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Submission: I am against Lithgow City Council applying for a permanent rate increase of 9% per year.

Lithgow City Council seem to be unable to manage the rate monies received from residents at present, spending exuberant amounts of money on "upgrades" to public spaces that look worse than how they started out. Money has been wasted repairing major pot holes in the new upgraded section that was newly upgraded. A new upgraded plaza is totally unusable, especially in summer months due to the plain concrete ground which makes the space like a sauna. Total disrespect has been displayed to a local hero, Olympian [REDACTED], The Lithgow Flash, which residents were openly against but council refused to listen to.

Many of the local roads are in an absolute disgraceful state and in my local street sealing of the road has been incomplete for 1 1/2 - 2 years, the residents driveway to their property boundaries were supposed to be sealed but haven't been. However, one resident had their 100 meter driveway sealed instead! When I contacted the Council they said they would look into it and never did. What other jobs have been done that weren't appropriate use of rate payers money?

Residents have also been advised that the nature strip in front of their properties are now the responsibility of the property owner! Council stated that if residence didn't keep their nature strips tidy and mowed that council would fine them!

These items are just a few issues where residence have lost total confidence in council and believe a rate rise is unjustified at the moment.

Lithgow City Council do not deserve a rate rise and definitely not a permanent yearly rate rise until they can effectively manage rate payers money the currently appropriately.