Have your say on the Draft 10-year Budget

Auckland Council wants to know what you think about the Draft 10-year Budget

Easy Read
This document is about the Auckland Council Draft 10-year Budget.

A Budget is a plan about how money will be used over time, like 10-years.

This 10-year Budget is called a draft because:

- it has not been finished
- the Council wants to know what people think before they finish the Budget.
The 10-year Budget will help Auckland Council and the Government:

- make sure that Auckland Council money is spent on the right things in the next 10 years

- make sure Auckland is a good place to live.
Tell us what you think

Auckland Council:

- is making a new 10-Year Budget
- wants to know what you think about the draft 10-Year Budget.

You can help Auckland Council to make a good 10-Year Budget.

You can find more information about the 10-Year Budget on this website: akhaveyoursay.nz

You need to tell Auckland Council what you think before 8pm, 28 March 2018.
About Auckland

Auckland Council works to make sure Auckland is a good place to live.

People who live in Auckland are called Aucklanders.
Auckland Council has found **4 problems** that Auckland faces:

The problems are:

1. Getting to and around places
2. Keeping waterways clean and safe
3. Looking after the natural environment
4. Changing the rates that Aucklanders pay

You will learn more about the 4 problems on the next pages.
Problem 1: Getting to and around places

Auckland Council wants to make sure that everybody living in Auckland can:

- easily get to where they want to go
- choose how they travel around Auckland.

It costs a lot of money to make and look after public transport in Auckland.

Auckland Council is working with the Government to look at what changes need to be made about transport.

This is called the Auckland Transport Alignment Project (ATAP).
An idea to fix transport choices in Auckland

Auckland council knows that it needs more money to pay for transport projects.

To help get money to pay for travel projects, Auckland Council thinks a **Regional Fuel Tax** is a good idea.

A **Regional Fuel Tax** means that Aucklanders will pay extra for the fuel they use in their cars and trucks like:

- petrol
- diesel.

Auckland Council think that an average family of Aucklanders would pay an extra $140 per year for their fuel tax.
Problem 2: Keeping waterways clean and safe

Waterways are:

- rivers and streams
- lakes
- beaches and harbours.

Many waterways in Auckland are not as clean or safe as they should be.

It is hard to keep waterways clean in Auckland because:

- the pipes that take rain away are very old and too small
- dirt and rubbish wash into waterways from roads and footpaths.

Some beaches are not safe to swim in because they are not clean.
An idea to keep waterways clean and safe

Auckland Council knows that it needs more money to fix the things that make waterways in Auckland unclean and unsafe.

To get more money to look after waterways Auckland Council thinks that people who own homes should pay more rates.

Rates are a bill that you pay to Auckland Council for services like:

- roads
- schools
- parks
- transport
- water from your tap
- power lines to your house.
The extra amount that a person who owns a home would pay is based on how much the Council thinks the home is worth.

Auckland Council think that an average Auckland home owner would pay an extra $66 per year.
Problem 3: Looking after the natural environment

Natural environment means things that are made by nature not people, like:

- plants
- animals
- hills
- rivers
- beaches.

People around the world know that Auckland has a natural environment that is special.
The **natural environment** in Auckland has some problems:

- native animals dying
- kauri tree disease
- too many pests in the parks
- too many possums
- sea pests coming to Auckland.
2 ideas to look after the natural environment

Auckland Council has 2 ideas for looking after the natural environments over the next 10 years.

1. The first idea is to charge Auckland homeowners $21 more each year so that:

- some natural environments can be made better
- some work can be done to fight the disease that is killing native Kauri trees.
2. The second idea is to charge Auckland homeowners $47 more each year so:

- many natural environments can be made better
- lots of work can be done to fight the disease that is killing native Kauri trees.

Auckland Council will be able to look after more natural environments with this idea.
Problem 4: Changing the rates that Aucklanders pay

*Rates* are a bill that you pay to Auckland Council for services like:

- roads
- schools
- parks
- transport
- water from your tap
- power lines to your house.
Auckland Council think that it is a good idea that the amount people pay for their rates does not get much bigger each year:

- for the first 2 years rates will only go up by 2.5 per cent
- the most that rates will go up by is 3.5 per cent.
Rates for Rubbish

Aucklanders living in Auckland City and Manukau City pay a rate for Auckland Council to collect their rubbish.

All other Aucklanders pay for rubbish bags or rubbish bins.

Auckland Council wants Aucklanders living in Auckland City and Manukau City to pay for rubbish bags or rubbish bins.

Auckland Council also want to collect unwanted food starting in Papakura in 2018/2019.
Aucklanders who have their unwanted food collected by Auckland Council will pay an extra $1.29 per week
Rates for Accommodation

Accommodation means somewhere to stay when you visit Auckland like:

- Hotels
- Motels
- Hostels.

Visitors to Auckland can also stay in people’s houses through websites like:

- Airbnb
- Bookabach.

The owners of these houses do not pay rates like the other accommodation choices do.
Auckland Council wants to make sure that these house owners pay the same rates as other accommodation owners.
Other changes to rates

Auckland Council are also thinking about some other small changes to rates.

You can read about these changes on this website:

akhaveyoursay.nz
Tell us what you think

You need to tell Auckland Council what you think before 8pm Wednesday, 28 March 2018.

You can:

1. Answer the questions on the feedback form on our website below:
   akhaveyoursay.nz

2. Email your answers to:
   akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

3. Take your answers to:
   - any Auckland library
   - local council office
   - Auckland Council service centre
4. You can also post us your feedback.

It is free to post your feedback answers back so you do not need to buy a stamp.

Use this address to mail your feedback to us:

AK Have Your Say
Auckland Council
Freepost Authority 182382
Private Bag 92 300, Auckland 1142
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