Annual Plan 2026/2027

Written Feedback

Albert-Eden Local Board

Volume 4

April 2026

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

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6549

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: Albert-Eden

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?

Support all

Tell us why

N/A

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6550

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?
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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

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Annual Plan 2026-2027

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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N/A

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

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Support most

Tell us why

N/A

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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

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N/A

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

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Annual Plan 2026-2027

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Do not support any

Tell us why

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

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Question 3: Local board priorities

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Do not support most

Tell us why

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Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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Question 4: Other feedback

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Annual Plan 2026-2027

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

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

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

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

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

	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6665

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

N/A

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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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)

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6666

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

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?

Support most

Tell us why

N/A

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6887

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a formal respectful manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9%. Based on the Alliance briefing this would amount to roughly $320 more per average household while real rate increases since 2022 have already reached about 30% in 2022 dollars far outstripping cumulative inflation.I note the proposed 7.9% rise is structured as 2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets tied to growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Given that rates have risen by 85% since the 2010 Super City amalgamation I urge Council to prioritise efficiency and restraint before approving further increases that outpace inflation and population growth.From the Alliance briefing

I support the following positions:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by 7.9% and seek a reduction in overall expenditure to cap rates growth at or near 3%.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting this is not a core local government function.Additional concern: there appears to be excessive reliance on consultants with the perception of waste in backroom functions and project commissioning.I propose the Council implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) achieving a 3% cap on rates increases through targeted savings in personnel costs consultants contracts and essential services prioritised 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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- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6923

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

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 am submitting to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge a program of trimming wasteful Council spending. My submission reflects the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing and I speak as a concerned ratepayer.1) Rates and revenue priorities- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates rise. The increase is well above inflation and well beyond the growth in population with a real increase since 2022 of about 30% and a current average bill of $4069. The proposed 7.9% split includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs; this should be examined for efficiency and necessity.2) Wasteful spending and cost-cutting measures- Reduce expenditure on corporate

and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a traditional local government responsibility.3) Budget framing and alternative path- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the rates increase at about 3%. This would align with prudent stewardship of public funds and focus on essential services.4) Service quality and local concerns- In addition to above I note concerns about the condition of local roads and street cleanliness; a focus on core services should not be overshadowed by discretionary spend. Our ratepayer community expects value for money and practical results.ClosingI 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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Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6928

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

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

1) Rates and affordability- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. This represents a substantial real burden on households especially given that rates rises since 2022 have already expressed a 30% real increase (with 12% overall inflation in that period).2) Expenditure reform and waste reduction- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The spend on consultancy and professional services should be reduced rather than allowed to continue rising.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cancel the

Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.3) Budgetary reallocation and the alternative budget- Implement the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases achievable through targeted savings).- Prioritise essential statutory services over discretionary grants; renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors; and pursue organisational changes that deliver real savings.4) Personal impact and fairness- I am unemployed and a rates rise of over 17% this year is harming my family. Data show the need for a rate path that aligns with inflation and delivers value for money.Additional point- Stop the practice of using property 'RV' values derived from desk assessments; a fair valuation must reflect on-the-ground reality.ClosingI request that the Council consider meaningful expenditure reductions outlined above to cap the rate rise and protect households from unnecessary cost pressures. 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6938

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

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 increase of 7.9% and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending so rates remain affordable for households.Key points1) The proposed 7.9% rise translates to about $320 for the average home on top of a 30% real increase since 2022. I support reducing rates growth to at or near inflation and I note Council's own funding pressures should be addressed through better fiscal discipline rather than higher bills for residents.2) The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner governance and support structure will help keep essential services funded without

levelling extra costs onto ratepayers.3) Cutting consultancy and professional services is essential. Reducing reliance on external advisers and contractors can save significant funds and improve accountability for decisions.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to core statutory services that residents rely on.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.I support the Council's Alternative Budget approach to cap average residential rates increases at about 3% by reducing new spending by $150 million (2%) including: $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.ClosingI 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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(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6946

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: Albert-Eden

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 position to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to urgently review wasteful Council spending to protect households.Key concerns and requests:1) Rates increase: The proposed average residential rates rise of 7.9% is excessive especially when real increases since 2022 have reached about 30% in 2022 dollars against 12% consumer inflation. I oppose an increase above inflation and support pursuing a targeted lower increase aligned with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget.2) Spending reductions: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council

and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation and personnel costs including six-figure salaries have risen sharply. A leaner organisational structure is essential.3) Consultants and professional services: The Council should reduce spend on consultants and professional services rather than continue to grow these items. The current level undermines value for ratepayers and suppresses potential savings from internal capability.4) Food Scraps Programme: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million/year and emits more carbon than it saves. This aligns with a more prudent outcome-focused use of ratepayer funds.5) Staffing and payroll: Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Māori outcomes funding: Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government role. Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.7) Alternative budget: I support the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rate rise at about 3% through personnel cost reductions caps on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services.Additional point: Wayne Brown campaigned on cost cuts; this has not occurred to date which reinforces the need for demonstrable cost containment.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6960

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

1) Position on rates and budgeting- I oppose the average residential rates increase of at least 7.9%. Living costs in Auckland are already high and rates increases should not outpace inflation or household budgets.- The Council's proposed 7.9% rise comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets tied to growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget shows a path to cap the increase at around 3% by cutting wasteful spending.2) Spending reductions and structural changes- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Spend on consultancy and

professional services should be reduced rather than increased.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Cut Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a core local government function.- Implement the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping rates increases at about 3%.3) Additional points and expectations- Living in Auckland is expensive enough; stop wasteful spending and expensive external consulting that delivers delayed advice. Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Direct operating and personnel costs have risen well above inflation in recent years; a focus on organisational reform and vendor consolidation is warranted.ClosingI request to speak at hearings only if allowed 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
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#6994

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: Albert-Eden

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 rates rise- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% is excessive and out of step with inflation and household affordability. The average bill would rise by about $320 on a current average of $4069 reflecting a real increase well above living cost growth. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen by 85% outpacing inflation (34%) and population growth (22%).2. Spending reductions to fund relief- The Council must curb wasteful spending in corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce consultancy and professional services. Annual consultancy spends total $126 million across the Council group with the average

consultant earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen far faster than inflation while payroll remains a major cost driver.3. Specific policy amendments- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme: it costs $36 million per year and on current evidence emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing/hiring: halt non-essential recruitment or introduce a temporary freeze for vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spend: reduce Ngā Mātārae ('Māori outcomes') funding approximately $10 million per year on the basis that this is not a core local government function.4. Alternative budget alignment- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance approach to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) capping the rate rise to around 3% by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants while addressing personnel consultancy and vendor costs.ClosingI request that Council consider these measures to restore affordability and improve efficiency and value for money 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):

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7020

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I write to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a significant reduction in wasteful Council spending and backroom costs. The current average rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022; the real increase since 2022 is 30% (in 2022 dollars) well above cumulative inflation of 12%. The proposed 7.9% increase comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of rise is not affordable for ratepayers and it fails to align with a prudent reallocation of resources.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom

office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items. In addition I urge the Council to cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. A freeze on staffing and/or a reduction in payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles would deliver immediate savings; the Alliance estimates this could save at least $17 million right away.I also strongly oppose continuing or expanding Maori-specific expenditure on Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) cited as about $10 million per year as this is not a function of local government. Redirecting these funds toward essential services would better serve all ratepayers.To achieve a more affordable rates outcome I urge adopting the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average residential rates increase at about 3%. This would be achieved through: $50 million by reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million by capping spending on consultants; $30 million through contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7028

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

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

Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing this rise would amount to about $320 per average household on top of a real increase of 30% since 2022 and well above inflation. I request the Council to ground any rate decisions in affordability and value for ratepayers.I support the following positions:1) Oppose the 7.9% average increase and seek a cap at or near 3% by reducing new and existing expenditure.2) The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) The Council should reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.4) Cancel the Food Scraps

Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government role.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget I urge a reduction in new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at about 3% allocating savings as follows:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze- $50 million from capping consultancy spending- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsThese measures are necessary to restore fairness to ratepayers and to ensure Council spending aligns with core public responsibilities rather than discretionary programmes.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7043

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

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 in a personal and sincere capacity as a ratepayer who is concerned by the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and the level of wasteful spending that accompanies it.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The current average residential rates bill is already $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase of about 30 percent since 2022 well beyond general inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent rise composed of 2 percent for maintaining existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets to accommodate growth and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs represents a disproportionate burden on households.The Council should

reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. Auckland spends roughly $126 million per year on consultants with the average consultant earning about $200k. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen far faster than inflation while essential services risk being crowded out by discretionary spending.I support the following measures to bring rates rises back toward reasonable levels and to prioritise essential services:- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a step that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap and reduce spending on consultants and professional services by at least $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save a further $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.I also oppose ongoing spending on the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to independent assessment emits more carbon than it saves. I support reducing or reprogramming Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae as this is not a core local government function.Finally I note that public confidence would improve if leadership aligned with campaign promises and financial prudence. Wayne Brown should either honour his campaign commitments or consider resignation.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7054

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: Albert-Eden

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 this ongoing rate path far outstrips both inflation and population growth and will place an undue burden on households. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30% in real terms (vs. 12% overall inflation). The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”yet these justifications do not address core efficiency opportunities.I urge the Council to reduce wasteful expenditure and align rate funding with essential services. The Alliance's proposed alternative budget demonstrates that a $150 million reduction in

new spending (about 2%) could cap the rate rise at around 3%. Specifically I support:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles which could save $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation at $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants at $20 million.In addition I request cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme estimated at $36 million per year which has not proven to deliver net emissions savings. I also support freezing staffing and not filling vacant non-essential roles as this would further reduce payroll costs by at least $17 million immediately. A reduction in Māori-specific spendingâ€”such as the $10 million per year on the Ngā Mātārae departmentâ€”should be considered given local government's core responsibilities and the need to focus on statutory duties.These measures would deliver tangible savings while preserving essential services. The Council should not normalise annual rate increases well above inflation; instead it should pursue disciplined financial stewardship and reduce backroom and consultancy spend while prioritising the core priorities of Auckland residents.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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7055,339154,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit in a personal and sincere tone to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending.I note that the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of an already high bill (current average $4069). Since 2022 rates have risen by around 30% in real terms while cumulative inflation sits near 12%. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets to support growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This is unaffordable for households especially as many Aucklanders are already struggling.I urge the Council to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget reducing new spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate increase at about 3% 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 millionKey spending items must be scrutinised. The Council's expenditure on consultants is excessiveâ€”about $126 million per year across the Council group with the Auckland Council parent absorbing a large share. Direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation and personnel costs have risen sharply including six-figure salaries across staff. To rein in costs I support reducing corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and limiting spend on consultancy and professional services.I also oppose discretionary or non-essential programmes funded by ratepayers. The $36 million per year Food Scraps Programme should be canceled if it is not delivering net savings. I oppose paying for a Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) at about $10 million per year arguing that this is not a core local-government role.People in Auckland are already struggling; this is a very bad time to be increasing rates.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7080

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: Albert-Eden

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 Alliance briefing this would raise the average bill by about $320 per household while real rate increases since 2022 have already reached 30% in 2022 dollars well ahead of cumulative inflation. I urge the Council to align rate increases with inflation and focus on reducing wasteful expenditure.Key points1) Expenditure reduction to cap rates at 3%. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new spending by $150 million (a 2% overall reduction) to keep average residential rates to about 3% and protect households. This requires: a) freezing non-essential staffing and reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant roles; b) capping consultancy and

professional services; c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; d) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.2) Cut back on backroom and consultant costs. Current consultant spending stands at about $126 million annually across the Council group with average consultants earning about $200k. Direct operating expenditure has risen 78% from 2013 to 2023 far exceeding inflation. A reduction in personnel costs and external consultancy is essential.3) Cancel non-core programmes including Food Scraps. The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves; its continuation is not justified when pursuing value for ratepayers.4) Freeze staffing and cap payroll. Freezing vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately and reduce ongoing payroll growth addressing concerns about high salary spend within the Council and CCOs.5) Reconsider Māori-specific spending. The Alliance notes around $10 million per year on the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) function which in the submitter's view is not a core local-government mandate and should be re-evaluated.Additional pointStick to election promises. The Supercity was formed to save ratepayers; continuing to escalate costs undermines that commitment.ClosingI request the opportunity to present my submission at hearings. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7104

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: Albert-Eden

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 CouncilWe {name redacted} of {address redacted} oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and request substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending. The current rate pressures are significant: the average residential bill is $4069 and the proposed increase would add roughly $320 per household while real increases since 2022 amount to about 30% in the face of only 12% inflation. We urge a reassessment focused on essential services and value for money.1) Our position:- We oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and seek reductions to bring increases in line with or below inflation not at historical highs.- Please reduce

expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs; streamline management layers and reporting.- Likewise reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services; rather prioritise in-house capability and vendor consolidation where appropriate.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme: it 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 could save at least $17 million at once.- Immediately cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae): this is not a core local government function.2) Additional considerations- The Council's spending growth in payroll and external contracts has outpaced inflation; rebalancing this would help cap rate increases and protect households.- The proposed budget should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and pursue contract renegotiations to achieve savings of tens of millions.- A transparent evidence-based review of all major spend items is essential before approving higher rates. Show it to us.3) We would like to speak to our submission.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7107

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and support a plan to reduce wasteful council spending while protecting essential services.Position and rationale1. Oppose the 7.9% rate rise. The proposed increase amounts to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (versus 12% cumulative inflation). Rates have risen 85% since the 2010 Super City amalgamation far exceeding inflation and population growth. A higher-than-inflation increase places an undue burden on households.2. Reduce corporate and backroom costs. The Alliance highlights $126 million per year in consultant spend

across the Council group including $60 million by the council parent with average consultants earning around $200k. I support cutting these discretionary costs to lower the rates burden.3. Curb consultancy and professional services. The ongoing rise in external contracts and professional services should slow not continue to climb. A responsible budget would prioritise in-house capability and renegotiate or consolidate external arrangements.4. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year with questionable carbon savings this programme should be halted to reallocate funds to essential services.5. Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles and freezing payroll would yield immediate savingsâ€”potentially at least $17 millionâ€”without compromising core services.6. Trim Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year spent on Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local-government function. Reallocating these funds to statutory and essential services would better reflect government responsibility at the local level.7. Valuation-based rates reform. Stop valuation-based calculations in favour of a fairer possibly fixed-fee approach to ensure ratepayers are not overburdened by fluctuating valuations.ClosingI request that Auckland Council considers these reductions to cap the rates increase and protect essential services while curbing wasteful expenditure.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7109

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: Albert-Eden

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 oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful council spending. The council must live within inflation-adjusted norms and prioritise essential services over discretionary or backroom spending.Key concerns and positions1) Oppose the 7.9% rates rise. The increase is effectively a real and unaffordable burden on households with a current average rates bill of $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of 30% (compared with 12% cumulative inflation). The breakdown of this riseâ€”2% for existing assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”demands

scrutiny and restraint.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions. There is a clear need to trim the cost of consultants and professional services which total $126 million per year across the Council group ($60 million by the Auckland Council parent) and payees average about $200k. Cut discretionary corporate and business support spending including staff and contractor costs to save funds for essential services.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year this programme is costly and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves; funding should be redirected to core council duties with proven impact.4) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles and a pause on non-critical recruitment would deliver immediate savings (at least $17 million right away).5) Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a local government core function. Funding should be redirected to statutory and essential services.6) Alternative Budget approach. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3% through: a) $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and freezes; b) $50 million from consultants; c) $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; d) $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. Additionally cut the council workforce to 40% of its current size and implement accountability.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7134

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

My position is that the average residential rates increase of 7.9% is excessive and that to protect households Council must reduce wasteful expenditure and curb costly backroom and consultancy costs.Key concerns1) Rates affordability and fairness: The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household raising the current average bill to around $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% in real terms far outstripping both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). Rates increases must be aligned with inflation not treated as a revenue growth target.2) Spending reform before higher bills: The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate

and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cut consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these costs. The current pattern of high external contracting and six-figure salaries for many staff is unsustainable and inconsistent with ratepayer interests.3) Specific program and cost-cutting measures: I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles as this could save at least $17 million immediately. Additionally I oppose ongoing high spend on Māori-specific initiatives such as the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) listed at roughly $10 million per year unless clear statutory responsibilities justify such funding.Financial framework and alternativesThe Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget shows a feasible path to cap the rate rise at around 3% by reducing new spending by about $150 million (2%) through: limiting personnel costs and hiring capping consultant spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. This aligns with the expectation that cost containment should precede rate increases.Additional contextSince the Super City formation cost pressures have grown with my own rates rising 15.9% in F'25 and 12.9% in F'26. A prudent restructuring approachâ€”reducing consultants realigning payroll and focusing on essential servicesâ€”will better reflect ratepayer realities.I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7178

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed rise approximately $320 for the average household is not affordable when rates have risen 30 percent in real terms since 2022 while inflation has surged by 12 percent. The breakdown shows 4.4 percent of the increase going to CRL operating costs with only modest relief available from efficiencies elsewhere.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance positions to:1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to rise.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 a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) given concerns about the appropriate role of local government.Additionally I request tighter control and oversight for infrastructure repairs and maintenance ensuring funds deliver tangible benefits to residents rather than self-aggrandizement. Public money is finite; expenditure must reflect prudent citizen-focused priorities and ethical decision-making for the city's long-term health.I urge the Council to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach prioritising essential services and statutory duties and pursuing aggressive cost-reduction measures across personnel consultancy and discretionary programmes. By capping new spending and redirecting funds to core services the average rates increase can be kept to a more sustainable level.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7194

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a constructive solution-focused manner to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to urge focused reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. The current average residential bill is approximately $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30 percent in real terms. An increase above inflation is not tenable for households.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. This is a clear area where savings can be made without compromising essential services.- Reduce spending on consultancy and

professional services. The current level of external advice and contracting is excessive and should be capped and better targeted.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and on balance emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.Alternative budget approachSupport the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3 percent. This would be achieved through personnel cost reductions a hiring freeze for non-essential roles capped consultant spend contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional contextDirect operating expenditure has grown well ahead of inflation in recent years and personnel costs dominate the payroll. A targeted disciplined approach to spendingâ€”focusing on essential services and lean backroom operationsâ€”will protect households from unnecessary rate shocks.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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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7195

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and request careful consideration of spending reductions to protect households from excessive cost-of-living pressures.Key facts support a slower path. The proposed 7.9% increase comprises 2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2022 rates have effectively risen 30% in real terms far exceeding cumulative inflation (about 12%). The Council should align to a more prudent path that respects households' budgets while delivering essential services.A major efficiency opportunity lies in reducing wasteful expenditure. Council spending on consultants totals about

$126 million annually across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200k. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have grown well beyond inflation and the payroll totals about $1.3 billion. Cutting back on consultancy and corporate/backroom functions can lower rates without eroding essential services.In addition the Council should reassess discretionary programmes and non-core activities. The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and per independent assessments emits more carbon than it saves. I also oppose continuing to fund the Maori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department at roughly $10 million per year as this is not a core local government responsibility.A practical alternative budget would cap average residential rate increases at around 3% by delivering a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) focusing on:- freezing or reducing payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles (potential savings of at least $17 million)- reducing spending on consultants and professional services by $50 million- renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors for $30 million- prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).I request that the Council prioritise these efficiency measures to avoid higher rates and preserve essential services for 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:

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7219

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: Albert-Eden

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 which would equate to about $320 for the average household on top of significant prior growth.The rate rise is not affordable when viewed against inflation and population growth. Since 2010 the rates burden has risen by 85% far above cumulative inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). The 7.9% increase includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. This compounds concerns that operating and backroom costs are outpacing real needs. 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 increase these items.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at about 3% by:- Freezing hiring and reducing payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Capping spending on consultants to save $50 million.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.I oppose programmes that add to costs without clear verifiable benefits. Specifically:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and emitting more carbon than it saves.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.I ask that the Council recognise wasteful spending as a barrier to fair affordable rates and adopt prioritised essential services funded through prudent 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:

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7251

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: Albert-Eden

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 constructive solutionâ€‘focused submission to oppose the proposed average 7.9% residential rates increase and to outline cost-saving measures to protect essential services.1. Position: oppose the 7.9% rate rise. The proposed increase is not affordable for households facing building and living cost pressures. The total rates bill has risen 30% in real terms since 2022 far exceeding cumulative inflation. A 7.9% average rise should be reconsidered in favour of targeted savings and efficiencies.2. Wasteful spend and reform priorities. The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb

consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants and six-figure salaries plus the sizeable payroll and other costs have grown disproportionately since 2010. Direct operating expenditure has outpaced inflation and there is room to redirect funds toward core services.3. Specific savings measures. I support the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) which would cap rates increases at around 3%:- Freeze non-essential recruitment and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to achieve savings.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.4. Program reductions. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme at $36 million per year which is said to emit more carbon than it saves. This aligns with a focus on cost control and environmental initiatives with proven net benefit.5. Sectoral spend: Māori outcomes. The proposed $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) programme is a local-government function with limited direct mandating authority. Redirect funds toward essential services and efficiency gains.6. Additional point. Plan for fuel disruption risks. If services like rubbish collection cannot be maintained consider a temporary rates adjustment to reflect service continuity challenges and ensure essential services are preserved.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7273

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates rise by at least 7.9% and request that Council reduce non-essential expenditure to limit rate increases. The current rate burden is already substantial: the average residential bill sits around $4069 with real increases since 2022 amounting to about 30%. A 7.9% uplift adds further pressure on households at a time when inflation remains stubborn. The Council's own cost drivers show that a large portion of the rise is tied to operating the CRL and ongoing asset maintenance not only to essential services.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council

and CCOs and to curb consultancy and professional services. Council spending on consultants is about $126 million per year with the average consultant earning around $200000. Direct operating expenditure has risen well ahead of inflation and payroll costs are a major component of the ratepayer bill. Freezing vacancies and reducing payroll costs by not filling non-essential roles would deliver immediate savingsâ€”an estimate of at least $17 million saved right away.I also call for cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in the Alliance view emits more carbon than it saves. Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants is prudent and I urge renegotiation of contracts and vendor consolidation to capture further efficiencies.I am concerned about the level of Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should focus on core services with sensitive funding decisions guided by what is necessary and accountable to ratepayers.I have always objected to the Council cost-plus mentality and have sought efficiencies in business. I do not wish to speak at a hearing.I request consideration of the following alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to about 3% through personnel freezes limiting consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7275,338934,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and a 7.9% rise would add roughly $320 for the average household. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85%â€”well above inflation and population growthâ€”and I am concerned the plan relies on ongoing cost growth rather than prudent spending restraint.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position that the Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. In addition there is a clear need to curb consultancy and professional services spending which the Alliance identifies as unsustainably rising. The proposed 2% for maintaining assets and 1.5% for new assets plus 4.4% for CRL operating costs risks masking a broader overhang of discretionary spend that should be prioritised and tightened.Specific measures I urge include:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which the Alliance suggests could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.The Council should also implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the rate rise at around 3%. This includes reductions in personnel costs caps on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I request a respectful consideration of these savings noting that wasteful and growth-focused spending should not be funded by households already facing significant cost pressures. By restoring fiscal discipline Auckland can protect core services and keep rates increases in line with or below inflation.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7289,338920,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and since 2022 rates have risen by about 30 percent in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. I believe a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending is essential before any rate increases are considered.I agree with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position that the Council needs to:- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than increasing these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emissions more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or cut payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.I also advocate for the Council to implement a more user-pay approach for garbage and recycling services aligning residential charges more closely with actual costs as is common in business waste arrangements. The broader principle should be returning to basics: budget for core statutory duties not discretionary programmes that exceed community needs. Local boards should have greater input into budgets relevant to their populations and consideration should be given to splitting the Coast and Bays board to reflect distinct needs of Orewa/Silverdale versus Albany.Based on the proposed savings I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget framework to cap rate increases focusing on reducing personnel costs capping consultancy spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7317,338892,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,My position reflects the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing and aligns with a need to prioritise essential services while curbing excessive back-office costs.1) Rates increase and overall spending- I oppose the 7.9% rise as excessive especially given the real increase in rates since 2022 (approximately 30% in 2022 dollars vs. 12% cumulative inflation). The proposed allocation includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% to maintain existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. A reduction in non-essential expenditure is necessary to avoid rate spikes above inflation.2) Wasteful spending and efficiency- The Council should reduce spend on personnel costs consultants and six-figure salaries. Total payroll and consultancies are a major driver of cost growth; cutting non-essential roles and capping consultancy spend would help deliver a more modest rate rise.- The Council must cut spend on consultants and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. Reducing six-figure back-office and corporate functions across the Council and CCOs is essential to align costs with actual service delivery needs.3) Specific spending reductions- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (cost â‰ˆ$36 million/year) due to its carbon outcomes not justifying the spend.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could yield substantial immediate savings (at least $17 million).- Reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a core local-government function.4) Budget alternative- A targeted $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) would cap the average residential rates increase at about 3%. This can be achieved by: $50 million saving from personnel costs $50 million from consulting $30 million from contract

renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional notes- There is concern about how consents are administered and regulatory processes delaying development which increases costs for ratepayers. These processes should be streamlined to support economic activity and efficient service delivery.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7328,338880,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,The Alliance's briefing shows that the current plan concentrates costs in three areas: CRL operating costs (4.4%) new assets (1.5%) and asset maintenance (2%). The result is a substantial rate pressure on households while real (2022-dollar) rates have risen by about 30% since 2022 against only 12% inflation. This is unsustainable for households and inconsistent with prudent stewardship of ratepayer funds.I support the following positions:- Oppose the 7.9% average increase; seek reductions aligned with managing demand and inflation aiming for far more disciplined growth.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Curb consultancy and professional services spending rather than permitting continual growth in these areas.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and based on the Alliance material emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a move that would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) noting this is not a core local government function.The Alliance's alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a cap of roughly 3% for residential rates. This includes: $50 million through personnel cost controls and a hiring freeze $50 million by capping consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants. I urge the Council to adopt these or comparable measures to protect households while maintaining essential services.I request that this submission be considered in hearings and that I be afforded the opportunity to speak if appropriate.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7405,338798,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing the real value of rate rises has far outstripped inflation and population growth since the Super City amalgamation. The proposed 7.9% increase would add about $320 to the average household bill on top of a current average of $4069 while the real increase since 2022 stands at around 30%.I support concrete reductions in spending before any rate rise is approved including:- Reducing Council and CCO spending on corporate and backroom functions.- Cutting consultancy and professional services spend rather than permitting further growth.- Cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freezing staffing or cutting payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cutting Maori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' programme which amounts to about $10 million per year as this is not a core local government function.The Council should adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget to cap

the rate rise at 3% by reducing new spending by $150 million. This would be achieved through: a $50 million reduction in personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze; a $50 million cap on consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In summary I urge the Council to align spending with essential services reject a 7.9% average rate hike and implement meaningful cuts to wasteful spend before any rate increase is approved.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7418,338785,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge Council to pursue significant expenditure reductions before any further rate rises are approved.Key points- The proposed 7.9% average residential increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real growth in rates since 2022 of 30% (in 2022 dollars) against 12% cumulative inflation. Given this divergence a lower increase is warranted.- A substantial portion of the rise is driven by operating costs for the CRL (4.4%) asset maintenance (2%) and growth-related assets (1.5%). In the face of these drivers reducing non-essential spending should be prioritised over higher inflation-beating rate rises.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a 2% reduction in new Council spending to cap the increase at around 3% funded by: reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and hiring freezes ($50m) capping consultant spend ($50m) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30m) and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants ($20m). This approach aligns with a prudent evidence-based cost-control framework.- Evidence points to wasteful expenditure: consultants and contractors cost $590 million payroll is $1.3 billion and 18 corporate and business support functions cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure. These areas offer tangible opportunities for savings without compromising core services.- Specific reform measures supported by this submission include freezing non-essential new hires reducing payroll costs and cancelling non-essential programmes such as the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves). I also support removing Māori-focused spend such as the Ngā Mātārae/'Māori Outcomes' programme of about $10 million per year consistent with the view that such responsibilities do not fall within local government core duties.- Additional operational measure: consider removing bus routes with fewer than 10 passengers per trip to reallocate funds to essential services.ConclusionI request Council to prioritise expenditure reductions and to reconsider the rate rise in favour of a lower sustainable level aligned with responsible stewardship of ratepayer funds. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7448,338753,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to prioritise responsible budgeting and restraint on backroom and consultancy costs.Key reasons- The 7.9% increase translates to about $320 extra for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen far faster than inflation with a real increase of around 30% since 2022 and substantial growth in operational and asset costs. It is essential to align rate rises with essential services only.- There is clear evidence

of excessive external spending. Council and CCOs spend heavily on consultants and contractors (about $126 million annually across the group; the Auckland Council parent accounts for roughly $60 million) while payroll costs and other expenses have risen well above inflation. Reducing this wasteful spend is a prudent first step.- The proposed plan includes substantial costs for CRL operating expenses and expansion across assets. A reduction in non-core or discretionary costs would help keep rates affordable for households and businesses while still delivering essential services.Agreed positions and actions- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- Reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reducing spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: cut new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates rise at around 3% by prioritising essential services renegotiating contracts and reducing vendor duplication.Additional points:We must recognise ratepayers are not bottomless money-pits we have to operate within very tight budgets; being a property owner does not imply wealth. Greater transparency on how funds are allocated and a focus on efficiency will improve trust and compliance.Closing:I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7476,338725,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,Key points- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent which equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and a cumulative inflation of around 12 percent. This level of uplift is unaffordable for many ratepayers and out of step with a Council that claims to manage operating costs efficiently.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Current spending on consultants and related personnel costs are excessive with consultancy about $126 million per year across the Council group and high average consultant pay alongside substantial payroll and six-figure salaries. A more focused leaner organisation would better protect essential services.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and currently emits more carbon than it saves. Resources from this programme could be redirected to core services that directly benefit ratepayers and the environment without unnecessary cost burdens.- The Council should 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 spend that does not align with core council responsibilities.Alternative budgeting perspective- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance suggests that reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) could cap the average residential rates increase at around 3 percent. This would be achieved by: reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze capping consulting spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that my submission be considered in full and that the Council pursue a prudent value-for-money approach to budgeting prioritising essential services and ratepayer affordability.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,

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7485,338716,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase in the 2026/27 annual plan and to urge a concrete programme to reduce wasteful council spending.I oppose the proposed 7.9 percent increase. The latest figures show an average residential rates bill of about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent against 12 percent cumulative inflation. The breakdown of the 7.9% rise includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs and 2% for maintaining existing assets plus 1.5% for new assets as the city grows. At a time when household costsâ€”petrol food and other essential expensesâ€”are rising an above-inflation rates increase is not appropriate.To achieve a more affordable rate path I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rates rise to about 3 percent. Specific savings I endorse include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze on non-essential roles delivering about $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save about $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants providing about $20 million.These measures align with concerns about growing payroll and external contracting. Total staff costs and other expenses have risen well beyond inflation in recent years; a freeze or prudent reductions would help keep rates affordable while protecting essential services.I also support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and based on available information emits more carbon than it saves. This aligns with the need to reallocate scarce funds to essential services and avoid wasteful programmes.Finally freezing staffing and not hiring for vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately contributing to a more sustainable and affordable rate outcome.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,
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7510,338691,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. Based on current figures this would add around $320 per household on an average bill of $4069. In real terms rates have risen by 30 percent since 2012 far outpacing cumulative inflation. The current balance of the increaseâ€”2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”fails to justify continued growth in spending when core services and essential functions can be preserved with smarter prioritisation.I support a substantial reduction in wasteful and non-core spending to achieve a more affordable rates path. Specifically the Council should:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing vacancies and avoiding non-essential hires which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services and implement vendor consolidation.- Re-negotiate contracts and pursue efficiency measures across the Council and CCOs to align with essential statutory services over discretionary programs.- Cut Maori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year directed to Ngā Mātārae on the basis that this is not a function of local government.I note the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce overall non-essential spending by about $150 million (roughly 2%) to cap rates rises at around 3% through targeted reductions in personnel consultants contracts and broader discretionary spending. This approach aligns with delivering essential services while easing pressure on ratepayers.I request that Council prioritise core services improve efficiency and

implement the described savings to avoid a further excessive rates increase.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7537,338662,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I strongly oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). Rates have risen 30% in real terms since 2022 while inflation has run higher overall. The proposed splitâ€”2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”does not justify a rate rise of this magnitude when there is clear potential to curb wasteful expenditure.I urge the Council to adopt the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap) to bring the average rates increase down to about 3%. Specific measures include:1) Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze on non-essential roles saving at least $50 million.2) Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.3) Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save $30 million.4) Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.I also urge the Council to stop the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. In addition freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles as this alone would save at least $17 million immediately. I further submit that Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered given the local government mandate to focus on essential services.These proposed reductions would align spending with population growth and inflation without sacrificing core services. The Council should prioritise statutory duties and essential services and restraint on non-essential external spend.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7580,338618,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to demand a clear reduction in wasteful Council spending. The evidence shows that rates have risen far beyond inflation and population growth since the Super City amalgamation with a 85 percent increase since 2010 while inflation ran about 34 percent. A 7.9 percent increase compounds this imbalance and burdens households already stretched by the cost of living.Key points:1) The proposed 7.9 percent increase is excessive. The breakdownâ€”2 percent for maintaining existing assets 1.5 percent for growth in new assets and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costsâ€”projects a large continuing drain on household budgets without delivering commensurate value to ratepayers.2) Expenditure reform is essential. The Council must reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut consultancy and professional services rather than permitting ongoing growth in these areas.3) Wasteful programmes must be halted. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.4) Headcount and payroll discipline. Freeze staffing or cut payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Re-balance priorities. Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) budget of around $10 million per year as this is a function more appropriate to national policy than to local government.Alternative budget

approach: I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent). This would cap the rate increase to about 3 percent and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.This is not in line with what Mayor Brown campaigned on and in these current economic times is not acceptable to Aucklanders. The Council must demonstrate restraint and accountability in how ratepayers' money is spent.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7600,338598,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing this would add approximately $320 to the typical household bill on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 far exceeding inflation and population growth. I urge the Council to instead pursue substantial cuts to wasteful expenditure so that rates rise no more than 3 percent.Key areas of concern and proposed remedies:- Expenditure reduction across corporate and backroom functions within the Council and CCOs; reduce consultancy and professional services spend rather than continuing to grow these costs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting this is not a local-government core function.The Council's current expenditure patterns are disproportionate to core services. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% outpacing inflation twofold and population growth. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown well beyond inflation while consulting and contractor spend remains high at about $590 million across the sector. The proposed 7.9 percent increase split as 2 percent for assets 1.5 percent for growth and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs is not justified when alternative budgeting can cover essential services without imposing excessive cost on households.I support the Alliance's alternative budget approach which proposes a 2 percent savings target across new spending to cap rates at around 3 percent achieved by prudent reductions in staff costs consultant budgets and vendor negotiations and by prioritising statutory and essential services.Closing:I request to speak at the hearings to expand on these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7609,338589,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,The proposed increase would mean approximately $320 more per average household increasing the current average bill to about $4069. Since 2022 rates have effectively risen by 30 percent in real terms well above cumulative inflation while population growth has been more modest. I urge council to align rate increases with inflation and act on efficiency.1) Expenditure reductions should precede rate increases. The Council must cut discretionary and backroom costs across both the Council and CCOs especially in corporate functions. Current data show 6123 staff on six-figure salaries and significant payroll growth; reforming this area would reduce pressure on residents without compromising essential services.2) Reduce reliance on consultants and external professional services. Spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant compensation

high. Curbing this expenditure together with vendor consolidation and contract renegotiations is essential to keep rates affordable.3) Eliminate non-beneficial or high-cost programmes. The Food Scraps Programme which costs approximately $36 million per year should be cancelled as it emits more carbon than it saves delivering better value for ratepayers.4) Freeze non-essential staffing and prioritise essential services. Pausing new hires for non-essential roles and freezing vacancies would deliver immediate savingsâ€”at least $17 millionâ€”while preserving core functions.Proposed alternative budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a rate rise capped near 3 percent. This can be achieved by: $50 million from personnel costs through organisational changes and hiring freezes; $50 million from consultants; $30 million from renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Closing: I appreciate the opportunity to contribute to a fiscally prudent plan that protects essential services while keeping rates affordable.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7659,338539,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9% residential rates increase and in favour of substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending. The current rate burden has already risen significantly since 2022 with a real increase of 30% in 2022 dollars versus 12% inflation. A 7.9% increase is not acceptable when there are clearer opportunities to tighten spending.1) Oppose the average residential rates increase. The proposed 7.9% increase (approximately $320 for the average household) is excessive. The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that by trimming spending an average increase closer to 3% could be achieved. I support aiming for that lower more affordable level for ratepayers.2) Reduce corporate and backroom expenditure. Council and CCOs should reduce spend on corporate and backroom functions. There is substantial room to streamline administration with better procurement and consolidation of functions to lower overall operating costs.3) Curb consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants and contractors is high with $126 million per year across the Council group and average contractor pay around $200k. I support reducing consultancy and professional services and prioritising in-house capability where appropriate.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The programme costs $36 million per year and in the Alliance briefing emits more carbon than it saves. Canceling this initiative is a straightforward efficiency move aligned with a prudent financial stance.5) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll for non-essential roles. Freezing vacancies and not filling non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately contributing to a more manageable rate increase and stronger financial discipline.6) Cut Māori-specific spending. The Alliance notes $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department. I believe this is not a core local government function and should be scaled back to reallocate resources to essential services.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7690,338508,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed rates rise and urge the Council to adopt a cost-conscious path that recognises inflation not just expense growth. The

current plan adds to a long trajectory of rate increases that far outpace both inflation and population growth since the Super City amalgamation. The Council should prioritise essential services and reduce discretionary spending.Key points I support:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. The ratepayers should not bear higher bills when efficiency gains are achievable.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in the assessment of the Alliance emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Maori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Policy proposal:- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget suggests a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) capping the rate rise to around 3%.- Implement organisational change and a hiring freeze to reduce personnel costs; cap consultant spend; renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors; prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In closing I respectfully request that the Council reflect these savings and rebase the budget to avoid an inflationary rate hike that burdens households. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7752,338446,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,The rate rise is not affordable for many households with the current average bill around $4069 and real increases since 2022 well above inflation. I oppose the proposed increase and urge Council to constrain costs and prioritise essential services.I support the Council's need to manage expenditure more efficiently and I present an alternative budget aligned to reducing wasteful spending. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) which would cap the average residential rates rise at about 3 percent. This would be achieved by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping spending on consultants and professional services: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionKey concerns and specific savings include:- Corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs should be scaled back.- Spend on consultancy and professional services must be reduced rather than increased.- 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 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) as this is not a core local government role.Other important context: since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen by 85% well above inflation and population growth. High payroll consultant and other operating costs have grown disproportionately with concrete figures in the Alliance briefing showing extensive expenditure on staff and external services.Last year's rate increase of 33% is already unsustainable for households facing higher living costs. I urge Council to prioritise essential services reduce discretionary spend and adopt the proposed 3% cap to protect ratepayers.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,

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7801,338397,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This would translate to about $320 more per household on an average bill of $4069 while real rate increases since 2022 have reached 30 percent in 2022 dollars and inflation has risen 12 percent. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets due to growth. This level of increase is not affordable for households particularly given the Council's broader spending trajectory.I advocate for reducing wasteful Council spending and reforming expenditure to protect essential services. The Council should reduce spend on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services which have grown rapidly. The current spend on consultants at $126 million annually (including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent) with average consultant pay around $200000 is unsustainable. A targeted reduction is essential.I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves to reallocate funds to core services and essential infrastructure.I also support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget I urge that new Council spending be reduced by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rates increase at around 3 percent. This requires organisational change hiring freezes cap on consultants renegotiation of contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I request that my submission be considered as part of the public consultation and I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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7810,338388,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed 7.9% average rate increase. With current rates at $4069 and a real rise since 2022 exceeding 30% (versus 12% inflation) further increases should be restrained. The plan allocates 4.4% of the rise to CRL operating costs and 2% to maintaining existing assets leaving little room to address efficiency and value for ratepayers.The Council should implement substantial cost reductions by cutting wasteful expenditure. In particular:- Reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Curb consultancy and professional services; the current level is excessive and unsustainable.Specific policy suggestions aligned with the submitter's positions:- 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 which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a local-government core function.I support adopting the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average rate rise at about 3%. This plan prioritises statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and focuses on practical cost controls including:- $50 million from personnel cost reductions via organisational changes and hiring freezes- $50 million from capping consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million from prioritising essential servicesIt is time for the Council to treat ratepayers' money as their ownâ€”authorities should be responsible

focusing on must-haves not nice-to-haves.I request to speak at hearings to present these points in more detail. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a savings-focused approach to council spending before any further rate rises.1) Rates increase and prudent budgeting- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 in real terms. This is unsustainable for households and inconsistent with preserving ratepayer value.2) Wasteful expenditure and backroom costs- The Council should reduce spend on corporate and backroom office functions across Council and CCOs and cut consultancy and professional services rather than allow further growth in these areas.- Current indicators show substantial payroll and external spend growth; curbing these areas is essential to protect ratepayers.3) Specific cost-cutting measures aligned with ratepayer interests- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes work (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.4) Alternative budget approach- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) would cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. This includes: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million from limiting consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional point- Future-proofing requires the Council to manage funds as if they are their own avoiding a perpetual cycle of expenditure to rectify past decisions.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7813

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to restore fiscal discipline by reducing wasteful expenditure so that ratepayers are not asked to bear a disproportionate burden.Key figures and rationale:- Proposed average residential rates increase: 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). Current average residential rates bill: $4069. Real increase since 2022: 30% in 2022 dollars versus 12% cumulative inflation.- The 7.9% rise comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets due to growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outstripping inflation and population growth.- Spending

priorities are not aligned with core services or tourism priorities. Council and CCOs incur high personnel costs with 6123 staff on six-figure salaries 464 paid over $200k and 72 staff earning more than the mayor's $306741.Wasteful and reducible spend:- Consultants and contractors: $126 million per year across the Council group; average consultant pay around $200k.- Direct operating expenditure has grown 78% (2013â€“2023) far above inflation.- Corporate and business support functions total $868.4 million in direct expenditure; payroll is about $1.3 billion.- Māori Outcomes spending (Ngā Mātārae): $171 million over 10 years; I question local government's role in funding this as a primary function.- The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than savedâ€”this should be cancelled.- Employee growth and salaries outpace inflation; freezing vacancies and capping payroll costs would yield immediate savings.Alternative budget and priorities:I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at around 3% by:- Reducing personnel costs via a targeted hiring freeze and organisational change: ~$50 million.- Capping spending on consultants: ~$50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: ~$30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: ~$20 million.Focus on core services and tourism: emphasise essential council functions road maintenance water and services that support {address redacted}'s tourism economy.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7846

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: Albert-Eden

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 oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a principled reduction in wasteful Council spending with a focus on essential services and value for ratepayers.- Oppose the 7.9% increase. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and rates have risen 85% since the Super City began far outpacing inflation. The proposed 7.9% is not affordable for households especially while managing growth and CRL operating costs.- Reduce corporate and backroom expenditure. The Council and CCOs must cut spending on corporate and backroom functions which drive rate rises without improving frontline services.- Cap consultancy and

professional services. Spending on consultants remains excessive; freeze or reduce these costs to bring rates back toward growth in line with inflation.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The programme costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect resources to essential proven services.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Do not hire for non-essential roles and consider a freeze on vacancies; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a local government responsibility and should be redirected to statutory essential services.- Targeted savings plan. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates to about 3%: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze - $50 million from consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grantsAdditional points: eliminate non-essential agenda-driven activity reduce non-essential travel and events and avoid racially based departmental funding as a matter of good governance and fairness to 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7848

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). Since 2010 rates have risen 85% while population grew only 22% and inflation ran about 34%â€”a cumulative burden far outpacing inflation. The proposed breakdown shows 2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs; this justifications does not address the need to curb wasteful expenditure or to deliver core services more efficiently.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance suggests an Alternative Budget: reduce new council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rates growth) delivering an average increase of around 3%. This is achieved by:- Reducing personnel

costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping consultancy and professional services: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionI insist that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut the spend on consultants and professional services rather than letting costs rise. The current figures show $126 million per year in consultancy across the Council group with the Auckland Council parent accounting for a large share and many six-figure salaries. Personnel costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation and direct operating expenditure grew well ahead of inflation over the past decade. Reducing payroll freezing non-essential roles and curbing outsourcing are essential steps.Additional points: stop wasting money on building unwanted speed humps and bike lanes where they are not agreed as necessary and halt the purchase of battery-powered buses unless proven cost-effective and essential. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (about $36 million/year) which is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves. This programme should be halted immediately.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7853,338345,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to instead prioritise cost containment and prudent budgeting to protect households.Key concerns and positions1. Rate increases and affordability: The proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise would add about $320 to the typical household bill on top of a long-run real increase in rates of 30% since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) while inflation has grown around 12%. I request the Council to cap rates increases at 3% or less aligning with an affordable restrained approach to budgeting.2. Wasteful expenditure and backroom costs: The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs including personnel costs and six-figure salaries. I support measures to streamline staffing and curb payroll growth as part of a broader effort to curb discretionary spending.3. Consultancy and professional services: The Council must reduce spend on consultants and professional services rather than continuing to expand these costs. A reduction in consultancy is essential to delivering a responsible budget.4. Specific programme and staffing controls: I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.5. Budget framing and alternatives: I endorse the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget approach aiming to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to achieve the targeted 3% rate cap. This includes: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million from capping consultancy spend; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that the Council seriously considers these measures and the need for prudent value-for-money governance.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7885,338313,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I appreciate the Council's public engagement process and ask that you consider my points carefully.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge that rates rises be kept below inflation. The current average residential bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% against 12% inflation. The proposed 7.9% increase comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth-driven new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Given the scale of spend and the need to improve value for ratepayers I support reducing overall Council expenditure not simply accepting higher bills.I strongly agree that 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 permitting continual growth of these items. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance shows consultants cost about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k. I also call for cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and emits more carbon than it saves.I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately. I also urge reducing Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core local government function.An illustrated path forward is the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap average residential rates increases at about 3% achieved through: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes $50 million from capping consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Us ratepayers simply cannot afford the proposed unjustified increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7906,338292,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,Rates increases should not be treated as a blanket percentage; across-the-board increases will disadvantage lower and higher value properties alike and perpetuate wealth-based inequities in accessing Council services.I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far exceeding inflation. The 4.4% portion of the increase for CRL operating costs plus 2% for existing asset maintenance and 1.5% for new assets compounds this burden on households while real value for ratepayer services is not demonstrated. I support significant reductions in wasteful expenditure and backroom costs. The Council and CCOs should reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions and cut consultancy and professional services which total approximately $126 million per year across the Council group with $60 million by the Council parent alone and consultants averaging around $200000 each. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have outpaced inflation with payroll at $1.3 billion and consultants/contractors at $590 million.I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. I oppose continuing or expanding expenditure on Māori Outcomes such as the Ngā Mātārae department specifically the $10 million/year allocation which I do not consider a proper local government remit.I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap) to deliver an

average residential rate rise of around 3%. This should be achieved through organisational change hiring freezes caps on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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7915,338282,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I write to express my opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge a focus on reducing wasteful council spending.1) Rates and affordability- The proposed 7.9% average increase would amount to about $320 extra per household on top of a long history of escalating charges. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. I believe rates increases should be aligned with inflation and essential service delivery not continued expansion of the backroom and consultancy spend.2) Spending and waste reduction- The Alliance highlights substantial spending on consultants ($126 million per year across the Council group; average consultant around $200k) and high payroll costs including a growing number of six-figure salaries. I support reducing personnel costs through hiring freezes and organisational changes and capping consultancy spending to curb waste.- I support prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes and I oppose expanding non-core Māori-specific spend. Specifically I oppose funding of the Māori Outcomes department at the current level and I call for a reallocation toward core local government functions.3) Specific programme and efficiency measures- I support freezing non-essential roles and reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant positions where not required which could save significant funds immediately.- I call for contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to deliver better value and lower operating costs.- I also urge a review of the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in the Alliance view emits more carbon than it saves. I request its cancellation to reallocate funds to essential services.4) Footpaths and local maintenance- My submission includes the practical point that basic maintenanceâ€”footpaths and vegetation along routesâ€”should be prioritised. Beachlands residents are paying for footpaths while existing maintenance lags; improving these basics would deliver tangible local benefits.ClosingI respectfully request that the council adopt measures to reduce new spending by about $150 million delivering an average residential rate increase closer to 3% while preserving essential services and local roads/footpaths maintenance.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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7937,338260,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit in a detailed evidence-based manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for significant reductions in wasteful Council spending.1. Opposition to the rate rise and affordability contextThe proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase equates to roughly $320 for the typical household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% in real terms far outpacing both inflation (about 34%) and population growth (22%). A 7.9% rise is unlikely to be sustainable for households particularly given the ongoing funding pressures faced by many families.2. Expenditure reductions aligned with the Alliance briefingThe Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a cap on rate increases by cutting non-essential spending. Specifically:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing staffing or not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17

million immediately.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services addressing the current $126 million per year Council-wide expenditure (including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent) with average consultant pay around $200000.- Implement contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save about $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants reallocating funds toward core city functions.3. Targeted program reductions and policy choices- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme estimated to cost about $36 million per year and according to evaluative data emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) portfolio cited at about $10 million per year as this role is not a core function of local government.4. Alternative budgeting outcomeFollowing the above reductions an offsetting reduction of $150 million in new Council spending could cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%.ClosingI request consideration of these reductions as part of the council's deliberations and note my preference for an evidence-based appraisal of mandating cuts rather than further rate increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

7946,338251,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. In real terms rates have risen 30 percent since 2022 while overall inflation has been 12 percent and population growth 22 percent. The plan's breakdown shows 2 percent for maintaining existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs; this exceeds what is affordable for many households including pensioners in Manly who already faced a 21 percent hike last year and now face a further 8â€“9 percent increase.I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new spending by about $150 million (2 percent cap on rates growth) enabling a maximum 3 percent average rates rise. This requires: (a) freezing or pruning payroll by not filling non-essential roles (b) capping consultancy and professional services (c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors and (d) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. Specifically I support reducing personnel costs and the hiring freeze to save around $50 million capping consultant spend at $50 million and directing $20 million toward core services.I also request the Council cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. The Council should review every discretionary expenditure including reducing six-figure salaries for staff and executives and reconsider allocations to Māori outcomes. The combined costs of consultants contractors and six-figure payrolls have grown far faster than inflation and this money could be redirected toward essential services that residents rely on daily.I respectfully ask the Council to reinforce fiscal discipline and prioritise affordable essential services for ratepayers especially for older households and those on fixed incomes.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#7995

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

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. Rate increase and fiscal responsibility- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% equating to about $320 for the average household is excessive given that real increases since 2022 have reached 30% (in 2022 dollars) while overall inflation has been around 12%. I urge the Council to align rate increases with inflation and population-adjusted needs rather than pursuing continued growth in operating costs.2. Spending reductions to enable tax relief- The Council must cut wasteful and non-essential expenditure to reduce the rate burden on households. Specifically I support: - Reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles

which could save at least $17 million immediately. - Cutting spending on consultants and professional services rather than allowing these areas to rise further. - Capping and renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save at least $30 million. - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to avoid increases in rates for non-core activities.3. Specific programmes and Māori outcomes- I oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and on current estimates emits more carbon than it saves.- I favour reducing Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I do not see as a necessary role of local government.4. Alternative budget and proposed rate path- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average residential rates increase to around 3%. This would be achieved by: $50 million in personnel reductions $50 million in consultant spend cuts $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services.ClosingI request that my submission be considered in deliberations on the 2026/27 annual plan and I support measures to reduce wasteful spending and keep rate increases in line with inflation and essential service needs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8010

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: Albert-Eden

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 strongly oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and urge the Council to adopt a controlled fiscally responsible path that prioritises essential services over expanding backroom expenditure.The proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a cumulative real rates increase of 30 percent since 2022 (well above inflation). The breakdown shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs plus 2 percent for maintaining existing assets and 1.5 percent for new assets tied to growth. This level of increase is not acceptable when Council expenditure has grown far faster than inflation and population and when the public seeks more disciplined

budgeting.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget which would reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2 percent) and cap the average rates increase at 3 percent. This should be achieved by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping spending on consultants: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionSpecific concrete measures are needed:- Cut spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continual increases.- 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.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not the role of local government.Enacting these measures would keep rates closer to inflation and protect households from unnecessary rate pressure while ensuring essential services remain funded.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8028

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and set out why spending must be restrained and redirected to protect households.Key points- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates rise. With current average rates at $4069 and real increases since 2022 at 30% (versus 12% inflation) further rate rises exceeding inflation are unjustifiable. The breakdown shows 2% for existing assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs; this demands scrutiny and restraint.- Reduce corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs including personnel costs and six-figure salaries. The payroll is $1.3 billion and

consultants/contractors total $590 million; 6123 staff earn six-figures with 72 paid more than the mayor. These figures must be pared back to protect ratepayers.- Cut consultancy and professional services. Council and CCOs spend $126 million per year on consultants; capping this and renegotiating contracts should be prioritised over rate hikes.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million/year it costs more than it saves in carbon and should be halted.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. Cancelling non-essential vacancies could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year on the Maori outcomes department Ngā Mātārae as this is not a core local government function.Alternative budget framing- Propose reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a cap of around 3% for the average rates rise. - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and hiring freezes - $50 million from capping consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsThis aligns with delivering essential services while protecting households from excessive rate hikes.ClosingI respectfully request that my submission be considered and that I be given the opportunity to speak at hearings if possible. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8071

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: Albert-Eden

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 with a constructive and solution-focused approach opposing the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urging reductions in wasteful Council spending to protect households.Key positions1) Oppose the 7.9% average rates rise. This would increase the typical bill by about $320 on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 well above inflation. The burden on households cannot be justified by maintaining asset operation and growth pressures alone.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. High staff costs and bloated back-office functions must be addressed if rates are to be more affordable.3)

Curb consultancy and professional services spend. The Council should freeze or significantly reduce external contractor and consultant costs while improving internal capabilities.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At $36 million per year with carbon outcomes not demonstrated as net savings this programme should be halted.5) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for non-essential roles. A targeted hiring freeze would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary mandates.Additional pointThere is a need for retrenchment of staff at Auckland Council HQ. The current structure appears top-heavy with inefficiencies and reducing duplication would support lower operating costs.Alternative budget guidanceI support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at about 3% achieved through: $50 million saving from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that the Council consider these changes in the final plan to keep rates affordable and focus on core services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8074

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the average household given the 30 percent real increase since 2022 and the cumulative inflation of 12 percent. The rates burden should be restrained to align with inflation and the Council's actual service delivery needs not perpetuate a costly expansion of spending.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position that the Council must reduce wasteful expenditure across the Council and CCOs particularly:- Reducing personnel costs by freezing vacancies and not hiring non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Capping and reducing spending on

consultants and professional services rather than continuing growth in this area.- Cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Cutting discretionary and non-essential Māori-specific expenditure including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government responsibility.Additionally I support the alternative budget framing that proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending to cap the rate increase at about 3 percent. This includes: organizational change to reduce payroll vendor renegotiations and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Specific concerns and context:- The 7.9% increase is broken down as 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets tied to growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. With Council payroll and consultant costs rising well above inflation the current approach is unsustainable for ratepayers.- Since amalgamation rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation. This trajectory warrants a reset toward leaner operations and targeted investment.Additional point: Auckland Transport spending on 'traffic calming' should be redirected toward improving road safety and capacity rather than creating delays or hazards.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8077

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: Albert-Eden

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 burden on households should rise only in line with inflation not for discretionary expenditure that does not deliver essential services.Key context from the Alliance briefing shows:- Proposed average residential rates increase: 7.9% (about $320 for the average household).- Breakdown of the rise: 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows 4.4% for CRL operating costs.- Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% well above inflation and population growth.To achieve a more responsible path I support the following reductions to bring the rate increase closer to 3% or less consistent with a prudent budget:1) Oppose the 7.9% increase and instead cap average

residential rates at around 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%): - Cut personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles: save $50 million.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services: save $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors: save $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: save $20 million.2) End the Food Scraps Programme budget $36 million/year which costs more in carbon emissions than it saves.3) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles saving at least $17 million immediately.4) Reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local-government function.These steps align with a constructive solution-focused approach and address wasteful corporate and backroom spending consultant-heavy budgets and non-essential programmes.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8243

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: Albert-Eden

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

Position and rationale1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The current average bill is $4069 and rates have grown 85% since 2010 far outstripping inflation and population growth. A reduction of Council expenditures is necessary to keep rates affordable for households.2) Prioritise spend reductions over rate hikes. The Council needs to shrink expenditure on corporate and backroom functions and curb consultancy and professional services. The Council should cancel discretionary programs that do not deliver essential statutory outcomes.3) Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget. Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%)

capping the rate rise to around 3%. This should be achieved by:- Freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (savings of at least $17 million).- Reducing spending on consultants by $50 million and capping professional services.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.4) Specific reductions in spending in areas previously identified as non-core. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) due to its carbon impact relative to savings. Consider reducing Māori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) portfolio while ensuring alignment with statutory responsibilities.Additional points- Do not spend money opposing the Government's intended rates rise. Focus on efficiency and value for money within Auckland Council.ClosingI request that my submission be considered and taken into account in formulating the final plan with a focus on reducing wasteful expenditure and delivering essential services at a more affordable rate for residents.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8303

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a program of substantial expenditure restraint across the Council and CCOs.Key points1) The 7.9% rise is not affordable for households already facing rising living costs. The proposed uplift would add about $320 to the average residential rates bill on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) while inflation runs about 12%. This burden far exceeds reasonable growth in services.2) Wasteful spend must be cut. The Council should reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and slash consultancy and professional services rather than

continuing these expenditure trends.3) Target specific programmes for savings. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing and payroll where possible. Freeze hiring for vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately.5) Reduce targeted spending on Māori outcomes. Cut the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Alternative budget alignmentTo cap the average residential rates increase at around 3% implement the Ratepayers' Alliance plan: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) including $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze $50 million from capping consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.This approach aligns with responsible stewardship of ratepayer funds and preserves essential Council functions while restoring public trust.I do not wish to speak 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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- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8346

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: Albert-Eden

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

1. Opposition to the proposed rates rise- I oppose an average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). Rates increases must be aligned with inflation and population growth not earmarked for ongoing operating costs that outpace these factors.2. Wasteful spending and cost-cutting measures- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Stop the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing

or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.3. Alternative funding approach- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average rates increase at around 3%.- Specifically: $50 million through personnel cost reductions and organisational change $50 million by capping consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.4. Additional point- Stop mowing lawns if feasible; allocating labour fuel and maintenance to essential services should be prioritised to achieve savings.ClosingI request that the Council consider these measures and revise the plan to limit rate increases to a target closer to 3% with transparent reporting on savings from 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.

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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8347

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: Albert-Eden

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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- **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.

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a constructive solution-focused way to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to urge reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key points supporting my position1) Rates increase and affordability. The proposed average residential rates rise of 7.9% equates to about $320 for the typical household. Since 2022 the real increase in rates is 30% (in 2022 dollars) far outpacing cumulative inflation at 12%. I urge a more affordable path aligned with inflation and household budgets.2) Spending reductions to cap rates. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average

residential rates increase at about 3%. This should be achieved through: a) freezing non-essential staffing and reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant roles; b) capping consulting and professional services; c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; d) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.3) Targeted reductions in personnel and consulting costs. I support measures to freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs which could provide immediate savings of at least $17 million. I also support cutting the spend on consultants and professional services rather than perpetually increasing these expenditure items.4) Specific programme and Māori outcomes spending. I oppose the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. I also oppose allocating $10 million per year to the Ngā Mātārae Māori outcomes department arguing that this is not a core local government function. Reallocating these funds would contribute to a lower rates outcome for households.5) Compliance with statutory priorities and value for ratepayers. By prioritising statutory and essential services and improving procurement efficiency the Council can better demonstrate value for money while avoiding unnecessary increases in rates.Conclusion and requestI respectfully request that the Council consider the above measures to reduce wasteful expenditure and to limit the rates 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.

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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.

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8365

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: Albert-Eden

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 plan projects an average rise of about $320 for the typical household on top of a real rates increase of 30 percent since 2022 while inflation has risen around 12 percent. This level of increase is unacceptable when ordinary households are already stretched.Key facts I rely on include the proposed 7.9% increase being split into 2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since the Super City amalgamation rates have risen by 85% far outpacing both inflation and population growth. It is essential that any proposed increase be tied to genuine essential services and not to continuing cost growth in non-core areas.I support

the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget and request the Council implement it by reducing new spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping the rate rise to about 3%. Specifically I back:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze saving $50 million;- Capping spending on consultants at $50 million;- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save $30 million;- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.In addition I oppose ongoing high expenditure in areas not essential to local government duties. In particular:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme at $36 million per year which emits more carbon than it saves;- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately;- Reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department recognising that this is not a core local government function.I respectfully request that the Council consider these steps to eliminate waste protect essential services and deliver a more affordable rate outcome 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:

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8378

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

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 increase. A rate rise of this magnitude exceeds inflation and places a heavier burden on households already stretched by cost-of-living pressures. The proposed increase partly funds CRL operating costs and ongoing asset maintenance but it also raises concerns about whether spending is targeted to essential services and statutory obligations.I agree the Council should pursue tangible reductions in wasteful spending. In particular:- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to escalate these items.- Cancel the

Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and based on Community input emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government role.I support the Council's need to manage growth and service delivery efficiently but this must be done without imposing unnecessary cost on ratepayers. A sensible interim path would be to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases) and prioritise essential statutory services over discretionary grants. This approach would better align rates with inflation stabilise household budgets and demonstrate accountable stewardship of public funds.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8415

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and request Council to cap rate rises at a level aligned with inflation and reasonable restraint. The proposed rise would add about $320 to the average household bill on top of a long-run pattern of substantial rate increases since the 2010 amalgamation. Rates has risen 85% since 2010 well beyond inflation and population growth. The breakdown of this year's increaseâ€”2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”highlights a heavy bias toward ongoing operating costs and capital projects rather than reform of expenditure.I urge Council to reduce

expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to scale back consultancy and professional services. Auckland Council currently spends about $126 million per year on consultants across the group with the Auckland Council parent alone accounting for roughly $60 million. Reducing these costs is a direct practical lever to lower the rate burden.I also advocate canceling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million annually and emits more carbon than it saves. In addition freezing staffing and/or not hiring for vacant non-essential roles would deliver immediate savings; I understand this could save at least $17 million right away.I am concerned about and request scrutiny of Maori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) function. I believe these powers and responsibilities should be addressed by central government rather than being an overhead in local governance and I urge a reallocation toward essential statutory services.If possible I support the Council's consideration of a revised budget that prioritises core statutory and essential services with a reduction in non-essential discretionary expenditure. A targeted reduction of around $150 million in new spending could enable a rate increase closer to 3% 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.)

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8435

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: Albert-Eden

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 encourage a constructive solution-focused approach that protects essential services while responsibly aligning expenditure with inflation and population growth.Position and rationale1) Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates rise. A rates increase well above inflation places an unnecessary burden on households already facing rising costs. The current data shows a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) with cumulative inflation at about 12%. A more prudent path is required.2) Reduce spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current structure sustains high payroll and administrative costs that do not directly

translate into frontline service improvements. Targeted reductions can help stabilise rates without compromising essential services.3) Reduce expenditure on consultancy and professional services. Total consultant spend remains high averaging around $126 million per year across the Council group with an average key contractor earning roughly $200k. A tighter procurement approach and renegotiation of contracts can deliver savings and lower project costs.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect these funds toward essential services and waste reduction initiatives with demonstrable benefits.5) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. Implementing a hiring freeze where appropriate could save at least $17 million immediately.Alternative budget approachThe Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% cut) to cap average residential rates increase at about 3%. This would be achieved through: reducing personnel costs capping consultancy spending contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI respectfully request consideration of these measures to control rate rises while safeguarding essential City services and ensuring 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.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8445

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: Albert-Eden

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 burden of this increase falls on households already facing rising costs while evidence from the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance shows the Council's spend has grown well beyond inflation and population growth since 2010.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive and not aligned with inflation. The increase comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. A more prudent approach is needed to curb overall expenditure while protecting essential services.- Wasteful spending is too high. Council spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year across the Council group with the

average consultant earning roughly $200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown 78% from 2013 to 2023 far outstripping cumulative inflation.- Reductions in payroll and backroom costs are required. There are 6123 Council and CCO employees on six-figure salaries with 72 staff paid more than the mayor's $306741; this along with a payroll of $1.3 billion signals opportunity for recalibration.- Specific reductions proposed align with protecting core services: cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) due to limited net carbon savings; freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies (potential saving of at least $17 million); curb consultancy and professional services spend; and limit discretionary grants to prioritise statutory services.- Reprioritise Māori-focused expenditure. The Alliance notes $10 million/year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which in this view is not a Core local-government role and could be redirected towards essential services.Proposed alternative budgetReduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) delivering an average residential rates increase closer to 3% if implemented as outlined: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services.ClosingI request that the Council considers these reductions and publishes a transparent priority-driven budget that delivers essential services at a fairer cost to 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?

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8446

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: Albert-Eden

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 per-household impact is about $320 on an already burdensome rate bill (average current is $4069). Since 2010 rates have risen 85% while inflation is around 34% and population growth about 22%. A further near-8% rise is not acceptable without meaningful belt-tightening in the Council's expenditure.Agrees (submitter positions)- 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 and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to increase.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and

emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Additional points- Stop wasteful spending on dog parks notably the Great Barrier Island project which diverts funds from essential services.A practical path to a lower rates outcome is the Council's Alternative Budget proposal: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) bringing the average rates increase down to approximately 3% through targeted measures:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes.- $50 million from capping consulting spend.- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Key data underpinning these concerns should guide decisions: the breakdown of the 7.9% rise including 4.4% for CRL operating costs and 2% for existing assets does not reflect prudent stewardship given the scale of payroll consultants and non-essential spend reported in Council figures. Direct operating expenditure rose 78% from 2013 to 2023 well above inflation and personnel costs dominate the cost base.I request that this submission be considered in full and that I be allowed to present at hearings if opportunities arise. 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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	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8447

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 which represents about $320 more per household on the current average bill of $4069. Since 2022 rates have risen by 30% in real terms while inflation has been 12%â€”a clear mismatch with residents' budgets. I urge Council to align annual plans with inflation and public affordability.I support the following positions and ask that they guide the final plan:- Oppose the 7.9% average increase; seek a cap closer to 3% by reducing wasteful expenditure.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on

consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to escalate these costs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and based on independent assessments emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year for the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government responsibility.As noted in the briefing the Council's operating expenses have risen well above inflation with payroll and consultant costs contributing materially to growth. A prudent appropriation should prioritise statutory and essential services not discretionary programmes that do not directly serve ratepayers. A targeted reduction in new spending of $150 million (2%) could cap rates increases at around 3% if applied via the measures above: employee cost containment consultant caps vendor renegotiations and reallocation to core services.I request that this submission be considered in formulation of the draft annual plan and that ratepayers' interests are prioritised over growth in administrative overhead.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8468,337728,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,The current situation demands that rates rise only in line with or below inflation and that every dollar spent is directed to essential services and core council functions.Key concerns and positions:- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to approximately $320 more per household which far exceeds household inflation and erodes affordability for ratepayers. I support reducing this increase to at most 3% by tightening non-essential expenditure.- A substantial driver of the rate rise is spending on consultants and backroom functions. The Alliance's figures show consultant expenditure at about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k. I urge capping and reforming consulting and professional services to stop the growth in external advice that is not delivering commensurate public value.- Spending on Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) totals about $171 million over 10 years. While I recognise the importance of addressing community needs I believe this should be aligned with the core statutory responsibilities of local government and scoped for efficiency.- I support the Council freezing staffing and reducing payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately and any further efficiency from organisational changes.- I oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is said to emit more carbon than it saves. Abandoning this programme would free resources for essential services.- Our alternative budget suggests a $150 million reduction in new spending (2%) achieved through: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consulting $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.In summary I request that the Council reduce the 2026/27 rate increase and implement the outlined expenditure cuts to protect households and ensure prudent value-for-money governance. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8477,337719,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,Key concerns and positions1) The proposed 7.9% average rates rise is too high. With current average bills around $4069 and a real increase well above

inflation since 2022 households are paying more while essential services must be protected. The budget should reflect a restrained approach that aligns with inflation and actual needs.2) Reduce corporate and backroom costs. I urge substantial savings from corporate and back-office functions across the Council and CCOs. Cutting wasteful administrative spend is critical to contain rate increases.3) Curb consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants and external specialists should be reduced rather than increased. A tighter procurement approach and clearer in-house capability will deliver value for ratepayers.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The Food Scraps Programme costs around $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. Halting this project would free up funding for essential services and rate relief.5) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs. Freeze non-essential hires and avoid filling vacant roles where possible; doing so could save at least $17 million immediately and help keep rates down.6) Reassess Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes work (Ngā Mātārae) should be re-examined to ensure it aligns with local government responsibilities and public priorities rather than being treated as automatic spend.Additional contextSince 2010 rates have risen substantially while staff costs and external expenses have grown faster than inflation. A targeted reallocation toward core statutory services and essential capabilities will better reflect ratepayer expectations and Auckland's ongoing needs.Wayne we voted for youâ€”please listen to us your salary-payers. Please consider these adjustments before imposing higher rates.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8483

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: Albert-Eden

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 express strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to urge a rigorous reallocation of Council spend toward essential local services rather than backroom or discretionary items.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive especially given the ongoing real-terms growth in rates since 2022 (30% in 2022 dollars) versus 12% consumer inflation. A more affordable path is essential for households facing cost of living pressures.- The rate rise is driven by CRL operating costs (4.4%) alongside asset maintenance (2%) and new assets for growth (1.5%). I urge the Council to prioritise core statutory services and

essential functions over expanding operating costs and growth projects.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at about 3% by: freezing non-essential staffing capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. This approach aligns with responsible budgeting and consumer sentiment.Specific spend concerns and reform suggestions- Reduce personnel costs by freezing non-essential hires and/or reducing payroll costs; removing vacant roles could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services; current levels are high and not clearly delivering offsetting public benefits.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costing about $36 million/year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves).- Reassess Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department at about $10 million per year questioning its alignment with local government responsibilities.- Target overall corporate and backroom office efficiency across the Council and CCOs (the combined corporate and support functions appear disproportionately costly).Additional pointIf a pensioner widow like myself has had to cut back on 'nice to haves' then the Council should reflect that restraint with prudent spending across all public money.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8512

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The rate rise is not affordable for households and there are clear achievable savings within current expenditure that should be pursued before further increases are enacted.Key positions1) oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and expect a reduction to align with inflation or below given recent cost pressures and a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) despite 12 percent overall inflation.2) reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs which drive higher operating costs without corresponding service improvements.3) reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continued

growth in these items.4) cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.5) freeze staffing or restrain payroll growth by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.6) cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.7) adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates increase at 3 percent through targeted cuts in personnel consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Rationale- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far exceeding inflation and population growth. The proposed 7.9% rise compounds this inequity.- Current operating expenditures including payroll and outsourced services have grown far faster than inflation while essential service delivery must be protected.- The proposed reductions in spending are achievable with principled reform: freeze non-essential roles renegotiate contracts consolidate vendors and prioritise essential statutory functions.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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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8540

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 (approximately $320 for the average household) and urge a hard review of Council expenditure to avoid another significant rate rise.Key concerns and positions:1) Rate increase and affordability. The Council's plan adds to a long trajectory of rate pressure. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A 7.9% average rise is unjustified if it continues to fund expanding discretionary spending rather than essential services. The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget shows a 2% reduction in new spend could cap the increase at about

3%.2) Wasteful spend and backroom costs. There is clear over-reliance on consultants and corporate functions. Annual consultant spend is $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200k and payroll/contractor costs rising far faster than inflation. Direct operating expenditure grew 78% from 2013 to 2023 while statutory services must remain prioritised.3) Rethink on procurement and staffing. Freeze non-essential vacancies and limit payroll growth. The Alliance proposes a $50 million cut in personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze plus a further $50 million saved by reducing consultancy. Cutting back on backroom functions and vendor consolidation is essential to bring rates under control.4) Discretionary programmes and Māori-focused spend. The proposed $10 million/year for the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) and the $36 million/year Food Scraps Programme should be reassessed. These areas are not core statutory obligations of local government and should not continue to drive rate increases.5) Overall affordability and priorities. We have already endured an 18% rate rise recently; the suggestion of another 10% on top is excessive. A focus on essential services with a targeted reduction in non-essential and discretionary spending is required.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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8562

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

The impact on households is substantial: around $320 more per year for the average home taking the current average bill to about $4069 with real increases far beyond inflation since 2022. The proposed splitâ€”2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”highlights the need to re-prioritise spending rather than hike rates.I oppose any rates rise above inflation and urge the Council to implement substantial reductions in wasteful expenditure. Specific actions I support include:- Reducing personnel costs by freezing non-essential hires and cancelling vacant positions which can save at least $17 million immediately.- Cutting spending on

consultants and professional services and reigning in contract renegotiations and vendor consolidationâ€”targeting at least $50 million in savings.- Limiting discretionary grants and prioritising statutory services over non-essential programmes.- Cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves.- Cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department arguing this is not a local government function.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes an alternative budget that reduces new Council spending by about $150 million (2%) capping the average residential rate increase to around 3 percent. This framework prioritises essential services strengthens financial discipline and reduces the burden on households while maintaining core functions.Additional context: Council spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year with payroll and other expenses rising faster than inflation. Eighteen corporate and business support functions cost nearly $868 million in direct expenditure. A reallocation towards core statutory duties with leaner governance and back-office structures would better serve ratepayers and align with prudent public finance.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8612,337584,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,Key context I rely on is that the current average residential rates bill sits at about $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase of roughly 30% since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) versus 12% cumulative inflation. The proposed 7.9% increase comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This compounds a rate rise that has seen Council spending grow far faster than inflation.I propose the Council adopts the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the increase at around 3%. 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 millionAgreed positions I want recorded:- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council should reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (this alone 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 function of local government.Additional notes: Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen significantly relative to inflation over recent years; a disciplined reallocation toward core statutory responsibilities is warranted.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8621,337575,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit this letter to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for cuts to wasteful non-essential Council spending.Key positions1) Oppose the 7.9% average rates increase. The proposed rise translates to about $320 more for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022

well above current inflation. A rate rise of this magnitude is not acceptable when residents face cost pressures.2) Reduce corporate and backroom spending. The Alliance data show substantial outlays on consultants ($126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant around $200k) and broad corporate and back-office costs. Step changes are needed to curb non-essential administration.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. Given the rising payroll and other expenses I support capping and reviewing external professional fees to ensure value for money and better alignment with essential services.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The programme costs about $36 million per year and based on the briefing emits more carbon than it saves. Redirect resources to essential services with proven benefits.5) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs. Not hiring for vacant non-essential roles should be implemented immediately which could save at least $17 million right away.6) Cut Māori-specific spending. I oppose the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a local government core function; funds should be prioritised toward statutory responsibilities and essential services.Additional pointsBroadcasting an overall budget increase without context misleads ratepayers. Some properties may see increases while others decrease; the net effect still impacts households as seen by members in our community.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8636,337560,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit this community submission in a constructive solution-focused manner opposing the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and calling for a pause and downsizing of non-essential spending.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. With current average rates at $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent while inflation has risen about 12 percent ratepayers cannot bear another large rise. The proposed breakdownâ€”2% for existing assets 1.5% for growth in new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”disproportionately burdens households already stretched by high living costs.Agreed: I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reducing consulting and professional services spend. The Council should prioritise core statutory and essential services over discretionary items and I endorse the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to cap average rates increases by reducing non-essential costs.I agree 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. I also support cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) where the role is not a mandated local government function. A targeted organisational change and vendor consolidation could save substantial funds.I acknowledge the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) thereby capping rate increases to around 3 percent. This includes: $50 million from personnel cost reductions $50 million from cap on consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million for prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. This plan offers a credible path to relief for ratepayers without compromising essential services.Additional point: you promised to limit rate rises yet we now face rises two to three times that limit which is untenable for households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8660,337536,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to advocate for restraint on wasteful Council spending.Key points- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 more per average household on top of an average bill of $4069. Since 2022 residential rates have risen by 30% in real terms far outpacing 12% inflation over the same period.- The rate rise is broken down as: 2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This structure underscopes the need for genuine efficiency before increasing charges on households.- Council spending on consultants totals about $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant around $200000 and $60 million attributed to the Auckland Council parent. Personnel costs have surged with 6123 employees on six-figure salaries and 72 staff paid more than the mayor.- Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have grown far faster than inflation; payroll alone is about $1.3 billion while consultants and contractors total $590 million. Eighteen corporate and business support functions account for about $868 million in direct expenditure.- The Council's spending on Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) is $171 million over 10 years and there is significant expenditure on discretionary grants that should be prioritised to essential statutory functions.Agreed positions- Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9%.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million/year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which 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 core local government function.Additional: Oakland is broke we have to learn to cut our cloth.Alternative budgeting- Support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping rates to ~3% via: $50m on personnel costs $50m on consultants $30m via contract renegotiations $20m on essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request to speak at hearings to present these points in person: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8674,337522,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,This level is well above inflation and far from affordable for households already bearing substantial rate increases since 2010. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 a real increase of around 30 percent in 2022 dollars with cumulative inflation at about 12 percent. The proposed 7.9 percent break down includes 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs and does not align with the need to curb wasteful expenditure.I support a reduction in expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The Alliance data show gross inefficiencies in consultants staff costs and discretionary spending. Annual consultant spending reaches $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200000. Payroll and related costs have surged with 6123 employees on six-figure salaries and 72 staff earning more than the mayor while direct operating expenditure has risen well ahead of inflation.I call for cutting consultancy and professional services spend rather than continuing to grow these items. The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. A freeze or reduction of staffingâ€"by not filling non-essential vacanciesâ€"could save at least $17 million immediately. This aligns with a broader need to cap payroll growth and

restructure where appropriate.I also urge reducing Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department which is not a core local government function. Reprioritising statutory and essential services should take precedence over discretionary grants with a focus on efficiency service delivery and value for ratepayers.As a minimal requirement I propose the Council deliver a zero-based review of non-essential functions and deliver a plan to reduce new spending by at least $150 million (2%) enabling a cap of around 3 percent on average residential rates. This includes: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services.Additional note: what happened to reducing road cone usage? We see many cones abroad that are not used which suggests opportunities for efficiency.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8709,337487,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit my opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a comprehensive review of Council spending to respect ratepayer affordability.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average rate rise amounts to about $320 for the average household on top of a long-term trajectory where rates have increased 85% since 2010 outpacing inflation and population growth. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs which must be examined for efficiency and value for money.- I support substantial reductions in corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs as well as a freeze or reduction of payroll costs by not hiring for non-essential vacant roles. This could save at least $17 million immediately and rebalance priorities toward essential services.- I oppose rising consultancy and professional services expenditure. The Council's reliance on outside advisers with high average consultant pay represents a wasteful use of ratepayer funds that does not deliver commensurate public value.- I oppose funding for the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is said to emit more carbon than it saves. Redirecting those funds to essential services would better serve communities.- I oppose additional Māori outcomes spending of about $10 million per year (Ngā Mātārae). If this is not a core local-government function funding should be redirected to statutory and essential services.Alternative budget approach- The Ratepayers' Alliance outline proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to 3% and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. This approach aligns with prudent stewardship of public funds and avoids placing an excessive burden on households.I ask that the Council seriously consider these efficiency and reprioritisation steps before approving any further rate increases and that submissions be used to shape a more affordable and value-driven budget.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8720,337476,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I oppose this increase and urge the Council to curb wasteful spending and adopt a responsible budget that protects essential services while bringing rates increases in line with inflation.Key concerns and positions1) Rates affordability: The proposed 7.9% average increase places an ongoing burden on households. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% in 2022 dollars against 12% overall

inflation. A more prudent approach is to limit rate rises to the rate of inflation or better pursue cost-saving measures that keep increases to around 3% or less as our alternative budget proposes.2) Expenditure discipline: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items. Auckland's payroll and contracting costs are excessive with staff pay and consultancy total over $1.9 billion when including related expenses and $868.4 million spent on 18 corporate and business support functions.3) Wasteful programmes and staffing: The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and should be cancelled given its carbon outcome relative to savings. Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.4) Discretionary and targeted spending: Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a function of local government and should be redirected to essential services.5) Alternative budget framework: The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a cap of ~3% on average residential rates. This would be achieved through: (a) $50 million from personnel cost reductions and a hiring freeze; (b) $50 million from capping consultants; (c) $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; (d) $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt the proposed savings plan reject a large rate rise and improve efficiency before increasing charges on households. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8754,337433,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit my opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and urge a rethink of spending to align rate rises with inflation and real needs.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average rise translates to about $320 more per household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen far faster than inflation or population growth with real increases of about 30% since 2022 and 85% since amalgamation. This is untenable for households facing tight budgets.- The breakdown shows 4.4% of the rise goes to CRL operating costs while 2% maintains existing assets and 1.5% funds new assets. This allocation is not justified if it locks in ongoing overspend rather than focusing on essential statutory services.- Wasteful expenditure is a repeated concern: consultants cost the Council about $126 million annually; six-figure salaries for many staff; and high costs in corporate and back-office functions. Direct operating expenditure has grown well above inflation while payroll and contractor costs remain excessive.Agreed positions and requested actions- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. Seek a cap closer to 3% by reducing expenditure.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate/backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services; stop the continual rise in these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme budgeted at $36 million/year which emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Maori outcomes department Ngā Mātārae as this is not a core local government function.Ratepayer-focused alternative budget- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at around 3%. This would come from: $50 million in personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million in consultant spending; $30 million in contract

renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request to speak at hearings to further outline these concerns. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8801,337361,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I am writing to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a disciplined reduction in wasteful Council spending. I want my submission to be read respectfully and considered seriously.1) Opposition to the rates increase- I oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household). Since 2022 rates have risen 30% in real terms while inflation has been 12%. The proposed split includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs which I do not accept as a justification for increasing bills on households already stretched by cost-of-living pressures.2) Spending reductions and management- The Council should reduce expenditure on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. The current levelâ€”$126 million per year across the Council group with $60 million by the Auckland Council parentâ€”drives up costs for ratepayers.- I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- I support cutting Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) given that this is not a core function of local government.3) Context and framing- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen by 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. Ratepayers need a focus on core statutory and essential services rather than expanding discretionary programmes.- The public deserves spending that reflects value for money with priority on essential services and transparent governance.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8816,337320,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I am submitting in a personal and sincere tone to express strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending.I oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. The current average rates bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 amount to 30 percent far exceeding ordinary inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent increase is not affordable for households already facing rising costs.There must be a fundamental rethink of expenditure. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. The Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and currently emitting more carbon than it saves should be canceled. Payroll is a primary lever for savings: freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles an action that could save at least $17 million immediately.I also advocate trimming non-essential Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government. A leaner organisation will better protect essential services for ratepayers. Additionally I urge scrutiny of water rates; Christchurch has no water charges and I question whether Auckland's meter readings and charges reflect good value for money for residents.To illustrate potential relief I support the Ratepayers'

Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap rates increases at around 3 percent achieved by reducing personnel costs capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I request the opportunity to speak at a hearing to present my submission in person. I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0 ,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8821,337313,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase falls well above inflation and undermines households already stretched by rising costs. The average residential bill is currently $4069 and the 7.9% rise equates to about $320 more per year for the average household.- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85%â€”far outpacing inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A sustainable path requires meaningful cost containment not further rate shocks.- A significant portion of the rise is tied to CRL operating costs (4.4%) alongside ongoing asset maintenance (2%) and new assets for growth (1.5%). The Council should demonstrate that all funds are directed to essential services and core statutory obligations.Agreed positions and requests- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9% and support a cap of rates increases closer to 3% through reducing new spending.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services spend.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year) given its carbon impact relative to savings.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) noting this is not a role for local government.Additional points- Stop wasting money on cycle lanes raised pedestrian crossings and inconsistent frequently redone road markings that reflect poor planning and misaligned priorities.Alternative budget and outcome- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposal suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap rates at ~3%: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8837

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: Albert-Eden

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 climate requires restraint and a focus on essential services not new or expanded backroom costs.I oppose the proposed 7.9% average increase. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growth in new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs yet households have faced a real increase well above inflation for years. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% (well above inflation) while population growth has been only 22% raising questions about efficiency and prioritisation.I urge a contraction of discretionary and non-essential spend:- Cut personnel costs by freezing staffing or reducing payroll through not filling vacant non-essential

roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce consultant and contractor spend; the current level of external advice ($126 million per year across the Council group; average consultant pay around $200k) is unsustainable.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Cap spending on Māori outcomes including the Ngā Mātārae budget of around $10 million per year as these functions are not a compulsory local government mandate.These measures align with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which shows how a $150 million reduction in new Council spending could cap average rates increases to around 3% through targeted savings in personnel consultants contracting and prioritisation of statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional point: the burden is becoming too high for retirees who have already contributed significantly to the system.In summary I request that Auckland Council prioritise savings and reallocate resources toward essential services while keeping rate increases in line with inflation and reasonable affordability.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8895

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: Albert-Eden

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. Council spending and backroom functionsThe Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner corporate footprint is essential to ensuring ratepayer funds are directed to essential services rather than overhead.2. Consultants and professional servicesThe Council should reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. Current levels of external advice add little value relative to the cost and savings could be redirected to frontline services.3. Specific programme cancellationsThe Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which

costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves. This is an area where resources could be better allocated to essential services that deliver verifiable benefits to households.4. Staffing and payrollThe Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone would save at least $17 million right away and would demonstrate discipline in managing ongoing personnel costs.5. Māori-specific spendingThe Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). In my view this is not a core local government function and resources should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.Additional points- Align budget priorities with the statutory duties of local government ensuring core services (water waste transport) are funded reliably.- Prioritise efficiency measures and procurement reforms including contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to deliver better value for money.In closing I request careful consideration of these cost-saving measures to ensure ratepayer funds are used prudently and in support of 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.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8939

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: Albert-Eden

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 increase is not affordable for households already faced with real rate rises far above inflation.Key concerns and requests:1) Rates affordability and structure. The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to roughly $320 more per average household on a current average bill of $4069. With rates since 2022 rising 30% in real terms (well above cumulative inflation of ~12%) further increases must be restrained to levels closer to inflation not a repeat of open-ended growth.2) Wasteful and excessive expenditure. The Council should reduce spend on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut consultancy and professional

services rather than continue to escalate these costs. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen markedly since 2013 while essential services struggle to keep pace.3) Specific cuts and reallocation. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs about $36 million/year) as it emits more carbon than it saves. Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a move that alone could save at least $17 million immediately.4) Prioritisation of statutory services. Reduce non-essential discretionary grants and specifically cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local government function.5) Alternative budget alignment. Align with the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) cap average residential rates at ~3% and target savings through the outlined measures: personnel costs consultants contract renegotiations and prioritisation of statutory services.Rural ratepayers are disproportionately affected by high increases with limited access to quality roads and services. Rates comprise a substantial portion of many households' income and are not sustainable at current trajectories.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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8942

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a focus on cutting wasteful Council spending to bring real rates relief to households.1. Rate increase and spending priorities- The proposed 7.9% average increase is well above the current rate of inflation and places a heavy burden on Auckland households with the current average residential bill already $4069. A constructive path is to cap rate rises at around 3% by trimming discretionary and corporate and back office costs.2. Reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom functions- The Council and CCOs should trim their overall and unnecessary corporate and back-office spending. A leaner structure will reduce

overhead without compromising essential services.3. Reduced spending on consultancy and professional services- Spending on consultants and contractors is currently excessive. Freeze non-essential hiring and cap external advisory costs to reallocate funds to essential services and rate relief.4. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme- The Food Scraps Programme costs about $36 million per year and based on available data emits more carbon than it saves. Cancelling this programme would free significant funds for rate relief and other essential services. I also propose encouraging ratepayers to compost at home as a practical alternative.5. Staffing and payroll reforms- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. A targeted workforce review should prioritise essential functions and avoid any inflation in salaries.6. Māori-specific spending- The $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be redacted with the focus instead being on core statutory responsibilities and essential services rather than such discretionary programmes.Alternative budget framing- A $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) would cap the rate rise to roughly 3% achieved through: $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 point- Promote home composting to reduce waste and support a broader community-based approach to waste management.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8971

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: Albert-Eden

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 a constructive and solution-focused submission opposing the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and urging a fundamental reassessment of Council spending in order to protect households from unaffordable rises.Key points- Oppose the 7.9% average increase. With the current average residential rates bill around $4069 a 7.9% rise compounds cost pressures on households already facing 30% real rates growth since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and inflation of 12%. A more affordable path is essential.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. The major cost drivers must be reviewed before approving further

rate increases.- Cut spend on consultancy and professional services. Council group spends $126 million annually on consultants (Auckland Council parent about $60 million) with average consultants paid around $200k. Reducing reliance on external advisory services will lower operating costs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme at about $36 million/year which Australian evidence suggests can emit more carbon than it saves. Redirect resources to essential services with proven community benefit.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. The submitter notes this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). This is a function that local government should prioritise differently focusing on core statutory responsibilities.Alternative budget stance- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates growth to about 3% through: $50 million savings from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freeze; $50 million from consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt a more frugal staffing procurement and service-delivery model to keep rates affordable while preserving essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#8991

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this formal submission concerning the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent.I oppose the average residential rates rise and request the Council to reduce expenditure before increasing rates. The 7.9 percent increase translates to about $320 for the average household which is well above general inflation and effective growth in our city's needs. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen by 85 percent far outpacing inflation and population growth. It is essential that expenditure be tightened first particularly on backroom and corporate functions.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance

position to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2 percent reduction) to cap rates increases at around 3 percent. Specifically:- Freeze or reduce staffing by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services targeting a reduction of $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors saving about $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.In addition I call for the cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and on balance emits more carbon than it saves. I also urge a reduction in Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.The Council must demonstrate value for money and accountability. Direct operating expenditure grew 78 percent between 2013 and 2023 while personnel costs and other expenses rose faster than inflation. Reducing consultants payroll and discretionary programmes will allow maintaining essential services without penalising households.Families are already financially stretched; these rate increases are not needed and will worsen hardship.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9003

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my opposition to the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and urge a practical reduction in wasteful Council spending to protect households from unaffordable bills.1) Oppose the rates increase and demand expenditure restraint- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 extra per household on top of an 85% rate rise since 2010. This is well above inflation and population growth and I do not support rate increases above inflation.- The rate increase is currently allocated as 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets to accommodate growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Given the scale of spending and performance concerns

the Council must prioritise core statutory services over discretionary or non-essential items.2) Wasteful spend must be trimmed- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these costs.- Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen markedly; personnel costs and 'other expenses' have grown faster than inflation. A freeze on vacancies and non-essential hiring would immediately save further millions.3) Specific programme and spending reforms- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million right away.- Reconsider and reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a direct local-government statutory requirement.4) Governance and efficiency- Reduce spending on consultants (capped at sensible levels) and renegotiate contracts to realise cost efficiencies; pursue vendor consolidation where possible.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants to ensure essential functions are funded first.Additional point: Stop spending on the wasteful circle lane BS.ClosingI request the Council to adopt the above savings and to present a revised budget with a far smaller rate increase closer to the rate of inflation and with greater transparency on efficiency gains.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9042

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit my formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a substantial reduction in spending to keep rates at or below inflation.Position and rationale1) Rates increase: The proposal of a 7.9% average rise equates to about $320 more per household and is not acceptable when ratepayers already face real cost pressures. Since 2022 Auckland rates have risen by about 30% in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation (12%). It is essential to keep annual increases at or below inflation until core cost drivers are demonstrably controlled.2) Spend reduction focus: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and

backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. Current annual consultant spend is around $126 million across the group with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent and an average consultant pay of about $200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown well beyond inflation; staff costs have surged significantly.3) Specific cost-cutting measures to implement now:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which also emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cancel or substantially scale back Māori-specific programmes such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) budget of around $10 million per year noting that this is not a core local government function.4) Alternative budget framing: The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about a 2% reduction) to cap the average rates increase at around 3% achieved through a combination of personnel cost controls consultant caps contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Additional pointsAnnual rate increases must be kept at or below inflation levels. Ratepayers do not have unlimited funds to subsidise council inefficiency or non-core activities. Listen to ratepayers and act in our best interests.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9043

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in favour of meaningful reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key concerns:- The proposed 7.9% average increase is excessive contributing to a real real-dollar burden on households. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 and the real increase since 2022 is already about 30 percent far outstripping 12 percent inflation. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for existing assets and 1.5% for new assets all driving up bills for residents.- Spending reform is essential. Council and CCO payroll costs and

consultant/contractor costs are unsustainably high. The Alliance notes $126 million per year in consultancy across the Council group with $60 million by the Auckland Council parent alone and average consultants at about $200k. Direct operating expenditure rose 78% from 2013 to 2023 well ahead of inflation. Eighteen corporate and business support functions cost nearly $868 million in direct expenditure.- Proposed measures must prioritise core statutory services and cut discretionary spend. The Plan should cap average rates increases to much closer to 3% by reducing non-essential spend by about $150 million (2% cut): freeze vacant non-essential roles cut consultancy spend renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors and prioritise essential services over discretionary grants.- Other specific savings: cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year and emits more carbon than it saves) and reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Additional point:- Stop funding ineffective or unused cycle/walkway schemes; projects along motorways are not justifiable.In summary I urge a hard efficiency focus: reduce personnel costs by freezing non-essential hires cap consultants renegotiate contracts and prioritise essential services. I would like the opportunity to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9045

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: Albert-Eden

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 average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 which would mean about $320 more per household on an average rates bill of $4069. This rise far outpaces inflation and undermines households already stretched by the cost of living.Key concerns and preferred outcomes:1) Rate increase and affordability- The 7.9% average rise represents a real burden on ratepayers. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85%â€”well above inflation and population growth. Capping the increase at 3% would be more reasonable if funded by cost reductions outlined below.2) Wasteful and excessive spend- Council and CCOs employ thousands in backroom and

corporate functions; direct operating expenditure has grown far faster than inflation. A reduction in personnel costs and a cap on consultants is essential.- Consultant spend amounts to about $126 million annually across the Council group with the average consultant paid around $200000. This is unsustainable and diverts funds from essential services.3) Specific reductions to critical costs- Oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme at $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze hiring for non-essential roles and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant positions; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Limit Māori-focused spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I view as exceeding local-government roles and responsibilities.Alternative budget approach (consistent with the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal):- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping the rate rise at 3%: - $50 million savings from personnel costs via organisational changes and hiring freeze - $50 million savings from capping consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsIn conclusion I urge the Council to implement substantial cost-saving reforms before levelling a higher rates increase on residents. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9073,336997,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in favour of reducing wasteful Council spending and backroom costs.1. Rates and fiscal restraint- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent which equates to about $320 for the average household. Since 2022 rates have effectively risen 30 percent in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation at 12 percent.- The breakdown shows 2 percent for maintaining existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. This level of growth is unsustainable for households and warrants significant reduction.2. Wasteful spend and backroom costs- Council spending on consultants amounts to about $126 million per year across the Council group with the parent Auckland Council alone at $60 million and average consultants earning around $200000. I urge a reduction in personnel costs and outsourcing.- Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen well beyond inflation and population growth. Payroll now totals about $1.3 billion with consultants/contractors at $590 million and eighteen corporate and business support functions costing $868.4 million in direct expenditure.- I request a freeze on non-essential hires and an immediate review of backroom and corporate functions. Reducing payroll costs and consultant spend is essential to stabilise rates growth.3. Specific policy reductions- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which I understand emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which can 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 core local government function.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save around $30 million.4. Budget alternative- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (approximately 2%) to cap residential rates increases at around 3% by implementing the above measures.ClosingI appreciate Council's consideration of these points and urge practical action to align rate increases with inflation and essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a

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

9095,336971,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit in strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to demand substantial reductions in wasteful council spending.1. Rates increase and spending priorities- The proposed 7.9% average uplift is not affordable for households and it represents a real-terms increase well above inflation. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a 30% real increase since 2022 while population growth remains ongoing. I call for holding average increases to no more than 3% consistent with a clear restraint on non-essential growth.2. Wasteful expenditure and backroom costs- The council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb the growth of consultancy and professional services which currently total hundreds of millions across the group.- Council payroll and related personnel costs have risen sharply; freezing vacant non-essential roles and tightening staffing would deliver immediate savings. I advocate for a pause on new hires in non-essential areas to save at least $17 million promptly.3. Specific programme and Māori spend- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to independent assessments emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reassess targeted spending on Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) such as the roughly $10 million per year allocated. This is not a core local government function and should be redirected to statutory and essential services.4. Alternative budget framework- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) cap average residential rates increases to around 3% with targeted cuts in personnel costs consultants and vendor contracts and prioritise essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt substantial cost-control measures and re-prioritise funds toward core statutory services rather than perpetuating higher rate rises driven by bloated administration and costly consultancy.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9123,336940,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,On current evidence this rise is not affordable for households particularly given the real increase in rates since 2022 has already reached about 30 percent in 2022 dollars well above cumulative inflation. The plan breaks down as 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growth in new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs; this mix compounds cost pressure on ratepayers while delivering limited justification for such a high uplift.I support a significant reduction in wasteful Council spending to bring the rate increase closer to inflation or below. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing sets out credible pathways including reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles capping consultancy and professional services and renegotiating contracts to consolidate vendors. Specifically a $150 million reduction in new Council spending could cap the average residential rates increase at around 3 percent.My preferred components of this alternative budget are:- Freeze non-essential staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant roles saving at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce spending on consultants and professional services by $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.- Reallocate funds away from

discretionary expenditure to support core municipal functions.Additional considerations highlight that ongoing escalations in corporate and backroom functions and consultants are a central driver of rate increases. For many seniors including homeowners who are pensioners the current trajectory threatens affordability. The Council should also re-examine and pause non-core programmes such as the Food Scraps Programme where the costs are substantial (about $36 million per year) with uncertain net savings in emissions.I respectfully request that Council adopt a fiscally prudent path reduce waste and present a revised plan that aligns rates with real cost drivers and inflation.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9165,336895,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,The current context shows rates have risen 85% since the 2010 amalgamation far outpacing both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). The proposed 7.9% increase comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as the city grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. In real terms residents are already bearing a large burden; a further increase should be reserved for essential services not for unnecessary or overpriced backroom functions.I urge the Council to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap rate increases at roughly 3% by cutting wasteful spending:- Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze saving about $50 million.- Cap spending on consultants saving about $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors saving about $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving about $20 million.Specific spending reforms supported by the submitter include:- Reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cutting spend on consultancy and professional services.- Canceling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a function of local government.Additional concerns include the observable condition of streets and verges; staff reductions should not come at the expense of essential maintenance. Prioritising core services will protect ratepayers from excessive increases and stimulate safer better-maintained neighbourhoods.I request the opportunity to speak at hearings to further outline these points. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9169,336890,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit this response to the proposed 2026/27 annual plan with the aim of a more affordable rates path and restrained Council spending.I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This would amount to about $320 for the average household and sits within a longer pattern of rate increases that far outpace ordinary income growth. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85 percent in real terms well above inflation and population growth and the current plan shoulders ratepayers with a substantial portion to fund operating costs and new assets.I therefore support and urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rate rise at around 3 percent. This would be achieved by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles saving

about $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to save $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.I also urge the Council to address specific expenditure concerns:- Cut spending on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this could deliver at least $17 million in immediate savings.- Reassess Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a local government core function.Other considerations include a focus on reducing spend on consultants and professional services and ensuring that direct operating expenditure aligns more closely with inflation and essential services.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9171,336887,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27.The proposed rise translates to about $320 for the average household on top of ongoing real increases. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 meaning a real increase of around 30% since 2022 (versus 12% overall inflation). The 7.9% increase is unevenly allocated: 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets to accommodate growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85%â€”well above inflation and population growth.There is clear potential to reduce wasteful spending. Council expenditure on consultants is about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant paid roughly $200k and payroll and other operating costs rising much faster than inflation. Spending on Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) totals $171 million over 10 years. There are 6123 Council and CCO employees on six-figure salaries with 72 staff paid more than the Mayor's $306741. Direct operating expenditure grew 78% from 2013 to 2023 far exceeding inflation and the payroll alone is $1.3 billion.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increases at about 3% through:- Reducing personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping consultancy expenditure: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionAdditional priority actions include cancelling the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) and halving or eliminating the Māori outcomes spend (Ngā Mātārae) of about $10 million per year recognising these are not core local-government functions. Freeze vacancies and avoid non-essential recruitment to save at least $17 million immediately.I urge the Council to prioritise essential services reduce back-office expenditure and align rates with inflation plus necessary growth not a further cost burden on households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9269

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to about $320 more per household on top of a cumulative 30% real increase since 2022 far exceeding inflation. Rates have risen 85% since the 2010 Super City amalgamation while population growth has been only 22%.- 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 as Auckland grows. I question the ongoing justification of such high operating costs and asset expansions when households face cost-of-living pressures.Position and asks- I oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- The Council must cut

wasteful expenditure especially in corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce consultancy and professional services spend; capping or re-prioritising this area is essential.- 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 which 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) as this is not a core local government role.Budget alternative- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases at about 3%: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze - $50 million by capping consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsClosingI urge the Council to consider these reductions and value-for-money improvements to protect homeowners and ratepayers from excessive increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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

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

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9334

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

Tell us why

I urge the Council to align rate increases with inflation and to prioritise essential services while cutting wasteful or non-core spend.Key points- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (vs. 12% general inflation). This is unsustainable for households already facing cost pressures.- I agree 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 increases in those areas.- I agree the Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs

$36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- I agree staffing should be frozen or payroll costs reduced by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- I agree there should be cuts to Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Alternative budget framing- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rates increase at 3%: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million from consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.- This approach prioritises essential local-government functions improves efficiency and avoids rate shock to households.ClosingI respectfully ask the Council to reconsider the proposed rate increase and pursue the stated cost-saving measures to protect households and deliver core services effectively.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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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.

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9343

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

For the average household this equates to about $320 more per year in a context where the current average rates bill has risen to $4069 and real increases since 2022 have run at around 30 percent far exceeding cumulative inflation. The proposed breakdownâ€”2 percent for existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costsâ€”fails to provide confidence that ratepayer funds are being used efficiently.I advocate for a thorough reduction in wasteful expenditure to keep rates affordable and protect essential local services. In particular:1) Reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.2) Cut spending on

consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to keep rising.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 filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Reassess and reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting that this is not a core local government function.I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (roughly 2 percent) thereby capping the rate rise at around 3 percent. This approach prioritises statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and improves value for ratepayers.I also urge that Mayoral and Councillor remuneration and related costs be subject to restraint where possible to further ease pressure on household budgets.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**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9390

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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- **Water**
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This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

At approximately $320 more per household for the average ratepayer this increase is well above inflation and far beyond what residents can reasonably sustain.Key points- The 7.9% rise is currently broken down as 2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of growth in costs is not justified by improved service delivery to ordinary households.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping consultants and professional services at $50 million and freezing non-essential payroll. This would cap the average residential rate increase to about 3%.-

Wasteful backroom spending must be trimmed. Council spending on consultants and contractors totals hundreds of millions with substantial payroll and corporate and business support costs that do not reflect value for ratepayers.- Specific reductions should include: cutting personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles (potential saving of at least $17 million immediately) capping consultant spend renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors.- Priorities must align with statutory and essential services first. Discretionary grants and non-core programmes should be scaled back.- The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves; cancelling this programme is sensible now. It should be replaced with efficiency-focused essential services first.- I also urge restraint on Māori-specific spend such as the $10 million/year allocated to Ngā Mātārae aligning funding with core local government responsibilities.Additional noteSTOP BUILDING MORE SPEED BUMPS. They increase fuel use and commuter costs undermining transport efficiency and Council affordability.In summary ratepayers cannot bear increases well above inflation. A disciplined reduction in personnel consultants and non-essential expenditure is required to keep rates affordable 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.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9392

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: Albert-Eden

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 position opposing Auckland Council's proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase falls well above inflation and represents a real burden on households. The average residential rates bill would rise to about $4269 from $4069 with the real increase since 2022 already 30% in 2022 dollars while general inflation has grown roughly 12%.- The rate rise is poorly targeted. It allocates 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets due to growth without delivering commensurate value to ratepayers.- Spending growth is unaffordable. Direct operating

expenditure rose 78% from 2013 to 2023 while inflation was 29%. Payroll and consultant expenditures have inflated well beyond reasonable limits: consultants cost about $126 million per year across the Council group and 6123 staff at six-figure salaries with 72 paid more than the mayor.Agreed measures to reduce costs- Oppose the average 7.9% increase and pursue cuts to wasteful spending. Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget to cap the increase at 3% by reducing new spending by $150 million (2% reduction).- Reduce corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs; cap spending on consultants; pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- Cancel non-core programmes such as the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million/year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles saving at least $17 million immediately.- Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting this is not a core local government responsibility.Additional noteBe as money careful as ratepayers are forced to be.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9413

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The rate hike is well above inflation and places an unfair burden on households. The proposal allocates 4.4% to CRL operating costs on top of 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets due to growth. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% outpacing both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A more prudent path is essential.Agrees: I oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9% and call for substantial reductions in wasteful spending. The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb the rapid rise in consultancy and professional services rather than sustaining or increasing

these streams.The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a move that could save at least $17 million immediately. In addition I urge trimming Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government responsibility.Ratepayers' Alliance proposes an Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates increases to about 3%. This includes: $50 million from personnel cost reductions through organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million from capping consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In summary I request that the Council prioritise essential services implement meaningful cost reductions and avoid an inflation-beating rise in rates.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

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- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9424

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit a formal objection to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending. My position is aligned with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing that rates increases should be kept well below inflation and that savings should come from trimming back office and consultancy costs.1) Opposition to the proposed increase- Agree: Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. For the average household this equates to about $320 far above inflation and well beyond what households can absorb without disruption to essential living costs.- The current average residential bill is about

$4069; since 2022 rates have risen by roughly 30 percent in real terms while general inflation has been higher than acceptable for households with limited discretionary income.2) Expenditure reductions proposed- Agree: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Agree: The Council must reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to climb further.- Agree: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Agree: 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.- Agree: Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.3) Additional context- The Alliance's alternative budget suggests reducing new Council spending by about $150 million to cap the rate rise at around 3 percent through targeted reforms: staffing freezes consultant caps vendor renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge you to adopt a prudent savings approach and align rates with household ability to pay 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**
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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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9452

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

Key position: oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household on a current average bill of $4069. Since 2012 rates have increased far faster than inflation and population growth; the real increase since 2022 is 30 percent while cumulative inflation sits around 12 percent. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growth in assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This structure demands scrutiny and tighter control.Agree: reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and

professional services. Data shows $126 million per year across the Council group on consultants with the average consultant earning about $200k. Payroll and related costs have grown disproportionately (staff on six-figure salaries rising and direct operating expenditure outpacing inflation by a wide margin). These are prime areas for saving without compromising core services.Agree: cancel the Food Scraps Programme currently costing about $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to essential services with verifiable environmental benefits.Agree: freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. The Alliance estimates this could save at least $17 million immediately.Agree: cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local government function.A credible path forward is the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases) achieved by organisational change hiring freezes capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Closing: I request that this submission be considered in full as part of the public consultation process. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

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- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9459

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

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 submit my opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and demand a realignment of council spending toward essential services and debt reduction not higher charges on households already squeezed by cost of living pressures.Position and rationale- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The current average rates bill is $4069 with real increases since 2022 at about 30 percent far surpassing cumulative inflation. A rates rise this large imposes unaffordable costs on households while infrastructure and services must be sustainably funded.- The Council must reduce non-essential and corporate backroom spend. The Auckland Ratepayers'

Alliance shows $126 million per year in consultancy across the Council group and extensive six-figure salaries. Cutting these costs is essential to protect ratepayers and fund core services.- Limit consultancy and professional services expenditure. Freeze or slow recruitment for non-essential roles reduce overall payroll costs by not filling vacant positions and reinvest in frontline services. The Alliance's plan proposes meaningful savings by capping excessive contractor use and rebalancing personnel costs.- Freeze staffing and payroll growth. The proposal to hire or retain non-essential staff should be paused; eliminating vacant roles could save at least $17 million immediately. This is a prudent first step toward moderating rate increases.- Reconsider Māori-specific spending. The Alliance highlights $10 million per year spent on Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) as not a core local government function. Redirecting these funds toward statutory and essential services aligns with ratepayer priorities and governance responsibilities.- Alternative budget approach. The Ratepayers' Alliance outlines a plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping rates increases at about 3% by a targeted mix of personnel cost reductions consultants caps contract renegotiations and prioritising 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**
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- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9521

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

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 case for restraint is clear: the council's own data show a real inflation-adjusted rise in rates of 30% since 2022 while inflation has risen by about 12%. A rate rise of nearly 8% is well above inflation and unacceptable to households already stretched by the cost of living.Key concerns and positions:- The 7.9% increase is broken down as: 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This allocation compounds the burden on residents without delivering commensurate proven value for money.- The Council must urgently reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and

cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and according to independent analysis emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies; claims suggest this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-focused spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local government function.Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes alternative budgeting to cap the rate rise at around 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%). This includes:- $50 million from personnel cost reductions through organisational changes and hiring freezes.- $50 million from capping consultant spending.- $30 million from renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.These steps are practical targeted and consistent with responsible governance. With rates already up 85% since 2010 and staff and consultant costs rising faster than inflation a disciplined reallocation is essential to restore affordability and public trust.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9528

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit this formal submission in opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27 and to advocate for substantial reductions in council spending to better reflect value for ratepayers.1) Rates increase and fiscal responsibility- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. This would cost the average household about $320 more per year at a time when real increases since 2022 have already reached 30 percent (in 2022 dollars) against 12 percent inflation. The current framework allows for ratepayers to bear excessive cost while essential services are pressured to meet rising operating costs.2) Wasteful spending and

inefficiencies- 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 rather than continue to increase these items (annual consultancy spending is about $126 million across the group; the average consultant earns approximately $200k).- The Council must 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 which could yield at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.3) Alternative budget guidance- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap average residential rate increases at around 3 percent. This includes: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and hiring freezes $50 million from caps on consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.In closing I ask Auckland Council to prioritise value-for-money reduce discretionary expenditure and pursue a more modest rate increase aligned with inflation and essential services. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9531

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: Albert-Eden

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 affordability of rates for households is a priority and the current proposal would add approximately $320 to the average residential bill on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 in the context of persistent inflation.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to cap rate rises by reducing expenditure in non-essential areas. Specifically:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to achieve meaningful savings allocating the funds

to essential services.- Freeze or reduce discretionary spend by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I also urge cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves and to pause or rethink Māori-specific spending such as the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) at about $10 million per year as this is not a core local government function.Given the scale of past growth in ratesâ€”85% since 2010 while population grew 22%â€”and the disproportionate impact on households I request that the Council adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) resulting in an average rate increase around 3% through the measures outlined above. These steps would deliver more responsible governance and greater value for residents.I note that Wayne Brown campaigned on bringing rates down; I seek assurance that rates are kept under control and that spending reforms take effect promptly.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
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	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9553

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: Albert-Eden

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 wish to register strong fact-based opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to the ongoing expansion of discretionary and backroom spending. The case for large rate rises is weak when measured against a pattern of rising costs without clear public benefit.1) Rates and fiscal priorities- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the typical household at a time when ratepayer purchasing power is stretched and inflation remains elevated.- The proposed breakdownâ€”2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”highlights a heavier burden on households for

maintenance and growth while many services are not shown to deliver proportional value.2) Wasteful spend and backroom costs- Council spending on consultants is excessive at around $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200k. I support reducing personnel costs and capping consultancy spend.- There is a clear need to cut corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to renegotiate contracts to remove waste and duplication.- Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well ahead of inflation in recent years; a structural rebalancing is due.3) Specific reductions and policy changes- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which also emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes Department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Additional point- Stop building traffic measures such as speed bumps; improve safety through signage instead freeing up funds for essential services.Alternative budget approach- A targeted reduction of new Council spending by $150 million (2%) would cap the rate rise at around 3% by implementing the measures above: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract and vendor consolidations and $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9557

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: Albert-Eden

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%. At approximately $320 more per household this level is excessive given the scale of already implemented cost pressures and the Council's long-term spending trajectory. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% outpacing inflation and population growth by a wide margin. The current plan splits the increase into 2% for existing assets 1.5% for growth assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs yet total costs are driven by excessive backroom and consultant expenditure that should be reined in.Key cost-reduction priorities I support (Agrees):- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the

Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing where possible and/or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Additional context:The budget should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes. Direct operating expenditure has grown at nearly three times the rate of inflation in recent years and personnel costs now account for a substantial portion of the council family's expense. A responsible path is to implement a targeted modest rates increase while delivering meaningful savings in management overhead consultancy and non-essential programmes.I request that the Council adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget principles aiming to cap the rate rise at around 3 percent by reducing new spending by about $150 million through personnel changes consultancy limits contract renegotiations and prioritising core services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland’s longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9584

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

The proposed rise amounts to about $320 for the average household and represents a real inflation-adjusted burden on households that have already faced substantial rate growth since 2022.Key positions:- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The Council must not pursue rate rises above inflation when efficiency gains are achievable.- Reduce wasteful expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cut spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing them to grow further.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs about $36 million per year) which the Alliance claims emits more carbon than it

saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a role of local government.Additional points:The justification that the CRL costs necessitate higher rates is in my view not a justification that benefits all Auckland residents including those on the North Shore and South Auckland. There should be a consideration of regional inefficiencies within the current structure and a push to prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary items such as certain consultancies statues or bike infrastructure that does not reflect broad community needs. Maori consultation should be conducted where appropriate but not at the expense of essential services or rate affordability.In closing I ask for a budget rebalancing that caps the rate rise to a far more affordable level and delivers meaningful cuts to wasteful expenditure and non-essential programmes.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
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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**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9586

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of at least 7.9 percent. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent (vs. 12 percent inflation). The breakdown shows 4.4 percent of the proposed increase allocated to CRL operating costs and only 2 percent for maintaining existing assets. This is an excessive burden on households especially when there is evidence of rising staff and external costs at a pace well above inflation.I urge substantial restraint in Council expenditure to keep rate rises affordable. Specifically:- Reduce personnel costs by freezing vacancies and limiting non-essential hires which

could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services which total about $126 million per year across the Council group (averaging $200k per consultant) and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save a further $30â€“50 million.- Curb discretionary spending on back office and corporate functions; eighteen corporate and business support functions alone account for nearly $900 million in direct expenditure a critical area for trimming without compromising statutory services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Reassess and reduce targeted Māori outcomes spending including the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae arguing that this is not a core local government role.I endorse the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget framework: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2 percent) and cap the average rate increase at around 3 percent by implementing the above reductions. This approach prioritises essential services and statutory responsibilities over discretionary grants and high-cost non-essential programmes.Additional points: reduce consultant use as a matter of principle to avoid ratepayers subsidising external advisers oppose expanding advertising and influencer activity for CRL and oppose taking on central government projects unnecessarily. I do not support further cycleways in lieu of core transport or maintenance needs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9620,336424,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive relative to inflation and population growth. The plan allocates 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs yet the cumulative burden on households since 2022 already reflects a real increase of about 30% in rates while overall inflation runs around 12%. This is unsustainable for ratepayers.- Wasteful spending must be reduced. The Council's expenditure on consultants totals about $126 million per year across the group with the average consultant earning around $200k and personnel and other expenses rising far faster than inflation. A substantial reduction in corporate and backroom functions is essential.- The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves; this policy should be cancelled.- Hiring freezes or reduced payroll for non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately. Freeze or reduce staffing to curb payroll growth rather than passing costs onto households.- Maori-specific spending should be reviewed; the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local government function and should be scaled back.Constructive alternative- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance's Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increase at about 3%. This would involve: $50 million saved from personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million from capping consultancy spending; $30 million from renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.- Prioritise essential services and statutory responsibilities over discretionary programmes grant allocations and high-cost consultancy work.ConclusionActively curb wasteful spend before increasing rates. A focused cost-reduction plan not a one-size-fits-all rate rise will protect households and maintain essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9649,336394,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,The expected rise (~$320 for the average household) is well above inflation and superior population growth harming households already stretched by cost-of-living pressures. The current average rates bill of $4069 (up from $2781 in 2022) reflects a real increase of about 30% since 2022 far outpacing cumulative inflation.I support and urge action on the following constructive measures to reduce the rates impact while preserving statutory services:1) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.2) Cap and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these expenses.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.4) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; doing so would save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department on the basis that this is not a function of local government.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance I advocate for the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. Realising this requires targeted action such as organisational change hiring freezes cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I urge the Council to prioritise efficiency improvements and essential services and to consider the above measures as part of a fairer more affordable funding approach for Aucklanders. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9663,336380,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,On current information this would amount to about $320 extra per average household while real rate increases since 2022 have already reached around 30 percent in 2022 dollars. It is imperative that ratepayer funds are used efficiently and that any future spending aligns with essential local government functions.I support the following positions:- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council needs to reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continue to increase these expenditure items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- 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 context from the Alliance briefing supports capping ordinary rate rises by eliminating wasteful spend and improving efficiency. The proposed capital investments should be funded with prudent debt and cost recovery over the life of the assets rather than inflating current operating costs. Costs for capital items that will serve future Auckland should be spread over their useful life instead of loading the bill onto current ratepayers.A practical pathway to keeping rates closer to inflation would be to implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by about $150 million (2%) with targeted reductions in personnel costs consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9683,336360,,Albert-Eden,Do not support most,The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 and the real increase since 2022 is already 30 percent (vs. 12 percent cumulative inflation). The proposed 7.9 percent increase is not acceptable while wasteful spend continues.Agreeing with measures to reduce expenditure I submit that the Council must:- Cut expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to continue rising.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme 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 would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Context and rationale:- The breakdown of the proposed 7.9% increase includes 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have increased by 85% outpacing inflation and population growth; further hikes must be justified by essential services not discretionary programmes.- Council spending on consultants totals about $126 million annually across the group; the average consultant receives around $200k. Payroll and other personnel costs have grown far faster than inflation with extensive six-figure salaries and higher than the mayor's pay in many cases.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap average rates at around 3%: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contracts/vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional point:Stop thinking of ratepayers as the council's bank accountâ€”we are not.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9722

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: Albert-Eden

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 opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27 and in support of reducing wasteful Council spending. The case for restraint rests on transparent accounting of how rates have grown and what services are essential.Key points- The proposed 7.9% average increase equates to about $320 more per household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen about 85% well above inflation and population growth which raises concerns about the sustainability and fairness of the current spending trajectory.- The breakdown of the rise includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for existing asset maintenance

and 1.5% for growth in new assets. This emphasises operating overspend and funding of major projects over core services.- A substantive reduction in non-core and discretionary expenditure is warranted. The Council's spending on consultants and contractors is excessive with $126 million per year across the group and $60 million by the Auckland Council parent including high average consultant fees. Payroll and related personnel costs have grown faster than inflation with thousands of staff on six-figure salaries.- I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) delivering a cap of roughly 3% on residential rates. Specific measures include: freeze non-essential vacancies cap consultant spend renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors and prioritise statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional positions I support- Reduce corporate and backroom office costs across Council and CCOs.- Limit spending on consultancy and professional services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in the Alliance analysis emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to Ngā Mātārae arguing this is not a local-government core role.I urge the Council to adopt a more frugal approach aligning rates with inflation and prioritising essential services. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9740

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I oppose the 7.9 percent average increase which amounts to roughly $320 for the average household. Since 2022 residential rates have risen by about 30 percent in real terms while overall inflation has been around 12 percent. The breakdown shows 2 percent for maintaining existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. This level of increase is not acceptable when core spending can be reined in.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget outlines credible reductions to cap the rate rise at about 3 percent by reducing new Council spending by $150 million through:- 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 millionKey areas for savings include:- Expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reducing spend on consultancy and professional services.- Cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (this alone would save at least $17 million right away).- Cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.I emphasise that a tighter more accountable budget should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary schemes and that the overall approach should deliver tangible savings to 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.

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9834

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 which amounts to about $320 more per household. This rise is well above inflation and far beyond what residents can sustain while essential services strain under the current spending pattern.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing shows the 7.9% increase comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as the city grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% outpacing inflation and population growth. I cannot support a budget that perpetuates this level of growth in council and backroom spending.I urge the Council to adopt the

Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which proposes a $150 million reduction in new spending (about a 2% reduction) to cap residential rates at around 3%. Key actions include:- Reduce personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze: save $50 million.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services: save $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors: save $30 million.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: save $20 million.Specific spending concerns aligned with the submission include:- Stop the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze non-essential vacancies to cut payroll costs immediately; completing vacancies would save at least $17 million.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a local government function.- Reduce six-figure salaries and overall payroll growth; curb consultants and back-office spending that have driven expenditure well above inflation.Additional point: stop adding to council bloat and services that are not competitive. For example private waste collection can be cheaper and more efficient than current waste management approaches.I request the opportunity to present at hearings to outline these concerns directly. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
	Local parks, community and recreation services – local parks, sports fields and other physical recreation services, libraries, community centres and services, and funding community-led initiatives.
	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9838

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: Albert-Eden

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 oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for immediate reductions in wasteful Council spending with a constructive path to stabilise rates.Key positions- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The proposed rise represents about $320 for the average household and is not justified by the current level of service or growth in population when inflation and efficiency savings are considered.- 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 continue to increase these items.-

Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.- Target an alternative budget that reduces new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap average rates at around 3%: reduce personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freeze ($50m) cap spending on consultants ($50m) renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors ($30m) prioritise statutory/essential services over discretionary grants ($20m).Supporting context- The current spending trajectory shows personnel costs and other expenses rising faster than inflation with significant expenditure on consultants and contractors. A targeted freeze and reprioritisation can deliver meaningful savings without compromising core services.- Reducing non-essential programmes and backroom costs aligns with responsible stewardship of ratepayer funds while maintaining essential services for communities.Additional points- Stop slowing down traffic and unnecessary traffic initiatives that add costs without clear safety or mobility benefits.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

We are planning some discussions for next year that will inform plans and strategies that will shape Auckland's future. These plans and strategies include (but are not limited to):

- **Regional transport plans**
- **Water service strategies**
- **Auckland's spatial plan**
- **Our 2027–2037 long-term plan, which will set funding priorities for regional and local priorities listed below.**

We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

(Please use the boxes to rank in order of importance, with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.)

Rank	Area
	Economic development and events – growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries.
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	Planning and infrastructure to manage growth – planning how and where Auckland grows, rebuilding urban centres, improving infrastructure, and coordinating land-use with public services.
	Regional parks and environment – looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects
	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces

work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9852

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: Albert-Eden

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 rate burden has grown well beyond inflation and population growth since the 2010 amalgamation with a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 and a cumulative rates rise of 85 percent.Key concerns and positions1) Oppose the 7.9 percent increase. The proposed split is not acceptable given the competing priorities for households facing cost-of-living pressures. The average household would see about a $320 increase which is excessive when inflation remains a pressure on household budgets.2) Reduce backroom and corporate spend. There is a need to cut expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions

across the Council and CCOs. Directly addressing personnel and support costs is essential to controlling rates growth.3) Limit consultancy and professional services. The Alliance highlights $126 million per year in consultancy across the Council group with average consultants earning around $200000. Capping or eliminating unnecessary external expertise will lower operating pressure on rates.4) Cancel non-essential programmes. I support canceling the Food Scraps Programme costing approximately $36 million per year particularly if it emits more carbon than it saves.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. A freeze on vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million promptly and help align payroll with essential service delivery.6) Question Māori-specific spending. The proposal to spend about $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a core local government function and reducing this expenditure would not compromise statutory responsibilities.Alternative funding approachThe Ratepayers' Alliance proposes lowering new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average residential rate increase at around 3 percent. This would be achieved through: $50 million savings from personnel costs $50 million from consultant spend $30 million from contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.In closing I request the Council consider these evidence-based savings to prevent unsustainable rate increases and promote prudent 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?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9853

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Submitter details:

Organisation: N/A

Local Board: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

Our Annual Plan 2026/2027 builds on the first two years of our Long-term Plan 2024-2034 (LTP). It focuses on continuing to strengthen our finances and Auckland's physical resilience, while investing where it is needed most to meet the needs of our growing communities.

In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:

- **Transport**
- **Water**
- **Helping local boards respond to the needs of their communities.**

This annual plan also proposes how we will pay for services and investments, including a 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property. The increase in rates is mainly due to the $235 million yearly cost to run and own the City Rail Link, the bulk of which is interest and depreciation costs for the council's share of CRL.

Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a program of expenditure restraint to protect households.Key concerns and positions-Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. At approximately $320 extra per average household this is unaffordable for many ratepayers while Council continues to spend aggressively.- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen well ahead of inflation with consultants costing

about $126 million per year and payroll at $1.3 billion. These trends are not acceptable if ratepayers are asked to fund higher bills.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. In plain terms this could save at least $17 million immediately and help keep rates under control.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary spend including targeted cultural programmes.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates that reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% cut) can cap rate rises to around 3%. Achieving this requires: a) personnel cost reductions through organisational change and hiring freezes b) capping consultant spend c) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation d) prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Additional pointsPlease stop wasteful spending especially in areas of "culture & wellbeing" and do not treat ratepayers as an ATM. The cumulative impact of spending in these areas is borne by households already stretched by affordability pressures.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

Besides the 7.9 per cent rates increase for an average-value residential property, the annual plan includes changes to a range of other rates, fees and charges. These include:

- **Introduction of a refuse bin/bag exchange fee**
- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

Auckland's City Centre is the economic heart of our region. Overall, the city centre accounts for about a fifth of everything produced in Auckland's economy. We want to make public spaces work better for people, get more value from major investments in transport, and make sure council helps the city centre thrive as a place to live, work, study, and visit.

Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A

Annual Plan 2026-2027

#9864

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: Albert-Eden

Your feedback:

Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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Individual rates increase will vary by property type and value. Use our online rates guide to find out the proposed rates for your property.

Q1: What do you think of the proposed annual plan?

Do not support most

Tell us why

I submit in a detailed evidence-based manner to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to call for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending.1. Opposition to the rate increase- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (vs 12% headline inflation). This level is not affordable for many ratepayers and fails to reflect necessary efficiency gains within the Council and its CCOs.- The breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase going to CRL operating costs with only 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets for growth. A

more prudent approach would prioritise essential services and asset maintenance within a tighter overall framework.2. Wasteful and excessive spending recommended for restraint- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and substantially cut consultancy and professional services. Current figures indicate $126 million per year on consultants averaging $200k per consultant.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled costing about $36 million per year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; savings of at least $17 million are accessible immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local government function.3. Alternative budget posture- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) enabling a cap of around 3% for residential rates.- This includes $50 million savings from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes $50 million from capping consultant spend $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that Auckland Council adopt a disciplined cost-control approach prioritise statutory services and implement the proposed expenditure reductions to limit rate increases.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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- **Changes to the Kingsland and Onehunga Business Improvement District (BID) programme areas**
- **Waitākere Rural Sewerage Scheme**
- **An Auckland Transport proposal to increase residential parking permit fees in specific areas.**

Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

Question 3: Local board priorities

Q3: Which local board(s) would you like to provide feedback on?

N/A

Question 4: Other feedback

Q4: Do you have any other comments on the Annual Plan 2026/2027?

Including the Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2026/2027 (Section 3 of Consultation document)

N/A

Question 5: Looking further ahead / shaping Auckland's longer-term future

We also want your feedback on longer-term priorities that will help shape the city over time.

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We will continue to invest and deliver in all our investment areas, but we want to understand your priorities.

Q5: Which areas are most important to you over the long term?

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	Transport – roads, public transport, walking and cycling, and making it easier, safer and more sustainable for people to move around
	Flood resilience – reducing flood risks, upgrading stormwater systems and protecting waterways.

Q5 Comment: What specific council activities or services do you most want us to prioritise, and why?

N/A

Question 6: City centre

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Q6: What improvements do you think we should prioritise in the city centre?

N/A