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Submission:

To whom it may concern, I would like to submit my objection and dissatisfaction at Warringah Council attempting to increase the rates above and beyond the state government's maximum allowable quota.

I firmly believe the state government has set a responsible ceiling rate to govern, control, and keep in check local councils from rampantly spending rate payers money to the detriment of its constituents. If these checks and balances were not in place than whose to say what council would get up to in respect of spending its budget.

We want a responsible council that is more frugal with its spending. The council budget is not an open cheque book. A good council becomes aware of the financial parameters that its required to work within and spends accordingly. Its no good state government setting rules that govern council behavioural spending then relaxing or breaking those governing and controlling rules. It sets a bad precedence and encourages council to spend willy nilly and irresponsibly while all the time knowing that if they blow the budget they can simply break the ceiling set for local government rates and ask for more.

I detest the notion that Warringah council can spend frivolously on non-essential leisure and entertainment infrastructure to satisfy self-interested minority factions. Then it discovers through financial budgetary mismanagement that it has done so at the expense of more basic, fundamental and vital community benefiting infrastructure. It then, to compensate for its inability to work within its budgetary constraints expects a forgiving community to pick up the bill by seeking not just the maximum allowable rate increase but rather above and beyond that. Where is the responsibility and accountability in this sort of local governance. I for one, and my community I presume, would be happy in tough times to sacrifice some of life's luxuries to ensure we all receive the basic necessities and infrastructure development.

No this is not good enough, all councils know the rules before they commence to spend. I would suggest that If they cannot govern the local community within the rules set by state government then I would presume they are incapable of governing and should step aside for others who can. When it comes to spending this council has at times got its priorities out of kilter.

We are all at an individual and family level going through some tough economic times. If we are not more thrifty with the way we do our family budgets then the consequences can be very harsh. There are repercussion for our budget mismanagement and so too is the community expectation on our local council.

To the powers to be I would appeal and plead to, please do not condone their mistakes and inabilities by allowing them this luxury. If they can't work within budget like other councils, then they shouldn't work! Answer, either reintroduce a administrator (again for this council), or new local government elections.

Vrezh Movsessian

Rate Payer whose had enough