Annual Plan 2026/2027

Written Feedback

Kaipātiki Local Board

Volume 5

April 2026

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8932

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: Kaipātiki

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 understand this equates to roughly $320 for the average household on top of a current average rates bill of $4069. Since 2022 rates have already risen by 30% in real terms far outpacing inflation. The proposed breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. I cannot support a further increase that compounds wasteful spending and does not clearly prioritise essential local services.I agree that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb the rise in consultancy and professional services. The current level of consultant

spendâ€around $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant receiving about $200kâ€must be restrained. I also oppose the $36 million/year Food Scraps Programme which I believe emits more carbon than it saves and I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately. In addition I call for significant reductions in Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which I regard as outside the core remit of local government.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget I support a 3% cap on rates by cutting new spending by at least $150 million (2%) achieved through organisational changes a hiring freeze contractor and consultant reductions and renegotiated contracts. I emphasise prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to reflect residents' expectations.Wasteful spending must stop. I also recognize the public desire for accountability and reform ahead of the next mayoral election.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8948

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Local Board: Kaipātiki

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase. A rate rise of this level far outstrips inflation and adds unnecessary pressure on households already paying a substantial share of running costs. The proposed increase should be restrained to reflect better value for ratepayers and the Council's own performance improvements.2) Support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Overall efficiency gains in non-core functions must be pursued before asking households to pay more. A leaner administration will help stabilise rates.3) Oppose ongoing increases in consultancy and professional services. The ratepayer

community expects a strong focus on delivering essential services with cost control in external advisory and contracting. Reducing spend here can help keep rate increases to a minimum.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The programme costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. If this outcome cannot be demonstrated it should be halted to protect ratepayers from unnecessary expense.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. Stopping unnecessary recruitment can provide immediate savings of at least $17 million.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). As local government funding for statutory and essential services should take precedence over discretionary programmes.7) Alternative budgeting approach. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap average residential rates increases at about 3%. This would be achieved through: a) personnel cost controls and a hiring freeze b) capping consultant spend c) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and d) 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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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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

#8988

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates rise by at least 7.9 percent. The current average rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent well above general inflation. The proposed breakdownâ€2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€appears to entrench rising costs not matched by demonstrable value to ratepayers. A more restrained approach is needed.Key areas for savings include reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting spend on consultancy and professional services. Auckland's total consultant and contractor spend remains high with a heavy

reliance on external advice that does not always translate into proportional public benefit. Freezing nonâ€‘essential roles and capping payroll costs would deliver immediate relief.I also urge cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves. This is a discretionary programme that could be redirected toward essential services with clearer emissions reductions and community benefit.Furthermore I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant nonâ€‘essential roles. Based on the briefing this step could save at least $17 million right away. There is also a case for reviewing Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae); I believe local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes in this area.The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget illustrates potential savings: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) capping rate increases to around 3% through changes to personnel consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services. I invite the public and staff to identify further economies and savings without compromising core functions.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9056

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Organisation: N/A

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. Overall rate increase and budget priorities- The proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates rise is excessive adding an approximate $320 per household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (vs 12 percent inflation). I urge the Council to cap increases at around 3 percent by reducing non-essential expenditure and avoiding further funding of discretionary programmes.2. Expenditure reform and back office costs- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. Current payroll and related costs are unsustainable and cutting these functions should be prioritised before raising rates for

ratepayers.3. Consultancy and professional services- There is a clear need to halt the ongoing growth in consultancy spend. The $126 million per year across the Council group including $60 million within the Auckland Council parent represents a high cost burden. Freezing or tightly controlling external advisory spend is essential to keep rates affordable.4. Specific programme reductions- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (currently costing about $36 million per year) due to limited net carbon savings and higher emissions than anticipated. Reallocate funds to core statutory and essential services.5. Staffing and payroll discipline- Freeze hiring for non-essential roles and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant positions where appropriate. This step alone could save at least $17 million immediately.6. Māori outcomes funding- Reconsider or scale back Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) department acknowledging that this is not a core local government responsibility.In summary a disciplined review of personnel consultants and discretionary programmes can deliver significant savings. The proposed 7.9 percent increase is not justified given the scale of wasteful expenditure identified.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

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

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

#9068

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Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Rates increase- I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9 percent. At approximately $320 more per average household this is unaffordable for many families and does not align with cost-of-living realities. The present average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 representing a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 (versus 12 percent cumulative inflation). Rates should be aligned with inflation and core statutory services not expanded discretionary spending.2) Spending reductions and efficiency- 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 continuing to grow these items.- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases) including a hiring freeze and freezing vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap and renegotiate contracts: reduce consultants by $50 million and pursue vendor consolidation and renegotiations to achieve long-term savings.3) Specific program pause and reductions- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles to achieve needed savings.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department as this is not a local government core role.4) Prioritisation- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and non-core activities to protect essential urban services while delivering genuine value to residents.I request that the Council consider these targeted reductions and reallocate funds to protect essential services and keep rates affordable.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9080

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I am writing to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to urge a real plan to reduce wasteful Council spending.I understand the current average rates bill is about $4069 and that the proposed rise equates to roughly $320 for the average household. I cannot support a rate increase that far exceeds inflation and population growth. The burden on Auckland households must not be borne primarily through higher rates while wasteful spending continues.I Agrees that the Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. I also Agrees that the spend on consultancy and professional services

should be reduced rather than continually increasing. A leaner organisation will better protect essential services without forcing households to pay more.I Agrees that the Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves. I Agrees that staffing should be frozen or payroll costs reduced by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million right away. I Agrees that Māori-specific spending should be reviewed including the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.To achieve an affordable rates outcome I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rates rise at about 3%. This should come from:- $50 million saved from personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze- $50 million saved on consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsI urge the Council to adopt these measures to protect essential services reduce waste and keep rates increases within reason.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9110

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a program of substantial expenditure reform to bring rates back to a level closer to or below inflation.Key concerns:- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 more per household on top of a real rates rise of 30% since 2022 while inflation has run about 12%. This is unacceptable growth in the cost of living for Auckland families.- The rate rise breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. I question whether every dollar is essential and insist on prioritising core statutory services over

discretionary spend.Agreed positions and calls for action:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council must reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to grow.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a local-government core function.Rationale:- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes an alternative budget reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at about 3% prioritising essential services and statutory obligations.- Other cost driversâ€consultants contractors six-figure payroll and numerous corporate support functionsâ€consume a disproportionate share of the budget relative to outcomes for residents.In closing I request that Council consider substantial efficiency measures and restraint before imposing further rate increases on households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#9116

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: Kaipātiki

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

In real terms rates have risen 30% since 2022 far outpacing cumulative inflation while the population has grown only 22%. A 7.9% rise largely allocated to CRL operating costs (4.4%) new assets (1.5%) and asset maintenance (2%) is not affordable for households and fails to reflect prudent stewardship of public funds.I agree with and urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which caps the rate rise at around 3% by delivering meaningful cost reductions. Specifically I propose these actions:1) Reduce personnel costs by freezing non-essential hires and pursuing organisational change saving at least $50 million.2) Cap spending on consultants

and professional services at $50 million.3) Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save about $30 million.4) Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to save $20 million.5) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which emits more carbon than it saves.6) Freeze staffing further by not filling vacant non-essential roles freeing at least $17 million immediately.7) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a local-government responsibility.These measures would deliver a materially lower rates impact and restore public confidence in council spending. The current trajectory shows rising staff costs consultant fees and back-office expenses far outpacing inflation with direct operating expenditure growing 78% 2013â€2023 against 29% inflation. A focus on core services efficiency and reducing non-essential programmes is both necessary and responsible.I also note concerns around spending on consultants and corporate functions and the need to re-evaluate the merit of five- and six-figure salaries within council and CCOs. Reform here is essential to deliver sustainable rate outcomes.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9119

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. The current trajectory is unsustainable for ratepayers especially when inflation has outpaced gains in real household spending.Key concerns and positions:1) Rates and affordability. The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on a bill already averaging $4069. Since 2022 real rates have risen by around 30% (in 2022 dollars) while overall inflation has only been about 12%. This is an unacceptable burden on households.2) Expenditure priorities and wasteful spending. 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 letting these items grow. Direct operating expenditure has risen well beyond inflation and staff costs drive much of this growth.3) Specific cost-cutting measures. The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at about 3%:- Freeze hiring or reduce payroll by not filling non-essential roles saving at least $17 million immediately.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services saving $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors saving $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.4) Discretionary programmes to review. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing around $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Also review Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) as this is not a core local government function.Additional point. The mayoral leadership should reflect the will of ratepayers; there is a broader need for governance reform to ensure value for money.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#9130

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: Kaipātiki

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 understanding from the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing is that the current plan would raise bills by about $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 while inflation has run lower than that over the same period.1) Why I oppose the rate rise- The proposed 7.9% increase largely funds keeping existing assets in service (2%) adding new assets for growth (1.5%) and CRL operating costs (4.4%). I believe there is room to cap rate rises by eliminating waste and prioritising essential services.- Rates have grown far faster than population growth and inflation since the 2010 amalgamation. This is unsustainable for households and discourages

investment in our community.2) Targeted spending reforms I support- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Curb spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to keep rising.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves).- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles (this could save at least $17 million immediately).- Consider cutting Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) budget including the $10 million/year allocated as this is not a core local government function.3) Additional concerns- The Westgate to Huapai growth and ongoing development in the Waimaì„uku area raise concerns about infrastructure readiness. Congestion on major routes and inadequate public transport worsens the impact of higher rates on everyday life.I request the Council to adopt an alternate budget that reduces new spending by at least $150 million to cap the rate rise around 3 percent as outlined by the Ratepayers' Alliance. This would be achieved through the measures above and by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9152

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a strong and direct tone to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to call for urgent practical reductions in wasteful Council spending.Opening position- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% which is roughly $320 for the average household. Since 2012 rates have risen far faster than inflation and population growth with real increases outpacing both metrics by a wide margin. The proposed split shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for existing assets and 1.5% for new assets; this needs a thorough reprioritisation.Key spending reforms- Reduce corporate and backroom functions across the

Council and CCOs. Expenditure on consultants and professional services should be curtailed; the Council spends about $126 million per year on consultants averaging $200000 per external adviser.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which evidence suggests emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-focused spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department (about $10 million per year). This is not a core municipal function and should be redirected to statutory and essential services.- Examine all expenditure line by line to identify savings; management expenses and overheads are disproportionately high. Consider selling or closing non-essential assets and services such as discretionary items like swimming pools where appropriate.Alternative budget approach- The Council should implement a targeted reduction of new spend by at least $150 million (2%) enabling an effective rate cap around 3% while protecting essential services.ClosingI urge the Council to prioritise statutory and essential services constrain payroll and consultancy costs and eliminate clearly non-essential programmes to deliver meaningful rate relief.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

#9164

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this formal submission regarding the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the stated average residential rates increase of 7.9%.1) Opposition to the proposed rates increaseI oppose an average residential rates rise of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the average household. Rates have increased significantly since 2010 (about 85%) far outpacing inflation and population growth. A more restrained approach is required to avoid placing undue burden on households while still delivering essential services.2) Wasteful and excessive discretionary spend must be cutThe Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs

and sharply reduce consultancy and professional services. Current figures show $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200000. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well ahead of inflation indicating a governance problem that must be addressed through organisational change and hiring freezes where appropriate.3) Specific program cuts and payroll restraint- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emissions analysis suggests it does not deliver net carbon savings.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would provide immediate savings of at least $17 million.- Cut MāÅ ri outcomes spending including the Ngā Mātārae department where about $10 million per year is spent. As a local government responsibility this is not a core function and should be prioritised elsewhere.4) Comprehensive alternative budget approachI support the Alliance's proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping the rates increase to around 3%. This includes: reducing personnel costs capping consultant spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request to speak at hearings to present additional points and answer questions. 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

#9178

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I am writing to oppose Auckland Council's proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to urge a comprehensive reduction in wasteful and non-essential spending.Key concerns and positions:1) Oppose the 7.9% increase. The proposed rise translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022. This is not affordable for many ratepayers and far outpaces household inflation.2) Reduce corporate and backroom costs. The council and CCOs should cut expenditure on corporate and backroom functions to restore value for money.3) Curb consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants is excessive and rising; we must

reduce these costs rather than perpetuate increases.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year it costs more to run than it saves in carbon reductions and should be scrapped.5) Freeze staffing or cut payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies. Halting new hires would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Reduce Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local government function and should be reconsidered.Additional points:- Stop wasting money when existing pathways in Reserves are sound and safe; existing infrastructure such as the Takapuna Sacred Grove pathway should not be prioritised within a framework of prudent expenditure.Ratepayer-aligned alternative budget:If new Council spending is reduced by $150 million (2%) the average rates increase could be capped at about 3% through targeted reductions in personnel costs consultant spend vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I would appreciate the opportunity to present these points at hearings if possible but I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9233

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing the current average rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30% in 2022 dollars well above inflation. It is therefore reasonable to seek taxpayer savings to hold rates increases to or below inflation.I propose a targeted approach to reduce wasteful spending and to cap rates growth through a responsible reallocation of funds. My positions are as follows:1) Agree: Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. Seek to limit annual rate rises to roughly 3% by cutting non-essential expenditure.2) Agree: Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) Agree:

Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items; in particular cap contractor and external advisor costs.4) Agree: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves.5) Agree: Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Agree: Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a function of local government.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget I urge reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a cap of about 3% for residential rates. This should be achieved through: (a) organisational change and hiring freezes ($50 million) (b) capping consultancy spend ($50 million) (c) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30 million) (d) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).I request that the Council provide clear local-costed evidence of any proposed efficiency measures and how they protect essential services to Aucklanders.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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.)

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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

#9255

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urge a reset of Council spending to protect households from a cost of living shock.Key concerns1) Rates and affordability: The proposed 7.9% average rise is well above inflation and far beyond what households can reasonably bear. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 and since 2022 rates have risen by 30% in real terms while inflation has run at around 12%â€a clear misalignment with household budgets.2) Wasteful spending and backroom costs: The Council and CCOs should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and curb consultancy and professional services. Annual

consultant spending is about $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant receiving roughly $200k. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have grown considerably beyond inflation while payroll and six-figure salaries continue to rise.3) Specific cost-cutting measures aligned with the Ratepayers' Alliance plan: - Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap and reduce spending on consultants by $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save a further $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Reduce Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' department at around $10 million per year arguing this is not a core local government role.4) Alternative budget alignment: By trimming new Council spending by $150 million (2%) the average residential rate increase can be capped at around 3%.Additional pointBrown campaigned on reducing waste and reducing rates; he has not delivered. He cannot be trusted to govern without waste and largess.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9263

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and advocate for meaningful reductions in wasteful Council spending. The reality is that rates have risen 85 percent since the 2010 amalgamation well above inflation and population growth. A 7.9 percent uplift is not acceptable when inflation and core service pressures do not justify this level of increase.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap the rate rise by reducing new and existing expenditure. Specifically the Council should:- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which the Alliance estimates would save at least $17

million immediately.- Reduce spend on consultants and professional services rather than letting these costs climb further; the current figure of $126 million per year across the Council group is unsustainable and an immediate cap of $50 million is warranted.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Curb Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core function of local government.Additional context from the Alliance shows direct operating expenditure has risen faster than inflation and personnel costs continue to consume a growing share of the budget with payroll at about $1.3 billion and 6123 staff earning six-figure salaries. In light of these facts prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants is prudent.Given these points I request that the Council implement the following alternative budget to hold average residential rate increases to around 3 percent:- $50 million saved from personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes- $50 million saved by capping consultancy spending- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grantsI urge the Council to reflect these savings before approving any rate increase above inflation.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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	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

#9273

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The current average bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is around 30 percent far exceeding inflation. The planned 7.9 percent splitâ€2% for existing assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€fails to recognise the need for tighter control of backroom and consulting spending that is driving bills higher than households can ØªØ-Ù…Ù„.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap rate rises by reducing non-essential spending and reforming personnel costs. Specifically:- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut spending on consultants and

professional services rather than expanding these lines.- Cancel discretionary projects that do not meet core statutory obligations including the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million per year) which on balance emits more carbon than it saves.- Limit Māori-specific spending such as the Māori outcomes department and associated outlays (reported as about $10 million per year) which is NEVER should be a local government funding priority.- Eliminate AT monopoly on transport reduce buses and trains which are empty a larg part of the time.- Deman Watercare stop putting sewage onto beaches - link the CEO's package with spoills.- Eliminate all non-eessentia servcies and reduce rates.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rate growth to around 3% by:- Cutting personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes.- Capping consultant spending and renegotiating contracts to lower unit costs.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional points I wish to emphasise: spending on consultants across the Council group is excessive with high average pay for consultants and numerous six-figure roles; direct operating expenditure has grown well beyond inflation; and the overall payroll cost of the Council and its CCOs remains a prime driver of rate rises. The community deserves a plan that prioritises core servicesâ€sewage water and transport reliabilityâ€over prestige projects or bureaucratic expansion.I request this submission be considered in full and for staff to report on progress toward implementing the targeted $150 million in annual savings and the resulting impact on ratepayer bills. 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

#9297

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: Kaipātiki

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 evidence-based manner in opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and in support of reducing wasteful Council spending.1) Wasteful and bloated operating costs must be addressed. The Council's current expenditure on consultants and backroom functions is excessive with $126 million per year across the Council group and an average consultant earning around $200k. Reducing these costs is essential to cushion ratepayers and to restore fiscal discipline.2) Cut consultancy and professional services. I support capping and reducing spend on consultants and professional services. This is a prudent step toward

aligning expenses with actual essential services and delivering better value for ratepayers.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The proposal to spend $36 million per year on a Food Scraps Programme appears misaligned with core local government responsibilities and according to broader assessments emits more carbon than it saves. Abolishing this programme would free resources for essential services.4) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Freezing filling non-essential vacancies or reducing payroll would deliver immediate savings. I support not hiring for non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million promptly.5) Reallocate Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) represents a non-core function for local government. I advocate prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary Māori-facing grants and programmes.6) Alternative budget path. To avoid rate increases beyond inflation I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) achieving a cap of roughly a 3 percent increase through: personnel cost reductions consultant caps contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.In summary the Council should prioritise core services curb backroom costs and implement an affordable budget path that protects ratepayers while maintaining essential public 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

#9353

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I urge Council to prioritise reductions in wasteful spending and to cap rates increases closer to inflation.1) Why the rate increase is not acceptable- The proposed 7.9% mix includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs on top of other cost drivers while ratepayers face a real increase well above wage and price growth. Since 2022 rates have risen 30% in real terms far exceeding cumulative inflation.2) Priorities for reducing expenditure- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Curb spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continual growth.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme

(costs $36 million/year) which on current modelling emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant nonâ€‘essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.3) Targeted budget reforms to achieve a 3% cap- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget suggests saving $150 million by modest targeted reductions in personnel and consultancy plus renegotiations and vendor consolidation prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.4) Additional context- Excessive overheads and a reluctance to pursue necessary cost reductions have driven the current spending trajectory. Parks and Libraries represent significant cost centres after transport; more disciplined management across all discretionary areas is required.ClosingI request that Auckland Council consider these measures and publish a transparent plan showing how a 3% or lower rate rise can be achieved through the proposed cuts.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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- **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

#9361

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

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

To Auckland Councill am {name redacted} of {address redacted} and I submit in opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and advocate for immediate reductions in wasteful Council spending.1) Against the rate rise and for expenditure restraint- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The current average rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 has already been 30 percent with cumulative inflation at 12 percent. A rates rise of this magnitude is not acceptable.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and absorbed CCOs and reduce spend on

consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.2) Specific spend reductions and programme reviews- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.- Pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to deliver $30 million in savings cap spending on consultants to $50 million and restructure with a 2% reduction in new Council spending to cap rate increases at around 3 percent as proposed by the Ratepayers' Alliance.3) Broader concerns and priorities- The Auckland Council has grown costly post-amalgamation with personnel costs and other expenses increasing well beyond inflation. A leaner organisation is essential before asking ratepayers to shoulder higher bills.- I object to excessive developments in upper Silverdale and Orewa without commensurate infrastructure funding; ratepayers should not subsidise developers cash cows of expanded projects while basic services erode. 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.

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

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

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

Rank	Area
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	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

#9388

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

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) Core objection and context- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household) as a rate of rise well above inflation. The Council's own data show a real rate increase since 2022 of about 30% against 12% inflation and rates have risen 85% since 2010. In the face of an ongoing global energy crisis and rising fuel costs further above-CPI rate hikes are unacceptable.2) Spending priorities and wasteful expenditure- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council should reduce spending on consultancy and professional services which

currently totals around $126 million per year across the Council group.- I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year and emitting more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would deliver immediate savings of at least $17 million.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing it is not a core local-government role.3) Alternative budget and rate outcome- Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap average residential rates increases at about 3%: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes - $50 million from capping consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants4) Additional considerations- Given the energy and fuel cost environment a rate increase above 7% is unwarranted and contradicts prudent financial management.I respectfully request that the Council consider these reductions and restore affordability for households while maintaining essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9405

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

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 average 7.9% increase is excessive equating to roughly $320 more per average household and contributing to a real rates rise that far outpaces inflation. Since 2022 residential rates have risen about 30% in real terms with cumulative inflation at around 12%.- A substantial portion of the increase funds operating costs for the City Rail Link (CRL) and growing asset maintenance rather than critical frontline services. The breakdown indicates 4.4% of the lift goes to CRL operating costs alongside asset maintenance and growth-related spending.- The Council's overall expenditure growth particularly on consultants backroom functions and six-figure

payroll costs is not aligned with the fiscal restraint expected of ratepayers. Consultant costs average around $200000 per engagement with total spend across the Council group at $126 million annually. Direct operating expenditure rose faster than inflation and payroll/other expenses grew at twice the rate of inflation between 2022 and 2025.Proposed response and alternatives- I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rates increase at about 3% through: - Reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles saving around $50 million. - Capping spending on consultants to $50 million. - Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save about $30 million. - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving about $20 million.- These measures echo the ratepayers' call for restraining corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and for reducing consultancy and professional services.Specific points- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department as this is not a core local government function.ClosingI request that the Council consider these savings as a primary framework to address the affordability of rates while preserving essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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

#9455

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

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 to express strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge the Council to reduce wasteful expenditure before asking households to pay more.Key concerns and positions:- I oppose the 7.9% rise. The average household would face about $320 extra per year at a time when real increases since 2022 have already reached 30% in comparable dollars far exceeding general inflation.- The Council must rein in corporate and backroom spending. Overall operating costs and staff salaries have risen far faster than inflation while the Council continues to rely on consultants at high cost. Reducing these expenses should be a priority.- Limit consultancy

and professional services. The current trend of rising external advisory spend is unsustainable and should be capped with targeted efficiency measures.- Cancel discretionary programmes with questionable value such as the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles. Halting or delaying non-critical hires could save at least $17 million right away.- Reconsider Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be re-evaluated since it is not a core local government function.- A practical alternative budget approach is needed. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) enabling a more modest rate rise of around 3% while maintaining essential services.Additional notes:- Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown well beyond inflation in recent years and there is a clear need for organisational reform to prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In closing I request that the Council consider these reductions as a condition for any rate increase and provide a transparent plan for achieving them. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I am submitting my views on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the forecast average residential rates increase of 7.9%. I speak as a ratepayer who seeks prudent value-for-money governance and responsible use of public funds.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to pause and recalibrate to align with inflation and essential service delivery. The current average rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% against a 12% inflation backdrop. The breakdown shows 4.4% to cover CRL operating costs which appears not to be offset by demonstrable near-term community benefit. A restrained approach is warranted.To achieve meaningful relief I support implementing the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping rates increases at around 3%. This includes:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping spending on consultants: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionI also urge targeted reductions in wasteful backroom spending and inefficient programmes. In particular I oppose continuing high expenditure on consultants and professional services and call for tighter controls on payroll increases and six-figure salaries within Council staff. The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled saving $36 million per year and reducing carbon emissions without compromising essential waste collection. Freezing staffing levels and not filling vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately.I also request scrutiny of Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) and I question whether this is a core local-government responsibility. Reprioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary expenditures will better serve all ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#9460

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urge a reduction in wasteful Council spending. The rate rise would cost the average household about $320 on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 while inflation has grown by around 12 percent. I request Council to consider the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget to cap rates increases at about 3 percent by cutting unnecessary expenditure.Key positions1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The proposed split of the increaseâ€2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€does not reflect prudent budgeting or value for

ratepayers.2) Reduce spending on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. Administrative and corporate costs have risen well beyond inflation with unnecessary layers of spending that do not directly benefit ratepayers.3) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles. A pause in hiring could deliver immediate savings aligning with a more careful approach to workforce planning and budget discipline.4) Curb consultancy and professional services. Council's substantial reliance on external consultants has driven costs up; prioritise in-house capacity and renegotiate to achieve sustainable savings.5) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year and with emissions outcomes not clearly offset this project should be halted or re-evaluated in favour of priority services.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over targeted programmes that extend beyond core responsibilities.7) Emphasise core services over discretionary grants. Reallocating funds toward essential infrastructure and services will better serve all 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):

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
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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

#9488

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the average household and I note that the current average residential rates bill is $4069. Since 2022 rates have risen by 30% in real terms well ahead of cumulative inflation (12%). The rate remains excessive given the growth in Council costs and the lack of clear evidence that such a rise is necessary to maintain essential services.I agree with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance positions to:1) Oppose the 7.9% average increase and seek a restraint on rates growth.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) Reduce spending on

consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles noting this could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a necessary function of local government.To achieve financial restraint I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping the average residential rates increase at around 3%:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze- $50 million from capping consultancy spending- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsI urge Council to prioritise essential services improve efficiency and restore trust by delivering a fairer more targeted approach to budgeting.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9533

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) The case against the 7.9% increase- The proposed rise funds a real-terms cost of living pressure that far outpaces inflation. Since 2022 rates have risen by about 30 percent in real terms while overall inflation has been around 12 percent. The breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase goes to CRL operating costs with 2% for existing asset maintenance and 1.5% for new assets. This level of growth is unsustainable for households and businesses alike.2) Agreed reductions to curb rate increases- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The Council should instead pursue the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap rate increases around 3 percent by

cutting wasteful spending.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing this growth trajectory.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year on the Ngā Mātārae/Māori outcomes department on the basis that this is not a core local government function.3) Additional context and proposed path- The broader alternative budget proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) achievable through targeted personnel changes capping consultant spend contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Given the Council's payroll of about $1.3 billion and $590 million on consultants/contractors meaningful savings are achievable without compromising core services.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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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.

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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

#9549

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a reset of council spending to protect households from further cost-of-living pressures.Key context:- The proposed increase equates to about $320 for the average household on an already rising rates bill (current average $4069). Since 2022 rates have risen by about 30% in real terms far outstripping cumulative inflation.- The 7.9% rise derives from 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs.- Since amalgamation rates have grown well ahead of inflation and population growth placing substantial burdens on households.Position and supporting

requests:1) Oppose the 7.9% average rates increase and cap the rise to 3% by reducing Council spending.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs to target wasteful spending.3) Curb spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items; pursue mandatory efficiency and vendor consolidation where appropriate.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and has not demonstrated net carbon savings that justify the cost.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this measure could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given this is not a core local government function.7) In line with an alternative budget approach pursue a $150 million reduction in new spending (2%) including the 50 million from personnel and 50 million from consultants 30 million from contract renegotiations and 20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Closing:I request that the Council consider these measures to protect ratepayers prioritise essential services and reduce wasteful spending where evidence supports prudence and value for money.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

#9576

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and support substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending. The current average rates bill is $4069 and residents face a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 far outpacing inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent increase comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This is unacceptable.I agree that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these items. The

$126 million per year spent on consultants across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with many consultants earning around $200k is excessive. Direct operating expenditure has grown by 78% from 2013 to 2023 well beyond inflation and personnel costs have risen sharply.I also support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which is cited as costing $36 million annually and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves. Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants is prudent and freezing staffing or reducing payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles would deliver immediate savings of at least $17 million.I further oppose ongoing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). In my view this is not a core local government function and should be reconsidered.As an alternative I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rates increase at 3 percent. This would be achieved through: $50 million in personnel cost reductions via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million saved by capping consultancy spending; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9588

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key positions1) Oppose the 7.9% rate increase. The proposed rise would add about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069 despite a real increase of 30% since 2022 and cumulative inflation of around 12%. The breakdownâ€2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€shows a heavy weight on operating costs rather than productive efficiency.2) Reduce wasteful expenditure and backroom costs. The Council must curb spending on consultants (about $126 million per year across the group with the Auckland Council parent accounting for much of this) and contract outlays. A focus on

reducing corporate and backroom functions is essential.3) Freeze staffing and cut payroll where non-essential. Pausing hires for vacant non-essential roles and reviewing payroll would generate immediate savings echoing the call for freezing or reducing staffing costs.4) Reconsider Māori-specific expenditure. The $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) area is not a core local government function and should be reassessed to prioritise statutory and essential services.5) Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget. While keeping essential services intact reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rate increases to around 3% by focusing on: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional points- Apply user-pays principles to non-essential services (for example certain library services).- Consider higher development fees for new dwellings.- Reassess the CRL including potential structural changes.- Seek responsible reductions in Auckland Transport's operating budget where appropriate.ClosingI request the opportunity to present my submission at hearings if possible to elaborate these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#9595

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and believe urgent steps are needed to reduce wasteful spending so that ratepayer levies reflect value-for-money and essential services rather than cost escalations.Key context:- The proposed average increase is 7.9% (about $320 for the average household); current average rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022. Real rate increases since 2022 are about 30% in 2022 dollars against 12% accumulated inflation.- Breakdown of the 7.9%: 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows 4.4% for CRL operating costs.- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% while population grew about 22%

and inflation was 34%. This outstrips both population and inflation impacts.Positions I support (Agrees):- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9% and advocate for restraint that aligns with inflation and core service delivery.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million promptly.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Policy approach and budget alignment:Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a cap of roughly 3% on residential rates. This would 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 millionThese steps target the areas where efficiency gains are most achievable without compromising essential services to residents.Closing:I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9601

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The ratepayers' Alliance briefing shows that since 2010 rates have risen 85% (well above inflation and population growth). In the current plan 4.4% is allocated to CRL operating costs with a total bill now around $4069 for the average household. It is reasonable to expect a tighter focus on essential services before further price rises are approved.My positions are as follows:1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The Council should seek to keep increases in line with or below inflation and closer to 3% in the coming year.2) The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to cut

spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core function of local government.6) The council spending is just out of control and a pragmatic transparent approach to prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants is essential.As an alternative I support a Budget that reduces new Council spending by $150 million (2%) delivering a cap of around a 3% rate rise. This would be achieved through: a) targeted personnel cost reductions and a hiring freeze; b) capping consultant and professional services; c) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and d) prioritising statutory services over discretionary programmes.I urge the Council to consider these measures to protect households from excessive rates while delivering essential services efficiently.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

#9609

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns and positions:- I oppose the 7.9% average increase. The plan would raise the average residential rates bill by about $320 while overall spending growth has markedly outpaced inflation and population growth since the Super City amalgamation.- The council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen well above inflation while productivity has not demonstrably matched growth in population or service demand.- Limit consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants remains high with a significant portion of operating budgets devoted to

external advice rather than core service delivery.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. This is not an essential statutory function and should be reâ€‘evaluated in light of climate and budget priorities.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant nonâ€‘essential roles. A hiring pause would immediately realise meaningful savings with potential to reduce payroll costs by at least $17 million.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) budget of around $10 million per year as this is not a core local government function. Mainline services and statutory obligations should take priority.Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget alignment:- Cap average residential rates increases at around 3% by reducing new Council spending by about $150 million prioritising essential services and statutory responsibilities over discretionary grants.- Implement targeted efficiency measures: organisational change hiring freezes vendor renegotiations and better contract management to achieve savings.I encourage the Council to adopt a tighter control on expenditure improve procurement efficiency and protect ratepayers from excessive increases while maintaining essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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

#9629

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

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

The proposed average 7.9% rise equates to about $320 more per household on top of an already high rate bill. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far exceeding inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). Realistically this level of increase is unsustainable for households when costs of living are rising and services are expected to be prudent.I agree that the Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items. The Rates proposal heavily allocates funds to CRL operating costs (4.4%) consultants and six-figure

payrolls. The current pattern shows payroll and related costs rising far faster than inflation. Direct operating expenditure has grown 78% between 2013 and 2023 well above inflation.I also agree that the Council should cancel discretionary programmes that do not deliver clear value. In particular the Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and by many assessments emits more carbon than it saves. The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which in my view would save at least $17 million immediately. I also urge capping or reassessing Māori-specific spending such as the proposed $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a local government core function.To align rates with value received I support the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap rates at around 3%. This includes savings from personnel (freeze non-essential hires) consultant caps contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

#9664

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a constructive solutionâ€‘focused manner outlining why I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and how wasteful spend can be trimmed to protect households.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average rate rise is excessive. With a current average bill of $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of around 30% further hikes beyond inflation place an unfair burden on households already contending with high living costs.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continued growth in these areas.- The

Food Scraps Programme costing approximately $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 nonâ€‘essential roles; this measure alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose ongoing increased spending on Māori-specific programmes. The roughly $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be redirected as this is not a core function of local government.Alternative budget approach- The Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap average residential rates at around 3%. This would be achieved by: - Reducing personnel costs via 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 millionRationale- Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% while inflation has increased about 34% and population growth around 22%. The current trajectory is unsustainable for households and undermines public confidence in local governance.ClosingI request that the Council consider these measures and adopt a responsible approach to rate setting that prioritises essential services and prudent 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

#9698

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: Kaipātiki

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 plan would on average add about $320 to the typical household bill while real growth in rates since 2022 far exceeds inflation and population growth.1) Principle and context- The proposed increase compounds a long-term drift: since 2010 rates have risen by 85% well above inflation and population growth. It is unreasonable to place continuing cost pressures on households when there is clear scope to curtail wasteful spend.- A substantial portion of the rise is tied to CRL operating costs and to maintaining/creating assets. I support focusing on essential government services over discretionary or speculative spend.2) Expenditure priorities and

reductions- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Curb spend on consultants and professional services rather than permitting it to grow.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in the view of independent assessment emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes division (Ngā Mātārae) acknowledging that this is not a core local government function.3) Alternative budget framing- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap average residential rates growth at about 3 percent. This would be achieved through the measures aboveâ€lower personnel costs capped consultancy spend renegotiated contracts and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI respectfully request that the Council consider these reductions as a means to safeguard households from disproportionate rate rises while maintaining essential services and long-term fiscal resilience.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

#9710

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27 and urge reductions in wasteful council spending to protect households.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average rise equates to about $320 extra per household for the year on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (31% in 2022 dollars vs 12% inflation). This level of increase is unsustainable for ratepayers while only maintaining and expanding existing costs.- A significant portion of the rise funds CRL operating costs (4.4%) while ongoing growth asset maintenance (2%) and new assets (1.5%) do not justify such a steep uplift when efficiency gains and spending controls are available.-

Spending on consultants remains excessive: $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant paid around $200k. Payroll and contractor costs have grown well ahead of inflation inflating the overall rate burden.- The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and according to the Alliance briefing emits more carbon than it saves. This is an inefficient use of ratepayer funds that should be reconsidered.- A freeze or reduction in staffing for non-essential roles can save at least $17 million immediately. The Council should pause hiring for vacant non-critical positions and prioritise essential services.- Māori-specific expenditure such as Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) at about $10 million per year should not be funded via local government budgets; reallocate or downscale accordingly.- The Council must rein in corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and renegotiate contracts including vendor consolidation to unlock substantial savings.Alternative budget stanceFrom the Ratepayers' Alliance reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to around 3%. This can be achieved by: $50 million from personnel costs; $50 million from consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations; $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Closingl request that you consider these reductions and alternatives in the deliberations and adopt a more affordable plan for ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#9714

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: Kaipātiki

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 response to the proposed 2026/27 annual plan.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and request that Council cap rate growth at around 3% by significant reductions in spending in line with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget. 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 costsâ€an overall increase well above inflation and property pressure.Key concerns and asks1) Expenditure reductions across the Council and CCOs. Council spends heavily on corporate and backroom office functions consultants and contractors. Proposed reductions

should target non-core functions to protect essential services.2) Freeze hiring and reduce payroll costs. Vacancy freezes or prioritised essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately.3) Curb consultancy and professional services. Cap or slow growth in these areas to deliver essential work more cost-effectively.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year it emits more carbon than it saves and should be halted.5) Trim Māori-specific spending. The $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local-government function and should be redirected to statutory services.6) Alternative budget framework. The Alliance's plan proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) enabling a ~3% rate rise through concrete lines such as: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.RationaleSince 2010 rates have risen 85% (real terms) far outstripping inflation and population growth. With current average rates at $4069 households face a real burden. A disciplined budgeting approach focusing on essential services and prudent personnel and consulting spend is required to avoid erosion of essential community 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.)

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	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
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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

#9770

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: Kaipātiki

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 reasons- The 7.9% increase breaks with responsible budgeting. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85%â€far above inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A more prudent path is required prioritising core statutory services over discretionary spending.- The Council's spend on consultants and backroom functions is excessive. Overall consultant expenditure is about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant paid around $200000 and $60 million by the Auckland Council parent alone. Reducing this spending is essential.- A substantial portion of operating costs and project expenditure are not delivering commensurate

value. Direct operating expenditure grew by 78% from 2013 to 2023 far above inflation. Personnel costs and other expenses have risen at twice the rate of inflation (2022â€2025) and payroll accounts for about $1.3 billion.- Specific program cuts are warranted. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.- Freezing or reducing staffing levels is a direct immediate saving. Halting the recruitment for non-essential roles would save at least $17 million right away.- It is appropriate to rebalance priorities by cutting Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local-government function and should be reconsidered.Proposed alternative budgetTo hold average residential rates increases to around 3% reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) focusing on:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and hiring freezes: $50 million- Capping consultant and professional-services spend: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing but would expect the Council to seriously reconsider the direction it is taking and the hardship which significant rises in rates bring to the rate payer.

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

#9795

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

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 points- I oppose any rates rise of 7.9% or more. The proposed increase equates to about $320 per average household while real increases since 2022 have already risen by around 30% in real terms far exceeding inflation.- The breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase goes to CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. I question whether such a heavy tilt toward operating and growth projects is justified given growth and inflation pressures on households.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance outline a credible alternative budget: reduce new council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases) including $50 million by cutting

personnel costs a further $50 million by capping consultancy expenditure $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.- I urge immediate reduction of corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Spending on consultants and professional services should be cut instead of being allowed to grow. The Council's payroll and external contracting appear to have expanded far beyond reasonable levels.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this would save at least $17 million right away.- I oppose additional Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I consider not a core local government function.ConclusionThe rate rise must be aligned to inflation and essential services only with a concrete plan to cut wasteful expenditure reduce consultants and stop non-essential programmes. I request that the council adopt the Alliance's proposed $150 million reduction package to cap rate increases at around 3 percent.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

#9801

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: Kaipātiki

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 points for consideration- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a long-term escalation in rates. Since 2010 rates have risen 85%â€well above local inflation and population growth. The current burden is unsustainable for many households.- The breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase goes to CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. This allocation should be reexamined in favour of essential services.- The Council must curb wasteful expenditure. Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance analysis identifies $126 million per year in consultant spend across the Council group and

substantial six-figure salaries including a payroll cost of $1.3 billion and $590 million on consultants and contractors. Reducing these costs is essential to prevent higher rates.- Specific savings are achievable now: freeze non-essential vacancies cap consultant spend renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors. The proposed Ratepayer Alliance budget targets would reduce new spending by about $150 million (2%) enabling a cap around 3% for residential rates.- Other cost-saving measures include cancelling discretionary programmes with questionable value. In particular the Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and per analysis emits more carbon than it saves. There is also a call to reduce Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae department which is not a proper local-government role when considering core statutory responsibilities.Proposed stance- Oppose the 7.9% increase and advocate for a maximum 3% increase guided by the Alternative Budget: reduce personnel costs through an organisational freeze cap consultancy spend renegotiate contracts and prioritise statutory services over discretionary grants.- Implement immediate savings by not filling non-essential roles and by scrutinising all discretionary programmes for value and necessity.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

#9814

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

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 urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. The current plan proposes an average household rate rise of approximately $320 taking the typical bill to around $4069 with real increases since 2022 at about 30 percent and cumulative inflation at roughly 12 percent. The 7.9 percent split includes 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs which should be scrutinised given the cost pressures on households.My positions in line with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing are:- Oppose the average 7.9 percent rates increase; cap increases closer to inflation or below.-

Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continual growth.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and has questionable net carbon benefits.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a core local government function.I also support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: cut new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to hold average residential rate increases to around 3 percent achieved by: reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and hiring freezes; capping consultant spend; pursuing contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional context: Council staff and consultant costs have grown significantly in recent years with payroll around $1.3 billion and consultants/contractors at $590 million. Direct operating expenditure rose markedly relative to inflation. Given these pressures I urge careful scrutiny of all discretionary items and a focus on essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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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

#9828

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

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

Key concerns- The 7.9% uplift translates to roughly $320 more for the average household on top of a real rate rise of 30% since 2022 (vs. 12% accumulated inflation). This is unacceptable growth in a time of cost-of-living pressures.- The breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase covers CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. This signals ongoing escalations in operating costs that should be managed within a tighter overall budget.Proposed alternative budget and priorities- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rate rise at about 3%. This aligns with prudent value-for-money governance.- Freeze

staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which the Alliance estimates could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services and seek contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save at least $50 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants with a focus on efficiency and core responsibilities.- Reconsider or pause non-core programmes including Food Scraps (costing $36 million/year) which the Alliance contends emits more carbon than it saves and reallocate resources to essential services.- Cap Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae department at a level compatible with the role of local government and the core needs of residents.Additional pointsDrastic cost cutting should occur before any rate increase. I understand the City Rail Link carries costs; however other Council operations must be downsized accordingly to avoid placing the burden primarily on ratepayers.I emphasise that ratepayers are not an endless source of funds. The Council must demonstrate tangible savings and efficiency gains before imposing 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.

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

#9833

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

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

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This would amount to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rates increase that has risen 30 percent since 2022 while inflation has run lower. Auckland Council must rein in wasteful spending before asking ratepayers to fund another large rise.1) I oppose the 7.9 percent increase and urge the Council to cap rates growth much closer to inflation. The current plan compounds historic cost increases for assets CRL operating costs and growing expenditures rather than delivering value to residents.2) Urgent reduction in discretionary and backroom spending. The Council and its CCOs

should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and slash consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these costs.3) Eliminate or pause the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year with emissions not demonstrably offset this programme should be cancelled.4) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles as a first step could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reviewed recognising that this is not a core local government function.6) Budget discipline and public accountability. Produce a publicly agreed budget and adhere to it; overspending at taxpayers' expense is not acceptable.Additional context: The Council's expenditure on consultants six-figure salaries and direct operating costs has risen markedly since 2013â€2023 while residents face a long-term cost-of-living squeeze. An alternative budget that caps new spending and reduces personnel and consultancy costs by targeted amounts demonstrates a clear path to a 3 percent rate rise.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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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

#9849

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

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) I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the average household. This level far exceeds both inflation and household cost pressures and is not justified by the identified needs of maintaining assets (2%) funding new assets as Auckland grows (1.5%) and CRL operating costs (4.4%). Since the Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% while inflation and population growth have lagged behind; there must be a more prudent approach.2) Expenditure reductions are essential. The Council should reduce spend on corporate and backroom office functions across both this Council and CCOs as well as cut spending

on consultants and professional services. The briefing notes $126 million per year on consultants across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k alongside substantial payroll and staff costs. A disciplined targeted approach to spend is needed.3) Policy priorities and programs should be rebalanced. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. Then reassess where resources are best directed.4) Māori-specific spending is a concern when framed as a core local government function. The Alliance's position to cap or reallocate the $10 million per year currently spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) deserves careful examination to ensure funding aligns with statutory responsibilities.5) A more accountable alternative budget is proposed: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average residential rates increase at 3%. This should be achieved through personnel cost controls consultant spend reductions contract renegotiations vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI appreciate the opportunity to provide input and urge the Council to consider a rigorous review of wasteful expenditure and the proposed rate path.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9883

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1. Opposition to the rates rise and alternative budgeting- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase which equates to about $320 for the average household and is well above inflation. Since 2022 rates have risen by about 30% in real terms while overall inflation has been around 12%.- The current plan allocates 4.4% to CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. This breakdown paired with rising personnel and operating costs drives rate increases beyond what homeowners can bear.2. Wasteful spending and reform priorities- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the

Council and CCOs and significantly curb consultancy and professional services. Auckland spends about $126 million per year on consultants with the average consultant earning around $200k.- Cancel discretionary programmes that do not deliver net benefits including the Food Scraps Programme at $36 million/year which the Alliance notes emits more carbon than it saves.- Reduce Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million/year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a clear local-government core function.3. Additional spend controls and preferred direction- The Alliance's alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a cap of approximately 3% on residential rates. It prioritises essential statutory services over discretionary grants and highlights the need for vendor consolidation contract renegotiations and a cap on consultant spend.4. Local impact and expectations- A controlling approach to personnel costs and office overhead is essential while avoiding blanket payroll freezes that would undermine service quality. I favour practical reform that reduces vanity spending (e.g. unnecessary art or architecture) and prioritises core services.ClosingI request to speak at hearings to present these points in person. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

#9917

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: Kaipātiki

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 7.9% residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to urge a program of spending restraint across the Council and CCOs.I oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 and the real increase since 2022 is effectively 30% in 2022 dollars well above general inflation. The proposed 7.9% increase with 4.4% allocated to CRL operating costs isolates ratepayers from delivering essential services while growth and asset maintenance absorb significant cost and many households in rural parts of the district face the same bill while services

and wages rise more slowly.I advocate reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reducing spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these to climb further. The Alliance briefing highlights consultant spend of $126 million per year across the Council group with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent and an average consultant earning around $200k. Cumulative staff costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation and direct operating expenditure grew 78% between 2013 and 2023. A more disciplined outcome-focused approach is required.I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which is claimed to cost $36 million per year and to emit more carbon than it saves. I also urge freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles as this could save at least $17 million immediately. Additionally I advocate cutting Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local-government function.In proposing targeted savings the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% total) to cap rates at 3% through: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. I live rural and see most rates spent in the city; wages are not rising at the same pace as rates and I question where extra money will come from if current trends continue.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.
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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

#9931

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: Kaipātiki

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 an increase of this magnitude. The proposed 7.9% average rise with about $320 more per household is not affordable for many ratepayers who are already facing elevated living costs. The rise is not matched by commensurate improvements in core services and it undermines confidence in prudent budget management.Key concerns and positions:- I urge the Council to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current payroll and overheads are excessive and streamlining functions should not come at the expense of essential services.- I call for a substantial reduction in consultancy and professional services

spending which has grown well beyond inflation and needs to be capped or redirected to frontline outcomes.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. This programme should be reviewed in favour of initiatives with clearer measurable environmental benefits.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which many ratepayers view as outside the core remit of local government.I note the Council has proposed a 2% allocation for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets due to growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Given the scale of prior expenditures (consultants six-figure salaries and corporate functions) I support adopting the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) cap the rate increase at 3% by cutting costs in the areas listed above.I respectfully request that the Council consider these reductions to lower the rate burden while preserving essential services and progressing accountable governance. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9957

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This rise would equate to roughly $320 for the average household (current average bill $4069) and represents a real drain on households already facing higher living costs. Since 2010 rates have increased by 85% well above inflation and population growth and many households are year-on-year squeezed. The breakdown of the 7.9% increaseâ€2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€illustrates a considerable portion going to ongoing operating pressures rather than direct essential service improvements.I support reducing wasteful Council spending and reforming how

money is allocated. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to expand these lines. The current level of consultant spend payroll and six-figure salaries is disproportionate to core service delivery and to ratepayer interests. A more prudent approach would be to freeze staffing for non-essential roles and target vacant positions for non-replacement which would deliver immediate savings (the back-of-the-envelope figure is at least $17 million).I agree with focusing on core services and reject spending that does not directly contribute to Statutory and essential duties of local government. In particular I support cancelling non-essential programmes that are not core to local government responsibilities. For example the Food Scraps Programme should be reviewed and if necessary discontinued given its cost of $36 million per year and carbon outcomes. I also support reviewing and capping spending on Māori outcomes including Ngā Mātārae where the current allocation has been described as not a direct local-government responsibility.I therefore request that the Council adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap the rate increase at 3 percent via personnel cost reductions limiting consultants renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#9969

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: Kaipātiki

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a substantial program of cost reduction before any higher levy is imposed on Hard-working Auckland households.Key concerns and preferred actions:1) Rate increases: The proposed 7.9% average rise is excessive. The council should aim for a maximum of 3% by reducing wasteful expenditure as outlined below.2) Corporate and backroom spend: The council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A smaller leaner organisation will deliver essential services more efficiently.3) consultants and professional services: The council should halt or markedly

reduce spending on consultancy and professional services then redesign procurement to rely more on internal capability.4) Food Scraps Programme: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.5) Staffing and payroll: Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Māori outcomes spend: Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary and separate sector spend.Supporting context from the Alliance:- The city's spending on consultants totals about $126 million annually; the bulk is spent by the council group. Streamlining roles and consolidating functions will improve efficiency.- Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen faster than inflation in recent years underscoring the need for prudent cost management before increasing rates.- The Alliance's proposed alternative budget demonstrates that a targeted $150 million reduction in new spending could cap rate growth at around 3% while maintaining core services.Additional point: Auckland does not have a revenue problem; it has spending that is out of control. The culture of waste must change to avoid imposing unaffordable costs on ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#9986

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key positions- Oppose the average residential rates rise of at least 7.9% which represents an excessive increase given the real rate of inflation and the Council's own cost drivers.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to continue climbing.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and based on available assessments emits more carbon than it saves.- 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.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.Support for a more fiscally disciplined approach- I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) enabling a cap of roughly 3% for residential rates. This would be achieved by: (1) reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze ($50 million); (2) capping spending on consultants ($50 million); (3) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million); and (4) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).Rationale- Since 2010 rates have increased by 85% outpacing both inflation and population growth. A restrained cost base is essential to restore affordability and ensure delivery of core services.- Current expenditure on consultants six-figure salaries and backroom functions signals room for efficiency before squeezing ratepayers further.I request that this submission be considered in forming the final plan and that the Council pursue the outlined efficiency measures.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

- **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

#9987

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: Kaipātiki

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 outline what I believe should be done to protect ratepayers and deliver essential services more efficiently.I oppose the 7.9% increase and urge council to keep rate rises in line with inflation or lower. The proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household yet the Council has shown persistent growth in spending that far outstrips both inflation and population changes. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have increased by 85% far exceeding inflation (34%) and population growth (22%).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 continuing to grow these items. The current total spending on consultants across the Council group is about $126 million per year with the average consultant earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen far faster than inflation while 18 corporate and business support functions alone consumed hundreds of millions of dollars.I also call for cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves. In addition I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.In terms of programme focus I oppose ongoing spending on Maori-specific outcomes such as Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) at about $10 million per year. Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.Further I urge the Council to stop spending on abstract or non-essential items and concentrate on absolutely required services that ratepayers depend on.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

#10012

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

To Auckland CouncilI am {name redacted} of {address redacted}. I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and in support of redirecting wasteful council spending toward essential services.1. Rates increase and spending reform- The proposed average 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rates rise of 30% since 2022 (well above general inflation). I oppose any increase above inflation and call for a cap near 3% based on the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget.- A substantial reduction is achievable by cutting corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and by

curbing consultancy and professional services expenditures that have grown far faster than inflation.2. Specific reductions and program cancellations- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million per year) on the basis that it emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local government function.3. Allocation of resources- Concentrate spending on essential services that residents rely on dailyâ€rubbish collection and critical asset maintenanceâ€rather than niche projects management roles or politically driven programmes.- Reduce spending on consultants renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to deliver essential services more efficiently and at lower cost.4. Rationale- Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. The current spending trajectory is unsustainable for households and undermines public trust in Council leadership.- The proposed budget should prioritise statutory and essential services with a transparent plan to deliver 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.

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10042

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge Council to pursue meaningful spending restraint before asking ratepayers to fund further growth in costs.Key positions- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The proposed rise is excessive given Auckland Council's spending patterns and the 30% real increase in rates since 2022 (versus 12% overall inflation). A more prudent approach is required that caps rate increases while protecting essential services.- Reduce corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs. Spending on six-figure salaries consultants and back-office functions is excessive

and unsustainable for everyday Aucklanders. There is significant room to streamline operations and reallocate funds to core services.- Cut consultancy and professional services spending. Council's heavy reliance on outsourced expertise should be redirected toward achieving efficiencies and better value-for-money in-house.- Freeze staffing and cut payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately and set a disciplined example for responsible budgeting.Context and rationale- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen by 85% far outstripping inflation and population growth. This trajectory cannot continue without harming household budgets.- The current cost structure shows substantial growth in personnel costs consultants and other expenses outpacing inflation and eroding value from ratepayers.- The Ratepayers' Alliance approach demonstrates a credible pathway to stabilise rates by prioritising statutory and essential services and reducing discretionary spending including consultancy and back-office functions.Additional points- I urge the Council to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget framework which targets a cap at 3% by achieving targeted reductions in payroll and consultant spend renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors.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

#10079

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit herewith to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to advocate for significant reductions in wasteful Council spending. The proposed increase would add about $320 per average household on top of a real rate rise since 2022 of 30 percent while inflation has run higher than Council's stated plan. I urge the Council to rebalance toward essential services and prudent value-for-money governance.Agreed positions (to be included in the submission)- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent.- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council

must cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government role.Rationale and alternatives- Data from the briefing shows spending on consultants and contractors is high ($590 million) and personnel costs are rising faster than inflation. Reducing corporate backroom and consultancy costs would enable a more affordable rates path without compromising essential services.- The proposed 7.9 percent increase is not aligned with the level of growth required for maintainable transparent governance; a targeted reduction approach is warranted.- A Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget illustrates a feasible path: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to around 3% achieved through personnel freezes consultant cap renegotiations and prioritising statutory services.ClosingI request careful consideration of a reduced rates path and stronger cost controls to protect households while maintaining core services and accountability.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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

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

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

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	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

#10122

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed increase would add about $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase in rates since 2022 (55 percent rise in nominal terms would be inaccurate; the briefing notes a 30 percent real increase versus 12 percent inflation). Given the Council's track record this is unaffordable for households while fundamental inefficiencies persist.IAdvocate the following measures to curb waste and stabilise rates:1) Oppose the 7.9% average rise and cap the increase to 3% by cutting spending. The Rates Alliance model proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) with a focus on essential services.2) Reduce corporate and backroom functions

across the Council and CCOs. Personnel and other expenses have risen well above inflation; core savings must come from organisational restructuring and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. Annual spend on consultants is about $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k; renegotiate contracts and reduce reliance on external advisors.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which the Alliance argues emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which the Alliance says could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific expenditure such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' department (about $10 million per year) arguing that this is not a local government core function.Additional points: I support exploring alternative revenue approaches rather than rate hikes including prioritising statutory and essential services and avoiding discretionary grants that do not directly benefit core Auckland residents.I request that my submission be considered in its entirety in the hearings process and that the Council demonstrates transparent prioritisation of essential services and taxpayer-funded programmes.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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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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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

#10127

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to Auckland Council's proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urge a rigorous examination of wasteful council spending.Key concerns and positions:1) Rates increase: I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9 percent. The current average residential bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30 percent well above inflation. A rates increase of this magnitude is unacceptable when it would consume households' budgets just as cost-of-living pressures remain high.2) Expenditure on corporate and backroom functions: The council group's heavy spending on corporate and business support and on personnel

is excessive. There is a need to prioritise frontline services and reduce spend on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.3) Consultancy and professional services: Spending on consultants and contractors is too high and growing. The Council should reduce these costs rather than continuing to expand them.4) Payroll and staffing: Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. A targeted hiring freeze could save at least $17 million immediately and rebalance the organisation toward essential services.5) Maori outcomes funding: Cut Maori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae/Māori outcomes area arguing it is not a core function of local government. Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.Budget alternative and impact:Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap the average residential rates increase at about 3 percent. This would be achieved by: $50 million from personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million from capping consultant spend; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Closing:I request that my submission be considered and that hearings be used to further demonstrate why a significant restraint on rates and a reprioritisation of spending is necessary.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

#10136

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge immediate restraint on wasteful Council spending. The public must not be asked to carry a higher rates burden while non-essential costs continue to rise.1) Rates increase and affordability- Proposed average residential rates increase: 7.9 percent (roughly $320 more per average household). This far exceeds both inflation and household budgets. I support reducing rates increases to align with prudent fiscal management.2) Spending reform and backroom costs- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Systematic cost control is

essential before asking households to pay more.- Cap or cut spend on consultancy and professional services. The current level is excessive and not justified by outcomes.3) Specific program cuts and workforce controls- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme at a cost of $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. Achieving this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe falls outside the proper remit of local government.4) Alternative budgeting approach- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap residential rates increases at roughly 3 percent. This target is achievable through: - $50 million in personnel cost reductions via organisational change and a hiring freeze - $50 million in consultant spend reductions - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million for prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants5) Additional point- Consider reducing non-essential items such as excessive road cone spending as previously promised.I urge the Council to adopt these reductions and deliver rate relief to households while protecting essential services. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#10190

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a accountable review of Council spending to bring rates in line with inflation and population growth while protecting essential services.1) Rate increase and spending discipline- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real rise since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and 85% since the Super City amalgamation. A rates rise above inflation is unacceptable when wasteful spending persists.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional

services rather than continuing to escalate these costs.2) Specific waste-cutting measures- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Redirect focus from discretionary grants to prioritising statutory and essential services.3) Reprioritise and reset programme spending- Reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a function of local government.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services; renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to deliver meaningful savings.4) Alternative budget alignment- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a cap of around 3% on the average rates increase. This aligns the budget with inflation and population growth while preserving essential services.ConclusionGiven the lack of corresponding value in the proposed rise I urge Auckland Council to adopt a disciplined spending plan that trims corporate costs halts the Food Scraps Programme freezes non-essential roles and reduces targeted programmes that are not core local-government responsibilities. This approach will deliver fairer more affordable rates for households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#10192

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9%. For the average household this equates to about $320 extra per year at a time when the real increase in rates since 2022 has already been 30% in 2022 dollars compared with 12% overall consumer price inflation. I urge Council to instead adopt a lower increase and to prioritise core statutory and essential services.Key asks and rationale- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current expenditure on personnel six-figure salaries and back-office functions appears excessive and disproportionate to service delivery outcomes.- Curb consultancy and professional

services spend. Reducing consultants and outsourcing aligns with prudent financial management and would free funds for essential services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies. A freeze could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe falls outside the proper remit of local government.Rate plan alternativeI support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) allowing an average residential rate increase of around 3%. This should be achieved through:- $50 million from personnel cost reductions via organisational changes and a hiring freeze.- $50 million from capping consultancy spending.- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingThank you for considering a more restrained approach to rate increases and wasteful spending. I respectfully urge formal consideration of the above measures to protect household affordability and ensure funds are directed to essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#10238

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates rise is inconsistent with the cost-of-living pressures families are facing and with historical Council spending patterns. I rely on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing which shows that a targeted reduction in wasteful and non-core costs can align rates with inflation and essential services.1) Expenditure and efficiency- The Council should reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs to curb overhead growth.- Spending on consultancy and professional services should be restrained rather than expanded; cutting these costs is a straightforward policy-aligned way to protect ratepayers.- I

urge a freeze on staffing and a pause on hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Personnel costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation; prioritising core statutory functions over discretionary programmes is essential.2) Specific programmes and spending- The Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year and emitting more carbon than it saves should be cancelled. A more practical local-waste approach would better serve households without unnecessary fuel use or plastic waste.- Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) department amounts to about $10 million per year. I believe these are not compulsory local government duties and should be reassessed and reallocated to essential services.3) Budget stance- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3 percent. This is achievable through a mix of personnel controls cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services.The cost of living crisis and rising petrol prices affect every household. Wasteful programmes and bloated backroom costs undermine public trust and the value of local democracy. I urge the Council to adopt smarter savings reassure ratepayers and deliver essential services efficiently.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#10269

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge careful scrutiny of wasteful Council spending before any rise is approved. The current average rates bill is $4069 and rates have risen 85% since the 2010 amalgamation far outstripping both inflation and population growth. A lower more targeted approach is required.I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting the spend on consultancy and professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance demonstrates that substantial savings are achievable through smarter organisational design and vendor consolidation. Specifically

I back:- Reducing headcount and freezing non-essential vacancies to save at least $17 million immediately.- Reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze where roles are not essential.- Cutting consultancy and professional services and capping external contracting at a level that reflects core needs rather than discretionary expansion.- Cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in Alliance estimates emits more carbon than it saves.- Substantial reductions in Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as it falls outside the primary responsibilities of local government.I also urge the Council to reallocate funds toward statutory and essential services rather than discretionary grants. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen well ahead of inflation; a disciplined review of all non-core functions is overdue. The overall aim should be to cap rate increases by prioritising core services improving procurement discipline and avoiding new spending that does not clearly sustain Aucklanders' essential needs.As part of this submission I am prepared to provide evidence at hearings if required; however I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

#10270

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: Kaipātiki

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 support the following positions to improve value for ratepayers:- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council needs to reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continue to increase these expenditure items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which 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 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.Additional concerns and observations:The current trajectory of wasteful expenditure is evident in oversized back office structures extensive consultant use and discretionary programmes that do not directly deliver essential services to ratepayers. The observed pattern of operational spending growth far outpacing inflation and population growth raises serious questions about prioritisation and accountability. I note specific examples such as the ongoing deployment of roadworks with excessive traffic management staffing large fleets of underutilised buses and trains and multiple staff deployments for arborist tasks that appear inefficient. These examples illustrate the broader point that value-for-money must be the guiding principle in all spending decisions.I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget framework prioritising core statutory and essential services and implementing concrete savings:- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap) to bring the average rate increase closer to sustainable levels.- Target reductions: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze; $50 million from capped consultancy spend; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Closing:I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#10283

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: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a reset of Council spending to reflect value for ratepayers.Key points- The current trajectory is unsustainable: the proposed 7.9% increase would add about $320 to the average household bill on top of rates which have risen 85% since 2010 far exceeding both inflation and population growth. A more targeted approach is required.- I support reducing wasteful spending and restructuring backroom functions. The Council and CCOs should cut corporate and backroom office costs which are not delivering commensurate public value.- I urge a substantial reduction in

consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants is excessive and should be capped with a clear plan to bring in-house capabilities where appropriate.- Cancel wasteful programmes: the Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. It should be terminated.- Reduce Māori-specific spend: cut the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government remit.- Alternative budgeting path: adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new spending by $150 million (about 2%) enabling an average rate increase closer to 3%. This would come from: a) freezing or reducing non-essential payroll costs b) capping consultant spend c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors d) prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional concernsAs a resident in rural north-west Auckland I question the allocation of funds to central rail infrastructure when maintenance in my area is lacking. There is evident wastage in both Auckland Council and Auckland Transport including payroll and contracted positions that do not deliver visible local benefits. I oppose ongoing expansion of non-essential programmes at the expense of essential services.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#10337

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Kaipātiki

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and advocate for substantial restraint on non-critical discretionary spending. The current trajectory of rates increases far outpaces inflation and population growth and a plan to cap rates rises is necessary to protect households.Key concerns and recommendations:- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner corporate footprint will lower operating costs and reduce the need for ratepayer-funded increases.- Reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items. The

substantial outsourcing of expertise represents a frequent leakage from ratepayer funds that could be redirected to essential services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to core council services with clearer environmental and community benefits.- 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.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government. Reallocate to essential statutory services.I support the Council's focus on essential services and responsible budgeting. To achieve an average rates increase closer to inflation I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%); with concrete steps including a hiring freeze capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.In addition to the above I urge transparent reporting of any savings and a public accounting of how redirected funds will improve key services for residents across Auckland.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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	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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