

**From:** John Boom  
**Sent:** Thursday, 19 February 2015 11:04 AM  
**To:** IPART Mailbox  
**Subject:** Objection To Coffs Harbour City Rate Rise Appplication.

19-02-2015

To IPART

I'd like to submit this current objection to the Coffs Harbour City Council rate rise please. You can place it in view and for print etc. You can also remove the former objections as I've updated this objection to date.

The objection is submitted in PDF format attached. If you want it in Word format I can resend it.

Regards  
John Boom

# Objection To Coffs Harbour City Rate Rise Application.

The council undertook several surveys some in a misleading way by not revealing all the true facts. Some figures were in fact wrong and misleading.

Some surveys could be answered multiple times by anyone which could favour council outcomes. (Even if they didn't.).

The surveys that were replied too were a massive majority against a rate rise.

The council doesn't recognise the will of the people even using its own surveys.

The council has not made any real changes to curb its waste and mismanagement.

Council has not stopped spending ratepayers money using: "In Confidence Contracts" and letting residents know the amounts being spent on events and in other matters.

Council has for years been propping up unviable services not benefiting the community as a whole in a fairly distributed way.

Council has wasted community funds on legal action that had no way of benefiting the community as a whole.

Council undertook many large projects some of which costed millions and never offered any guaranteed outcomes for the community like the containment basins.

Council has borrowed to produce outcomes beyond its means.

Council has been over employing to try and attract funding and more state government input which has failed and cost the community.

Much of the shortfall is due to poor quality ongoing service costs like that bad road building and maintenance costs of repeat work on the same jobs even.

Poor quality choices like that of mowing and gardens management where it would be cheaper to lay down narrow concrete strips rather than continuing to mow them forever. They are self perpetuating their own expenses just to keep themselves employed.

Collecting nearly a million every year in two environmental rates and they can't find a cent of the money to spend on reducing our waterways pollution. Example of what could be done:

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Council spent ratepayers money buying and selling real estate in

unscrupulous ways sometimes bypassing the council voting system.

All these matters run into millions of dollars of waste every year. They can't even find a few thousand to fix school crossings, parking and footpaths in front of the Coffs Harbour Public School. Example:

[REDACTED]

Council wasted over a million on a museum building totally unsuitable for its meant use for the size of the town.

Council could find over 1.4 million to put a roof over a carpark but doesn't take any notice of community needs first at all. All this while stating they were broke.

Most of our pedestrian crossings are death traps and yet the council won't act.

Many of our city streets don't even have sealed paths for people to use.

Example: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The council has no ongoing new sealed path building programs in place.

Residents are being held to ransom by a mismanaged council and council system that's only in place to self replicate its losses year after year without and real value for dollar return back to the community.

Borrowing millions to pay for things we don't need while the things we do need just get put on the never to do list. Disabled and other people must walk on roadsides everyday because there's no sealed footpaths within the centre of Coffs Harbour. They have no ongoing sealed footpath building program in place.

Again Coffs Harbour City Council is in many cases self perpetuating their own expenses just to keep themselves employed. Its mismanagement on a grand scale year after year.

My website [REDACTED] shows much of this waste and lack of spending where its desperately needed over 41 pages of local issues.

[REDACTED]

We already pay high rates compared to other areas that get much better services and have more to offer its residents. This council has continually mismanaged its income and expenditure and only has itself to blame and can't expect Coffs Harbour residents to continually bail them out. The bulk of these rate payments are just another tax burden on people that already have trouble paying now.

Replacing this council with a town administrator would be a step in the right direction for a start and then changing much of the council system would benefit our town greatly. Perhaps consider something more like this:

**Satellite Towns & Cities Concept**

[REDACTED]