.

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10318

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

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 mean an approximate $320 extra per average household on an average bill of $4069. Since 2022 residential rates have risen by about 30 percent in real terms far outstripping cumulative inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent is not affordable for many households and fails to recognise the need to curb wasteful public spending.The Council's mix of drivers for the increase is concerning. A 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. Rather than perpetuating higher rates I urge a focus on prudent

expenditure and efficiency.I agree with and urge adoption of the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to reduce wasteful spending and to cap rates increases. Specifically:1) Reduce personnel costs by freezing recruitment for non-essential roles and pursuing organisational efficiencies which could save at least $17 million immediately.2) Cut spending on consultants and professional services and restraint on external contracts rather than ongoing growth in this area.3) Implement contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve meaningful savings.4) Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants with a clearer line on what is essential for residents.I also support reducing Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that these functions should align with core local government roles.Overall I propose the Council's Alternative Budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2 percent) to cap rates increases at around 3 percent by focusing on personnel restraint consultants and procurement efficiency.Please consider these measures to protect households from continued rate shocks and to ensure Council resources are directed toward essential services and transparent governance. Tell Wayne Brown he is supposed to be representing Aucklanders.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)

N/A

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

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

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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?