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Date of submission: Wednesday, 13 February 2019

Submission: With the rising costs of living and a young family to support I among many others cannot afford this massive increase in council rates.

70% of Port Stephens Council's ratepayers have said they do not want this rate rise and the councillors have gone against the ratepayers and voted for it.

Most of the planned work for the extra rate revenue is being centred around Nelson Bay. Unnecessary work to an already popular tourist trap rather than to benefit the ratepayers who are having to fork out the money. E.g. Medowie which has a population of about 10,000 with two major housing developments in the works is earmarked for a couple basic drainage fixes, and this was only if they passed the highest increase. What Medowie and a lot of Port Stephens actually needs is roads fixed, facilities maintained & parks mowed not more "upgrades" of Nelson Bay foreshore for the seasonal influx of tourists to enjoy.