

Petition To Strongly Oppose Richmond Valley Council's Application For a SRV 2019.

Dear Members Of IPART,

Please find attached the signatures of 360 Richmond Valley Ratepayers and Citizens who wish to strongly oppose RVC's application for a Special Rate Variation for the next four years of 5.5%. The reasons for the objections are clearly stated on the front page of the petition.

RVC states in it's application that, after extensive community consultation by Council which involved 404 residents by phone survey, 55 residents chose to respond to an online survey from Council's website, and 33 residents attended 2 community meetings at either end of the council area. That is a total of 492 residents or less than 2% of RVC's population.

Council state that 66% of community were in favour of a SRV of 5.5%. That is using the figure of 26% who indicated that they were "somewhat supportive". This 26% was added to the 40% who responded to the phone survey as being supportive or very supportive. What does "Somewhat Supportive" mean? It is somewhat dubious to say the least, to add this 26% to the supportive group. This displays a classical example of using statistics to suit your end means.

It was very interesting as we gathered signatures for this petition that at least 90% of residents were not aware of Council's application for a Special Rate Variation. While realizing it is difficult to reach everyone, maybe Council should reconsider their extensive Consultation practices in the future.

If Council has 66% of the phone survey of 404 residents somewhat or in favour of an SRV of 5.5% increase that is approx. 266 residents. This petition has 360 strongly against any SRV. Add this to an online petition you will receive shortly, another 260 plus residents also express their strong objection to Council's application. That is over 620 residents objecting, which is far greater than those "Somewhat" in favour.

Yours sincerely,

Jim McCormack

Richmond Valley Ratepayer and Resident

PLEASE NOTE: the attached petition contains the original signatures, totalling 360 signatures. These signatures have also scanned and sent by way of submission electronically to you to ensure they are received by the due date 13th March. An additional on line petition will be also forwarded to you by the due date.

Objection To Richmond Valley Council's application for a Special Rates Variation February 2019

We the undersigned ratepayers and citizens of RVC strongly object to Council's 5.5 % rate increase they are proposing over the next 4 years.

Our reasons are as follows:


*Council has just come off a Special Rate Variation over the past 5 years where our rates have increased 37.5% over that 5-year period. Now Council wants to further increase our rates by approximately 23.9% over the next four years. We are concerned about people's capacity to pay this massive increase.

*Inflation over the past 5 years has gone up approx. 7.5% not 37.5% as our rates have. Bank interest on Savings has hovered around 2% over the past 5 Years.

*Pensioner Rate Rebates have not increased over the past 26 years. Pensioners cannot afford these proposed increases.

*In their application to IPART Council says "That Council consider the concerns raised by community members about the financial impact pensioners, farmers and residents with higher unimproved capital land values " HOW DID COUNCIL DO THIS?WHAT DID THEY DO ABOUT THESE CONCERNS?

*In summary we believe like any sound business, Council should be prioritizing their many projects and if they cannot afford them ,they don't happen at this point in time. Council should not just ask Ratepayers to pay extra Rates. Council is showing little concern for the financial sustainability of their ratepayers.

Name	Signature	Residential Address
		

Objection To Richmond Valley Council's application for a Special Rates Variation 2019



David Mason started this petition to [IPART](#)

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289 have signed. Let's get to 500!



Australia ▼

☐ Display my name and comment on this petition

Sign this petition

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