

From: NOEL JONES [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 17 June 2017 10:09 AM
To: Local Government Mailbox
Subject: FW: Midcoast Council Extraordinary Meeting May 31st 2017- Proposed Rate Increases SRV2017

The Chairman, Dr Peter Boxall,

PERSONAL

Sir,

We “STRONGLY OBJECT”, to any proposed rate increase presented by The Midcoast Council, on the following grounds:

1. We have not yet, “Elected” new Councillors, we believe this takes place in September, 2017!
2. The Current Administrator, Mr Turner, is an “Unelected” person of unknown quality to most rate payers!
3. The current Administrator has “NO Mandate” to ask for such a rate increase, this is up to “Elected Representatives” elected by us!
4. We believe our Demographics list our Shire as having “The Highest Number of Inhabitants over 60 years of Age, in NSW”!
5. That being said, there are a great number of us that are “Fully Self Funded Retiree’s”!
6. There is possibly an even greater number of us that are “Partially Self Funded plus a Small Government Subsidy”!
7. We are all on “Fixed Incomes”!
8. Unfortunately, we are all on variable outgoing and increasing expenditures!
9. We also believe we “Live very Frugally” and within our means!
10. In all cases, with those to whom I have spoken, we are “Existing” on a very marginal wealth growth, in the order of 2 ½ to 3 % pa, or less!
11. The current “Actual” Increase in “Cost of Living”, we find is in the order of 5%, which is less than our Earnings, therefore our Principal Wealth is being Depleted, Daily!
12. The Outstanding work load, of our previous Council, “Great Lakes Council”, which we were led to believe was operating reasonably successfully was Always Well Behind Schedule and many works “Could Not be Funded”, one only has to look at our roads and bridges & other infrastructure to see this, now that we have merged with “Less Performing” Council’s with “Their Own” backlogs of work, we are to be STUNG, even more so!

Finally Sir,

Any submission, to IPART from our local Shire Councilshould wait until we have Duly Elected number of Councillors and an elected "Head of such Council"!

It would also then be prudent for someone on your committee to either have a local meeting within our Shire to listen to our views, or accept representation of Local Residents, in person in front of your Committee, to put forward our case, this is after all, Our Free Australia!

Finally from me.....I am a firm believer in The Local Council Mergers, I would expect there to be considerable Downsizing of Council resources in personnel, equipment and property to maintain a more fully functional and Cost Effective Council with more building and repair works being Sub-Contracted to approved Suppliers, to have a more Cost Effective outcome of Ratepayers contributions!

Thank you for your time in reading my submission.

Noel G Jones

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