

Annual Plan 2026/2027

Written Feedback

Outside Auckland

April 2026

Sub #	Organisation Name	Page Number
6179	The Black Hand	20

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#202

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: Outside Auckland

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

Do not support any

Tell us why

You are so disorganised, dishonest and greedy. we the home owner's have job loss, lower income, children staying at home longer because they can't afford to move out, expenses in the home are up, and the big kicker, you can't keep increasing rates when you deliver zero, and what you do deliver we did t ask for. So no, I don't support anything you have to offer until you tidy and remove half of your office staff, remove the "trash auditors" and replace with street cleaning. Get your heads out of your backside. You are wasting so much money that can not be afforded. I'd like an independent review of the council in its entirety.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent 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?

Rates increase NO. Nothing else you mention helps or assist my area. Same as last year! Zero delivered.

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

RodneyDo not support anyYou delivery nothing that anyone wanted. You bleed the land owners dry with your rates increases, speed cameras and anything else ugly. I want an independent review of all council.

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

You have been caught lying and misrepresenting the ratepayer, the ombudsman has been made aware of this. How dare anyone of you try and dictate another rates increase to any home or land owners, you want us all to pay more while you deliver less. How about you all take a pay cut, perform some internal audits, make them public and try not to lie if you can when you deliver those to the public,

Question 5: Looking further 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
4	**Economic development and events –** growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
6	**Local parks, community and recreation services –** local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
2	**Planning and infrastructure to manage growth –** planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
5	**Regional parks and environment –** looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
3	**Transport –** roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
1	**Flood resilience –** reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

Tidy up or finish the roading projects. Service regularly storm water drains, existing and new areas. Ensure new builds by developers have in fact built drains correctly, Tidy up the trash everywhere, make NZ Auckland beautiful again, remove dumb speed bumps, it's a temporary measure and you know it. You can proceed with anything else until you have infrastructure upgraded and storm water drains maintained. Everything else is just fluff.

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Safety – a safer and more welcoming city centre, both day and night, for residents, workers and visitors.,Supporting businesses – help businesses succeed by making them easier to access by attracting more visitors to the city with well-designed streets and public spaces.,Other (please specify):I only wanted to select two!! But you make us pick four. Trash... bring back street cleaners. Bring police walking the beat.

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#2697

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

N/A

Tell us why

N/A

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
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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?

We would like to continue option B which has been very satisfactory.

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?
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	Flood resilience – reducing flood 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

#4433

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Proposed rates increase is too high in light of inflation, job availability and salaries.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

Rates increase increase is too high.

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

Albert-EdenSupport mostAgree to initiative.SupportSupportSupportSupport

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?
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Initiative with old buildings redevelopment should be allowed irrespective of plot sizes.

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

1

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#4642

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Tell us why

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

Ōtara-Papatoetoe

Question 4: Other feedback

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Recognise Animals in Council Decision-making - include animal welfare across all planning. More specifically:

1) We need better outcomes for dogs in pounds:

a) improved transparency of stats - reunited, guardians, adopted, transfers, killed

b) better reuniting results

c) build relationships with rescue organisations

d) use foster based assessments instead of temperament testing

e) provide support options for families and dogs to be reunited

2) Ban fireworks for sale and displays - so much money goes up in smoke and causes fright and fear to a multitude of animals including farmed animals, pets and wildlife. Invest in light shows instead or similar that are animal and environment friendly

3) Humane cat management - no war on cats - support compassionate, science based approaches such as Trap-Neuter-Return

4) Sustainable and Ethical Wildlife Management

a) prioritise humane and ethical methods

b) ban poisons and traps

c) develop long term management plans rather than repeated reactive killing

5) Protect Wildlife and Biodiversity - protect habitats for animals and birds, ensure developments and events minimise harm to animals

6) Civil Defense - ensure emergency planning includes animals and recognise the importance of families and their animals staying together

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Annual Plan 2026-2027

#5688

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

Support most

Tell us why

I care not for local boards

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

Maybe dont do anything except for the AT increase

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you 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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Make more rails

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?

Make Auckland have even more buses and trains to make it great again

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6179

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

Support all

Tell us why

I love taxing people — for reinvestment

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

Not good — all should be supplementary taxed

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you 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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I think the property tax rate should be 100% unless you own more in 10 million dollars in assets

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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?

A land value tax

Question 6: City centre

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

Other (please specify):

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6223

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

Support most

Tell us why

The overall message is good. 7.9% sounds like a bit much but thats alright

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

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Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

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

Economic development because Auckland is said to be the financial capital of NZ

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6600

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: Outside Auckland

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?

I don't know

Tell us why

N/A

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6604

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Support all

Tell us why

N/A

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

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

#6840

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which translates to around $320 more for the average household. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% outpacing inflation and population growth. I believe the Council must prioritise essential services and reduce wasteful spending before asking ratepayers to shoulder higher costs.Key concerns and requests:- The rate rise should be capped at or near inflation. I support reducing overall expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing increases.- Cancel or scale back discretionary programs with questionable

climate or social benefits. Specifically I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately and focus on essential frontline functions.- Reconsider Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which in my view falls outside the core responsibilities of local government and should be scaled back.- I endorse the Council's focus on financial prudence and accountability. The proposed allocations for CRL operating costs and growth-related assets should be revisited to protect ratepayers from avoidable increases.I also note the broader context: staff and consultant costs have risen rapidly with significant payroll and external advisory spend. A targeted reduction in personnel costs and renegotiation of supplier arrangements would contribute to a more affordable rates outcome.Wayne Brown should hold to his elected promises of reducing wasteful spending on consultants and reducing bureaucratic staff numbers; his track record and stance influence public confidence in ratepayer value. I urge the Council to reflect the reasonable expectations of households facing cost-of-living pressures.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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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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	Flood resilience – reducing flood 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

#6937

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and advocate for substantial restraint in council spending so rates rises align with inflation and reflect essential services only.Key concerns and asks1) Rates affordability and rationale- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 more per household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2022 residential rates have risen by 30% in real terms far exceeding overall inflation (12%) and population growth (22%). A 7.9% rise is not acceptable without demonstrable efficiency gains.- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a more sustainable 3% cap by reducing new and existing spending through targeted

efficiency.2) Wasteful and avoidable expenditure- Reduce personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles delivering at least $17 million in immediate savings.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services; the current model spends heavily on external advice.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to capture savings across the Council and CCOs.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.3) Specific reductions in discretionary programmes- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or significantly reduce Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is presented as beyond the core remit of local government.Supporting context- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have increased 85% while population growth and inflation have not kept pace. A focus on core services and prudent financial management can deliver better outcomes for ratepayers without accepting a near-8% uplift.ClosingI request that Auckland Council consider these efficiency measures and endorse a lower rate increase with detailed reporting on savings achieved and progress toward prioritised services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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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

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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

#7059

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

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% and urge you to align rates with inflation plus a focus on essential services not escalating backroom costs.Key concerns and evidence- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 more per average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85%well above cumulative inflation and population growth. This calls for restraint and value-based budgeting.- A substantial portion of the increase is tied to CRL operating costs (4.4%) with growth in asset maintenance (2%) and new assets (1.5%). There is a need to re-prioritise spending toward statutory and essential services first.-

The Council's expenditure on consultants remains excessive: $126 million per year across the Council group; the Auckland Council parent accounts for $60 million with many consultants earning around $200k. Cumulative consultant and contractor spend totals hundreds of millions.- Large discretionary spending includes backroom corporate and staff costs. Direct operating expenditure rose well ahead of inflation and payroll costs are a major driver of rate demands.- I call for the immediate cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in our assessment emits more carbon than it saves.- I urge freezing or delaying non-essential hires and reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could yield substantial savings (my view: at least $17 million immediately).- I oppose continuing around $10 million per year on Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) as a discretionary target; local government should prioritise statutory duties and core services.Alternative budget and prioritiesI support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rate rise to about 3% through targeted reductions in personnel consultants supplier contracts and a shift toward essential services.Additional noteI am disappointed with the performance relative to campaign promises and urge transparent evidence-based budgeting moving forward.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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	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

#7181

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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- **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

As a ratepayer I want responsible stewardship of public funds and a focus on essential services over growing backroom costs.1) Rate increase: I oppose an average 7.9% rise. The current average residential bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% (versus 12% overall inflation). The proposed 7.9% breakdown2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth 4.4% for CRL operating costsdoes not sufficiently distinguish essential services from wasteful expenditure.2) Spend on personnel and backroom functions: I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and freezing staff hiring for non-essential roles to save at least $17

million immediately.3) Consultants and professional services: I support reducing spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continued growth in these areas.4) Specific cost-saving measures: I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also support capping or eliminating discretionary vendor spend through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.5) Maori outcomes funding: I support reviewing Maori-specific spending including the $10 million/year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that local government should prioritise statutory and essential services.6) Overall budget framing: The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates that reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) can cap average residential rate increases to about 3%. I urge the Council to adopt a similar disciplined approach to cap rates growth.Additional note: I am concerned that commitments to spend may not align with ratepayer expectations and I urge clear prioritisation of essential services over discretionary grants.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7435

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Oppose the proposed average rates increase. The proposed 7.9% rise places a disproportionate burden on households especially when the real increase since 2022 already exceeds inflation. A prudent budget would keep rates closer to inflation and prioritise essential services.2) Expenditure reductions to cap rates. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance modelling shows a workable path to cap average residential rates at about a 3% increase if new spending is restrained. We urge the council to implement a deliberate reduction of new spending by $150 million (2%) focusing on:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for vacant non-essential roles

(savings of $50 million).- Capping spending on consultants and professional services ($50 million).- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to drive efficiencies ($30 million).- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).3) Freeze or reduce payroll and backroom costs. The council must actively review payroll including high-salary positions and restrain non-essential hires. Reducing staff costs aligns with the agreed emphasis on spending restraint and improves value for ratepayers.4) Reduce discretionary expenditure including Māori-specific spending. We support reducing the spend on Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) including the current $171 million over 10 years to ensure funds are aligned with core local government responsibilities and essential services.5) Transparency and performance. I note the substantial consultancy contractor and backoffice costs cited in ratepayer assessments (consultants $126 million per year across the group; payroll and related costs) and request clearer reporting on how this spending translates into measurable service outcomes.6) Additional points. A review of high salary levels across Council staff and contractors is warranted to ensure value for money and performance improvement where possible.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7446

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Opposition to the rate rise- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The impact is a real burden on households equivalent to about $320 for the average home when rates have already risen 30 percent in real terms since 2022 far outstripping general inflation.2) Focus on core services and lower overall expenditure- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and halt the ongoing rise in consultancy and professional services.- Direct operating expenditure personnel costs and other expenses have grown far faster than inflation; the Council should prioritise

statutory and essential services over discretionary activities.3) Specific cost-cutting measures aligned with the Ratepayers' Alliance plan- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles an immediate saving of at least $17 million.- Reduce spending on consultants and professional services by $50 million and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save a further $30 million.- Target discretionary items and non-essential projects and focus resources on essential services.4) Programmes and targeted spend- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and purportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a function of local government.5) Broader framing- The Council should stay focused on delivering core statutory services and avoid ego-driven non-essential projects that divert money from ratepayers' essential needs. A prudent targeted reduction in new spending by $150 million (2%) would cap the rate rise to around 3 percent protecting households from excessive cost pressures.ClosingI request the Council consider these measures and deliver a responsible lower-rate plan that prioritises essential services and prudent spending.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7536

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current plan appears to rely on sustaining existing assets funding new assets for growth and covering CRL operating costs while delivering little offset for ratepayers facing affordability pressures.Agreed positions- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner corporate footprint will lower overheads that are not directly delivering essential services to Auckland residents.- The Council should reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these expenditures. A focus on core capabilities and in-house expertise will improve value for money.-

The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and on balance emits more carbon than it saves. Redirecting those funds to essential services would better serve ratepayers.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. That measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- The Council should cut Maori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function. Resources should prioritise statutory and essential services.Alternative budgeting and affordability- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget suggests a $150 million reduction in new spending (about 2%) capping average residential rates increases at around 3 percent.- This would be achieved by: (1) reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze ($50 million); (2) capping consultancy spend ($50 million); (3) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million); (4) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).In summary the rates increase should be aligned with affordability and value for money. A disciplined reduction in non-essential spending and smarter procurement will enable a smaller rate rise 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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- **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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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

#7634

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a personal and sincere voice to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a focus on reducing wasteful Council spending.1. Rate increase and spending priorities- I oppose the average 7.9% increase which adds about $320 for the average household and contributes to a real rate rise well above inflation. The current average bill is $4069 with a 2022-to-now real increase of around 30%. A large portion of the 7.9% covers CRL operating costs and legacy asset maintenance; I question whether this level of increase is justified for the services delivered.2. Reducing corporate spending and consultants- The Council and CCOs should reduce

expenditure on corporate and backroom functions and curb consultancy and professional services. The Alliance shows consultant spending at $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant paid around $200000. Directly cutting these costs is a prudent step toward lower rates.3. Specific program and staffing measures- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reallocate resources away from discretionary grants toward essential statutory services. These measures would help constrain rate increases while protecting core responsibilities.4. Maori outcomes spending- I oppose allocating roughly $10 million per year to the Maori outcomes portfolio (Ngā Mātārae) on the grounds that this is not a core local government function. Focus on statutory requirements first with careful evaluation of outcomes against costs.Proposed alternative budget- I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average rate rise to around 3% if implemented via the above measures.ClosingI request the opportunity to speak at hearings to expand on these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7695

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

For the average household this would be approximately $320 more per year on top of a rate burden that has already risen 30% in real terms since 2022. I recognise the pressures of maintaining essential services but rates increases above inflation place an additional and unnecessary strain on households already facing higher living costs.I support a focused approach to reduce wasteful expenditure and prioritise core local government functions. My key positions are:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.2) Curb consultancy and professional services spend rather than continuing to grow these costs.3) Cancel

the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million promptly.5) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department arguing this is not a core local government role.I note other effective measures proposed by ratepayer advocates including a reduction in new council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap average residential rate increases at around 3%. This would require organisational change a hiring freeze for non-essential roles cap on consultants renegotiation of contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Alongside these efficiency measures I urge the Council to stop what I consider to be wasteful spending and focus on the real cost-of-living pressures faced by residents. The proposed 7.9% increase driven in large part by CRL operating costs and growing personnel-related expenditure undermines public confidence and affordability.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7803

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I urge Council to constrain rate increases to align with or below inflation and focus on fundamental service delivery.Key concerns and positions:- I oppose the 7.9% rate rise and support reducing overall expenditure across the Council and CCOs. A targeted 3% cap is achievable if savings are pursued in a disciplined manner.- I support reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles which could deliver at least $17 million in immediate savings.- I support capping spending on consultants and professional services to address outsized reliance on external advice currently around $126 million across the Council group

with substantial individual consultant costs.- I support renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to unlock further savings as well as prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- I oppose the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in assessment emits more carbon than it saves.- I oppose ongoing and expanding Māori-specific expenditure such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori Outcomes' programme cited as about $10 million per year arguing that this is not a core function of local government.- I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping the rate rise to around 3%.Specific data to consider:- Current average residential rates bill: $4069; proposed increase 7.9% equates to approximately $320 more per household.- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% vs. 34% inflation and 22% population growth; this is unsustainable for households and contrary to prudent stewardship.Closing:I request Council consider these reductions as essential to maintaining affordable local government while delivering core services effectively.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

#8055

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: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this formal submission to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for reductions in wasteful Council spending.I oppose the proposed 7.9% average increase and urge the Council to cap rate rises closer to inflation by pursuing substantial cost reductions. The plan shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% well above inflation and population growth. A more prudent approach is needed to restore value for ratepayers.I urge the Council to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council

and CCOs. The current model relies heavily on high-cost support services and consultants which is unsustainable. The Council should also reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.I call for cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. In the current fiscal environment such discretionary programmes must be reassessed against core statutory obligations and essential services.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. The Council's payroll and associated costs have grown disproportionately; halting non-essential recruitment would protect core services and deliver more responsible budgeting.I oppose continuing or expanding Māori-specific spend such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). I contend that this is not a function of local government and should be redirected to essential services.Overall I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposal including a $150 million reduction in new Council spending to cap rates at around 3%: cutting personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#8657

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: Outside Auckland

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 intend to present a constructive solution-focused alternative that prioritises essential services and prudent expenditure.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to roughly $320 for the average household. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85%well above inflation and population growthand now represent a substantial financial burden on households. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. A more restrained approach is warranted.The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb spend on

consultancy and professional services. Current data indicate annual consultant spend of about $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200000. Direct operating expenditure has risen far faster than inflation and personnel costs have grown sharply. These costs must be reviewed before further rate increases are considered.I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also 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. In line with responsible budgeting I oppose continued or expanded Māori-specific spending beyond what is statutory for local government; I would prioritise essential services and statutory obligations first.To help cap rates increases I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) and cap the average rates increase at around 3%. This would be achieved through targeted personnel cost reductions a freeze on non-essential hires cap on consultants contract renegotiations vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additionally stop wasting money on raised intersections and raised pedestrian crossings where not necessary; these are appropriate near schools but not everywhere in the neighbourhood.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

#8998

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: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a rigorous review of council spending to protect households.1) Rates and affordability- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2022 rates have risen by roughly 30% in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation. This is unsustainable for many households.2) Spending reductions to enable a lower rates outcome- Oppose ongoing growth in council expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce consultancy and professional services

expenditures rather than permitting further growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department which is not a core local government function.3) Alternative budget approach- I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) capping the average residential rates increase at 3% by prioritising essential services and reforming personnel and vendor arrangements: - $50 million from personnel costs through organisational changes and hiring freezes - $50 million from capping consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants4) Community needs- Since the city's amalgamation outer areas feel forgotten. The experience in suburbs like Pakuranga reflects a desire for more equitable service delivery and a focus on core council duties rather than expansive non-core programmes.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt a more prudent budget prioritise essential services and pursue meaningful efficiency gains to keep rates affordable.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

- **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

#9055

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: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my views on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the intended average residential rates increase of 7.9%. I write as a ratepayer who believes we must curb costs and focus on essential community needs.1. I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The plan adds roughly $320 per household and shows a real increase well above inflation since 2022. Rates have risen 85% since the Super City was created far exceeding both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A more prudent path is needed.2. Expenditure reduction across the Council and CCOs. The Alliance briefing highlights extensive backroom costs including $126 million per year on consultants and $1.3

billion in payroll. Cutting wasteful corporate and backoffice functions should be a priority to protect essential services without penalising households.3. Cut consultancy and professional services spending. The briefing notes $126 million per year on consultants with average pay of about $200k to consultants. I support reducing this spend and reassigning funds to core services.4. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year and with emissions outcomes not clearly net positive this programme should be halted to reinvest in more impactful initiatives.5. Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies. A freezing or slow-down in hiring could save at least $17 million immediately easing rate pressures while sustaining critical operations.6. Reprioritise spending away from discretionary programmes. The proposal should scale back non-essential grants and reduce Māori-focused spending including the $10 million per year on Ngā Mātārae if this is not a core municipal function.7. A practical lower-rate plan. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a targeted reduction of new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling average residential rates to be capped around 3% by prioritising statutory and essential services.I also voted for cost-conscious leadership and urge the Mayor to pursue a disciplined inflation-aligned approach to spending focusing on roads paths and reservesthe must-haves that keep Auckland liveable.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

#9100

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this formal submission in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and in support of scrapping wasteful spend across the Council and CCOs.1) Rates and affordability- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). The current average bill is $4069 and the real rate increase since 2022 is 30% in 2022 dollars far above inflation. A targeted prudent budget is required rather than blanket rate hikes.2) Expenditure reductions and efficiency- 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 grow these costs.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- Improve oversight of project contracting by tightening control around CCC projects and curbing unnecessary contractor use.3) Prioritisation and statutory services- Cap discretionary grants and prioritise statutory and essential services over non-core programmes. The current growth in personnel costs and other expenses outpaced inflation between 2022 and 2025 with payroll and consultancy costs driving a large share of spent growth.4) Specific spend to reallocate- Reduce Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year devoted to the Māori outcomes function Ngā Mātārae which I consider inappropriate for local government duties. Reallocate to essential services and core council responsibilities.Alternative budget approach- Pursue a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) enabling a cap of roughly 3% on average residential rates. This should be achieved through staffing freezes caps on consultants contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation as outlined above.I request consideration of these measures as concrete steps to rein in wasteful expenditure while protecting essential services. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

#9278

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: Outside Auckland

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 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and advocate for reducing wasteful council spending.Key positions:1) Oppose the average 7.9% increase. The proposed rise translates to about $320 more per average household on top of a real increase in rates since 2022 of 30 percent (in 2022 dollars) while inflation has been about 12 percent. A rate rise that outstrips inflation is not sustainable for households especially given ongoing concerns about cost of living.2) Reduce overall council and CCO expenditure particularly corporate and backroom functions and reduce consultancy and professional services. Current data

show consultant spending at about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200000 plus personnel costs rising much faster than inflation. Direct operating expenditure rose 78% from 2013 to 2023 far outpacing inflation.3) Freeze payroll growth and reduce staffing where non-essential. The council payroll sits at $1.3 billion with 6123 staff on six-figure salaries and 72 staff paid more than the mayor's $306741. Freezing vacancies in non-essential roles would immediately save substantial fundsmy view is at least $17 million by not hiring for vacant non-essential positions.4) Cancel or pause discretionary programmes that do not meet core statutory duties. In particular the Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. I support reallocating those funds to essential services and rate relief where appropriate.5) Curb Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year for Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes). This is not a core local government function and should be reconsidered in favour of preserving essential services and rate affordability.Additional point: At present rates pressure is becoming untenable for seniors and other affected residents.I request the opportunity to present at hearings to outline these concerns in more detail. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood 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

#9341

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

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% average residential rates rise. The current average residential bill is $4069 up 30% in real terms since 2022 far outpacing cumulative inflation. The proposed 7.9% increase is driven largely by CRL operating costs (4.4%) new asset costs (1.5%) and asset maintenance (2%) and it does not reflect prudent constraint on spending.I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting consultancy and professional services. Council reports show consultants cost around $126 million per year across the group with the Auckland Council parent expenditure rising and average consultants paid about

$200k. Direct operating expenditure has risen well above inflation while payroll and personnel costs have grown far faster than inflation.I call for cancellation of discretionary programmes that do not meet core statutory responsibilities. Specifically cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also urge freezing staffing where roles are non-essential and not currently vacant; halting new hires alone could save at least $17 million immediately.I contest spending on Māori-specific programmes such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). This is not a core local government function and should be redirected toward essential services.I advocate for a disciplined targeted budget approach to keep rates increases to a minimum. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the rates rise at around 3% by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants renegotiating contracts and reducing consultants.Keep to what is essential. This is not the time for 'nice to haves.'I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9406

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Based on current figures this rise would equate to about $320 per average household on top of a 30% real increase in rates since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and well above household inflation. I advocate for stabilising rates by cutting wasteful and non-essential expenditure first.Clear constructive proposals:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.2) Cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continued growth in these areas.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce

payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting that this is not a core local government function.Additional context and rationale:- The Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and non-core initiatives.- The proposed 7.9% increase is composed of 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs; taking a more prudent approach to the non-essential components can keep rates growth within the community's means.- The Ratepayers' Alliance model suggests an alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average rate increase at about 3% when combined with targeted savings from payroll consultants renegotiations and vendor consolidation.I remain hopeful that the Council can implement these targeted savings to protect households from excessive rate increases while delivering essential services efficiently. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

(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

#9415

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my views on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan.1. Opposition to the rate rise- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This level is well above inflation and places an unfair burden on households already facing rising costs. The average residential bill is projected to rise by about $320 yet the Council's own spending highlights poor value for money when so much is wasted on backroom and non-core activities.2. Reducing expenditure on corporate functions and consultants- The Council must reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cap and reduce consultancy and professional services

rather than continuing to grow these costs which undermine ratepayer value.3. Specific cost-cutting measures aligned to the alternative budget- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut expenditure on Māori-specific programmes such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core function of local government.4. Overall spending discipline- The ratepayer community expects the Council to operate within its means and to be accountable for decisions that impact households. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen significantly relative to inflation while essential services must be prioritised.ClosingI request the Council to cap average residential rates increases at 3 percent by eliminating wasteful spending and reforming personnel and external supplier costs as outlined above.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9522

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a constructive and solution-focused manner to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for controlling wasteful Council spending so that essential services are protected and households are not faced with unaffordable bills.The proposed average rates rise of 7.9% is excessive equating to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rates increase of 30% since 2022 (vs. 12% inflation). The breakdown shows 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Given the scale of past increasesrates up 85% since 2010this level of growth is unreasonable if the Council

wishes to prioritise affordability for residents.I support significant reductions in wasteful spending as an alternative to higher rates. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and restrain consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to continue rising. In particular I support: cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves; freezing staffing or at least not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately; and capping consultancy spend to curb external advice costs. The Council should renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to drive additional savings.I also urge revisiting Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) appears to be outside the core remit of local government and should be reconsidered in favour of funding essential statutory services first. This aligns with the aim to prioritise essential services over discretionary grants.If adopted the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget would reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) delivering a 3% cap on the average rates rise. This would be achieved through: a $50 million reduction in personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; a $50 million reduction in consultant spend; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million redirected to statutory 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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- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9888

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this formal objection to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to Auckland Council's current spending trajectory. The rate rise is excessive relative to inflation and population growth and must be limited.Key points- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent equating to about $320 for the average household is not acceptable. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far outstripping both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A more restrained increase is warranted.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and

professional services. The briefing shows $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200k and $590 million spent on consultants and contractors overall.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. It costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which this submission understands could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a local government function.- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget suggests a 3 percent cap by reducing new spending by $150 million including $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and $20 million from prioritising essential services.Additional points- Real value for ratepayers requires prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and avoiding continued growth in non-core spending.ClosingI request that the Council review and implement concrete savings aligned with the above and respond with a credible plan to cap rate increases around 3 percent based on cutting wasteful costs. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10021

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: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this formal objection to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to urge comprehensive cuts in wasteful Council spending. The proposed increase is inconsistent with inflation and with prudent stewardship of ratepayer funds.Key points1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household). Since 2010 rates have risen 85%well above inflation and population growth. The current package would push households further from affordable sustainable service delivery.2) Expenditure reforms are essential. The Council must reduce spend on corporate and backroom office functions across

the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. The current level of contracting and external advice is unsustainable.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. It costs $36 million per year and based on available information emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect these funds to essential services with proven social and environmental returns.4) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Do not hire for vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone would save at least $17 million immediately and help align expenditure with actual needs.5) Trim Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a local-government core function and should instead be managed within statutory and essential services.Supporting context- The breakdown of the proposed increase includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs with the remainder aimed at maintaining and expanding assets. This structure should be reassessed in favour of sustaining essential services and obligations rather than expanding non-essential programmes.- A targeted reduction of new spending by $150 million (2%) in the Ratepayers' Alliance plan could cap the rate rise to around 3% prioritising statutory services and labour-cost discipline.ConclusionI urge Auckland Council to adopt substantial spend controls align the budget with essential services and keep rates growth within inflation. This is a responsible path for ratepayers and long-term Council sustainability.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

#10048

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a personal sincere tone to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a frank reassessment of wasteful Council spending. The current average rates bill is $4069 and a 7.9% rise would add roughly $320 for the average household; that level of increase is not affordable when real rates growth since 2022 has already exceeded inflation by a wide margin.I agree with the following priorities to protect households and rein in wasteful spending:1) Oppose the 7.9% average rate increase; instead aim to cap rate rises closer to 3% by cutting wasteful expenditure.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council

and CCOs.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing increases in these items to continue.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) given concerns about the appropriate role of local government.I note the scale of current spending against outcomes: consultants and contractors total about $590 million payroll is around $1.3 billion and eighteen corporate functions account for nearly $868 million in direct expenditure. An immediate reduction in staffing and consulting would free funds for essential services without compromising core responsibilities.I also reference the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget which proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) to achieve a 3% rate cap through targeted cuts in personnel consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services.Very unhappy ratepayer. You promised lower rate increases and wastage cuts; that commitment should be honoured.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10253

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

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. Position on the rates riseI oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 total 30 percent well above cumulative inflation. A rate rise of this magnitude burdens households already facing cost pressures. I support capping the increase to a more affordable level consistent with prudent budgeting and value for money.2. Alternative budget and spending prioritiesI support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance recommendation to reduce new Council spending by about $150 million (2% reduction) which would cap the average rates rise to around 3 percent. Specific practical measures

include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services and pursuing contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save around $50 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants with targeted savings of about $20 million.- Canceling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Reducing or re-evaluating Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes function (Ngā Mātārae) where local government remit is questionable.3. Governance and efficiency concernsThere is substantial growth in payroll and back-office costs relative to inflation including high levels of consultants and corporate functions. The Council and CCOs should focus on core services and value-for-money outcomes. A tighter governance approach prioritising essential services and reducing non-critical spending will better protect ratepayers while maintaining service standards.4. Additional pointKeep spending focused on essential basic services and avoid expanding discretionary programmes that do not demonstrably improve local outcomes.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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	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

#10277

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Outside Auckland

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a disciplined review of Council expenditure before any rate rises are approved.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 extra per average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 in rates while inflation has risen far less. This is disproportionate to residents' capacity to pay in a period of relatively low inflation.- A substantial portion of the increase is driven by CRL operating costs (4.4%) with only partial justification for perpetually rising asset maintenance (2%) and new assets for growth (1.5%). The Council must demonstrate value for

this spending and identify concrete efficiency gains first.Agrees (positions to include)- 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 costing $36 million per year and emitting more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million right away.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spendingsuch as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae)as this is not a role of local government.Additional points- At a time of low inflation ratepayers should not be facing rate increases of twice inflation.Alternative budgeting for rate reliefRatepayer-focused reform could cap the increase at around 3% by:- Reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) through personnel cost reforms and a hiring freeze ($50 million).- Capping consultants and professional services ($50 million).- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million).- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).I would welcome further engagement at hearings to discuss these proposals; however I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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