HAVE YOUR SAY - EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES

Council is committed to continuing the existing services you have told us are important to you, with the adoption of Council’s Delivery Program 2013–2017. We will be also able to carry out some improvements to the City from our on-going budget, including increased cleaning in the town centres, additional CCTV cameras across the City and more car parking.

The community has also given us feedback that there are additional projects and increased services you would like, but they are beyond our regular budget. These new projects include improved library services, better sportsgrounds and recreational facilities and upgraded infrastructure such as roads and community buildings.

Council has looked at how we might be able to fund these extra projects and we want to hear your views about whether you think a special rate variation is the way to do this.

In 2001, the community supported a special rate variation and each year since then ratepayers have paid an extra 5% special rate, which Council has used to deliver the Cabramale Leisure Centre, improvements to the Prairiewood and Fairfield Leisure Centres, Hill St car park, playgrounds and upgrades to 101 local parks and traffic management works in Cabramatta. The current special rate will end in June 2014 which will mean a reduction of $71 for the average business ratepayer.

If Council applies for and is granted a new special rate increase by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for all ratepayers across the City, the new special rate would replace the old special rate. It would not start until July 2014 after the current 5% increase ends.

Please take the time to read the information about the options and have your say at http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.com.au before Council decides whether or not to apply for a special rate increase.

DID YOU KNOW ?

Every year IPART (Independent Prices and Regulatory Tribunal) determines the increase that all Councils can apply to your rates. It is called the ‘rate peg’ and is usually about 3%. It helps councils keep up with the increasing costs of the services it already provides.

To deliver extra projects, councils can apply to IPART for an additional increase and this is called a ‘special rate increase’
What do businesses currently get for their rates?

Council’s dedicated Place Managers are responsible for business development in our City’s town centres. Over the past four years, Council has invested over $20.8 million on business and town centre programs including landscaping, path paving, marketing and promotions, events and festivals to encourage customers, increase retail trade and provide opportunities for tourism and business initiatives to support our local businesses.

Council has identified an additional $15.8 million of programs as part of the 2013-2017 Delivery Program. These business initiatives include town centre improvements, path paving, marketing and promotions, business seminars, economic analysis, tourism and training opportunities.

If additional projects are to be delivered, Council will need to consider the following special rate variation options, to fund the additional projects, whilst maintaining the expenditure on the current programs and services already committed in the Delivery Program.

Have Your Say

Everyone can have a say and make a choice, this is how you can do it:

Online  www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au
         Complete our online survey at:
         http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au

Email  haveyoursay@fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au

Post  Fairfield City Council
       86 Avoca Rd, Wakeley NSW 2176
       PO Box 21 Fairfield 1860

       Complete the survey and return to Council

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