

MidCoast Council Sample Website Material

<http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Council/Special-Rate-Variation>

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Road, footpath & drainage approvals

Special Rate Variation

Updated 1 May, 2017

Following an extraordinary meeting on 1 May 2017, we have placed on public exhibition an addendum to the 2016-2017 Delivery Program / Operational Plan to include a Special Rate Variation scenario. The exhibition period is Monday 1 May - Monday 29 May 2017.

[Click here to go to the 'Have Your Say' page to view the documents and make a submission.](#)

In November 2016 a Special Rate Variation was proposed to address MidCoast roads and bridges. While the Office of Local Government announced councils that merged in May 2016 are ineligible to apply for a SRV in 2017/18, a change in legislation in April 2017 has provided the opportunity for MidCoast Council to make an application.

Since the merger, we've reviewed asset data for sealed roads and bridges from the three former councils, with assistance from asset experts Morrison Low. This highlighted an annual shortfall of \$5million for funding depreciation of our roads and bridges, and a \$180million backlog of works. And with roads and bridges representing 76% of the total value of our \$3.3billion asset base, they remain our greatest challenge.

Creating a sustainable path forward for our community requires additional funding dedicated to our transport network. Already, a \$30million Roadcare Program has been developed, made up of ongoing savings identified as a result of the merger (which far exceed the KPMG business case scenario) along with additional merger funding through the Stronger Communities - Major Projects Fund.

But this alone is not enough to address depreciation or our significant backlog

To support the Roadcare Program we developed a special rate variation (SRV) proposal aimed at addressing our transport network. The SRV proposal is for an increase of 5% (including the rate peg), each year over a 4 year period, along with the harmonisation of the environmental rate at 6% across the MidCoast local government area. Should the application be approved, the SRV will come into effect from 1 July 2017.

Community endorsement

During community consultation in October and November last year, you provided feedback on the proposed SRV and were quite clear in acknowledging that something needs to be done. Over 75% of people completing the survey at that time supported a SRV at the proposed level or slightly lower, demonstrating a good understanding of our current situation. Review the report that was presented to Council in November, along with the Community Engagement Strategy [here](#) ^(PDF, 9MB) (Report 1: Special Rate Variation Application to IPART). And you can review the results of the survey [here](#) ^(PDF, 26MB).

Want to know more?

Pending a resolution of Council, an application for the proposed SRV will be made based on the information distributed in October/November 2016. To find out more about the condition of our roads, the proposed SRV, and how the funds would be used to improve the MidCoast region click through and review the [Survey Brochure](#) ^(PDF, 2MB).

You can also see how the proposed SRV will impact on the average residential rates in your region by reviewing the information in the [Addendum to 2016-17 Delivery Program and Operational Plan](#) ^(PDF, 2MB).

As well as the survey, we also held a series of Community Meetings across the MidCoast region in October/November 2016, where attendees were provided with up-to-date information on how the merger is progressing, Council's long term financial position, and the proposed special rate variation. Click to review the information presented or watch the video below.

- [View and download the handout factsheet](#) ^(PDF, 985KB)
- [View and download the full presentation](#) ^(PDF, 2MB)

The video below shows Interim General Manager Glenn Handford making a presentation at a meeting held in Bulahdelah on 8 November. Glenn explains why he feels an SRV is necessary and how MidCoast Council would use the money to improve services across the region.



Change to DP/OP to include a Special Rate Variation Scenario


Submissions closing on 29 May 2017, 04:30 PM

The Addendum to 2016-2017 Delivery Program/Operational Plan (DP/OP) to include a Special Rate Variation scenario is open for comment from Monday 1 May 2017 until 4:30pm on Monday 29 May 2017.

The documents can be viewed by clicking on the link to the right of this page or in person at:

- Forster - Council Offices, 4 Breese Parade
- Taree - Council Offices, 2 Pulteney St
- Gloucester - Council Offices, 8g King St
- Bulahdelah - Rural Transaction Centre 63 Stroud St
- Stroud - District Office/Library, Church Lane
- Tea Gardens - District Office, Myall St

You can review the 2016-17 Operational Plan (composed of the draft operational plans of the three former councils of Gloucester Shire, Greater Taree City and Great Lakes), and the Delivery Programs for all three regions [here](#).


 [Review the survey results](#) (PDF, 26MB) from our community consultation around SRV, or click through to find out more about our SRV proposal [here](#).


Make a Submission



Related Information

 [REPORT - ADDENDUM TO MCC DELIVERY PROGRAM OPERATIONAL PLAN](#) (PDF, 172KB)

 [FINAL - ADDENDUM - 2016-17 DPOP with SRV](#) (PDF, 2MB)

 [Morrison Low Infrastructure Assets Funding Report & Strategy Overview](#) (PDF, 213KB)