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Submission: I am writing to convey my full support for the Council in its application for a special rate increase. The unique nature of the area that comprises the Blue Mountains LGA imposes special responsibilities on the Council, and they cannot be met from the current level of rate income. Whilst 'kerbs, footpaths and garbage' might be the most significant issues for some ratepayers, the fact remains that Council's responsibilities range far beyond that limited vision. Our decaying infrastructure has to be managed and renewed, and the environment that is subject of World Heritage classification must be protected, monitored and where possible improved - walking tracks, water purity and bushcare/weed control are but a few of the responsibilities. I truly hope that IPART will support the application.