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Date of submission: Monday, 11 March 2019

Submission: I object to Port Stephens Council's proposed SRV on the basis of:-

- a) as a 92 y.o. pensioner, I have enough trouble paying my bills now, let alone having to find the additional money to cater for the numerous 'nice to have' projects which are heavily inclined to tourists and not us ratepayers. I can't afford to run air conditioning, even during the heat waves we have had, let alone chip in for the list of projects which includes many that are simply not necessary.
- b) Council should do what we have to do - budget for and spend on the important things that are needed, like the many kilometres of bitumen so fondly called roads, that have a dire need for resurfacing. Then, if funds are available, splurge on all the fancy things that appeal to the Mayor and tourists.
- c) Council should listen to their own planning staff and legals instead of valiantly adopting proposals contrary to advice, only to find itself in front of the Appeals Court to lose more money.
- d) I have seen surveys where up to 74% were not in favour of the SRV - how can Council hold itself out to represent us ratepayers when it so blatantly votes to go ahead with the SRV.
- e) Council say they are proposing a Rates Assistance Program, this does not show in their figures published outlining the rates both with and without the SRV - the pensioner rebate is showing the same amount as it has since Adam was a boy.