

From: [John Murton](#)
To: [IPART Mailbox](#)
Subject: RE: Coffs Harbour Council Special Rate Variation proposal
Date: Wednesday, 25 February 2015 4:00:47 PM

RE: Coffs Harbour Council Special Rate Variation proposal

I am a Coffs Harbour ratepayer and am objecting to the proposed 2015/2016 rate rise Council has asked of IPART.

I say NO to a 16.5 per cent cumulative increase over two years to be retained permanently in the rates base. This is in addition to 7.9% already approved for 2014/2015.

Last year, IPART refused to permit Council's application for three consecutive rate rises above the pegged limit due to Council's lack of communication with ratepayers of the likely impact. Only one was allowed.

I have noted, from council budgetary planning, that council wishes to embark on a City Square Upgrade. It has allowed residents to have their say by way of submission.

If it were approved, I have calculated some costs from the adopted budget this year, and it appears from that data, that approximately \$2,150,00.00 is forecast for this project.

There is nothing wrong with what is there already.

As recent council data suggests there are approx. 29,200 rateable properties, and that city upgrade, if my sums are correct, will equate to \$73.63c per ratepayer....I guess this is why they want to go to IPART for an increase?

Just scrap the city square and main street spending bonanza, leave rates as they are, and thus there is no need for a rates increase.

This project does not aid all ratepayers of Coffs Harbour, and as such, any perceived IPART increases should not be used for this proposal, or within forward planned budgets.

I thus, for the above reason, object to any Special Rate Variation.

SIGNED:

John Murton