

From: Lorraine Antonini
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: Objection to North Sydney Council Rate Rise
Date: Thursday, 14 March 2019 10:59:12 PM

I am writing to voice my objection to the North Sydney Councils application for a rate rise of 7%pa for 5 years.

This is a huge rate rise, compounded it equates to a 40% increase from what we currently pay.

I am a long standing resident of the area and have seen the council undergo many changes over the decades. We have always been told what great financial shape our council is in and how well our assets are managed. This is exactly the grounds our Mayor and her ticket of councillors ran their campaign in the last council election. Including how they would keep rates low. Since then I have seen council unwilling to share financial information not only with residents but our own councillors.

I strongly object to the proposed rate rise on numerous grounds including:

- No financial justification
- Flawed modelling used to justify the increase
- Cost of living pressures
- Inadequate Community Consultation
- Recent unnecessary and wasteful ad-hoc and discretionary spending by Council

We have been shown no real justification for this huge rate rise and no alternatives offered. We have however seen an increase in wasteful spending by the council that seems to be out of touch with a council in financial crisis. We have councillors who specialise in the financial sector who are adamantly against this rise describing as flawed modelling. Something many residents agree with.

This increase will especially hurt older home owner & pensioners especially as well as others that may not be doing so well despite the area being labelled as affluent we have many that have lived here long before this was the case. For these members of our community the idea of a 40% rate increase along with the constant rise in living costs is just unimaginable.

The council has had insufficient consultation with the community and has tried to push this through at some one of the busiest times of year Christmas and new year break. Advertising of any community consultations was woeful to say the least with the occasional last minute post via Facebook, we often don't receive the Mosman Daily as many around us don't and don't receive any other local paper. I wouldn't be surprised if many still are completely unaware.

I can only hope ipart can protect our residents from this unjustified enormous rate rise and force our council to do its job properly and come up with a reason solution.

Yours faithfully

Lorraine Antonini
