Annual Plan 2026/2027

Written Feedback

Papakura Local Board

Volume 4

April 2026

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7023

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urge a foundational shift in how ratepayer funds are spent. The current trajectory is unsustainable for households and inconsistent with prudent governance.1) Rates and fiscal discipline. The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real rise since 2022. This outpaces inflation and growth in services. I support capping rate increases at or near 3% through meaningful cost reductions rather than expanding payroll and discretionary spend.2) Reducing backroom and consultancy spend. The Council spends $126 million per year on consultants across

the group and $60 million for the Auckland Council parent alone with many consultants earning six figures. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) including cutting personnel costs capping consultancy and renegotiating vendor contracts. This is a responsible path to stabilise rates while maintaining essential services.3) Wasteful and non-core expenditures. I request a freeze on non-essential hires and payroll growth noting that staffing costs have risen sharply and could save at least $17 million by not filling vacant non-essential roles. I also object to non-core programmes that lack clear statutory necessity or measurable outcomes. The council must prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.4) Maori Outcomes and associated spending. I oppose ongoing expenditure on the Māori Outcomes portfolio such as Ngā Mātārae in its current form cited at about $10 million per year arguing this is not a function of local government. Redirecting these funds toward essential services would better reflect Council responsibilities and ratepayer interests.In addition I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million annually and emits more carbon than it saves as part of a broader efficiency drive.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

#7103

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average rates bill is $4069 and after the 2022"2023 period rates have risen by 30% in real terms while inflation has run at about 12%. A rate rise of 7.9% far exceeds inflation and undermines household budgets particularly for those on lower incomes. I call for a cap on the rates rise at 3% or lower funded by sensible reductions in non-essential spending.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position that the Council must urgently reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these costs. The proposed 7.9% increase is driven in

part by 4.4% for CRL operating costs and by ongoing expansion of operating costs not just necessary service delivery. The Alliance budget shows that a $150 million reduction in new Council spendingvia a 2% reductioncould cap the rate rise at 3% and redeploy funds to essential services.Specific actions I urge the Council to implement include:- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap and renegotiate contracts with vendors and pursue consolidation of consultancy and contractor arrangements to save roughly $50 million.- Target non-essential discretionary grants for reduction and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.I also support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to the Alliance briefing emits more carbon than it saves. This would improve both fiscal and environmental efficiency.People are already coping with higher rates and cost pressures; further increases are unacceptable. I urge the Council to adopt the proposed Alternative Budget measures and to deliver rate relief to households while focusing on core statutory responsibilities.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7206,339003,,Papakura,Do not support most,I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge focus on reducing wasteful Council spending.1) Rates and affordability- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on a current average bill of $4069. Since 2022 residential rates have risen by 30% in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation (12%). I oppose increases above inflation and support a capped more affordable rate outcome.2) Expenditure reductions to fund the plan- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Spending on consultancy and professional services should be cut rather than continued growth.- The Food Scraps Programme costing around $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves should be cancelled.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the about $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.3) Alignment with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget- The proposed savings are achievable: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap) to bring the rate rise down to 3% notably through personnel cost reductions cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.4) Additional considerations- We are elderly and cannot financially sustain wasteful spending. A fiscally prudent path would prioritise essential services while limiting non-essential initiatives.In summary I urge the Council to adopt substantial efficiency measures halt or scale back non-essential programmes and refuse a rate rise beyond inflation. This aligns with responsible budgeting and better serves Auckland households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7256,338953,,Papakura,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed increase of 7.9% and urge the council to bring the average residential rate rise in line with inflation or lower. The Alliance's briefing

notes that the current plan would add about $320 to the average household bill on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (with only 12% cumulative inflation). Given Council's total operating costs there is clear potential to reduce waste and concentrate funding on essential services.I further urge targeted expenditure reductions as part of an alternative budget including:- Reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom/office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reducing spend on consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continual increases in these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs approximately $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which would provide at least $17 million in immediate savings.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.These measures align with a prudent approach to delivering statutory and essential services while easing the burden on ratepayers. The Alliance's alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which caps rate increases at around 3% and focuses resources on core responsibilities rather than discretionary grants.I request the Council to consider these reductions and report back on options that would deliver a more sustainable rates path with a transparent explanation of how savings are achieved and where they are redirected to essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7315,338894,,Papakura,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. The rate rise is not affordable for households and it compounds a long-run pattern of spending that does not align with inflation or population growth.1) Oppose the 7.9% increase. The proposed rise would add about $320 to the average household bill on a current average of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far exceeding inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). The components of the increase2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets 4.4% for CRL operating costssignal a need to prioritise core services and efficiency over new charges to residents.2) Reduce wasteful and non-core spending. The Council must cut corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. Current annual consultancy spend is $126 million with the average consultant paid about $200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown 78% since 2013 well above inflation. Reducing these costs should be a priority before hitting ratepayers with further increases.3) Cancel discretionary high-cost programmes and freeze staffing. I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which emits more carbon than it saves. Freezing staffing or not filling vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately. In addition cap payroll by prioritising essential roles and reducing vacancies rather than expanding headcount.4) Target Māori-specific spending. I oppose ongoing spend on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) of about $10 million per year as this is not a core local government function. Reallocate to essential services that benefit all ratepayers.5) Transport spending. Cut unnecessary transport spending where possible to free funds for prudent rate relief.I request to speak at hearings to advocate these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a
hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7544,338655,,Papakura,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to reduce wasteful expenditure before asking households to pay more.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase represents an unnecessary burden on households. The planned distribution shows 4.4% allocated to CRL operating costs with only 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. This structure should be rebalanced toward preserving core services not escalating debt.- There is a clear need to cut corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. The current approach relies heavily on payroll consultants and six-figure salaries which inflates costs without corresponding service gains.- Spending on consultants and professional services should be reduced. The Alliance's figures show about $126 million per year across the Council group including substantial fees for external advisors. A tighter efficiency-focused approach is essential.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. It costs around $36 million per year and on balance emits more carbon than it saves.- Staffing costs must be restrained. Freezing vacancies and avoiding non-essential hires would save at least $17 million immediately and help align payroll with real workload.- Māori-specific spending should be reconsidered. The $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department represents a function not typically required of local government and should be redirected to essential services.Alternative budget approach- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal: reduce new Council spending by $150 million to cap rates increases at around 3%. This includes: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million from cap on consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations; and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I respectfully request careful consideration of these points and a plan to rein in wasteful spending while protecting essential services.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7574,338624,,Papakura,Do not support most,The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30 percent well above inflation. I support reducing total Council expenditure to keep rates to three percent or less and I oppose any further growth in wasteful backroom spending.I urge the Council to prioritise core statutory and essential services over discretionary items and reduce wasteful spending across the Council and CCOs. In particular:- Cut consultancy and professional services costs. The Alliance reports about $126 million per year across the Council group including $60 million by the Council itself with high consultant pay. A cap on external advice is essential.- Freeze or reduce payroll by not filling non-essential vacancies; the Alliance highlights that halting hiring could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costing $36 million per year) given it emits more carbon than it saves.- Cap or reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department which is not a local government obligation.The Alliance's proposed approach a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%): reduces rates pressure while protecting essential services. Specific actions include $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. These steps would align Auckland's finances with responsible budgeting and curb a rate rise that would outpace inflation and family household budgets.I request the Council to consider these measures and provide a clear plan at hearings on how to achieve a maximum three percent average rate rise without compromising

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

7596,338602,,Papakura,Do not support most,I submit to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending. The proposed rise translates to about $320 more per average household on top of a real rate increase since 2022 of 30 percent while inflation has risen 12 percent. This level of increase is not acceptable.Agreed positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. It is essential that rates rise only in line with or below inflation while maintaining critical services.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current payroll and six-figure salaries including 72 staff earning more than the mayor's $306741 plus 6123 employees on six-figure salaries indicate significant headcount and cost pressures that should be trimmed.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to continue rising. Council and CCOs spend $126 million annually on consultants with the Auckland Council parent alone accounting for $60 million.- 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 hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local government function.Additional points- The Council should implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap the rate rise at around 3 percent.- This requires organisational change a hiring freeze for non-essential positions caps on consultants renegotiation of contracts and vendor consolidation to protect essential statutory services.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7705,338493,,Papakura,Do not support most,The proposed rise would deliver an estimated $320 more per average household pushing the current average bill of $4069 higher at a time when households face ongoing cost pressures. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% outpacing inflation and population growth. The mix of the current plan2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsfails to recognise the opportunity to curb inefficiencies.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to cap rate increases through targeted reductions in spending. In particular:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing vacancies and limiting non-essential hires with an estimated immediate saving of at least $17 million.- Cut spending on consultants and professional services rather than allowing continued growth in this area which totals around $126 million annually across the Council group and is a major driver of expense.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to realise meaningful savings estimated at $30 million complemented by a broader reduction in discretionary contract spend.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to ensure funds are directed to core community needs.I also oppose the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to the Alliance emits more carbon than it saves. I oppose ongoing Māori-specific spending as a separate Ngā Mātārae function noting concerns about local government responsibilities and demanding prudent use of ratepayer

funds.An accountable alternative budget consistent with the Alliance proposal suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) thereby capping rates increases to around 3%. This would be achieved by a combination of the measures above and prioritising essential services over non-core activities.I request that the Council consider these savings as part of the deliberations and reflect in the draft plan accordingly. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7762,338436,,Papakura,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge council to pursue significant reductions in wasteful spending before asking households to fund further rises.Key context: the current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 approaching 30% in 2022 dollars while cumulative inflation sits around 12%. The proposed 7.9% rise comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. In this environment ratepayers deserve a plan that controls costs rather than perpetuates outsized increases.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to reduce Council spending on corporate and backroom office functions across Council and CCOs and to curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to escalate these costs. Notably consultants' expenditure sits at approximately $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200000. Direct operating expenditure and payroll have grown well ahead of inflation in recent years highlighting a structural driver behind rate rises.I urge the Council to implement the Alliance's alternative budget which proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about a 2% reduction) to cap the average residential rates increase at roughly 3%. This plan allocates savings to:- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for non-essential roles (estimated immediate savings of at least $17 million).- Cap spend on consultants and professional services (around $50 million).- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors (about $30 million).- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants (approximately $20 million).I also support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million/year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves and I oppose additional Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocation to Ngā Mātārae arguing this is not a proper local government role.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7852,338346,,Papakura,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a comprehensive review of public spending to avoid ratepayer hardship.Key points:- The proposed 7.9% rate rise translates to about $320 more per average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Given the real increase in rates since 2022 and the 30% rise in that period in 2022-dollar terms ratepayers cannot be asked to fund continuing large-scale back-office growth and discretionary spend.- I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting spend on consultancy and professional services rather than letting these items rise further.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Staffing costs must be controlled: freeze vacant non-essential roles or reduce payroll costs to save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose the ongoing Māori-specific spend such as

the $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae); I believe local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.Alternative budgeting approach:- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average rate rise to around 3%. This would be achieved by: (1) personnel cost reductions through organisational change and hiring freezes ($50m); (2) capping consultancy spending ($50m); (3) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30m); (4) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20m).Closing:Thank you for considering these points. I respectfully request the opportunity to present my submission at hearings to further explain my concerns and suggestions.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,
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7869,338329,,Papakura,Do not support most,I submit respectfully to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. The approved rates rise would amount to about $320 more per average household while real increases since 2022 have already reached 30% in 2022 dollars. In the current climate ratepayers expect a credible plan to deliver essential services without excessive cost growth.Key positions1) Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. We should aim to keep rate rises aligned with inflation and population growth not exceed them.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. Current data show high totals for payroll and external advice that outpace inflation.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year) if it yields net higher emissions than savings. Redirect funds to essential services.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this would save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) consistent with a view that this is not a core local government function.Rationale and proposed alternative- The Council's spending growth has outstripped inflation and is unsustainable for ratepayers. Reducing consultants by $50 million curbing personnel costs via hiring freezes of non-essential roles and renegotiating contracts could deliver about $150 million in savings enabling a cap of roughly 3% on the average rate increase.- Priority should be on statutory and essential services with discretionary grants scaled back until a demonstrable efficiency program reduces waste.ClosingThank you for considering these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,
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7910,338287,,Papakura,Do not support most,1) Opposition to rates increase- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates rise which equates to an approximate $320 increase per average household and represents a real-terms increase well above inflation. Since 2022 rates have risen 30% in real terms far outstripping the 12% cumulative inflation over the same period.- The 7.9% increase is not justified by the breakdown: 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. A fairer approach is to curb non-essential expenditure to keep rate increases in line with inflation or lower.2) Wasteful spending and reallocation- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions

across the Council and CCOs.- The Council should reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continue increasing these items (current annual consultants' spend is about $126 million across the group).- Stop the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a move that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core local government function.3) Proposed governance and budgeting approach- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average residential rates increase at about 3%. This would be achieved through a mix of personnel cost controls consultant expenditure caps contract renegotiations vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.4) Additional points- Stop unnecessary roadworks and avoid new raised pedestrian crossings that impose high costs with little safety benefit. These projects stretch budgets without clear public safety wins.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a comprehensive reduction in wasteful Council spending to bring rates closer to inflation and the needs of ratepayers.Key points- The proposed 7.9% average uplift equates to about $320 per household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (well above inflation). This is unacceptable given the Council's rising costs and expanding bureaucracy.- I Agrees that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these lines.- I Agrees that the Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs around $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- I Agrees that staffing should be frozen or payroll costs reduced by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- I Agrees that Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department should be reassessed as this is not a core local government function.- I Agrees that headline projects like bicycle pathways must be justified against real usage with spending redirected to essential services if they are not delivering value to a broad cross-section of ratepayers.Context and proposed alternative- The Council's spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year across the group with high individual remuneration in the back office. Direct operating expenditure has risen well above inflation. A targeted reduction of $150 million (2%) through payroll freezes cap on consultants contract renegotiation and prioritising statutory services could cap the rates increase to around 3%.- Actionable steps: freeze non-essential hiring cap external advice renegotiate supplier contracts and deprioritise discretionary grants in favour of essential services.ClosingI would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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7977,338220,,Papakura,Do not support most,I write to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase in the 2026/27 annual plan and to urge a clear focus on reducing wasteful Council spending.The proposed 7.9 percent increase is excessive especially given the real rate increases since 2022 and ongoing cost pressures faced by households including many pensioners living on fixed incomes. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance analysis shows that the 7.9 percent rise comprises costs to maintain existing assets fund growing demand for new assets and cover CRL operating costs. I urge the Council to deliver substantial savings by reforming expenditure before

asking ratepayers to bear more of the burden.I support the Alliance's call to reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb spend on consultancy and professional services. Since 2013 operating costs have grown well ahead of inflation with significant payroll and contractor expenses not aligned to core services. A reduction of such costs is essential to keep rates affordable.I also oppose ongoing funding for non-essential initiatives. Specifically please cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. Instead prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In line with responsible budgeting the Council should freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately. Additionally I support capping or redirecting Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae unit's $10 million per year to ensure local government focus remains on core services.There are a lot of pensioners living alone who have worked all their lives and should not face large rate increases. Consideration could be given to targeted relief or a citizens' tax approach to ensure access to essential facilities without overburdening ratepayers.In summary I urge Council to reduce new spending by at least $150 million implementing a 3 percent cap on residential rates through reductions in personnel costs consultants vendor negotiations and prioritising essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8014,338183,,Papakura,Do not support most,Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase is not affordable and fails to reflect the real burden on households. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent far exceeding cumulative inflation (12 percent). A rebalanced proposal is needed that aligns with inflation and local household capacity.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allow continual growth in these areas. Auckland Council's consultant costs total $126 million per year with the average consultant salary around $200k.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Prioritise essential statutory services over discretionary programmes.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should not fund separate ethnic-focused structures when core statutory duties must be prioritised.Additional points- Stop wasting money on empty buses riding around and on expensive traffic management measures that are excessive for local roads. Reallocate funds to essential services and core infrastructure maintenance.- The ratepayer-funded payroll is excessive and personnel costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation in recent years. Rigorously review staffing levels and supplier contracts to reduce unnecessary costs.Alternative budget and impact- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate increase to around 3% by: - Reducing personnel costs and freezing non-essential hires: $50 million - Capping consultancy spending: $50 million - Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million - Prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants: $20 millionClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,

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8026,338171,,Papakura,Do not support most,I welcome the opportunity to comment and present practical options to keep rates affordable while delivering essential services.I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The expected average rise of about $320 for the average household on top of a real rates increase of 30 percent since 2022 (with inflation at about 12 percent) is not sustainable for households. The 7.9 percent increase is composed of 2 percent to maintain existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets as the city grows and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. It is essential to recognise that ratepayers face high living costs and a more restrained approach is warranted.I urge the Council to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to rein in consultancy and professional services spend. The briefing shows Council spend on consultants at about $126 million per year with the average consultant earning around $200000 and payroll plus consultants and contractors reaching substantial totals. A reduction in these areas would directly support a lower rate increase.I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which reportedly costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Redirecting that funding to essential Council services would be prudent while reducing environmental impact.I also support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which the briefing estimates could save at least $17 million immediately. Coupled with contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation these steps can materially lower the rate requirement.Finally I oppose increases in Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae arguing that such functions are not the core role of local government.In sum a careful reallocation and restraint in discretionary expenditure can cap the rate rise closer to 3 percent aligning with affordability for households while preserving essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8121,338076,,Papakura,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a prudent reallocation of Council spending to protect households while delivering essential services.Key points- The proposed 7.9% rate rise is excessive. It translates to about $320 more for the average household on top of a long history of rising costs since the 2010 Super City amalgamation.- There is clear evidence that Council spending has grown faster than inflation and population with substantial cost drivers in consultants corporate functions and backroom payroll. The Council should curb these costs rather than pass them onto ratepayers.- The Council should cancel non-essential programmes with significant net costs such as the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which based on current assessments emits more carbon than it saves.Specific actions I support (Agrees)- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services; halt growth in this area.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' department (around $10 million/year) on the basis that this is not a function of local government.Rationale- The long-run pattern shows rates rising well above inflation with real increases since 2022 around 30% while inflation sits lower. A 3“4% cap would be more acceptable if tied to essential service delivery and efficiency gains.- An

alternative budget approachreducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%)could keep residential rates near or below inflation while preserving core services.ClosingI request that the Council consider these efficiency measures and restraint in discretionary spending when finalising the plan.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#8125

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The anticipated increase equates to about $320 for the average household on a current bill of $4069 and represents a real increase of 30% since 2022 far outpacing cumulative inflation.The breakdown of the 7.9% rise is not acceptable as a justification for higher charges: 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen 85%more than double inflation and well ahead of population growth. This trajectory is unsustainable for households and fails to reflect prudent stewardship of ratepayer funds.I support adopting the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which demonstrates a feasible path

to a 3% cap by eliminating wasteful expenditure. Key measures include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping spending on consultants: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionIn addition I urge [Council] to cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately. Furthermore I support reducing Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori Outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Direct operating expenditure has grown disproportionately in recent years; reform is essential. Reducing consultants and backroom functionsamounting to substantial savingswill enable essential services to be funded without imposingly higher rates.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#8150

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current trajectory shows a real inflation-adjusted rate rise well above community capacity and needs.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% rate rise (about $320 for the average household) is excessive when the real increase since 2022 is already 30% in 2022 dollars versus 12% CPI. The breakdown2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsdemonstrates heavy ongoing commitments not aligned with prudent budgeting.- There is clear evidence of outsized spending in corporate and backroom functions consultants and staff costs. Council group consultant spend is $126 million per year with the average consultant earning about

$200k. Payroll and related costs rose sharply; 6123 Council and CCO employees draw six-figure salaries and 72 staff earn more than the mayor.- Wasteful programmes and discretionary spend must be halted or re-prioritised. The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million annually and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. The Maì„ori outcomes budget and other discretionary grants should be scrutinised with a shift toward essential statutory services.My positions (Agrees)- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%.- Reduce spending on corporate/backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than letting these expenditures grow.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year; carbon savings are not demonstrated).- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (this could save at least $17 million immediately).- Cut Maori-specific spending including the $10 million/year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local government function.Alternative approach- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to about 3% through targeted reductions in personnel consultants contract renegotiations and a focus on essential statutory services.ClosingI request that the Council consider these positions in its deliberations.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

- **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

#8156

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns and positions:- The proposed 7.9% average increase is excessive. With the average residential bill now around $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of 30% (versus 12% inflation) more restraint is required. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% to maintain assets and 1.5% for new assets. This growth pattern is unsustainable for ratepayers.- Expenditure on consultants and non-core staff is disproportionately high. The Alliance reports about $126 million per year in consultant spend across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council itself with many consultants averaging $200k each. Direct operating and payroll costs have grown

well above inflation while eighteen corporate and business support functions alone account for $868.4 million in direct expenditure.- There should be major reductions in personnel costs and backroom spending. Freezing vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately. The Alliance suggests a plan to cut total new Council spending by $150 million (2%) bringing the rate rise to about 3% and freeing funds for essential services.- The Council must rethink discretionary spending including the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in the Alliance's view emits more carbon than it saves. The Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- I also call for capping consultancy spend and renegotiating contracts and vendors to reduce procurement costs. Targeted reductions in payroll procurement and organisational overheads will deliver relief to ratepayers.Additional observations:Given more households are built the infrastructure must align with growth. There are too many bureaucrats and the council's current trajectory does not reflect prudent stewardship. I was disappointed in the performance of management but remain committed to more affordable efficient local government.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

#8158

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a personal and sincere tone to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a reset of Council spending to reflect value for ratepayer money.Key concerns and positions1) Rates increase and affordability. The proposed 7.9% average rise equates to about $320 extra per household on top of a ratepayers' burden that has grown 30% in real terms since 2022. I oppose a rate rise that outpaces inflation and hits households hardest while essential services degrade or fail to deliver promised outcomes.2) Reduce backroom and corporate spending. The Alliance highlights excessive corporate/administrative costs across the Council and CCOs

including high consultant spend (about $126 million annually) and a payroll burden of $1.3 billion. I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom functions to protect frontline services and ratepayer value.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. I agree the Council should pause or tightly cap spend on consultants and professional services and pursue greater in-house capability where appropriate.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in the Alliance view delivers greater carbon costs than savings.5) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll where non-essential. I back freezing vacancies and reducing payroll costs by not hiring for non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Reconsider Māori-specific spending. I oppose continuing the $10 million/year directed to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as part of a local-government function arguing for prioritising statutory and essential services.7) Additional cost pressures and efficiencies. Look to Treescape charges and traffic-management costs as examples of where pricing policies could be reformed to deliver better value for ratepayers.ClosingI would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8178

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Since 2010 the Council's rates have risen by 85% outpacing inflation and population growth. The current average residential rates bill of $4069 is already high and further increases must be restrained.I urge the Council to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to cut the spend on consultancy and professional services. The briefing shows $126 million per year spent on consultants across the Council group with the Auckland Council parent responsible for $60 million and typical consultant wages around $200000. Direct operating expenditure has risen well above inflation while personnel costs and other

expenses have grown at twice the rate of inflation. It is prudent to streamline operations and refocus budget toward essential statutory services rather than discretionary items.I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which is reported to cost $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 which could save at least $17 million immediately. Additionally I propose reducing Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given that this function is not a direct local government responsibility.A practical path forward is to reduce new Council spending by at least $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3% by tightening personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. These steps align with responsible stewardship of ratepayer money and ensure essential services remain funded without excessive increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8204

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

My position is that the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent is excessive and not affordable for households when inflation and living costs remain high.Key concerns and aligned positions- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. This would amount to approximately $320 more per household on the current average bill of $4069 at a time when rates have risen 85% since 2010 and inflation has outpaced the growth in real household income.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and back-room office functions across the Council and CCOs. This aligns with recognising that high overheads distort true service delivery costs for ratepayers.- Curb consultancy

and professional services spending. The Alliance highlights $126 million per year in consultants across the Council group with substantial contractor costs and high individual consultant pay; reducing these expenses would help cap rate increases.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to related analysis emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; claim this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending notably the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes framework (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a local government core function.I believe there is no sound reason to continue with this spending when the meaning of the 1842 Treaty is not establishedRationale and practical steps- The Council's current trajectory includes significant operating pressures from CRL costs and growing asset maintenance yet a more sustainable path would prioritise essential services while restoring discipline in non-core areas.- The proposed alternative budget approach includes reducing new spending by $150 million (about 2%) achieving an approximate 3% cap on residential rates by: limiting personnel growth capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional points- Consider introducing a levy on businesses employing workers to help offset travel costs for employees or contractors with the aim of supporting public transport use and reducing pressure on rates. The user should pay .I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8233

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
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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 Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance analysis this rise would amount to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (versus 12 percent cumulative inflation). I urge Council to pause and re-balance priorities toward affordability and essential services.Position and key arguments1) Rate increase and household affordability: I oppose increasing rates by 7.9 percent. The current context requires restraint with rates well above inflation and population growth and a need to maintain essential services without imposing burdens on households.2) Expenditure reductions across the Council and CCOs: The Council must reduce

expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions. Wasteful spending and bloated administration contribute to higher rates without measurable public benefit.3) Consultancy and professional services: Freeze or reduce spend on consultants and professional services rather than permitting continued growth in these items. The current levelabout $126 million per year across the Council group with substantial costs to the parent Councilshould be controlled.4) Specific programme reductions: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year) as it emits more carbon than it saves aligning with cost-effective climate and waste management priorities.5) Staffing and payroll controls: Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Māori outcomes funding: Reconsider the $10 million/year allocated to Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae). I oppose expanding or continuing this spending as a core local government function.Financial alternative proposalRatepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap the rate rise at 3 percent including: $50 million savings from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million on prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.No tolls on existing roads.ClosingI request that the Council consider these measures and provide a responsible affordable path forward.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8244

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and in real terms rate rises since 2022 amount to about 30 percent far outpacing cumulative inflation. I request that the Council adopt an approach that limits rate increases to around 3 percent or less consistent with controls on wasteful expenditure.Position and supporting points- I oppose the 7.9% average increase and advocate for substantial cost reductions before consideration of any rate rise.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and significantly curb consultancy and professional services rather than allow these costs to continue

rising.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs approximately $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 which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which I do not see as a core local-government responsibility.Alternative budgeting approachBased on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance framework reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping the rate rise to around 3 percent. Specific allocations should prioritise essential statutory services and fundamental local-government functions over discretionary grants or expanding back-office overhead.Rationale- Since the 2010 amalgamation rates have increased by 85% while inflation rose 34% and population grew 22% indicating the need for tighter management of operating and personnel costs.- Large salary and external-contractor costs alongside a significant corporate and back-office footprint suggest substantial room for efficiency without compromising essential services.ClosingI request that the Council consider these reductions and refrain from approving the proposed 7.9% increase until a comprehensive review demonstrates genuine value for ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8259

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The rate rise would push the average household bill toward about $4400 representing a real increase well above inflation and population growth since 2010.Key concerns and positions- Oppose the 7.9% increase and advocate for keeping rates increases to around 3% by cutting wasteful expenditure. The current plan funds 4.4% for CRL operating costs and 2% for maintaining assets with 1.5% for new assets. This structure should be revisited to prioritise essential services.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. Spending on consultants totals $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant earning about

$200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown far faster than inflation.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles as a immediate savings of at least $17 million.- Reduce reliance on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these costs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (approximately $36 million per year) on cost and carbon-savings grounds.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) aligning with the view that these roles are not within local government's core remit.- Support the Council's focus on statutory and essential services and reallocate discretionary grants to core functions.Budget approachI support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) which would cap the rate rise at about 3%. This would be achieved through organisational change a hiring freeze on non-essential roles capping consultants contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation as well as prioritising core services over discretionary programmes.Additional pointEnough of the gaslighting and BS. You have created a monster and need to make the cuts to your staff and consultants spending and do what you committed to do in the run-up to the elections.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8260

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns- The proposed 7.9 percent increase represents a real burden on households with the average residential bill rising by about $320. The current average bill is $4069 and since 2022 rates have risen by around 30 percent in real terms well above inflation. A more prudent approach is needed that caps rate rises to around 3 percent as proposed in the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget.- Wasteful non-core spending dominates the growth in costs. Council spending on consultants averages $126 million per year across the group with the Auckland Council parent alone accounting for about $60 million. Fees to consultants and contractors plus six-figure salaries for

staff have grown well beyond inflation.- The council's focus on discretionary programmes and backroom functions diverts funds from essential services. The Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million annually and not demonstrably reducing emissions as claimed should be cancelled. Staffing and payroll costs can be addressed by freezing vacancies in non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- The Māori Outcomes allocation (Ngā Mātārae) and related expenditure should be prioritised within statutory duties recognising that not all Māori-specific spending aligns with core local government responsibilities. A prudent review would reallocate funds toward essential services and governance functions.Proposed alternatives- The Ratepayers' Alliance budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap average rate increases at 3 percent achieved through: (a) reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; (b) capping consultant spending; (c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; (d) prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.- These steps would preserve essential services while delivering meaningful relief to ratepayers.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
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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

#8308

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this in a personal and sincere tone opposing the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and urging a program of expenditure restraint and reform to deliver fairer more affordable council services.I oppose the average 7.9% rates rise. The proposed breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs on top of 2% to maintain existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. Since 2010 rates have risen 85%well above inflation and population growth. A more prudent approach is required one that aligns spending with essential services and value delivered to residents.I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reducing

spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these costs. The current level of outsourced advisory and contract work appears excessive and unsustainable for ratepayers given the scale of payroll and other expenses.I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. I also urge freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately as a straightforward and practical measure.I also urge cutting Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a clearly defined local government core function. Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants will better protect household budgets.I support the Council's Alternative Budget approach of reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increase at about 3% by: (1) reducing personnel costs (2) capping consultant spend (3) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors and (4) prioritising essential services over discretionary grants.Additional local concerns I share include addressing cracked footpaths and accessibility issues that affect daily life and safety for families.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
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	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

#8396

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of at least 7.9%. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and this plan would push that higher at a time when inflation and cost pressures are already biting households. The rate rise is not affordable for many households including retirees such as my wife and me who are concerned about staying in our home on Waiheke Island.I support prioritising savings and reform within Council operations. Specifically:- 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 continuing to

increase these expenditure items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; that alone would save at least $17 million right away.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.I note the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance's alternative budget proposal: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap the average residential rates increase at 3 percent including savings from personnel costs caps on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional points I wish to add: my wife and I are in our 70s and the intended rate increase risks pushing us out of our home. I urge careful consideration of the real impact on households like ours and a focus on sustainable essential services rather than expanding discretionary programs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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	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

#8416

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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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

For many households including my own this would mean an unaffordable rise of around $320 per year on an average rates bill and a real burden as costs continue to outpace inflation.From the Alliance briefing the 7.9% increase comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far exceeding inflation and population growth. This pattern is unsustainable for ratepayers who are already stretched.I support the following positions:- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9% and seek a cap closer to 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction)

through targeted measures: - Reduce personnel costs via organisational change and a freeze on non-essential vacancies saving $50 million. - Cap spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million. - Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save $30 million. - Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.- Cut spend on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Freeze staffing or cut payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which allegedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Additional concerns from my rural area: we lack safe footpaths and street lighting; reliance on our own measures (solar/power water tanks) reflects under-investment in basic infrastructure. The council should prioritise essential services over initiatives that do not directly protect public safety or wellbeing.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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	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

#8436

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase is not sustainable for households already paying an average of $4069 with real increases since 2022 of about 30% against 12% inflation. I cannot support a rate rise that continues this pattern.- The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs on top of 2% for existing assets and 1.5% for growth yielding a total that risks funding wasteful or duplicative expenditure rather than essential services.- Wasteful spending must be addressed first. Council staff costs consultants and backroom functions are at escalating levels including $126 million per year in consultant fees across the Council group and $1.3 billion in payroll. I oppose

further increases without meaningful reform.- The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and according to the briefing emits more carbon than it saves. I support scrapping this programme to reallocate funds to essential services.- Freeze or tightly control staffing and payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles. A freeze would save at least $17 million immediately and reduce ongoing cost pressure.- Reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I view as not within the core remit of local government.Agreed positions and constructive path- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and advocate for restraint.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to continue rising.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme and redirect funds to essential council services.- Implement a staffing freeze or significant payroll cost reductions by not hiring for non-essential roles.- Curb Māori-specific spending and refocus resources on statutory and essential local government functions.Alternative budgeting- The Council should aim to reduce new spending by at least $150 million to cap the rate rise to about 3% as outlined in the Ratepayers' Alliance plan.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#8456

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a detailed evidence-based manner to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key points:- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% is not affordable for households. This represents about $320 extra per year for the average home on top of a real-terms rise in rates since 2022 of around 30% (versus 12% overall inflation).- Breakdown of the increase confirms the pressure: 2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This underscores the need to scrutinise operating spend and project

affordability.Agreed positions to be reflected in the submission:- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%.- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council needs to reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continue to increase these expenditure items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and on assessment emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles as this measure alone would save at least $17 million right away.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Alternative budget approach:- Implement a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2% cut) to cap average residential rates increases at around 3% funded by: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million from capping consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory/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

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8488

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

This equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average rates bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far exceeding both inflation (about 34%) and population growth (approximately 22%). It is essential that Council prioritise value for money and curb wasteful spend before asking households to shoulder higher charges.I support concrete reductions in wasteful expenditure and a tighter control of payroll and back-office costs. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across Council and CCOs and markedly cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than permit constant

growth in these areas. Freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles would provide immediate savings; I estimate this could cut costs by at least $17 million right away. In addition spending on Māori Outcomes (such as the Ngā Mātārae programme) should be limited including consideration of reallocating or reducing the $10 million per year currently attributed to these activities which are not directly a local government responsibility.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) allocated as follows:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping spending on consultants: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionThese steps would deliver meaningful relief to ratepayers while safeguarding core services. I accept that some operational costs are necessary but the present trajectory is unsustainable for households and small businesses alike.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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	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

#8496

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key points- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of an already high current average bill of $4069. Since 2022 residential rates have risen by roughly 30% in real terms far exceeding the 12% in general inflation. This is unsustainable for households.- I oppose increasing rates by 7.9% and support reducing Council expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs as well as reducing spend on consultancy and professional services which are driving cost growth.- I oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in analysis emits more carbon than

it saves. The Council should cancel this programme in favour of allocating limited funds to essential services.- I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose continued or expanded Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). As a local government entity the Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.Policy stance and alternative budget- I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap average residential rates at approximately 3% via: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million - Capping spending on consultants: $50 million - Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionClosingI respectfully request the opportunity to speak at a hearing to present this submission in person.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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	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

#8528

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed rise is well above inflation and ignores the well-documented growth in costs and salaries since the Super City merger. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of around 30% in 2022 dollars versus 12% inflation. A 7.9% increase would add roughly $320 per household.I Agree that the Council must reform spending before asking households to fund further growth. Specifically:- Oppose the 7.9% average increase and advocate a cap of around 3% by delivering savings.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services

rather than continuing to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year spent on the Maori outcomes department Ngā Mātārae as this is not a core local government function.To meet a reasonable rate outcome I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget including a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) achieved through:- $50 million in personnel cost reductions via organisational change and hiring freezes- $50 million in caps on consultants and external professional services- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsI urge the Council to prioritise essential services and deliver greater value for ratepayers ensuring transparency and accountability in all spending decisions. The goal should be stabilising rates at or near inflation not escalating household 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:

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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	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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Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8543

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The rate rise would equate to about $320 for the average household yet it is not matched by proportional gains in essential services or efficiency. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022; this represents a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 versus 12 percent cumulative inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent rise comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs with no clear evidence of value matching the burden on households.I agree that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and curb consultancy and professional services rather than permit

continual growth in these areas. The Council's spending on consultants is around $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant paid about $200000. Direct operating expenditure has grown 78% from 2013 to 2023 far outstripping inflation. I call for a deferral of non-essential projects and a pause on new hires in vacant non-essential roles which I believe can save at least $17 million immediately.I also urge cancelling the Food Scraps Programme currently costing about $36 million per year as it has not demonstrated net emissions savings and diverts funds from essential services. In addition I advocate freezing staffing or at least not replacing vacant positions along with a pause on discretionary grants to bring payroll costs and overall spend in line with inflation and population needs.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million to cap average residential rates increases at 3 percent achieved through: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. There is also a case to reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing these are not core local government duties.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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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

#8555

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Rates and fiscal prudence- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rise in rates of 30% since 2022 (versus 12% inflation). I cannot support a rise that outpaces inflation and erodes household affordability.- A more prudent approach is to target a 3% cap on the average residential rates increase funded by reducing wasteful expenditure as outlined in the Council's own context and the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget.2) Wasteful spending must be cut- End excessive external consultancy and professional services. Current spending on consultants is around $126 million per year across the Council group

with the average consultant earning about $200k. This should be reduced to meet essential service delivery.- Freeze staffing where roles are non-essential and implement organisational changes to curb payroll costs including not filling vacant non-essential positions. This would deliver immediate savings of at least $17 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and renegotiate contracts to achieve efficiency through vendor consolidation and cost controls.3) Redirection of funds to essential outcomes- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and based on available data emits more carbon than it saves.- Curb Maori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae programme (Maori Outcomes) at $10 million per year recognising that local government must prioritise core statutory obligations and essential services.ClosingI request that Auckland Council seriously considers these reductions to align rates with inflation and public expectations for prudent stewardship of ratepayer funds. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8556

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a comprehensive reduction in wasteful Council spending before any rate rise is approved. The current average residential bill is $4069 and residents have already faced a 30% real increase since 2022 while inflation has been about 12%. A 7.9% increase is therefore unacceptable.Agreed priorities and positions1) Oppose the 7.9% average rate increase. The burden should not be raised above inflation especially given the growth in operating costs and past wasteful expenditure.2) Reduce corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs. The current level of consultants and six-figure

salaries is excessive and should be trimmed through organisational change and tighter governance.3) Cut consultancy and professional services spend. Freeze or substantially reduce reliance on external advisers to bring costs in line with delivered outcomes.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year it emits more carbon than it saves and is not a prudent use of ratepayer funds.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies. A hiring freeze would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). The role of local government does not extend to funding such a programme as a primary function.Alternative budget approachIn line with the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average rates increase at around 3%. This should be achieved by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping spending on consultants: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionClosingI urge a careful review of wasteful expenditure before any rate increase is approved and request consideration of the outlined savings 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

#8564

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my objections to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and support concrete steps to reduce wasteful Council spend in line with ratepayer interests.I oppose the 7.9% average increase. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and since 2022 rates have risen by 30% in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation. The proposed split shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. In effect ratepayers are asked to fund escalating operational costs and growth with little restraint on discretionary expenditure.I urge Council to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance

Alternative Budget which would reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the increase at around 3%. Key measures include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million.- Capping spend on consultants and professional services: $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million.I also ask that the Council act to curb wasteful expenditure in backroom and corporate functions where Council and CCO payrolls six-figure salaries and annual consultant costs are excessive. Specific actions supported by ratepayers include: freezing vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million cutting the $171 million spent on Māori Outcomes over 10 years (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function and cancelling the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which per independent assessments emits more carbon than it saves. Reducing consultancy and professional services is essential to contain costs.The rates are effectively an ongoing tax on households and restraint is warranted to protect households from unsustainable cost increases while preserving core 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

#8620

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Based on Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance research this rise would cost the average household about $320 while the current average rates bill sits at $4069. The real increase since 2022 is 30% in the face of 12% inflation and rates have risen 85% since the Super City reform. I believe there is room to tighten Council spending before asking households to shoulder further increases.I support the following positions and ask Council to act accordingly:1) Oppose the 7.9% rise and Cap increases 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 these costs to continue rising.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and 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/year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) noting this is not a core local government function.To achieve these goals I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance's proposed budget approach:- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap rates at about 3% through targeted reductions: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory essentials over discretionary grants.Mayor Wayne Brown campaigned on stopping waste. If the current proposal is the best available approach it fails that mandate. I urge Council to implement meaningful controls on discretionary and backroom expenditure and present a more affordable rate path for families.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

#8626

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a formal and respectful manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for reductions in wasteful Council spending.1. Opposition to rates increase- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household) as excessive especially given the real rate of spending growth since 2012 and the current cost pressures on households.- The plan allocates 4.4% of the increase to CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. While some investment is necessary a rate rise this high without clear measurable efficiency gains is not justified.2. Wasteful spending

and efficiency measures- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items (current consultants spending is about $126 million per year across the Council group; the average consultant earns around $200k).- Consider cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap or reduce Māori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core function of local government.3. Alternate budget and governance measures- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap residential rate increases at around 3% allocated as follows: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt a fiscally prudent path: restraint on operating cost growth stronger procurement discipline and a focus on essential services over discretionary programmes.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8628

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns and positions1) Rates increase: I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9%. This represents about $320 for the average household on a current average bill of $4069 which has already grown from $2781 in 2022. The real increase since 2022 is 30% (in 2022 dollars) far exceeding cumulative inflation of 12%. The rate increase is therefore materially burdensome for households.2) Spending priorities and efficiency: The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb spending on consultancy and professional services. Current data show Council spending on consultants stands

at about $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant earning approximately $200k and payroll/consultant costs rising faster than inflation. Direct operating expenditure has grown 78% from 2013 to 2023 well above inflation indicating inefficiencies that can be addressed without compromising essential services.3) Specific cost-saving measures: I support the following elements of the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget:- Freeze staffing levels or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cancel or suspend discretionary items with limited public necessity including the Food Scraps Programme (costs about $36 million/year) due to its carbon impact relative to saved emissions.- Cap and reduce consultancy/professional services by at least $50 million and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve a further $30 million in savings.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and considerably reduce Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department at about $10 million per year a cost that many ratepayers view as beyond the core functions of local government.4) Net effect: A targeted reduction in new Council spending by $150 million (2%) would cap the average rate increase to around 3% aligning rates with genuine affordability and focusing funds on essential services.Additional pointI believe emphasis should be placed on essentials for all ratepayers and on reviewing the visibility of ethnic-specific content on Council communications to ensure information is accessible and relevant to the majority of ratepayers.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8640

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a disciplined review of council spending to protect households from outpacing inflation.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household atop a long-run pattern where rates have risen 85% since 2010 while population growth has been 22% and inflation around 34%. This is unacceptable for households already stretched by cost pressures.- The breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase funds CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. A tighter approach to existing assets and a slower pace on new capex should

be prioritised.- Council spending on consultants is excessive at about $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant paid around $200000. Direct efforts should be redirected to core services.- Spending on Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) totals $171 million over 10 years. While I respect the aim ratepayer funds must be focused on essential statutory responsibilities of local government.- Payroll and 'other expenses' have grown faster than inflation with personnel costs a major driver of rate increases. Reducing payroll costs and freezing non-essential vacancies will deliver immediate savings.Agreed positions and proposed savings- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9% and seek a reduction plan to cap rates increases.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reconsider Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year devoted to Ngā Mātārae given the municipal responsibilities of local government.ClosingI request that you consider a revised budget that aligns with these priorities and demonstrates restraint in non-essential expenditure.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8717

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in formal opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in doing so urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. The proposed rise equivalent to about $320 for the average household is not affordable when the real increase since 2022 already far outpaces inflation.Key positions1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and support keeping rate rises aligned with or below inflation. The current trajectory including 30% real increases since 2022 is unsustainable for households and undermines confidence in Council governance.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office

functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner administration is essential to delivering core services without penalising ratepayers.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these lines. The Council's reliance on external advisers should be prioritised against essential needs with a concrete cap.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to essential services with proven outcomes.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department as this is not a function of local government.7) Cut overpaid employees and restructure to prioritise frontline and statutory services over discretionary spending.Additional points- The Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ensuring that every dollar spent delivers tangible community benefit.ClosingI request that the Council consider these measures to bring rates increases in line with community affordability and to improve value for money from all council expenditure. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8746

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The rate rise proposal if enacted would compound a real cost burden on households already paying more than twice inflation since 2010.1) oppose the 7.9% increase- The proposed increase is excessive when set against growth in the local economy and inflation. It amounts to roughly $320 more per average household on a current average bill of $4069 exacerbating affordability pressures for Auckland families.2) reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions- Council and CCOs must cut non‘essential corporate and backroom costs which drive the bulk of overhead without direct service benefits to most residents.3) cut consultancy and professional services-

Spending on consultants and contractors remains high with $126 million per year across the Council group and $590 million in total for consultants and contractors. This is an area where meaningful savings can be found without harming core services.4) cancel the Food Scraps Programme- The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and based on available data emits more carbon than it saves. It should be cancelled or significantly redesigned to deliver genuine environmental and cost efficiencies.5) freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs- Freeze hiring for vacant non‘essential roles and reduce payroll costs; doing so could save at least $17 million immediately.6) curb Māori-specific expenditure- Reconsider funding for Māori outcomes including the Ngā Mātārae department which allocates around $10 million per year. This is not a statutory function of local government and should be scaled back to focus on essential statutory services.7) alternative budget pathway- A $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2% cap on rates) would allow rates to rise by around 3% while preserving essential services. This aligns with the principle of responsible budgeting and avoids overburdening residents.I request that these points be given full consideration in the consultation process. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8773

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

This submission is made in a detailed and evidence-based manner to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for reductions in wasteful Council spending with a focus on delivering essential services efficiently.1) Opposition to the 7.9% rates increase- The proposed average increase of 7.9% equates to approximately $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and 85% since the Super City amalgamation. This is well above inflation and growth and places an undue burden on ratepayers.- The current structure allocates 4.4% of the rise to CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining

existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as the city grows. A rethink is needed to stop annual cost escalations that outpace household income.2) Wasteful spending and a path to savings- Council spending on consultants is around $126 million per year; the average consultant receives about $200k. I support reducing this expenditure and capping consultancy spend.- Personnel costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation; payroll totals are $1.3 billion with significant six-figure salaries. I support freezing non-essential vacancies and reducing payroll costs where possible.- There is a need to prioritise statutory and essential services and reduce discretionary grants and backroom functions. The proposed budget should reflect a leaner organisational structure with tighter supplier contracts.3) Specific policy priorities for savings- 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 a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce new Council spending by at least $150 million (2% reduction) to cap the average rates increase at around 3 percent by: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes - Capping consultant spend - Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsClosingI request that the Council consider these reforms to limit rate increases and curb wasteful spending while maintaining essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8842

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key grounds- The current proposal amounts to about $320 more per average household while rates have risen 85% since 2010 outpacing inflation and population growth. A more responsible approach is needed that restraints growth in operating and capital costs.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services which have risen well beyond inflation.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme at $36 million per year which appears to emit more carbon than it saves and reallocate those funds to essential services.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not

hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department at about $10 million per year as this is not a core local government responsibility.- The Council should align spending with statutory and essential services first avoiding discretionary grants that inflate the rate burden on households.Concrete alternative and funding approach- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) capping average residential rates increases at about 3%. - $50 million saved by personnel-cost reductions through organisational change and a hiring freeze. - $50 million saved by capping consultant spend. - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation. - $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional point- Consider establishing a process to review current governance approaches that reduce any services that are NOT essential. Review every single public support of events that do NOT relate to providing strictly essential service only!ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8994

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

Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Papakura

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

With the current average residential bill at $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of around 30% (versus 12% cumulative inflation) this level of rise is unsustainable for households. I support reducing wasteful spending and reforming Council expenditure to protect ratepayers.Agreed positions- Oppose the 7.9% average rates increase; aim for a maximum of 3% if possible by reforming spending rather than raising charges on families.- The Council must cut expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services instead of continuing to escalate these costs.- Cancel the Food Scraps

Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone could save at least $17 million promptly.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a local government core function.- Payments to support CRL should be distance-based: the closer a resident lives to the CBD the higher their contribution; ratepayers on islands and rural districts should start at zero.Additional points- The proposed 7.9% includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs which should be scrutinised and trimmed through efficiency renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- The Council's payroll consultants and corporate support costs have risen significantly in recent years; a disciplined spending cap is warranted to protect ratepayers.- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget suggests a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) enabling a more affordable rate rise and protecting essential services.ClosingI request that the Council consider these reductions and the alternative budget framework to cap rate increases while maintaining statutory services and essential community support.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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