

ATTACHMENT 3.1

Community Member	Community Comment on Proposal to Impose Differential and Specified Area Rates	City of Mandurah Response
Anonymous	I strongly disagree with the proposed land rate increase due to the current economic climate. Raising the rates during this financial crisis will only place ratepayers in further distress.	<p>The Council has worked hard to achieve a forward looking and responsible budget in this current environment by prioritising capital works, reducing operating expenses so the impact on our ratepayers is minimal.</p> <p>The City is impacted by the increase in CPI and increased costs to utilities, interest rates and insurance. The City is also impacted by increases relating to cost of goods and services, utilities, insurance, to name a few expenses that will increase. The rate increase ensures the City covers its fixed costs.</p> <p>Council is addressing the level of investment in the City's \$1.5 billion asset portfolio. The data shows that the current level of renewal investment is not enough, and over 10 years, through the LTFP, there is a strategy to ensure each year ratepayers will pay a fair amount for their enjoyment and use of the City's assets in that year.</p> <p>The Council provides a wide range of payment options to ratepayers. Council provide financial hardship assistance to those who are eligible and encourage any ratepayer to contact the City to discuss the different payment arrangements available.</p>
Anonymous	I don't think it benefits Dawesville at all. Given that we have exploded in population & don't have sufficient amenities, there will eventually come a time when Mandurah has to realize that Dawesville is a suburb, and not just 'the other side of the bridge'. Dawesville either gets put at the bottom of the pile, or it costs us	The Budget 2024/25 includes a number of Capital Projects for the Dawesville Community including Dawesville Community Centre (\$5,367,207) and the Dawesville South East Foreshore Reserve (\$1,078,636).

	more to get what we need. Yet we have already contributed to the rest of Mandurah.	
Anonymous	Considering current pressures on working families, CoM should be freezing and/or reducing rates for the foreseeable. Any public servant increasing spend and awarding themselves a pay rise when their employers are struggling to make ends meet is deplorable. Don't do it. Lead the way in showing there is a time to move forward and a time to hold still.	Refer to Response #1 The City is subject to an Industrial Agreement which defines pay increases to employees.
Anonymous	The proposed increase is excessive with the current cost of living crisis, the Mandurah Council continues to show poor financial management. Ratepayers should not be footing the cost for attracting tourists to Mandurah to help lining the pockets of big business. Any waste charge increases have also not been disclosed, which have been excessive in the past 3yrs and still no 3 bin system in place in Mandurah.	Refer to Response #1
Anonymous	Totally unfair for Port Mandurah canal residents to be taxed so much more, our rates are extremely high already.	In accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> , the City of Mandurah raises Specified Area Rates on properties in Port Mandurah in line with the activities outlined in the Deed of Agreement and includes litter control, hydrographic survey, water quality monitoring, canal management fees and funds transferred to the dredging reserve. The City contributes to the SAR proportionally according to the length of walling abutting public open space, bridge crossings and the use of the waterway by the ferry companies.
Anonymous	I object to rate rises. Council needs money to improve our beautiful city but don't rake it from hard earning home owners. We are all like hamsters in a wheel,	Refer to Response #1

	keep on running but no light at the end of the tunnel. Please consider the people just making ends meet	
Eric Starcevich	The proposed rate increase will be a detrimental effect to households, it should not be implemented and proposals to freeze rate increases should be adopted. The council should instead seek to increase productivity of existing operations and reduce wastage of tax payer funds in its operation.	Refer to Response #1
Anonymous	We don't want a rate rise. It is getting too expensive as it is to live in Mandurah. You can see the homeless all over the streets and now in intersections in Mandurah. Keep driving rates up and it will continue to grow.	Refer to Response #1
Anonymous	Rate increase of nearly 4 percent what a joke, I live in Sanctuary woods estate, where you class its as a private estate, when its not and never as been. During construction of this estate you did not do your job, you let them build a road the is only 25mm thick in bitumen, built a shire road running through it, and Mallee, is totally shire road, so what a mess you caused. Giant trees within a meter of the property walls, which you say is our concern yet you tell us what we can and can do with then. We have our own sewer pump station, because you built the main sewer line along Dewar in the wrong place, as human waste does not flow up hill So you wont help as with our road when you said you would in an email to us then said that should not have been sent, you tell us yes we have to look after all the trees within our complex, but you have the last say on what we can do. we in Zamia Loop even have our own street lighting which we maintain, we have to plead for a road sweeper to come. we ask for information or send in an enquiry, which you do not even bother to reply to,	Refer to Response #1

	<p>or when you do its rude and uncaring. The only thing you do for us is empty the bins, so why should we have our rates increased by 4% when you do nothing for us, The estate have just paid out 11k for the pump station and 15k to get the trees pruned which you have approve and that only with in the last two months, and down the track we will have to have the road done which will cost us 100K plus. So no do not agree with another 3.98% increase, when its going to be wasted, the shire does nothing for us over the bridge or Dawesville.</p>	
Anonymous	<p>I am totally against the rate rise. As the price of everything has risen most families are struggling with being able to provide meals and schooling items for their families. Also Pensioners are struggling with everything. Take a very long look at everyone and you will see that 85% to 90% of the population is struggling. NO do don't increase the rates!!</p>	<p>Refer to Response #1 The State Government provides a pensioners and seniors rebate scheme to eligible pensioners and seniors which provides for a rebate on their rate amounts.</p>
Teila Lamb	<p>I am against the proposed increase. I would implore the local council to build a desperately needed high school at the proposed Dawesville location. Our public senior schools are overpopulated and full of social and wellbeing issues among staff and students. This has a proven, direct impact on the students' academic and societal outcomes. Similarly, Ocean Road Primary School has at capacity class sizes and a shortage of teachers who are overwhelmed with behavioural and social issues involving their students. Perhaps a K-12 school in Dawesville could relieve social issues in the area and help create a vibrant, busking Dawesville community. It is time we invest in our young people's futures but providing an education that meets WA standards. Put your funds there for the betterment of the future, not another foreshore development.</p>	<p>Refer to Response #1 The City is advocating to the State Government for a proposed high school in Dawesville.</p>

Anonymous	I vote NO, there is no need to raise the rates. I propose that you remove the Verge Collections and give rate payer more Tip Passes.	Refer to Response #1
Kylie Henderson	The cost of living is increasing, mortgage rates have risen substantially in the last 12 months. Pay increases are not covering the increase cost of living. Your rate increases % is more than majority pay pay increase %'s. I understand that the council need to make money to improve the area, but surely some of your planned improvements can wait a bit longer until the economy settles down and living becomes more affordable. There's so many homeless people around at the moment, but that's OK the council is going to improve the parks in Coodanup and Greenfields so they have a nicer place to camp!	Refer to Response #1
Anonymous	Why increase rates when we all have cost of living issues ? All you do is increase inflation for no benefit to the ratepayers.	Refer to Response #1
Anonymous	Rates should be frozen for the next 4 years ¹	Refer to Response #1

<p>Anonymous</p>	<p>We oppose the rate increase. The Community is struggling with everyday cost of living Expenses as it is. Housing developments are appearing everywhere down at Dawesville of which the COM would be raking in in excess of extra rates than previous years. New projects need to allow for this of which they are currently not, we are back planning, not forward planning as in keeping up with the rapid growth. One Recreation Centre that consists of a kitchen, hall, office space? What are the recreational facilities for the teenagers children to do here? COM needs to focus more on the permanent residents of what is available & affordable to them 365 days of the year, & stop focusing on the tourists. I will refuse to pay any additional rates regardless of the consequences.</p>	<p>Refer to Response #1</p>
<p>Anonymous</p>	<p>What benefit is this increase to a "normal" ratepayer? All I see the council doing with my rates is wasting money on projects that seem to run over time and then have to be repeated again and again, e.g. Smart Street Mall. The length of time it took to re-do the Falcon Oval car park - for what reason? There's hardly any difference! The new works on the foreshore near TODs - why?!?! Cutting off car parking so people don't have access to various cafes - does the council not think about how this affects small businesses? Look at all the empty shops around Mandurah. We're all struggling with the cost of living and, yet, the council is touting over 3% rate increase - again - what benefit to the ratepayer?!?!</p>	<p>Refer to Response #1</p>

Anonymous	Raising rates by anything more than 2% each year for the next 3 years will cause a lot of families to suffer hardships that are totally unnecessary . We are seeing soaring numbers of families losing their homes and the increases proposed will only add to the problem . People are looking for help with their cost of living difficulties and leaving rates as they are would greatly benefit the mandurah community .	Refer to Response #1
Anonymous	I strongly object to the rate rises, firstly I feel a lot of people are battling financially, so surely the council can tightened its expenses for this year.. A lot of money has been wasted, eg.. the expense of replacing the pool roof, had this been acted upon much earlier, it would have cost a lot less... the development of the estuary area at wannanup before dawesville, could have waited, instead of those involved in its development destroying the trees which have been battling due to our dry summer... the replacement of the Kings carnival, is not necessary, if kings carnival were given a longer lease, im sure they would be happy to improve that area... kings carnival is a better choice than a brewery ..thus council could save money.. the money that has been wasted inIm not against progress, how much money has been wasted on redevelopment of smart street mall.. over the years. ease off the spending	Refer to Response #1
Anonymous	Total lack of financial restraint by council. Rate increases not sustainable by most rate holders. There is never any plan to demonstrate genuine fiscal restraint and cost cutting. Council more interested in building monuments for their own egos and self-aggrandisement.	Refer to Response #1

Merrilyn Whisson	A definite no. Cr Burns has the right idea with a rates freeze Why inflict more pain on your residents. The projects mentioned in the local paper can be put on hold for 3 years to allow cash strapped residents to stay in their own own homes...many are struggling to pay mortgages. We don't need more homeless. Think with with your heart and not your head Have empathy so we can all enjoy Mandurah for what it is.	Refer to Response #1
Jeffrey Johnson	No increase in rates, they are high enough already. Do a better job budgeting or better yet all council members should take a pay cut.	Refer to Response #1
Mary Jones	I am most concerned about the work that keeps being done and re-done to the foreshore especially paving and smart street when no improvement has been made. I am a local pensioner who always frequents the cafes etc down the front and feel that the money is being spent to just encourage visitors to the area by new Gin Breweries and upmarket areas which many of the locals cannot afford. I believe the new play area on the western sure by the skate park which has only been open a short period of time which is lovely is now going to be changed. I take my grandchildren there all the time so why change it. It seems all this work is just to get into the top seaside areas for the counsellors to say what a good job they have done. Surely the money should be spent on Peel hospital which is in dire need of help. How is the increase in rates going to help the people who reside in the area full time?	Refer to Response #1 The provision of hospital services is not a local government function. The City of Mandurah has been advocating and support the State Government's commitment to expanding the Peel Health Campus.
Anonymous	I agree with the proposed rating schedule and differential rates. These are necessary increases to ensure our existing city infrastructure remains well maintained, and with provision for ongoing improvements and developments. Well done City of Mandurah.	Noted.