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Date of submission: Saturday, 9 March 2019

Submission: The amount our rates would rise are ridiculous & unaffordable. Atm the council does minimal things for Karuah where I live. Money is spent on areas such as Nelson Bay where they get 70k new parks. Karuah is in dire need to have the 2 parks re done. 1 park only has a slippery dip, a swing & a broken flying fox. The other part has not been updated even when equipment was frayed they simply took away the fraying bits. Where I have lived for 22 years our street does not have curb or guttering the gravel road we live on has not been upgraded at all. There has been no effort to make improvements. 22 years is a long time to pay rates & not see any real improvements in the area & street I am in. The things that are done are not in consultation with the community & do not meet our needs it is a waste of time & resources & creates long term issues. An example of this is the upgrade of the rock wall at the river swimming area. The rocks used are unsafe & pointy making the surface uneven I see many people trip & fall on these. They are adjacent to a park so lots of children are near this area making it a huge risk. Why give more money to be spent in an ineffective way that will cause much distress on community members trying to pay this dramatic increase. Maybe instead of this the council should look into alternative measures to stop constant mismanagement of their funds over a long period which can be clearly seen in their history & plan a sustainable future that doesn't involve roting the community.