

**From:** Michelle Whearty

**Sent:** Saturday, 21 February 2015 10:40 AM

**To:** IPART Mailbox

**Subject:** Coffs Harbour City Council Rate Rise - Council not listening to what the majority of ratepayers want.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I completed the rate rise survey in 2014 and voted against an increase in rates. A total of 70% of respondents voted against a rate rise. I give the following reasons why the rates should not be increased.

1. Obviously the majority of ratepayers do not want a rate rise according to the results of the survey. The Survey was a waste of money in itself because 70% of ratepayers are against a rate rise and Council is still proceeding with its push for an increase. If Coffs Harbour City Council want to spend huge amounts of money on a Survey, the least they could do is accept the result.
2. Some Councillors including the Mayor (Denise Knight) are wanting a huge entertainment centre to be constructed in the city. To me, that would be a total waste of money, the people of Coffs Harbour are not wealthy people and I foresee that the costs of maintaining an entertainment centre would by far exceed any income raised.
3. I live in a rural area and pay residential rates of approximately \$1,600.00 for the 2014/2015 rate year, there is no town water or sewer connected to my property and I feel that \$1,600.00 is too much to pay as it is. I have lived at the same property for 33 years and Council cannot even provide a good road, it is constantly being patched up after rain or when logging trucks have damaged the road. I want Coffs Harbour City Council to stop wasting money on things such as the art gallery which very few people use. I want my rates to be put toward infrastructure, in other words, the necessities.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Whearty