Randwick City Council states that **a majority of local residents and ratepayers have backed its proposal to seek a special variation**, a cumulative increase of **19.85%** over 3 years. In 2014/15 RCC was granted a permanent SV, a cumulative increase of 17.6% by 2016/17. Also in the rate base is an environment levy of 6%.

In a survey during the holiday months, 5.45% of this 51,349 possible returns supported applying for this 19.85%. There was **no majority approval.** The timing of the survey did not yield extensive or representative engagement with the community.

RCC states this SV equates to a rate increase of about $70 per year for the **average** resident. Since over 50% of ratepayers live in strata units and pay around $764, there is a heavily skewed distribution of rates being set. Yet RCC intends to apply this SV uniformly across its ratepayer base. How can this be seen as reasonable?

The single residential rating category used by RCC produces a heavy cost bias affecting the other 50% of ratepayers whose land value assessment has risen rapidly – the rates of some would increase by $400 to $600! Many have become asset rich through living in their own home for decades, but may be struggling to get by on a meagre wage or pension.

Is it fair to assume a ratepayer's capacity and willingness to pay the proposed higher rates on this data? By paying much higher rates would they get more benefits than a strata unit owner?

RCC asks for these extra funds to bankroll a number of proposed projects. Some of these projects appear quite worthy, others not essential. Many ratepayers would support the establishment of a Women's Refuge for instance. However, there are several projects which ratepayers wouldn't care to make a special contribution towards. We can wait for them, or manage without.

Until a fairer means of calculating rates is established, I request that RCC be only permitted to increase its rates by the rate peg. NO SPECIAL VARIATION.

From:	timothyorourke
To:	Local Government Mailbox
Subject:	Fwd: RATE RISE - Submissions to IPART
Date:	Monday, March 12, 2018 8:57:48 AM
Attachments:	IPART SUBMISSION.pdf

Hi
I would like to lodge a submission objecting to the Randwick City council application for a permanent special variation of 19.85% to rates.
I believe the increase to rates of 19.85% is too large in an environment of CPI if approximately 2% per annum.
yours sincerely
Tim O'Rourke
[redacted]