# Annual Plan 2026/2027

## Written Feedback

## Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

## Volume 6

April 2026

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

# Annual Plan 2026-2027

**#8257**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 respectfully to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to urge a credible reduction in wasteful Council spending. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent well ahead of inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent increase comprises 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs 2 percent for maintaining existing assets and 1.5 percent for new assets as the city grows. This level is not acceptable to ratepayers seeking value for money.Agreed positions (my priorities)1) Oppose the average residential rates by at least 7.9 percent; seek alignment with inflation and productivity improvements.2) Reduce

expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) Reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than permitting further increases.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 a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government role.7) Get back to serving the basics to the ratepayers.Additional context- The council's payroll consultants and contractors constitute a substantial portion of operating costs; direct operating expenditure has risen 78 percent from 2013 to 2023 far above inflation. A more disciplined budgeting approach is required with priority given to essential statutory services.- The Ratepayers' Alliance's proposed alternative budget highlights a $150 million reduction in new spending (2%) enabling an average rate increase of about 3 percent if implemented.I request that the Council adopt a disciplined outcome-focused budget that prioritises core services reduces wasteful spending and delivers a fairer lower rate increase.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

**#8266**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a principled review of Auckland Council spending before any further rate rises.Key points- I oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase which would equate to about $320 more per household and is well above inflation guidance. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 and real increases since 2022 have been 30% (in 2022 dollars) versus 12% cumulative inflation.- The breakdown of the 7.9% increaseâ€”2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”demonstrates a

heavy tilt toward operating costs and growth rather than prudent efficiency.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continued growth in these areas.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose ongoing or expanding Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae); I believe core local government responsibilities should be prioritised over these programmes.Alternative budget approachI support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap average residential rates increases at around 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 millionClosingI request that Auckland Council consider these reductions and respond with a plan to keep rate increases aligned with inflation and essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I base my views on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing and request careful consideration of lower-cost alternatives to fund essential services.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase amounts to about $320 more per household on top of a rate burden that has grown 85% since the 2010 amalgamation. This far outpaces both inflation (approximately 34% since 2010) and population growth (about 22%) placing a disproportionate burden on households already stretched by rising living costs.- The breakdown of the increase includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as the city grows. I question the necessity of continuing to fund higher operating costs and scope for new asset creation at this pace when efficiency and reprioritisation could achieve meaningful savings.- The Council should curb spending on consultants and backroom functions. Current evidence shows $126 million per year across the Council group with significant consultant fees and payroll that includes 6123 staff on six-figure salaries 72 staff paid more than the mayor's level. Reducing outsourcing and excessive payroll would lower the need for steep rate rises.- The Council should pause or phase out discretionary and non-essential programmes including the Food Scraps Programme (Â£36 million/year) and the Māori Outcomes allocation (Ngā Mātārae). These are not core statutory functions of local government and their costs should be scrutinised.- A targeted alternative budget is proposed: a $150 million reduction in new spending (a 2% cut) to cap rates increases at around 3%. This would be achieved by freezing non-essential hires capping consultant spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Specific requests- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance approach to curb personnel costs reduce consultants renegotiate contracts and prioritise essential services.- Limit the proposed 7.9% rise to a level aligned with inflation and population needs consistent with responsible stewardship of ratepayers' 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 |
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| | **Economic development and events –** growing Auckland's economy and supporting events, tourism and creative industries. |

| | |
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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. |
| | **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

#8281

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

- **Transport**
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**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 this increase and urge Council to prioritise savings and core services over expanding expenditure.Key concerns:- The proposed 7.9% increase seems disproportionate when the real increase since 2022 is already around 30% (in 2022 dollars) despite only 12% cumulative inflation. The mix of costs driving the riseâ€”2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”appears to embed higher charges for routine operation while potentially masking inefficient expenditure.- Council spending on consultants is excessive. The group spends about $126 million annually with the Auckland Council parent responsible for $60 million and the

typical consultant earning around $200k. This is unsustainable as payroll and other staff costs have risen far faster than inflation and yet core services are strained.- There is a need to rein in backroom and corporate costs. Eighteen corporate and business support functions alone account for nearly $869 million in direct expenditure while personnel costs and other expenses rose at twice the rate of inflation between 2022 and 2025.- The Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and claimed to save emissions should be re-evaluated or cancelled if net benefits are not material. Similarly the Maori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) allocation of around $10 million per year is a function more appropriately scoped to central government rather than local government.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3% by:- Freezing non-essential vacancies and reducing payroll costs.- Capping consultancy spend and renegotiating contracts.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Focusing resources on core infrastructure maintenance and essential services rather than expanding non-core programmes.In sum I ask Council to deliver meaningful savings limit backroom and consultancy spend and reassess discretionary programmes that do not meet statutory obligations or provide verifiable public benefit.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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### Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

## Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

## Question 4: Other feedback

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

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N/A

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

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

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| | **Regional parks and environment –** looking after Auckland's natural areas, streams, coastal zones and cultural heritage, reducing waste, and supporting community-led environmental projects |
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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

**#8288**

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## Submitter details:

**Organisation:** N/A

**Local Board:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase translates to approximately $320 more per household on top of a current average residential rates bill of $4069. Since 2012 rates have risen 85% while inflation has about 34% far outpacing population growth. This is unsustainable for households already stretched by the cost of living.- The breakdown of the 7.9% increase includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs. The City deserves careful scrutiny of operating expenditures and prioritisation of core services before approving large rate rises.- There is a clear need to reduce wasteful spend: consultants cost about $126 million per year across the Council group with the

average consultant earning around $200000. Direct operating expenditure has grown well beyond inflation and personnel costs have risen significantly.Agreed positions and supporting measures- Oppose the 7.9% average rate rise and support freezing or reducing payroll by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs; cut consultancy and professional services spend rather than allowing continual growth.- 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.- Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.- Implement the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rate rise at around 3% through personnel changes consultant reductions vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory services.ClosingI urge the Council to prioritise value-for-money transparency and the statutory core responsibilities of local government and to adopt a tight cap on rate increases 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:**

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

### Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

## Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

## Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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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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### 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

**#8305**

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## Submitter details:

**Organisation:** N/A

**Local Board:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 submit in opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in support of reducing wasteful Council spending.I oppose the 7.9% increase which translates to about $320 for the average household. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% in real terms far outpacing inflation and population growth. The breakdown of the proposed increaseâ€”2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”constitutes a level of uplift that far exceeds acceptable fiscal discipline. I believe ratepayers deserve a plan that tightens expenditure before asking households to absorb further

increases.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% cut) to cap the average residential rates increase at 3%. This requires: (i) reducing personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes saving $50 million; (ii) capping spending on consultants saving $50 million; (iii) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation saving $30 million; and (iv) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million. The Council should adopt these measures to deliver responsible governance and fairer rates.Specific areas of waste to address include: consultants and professional services totaling about $126 million per year across the Council group (with the average consultant earning around $200000) and payroll/existing staff costs that dwarf inflation. Direct operating expenditure rose by 78% between 2013 and 2023 while personnel costs and other expenses increased at twice the rate of inflation from 2022 to 2025. There are also outsized programmes such as the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which could be discontinued if it does not demonstrably save carbon or deliver clear statutory benefits.I also urge freezing non-essential vacancies and cancelling or scaling back non-core programmes including Maori outcomes spending of about $10 million per year (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local government function.I request to speak 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:**

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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)

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# 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 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

**#8331**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and in favour of cutting wasteful and excessive Council spending. The fact is simple: rates are already far outpacing inflation and population growth and the proposed uplift would deepen the burden on households.Key points for consideration:- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85 percentâ€”well above inflation and population growthâ€”undermining affordability for many ratepayers.- A substantial portion of the increase

funds CRL operating costs (4.4 percent) rather than essential core services. The Council must prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance programme proposes a responsible budget that reduces new spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping the rate rise to around 3 percent. This would require: a) freezing or reducing personnel costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; b) capping consultancy and professional services; c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; and d) prioritising essential services over non-core grants.- Specific savings include reducing payroll costs and staff expenditure given payroll is about $1.3 billion and consultants/contractors about $590 million; cutting back on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs could yield meaningful relief.- Reducing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on Ngā Mātārae is prudent within the remit of local government and aligns with a 'cut your cloth' approach to ensure funds are spent on statutory and essential services.I urge the Council to adopt a disciplined budget that reduces wasteful spendâ€”particularly on consultants non-essential staff and back-office functionsâ€”while safeguarding core services. This approach respects ratepayers' affordability and promotes responsible 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. |
| | **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

**#8335**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 make this submission in a formal and respectful manner to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spend. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance analysis shows a real escalating burden on households since 2022 with rates up 30 percent in real terms against 12 percent inflation despite limited service improvements.Agreed positions- Oppose the average residential rates increase of at least 7.9 percent. The proposed rise adds about $320 to the average household bill on top of a long trajectory of rate increases that far outpace inflation.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office

functions across the Council and CCOs. Current payroll and associated admin costs including six-figure salaries for thousands of staff are an area where savings can be realised without compromising core services.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. The Council group spends about $126 million per year on consultants including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves. I pay for a service I do not use; in my street only 15â€“20 percent of bins are put out for collection.- 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 on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.Additional point- Food scrap bins are a poor use of funds with limited take-up; the current level of participation does not justify continuing the programme.ClosingI request the opportunity to provide further input at hearings if possible but 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8361,337836,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The proposed rise would deliver an approximate $320 increase for the average household on top of a long-term pattern of outsized rate rises that far exceed inflation and population growth.Key points:- The 7.9 percent increase is not affordable for households especially given that rates have already trebled in real terms since 2010 while inflation has far outpaced this growth.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to lift these costs.- I oppose continuing the Food Scraps Programme at a cost of about $36 million per year which in my view emits more carbon than it saves.- Payroll costs are a major driver of rate rises. Freezing staffing levels and not filling non-essential vacancies would save at least $17 million immediately.- I request a reduction in Māori-specific spend including the proposed $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government function.In addition I note persistent examples of misallocated funds at the local level such as the foreshore works on Manly Esplanade here in Whangaparaoa and the decision to install parking bollards where parking is impractical; these episodes illustrate the broader need for tighter project appraisal and value-for-money budgeting.In line with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget I urge the Council to reduce new spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average rate rise at around 3 percent. This should be achieved by:- Reducing personnel costs through targeted organisational change and a hiring freeze where appropriate ($50 million);- Capping spending on consultants ($50 million);- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million);- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).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,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8369,337828,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit my opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to ongoing growth in discretionary spending. The

suggested rise translates to about $320 extra per household on top of a current average bill of $4069 and amounts to a real increase well above inflation since 2022.Key concerns and positions:1) Rates increase and affordability. I strongly oppose an average 7.9% rate rise. The Council must prioritise ratepayer affordability over revenue growth that compounds faster than inflation and population-driven needs. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget demonstrates that a 3% cap is possible only by cutting wasteful expenditure and reforming staffing and procurement.2) Expenditure reforms. The Council should reduce spend on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. Current data show high and rising outsourcing and payroll costs that outpace inflation.3) Contested programmes. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs about $36m/year) which should be reconsidered given its carbon savings are not demonstrated to exceed emissions. Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.4) Staffing and payroll. Freeze hiring for vacant non-essential roles and reduce payroll costs saving at least $17m immediately. The workforce must be aligned with core municipal duties rather than expanding overhead and perks.5) Māori outcomes funding. While I respect the value of good governance I oppose increasing Māori-specific spend such as the $10m/year on the Ngā Mātārae department arguing this is not a local-government core function.In addition the Council should implement the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cut overall expenditure by $150m (2%) through:- $50m from personnel cost reductions via organisational change and a hiring freeze;- $50m from capping consultants;- $30m from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation;- $20m by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.This super city has failed to deliver promised benefits; staff costs have grown relentlessly and further rate increases will erode trust. I urge substantial verifiable efficiency gains and a much smaller rate rise than proposed.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8371,337826,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key concerns- The proposed increase is unaffordable for ratepayers. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30 percent far outpacing cumulative inflation. The 7.9% rise would add roughly $320 to the average household bill.- Wasteful and non-essential spending dominates the pressure on rates. Council and CCOs rely heavily on consultants ($126 million per year across the group) and high payroll costs while core statutory services are strained. Eighteen corporate and business support functions alone cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure.- A wholesale review is warranted before any further increases. The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions freeze non-essential staffing and curb consultancy and professional services.Specific position and asks- Oppose the 7.9% average increase and instead pursue a targeted below-inflation path by cutting wasteful expenditure.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (Â£36 million/year) on the basis that it costs more in emissions and does not deliver net savings.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure capable of saving at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce Maori-specific spending including the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.- Cut consultancy and professional services spend rather than allowing continued growth in these areas.- Follow the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) aiming to cap the rate rise at around 3% through personnel changes consultant cap vendor renegotiations and prioritising statutory

services.Additional noteStart working FOR the people who pay your salary!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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8375,337822,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit strongly against the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and urge Council to prioritise spending reductions over rate rises.1) Opposition to rate increase and why- The proposed 7.9% average residential rate increase is excessive adding about $320 to the average household bill from $4069. This represents a real burden on households especially as rates have risen 85% since the 2010 amalgamation far outpacing both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%).- The rate rise breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs alone; this must be scrutinised in favour of essential services and affordability for ratepayers.2) Spending priorities and wasteful expenditure to curb- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services; reduce reliance on external contractors and bring expertise in-house where feasible.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which in my view neither aligns with core council duties nor delivers net carbon savings.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this 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 remit.3) Alternative budgeting approach- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap residential rate increases at around 3%. This relies on: - $50 million savings from personnel cost reductions via organisational change and hiring freezes. - $50 million from capping consultants. - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation. - $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.4) Additional points- Ratepayers are not an endless income source; there should be a strong preference for core not-for-profit service delivery. If needed in-house specialists should be used to reduce reliance on external suppliers.- There appears to be heavy backroom activity with predetermined outcomes; this must stop. The focus should be on affordable transparent local engagement.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8377,337820,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The average household would face about $320 extra per year on top of an already high rate bill of $4069. Since 2022 residential rates have risen about 30 percent in real terms far outstripping inflation. Given ongoing cost pressures I support a safer cap on rate increases and a focus on delivering essential services efficiently.I urge the Council to reduce wasteful expenditure and reallocate funding toward core community needs. Key areas to target include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Curbing consultant and professional services spend; the current rate of outsourcing is unsustainable with $126 million per year across the Council group and $60 million at the Auckland Council parent.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to reduce non-essential overheads aiming to save at least $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and

essential services over discretionary grants with a view to realigning resources to where they are most needed.I also propose significant reform of non-essential or controversial spend:- Cut Māori-specific programmes such as the Maori Outcomes budget (Ngā Mātārae) currently around $10 million per year where the s ta te of local government responsibilities should be the focus rather than targeted spending.These measures align with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which suggests a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) enabling an average rate rise cap of around 3 percent. I ask for transparent reporting on any efficiency gains and clear milestones to demonstrate that savings are being realised and directed toward 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8384,337813,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The Council's planned 7.9% rate rise is unjustified in the current context. The proposed increase includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs on top of 2% to maintain existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% far exceeding both inflation and population growth. A prudent approach would cap rate rises closer to 3% consistent with the hardship faced by households and the need to restrain non-core spend.I urge acknowledgment of the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget which proposes a $150 million per year reduction in new Council spending (about 2%) achieving a 3% average rate increase. Concrete measures include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles saving $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.I also call for immediate cuts to demonstrably wasteful expenditure including:- Reducing corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reducing spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing growth in these areas.- 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 which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cutting Māori-specific spending perceived as impractical for local government such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae).Time to get serious about cutting wasteful expenditure including executive and back-office costs.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8387,337810,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1) Opposition to the proposed rates increaseI oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9%. This would amount to roughly $320 more for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2022 rates have effectively risen 30% in real terms while overall inflation is about 12%. The structure of the increaseâ€”2% for existing assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”adds unnecessary burden on households already struggling with cost-of-living pressures. Rates increases should be limited to well below inflation and focused on essential visible improvements.2) Reducing wasteful spending and reining in consultantsThe Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget rightly calls for reducing new Council spending by $150 million to cap

rates rises at about 3%. I support reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze where non-essential and capping consultant spending. Current figures show consultants cost about $126 million per year across the Council group with heavy pay for backroom staff and significant expenditure on six-figure salaries. I urge: cut contractor and consultant expenditures renegotiate vendor contracts and prioritise core statutory services over discretionary grants.3) Waste and environmental programmesI note the Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and has questionable carbon savings. I request its cancellation or substantial reprioritisation toward measures with proven emissions reductions and cost-effectiveness.4) Staffing and payrollI support freezing staffing and reducing payroll by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately. Payroll and related expenses have risen faster than inflation and a more restrained approach is warranted.5) Additional mattersI disagree with funding reductions to essential local services; however I also note that CRL costs are not necessarily shared fairly with our community in Rodney. We should avoid imposing CRL costs on distant ratepayers and instead address transport and user-based charges where 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8389,337808,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and urge a reallocation of wasteful Opex toward essential services transparency and value for money.Key concerns and positions:1) The proposed 7.9% average increase is unjustified. At approximately $320 extra per average household it far outstrips inflation and local wage growth and it represents a real burden on ratepayers who have already faced an 85% rates rise since 2010 outpacing both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A cap near 3% is more reasonable given current pressures and the need to stop wasteful spending.2) Reducing corporate and backroom costs. The Council must curb spending on consultants (roughly $126 million across the group with the average consultant around $200k) and reduce payroll and ongoing staff costs. Freeze non-essential recruitment and consider a hiring moratorium on vacant non-essential roles to deliver immediate savings with potential reductions of at least $17 million.3) Cut consultancy and professional services. The spend on external advisers continues to climb while core services falter financially. A targeted reduction of consulting would materially affect the rate increase.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The $36 million/year programme has high emissions and limited net savings. This should be terminated or redesigned to achieve real environmental and financial returns.5) Freeze staffing growth and curb payroll. Non-essential vacancies should not be filled; this alone can yield substantial savings and reduce ongoing costs.6) Trim Māori-specific spend. The $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes area (Ngā Mātārae) is not a responsibility of local government and should be redirected to essential core services.Additional priority: stop wastage and improve value-for-money as pledged by ratepayers. A revised budget should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programs and seek savings before any rate increases.Closing:I request the opportunity to speak at hearings to outline these points in more detail.{name redacted}{address redacted}{email redacted}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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8390,337807,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The proposed increase which equates to about $320 for the average household is well above inflation and beyond what households can reasonably absorb.Key points:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The current framework shows rates have risen 85% since 2010 far outpacing inflation and population growth. A more restrained approach is required.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner organisation will deliver essential services without compounding ratepayer burden.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. The current level of $126 million per year across the Council group is excessive and unsustainable for ratepayers.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core local-government function.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average rates increase at about 3 percent. This includes:- $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/essential services over discretionary grants.These measures would protect core services while ensuring responsible stewardship of public funds. I urge the Council to prioritise value-for-money transparency and accountability in any revised plan.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8394,337803,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The current trajectoryâ€”rates up 30 percent in real terms since 2022 with overall costs rising far faster than inflationâ€”is unaffordable for households and not justified by the CRL operating cost burden alone.Key concerns and positions- Rate increase: Oppose the average 7.9% rise. The plan should prioritise restraint and reflect inflation and household affordability.- Wasteful expenditure: The Council must reduce corporate and backroom office costs across the Council and CCOs and reduce spending on consultants and professional services instead of perpetually increasing these items.- Specific programme costs: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Staffing and payroll: Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles; this would save at least $17 million immediately.- Māori-focused spending: Cut Māori-specific expenditure such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Context and rationale- The 7.9% proposal is partly to cover asset maintenance (2%) growth (1.5%) and CRL costs (4.4%). Given available data on payroll consultants and other expenses there is credible scope to identify savings much larger than inflation without compromising essential services.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget illustrates that reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) could cap residential rate increases to around 3% by targeted reductions in personnel costs consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services.Request- Reconsider the draft 2026/27 plan to reflect a lower rate rise and a detailed transparent efficiency plan across all departments prioritising core statutory functions over discretionary expenditure.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8414,337783,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,To Auckland CouncilI am {name redacted} of {address redacted} email {email redacted}. I submit in a formal respectful manner opposing the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and calling for substantial reductions in wasteful and non-essential Council spending.1. Statement of opposition and context- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (despite 12 percent cumulative inflation). It is essential that the Council tighten non-essential expenditure to protect households from unaffordable rises.2. Spending priorities and efficiency measures- I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- I support cutting the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.- I support canceling the Food Scraps Programme given it costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- I support cutting Māori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I consider not a core local government function.3. Alternative budgeting approach- Based on the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average residential rates increase at roughly 3%. - Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million - Capping spending on consultants: $50 million - Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionClosingI urge Council to prioritise core statutory functions and essential services and to enact meaningful restraint on operating and payroll costs to avoid a near-9 percent rate rise. 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8418,337779,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,This submission is made in a formal respectful manner and draws on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing.I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the average household noting that the current average rate bill is $4069 and that the real increase since 2022 is already 30 percent. Given that rates have risen 85 percent since the 2010 amalgamation I believe a disciplined approach to spending is essential.I present the following positions:1) Expenditure reductions across the Council and CCOs: I urge cuts to corporate and backroom office functions and to operating costs that do not directly affect essential services.2) Reduction of consultancy and professional services: I oppose continued growth in spend on consultants and contract professionals; reallocate funds to core statutory services.3) Food Scraps Programme: Please cancel this programme which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves.4) Payroll and staffing: Freeze non-essential staffing and avoid filling vacancies for non-critical roles; I estimate that not hiring for vacant non-essential positions would save at least $17 million immediately.5) Māori-specific spending: I oppose continued spend on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) at roughly $10 million per year arguing that this is not a core local government function.Additional

points:- The proposed 7.9% increase is not affordable in the current environment especially when new asset costs (4.4%) and CRL operating costs are contributing to the rise.- A targeted reduction plan starting with a $150 million reduction in new spending (2%) could cap rate increases to around 3 percent as outlined in the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: prioritise essential services renegotiate contracts and improve vendor consolidation.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8425,337772,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The proposed rise would amount to about $320 for the average household on top of a system that has seen real rate increases far above inflation since 2022.Key concerns- The 7.9% lift is not affordable for households already battling cost pressures. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for existing asset maintenance and 1.5% for new assets. This justifies a pause to reassess priorities and deliver savings where possible.- Wasteful spending must be addressed first. Council and CCOs collectively employ thousands of staff and consultants with $126 million per year spent on consultants across the Council group and $590 million on consultants and contractors. There is clear potential to rein in these costs without impacting essential services.- The Food Scraps Programme is costly and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves; cancelling it would free up funds for essential services.- Freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles could save at least $17 million immediately and help keep rates in check.- Māori-specific spending should be reconsidered where it duplicative of local government responsibilities such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). This role is not a core function of local government and should be scaled back to protect ratepayers.Alternative budget approachI support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at around 3%:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes- $50 million from cap on consultancy spend- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsClosingI request that the Council adopt these savings measures and refrain from approving a 7.9% average residential 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8429,337768,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The cited plan implies approximately $320 more per household which compounds the real increases households have faced since 2022 and outpaces inflation.1) Opposition to the rate increase and demand for value for money- The 7.9% rise comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. While some growth and infrastructure are necessary the scale of the overall increase is excessive given the Council's own spending deficits relative to inflation and population growth.- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% well above cumulative inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). A more prudent approach is required focusing on sustainability and efficiency before levy increases.2) Wasteful and discretionary spending reductions- 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 withholding hires for vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million

immediately.- Curb spending on consultants and professional services; current annual consultant expenditure is substantial and appears not to have kept pace with output or outcomes.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and non-core programmes.3) Specific resource reallocation and accountability- Reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs; streamline functions to remove duplication and improve efficiency.- Limit and review Māori outcomes expenditure including the Ngā Mātārae department where spend is significant but not clearly aligned to core local government responsibilities.- Implement a cap on new non-essential spending and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to achieve meaningful savings.Alternative Budget framing- I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap rates at about 3% by applying the measures above: personnel costs (including a hiring freeze) consultant cap contract renegotiation and prioritisation of essential services.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt an efficiency-first approach that respects ratepayers while delivering 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8432,337765,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 2022â€“2025 real-terms rate rise of 30% (versus 12% general inflation). This is unaffordable for many households and far above the rate of household income growth.- The rate increase breakdown shows a disproportionate burden: 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as the city grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. In the context of escalating personnel and external spend this mix prioritises ongoing costs over prudent efficiency.- Council spending on consultants averages $126 million per year across the group with the Auckland Council parent bearing about $60 million and typical consultants earning around $200k. Personnel costs have risen sharply with 6123 staff on six-figure salaries and 72 paid more than the mayor.- Direct operating expenditure rose 78% from 2013 to 2023 outpacing cumulative inflation. Payroll totals about $1.3 billion; consultants and contractors add another $590 million; eighteen corporate and business support functions cost $868.4 million.- Notable programmatic spending includes $36 million/year on the Food Scraps Programme which purportedly saves less carbon than it costs to run. I require reconsideration of this initiative.- I oppose ongoing Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to Ngā Mātārae on the basis that core local-government roles should prioritise statutory and essential services.Summary of Key Points:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles saving at least $17 million promptly.- Cut Māori-specific spending (e.g. Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government function.Additional pointAuckland Council must live within its means. Ratepayers do not have bottomless pockets and households must budget within income.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

**#8438**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

I submit this formal objection to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to the broader pattern of spending that drives these increases.1) Rates and core services- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which is well above inflation and places a heavy burden on households. The average bill has risen to about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent far outpacing inflation.- The Council should prioritise core services (road maintenance park maintenance rubbish collection) and stop expanding non-core programmes that drive costs.2) Wasteful expenditure and backroom functions- The Council must

reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Curb consultancy and professional services spending; reduce external contracting rather than permitting continual growth in these areas.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone could save at least $17 million immediately.3) Specific programs and Māori expenditure- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is argued to emit more carbon than it saves.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department Ngā Mātārae on the basis that this is not a core local government function.4) Alternative budget approach- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance suggestion to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about a 2% cut) to cap the average rate rise at around 3 percent achieved through: - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze - $50 million by capping consultancy spending - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsAdditional point- Stop wasteful spending beyond core services and refocus resources on essential tasks such as road park and rubbish services.ClosingI request the opportunity to present at hearings to emphasise these concerns and to advocate for a restrained core-service-focused budget.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

**#8454**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 constructive solution-focused submission opposing the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and urging restraint in Council expenditure to protect households.1) Principal position- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (about $320 for the average household) and urge limits in line with or below inflation. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% outstripping inflation and population growth. The current plan compounds this burden on households already facing cost pressures.2) Spending reform and efficiency- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The

Council must cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- The Payroll and staff costs are a major driver; freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles would save at least $17 million immediately.- Direct operating expenditure and six-figure salaries have grown well beyond inflation; a more disciplined workforce and procurement approach is needed.3) Specific budgetary adjustments- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in evidence emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or substantially reduce Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) department cited as $10 million per year arguing this is not a core local government function.- Reduce vehicles owned by the Council to lower operating costs; consider reallocating sustaining assets and improving utilisation rather than expanding fleet.4) Revenue and alternative pathway- The Council should implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap average rates increase at 3%. This includes reductions in personnel costs capping consultants renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.5) Additional points- If Downtown carparks are disrupted it is prudent to adapt by re-evaluating vehicle needs rather than expanding spend in uncertain scenarios.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

**#8469**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 clear opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27 which translates to roughly $320 for the average household. This represents a real tightening on households that are already bearing a 30 percent increase in average rates since 2022 in real terms well beyond consumer price inflation.I support a program of substantially reducing Council expenditure particularly in backroom and corporate operations across the Council and CCOs. The current cost base is unsustainable: consultants and contractors total about $590 million with $126 million per year across the group and an average consultant pay of around $200000.

Direct operating expenditure rose 78 percent from 2013 to 2023 far outstripping inflation and personnel costs have grown disproportionately. A more streamlined organisation is necessary to stabilise rates.I urge cutting spend on consultancy and professional services instead of continuing to increase these items. In addition the Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled given it costs $36 million per year and on balance emits more carbon than it saves.A payroll freeze or reduction of non-essential vacant positions should be implemented immediately. The changes alone could save at least $17 million. I also oppose continued and expanded Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department cited as about $10 million per year arguing that such work should be undertaken within core local government functions.To achieve a practical cap on rates I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap the rate rise at about 3 percent. This would involve: $50 million from personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million from capping consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.Closing: I request that the Council consider these points as part of the consultation and pursue tangible efficiency gains before imposing higher rates 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

**#8474**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 ratepayers are already bearing a real increase well above inflation with the current average bill at $4069 and a 30% real increase since 2022. The proposed rise if allowed to stand would exceed what households can responsibly absorb in the current economic environment.Key concerns- The 7.9% rise is not justified by the Council's own spend profile. The breakdown of the increase includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs on top of 2% for maintaining assets and 1.5% for growth-related assets. This indicates a structural spend problem rather than a temporary shortfall.- Wasteful expenditure must be addressed first. Council spending

on consultants runs at about $126 million annually across the group with the average consultant reportedly earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown far faster than inflation and personnel costs have increased substantially under recent leadership.- There must be a focus on reducing back-office costs. The Alliance proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) achievable through freezing non-essential hires capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Agreed positions to include- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year and emits more carbon than it saves).- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (projected saving of at least $17 million).- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on Ngā Mātārae given concerns about the role of local government.Additional points- The Council wastes money across various initiatives. A notable example cited is libraries holding memorial services; such spending underscores the need for budget discipline.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

**#8475**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and call for substantial reductions in wasteful or non-essential Council spending with a focus on aligning rates to inflation and core services.Key context- Proposed average residential rates increase: 7.9 percent (about $320 for the average household). The current average rates bill is $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 a real increase of about 30 percent since 2022 versus 12 percent overall inflation.- The 7.9% increase is proposed to fund 2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs.- Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% far above inflation and

population growth.Position on expenditure and efficiencies- 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 allowing continued growth in these areas.- I oppose continuing or expanding discretionary spending that does not directly serve ratepayers' essential needs.Specific measures I support- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in my view emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; I understand this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government per this submission's interpretation.Alternative budget approach- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average rate rise to around 3 percent: - $50 million by reducing personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes - $50 million by capping consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsClosingI respectfully request that the Council consider these adjustments to reduce the burden on households and improve 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 |
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| | **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

**#8498**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 advocate for prudent Reductions in wasteful Council spending.1) Position on rates- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The proposed rise equates to around $320 for the average household on top of a historical pattern of rate increases that have far outpaced inflation and population growth since the Super City reform. The current ratepayers' burden should not continue to grow faster than household incomes.2) Expenditure controls and efficiency- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office

functions across the Council and CCOs.- Use a tighter leash on consultancy and professional services including capping and prioritising essential external work instead of ongoing growth in these areas.- Staff costs must be addressed: freeze hiring for vacant non-essential roles and pursue payroll efficiency measures. Freezing staffing would deliver immediate savings and help keep rates increases reasonable.- Earmarked 'Māori outcomes' spending should be reviewed carefully; for example the $10 million/year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae department warrants scrutiny about its fit within statutory local government responsibilities.3) Specific programme and budgetary recommendations- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million/year and in the submitter's assessment emits more carbon than it saves.- Pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to recover value from external suppliers and reduce overall operating costs.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ensuring core Auckland Council functions are protected while trimming non-essential expenditures.4) Alternative budget framework- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at about 3 percent. This would be achieved through the measures outlined above notably personnel controls consultant caps and procurement efficiencies.ClosingI would welcome opportunity to contribute further at hearings if possible but I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

## Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

### Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

## Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

## Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

| Rank | Area |
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| | **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

**#8500**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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% for 2026/27 and urge a program of substantial expenditure restraint to protect households.Key points1) The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive. It equates to about $320 more per average household on top of a current average rates bill of $4069 while real rate increases since 2022 have already reached 30%. The Council should not press ahead with increases well above inflation especially while there is clear potential to reduce wasteful spend.2) Wasteful and bloated backroom spending must be trimmed. The Council and CCOs collectively spend hundreds of millions on corporate and backroom

functions consultants and contractors. A targeted reduction is needed to stop funding excessive payroll and external advice at the expense of essential services.3) End costly and discretionary programmes with questionable value. The Food Scraps Programme costs $36 million per year and by accounts emits more carbon than it saves. This is a clear area to pause or cancel in favour of more effective climate and waste management options.4) Freeze or reduce payroll and staffing where not essential. A non-critical staffing freeze or rehiring restraint could save at least $17 million immediately and further payroll controls are necessary to curb costs that have grown faster than inflation.5) Reprioritise funding away from non-core political or targeted initiatives. The Council should scale back Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) department directing limited resources to statutory and essential services rather than discretionary programmes.Alternative budget approachI support the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average residential rate rise at about 3%. This includes: $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.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt a disciplined spending plan that prioritises core services and saves 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

**#8503**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 average increase of 7.9% equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real increase in rates since 2022 of 30% in 2022 dollars far outpacing cumulative inflation. The 7.9% rise comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85%â€”well above inflation and population growth. This level of increase is unacceptable while there are clear opportunities to reduce waste.Key talking points:- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and advocate for capping increases to around 3% by reducing new and ongoing discretionary

spend.- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million per year) as it costs more in emissions 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.I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap average rates at about 3% through targeted savings: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million in prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants. We were promised a more equitable 'Super City' and a fix for Auckland; residents on the North Shore and Nor-western areas are bearing the burden of projects like the $5.5b City Rail Link.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8504,337692,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge decisive spending restraint across the Council and its CCOs. Given current cost pressures including fuel and broader inflation an 8% hike is not affordable for households.1. Rates and affordability- Oppose the 7.9% average increase; the current average residential bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30%. Rates rises must be restrained to protect households from further hardship.- Emphasise that the rate rise should be aligned with inflation not driven by new spending.2. Spending controls across the organisation- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across Council and CCOs.- Cap and reduce spending on consultancy and professional services; the current level is excessive and driving up costs.3. Specific programme and staffing measures- 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 function of local government.4. Structural and budgetary approach- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at 3%. This would be achieved through personnel cost reductions capping consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.5. Additional context- With ongoing global tensions and rising living costs including fuel it is not prudent to pursue 8% rate hikes. If necessary defer non-essential items in the 2026/27 budget until affordability improves.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8515,337681,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key positions:- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. At the current level this represents a significant real burden on households with a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (versus 12 percent overall inflation). The burden falls hardest on families already struggling with higher living costs.- The Council should

reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure has grown well beyond inflation and staff costs continue to rise disproportionately.- Cut spend on consultancy and professional services. The Alliance reports about $126 million annually across the Council group on consultants with the average consultant around $200000 and $60 million by the Auckland Council parent. Reducing external advice is essential.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year which reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. This is an inefficient use of funds that would better serve ratepayers elsewhere.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately and would align personnel cost growth with actual Service Delivery needs.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae (Māori Outcomes) department as this is not a function of local government and diverts funds from core statutory responsibilities.Additional points:- A sustainable approach is to cap average rate increases by prioritising essential services and reforming wasteful spending rather than applying blanket increases.- The proposed 2% for maintaining assets and 1.5% for growth plus 4.4% for CRL operating costs should be revisited to reflect actual Service Delivery needs and efficiencies.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8524,337672,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Dear Auckland CouncilI write as a resident of {address redacted} to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27. This level of growth far outstrips both inflation and household budgets and I urge a superior focus on reducing wasteful spending and improving value for ratepayers.Key concerns- The 7.9% increase comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Given where rates have landed since 2010 (an 85% rise far above inflation and population growth) ratepayers deserve tighter control on discretionary expenditure.- Council spend on consultants remains high: $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning about $200k. Direct operating expenditure and payroll costs have risen well beyond inflation and back-office functions alone account for substantial spend ($868.4 million across 18 corporate and business support functions).- Maori-specific spending including the Ngā Mātārae 'Maori outcomes' allocation (about $10 million per year) is not a statutory local government obligation and should be prioritised accordingly.- The Food Scraps Programme at about $36 million per year and with questionable carbon gains should be cancelled to free resources for essential services.Constructive alternatives- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal: cap average residential rates increase at 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% overall reduction). Specific measures: freeze hiring for vacant non-essential roles ($17 million immediate saving) curb consultants ($50 million) renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors ($30 million) and prioritise statutory/essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).- Targeted reductions in personnel costs and back-office functions would improve efficiency without compromising core services.ConclusionA sustainable path requires reducing wasteful spend and avoiding a near-8% rate rise. I urge the Council to adopt prudent efficiency measures including the proposed $150 million reduction to 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,,,,,,

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8526,337670,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Proposed rate increase and spending priorities- I oppose the average 7.9% increase which equates to about $320 per average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 and a 85% increase since the Super City amalgamation. Ratepayers cannot bear further above-inflation increases while costs continue to rise faster than inflation.- I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reducing the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than perpetuating growth in these areas.Alternative budget approach- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction) to cap average residential rates at about 3%. This would be achieved through: (1) a $50 million reduction in personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles; (2) a $50 million cap on consultants and external advisory services; (3) $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; (4) $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- These measures focus on core Council and community obligations not on cutting essential services.Specific concerns and context- Current operating pressures include 4.4% for CRL operating costs and large ongoing personnel and contractor costs. Direct operating expenditure has risen well ahead of inflation in recent years and the payroll bill remains high relative to service outcomes.- My broader concern is that internal politics and independent processes drive unnecessary spending. There are proven tools already in use; 'tail wagging the dog' diverts funds from essential services to non-critical initiatives.Conclusion- I urge the Council to adopt a conservative fiscally responsible path that protects ratepayers from further above-inflation increases and tightens wasteful expenditure.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8544,337652,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. Based on current data this equates to approximately $320 extra per average household on a bill already at $4069. Since 2012 the rates burden has grown well beyond inflation and continued increases risk affordability for households while not delivering proportional value.I propose the Council pursue substantial reductions in wasteful or non-essential spend to fund essential services and cap rate rises. In particular:1) Reduce personnel costs by freezing vacancies or limiting non-essential hires as this could save at least $17 million immediately.2) Cut spending on consultants and professional services aiming to reduce this expenditure rather than allow it to rise.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is argued to emit more carbon than it saves.4) Reconsider Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year allocated to the Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) department as this is not a core local government function.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget I support reducing new Council spending by about $150 million (2%) which would cap the average rates increase to around 3%:- Implement organisational changes to reduce payroll and cap recruitment.- Cap and renegotiate contracts; consolidate vendors where feasible.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional context:- The 7.9% rise comprises 2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth-related assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Given the scale of past increases (rates up 85% since 2010) restraint is warranted to keep necessary services

affordable and aligned with population growth and inflation.I would welcome the opportunity to be heard but 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8548,337648,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The proposed rise equates to about $320 more per average household on top of a rates bill that has risen 85 percent since 2010 far outpacing both inflation and population growth. The breakdown of the 7.9% increaseâ€”2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”reflects a structural reliance on rising charges rather than efficiency gains.I strongly urge the Council to adopt a program of real ex post efficiency and restraint including:1. Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.2. Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.3. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and according to analyses emits more carbon than it saves.4. Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.5. Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this function should not be a local government priority.The Council's current trajectoryâ€”rising ratepayers' burden while payroll and consultant costs grow at twice the rate of inflation and with substantial spend on six-figure salaries and back-office functionsâ€”is not acceptable. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates that reducing new Council spending by about $150 million (2%) can cap average residential rate increases to around 3 percent via targeted reductions in personnel costs consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I urge you to reflect these measures in the forthcoming plan and provide a credible pathway to meaningful rate relief for households while maintaining 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8552,337644,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9%. This would mean about $320 more per average household on top of a 30% real rise since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and a cumulative increase well above inflation. The current average rates bill is $4069 yet residents face continuing cost pressures as Council spending grows.I support targeted relief through a substantially reduced expenditure programme. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these items to grow. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes an alternative budget that reduces new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increases to 3%.I urge cancellation or re-scoping of non-essential programmes with clear carbon and cost benefits. In particular:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this measure alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending including the proposed $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local government function.I further emphasise that the Council should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and pursue

contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to realise savings of approximately $30 million with $20 million redirected toward maintaining essential services.In summary the proposed 7.9% increase is not justified when measured against actual cost drivers and wasteful spending patterns identified in the Ratepayers' Alliance briefing. A disciplined approach to reducing payroll consultants and discretionary programmes will enable a much more modest increaseâ€”consistent with inflation and residents' ability to pay.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

## Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

### Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

## Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

## Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**#8554**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and in favour of reducing wasteful Council expenditure to keep bills affordable for households.The proposed increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) and well above inflation. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since the Super City amalgamation rates have risen by 85% far outpacing both inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). Such ever-higher costs erode household budgets and erode public

trust.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance's alternative budget including a 2% reduction in new Council spending to cap the rate rise at around 3 percent. This should be achieved by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze: saving $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants: saving $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: saving $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: saving $20 million.I also urge the Council to stop or postpone non-essential programmes and to review four areas where savings are clearly achievable:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves).- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) noting that this is not a role of local government.- Reduce spending on consultants and corporate backroom functions across the Council and CCOs (currently $126 million per year).Additional point: street parking pricing on the outside the CBD should be reconsidered; e.g. Grey Lynn on-street parking at $30/day is excessive and harms local businesses.I request that the Council consider these reductions to deliver affordable rates and better value-for-money in 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

**#8558**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

I submit this formal submission regarding the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the proposed average residential rates increase.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household). The Council should pursue expenditure reductions to curb rate rises above inflation and to better reflect the level of services residents receive. The Ratepayers' Alliance analysis highlights a trajectory of rising costs driven by backroom and non-core expenses that should be addressed as a matter of priority.Key points I support:- 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.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in our view emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.Additional context:- The proposed 7.9% increase comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets tied to growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% outpacing inflation and population growth.- A prudent alternative budget is presented by the Ratepayers' Alliance: cap rate increases at around 3% by reducing new spending by $150 million (2% total reduction) including caps on consultants personnel costs renegotiations and prioritising essential services.I request the Council to consider these adjustments as a means to achieve sustainable better-valued public services while limiting rate increases for households.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

## Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

### Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

## Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

## Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**#8569**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

I submit to express my opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent for 2026/27 and to advocate for reducing wasteful Council spending.The proposed 7.9% increase equates to roughly $320 for the average household on top of a rate burden that has grown 85% since the 2010 amalgamation far outstripping both inflation (approximately 34%) and population growth (about 22%). Given this context I urge the Council to cap rates increases at or below inflation by pursuing concrete cost reductions rather than higher charging of households.I support the Ratepayers' Alliance's alternative budget approach including a $150 million reduction in new

Council spending (2% overall) to achieve a 3% cap on average residential rates. Key measures include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles which would save at least $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors to unlock $30 million in savings.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.I also urge immediate action on several efficiency fronts:- Cut spend on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce consultancy and professional services expenditure rather than allowing it to rise further.- 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 right away.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I do not view as a core local government function.These measures would address wasteful expenditure while protecting essential services for ratepayers particularly working families facing abrupt large rate 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

**#8570**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

I support a constructive solution-focused approach that protects core services while tightening wasteful spending.Key concerns- The proposed average 7.9% increase is excessive especially given that the current average residential rates bill has risen to $4069 and real increases since 2022 exceed 30% in the face of only 12% cumulative inflation. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets due to growth.- Ratepayers cannot bear continued growth in payroll consultants and backroom costs. Council spending on consultants averages $200k per engagement with $126 million per year across the

Council group. Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen well beyond inflation and population growth.- I urge a reduction of non-core discretionary spending and back office functions. The Alliance's plan targets a reduction of $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to about 3% through: $50 million saved from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.- Specific measures I support: cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million/year; freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for non-essential vacant roles (potentially saving at least $17 million); reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year for the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government as I interpret it.- I note Rodney district had the largest jump in rates; it is time for the Council to tighten the belt across the board to prevent further disproportionate increases.Proposed approach- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending and cap rate increases focusing on organisational change consulting cost controls contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services.Please consider these steps to stabilise rates and restore value for ratepayers while maintaining essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

## Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

### Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

## Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

## Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**#8571**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent given that the real cost pressures facing households are not matched by corresponding value in expenditure. The current rate rise translates to about $320 for the average household at a time when rates have risen 85 percent since 2010 and inflation has outpaced growth in real terms.- The Council must curb expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allow these costs to continue rising.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and based on available

information emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year on the Ngā Mātārae/'Māori outcomes' function which I believe is not a core local government responsibility.Rationale- The rate increases should be aligned with inflation and anticipated population growth requires prudent targeted spending. The proposed 4.4 percent of the increase earmarked for CRL operating costs plus ongoing maintenance and growth costs needs closer scrutiny to ensure efficiency and value for ratepayers.- A targeted reduction in consultants and contractors ($50 million in the alternative budget) and prudent personnel controls (a further $50 million) would enable the Council to cap rates increases at a more affordable level without compromising statutory services.ClosingI request that the Council consider these cost-saving measures as essential to achieving a more manageable rates outcome while maintaining core services 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.)

| 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

**#8579**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 on top of an Australia-level cost of living pressure and a rates bill that has risen 30 percent in real terms since 2022 (vs. 12 percent overall inflation). The breakdown of this increaseâ€”2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”signals a continuation of escalating costs rather than disciplined spending.The Council must prioritise essential services and curb wasteful spending. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance highlights that Council and CCOs currently spend heavily on consultants ($126 million per year across the group) and on six-figure salaries with payroll

alone at about $1.3 billion and $590 million spent on consultants and contractors. Direct operating expenditure has risen 78% from 2013 to 2023 well above inflation. These trends indicate that the rate rise is masking discretionary overheads rather than delivering proportionate service improvements.I support the proposed alternative budget framework that would reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increases at 3 percent. This requires immediate actions such as: freezing non-essential roles and restricting payroll growth halving consultant spend pursuing contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Specific alignments with the Alliance positions include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze (saving $50 million).- Capping consultant spend at $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30 million).- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).I also advocate reviewing specific programmes for cost-effectiveness. For example the Food Scraps Programme is estimated at $36 million per year and based on available analyses would benefit from scrupulous review before any continuation. I further support exploring the freeze of vacant non-essential roles to save at least $17 million immediately. Finally I oppose targeted Māori-centric spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local government function.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

**#8587**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 respectful but firm opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 which translates to about $320 more for the average household on top of continuing cost pressures faced by households.Key positions- I oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% outpacing inflation and population growth. The current plan compounds that burden at a time when households are already experiencing real cost pressures.- The Council should cut wasteful spending particularly in corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and reduce spend on consultancy and professional services

rather than allowing expenditure to keep rising.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. It costs about $36 million per year and based on available information 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 including the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Alternative budget approach- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. This would be achieved through: (1) a $50 million reduction in personnel costs via organisational changes and hiring freezes; (2) a $50 million cap on consultants; (3) contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation worth $30 million; (4) prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants $20 million.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt a more restrained budget approach that prioritises essential services and reduces non-essential expenditure rather than imposing higher rates 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

**#8588**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 plan amounts to a real burden on households with an average bill rise of about $320 and a total 7.9% increase expected to be allocated across maintenance growth and operating costs. The data show rates have risen 85% since 2010 far outpacing inflation and population growth and this trajectory is unacceptable.I oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9% and urge Council to dramatically curb wasteful spend. Specifically the following measures should be adopted:1) Reduce corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs.2) Cut spend on consultancy and professional

services rather than allowing continual growth in these expenditures.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 by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a local government core function.In addition I propose the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget framework to cap average residential rate increases at 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%): - $50 million from personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze - $50 million from cap on consultants - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation - $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.These steps are necessary to restore affordability and align Council spending with core statutory duties. I emphasise that ratepayers should not subsidise excessive administrative functions and non-core programmes at the expense of 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

**#8601**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and the broader pattern of spending that drives these increases.1) Rates increase and core spending priorities- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which amounts to about $320 for the average household at a time when the Council's operating costs and backroom spend are rising far faster than inflation.- The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs alongside 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. This is not an acceptable justification for a near 8% rates rise when critical traditional services should be prioritised.2) Wasteful spending

and backroom costs- Council spending on consultants is excessive: about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k. This is an avoidable drag on rates.- Corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure for 18 functions. The scale of these costs demands reduction.- Overall payroll and related expenses have grown disproportionately with 6123 Council and CCO employees on six-figure salaries and 72 staff earning more than the mayor a concerning trend given ratepayers' burden.3) Specific cuts and a prudent path forward- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate increases) via: freeze/hiring pauses for non-essential roles ($17 million saved immediately) cap consultant spend ($50 million) renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors ($30 million) and prioritise statutory/essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million/year and reportedly emitting more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing for vacant non-essential roles and cut spending on Māori-specific programmes such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing for local government to focus on core essential services.Additional concernsMy rates are approaching my income tax bill; this is unsustainable. The Council must be dramatically smaller and more focused on core services not expansive social 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. |
| | **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

**#8602**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

Key positions1) Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. The proposed increase is equivalent to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30 percent real increase since 2022 in a period of 12 percent cumulative inflation. A more prudent approach is required that does not finance ongoing cost growth at the expense of households.2) Reduce spend on corporate and backroom functions. The Council must cut spend on personnel and back-office activities across the Council and CCOs to align with a restrained rates strategy.3) Curb consultancy and professional services. The Council should halt or cap consultancy and professional fees rather than sharpening

these expenditure items which are a major driver of rate increases.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The programme costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves; cancelling it would free funds for essential services.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs. Halting hiring for non-essential vacant roles and implementing a payroll freeze would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending. The $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) is not a local-government responsibility; redirecting these funds would reduce rate pressure.Financial context and alternative budget- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap average residential rates increase at 3 percent funded by: $50 million from payroll/personnel cost reductions $50 million from restricting consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations/vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI request that the Council adjust its 2026/27 plan to align with these savings and set a more affordable rates path 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.)

| 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

**#8603**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

I submit this response to the proposed 2026/27 annual plan to oppose the scale of the residential rates rise and to advocate for tighter control of wasteful council spending. I support a constructive fiscally responsible approach that preserves essential services while reducing unnecessary costs.Key concerns- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent threatens households already facing high living costs. The plan allocates 4.4 percent to CRL operating costs 2 percent to maintaining existing assets and 1.5 percent for new assets as Auckland grows. I ask Council to focus on efficiency and value-for-money in these areas.- Spending on consultants

remains excessive with about $126 million per year across the Council group and significant six-figure salaries. A more diligent review of personnel and back-office costs is overdue.Agreed measures for restraint and reform- Reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Streamlining governance and support functions will free resources for frontline and statutory services.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. This targeted action alone could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap spending on consultants and professional services. Prioritise core functions and internal capability building over external advisory spend.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors where possible to extract better value.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants reducing spend on non-essential programmes.Māori Outcomes expenditure- I support examining the necessity and effectiveness of Māori-specific spending including Ngā Mātārae with a view to ensuring core local-government outcomes are delivered efficiently and equitably.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt an alternative budget framework that reduces new spending by about $150 million enabling a cap around a 3 percent rates increase and to implement concrete efficiency measures outlined above.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

## Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

### Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

## Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

## Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

**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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| | **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

**#8604**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 as a concerned ratepayer who seeks a more prudent use of Auckland's funds.I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and request the Council to cap rates by prioritising essential services and reducing wasteful spending. The Alliance briefing shows this rise translates to approximately $320 more per household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen 85%â€”far outstripping inflation and population growth. The proposed breakdown (2% for existing assets 1.5% for growth 4.4% for CRL costs) highlights a heavy burden on households without proportional assurance of value.I urge reducing expenditure on corporate

and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these costs. The Alliance notes about $126 million per year spent on consultants across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with many consultants earning around $200k. Direct operating expenditure has grown well beyond inflation and payroll remains a major driver.I call for canceling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million annually and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. I also urge freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.Additionally I oppose ongoing high spend on Māori-specific programmes such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department and its $10 million per year allocation. Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.An alternative budget proposal is essential: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rate increases at around 3% by: reducing personnel costs capping consultant spending renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors.We have re-elected Wayne Brown in good faith; now is the time to demonstrate efficiency in Auckland Council operations.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8610,337586,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this in a constructive solution-focused manner to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to advocate for reductions in wasteful Council spending.1. Rate increase and financial rationale- The proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise translates to around $320 extra for the average household on top of an already high $4069 average rate bill. Since 2022 rates have risen by approximately 30% in real terms far outpacing overall inflation (12%). This is unsustainable for households especially when linked to continued growth in operating costs.2. Expenditure priorities and waste reduction- I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting spend on consultancy and professional services instead of allowing these costs to continue rising.- I oppose ongoing funding for discretionary items that do not deliver essential statutory services including current programmes that are not core to local government. An immediate pause and review of non-essential spending is warranted.3. Specific reductions aligned with the submitter's positions- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and as claimed emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could yield at least $17 million in savings right away.- Cut spend on Māori-specific programmes including the approximately $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a defined local government responsibility.4. Alternative budget emphasis- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3% by targeting personnel costs consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt a package of efficiency gains and targeted savings to avoid the proposed 7.9% rate rise protect household affordability and prioritise 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8637,337559,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this response in opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27.I oppose the 7.9% increase and urge the Council to cap rate rises in line with reasonable efficiency gains. The current average residential rates bill stands at $4069 up well over the period since 2012 with real increases far exceeding local inflation. The proposed 7.9% split includes 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets tied to growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Given the scale of overall Council spending this rise is unsustainable for households especially when the Council is funding substantial non-core expenditures.A rates relief path should be funded by reducing wasteful and discretionary spend. I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) thereby capping average rates increases at about 3%. Specific targets include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational changes and a hiring freeze: $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services: $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million.In addition I urge the Council to cancel non-essential programmes that do not align with core local government functions. In particular the Food Scraps Programme should be terminated as it costs $36 million per year and according to the Alliance briefing emits more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing levels or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. Furthermore I request a reduction in Māori-specific spend including the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae on the basis that such roles are not a current core responsibility of local government.Finally I believe many services beyond roads essential parks and basic administration should be user-pays or scaled back; the Council should aim to be smaller and more focused on core functions.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8650,337546,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The current trajectory and spending patterns are unsustainable for Auckland households especially when adjusted for inflation and population growth.Key points- The stated 7.9% increase translates to about $320 extra per average household on top of a long-run rise in rates that has seen bills grow from $2781 in 2022 to $4069 now. This represents a real increase of roughly 30% since 2010 versus 12% inflation over the same period.- The breakdown shows 4.4% of the increase goes to CRL operating costs with 2% for existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. This allocation is not sustainable for ratepayers who are already stretched.- The Council's spending on consultants and backroom functions is excessive: $126 million annually across the Council group with the average consultant payment around $200k. Payroll and 'other expenses' have risen faster than inflation while direct operating expenditure has grown well ahead of CPI.- Wasteful or discretionary spend must be targeted: cancel the $36 million annual Food Scraps Programme which appears not to deliver net carbon savings. Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling non-essential vacancies a move that could save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose parallel increases in non-core spend and I strongly disagree with ongoing expenditure on Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) at about $10 million per year which is not a core local government function.Alternative budget stance- I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rate increases at around 3%. This includes: $50 million through personnel cost reductions and hiring freezes $50 million in consultant spend restraint $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory/essential

services over discretionary grants.ClosingI urge the Council to substantially tighten expenditure prioritise essential services and revert to a more affordable rates path 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 ,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8654,337542,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent which equates to about $320 for the average household. Since 2012 rates have effectively risen 30 percent in real terms while inflation has run about 12 percent despite Auckland's population growth. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for new assets as the city grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This pattern is unsustainable for ratepayers.I urge a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending and a refocus on essential services. Specifically:1) Reduce personnel costs and payroll: freeze hiring for non-essential roles and pursue targeted organisational change to lower the payroll billâ€"this would deliver meaningful savings immediately (the estimate: at least $17 million).2) Curb consultancy and professional services: cut or cap spending on consultants and external services; current annual spend on consultants is excessive and unsustainable.3) Cut discretionary and backroom spending: cancel or scale back non-essential functions including reducing corporate and back-office expenses across the Council and CCOs; reassess six-figure salaries and miscellaneous expenditures.4) Reprioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: focus funds on core municipal responsibilities and reduce non-core programmes.5) Stop the Food Scraps Programme: $36 million per year is costly and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves; redirect those funds to essential services with proven outcomes.6) Reduce Māori-specific spending: suspend or significantly scale back the Ngā Mātārae (Maori outcomes) budget of about $10 million per year as this is a remit more appropriately funded by central government not local government.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget I support reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increases to around 3 percent achieved by the measures above.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

## Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

**Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?**

N/A

## Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

## Question 4: Other feedback

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

N/A

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

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

**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

**#8659**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

This rise equates to roughly $320 for the average household and in real terms continues a pattern of rising costs that far outpace inflation since the 2010 amalgamation.I urge the Council to adopt a reduction in expenditure across the Council and CCOs. In particular I support cutting the spend on corporate and back-room office functions and I oppose the continued growth of consultancy and professional services. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance presents a credible path to capping rate increases while preserving essential services. The alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average rates increase at 3% achieved

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 millionOther specific savings I support include cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves and freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. I also oppose escalating Māori-specific expenditure such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) given my view that this is not a core local government function.In summary the proposed 7.9% increase is not acceptable when wasteful spend and unnecessary programmes can be trimmed. A focused reduction in consultants payroll and discretionary programmes will deliver significant rate relief without compromising 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

#8664

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 rates bill is already high and has risen far faster than inflation since amalgamation; the current average residential bill is $4069 with a real increase of 30% since 2022 and cumulative inflation of 12%. The proposed 7.9% increase comprises 2% for existing asset maintenance 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of increase is not consistent with a prudent value-focused council.Agrees â€“ Key positions I support- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and seek limits aligned with inflation or below with a focus on protecting essential services.- 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 $36 million per year and according to the Alliance's briefing emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this alone would save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a role of local government.Additional context- The Alliance's alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to about 3%. This includes: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and hiring freezes $50 million from limiting consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.- Current council spending areas show elevated personnel and consultant costs with payroll around $1.3 billion and consultants $590 million; six-figure salaries and high backroom costs contribute to rising operating pressures.ClosingI emphasise the need to align rates with inflation curb wasteful spending and prioritise 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8673,337523,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed rates rise and support reallocating funds away from wasteful backroom expenditure toward essential services. The current plan would impose an average increase of about $320 per household with a real increase in rates far above inflation since 2022. The structure of the increaseâ€"2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€"aggravates affordability pressures on households.I advocate for adopting the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which would cap average residential rates increases at 3% by reducing Council spending by $150 million (2% reduction). Specific measures I support include:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles saving $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to save $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.Additional points I emphasise include:- A strong need to curb corporate and backroom office spending across the Council and CCOs as current expenditure on consultants and contractors is excessive ($590 million) with high individual pay levels and staff costs have risen markedly since 2022.- Freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not filling non-essential vacancies would save at least $17 million immediately.- The ongoing expenditure on the Māori outcomes area (Ngā Mātārae) and other discretionary programmes should be revisited to reflect the core duties of local government.In summary I urge the Council to prioritise essential services reduce non-core spending and implement a fiscally responsible approach that limits rate increases to 3% or less. These steps will support affordability while maintaining essential infrastructure and 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8684,337512,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1. Opposition to the rates increaseI oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% which equates to approximately $320 for

the average household. This is not affordable for many ratepayers and represents a real increase that far outstrips inflation. Since 2022 the real increase in rates has already reached about 30% while cumulative inflation sits around 12%.2. Focus on spending reductions rather than further increasesThe Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing shows significant opportunities to reduce wasteful expenditure. I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and I oppose continued increases in consultancy and professional services. A leaner organisation will better serve essential services without driving up bills for households.3. Specific cost-cutting measures I support- 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 could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Maori-specific spending including the approximately $10 million per year for the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a function of local government.4. Alternative budget approachI support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) enabling an average rate cap near 3%. This would be achieved through: $50 million in personnel cost reductions via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million in caps on consulting; $30 million in contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.5. Governance and accountabilityI request that the Council provide clear reporting on savings realised from any efficiency measures and that future budget proposals prioritise core statutory services and essential functions.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8685,337511,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed increase and urge Council to implement meaningful cost reductions before imposing higher rates on households. The current trajectory shows rates rising well above inflation with a 7.9 percent average increase equating to about $320 for the average household on top of an ongoing shift in rates since 2022 that amounts to a real increase of approximately 30 percent while consumer prices have risen about 12 percent. The breakdown of the 7.9% riseâ€”2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth-related new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”highlights how much of the increase funds ongoing operating costs rather than targeted efficiency.I agree with 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 allow these items to keep increasing.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a measure that would save at least $17 million immediately.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.In addition I propose a practical path to rate relief through an Alternative Budget framework that reduces new Council spending by about $150 million (2 percent) capping average residential rates increases to around 3 percent. This includes: $50 million saving from personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze; $50 million from capping consultancy spend; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional points: improve street safety and noise management pause non-essential construction after hours address

noise complaints and protect historic pubs from unnecessary demolition.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8687,337509,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9%. This equates to about $320 for the average household and far exceeds inflation while delivering limited value for ratepayers. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 (up from $2781 in 2022) and the real increase since 2022 is around 30 percent versus 12 percent for overall inflation. The breakdown of the 7.9% riseâ€"2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as {address redacted} grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€"further highlights that a large share funds ongoing costs rather than clear improvements in essential services.I support targeted savings within Council and CCOs to align spending with community priorities. Specifically:1) Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and appropriate hiring freezes where non-essential to curb growth in payroll and back-office expenditure.2) Reduce spend on consultants and professional services; first principles budgeting should prioritise in-house capability and renegotiate external contracts where possible.3) Cap and consolidate contract spending and vendors to deliver essential services more efficiently.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Resources should be redirected to essential municipal services that deliver tangible community benefit.Under the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) would cap average residential rates increases at around 3%. The proposed savings would come from: $50 million in personnel costs $50 million in consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I urge the Council to prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary spending and to pursue meaningful efficiency gains before increasing rates on households already bearing a high cost of living.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8701,337495,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to urge a substantial reduction in Council spending prioritising essential services and value for ratepayers.I understand the plan breaks down as 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Even with these allocations the overall rise is well above inflation and far higher than many households can absorb. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of about 30% while inflation has been around 12%. I urge the Council to align expenditure more closely with ratepayer ability to pay.My positions agreed with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance are:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- 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.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year

on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government role.Additional points I support include accelerating efficiency through technology reducing the workforce and ensuring remaining staff are more productive. The Council could also pursue the Ratepayers' Alliance's proposal to cap rate increases by reducing new spending by about $150 million (a 2% reduction) including targeted reductions in personnel costs consultants and contract renegotiations while prioritising statutory and essential services.I request that my submission be read in full and that I be afforded the opportunity to present at hearings if possible though I do not wish to speak at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8706,337490,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key points- I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% which would total approximately $320 on the average household bill on top of already rising costs. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 and since 2022 real increases have outpaced inflation by a wide margin.- The proposed 7.9 percent breakdown includes 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs in addition to costs for maintaining existing assets and funding new assets. This level of growth is unsustainable for households facing inflation and wage pressures.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance plan to stretch ratepayer dollars is clear: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rate hikes) and bring the average residential rate increase down to around 3 percent.Suggested allocations and reforms- Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze on vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cap spending on consultants and reduce spend on professional services; earmark savings to rate relief rather than backroom cost growth.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to realise around $30 million in efficiency.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and reduce non-core programmes that do not meet core local-government obligations.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing about $36 million per year as it emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes) departmentâ€”approximately $10 million per yearâ€”as this is not a core local-government function.ClosingI appreciate the council's duty to fund essential services; however a more prudent approach is required. Reducing wasteful spending and freezing unnecessary payroll and consultancy costs will protect ratepayers while sustaining essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8722,337474,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the council to pursue significant spending restraint aimed at delivering essential services at sustainable cost.Key concerns and positions- Rate increase: The proposed 7.9% average rise would amount to around $320 for the average household while real rates increases since 2022 have already risen by about 30% against 12% inflation. I urge the council to cap rate rises closer to 3% by delivering material savings in discretionary spending.- Expenditure restraint: The council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and cut spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing continued growth in these areas.- Specific programmes: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which

costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Payroll and staffing: 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.- Māori outcomes spend: Freeze or reassess the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) noting concerns that this is not a core local government function.- Governance and efficiency: Support the council's adoption of KRA goals linked to gain/pain protocols to improve accountability and value for money.Rationale and alternative budgetThe Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) capable of capping rate increases at around 3%. This would be achieved through: $50 million in personnel costs reductions via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million in limiting consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI would welcome 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8733,337462,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1. Core position- I oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates rise. The current average bill is about $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30% in 2022 dollars with cumulative inflation near 12%. A rate rise of this magnitude is unwarranted especially given the Council's track record of rising personnel consultant and backroom costs.2. Spending reform and efficiency- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Implement the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates to about 3% through targeted savings: - Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles (saves at least $17 million immediately). - Cap spending on consultants by $50 million. - Target contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation for $30 million. - Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million.3. Wasteful programmes and Māori-focused spending- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and emitting more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government role.4. Overall accountability- Directing funds to essential services and reducing non-core discretionary items will better reflect residents' priorities and fiscal responsibility.ClosingI request the Council to adopt a cautious savings-focused path that limits rate increases to 3% or less by cutting wasteful spend and avoiding unnecessary programmes.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8744,337451,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I write to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge a clear focus on reducing wasteful Council spending. My concern is straightforward: ratepayers should not bear a price rise well above inflation while wasteful spending continues.Agreeing with key findings from the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing I request:1) Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% which amounts to about $320 for the average household. In real terms rates have risen 30 percent since 2022 far outpacing

cumulative inflation of 12 percent.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The current staffing and structure appear oversized for essential services.3) Curb consultancy and professional services. Spending on consultants amounts to about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant income reflecting high back-office costs.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 including the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I view as not a core local-government function.7) The Council should cancel or postpone discretionary grants and prioritise statutory and essential services over non-essential activities.Additional point: Get back to the basics avoid grandstanding and focus on delivering what was promised to ratepayers when elected.I acknowledge the Council's need to maintain assets and fund growth but there must be a responsible path that aligns with ratepayer affordability. A targeted $150 million reduction in new spending (2%) as outlined by the Alliance would cap the increase at about 3 percent and present a recovery to the burden currently placed on 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8750,337441,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1. Rate increase and affordability- I oppose an average residential rates increase of at least 7.9%. The current context shows a real 30% increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) versus 12% cumulative inflation far beyond household ability to pay. I urge setting a cap closer to 3% by cutting non-essential expenditure rather than chasing growth in rates.2. Wasteful spending and backroom costs- The council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- I support reducing spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these costs to continue rising.3. Specific program cuts- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.4. Staffing and payroll- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; such a freeze would save at least $17 million immediately.5. Māori outcomes and local government roles- Cut Māori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a core local government function.6. Alternative budget framework- The Council should implement the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates increase at around 3%. Specific measures include: $50 million from personnel cost reductions and hiring freezes $50 million from capping consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.7. Personal perspective- I live 25 km from the nearest dairy and rely mainly on roads; I do not use footpaths buses or other funded amenities. Water and sewer services are my responsibility. It is unfair to fund services I cannot access.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8758,337428,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I am writing as a ratepayer concerned about the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and the direction of spending by the Council and its CCOs.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge the Council to adopt a plan that keeps rate rises in line with inflation or lower recognising that the current plan would add approximately $320 more per average household. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outstripping both inflation and population growth and households are feeling the squeeze. The proposed breakdownâ€”2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”adds to the financial pressure on households.I support substantial reductions in wasteful expenditure. Specifically:- Reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these costs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $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 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) which I believe is not a core local government function.I also support the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the rate rise at about 3%. This would be achieved through personnel cost controls capping consultancy spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I appreciate the opportunity to present these views and respectfully request that the Council consider a more restrained spending plan that protects households and focuses on 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8759,337427,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Based on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing the proposed rise is excessive when measured against inflation and population growth and it continues a pattern of high spending on non-core items.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase translates to about $320 for the average household on top of an average residential rates bill of $4069. The real increase since 2022 remains around 30% well above cumulative inflation.- The breakdown of the increase shows 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This signals funding of non-essential or capital-heavy projects over essential service delivery.- Council spending on consultants and backroom functions is excessive: about $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200k. Payroll and other costs have risen substantially while core services lag behind demand.- In light of these pressures I support a targeted restraint: adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping consultancy spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Specific actions I urge- Freeze or reduce payroll by not filling non-essential vacant roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut consultancy and professional services spend and pursue vendor consolidation to realise at least $50 million in savings.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which current evidence suggests emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or dramatically reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I do not see as a core local-government function.- Rebalance funding toward essential services to preserve residents' access to core council functions while limiting growth in non-essential areas.ClosingI

request the Council to consider these reforms as a prudent path to stabilise rates and improve value for 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8784,337386,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and advocate for meaningful cuts to wasteful Council spending. The current average rates bill is approximately $4069 up from $2781 in 2022 and residents are already bearing a real 30% increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars). A 7.9% rise compounds this burden and is not matched by commensurate gains in essential services.I urge the Council to prioritise expenditure reductions and reform. My positions include:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allow these costs to rise further.- 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 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 a core role of local government.The Council's proposed 7.9% increase is currently broken down as 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% to cover CRL operating costs. The scale of these costs is unsustainable for ratepayers especially while wasteful or non-essential programmes persist. I support the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget which proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) achieving an approximate 3% cap on rates through targeted savings in personnel consultants contracts and discretionary programmes:- $50 million from staff costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze- $50 million from consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsClosing: I respectfully request that the Council consider these reductions and adopt a lower rate path aligned with inflation and household affordability. 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8786,337382,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Auckland Council  I am {name redacted} of {address redacted} and I write to register my strong opposition to the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to urge a decisive reallocation of spending to protect essential local services while reducing wasteful expenditure.1. Opposition to the increase and justification  The proposed 7.9% average rates rise would add approximately $320 per household on top of a real 30% increase since 2022 (well above CPI) with 4.4% of the rise allocated to CRL operating costs. I cannot support rate increases that far exceed inflation or growth in essential service delivery. The City needs affordable predictable rates not continual hikes that burden households while project costs and consultants continue to rise.2. Agreement on expenditure reductions and an alternative budget The Council should reduce wasteful spending and reform backroom costs. Specifically I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to cap average rates increases by cutting spending by $150 million (2%) through:  - Reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze for

non-essential roles (savings targeted at least $50 million). - Capping consultancy and professional services (target $50 million). - Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million). - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million). These steps would help contain costs and keep rates affordable.3. Additional local concerns relevant to council budgeting Our neighbourhood faces significant planning and infrastructure pressures: undulating terrain with limited parking increasing density and failing to meet infrastructure needs (sewage water runoff and emergency access). These concerns highlight the necessity of prioritising core service-delivery functions over expanding non-essential programmes that drive cost increases without delivering clear public benefit.4. Final remarks and request to participate in hearings I respectfully request that the Council adopt a prudent budget that stabilises rates growth to well below 7.9% while eliminating wasteful spend and prioritise essential services and maintenance. 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8798,337365,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and the real increase since 2022 is 30% (in 2022 dollars) with inflation at 12%. This rate rise is not affordable and does not reflect value for money.Position and rationale1) Oppose the 7.9% average increase. It is excessive especially given the Council and CCOs' spending growth and the lack of demonstrable efficiency improvements.2) Cut wasteful expenditure in corporate and backroom functions. Reducing onerous payroll and back office costs is essential to lower rates and improve value for residents.3) Curb consultancy and professional services. The current level of external advice and contracting drives up operating costs without clear proportionate public benefit.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. At an estimated $36 million per year with emissions higher than savings this programme should be halted.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing that this is not a core local government function and should be prioritised elsewhere.Alternative budget approachA Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3%:- $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze- $50 million from caps on consultants- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsThis approach aligns with responsible stewardship and delivers more affordable rates while maintaining essential services.ClosingI request that the Council consider these savings and approve a more moderate rate increase with a clear plan to reduce waste and improve 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,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8803,337359,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27. This rise translates to about $320 for the average household on top of a council bill that has already grown 85% since the 2010 Super City amalgamation far exceeding both inflation (12% since 2022) and population growth (22%).The

overall rate to be levied largely to cover CRL operating costs (4.4%) asset maintenance (2%) and new assets for growth (1.5%) is excessive given the current fiscal trajectory. I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap on rates) and keep rate increases near or below 3% by prioritising essential services.Key alignment with my positions:- Oppose the 7.9% increase and demand immediate affordability for households.- Cut personnel costs: implement organisational change and freeze non-essential hires to save at least $50 million.- Curb consultants and professional services: cap spending by $50 million given $126 million per year across the Council group and average consultant remuneration.- Reconsider contracts and vendor arrangements to realise at least $30 million in savings.- Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants; pause non-essential programmes such as the Food Scraps Programme (costs $36 million/year and appears to emit more carbon than saved).- Cancel or drastically reduce Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on Ngā Mātārae (Māori outcomes) consistent with the view that these are not core local-government functions.Additional note: return to core servicesâ€”rubbish stormwater sewage drains and road maintenanceâ€”before funding pet projects. Expenditure on backroom functions consultants and six-figure payrolls should be rationalised; the payroll alone totals about $1.3 billion with outsized contractor costs.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8804,337358,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose any rates increase above inflation and urge a reallocation of spending to deliver essential services while reducing wasteful expenditure. The Council should prioritise economies and efficiency over higher rates. In particular I support the following positions:1) Reduce corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. A leaner organisational footprint is essential to keep the rate rise affordable for households.2) Cut spending on consultancy and professional services. The current level of outsourced expertise is unsustainable and should be trimmed in favour of internal capability and core functions.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. Redirect funds to pressing infrastructure and maintenance needs.4) Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. This measure alone could save at least $17 million immediately.5) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe falls outside the proper remit of local government.Additional points I wish to emphasise include focusing on real-time local issues such as housing conditions parking broken pathways and poorly managed playgrounds. These issues directly affect residents and should take priority in expenditure decisions.I note that the proposed 7.9 percent increase is a cumulative and real rise given 30 percent since 2022 in real terms while population growth and inflation outpace the proposed investment in assets and services. A targeted reduction in discretionary and non-core spending aligned with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget would better protect households from excessive rate pressure.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8833,337300,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key points1) The affordable rate target should be aligned with inflation not past over-spending. The proposed 7.9 percent increase equates to approximately $320 for the average household while the current average rates bill is $4069. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85 percent far outstripping cumulative inflation (about 34 percent) and population growth (22 percent). This is unsustainable for ratepayers.2) Wasteful spending must be curtailed. The Council spends heavily on consultants ($126 million per year across the group; the parent council alone $60 million) with average consultant pay around $200k. Personnel costs and other expenses have risen faster than inflation and payroll is about $1.3 billion. The focus should be on reducing backroom and corporate costs and avoiding further escalation in professional services.3) Budget reallocation to essential services only. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) enabling a cap of 3% on rates growth. Specific savings include: freezing non-essential hiring (saving at least $17 million immediately) capping consultant spend ($50 million) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million) and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).4) Reducing targeted spending on discrete programmes. I support reducing or re-evaluating non-core areas including Māori-specific funding such as the $171 million allocated over ten years to Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae). While I respect partners and communities local government must focus on core services and affordability for ratepayers.5) Reassessing cost drivers. The 4.4% dedicated to CRL operating costs along with 2% for maintaining assets and 1.5% for new assets contributes to the overall rise. A careful review of these components is necessary to deliver essential services at a sustainable cost.ClosingI request that my submission be considered in shaping a more affordable plan that reduces wasteful expenditure and stabilises rates growth at or near inflation.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8851,337282,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 in the face of only 12% inflation. I urge the Council to align rate increases with inflation and household affordability.I agree that the Council must improve value for money and reduce wasteful expenditure. Specifically:- Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase and support measures to hold the increase to around 3% consistent with the Ratepayers' Alliance budget proposal.- The Council needs to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to cut the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and based on independent assessment 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 such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe should not be a core local government responsibility.In addition I support the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) achieving a cap of about 3% for residential rates through targeted actions:- $50 million saving from personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze.- $50 million saving from capping consultancy spend.- $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.- $20 million by prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I request the Council to consider these concrete savings and adjust the plan accordingly ensuring core services

are protected while delivering fairer more affordable funding.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8854,337279,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The proposed increase estimated at about $320 for the average household is excessive given the Council's own cost and value concerns.1) Oppose the 7.9% rates rise and support a tighter budget.- The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent (versus 12 percent overall inflation). The proposed 7.9% increase is disproportionate to inflation and growth.- Ratepayers cannot absorb continued wasteful spending while core services are stretched. A prudent forecast requires restraint and reallocation toward essential services.2) Target wasteful backroom expenditure and consultant costs.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these lines.- Spending on consultants averages about $200k per consultant and totals around $126 million per year across the Council group; this is unsustainable at current levels.3) Cancel or pause unproven or high-cost programmes.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is said to emit more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; such a freeze would save at least $17 million immediately.4) Re-examine targeted Maori outcomes spending.- Reduce Maori-specific spending including the $10 million per year for the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local-government function.5) Alternative budget approach.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at about 3 percent through personnel cost reductions capping consultants renegotiations and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.In closing I request the Council to adopt a leaner more accountable budget that protects essential services while reducing wasteful spending. 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8862,337271,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a comprehensive review of Council operating costs before any further rate increases are approved.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% increase is excessive given that the Council's spending has grown far faster than inflation and population. The plan allocates 4.4% of the increase to CRL operating costs with 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. A more measured approach is required.- The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget shows a path to capping rate increases at roughly 3% by saving $150 million across the Council group: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze; $50 million from capping consultancy and professional services; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million by prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.- Wasteful spend must be addressed. Council consulting costs are around $126 million per year and staff payroll represents about $1.3 billion with many six-figure salaries. A focus on reducing backroom and corporate spending is essential.- Specific savings proposed include cancelling the Food Scraps Programme at $36 million/year which the Alliance notes emits more carbon than it

saves and freezing non-essential vacancies to save at least $17 million immediately. There is also a call to reduce Māori-specific spend such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local government function.Additional points- Drain the swamp. I support reducing backroom administration and pen-pushers to focus resources on essential services and core responsibilities.ConclusionI urge Council to adopt a careful evidence-based approach to restraint on non-essential spending and to implement the Alliance's proposed reductions as a step toward preventing further rate rises above inflation while maintaining essential services for Aucklanders.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I submit in strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to demand a substantial reduction in wasteful Council spending.Key facts driving my position:- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real rates increase of 30% since 2022 far outpacing cumulative inflation of 12%. This is unaffordable for many ratepayers.- The current rate structure includes 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. These components must be scrutinised and reduced where possible.Agreed position â€" the Council must curb wasteful and bloated expenditure:- Reduce corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The Departmental overheads and related personnel costs are excessive and unsustainable.- Cut spending on consultants and professional services. Given $126 million per year across the Council group and an average consultant pay of around $200k this is not delivering value proportional to cost.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) which emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.- Stop waste and red tape. The bloated office staff and the proliferation of RMA staff should be reined in to stop unnecessary costs.I propose the Council adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rates increase at around 3%. This would be achieved by: $50 million from personnel cost reductions and hiring freezes $50 million from capping consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.This wasteful and reckless spending needs to stop! 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

**#8879**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## Your feedback:

## Question 1: Our overall plan and proposed increases to rates

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

**In 2026/2027 that includes prioritising investment in:**

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

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

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

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

Do not support most

### Tell us why

Since 2022 rates have risen 30% in real terms while inflation has totaled around 12%. The current proposal continues to fund a growing cost base that is not matched by demonstrable service improvements for ratepayers.I Agrees with the need to rein in expenditure and prioritise core services. Specifically:1) Oppose the 7.9% average rate increase; seek a cap aligned to modest growth in essential services.2) The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) The Council must reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than allow these costs to rise.4) The Council should cancel the Food

Scraps Programme which costs about $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 on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.7) Stop AT and Watercare over spending on non-urgent projects.8) Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I note the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget framework: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3% achievable through the measures above including renegotiations and vendor consolidation where feasible.Additional points: Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have grown well ahead of inflation in recent years; a leaner payroll and tighter contracting would improve value for money without compromising essential services.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

**#8889**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 equates to about $320 for the average household.Key concerns and positions:1) The 7.9% increase is not sustainable. Since 2010 rates have risen 85%â€”well above inflation (34%) and population growth (22%). The proposed increase channels more funds into existing CRL operating costs (4.4%) asset maintenance (2%) and growth-related assets (1.5) while delivering little justification for such a high uplift to households.2) Wasteful or excessive spending must be curbed. Council spending on consultants runs at about $126 million per year across the Council group with

the average consultant receiving around $200k. Direct operating expenditure grew 78% from 2013 to 2023 far outpacing inflation. Payroll and related expenses are ballooning with 6123 staff on six-figure salaries and 72 staff paid more than the mayor.3) Targeted savings can cap rates. The Ratepayers' Alliance's alternative budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average rate rise at around 3%. Specific measures include:- Freeze/halt non-essential hires to save at least $17 million immediately.- Reduce staff costs and cap payroll growth.- Curb consultant spend by $50 million.- Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors for a further $30 million.- Prioritise statutory/essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.4) Specific items warrant scrutiny. The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled as it costs about $36 million per year and according to independent analyses emits more carbon than it saves. The council should also reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and slow or freeze non-essential discretionary programmes.I call on Auckland Council to adopt leaner budgeting prioritise core statutory services and implement the proposed efficiency measures to restrain rate increases to or near 3% rather than approving a 7.9% rise.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8902,337218,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Chevalier Auckland 1022. I submit opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and a call for substantial reductions in wasteful Council spending. The current burden on households with a 30% real rate increase since 2022 (above 12% inflation) is unacceptable. The proposed splitâ€”2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”does not justify a rate rise that is well above inflation.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to cap the rate increase at 3% by cutting non-essential expenditure. Specifically:1) Reduce personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze where possible saving $50 million.2) Cap spending on consultants and professional services saving $50 million.3) Renegotiate contracts and consolidate vendors to save $30 million.4) Prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.These measures collectively better align spending with beneficiaries and deliver genuine value to ratepayers.In addition I oppose continuing to fund wasteful programmes and backroom overheads. The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million annually and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. I also urge a freeze on staffing and payroll savings by not filling non-essential vacancies which could save at least $17 million immediately. Further I oppose continuing to fund Māori-specific programmes such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department at around $10 million per year arguing that these are not a core local government role.Additional concerns I wish to raise include safety and security at Pt Chevalier. I request CCTV cameras for the Point Chevalier carpark public toilets walkways to the beach and shopping areas plus improved lighting. Speed cameras on Pt Chevalier Road and Meola Road are also sought to deter speeding.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8917,337201,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I am writing to oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and to urge a substantial reduction in wasteful council

spending while prioritising essential services.1) Opposition to the rates rise. The proposed 7.9 percent increase equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a real increase of 30 percent since 2022 in real terms versus 12 percent overall inflation. This level of increase is unsustainable for households especially pensioners like me who are already stretched. I cannot support a continuation of rates growth at or above these levels.2) Wasteful spend and backroom costs. The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than permitting ongoing growth in these areas. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well ahead of inflation with a large share going to consultants contractors and sixâ€‘figure salaries. Reducing these costs is essential to stabilise rates.3) Specific policy requests. I call for the cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant nonâ€‘essential roles a measure that could save at least $17 million immediately.4) A practical affordable path forward. The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) delivering a cap of about 3 percent on average residential rates. This would be achieved through: $50 million in personnel cost reductions via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million cap on consultants; $30 million in contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; and $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.5) Additional perspective. The constant rates increases are unsustainable and financing big infrastructure projects on the back of ratepayers is improper if it means ongoing unaffordable bills for households. As a pensioner I must make ends meet and the council should too.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8922,337193,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed 7.9% increase which equates to approximately $320 for the average household and I urge a more prudent approach to council expenditure.Key concerns and positions- Rates: Oppose the average residential rates rise of 7.9% and support capping the increase to around 3% aligning with an approach that prioritises inflation realism and household affordability.- Spending reductions: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs. Direct operating expenditure and personnel costs have risen well ahead of inflation and there is substantial scope to streamline overheads.- Consultants and professional services: Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these items. The current level of external advice appears excessive relative to core service delivery needs.- Food Scraps Programme: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and is argued to emit more carbon than it saves.- 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.- Māori outcomes: Cut Māori-specific spending such as the roughly $10 million per year spent on the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a role of local government as I understand it.Alternative budget framingBased on the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal reduce new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) to cap the average residential rates increase at about 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 from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary

grants.ClosingI urge the Council to adopt a leaner more affordable budget that preserves essential services while restoring public trust through prudent spending and restraint on growth in external and discretionary costs.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8925,337189,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,This submission outlines why I oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase and supports reducing wasteful Council spending. It also reflects the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance briefing and presents a detailed evidence-based case for restraint and reform.1) Opposition to the 7.9% rate rise- The proposed increase is excessive in the current economic context. The 7.9% uplift translates to roughly $320 more per average household on top of a rising cost of living while real increases since 2022 are already approximately 30% in rates against 12% cumulative inflation. The breakdown shows 2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for growth-driven asset additions and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. I urge the Council to align rate movements with inflation and real service needs not ongoing growth in operating costs.2) Wasteful spending and reform- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cut spending on consultancy and professional services which currently runs at high levels.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year due to limited net carbon savings.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could yield at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) arguing this is not a local government core function.3) Alternative budget and fiscal discipline- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by about $150 million (2%) to cap the average residential rate increase at around 3%. This can be achieved through organisational change a hiring freeze capping consultancy spend contract renegotiations vendor consolidation and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.4) Additional points- A council that actually listens to its Ratepayers is essential.- If policy allows consider restoring community-minded initiatives such as Western Springs Speedway as part of local engagement where feasible.ClosingI do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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8928,337184,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the 7.9% increase and urge more disciplined budgeting. The plan scaffolds the rise on 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% outpacing inflation and population growth. A more prudent approach is to cap rate increases and reallocate funds to essential services.The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom functions and cut consultancy and professional services. Current annual consultancy spending is around $126 million with the average consultant paid approximately $200000. Personnel costs and 'other expenses' have grown well beyond inflation and the payroll and contractor costs together account for a substantial portion of the budget. A leaner structure will deliver savings.I also propose cancelling discretionary spend that does not directly benefit residents. In particular cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for

vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately. Further cut Maori-specific spending such as the Ngā Mātārae Māori Outcomes department's $10 million per year as this is not a function of local government.A rate increase should reflect real change in living allowances; my wife and I rely on super and do not receive increases to match proposed rates hikes. Rates increases should be no higher than superannuation increases.I request that the Council consider these adjustments to cap the rate rise and prioritise statutory and 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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8943,337164,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this formal objection to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase in the 2026/27 Annual Plan and urge a focus on reducing wasteful Council spending.I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent which amounts to about $320 for the average household on top of continued growth in costs that outpace inflation. The proposed breakdownâ€”2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€"does not justify a return to ratepayers of a rate rise well above inflation and it diverts attention from the need to curb excessive backroom costs.The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance presents a credible path to affordability: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rate rises at around 3 percent. This includes:- Reducing personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million- Capping spend on consultants: $50 million- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 millionKey areas where savings should be realised include:- Reducing corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Cutting expenditure 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 which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Reconsidering Māori-focused spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) aligning with the view that such roles are not within local government core responsibilities.Additional concerns include the substantial growth in staff and consultant costs since 2013 and 2022 which have driven up the payroll and external services well beyond inflation. A prudent services-first approach would prioritise essential functions and statutory duties while delivering real rate relief to 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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8944,337163,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in a personal and sincere tone to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to advocate for restraint on wasteful Council spending.1. Rates increase and fairness- I oppose an average residential rates rise of 7.9% which equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2022 residential rates have risen by about 30 percent in real terms far outpacing inflation. I cannot justify further increases when many residents already face higher costs with limited local services in return.2. Wasteful spending and reform priorities- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- It must curb

spending on consultants and professional services rather than allowing these costs to continue rising.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles a move that could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government responsibility.3. Budget alignment with basic local needs- In my area priorities are limited to essential services (garbage recycling) and basic infrastructure. We have no footpaths local shops or public transport nearby yet rates keep rising. These funds should rather target core statutory services and essential maintenance.Alternative budgeting aligns with reducing new spending by $150 million (2%) capping the average rate rise to about 3% by:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes.- Capping consultant spend and renegotiating contracts.- Prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.In summary I urge the Council to reject the proposed 7.9% rate increase and implement the stated reductions to deliver a more affordable and focused 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8946,337161,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Overall rates increases above inflation are unacceptable given the Council's track record. The proposed 7.9% rise equates to about $320 extra for the average household on top of a 30% real increase since 2022 (in 2022 dollars) while cumulative inflation sits around 12%. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs with 2% to maintain existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as the city grows. This level of growth in costs is not matched by commensurate performance improvements or accountable outcomes.I AGREE that the Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and that spending on consultancy and professional services should be curtailed rather than continually increasing. The current annual consultant spend of $126 million across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with average consultants earning around $200k is unsustainable and untransparent in a period of belt-tightening.I AGREE with cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and in the submitter's view emits more carbon than it saves. This is not a priority service for local government and diverts scarce funds from essential services.I AGREE to 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 and to cutting Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local government function.I AGREE that overall the Council should pursue a disciplined reduction in discretionary spending pause or reverse nonessential capital projects and prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants. A targeted approach to reducing personnel costs capping consultants and renegotiating contracts could cap the rate increase to around 3% if these measures are adopted as a central plan.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8947,337160,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase for 2026/27 and in favour of reducing wasteful Council

spending.1) Rates burden and rationale- The proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% equates to about $320 for the average household on top of an already high current average bill of $4069. Since 2022 rates have risen by 30% in real terms far outpacing cumulative inflation (12%) and population growth (22% over the period).- The breakdown of the increase includes 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of increase is unacceptable when much of it funds non-core or discretionary activities rather than essential services.2) Wasteful spend must be trimmed- Council spending on consultants amounts to about $126 million per year across the Council group with the Auckland Council parent responsible for around $60 million and consultants averaging $200k each. This is an area where efficiency gains can be realised.- Direct operating expenditure has grown well beyond inflation and personnel costs have risen sharply. The payroll is about $1.3 billion with substantial six-figure salaries and a notable rise under recent leadership.- I also object to the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) and to the broader 'Māori outcomes' spend which I regard as outside the core remit of local government.3) Concrete savings and a fairer budget- I support reducing new Council spending by at least $150 million (2%) to cap rates growth at around 3% through: - Reducing personnel costs by freezing non-essential hires and pursuing organisational change ($50 million). - Capping spending on consultants ($50 million). - Renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million). - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).- I emphasise that ratepayers are not a bottomless pit for 'pet projects.'ClosingI request that Auckland Council adopt a prudent leaner budget that prioritises essential services and reduces wasteful spending rather than approving a near-8% rates rise.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8978,337113,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The current average rate bill is $4069 and in real terms since 2022 rates have risen by about 30% while general inflation has been around 12%. The proposed splitâ€”2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for growth and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”does not reflect value for money or prudent financial management.I agree with the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position that the Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and that spending on consultancy and professional services must be restrained rather than continued growth. In addition I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.I also agree the Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. A reallocation of resources to essential services is warranted. Moreover I urge substantial reductions to discretionary and non-essential programmes including significant cuts to spending on Māori outcomes. The Alliance's stance on reducing the Ngā Mātārae budget (approximately $10 million per year) reflects the belief that such expenditure is not a core local government function and should be reconsidered.To align rates with value received I support a redesign of the council's budget to reduce overall expenditure by at least $150 million equivalent to capping the average rates increase at around 3%. The proposed reductions would come from:- $50 million: personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles- $50 million: capping consultants and external advisers- $30 million: contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation- $20 million: prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grantsShort meaningful

savings must be found before families are asked to shoulder higher bills.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8981,337110,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and in support of a reduction in wasteful Council spending. The proposed rise would add approximately $320 to the average household bill taking current average rates to $4069 a real increase well in excess of inflation since 2022 (up 30% in 2022 dollars against 12% cumulative inflation).Key points- I oppose the 7.9% average increase and support reducing new and existing Council spending to cap rates increases at or around 3%. This aligns with the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce overall Council spending by $150 million (2%) focusing on reallocating funds to essential services.- The spending profile driving the increase includes 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for maintaining assets and 1.5% for new assets yet there is clear opportunity to improve efficiency rather than imposing higher bills on households.- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and scale back consultancy and professional services which currently total substantial annual outlays.- I call for the cancellation of the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year and delivering carbon savings that do not justify the expense.- 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.- Curb Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which I consider outside the core role of local government.In support of a more affordable targeted approach I endorse the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget measures: reduce new Council spending prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary grants and pursue contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.I request that you consider these points and the need for prudent value-for-money governance that prioritises essential services transparency and restraint on inflationary rates rises.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing..\For the average household this equates to about $320 extra per year and continues a pattern of rate rises that far outpace inflation and population growth.Key concerns and constructive alternatives1) Rate increase and revenue use: The 7.9% rise comprises 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. This level of cost escalation is unsustainable for households while many core services are already under pressure. I support capping the increase to around 3% by reforming expenditure.2) Expenditure reductions (agreed positions): The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and scale back consultancy and professional services. The current spend on consultantsâ€”approximately $126 million per year across the Council group with the average consultant earning around $200kâ€”cannot be justified alongside a rising rates burden.3) Targeted program disestablishment (agreed): Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. This is a clear area for efficiency without compromising essential services.4) Payroll and staffing controls (agreed): 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) Māori outcomes spending (agreed): Review and reduce Māori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary spend where appropriate.Financial

framework (agreed alternative budget)- Reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2% cap) to hold rates to around 3%.- Allocations: $50 million from personnel cost reductions $50 million from consultant spending $30 million from renegotiations and vendor consolidation $20 million prioritising statutory services.I recognise the importance of investing in Auckland's future but the current path risks placing an unfair burden on households. A leaner more targeted approach to spending can protect essential services while delivering a more affordable rates outcome.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8985,337105,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this formal response to the proposed 2026/27 annual plan and the advertised average residential rates increase of 7.9%.1. Opposition to the rate rise and why- I oppose an average residential rates increase of 7.9% (roughly $320 for the average household). Since 2022 the real increase in rates is 30% in constant dollars while overall inflation is about 12%. This is unaffordable for households and unsustainable for ratepayers.2. Wasteful and excessive spending that must be reduced- The Council must cut back on corporate and backroom spending across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled; it costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; this could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a core responsibility of local government.3. A practical path to keeping rates near or below inflation- The Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget proposes reducing new spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap the average residential rate increase at around 3%. This would be achieved by: - Personnel cost reductions through organisational change and a hiring freeze: $50 million - Capping consultants: $50 million - Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation: $30 million - Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants: $20 million4. Closing appeal- The council can and should deliver essential services efficiently while avoiding waste and non-essential programmes. A responsible budget would prioritise core services curb escalation in consultant and backroom costs and align with reasonable expectations of ratepayers.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8987,337102,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and urge a disciplined review of Council and CCO spending to prioritise essential services and reduce wasteful expenditure.Key points:1) Rates and affordability: The proposed 7.9% increase equates to roughly $320 more per average household on top of a real rates rise since 2022 of about 30% (versus 12% inflation). This is well above inflation and places Council services out of reach for many ratepayers.2) Spending reform priorities: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services. The current level of external advice and high-paid staff drives ongoing cost growth that is not matched by commensurate service gains.3) Wasteful programmes and payroll discipline: I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme ($36

million/year) if it proves to emit more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.4) Reassessment of targeted spending: I oppose increasing Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.5) Alternative budget: I urge adopting the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increases to about 3% through: (a) reducing personnel costs via organisational changes and hiring freezes; (b) capping consultants; (c) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; (d) prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Closing: I respectfully request that Council consider these points and adopt a more restrained approach to spending and rates increases aligned with actual growth inflation and the core services required by 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

8993,337095,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The public deserve a council that delivers essential services efficiently not a perpetually expanding cost base.1. I oppose the 7.9% rates increase. The proposed rise translates to about $320 more per household on top of a long trend of rising rates that far outpaces inflation. Since 2010 rates have increased by 85% while inflation has risen around 34% and population growth about 22%.2. Reduce corporate and backroom spending. The council group spends heavily on consultants ($126 million per year) and six-figure salaries (thousands on higher-paid staff including 72 staff paid more than the mayor). A broad review is needed to cut non-essential costs and streamline operations.3. Cut consultancy and professional services. I support capping or reducing external professional spend rather than continually increasing these expenditures.4. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme. The $36 million/year cost should be reallocated to essential services given it emits more carbon than it saves.5. Freeze staffing and cut payroll costs. Not filling vacant non-essential roles and a general hiring freeze would save at least $17 million immediately.6. Trim Māori-specific spending. The $10 million/year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) should be reconsidered as this is not a core local-government remit.7. Additional observation. While there is concern about large-scale projects North Shore residents report reduced services; prioritising public transport over car-dependent staff commuting would improve efficiency.Additional note: The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget suggests a $150 million spend reduction (2%) to cap the rate rise at about 3%: $50 million from personnel $50 million from consultants $30 million from contracts/vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.Closing: I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I oppose the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and real increases since 2022 have reached 30 percent far outstripping inflation. A rates rise of nearly 8 percent is not affordable for households already feeling the squeeze and fails to reflect proportionate value for money.AGREED positions1) The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Wasteful overheads erode services that ordinary ratepayers rely on and should be re-prioritised to essential services.2) The Council must reduce spend on consultancy and professional services. The current level of $126 million per year across the Council group is excessive and should be cut to protect ratepayers.3) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme

which costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves. This is a high-cost intervention with limited net benefit to the environment or residents.4) Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles. The immediate savings from a hiring freeze would be at least $17 million.5) Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). This is not a core function of local government and should be redirected to essential services.6) Adhere to the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap the rate rise at about 3 percent achieved through personnel cost reductions capping consultancy spend contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.ADDITIONAL POINTS- Direct operating expenditure and staff costs have risen well ahead of inflation. A more prudent budgeting approach is required to protect households from excessive rate increases.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9000,337086,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this formal input on the proposed 2026/27 annual plan.Position and rationale- I oppose a continued rise in residential rates that outpaces inflation and growth and I urge the Council to reduce wasteful spending so ratepayer funds are directed to essential services. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85% well above inflation and population growth. A disciplined reduction in operating and backroom costs is essential before further rate increases are considered.- I agree with reducing corporate and backroom office spending across the Council and CCOs and I agree that consultancy and professional services spending must be capped and reduced rather than increased.- I agree that the Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled given its $36 million annual cost and its carbon savings not justifying the expense.- I agree that staffing should be frozen or payroll costs reduced by not filling vacant non-essential roles with a potential immediate saving of at least $17 million.- I agree that Māori-specific spending should be reviewed including the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' allocation which amounts to around $10 million per year as this is not a core local government function.- I agree with a reform plan that funds only statutory and essential services and prioritises core responsibilities over discretionary grants.Proposed path to affordability- I support the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative: reduce new Council spending by about $150 million (2%) to cap average residential rates increases at a more sustainable level through targeted savings:  - $50 million from personnel costs via organisational changes and hiring freezes  - $50 million from capping consultancy spend  - $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation  - $20 million by prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grantsClosing and hearing requestI request that this submission be considered in the formal hearings process and that I be afforded the opportunity to speak if possible.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9004,337082,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the 7.9% rates increase and urge the Council to bring rates increases in line with inflation or lower. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and since 2022 rates have effectively risen 30% in real terms while inflation has run higher. A meaningful reduction in wasteful spending is essential before asking households to

pay more.I respectfully request that the Council implement substantial cost reductions across the organisation especially in corporate and backroom office functions within the Council and CCOs. The Spend on consultants and professional services must be reduced rather than continually increased; the documented annual consultant spend of $126 million (including $60 million by the Council parent) represents a clear area for restraint. I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for non-essential vacant roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.I also support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. In addition I urge a review of Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to Ngā Mātārae (Maori Outcomes). While I recognise the importance of good governance this is not a core local government function and should be reconsidered to prioritise statutory and essential services.As part of a transparent alternative I note the Alliance's plan to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) which would cap the rate rise at around 3% through targeted cuts: reducing personnel costs capping consultant spend and renegotiating contracts. I urge prioritising essential services and infrastructure that directly benefit our region particularly in Warkworth where residents face infrastructure strain sewage logistics and the lack of local recreational facilities such as a swimming pool.I would welcome the opportunity to speak at 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,,,,,,
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9018,337061,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong and direct terms to oppose the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and to call for substantial cost reductions across the Council and CCOs.Key positions1) Rates increase: I oppose the average 7.9% rise. With the current average bill at $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of about 30% rates must not outstrip inflation by nearly eight percentage points. The Bailiwick of Auckland must tighten wasteful spending first.2) Spending reductions: The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A large portion of rising costs stems from payroll consultants and non-essential staff which must be trimmed.3) Consultancy and professional services: The spend on consultants and external contractors should be capped or reduced. The Council's reliance on external expertise is driving costs well beyond inflation and population growth.4) Food Scraps Programme: Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. This is not a priority use of ratepayers' funds.5) Staffing and payroll: 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.6) Māori outcomes spending: Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). In my view this is not a function of local government and should be redirected to statutory and essential services.Alternative budget approachAdopt the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rates increase at 3%. This should be achieved by prioritising essential services renegotiating contracts consolidating vendors and freezing non-essential staff.ClosingI request the opportunity to contribute further through a hearing if permitted. I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,
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9033,337045,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit my opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a focus on reducing wasteful spending and prioritising essential services.Key concerns- The proposed 7.9% average increase is excessive in the current context. The plan breaks down as 2% to maintain existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% while population grew only ~22% and inflation rose ~34% indicating outpacing growth and inflation. I request a rate increase aligned with inflation not above it.- Wasteful expenditure must be cut. Council spending on consultants averages $126 million per year across the group with the Council alone around $60 million and an average consultant pay of about $200k. The payroll and personnel costs have risen sharply while 18 corporate and business support functions cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure. There should be a real consolidation of backroom functions and procurement.- I oppose continued expansion of consultancy and professional services. Reduce spending here rather than increasing these items.- The Food Scraps Programme should be cancelled. It costs $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing growth and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. This would save at least $17 million immediately.- I oppose Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which is not a core local-government function.Alternative budget approachLet's fund the basics first within the available rates revenue using an inflation-adjusted increase only. The Ratepayers' Alliance proposal suggests a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) achieving an average rate increase around 3% through targeted measures: freezing/limiting personnel costs capping consultant spend renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingI respectfully request consideration of a revised plan that prioritises core services reduces wasteful spend and limits rates increases to 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9040,337038,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I write to oppose Auckland Council's proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% and to set out credible cost-saving measures consistent with responsible governance and value for ratepayers.1) Opposition to the 7.9% increase and justification- The proposed 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household) is well above current inflation and public expectations for prudent management. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85% well ahead of inflation and population growth and the current plan would compound this trend.- A more modest rate increase is achievable if expenditure is re-prioritised toward essential services and kept in line with residents' ability to pay.2) Spending reform and efficiency- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Urgently reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than permitting continual growth in these line items.- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles; such measures could save at least $17 million immediately.- Consider contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation to deliver savings rather than passing costs onto households.3) Specific programme and Maori outcomes funding- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and has not demonstrated net carbon savings; redirect funds to essential services with proven outcomes.- The proposed allocation toward Māori outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) at roughly $10 million per year should be reviewed as some see this as not a core local-government function. Reallocate these resources toward statutorily required and

essential services.4) Overall financial stewardship- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget illustrates that reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% reduction) can cap the average residential rate increase at about 3% while retaining core services.I request that the Council adopt these efficiency measures and reconsider the rate rise in favour of affordability and prudent budgeting.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9053,337023,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1. Opposition to the rate increase- I oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9%. This rise is excessive in real terms and unaffordable for many households. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 a 30% real increase since 2022 well above inflation. I expect rates to align with prudent budgeting and inflation not to compound unnecessary growth.2. Expenditure reduction across the Council and CCOs- The Council must reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. A focus on organisational efficiency is long overdue.3. Curb consultants and professional services- Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items. The current level of external advice and contracting is unsustainable and diverts funds from essential services.4. Cancel the Food Scraps Programme- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. This is not a prudent use of ratepayer funds.5. Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs- 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.6. Cut Māori-specific spending- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year spent on the 'Māori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) which I do not believe is a core local government role. Resources should prioritise statutory and essential services over discretionary programmes.7. Alternative budgeting approach- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget demonstrates a feasible path: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) capping average rates rise at about 3% by prioritising essential services and curbing discretionary expenditure.As a result I urge the Council to adopt a fiscally responsible plan that reduces wasteful spending controls staff and consultant costs and avoids a near 8% rate rise. This should be achieved while preserving core services and delivering value for all ratepayers.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9070,337002,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the proposed increase of 7.9 percent and urge the Council to cap rates growth well below inflation. The current average residential rates bill stands at $4069 with real increases since 2022 running well ahead of inflation. This raise is not affordable for households and disproportionately impacts everyday Aucklanders.I urge the Council to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to rein in consultancy and professional services spending. The Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance analysis shows annual consultancy costs reaching $126 million across the Council group with the average consultant paid around $200000. A steady reduction in these discretionary costs is essential to delivering a fairer rates outcome.Specific measures I support:- 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 could save at least $17 million immediately.- Freeze or substantially reduce 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 function.I also support reducing the spend on consultants and contract renegotiations to achieve real savings and I call for vendor consolidation where possible to lower operating costs.In line with these savings I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new spending by $150 million (a 2% cut) to keep average residential rate increases to about 3 percent. This involves targeted personnel cost reductions cap on consultants renegotiated contracts and prioritising statutory and 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9079,336990,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this objection to the proposed average 7.9 percent residential rates increase for 2026/27 and to call for significant reductions in wasteful Council spending. The proposed rise equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069 with real increases since 2022 of 30 percent against 12 percent inflation. This is unacceptable.Key points- I oppose the 7.9% increase and urge that rates be kept to inflation or below. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% to maintain existing assets and 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows. This escalation is not matched by commensurate service improvements for ratepayers.- Expenditure reductions are essential. The Council must shrink corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and curb consultancy and professional services rather than increasing them. The current level of consultant spend is unsustainable.- Specific savings proposals: cancel the Food Scraps Programme (Â£36 million/year) which costs carbon and delivers uncertain net benefit; freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling non-essential vacancies (could save at least $17 million immediately); cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I believe is not a role of local government.- The broader context shows Council spending on consultants and contractors running at about $590 million payroll at $1.3 billion and many six-figure salaries. These costs must be prioritised against core statutory and essential services not discretionary grants.Additional concerns- I regard the current pattern as an utter waste of money through AT and a risk of overdevelopment without necessary infrastructure which harms outer suburbs.I request the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget framework: reduce new spending by $150 million (2%) capping the rate rise to about 3 percent through personnel cost controls contractor caps renegotiation of contracts and prioritising essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9086,336981,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Since 2010 rates have risen 85 percent far outstripping inflation and population growth. The proposed 7.9 percent rise allocated as 2% for existing assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costs places the burden squarely on households while failing to address wasteful spending.I support the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to reduce Council spending by at least $150 million enabling a cap of around 3 percent on

residential rates. Specifically I advocate:- Reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze for non-essential roles which could save about $50 million.- Capping spending on consultants and professional services at $50 million stopping the continual growth of backroom cost drains.- Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation worth $30 million.- Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants saving $20 million.The following specific areas must be addressed immediately:- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and reportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing levels by not filling vacant non-essential positions which would deliver at least $17 million in near-term savings.- Cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) recognising that this is not a function of local government.Other important context: direct operating expenditure has grown 78% from 2013 to 2023 against a 29% inflation benchmark and personnel costs plus 'other expenses' have risen faster than inflation. The Council and CCO payroll totals about $1.3 billion with substantial reliance on consultants and contractors. A targeted expenditure reduction plan is essential to maintain core services while restoring public trust.I request that the Council consider the agreed reductions and deliver a rate outcome aligned 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9087,336980,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent. The proposed rise comprises 2% for maintaining existing assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costs yet I believe significant efficiencies are possible. Since 2010 rates have risen by 85%â€”well above inflation and population growthâ€"while core services should be delivered more efficiently. The Council should instead adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance plan to cap rates increases at around 3% by reducing discretionary and non-essential spend.I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting spend on consultancy and professional services. The current level of consultant expenditure including $126 million per year across the Council group with an average consultant receiving about $200000 is unsustainable given the financial pressures faced by households.I support canceling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. I also support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.I also oppose continued high expenditure on Māori-specific programmes 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 grants.A practical path would be the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap rates at around 3% achieved through personnel cost reductions hiring freezes capping consultancy spending contract renegotiations and prioritising essential services over discretionary programmes.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9093,336973,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key concerns- The proposed increase appears to fund maintenance (2%) new assets for growth (1.5%) and CRL operating costs (4.4%).

The scale of this rise amid ongoing cost pressures warrants a rigorous review of wasteful and non-essential spending before lifting rates on households already facing high living costs.- Since 2010 rates have risen 85% far outpacing inflation and population growth. This underscores the need for a prudent efficiency-first approach rather than further rate rises.Agreed positions (cost-saving measures)- The Council should reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council should reduce the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to increase these items.- The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- The Council should freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- The Council should cut Māori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government cost.Support for a leaner alternative budget- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (a 2% cap on rate increases) through: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million from capped consultancy spend; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.ClosingA leaner efficiency-driven approach will help stabilise rates while preserving essential services. I request the opportunity to present my submission at hearings to discuss these proposals further.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9096,336970,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit my opposition to the proposed 7.9 percent average residential rates increase and urge a comprehensive review of wasteful Council spending before any further rate rises. I oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. With the current average residential bill of about $4069 and a real rates increase of roughly 30 percent since 2022 (versus 12 percent inflation) further rises far above inflation are unaffordable for households. The proposed breakdownâ€”2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”highlights how cost pressures are being allocated without accountable savings.I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and I urge restraint on consultancy and professional services. The Alliance has highlighted $126 million per year in consultants across the Council group including $60 million by the Auckland Council parent with many consultants earning around $200000. Curbing these costs is essential to stabilise rates.I strongly urge cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves. Similarly I support freezing staffing and not hiring for non-essential roles as this could save at least $17 million immediately.I oppose ongoing or expanding Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). If local government is expanding in this area it should be via a clear statutory mandate rather than discretionary spend.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget I request the Council consider a 2% reduction in new spending enabling a cap of roughly 3% on residential rates. This would be achieved by: reducing personnel costs through organisational change and hiring freezes; capping consultancy spend; renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors; and prioritising statutory essential services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.I oppose the 7.9% average increase and urge consideration of a lower increase aligned with inflation and population growth. The plan would

raise the average residential bill by about $320 on top of a real rates increase since 2022 of 30% (in 2022 dollars) far exceeding general inflation of 12%. The proposed breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs 2% for maintaining existing assets and 1.5% for new assets; I believe substantial efficiencies must be found before imposing higher charges on households already facing elevated costs.Agreed positions and requests- Oppose at least a 7.9% average residential increase; support capping rates increases to around 3% by prioritising savings and efficiency.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce spending on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these costs.- 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 Maori-specific spending including the $10 million per year on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Rationale and proposed alternatives- The Council's payroll exceeds $1.3 billion with substantial six-figure salaries and consultant costs; cutting back on organisational overhead and vendor costs would significantly reduce the rate burden.- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) achieved through targeted personnel controls caps on consultancy contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services.- Direct operating expenditure and related costs have risen well beyond inflation; a disciplined reform of non-essential programmes is warranted.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9106,336959,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and to the broader council spending trajectory that underpins it. The current average residential rates bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30% against 12% inflation. A 7.9% rise compounds the burden on households already stretched by cost pressures.I urge the Council to adopt the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance position to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and to curb consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to inflate these cost lines. In particular I note that consultants cost approximately $126 million per year across the Council group with the Auckland Council parent accounting for about $60 million and each consultant averaging around $200000. Direct operating expenditure and payroll have grown well above inflation and personnel costs including six-figure salaries are a significant driver of the rate rise.I also request the Council cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs $36 million per year and appears to emit more carbon than it saves. Rather than pursue revenue-negative or marginally beneficial programmes I advocate prioritising essential statutory services and core municipal functions that protect residents' safety health and infrastructure.To achieve a more sustainable rate path I support freezing staffing and/or reducing payroll costs by not hiring for non-essential vacant roles which an immediate saving of at least $17 million would deliver. Additionally I oppose the continuation of targeted Māori spends beyond what is necessary for local government's core responsibilities; reducing Māori outcomes funding (Ngā Mātārae) by approximately $10 million per year would align with a reallocation toward essential services.In line with the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget I urge a $150 million reduction in new Council spending capping average rates increases at 3%. This would be achieved through a combination of personnel reductions capping consultants renegotiating contracts and prioritising statutory services over discretionary expenditure.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9120,336944,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in a personal and sincere tone to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to advocate for reductions in wasteful Council spending.Key concerns and positions:- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approx. $320 for the average household). This rise is well above inflation and has seen rates rise by 30% in real terms since 2022 while the cumulative inflation over the period sits around 12%. The breakdown shows 4.4% for CRL operating costs plus 2% for existing assets and 1.5% for new assets. A more prudent approach is needed.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. The aggregate payroll and back-office costs are excessive relative to the level of frontline service delivery required by residents.- Curb spending on consultancy and professional services. With $126 million per year across the Council group and an average consultant earning around $200k this area should be constrained and steadied.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves. Reallocate funds to essential services with measurable benefits.- Freeze staffing 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 per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes (Ngā Mātārae) department as this is not a core responsibility of local government.As an alternative I support the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal to cap the rate rise at around 3% by reducing new spending by $150 million (2% overall reduction) through: personnel cost restraint cap on consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9126,336937,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Based on the Alliance briefing this would mean an average household bill rise of about $320 on a current average of $4069. Over the period since 2010 rates have risen 85%â€”well above inflation and population growthâ€”while many ratepayers face flat wages. A more prudent approach is required.I support the following positions:1) Oppose the 7.9% increase and seek a far lower rise aligned with real inflation and core service needs.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.3) Reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these costs.4) Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $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 such as the Ngā Mātārae 'Māori outcomes' department cited at around $10 million per year as this is not a central local-government role.Additional points for consideration:- Improve accountability for middle-management project blowouts. Ratepayers should not bear the cost of inefficiency and scope creep.- Acknowledgement that compliance costs have risen without corresponding value and the pricing model should reflect essential services rather than discretionary initiatives.- Highlight that a leaner organisation will reduce the need to levy higher rates without compromising statutory core responsibilities.The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposes reducing new Council

spending by $150 million (2%) capping average residential rate increases at around 3% through targeted cuts to personnel consultants and vendor costs and prioritising statutory services over discretionary grants.I would appreciate the opportunity to present these points at hearings if allowed. 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9138,336923,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,The proposed rise alongside continuing growth in operating and personnel costs is not sustainable for households. I oppose the 7.9% average increase and urge Council to focus on reducing wasteful expenditure and re-prioritising essential services over discretionary spending.Key positions:- Oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9%. The current average rate is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30 percent in 2022 dollars far exceeding inflation (12 percent) and population growth (22 percent). A more prudent path is needed.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs and curb spend on consultancy and professional services rather than allowing these to grow further.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million promptly and help cap rate increases.- Cut Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae). Local government should prioritise statutory and essential services over such discretionary programmes.Alternative budget approach:- The Ratepayers' Alliance proposes a $150 million reduction in new Council spending (2%) to cap the rate rise at around 3%: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freezes; $50 million from capping consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million from prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.Additional points:- This submission notes concerns about transparency and accountability and in the current climate a rates freeze until a formal cap is instituted would test the Council's commitment to prudent budgeting and core 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9141,336920,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I am writing to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and to urge a clear focus on reducing wasteful Council spending.I oppose the 7.9% increase. With the current average residential rates bill around $4069 and a real increase since 2022 of about 30% residents are already stretched. The proposed mixâ€"2% for maintaining assets 1.5% for new assets as Auckland grows and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€"adds to the burden without delivering commensurate demonstrable value for households.I support reducing wasteful expenditure in the Council and CCOs. Specifically:- Cut spending on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Reduce consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these costs.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cut Maori-specific spending including the roughly $10 million per year spent on the Maori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.I note the Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget proposing a $150 million reduction in new

spending (about 2%) to cap rate increases at around 3%. This includes prioritising essential services over discretionary grants and renegotiating contracts to achieve savings.Increasing rates will put huge pressure on families already struggling to make ends meet. A leaner Council focusing on essential services and lower backroom costs would better serve residents while still maintaining critical infrastructure and services.I would welcome the opportunity to speak at hearings if afforded but 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9147,336913,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit this submission to oppose the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent and to urge a reduction in wasteful Council spending. The proposed increase roughly $320 for the average household is not affordable in the current environment and outstrips inflation.I present the following positions and points:1) Oppose the 7.9% average residential rates increase. The burden on households is heavy especially as real rates have risen about 30 percent since 2022 while the cumulative inflation is around 12 percent. The breakdown of the increaseâ€”2% to maintain assets 1.5% for growth in new assets and 4.4% for CRL operating costsâ€”shows it is not a lean essential-services-driven rise but a continuation of escalating spend.2) Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs. Overall spending on consultants is excessive (about $126 million per year across the Council group; $60 million by the Auckland Council parent). Reducing these costs is a straightforward way to protect ratepayers.3) Curb consultancy and professional services. I agree that the Council should cut spend in this area rather than allow it to grow further.4) Cancel discretionary programmes with high costs and questionable return. Specifically cancel the Food Scraps Programme ($36 million/year) and its associated emissions profile which does not clearly deliver net environmental savings.5) Freeze staffing and reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles. Stopping new hires where roles are non-essential would save at least $17 million immediately.6) Cut Māori-specific spending (such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department Ngā Mātārae). In my view this is not a function of local government.7) Stop taxing hard-working people already paying substantial taxes.Alternative Budget aim: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at about 3% by implementing organisational change freezing non-essential hires capping consultants 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9157,336903,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in formal opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 which equates to about $320 for the average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since 2022 rates have effectively risen by 30% in real terms well above general inflation and the rate increases should reflect prudent targeted spending rather than broad uncontested uplift.I support the Council's need to fund statutory services but the scale of this rise is unsustainable for households and fails to demonstrate value for money. The 7.9% increase is heavily weighted by maintaining existing assets (2%) funding new assets (1.5%) and most notably covering CRL operating costs (4.4%). Given the Council and CCOs'

substantial payroll and outsourced spending I urge a focus on reducing waste and improving efficiency.I agree with the proposal to reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions and to curb consultancy and professional services. The Council should cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which has not demonstrated net carbon savings. Additional savings are available through freezing staffing and not hiring for vacant non-essential roles which in my view would save at least $17 million immediately. I also urge a reduction in Maori-specific spending such as the $10 million per year allocated to the Maori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) which I do not believe is a core local government function.Following the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget I request reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) enabling a cap of 3% on residential rates. This can be achieved by: $50 million from personnel costs via organisational change and hiring freeze; $50 million from cap on consultants; $30 million from 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.,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9162,336898,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in a constructive and solution-focused tone to oppose the proposed 7.9% average residential rates increase and to advocate for reductions in wasteful Council and CCO spending.Position and rationale- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9% (approximately $320 for the average household). The current average residential rates bill is $4069 and since 2022 rates have risen by about 30% in real terms well above inflation. Given this history continuing to raise rates at or above 7.9% is unsustainable for households.- Reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs which drive costs with limited public value.- Reduce spending on consultancy and professional services. Council group consultancy expenditure is about $126 million per year with the average consultant earning around $200k. Cutting these costs is a practical evidence-based step toward lower rates.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme which costs around $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 including the $10 million per year allocated to the 'Maori outcomes' department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is not a core local government function.Alternative budget approach- Adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance proposal: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) which would cap the average residential rates increase at around 3%. This would be achieved by: reducing personnel costs through organisational change and a hiring freeze ($50 million) capping consultancy spending ($50 million) renegotiating contracts and consolidating vendors ($30 million) and prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million).ClosingI respectfully request that you consider these measures to deliver real saving for households while maintaining essential services and statutory duties. 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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9167,336893,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1. Our position- I oppose the 7.9% average increase and expect the Council to reduce wasteful expenditure rather than raise rates above

inflation.- I support reducing spend on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- I support cutting consultancy and professional services expenditure rather than allowing it to keep rising.- I support cancelling the Food Scraps Programme which costs about $36 million per year and in our view emits more carbon than it saves.- I support freezing staffing or reducing payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles a move that could save at least $17 million immediately.2. Rationale- 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. Since 2010 rates have risen 85% while population growth has only increased 22% and inflation is much lower. This is disproportionate and unsustainable for ratepayers.- Current operating and personnel costs outpace inflation with payroll at about $1.3 billion and consultants/contractors at $590 million. Eighteen corporate and business support functions alone cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure. These figures point to substantial inefficiency in backroom operations.- The Council's spending on consultants averages about $200000 per consultant with total annual consultant spend of $126 million across the Council group. Drastically reducing this expenditure should be a priority before increasing household rates.- The proposed alternative budget caps average residential rates increases at 3% by reducing new Council spending by $150 million: $50 million from personnel costs $50 million from consultants $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation and $20 million from prioritising statutory/essential services over discretionary grants.3. ConclusionTo protect households from a disproportionate rates rise I urge the Council to adopt the Ratepayers' Alliance plan of expenditure discipline and rate relief focusing on reforming backroom consultancy and discretionary spending.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9182,336876,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,I submit in strong opposition to the proposed average residential rates increase of 7.9% for 2026/27 and urge a comprehensive reduction in wasteful Council spending before any rate rise is approved.1) Rate increase and fiscal responsibility- The proposed 7.9% increase equates to about $320 for the average household on a current bill of $4069. This is well above inflation and ignores the need for prudent belt-tightening. The Council must first demonstrate value for money and deliver savings before asking households to pay more.2) Reducing backroom and external costs- Agreed: reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- Agreed: reduce spend on consultancy and professional services rather than continuing to grow these costs.- The Ratepayers' Alliance budget proposal shows reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2%) to cap the rate rise at 3% including a $50 million declines in personnel costs $50 million in consultants and $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation.3) Wasteful and non-core programmes- Agreed: cancel the Food Scraps Programme (about $36 million/year) as it is claimed to emit more carbon than it saves.- Agreed: freeze staffing or reduce payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles which would save at least $17 million immediately.- Agreed: cut Māori-specific spending such as the $10 million/year on the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a function of local government.4) Additional concerns- Have the Māori councillors been moved out of the expensive waterfront offices? This question reflects ongoing concerns about efficiency and location-related costs.ClosingI urge Auckland Council to adopt a constrained budget and deliver real savings 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,,,,,,

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9192,336865,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,1) Oppose the 7.9% rate riseThe proposed rise is well above inflation and amounts to about $320 more per average household. Since 2012 the overall rate burden has risen by 85% in real terms far exceeding population growth and inflation. The current average bill is $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of 30%. This level of increase is not affordable for many ratepayers and fails to align with a prudent value-for-money approach to public services.2) Wasteful and excessive spending must be reduced- Corporate and backroom functions: reduce spending across the Council and CCOs.- Consultancy and professional services: cap or reduce spend rather than continued growth.- Direct operating expenditure has risen much faster than inflation; a squeeze on discretionary spend is warranted.- Eighteen corporate and business support functions cost $868.4 million in direct expenditure; significant efficiency gains are required.3) Specific savings proposals aligned with the Ratepayers' Alliance alternative budget- Freeze staffing and/or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant non-essential roles which could save at least $17 million immediately.- Cancel the Food Scraps Programme costing $36 million per year which purportedly emits more carbon than it saves.- Freeze or reduce Māori-specific spending including the $10 million per year allocated to the Māori Outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) on the basis that this is not a core local government function.- Reduce new spending: implement the proposed $150 million savings (2% overall reduction) to cap the rate increase at approximately 3%. This should be achieved through: â€¢ Reducing personnel costs via organisational changes and a hiring freeze ($50 million) â€¢ Capping consultancy spend ($50 million) â€¢ Contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation ($30 million) â€¢ Prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants ($20 million)4) Process and communicationA transparent independent appraisal of all discretionary programmes and a public report on savings opportunities is essential before any further rate increases.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,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

9195,336862,,Hibiscus and Bays,Do not support most,Key position: oppose the average residential rates increase by at least 7.9 percent. The current average residential rates bill is about $4069 with a real increase since 2022 of roughly 30 percent far outpacing cumulative inflation. The proposed 7.9 percent mix comprises 2 percent to maintain existing assets 1.5 percent for new assets and 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs. In a climate of constrained household budgets rates must be aligned with inflation and the value delivered to ratepayers.I support reducing expenditure on corporate and backroom functions across the Council and CCOs and cutting the spend on consultancy and professional services rather than letting these items climb further. The Alliance highlights that consultants cost the Council about $126 million per year with the average consultant earning around $200000. Direct payroll and related costs have surged while discretionary operations and staff costs have grown well beyond inflation.I also call for cancelling the Food Scraps Programme cited at about $36 million per year which purportedly saves carbon yet appears to emit more than it saves. A freeze on staffing or a careful reduction of payroll by not filling vacant non-essential roles would deliver immediate savingsâ€”an indicative figure of at least $17 million is achievable.Further I propose restricting Māori-specific spending such as the approximately $10 million per year allocated to the Māori outcomes department (Ngā Mātārae) as this is framed as a

local government remit beyond statutory necessity.Alternative budget approach: reduce new Council spending by $150 million (about 2%) to cap the average residential rates increase at around 3 percent. This would be achieved through: $50 million to reduce personnel costs via organisational change and a hiring freeze; $50 million to cap consultants; $30 million from contract renegotiations and vendor consolidation; $20 million prioritising statutory and essential services over discretionary grants.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

## Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

### Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

## Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

## Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

| 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

**#9199**

**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:** Hibiscus and Bays

## 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 context: the proposed increase would add about $320 per average household on top of a current average bill of $4069. Since the 2010 Super City amalgamation rates have risen 85 percent far outstripping both inflation (34 percent) and population growth (22 percent). The breakdown shows 4.4 percent for CRL operating costs with the remainder for maintenance and new assets; this trajectory raises questions about value for money and prioritisation of core local government duties.Agrees (positions to include):- Oppose the average residential rates increase of 7.9 percent; align any increases with the rate of inflation and genuine core service needs.- The Council must

reduce expenditure on corporate and backroom office functions across the Council and CCOs.- The Council must reduce spending on consultancy and other professional services rather than continuing to grow these items.- Freeze staffing or reduce payroll costs by not filling vacant nonâ€‘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 function of local government.- Administrative spending across the organisation should be cut to maximise funds available for essential services.Additional points:- The Ratepayers' Alliance Alternative Budget suggests reducing new Council spending by $150 million (2 percent) to cap rates increases at around 3 percent through targeted cost control measures (staffing consultants contract renegotiations and prioritising statutory services).Closing:I request that the Council recognise these efficiency opportunities and reflect them in the final plan ensuring a more affordable rates path and a focus on essential services.I do not wish to speak to my submission at a hearing.

## Question 2: Changes to other rates, fees and charges

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

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

### Q2: What do you think about these proposed changes?

N/A

## Question 3: Local board priorities

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

N/A

## Question 4: Other feedback

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

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

N/A

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

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

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

- **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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(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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|---|---|
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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 |
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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