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SPECIAL RATE VARIATION COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT 2014

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following the Council election in 2012, a number of workshops were held to review the community's priorities and Council's Resourcing Strategy as part of the development of the original 2013-2017 Delivery Program. It was clear that Council's regular budget could not deliver its ongoing services, address the asset backlog and the additional priorities that are important to the community. This will be exacerbated by the expiry of the existing 5% Special Rate Variation (SRV) which has been in place since 2001 and due to conclude in June 2014.

In December 2012, Council adopted an engagement strategy to commence discussions with the community about the available options. The community engagement sought to verify the proposed list of extra priority projects that the community wants to see delivered as well as the community's views on how they could be funded.

Council adopted the 2013-2017 Delivery Program in June 2013 and resolved to proceed to community engagement Stage 1 during July – September 2013 with a revised list of extra priority projects that remained unfunded and three options for a potential application for a new SRV **Option 1 - no SRV, only 3% rate peg, Option 2 - 2% SRV plus 3% rate peg each year for six years, Option 3 - 5% SRV plus 3% rate peg in year 1, 4% SRV plus 3% rate peg in year 2, 3% SRV plus 3% rate peg in year 3, 2% SRV plus 3% rate peg in year 4, 1% SRV plus 3% rate peg in year 5.**

Stage 1 community engagement on the above options, produced a significant response from the community as evidenced by the number of responses to the survey. The Stage 1 community engagement on the above options for the special rate variation indicated reasonable support for the proposals while raising some concerns on affordability.

Following detailed consideration of these results as well as options to amend the funding and staging of the SRV projects list, Council resolved at its meeting on 22 October 2013 to endorse an amended list of priority extra projects to be funded by a package of sources, including a **permanent one-off increase in its rates of 10% (including the rate peg) in 2014/2015** as the basis of further community engagement (stage 2) and the basis of the preparation of the draft 2014-2015 Operational Plan.

To ensure comprehensive community engagement and to meet the SRV guidelines requirement, Council's IPR documents were revised to take account of the additional priority projects and the SRV application with two versions of the Draft Revised 2013-2017 Delivery Program prepared for public exhibition – one **with** an SRV and one **without** an SRV. A revised Long Term Financial Plan and appendices were also developed for the Workforce Management Plan and the Asset Management Strategy to identify the impact of the proposed SRV application.

Stage 2 engagement was held during November 2013-February 2014 in conjunction with the exhibition of the 2014-2015 Operational Plans and associated revised IPR documents. This engagement did not have a high response despite the varied methods of engagement undertaken however one response indicated strong support for the SRV and the IPR framework. This minimum response can demonstrate the community's satisfaction with the reduced option being considered.

Overall Council believes that it has succeeded in making its community aware of the need for, impact of and extent of the Special Rate Variation for a permanent one-off 10% increase in rates in 2014/2015 through the community engagement undertaken in both stages 1 and 2 and has exceeded the requirements of the guidelines (Criteria 2) with the extensive and varied information and engagement methods it has undertaken.

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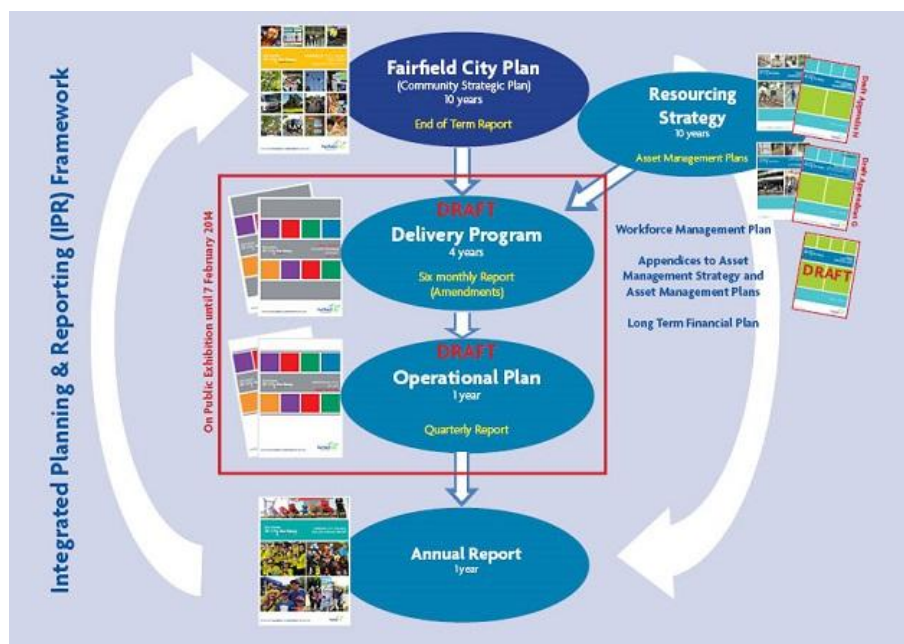
INTRODUCTION

INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

The Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) Framework (Local Government Amendment: Planning and Reporting Act 2009) aims to improve Council's long-term community, financial and asset planning. This approach acknowledges Local Government's unique position as the only agency with an interest in all aspects of Fairfield City. It formalises the role of Council as the key advocate for the community in relation to all issues.

The IPR Framework requires Council to develop a:

- Community Strategic Plan (Fairfield City Plan): 10 year plan identifying the community's main priorities and aspirations which covers all aspects of the Local Government Area (LGA), including those issues that are the responsibility of the Federal and State Governments, the not-for-profit and private sectors
- Resourcing Strategy: (Long Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Strategy, Workforce Management Plan). Identifying what money, assets and people Council has available to deliver for its community
- Delivery Program: 4 year program identifying Council's commitment during its term of office
- Operational Plan: 1 year plan outlining Council's activities and budget
- Annual Report: Reporting on Council's progress on achieving the Delivery Program and Operational Plan.



The Fairfield City Plan identifies the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and must address social, environmental, economic and civic leadership issues for the City.

Council has a special role to play in the development of this Community Strategic Plan in that it is the agency which has been charged with its development. However, it is not the Council's sole responsibility to deliver on all the community outcomes identified in the Plan. A range of other governments (both Federal and State), organisations, institutions, agencies as well as every resident will have an important role to play in delivering the community outcomes identified in this plan.

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES & EXTRA PROJECTS

Council undertook a comprehensive consultation in 2010 and again in 2012 to inform the Fairfield City Plan 2012-2022. The community was engaged to identify its needs, priorities and aspirations. As a result, Council identified a number of issues that the Community would like to see delivered over the next 10 years. The 10 priorities are:



Council also undertook a Service Levels and Indicators Survey (SLI Survey). This survey sought to examine the community attitudes and perceptions towards current and future services and facilities provided by Council along with responses to indicators identified in the City Plan. One of the key objectives of the research was to assess and establish the community's priorities and satisfaction in relation to Council activities, services and facilities.

Whilst the overall outcome of the survey was that the community were relatively satisfied with Council's services there are always areas that could be improved. Key findings from the survey identified that Council needed to improve in areas such as condition of local roads, provision and maintenance footpaths, maintenance of cycleways and local parks and gardens, keeping public places in shopping centre clean and litter control and rubbish dumping to name a few.

The SLI Survey utilised what is known as Shapley's Value Regression and this identified a number of indicators that would see the community's overall satisfaction with Council improve. Areas that were identified were condition of roads, footpaths and cycleways, local gardens and parks, keeping public areas in shopping centres clean, managing natural hazards and sportsgrounds.

In developing its 2013-2017 Delivery Program Council reviewed the community's priorities along with the outcomes of the SLI Survey seeking to ensure that its services, initiatives and priorities were in line with the community's priorities.

Council then reviewed its Resourcing Strategy that looked at what money, assets and people, it has available over the next 10 years to deliver on these services. The Resourcing Strategy identified a number of areas that impacted on Council including its limited ability to source other areas of income with rates providing over 60% of its income, the increasing costs and skills required of staff and the increasing asset backlog.

A major consideration from the Resourcing Strategy that impacted on the delivery of the projects identified by the community was the expiring current Special Rate Variation that has been in place since 2001. Funding from this was used to develop a new pool and grandstand at Prairiewood Leisure Centre, renovations at Fairfield Leisure Centre, the new Cabravale Leisure Centre, the upgrade of many parks as part of the Parks Improvement Program and significant traffic management works in the Cabramatta Town Centre. These were all significant initiatives which were developed for the community both for now and into the future.

Therefore, after considering the community's priorities, outcomes from the SLI Survey and the Resourcing Strategy, Council reviewed its services. In this process Council looked to align its services to best meet the community's needs and priorities. In some areas increases were made and in others there were decreases. Results of these can be found under the efficiencies section in Council's Revised 2013-2017 Delivery Program (refer to page 31). Whilst these efficiencies saw Council able to deliver more and/or change its service delivery to meet needs and priorities there were still a number of extra projects that were identified by the community it could not afford from its current budget. These are listed below along with a reference to the community priorities they address:

Priority No.	Initiative Name	Cost \$	Relationship to Community Strategic Plan Priorities	Relationship to Service Levels and Indicators Survey	Links for Fairfield City Community Profile/Needs
1	Fairfield Library Expansion Add a second storey to Fairfield Library to create additional study space to meet the community's growing needs within the area.	5,000,000	Priority 8 – Access to Schools, Universities and TAFE		Assist in high youth unemployment Address some of the multicultural needs of the community Meet library benchmarks for the catchment population
2	Water Park Prairiewood Leisure Centre – Upgrade Stage 2 Additional feature at the Prairiewood Leisure Centre which incorporates a water park with multiple water features for children of various ages, along with other play facilities for families to enjoy.	1,500,000	Priority 10 – More activities for children and Youth		Ensure Council provides affordable opportunities for our socially disadvantaged community
3	Sportsgrounds Renovation and Upgrade The program will renovate and upgrade sportsgrounds throughout the local government area, increasing the standard of sporting facilities to residents and visitors.	1,000,000 per year	Priority 10 – More activities for children and Youth	Key area 2 – Clean and Maintained	
4	Open Space Upgrades To make open space areas within Fairfield more user friendly, accessible and updated.	460,000 per year	Priority 2 – A clean and attractive place	Key area 2 – Clean and Maintained	
5	Community Buildings Upgrades To renew the community centres, halls and other buildings currently owned by Council to make them more accessible and updated for wider use by the community.	1,700,000 per year	Priority 2 – A clean and attractive place	Key area 2 – Clean and Maintained	Ensure Council provides affordable opportunities for our socially disadvantaged community

6	Fairfield Heights Town Centre Upgrades Renew the Fairfield Heights Town Centre to create a more updated and attractive area for local businesses, residents and visitors.	1,800,000	Priority 2 – A clean and attractive place	Key area 2 – Clean and Maintained	Support economic development and job opportunities especially for high youth unemployment
7	Cabramatta Town Centre Upgrades Renew the Cabramatta Town Centre to create a more updated and attractive area for local businesses, residents and visitors.	1,020,000	Priority 2 – A clean and attractive place	Key area 2 – Clean and Maintained	Support economic development and job opportunities especially for high youth unemployment
8	Roads, Kerb & Gutters Upgrades To ensure that roads, kerb and gutter are maintained to meet the increasing expectations of our community.	1,500,000 per year	Priority 6 – Improved Roads	Key area 3 – Getting Around	
9	Drainage Upgrades To update our drainage to ensure that it meets the needs of the city by reducing potential flooding and cleaner streets and waterways.	370,000 per year	Priority 5 –Cleaner Environment	Key area 2 – Clean and Maintained	
10	New Fairfield City Centre Park – The Crescent Construct a Fairfield Town Centre Park which will provide a modern meeting place in the central business district for residents and visitors to enjoy.	1,800,000	Priority 10 –More activities for children and Youth	Key area 2 – Clean and Maintained	Ensure Council provides affordable opportunities for our socially disadvantaged community

METHODOLOGY

Before making a decision on whether to apply for an SRV, Council developed an engagement strategy which looked at three SRV options for funding the proposed projects and sought community feedback on the options.

In line with the Integrated Planning and Reporting guidelines, the engagement strategy identified how Council would engage its community as widely as possible on the SRV options ensuring that it reached the hard-to-reach groups within the City.

The SRV community engagement strategy comprised two stages:

- Stage 1 was the distribution of information to the community including a survey to inform Council of what additional projects and increased services are priorities for the community. Stage 1 was held from June 2013-September 2013
- Stage 2 was the second round of engagement based on the results of Stage 1 and the resulting amendments made by Council. Stage 2 was held from November 2013-February 2014

STAKEHOLDERS

The Community Engagement Strategy aimed to engage with the community on a number of levels from *informing*, *consulting*, *involving* to *collaborating* to ensure the community had on-going opportunities to be involved.

The Strategy sought to engage as many community members as possible. It mostly targeted ratepayers within Fairfield City due to the impact of the Special Rate Variation on them, but also included:

- *Community Stakeholders* – rate paying and non rate paying residents, businesses, landowners, community groups, sporting clubs and interest groups
- *Businesses* – the Chamber of Commerce and Town Centre Committees as well as individual businesses
- *Non-government and not-for-profit organisations (NGO)* – NGOs are instrumental in reaching the community and advocating for community needs
- *Councillors* – Councillors promote and lead community engagement and consider advice on resource implications and discuss this with the community prior to making decisions
- *Hard to reach groups and the disengaged*
 - People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
 - Young people (12-24 years)
 - Older people
 - Disadvantaged
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
 - People with a disability

Listed below are the marketing and communication tools which were used to engage the community in the Fairfield LGA on the SRV options.

Marketing and Communication Tools
Council's "Have Your Say" Online Survey
Facebook
Twitter
Local Government Open Day at Council's Administration Centre
Smithfield/Wetherill Park Group Meeting
SRV Public Information Session, Fairfield RSL Club (translators provided)
SRV Public Information Session, St Johns Park Bowling Club (translators provided)
SRV Public Information Session, Cabra Vale Diggers RSL Club (translators provided)
Cumberland Business Chambers
Wetherill Park Rotary Club
City Connect
City Life
Council website - <i>including other language option</i>
FCC – "Have Your Say" Online Survey
Facebook
Twitter
SRV flyer distribution
Local Government Open Day
Advertising at Libraries
Advertising at Leisure Centres
Advertising at Child Care Centres
Advertising in Ethnic Newspapers – El Telegraph
Advertising in Ethnic Newspapers – Dan Viet
Advertising in Ethnic Newspapers – Australian Chinese Daily
SRV Advertising in Ethnic Newspapers – Extra Informativo
Information stalls: Whitlam Library (predominately Asian translators present)
Information stalls: Fairfield Library (predominately Arabic translators present)
Information stalls: Bonnyrigg Library (multilingual translators present)
Information stalls: Wetherill Park (multilingual translators present)
Fairfield Migrant Interagency Group
Spanish Seniors Group (Amigas Unidas) Translator provided
Spanish Seniors Meeting Prairiewood Translator Provided
Arabic Women's Group
MCCS Computer Class unemployed people – CALD*
Multicultural Advisory Committee
Advisory Committees / Focus groups
Bonnyrigg New Leaf Community
Youth Workers Network
Fairfield Youth Workers Network
Vision Impaired Group CALD
Fairfield Aboriginal Advisory Committee
Aboriginal Advisory Committee
Men's Shed – retired men from CALD backgrounds
Seniors Network Group
Club Marconi – Italian Seniors Group
* CALD: Culturally and Linguistically Diverse

Stakeholder profile

Fairfield is one of the most culturally diverse areas in Australia. Fifty per cent of people in Fairfield City come from countries where English is not the first language and 70% of people speak a language other than English at home. Overall, 25.9% of the population speak English only, compared with 62.2% for Greater Sydney. The dominant language spoken at home, other than English, in Fairfield City is Vietnamese (19.1%) (ABS data 2011).

Fairfield City has a high level of disadvantage compared to the rest of Sydney and Australia. The 2011 SEIFA Index of Relative Social-economic Disadvantage shows a score of 886 for Fairfield LGA. This is below the average score of 1000 and indicates the LGA is more disadvantaged than the national average (ABS data 2011).

Fairfield City has a small proportion of people who have formal qualifications with 60.3% having no qualifications, meaning its workforce is predominantly unskilled (ABS data 2011). Unemployment rates for the City are high (9.7%) which is approximately double the rate of unemployment compared to Greater Sydney (5.7%) (ABS data 2011).

7.0% of the population in Fairfield City report needing help in their day-to-day lives due to disability while the percentage in Greater Sydney is only 4.4% (ABS data 2011).

Young people account for 14.9% of Fairfield City's population. Their high levels of disadvantage, coupled with lower levels of schooling and English as a second language, have contributed to 21.5% unemployment rate for people aged 15-24.

Engagement considerations

- A broad representation of the Fairfield community is reached including a range of cultural groups
- Participants have a clear understanding of the goals and objectives of the engagement, including the level and method
- A range of engagement methods appropriate to the target group is used
- Information is presented in plain language
- Information is translated into major community languages where possible
- Interpreters, language aids, bi-lingual community educators and community partners are used where needed
- Appealing methods are used to engage with young people
- A range of methods are used that do not rely on written material
- Use informal community networks and community leaders
- Undertake engagement activities in range of venues and reduce transport and financial barriers

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION PROGRAM

The marketing and communications program for both stages aimed to:

- Engage and raise awareness for all members of the local community (specifically rate payers)
- Encourage community feedback on the rate increase
- Provide an alternative platform for residents to voice their opinions
- Clearly identify the community/individual benefits of the SRV
- Clearly identify and promote the SRV projects and the vision for Fairfield City
- Encourage community consultation and community feedback
- Clearly identify the cost impacts of the SRV
- Build a positive brand identity/response for Council

Key themes and messages included:

- What this means for the individual and the community
- What the resident is currently paying and what services have been implemented
- Outlook for the future needs of Fairfield City
- Promote the benefits of the SRV and associated projects
- Encourage 'Have your say' community responses
- Build awareness and recognition of SRV and the need for the SRV.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – STAGE 1

Council implemented a comprehensive community engagement campaign to inform and seek feedback from the local community on a proposed special rate variation and various options.

The engagement strategy involved information being provided to the community on what a Special Rate Variation is, how it is applied, what it would be used for, and the impact that it would have on their rates. Council also provided an opportunity for the community to provide feedback through a survey in which they could respond on their preference for the three options or provide another option and/or comments in relation to the projects identified.

The engagement campaign for Stage 1 ran from February to September 2013.

The SRV communications plan for Stage 1 encompassed community engagement through the following mediums:

- Community survey (translated into 5 languages and distributed through numerous networks, Council centres and community groups)
- Mail-out of SRV information leaflet including community survey to 65,000 households
- Public information sessions hosted by the Mayor (3 held)
- Community focus groups
- Councillors
- Council's Place Managers meeting with business stakeholders
- Business Newsletters
- Various committees
- Posters and leaflets at Council facilities (including the Administration Centre, leisure centres, child care centres, community centres and libraries)
- Online survey
- Council website and social media
- Fairfield City Champion newspaper advertisements in City Connect
- Printed media releases and various advertisements around the city (newspapers, city banners)
- Advertisements in ethnic print media (Arabic, Vietnamese, Chinese, Spanish)

COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND SURVEY

Council developed an extensive range of community engagement material in plain English which included a leaflet with survey (postage paid and translated), posters, banners, information sheets on each of the projects, frequently asked questions sheets, advertisements, a website page and online survey, notice board displays and power point presentations for both the external community and staff.

This material was targeted to inform the community about the current SRV expiring, the impact of a new SRV, the projects that were being considered and the impact on their rates. The material asked the community to make a choice about extra Council services and the options to fund them through an SRV.

The community were provided with a number of options to respond to this information ranging from sending an email or letter, completing a paper survey and returning to council through postage paid or dropping off to anyone one of Council's facilities where boxes were provided. The community could also respond online by visiting Council's 'Have your say' website which included more detailed information and an online version of the survey.

Information was distributed as broadly as possible with staff across the organization educated on the SRV and its implications so that this could be spread through our contact with customers in all

situations. Notifications and information were distributed to various numerous council sites including Libraries, all Leisure and Child Care Centres, Administration Building and a number of community centres.

Engagement of Businesses was given careful consideration. Council sought to engage businesses through their place management team consultations as well as development of material specifically related to businesses to ensure that they were properly informed of Councils options for an SRV and the associated works. Increases in rates for businesses was itemized on fact sheets and a separate information was developed and distributed through the newsletters in each of the business centres as well as on the Smithfield/Wetherill Park business website. Below are some of the more formal avenues where the SRV information was discussed and information circulated.

Engagement Type	Description
Smithfield/Wetherill Park Group Meeting	Discussion
Cumberland Business Chambers	Discussion with President and General Manager
Wetherill Park Rotary Club	Informal discussions with representatives
Cabramatta, Canley Vale, Canley Heights Business Newsletter	Business Information on SRV included in Newsletter
Fairfield City Centre Business Newsletter	Business Information on SRV included in Newsletter

It is important to not that Council also distributed information through its sporting clubs and community groups. Council also distributed letters to contact lists that were currently held by various departments within the organization advising them of the SRV options being considered and where to find further information to have their say.

The information leaflets including a survey were also delivered to over 65,000 homes throughout the Fairfield local government area and also displayed and distributed through Council facilities along with the translated versions of the leaflets in the five main languages.

The leaflet outlined the following three special rate options for ratepayers:

- **Option 1 – No Special Rate Variation, only 3% rate peg increase**

This option means that no projects from the extra projects list can be implemented.

- **Option 2 – 2% each year for six years plus 3% rate peg increase**

This option means that the following projects could be implemented from the extra project list:

1. Fairfield Library Expansion
2. Water Park – Upgrade Stage 2 Prairiewood Leisure Centre
3. Sportsground Renovation and Upgrade
4. Open Space Upgrades
5. Community Buildings Upgrades
6. Fairfield Heights Town Centre Upgrade
7. Cabramatta Town Centre Upgrade
8. Road, Kerb and Gutter Upgrades (partial).

- **Option 3 – 5%, 4%, 3%, 2%, 1% over 5 years plus 3% rate peg increase**

This option means that the following projects could be implemented from the extra projects list:

1. Fairfield Library Expansion
2. Water Park – Upgrade Stage 2 Prairiewood Leisure Centre

3. Sportsground Renovation and Upgrade
4. Open Space Upgrades
5. Community Buildings Upgrades
6. Fairfield Heights Town Centre Upgrade
7. Cabramatta Town Centre Upgrade
8. Roads, Kerb and Gutter Upgrades
9. Drainage Upgrades
10. New Fairfield City Centre Park - The Crescent.

The following are examples of some of the information developed for the community:

SRV information leaflet

Three Special Rate Options for Residential Ratepayers

Note: The current 5% special rate variation in place from 2001 will end in June 2014 and one of the below options could apply if approved by IPART. The new special rate would replace the old special rate which in 2014-2015 is a reduction of \$35 for the average residential ratepayer.

Option 1
No special rate increase
Only the rate peg of approximately 3% per year as determined by IPART

WHAT DO I GET WITH OPTION 1?
Council continues its existing service to the community as listed in the Delivery Program 2013-2017 including -

- Libraries \$8.4 million
- Sportsgrounds \$17 million
- Leisure Centres \$12.2 million
- Town Centres \$4 million
- Street Cleaning \$3.7 million
- Child Care \$11.3 million
- Parks and Reserves \$5.7 million
- Roads, Kerbs and Gutters \$9.8 million

And projects including -

- Adventure Playground
- CCTV Camera roll out across the City
- Increased cleaning in Town Centres
- More parking facilities
- Improved roads

Total estimated budget each year: \$185 million

NO EXTRA PROJECTS WITH OPTION 1

Option 2
Special rate of 2% each year over six years
Plus the rate peg of approximately 3% per year as determined by IPART

WHAT DO I GET WITH OPTION 2?
Council continues its existing service to the community as listed in the Delivery Program 2013-2017 including -

- Libraries \$8.4 million
- Sportsgrounds \$17 million
- Leisure Centres \$12.2 million
- Town Centres \$4 million
- Street Cleaning \$3.7 million
- Child Care \$11.3 million
- Parks and Reserves \$5.7 million
- Roads, Kerbs and Gutters \$9.8 million

And projects including -

- Adventure Playground
- CCTV Camera roll out across the City
- Increased cleaning in Town Centres
- More parking facilities
- Improved roads

Total estimated budget each year: \$185 million

WHAT EXTRAS DO I GET WITH OPTION 2?

1. Fairfield Library expansion
2. Water Park - Princeswood Leisure Centre, Stage 2 upgrade
3. Sportsgrounds renovations and upgrades
4. Open Space upgrades
5. Community Building upgrades
6. Fairfield Heights Town Centre upgrades
7. Cabramatta Town Centre upgrade
8. Roads, Kerbs and Gutters upgrades (partial)

Total estimated special rate budget over six years: \$32 million

Option 3: Sliding Scale
Special rate of 5%, 4%, 3%, 2%, 1% each year over five years
Plus the rate peg of approximately 3% per year as determined by IPART

WHAT DO I GET WITH OPTION 3?
Council continues its existing service to the community as listed in the Delivery Program 2013-2017 including -

- Libraries \$8.4 million
- Sportsgrounds \$17 million
- Leisure Centres \$12.2 million
- Town Centres \$4 million
- Street Cleaning \$3.7 million
- Child Care \$11.3 million
- Parks and Reserves \$5.7 million
- Roads, Kerbs and Gutters \$9.8 million

And projects including -

- Adventure Playground
- CCTV Camera roll out across the City
- Increased cleaning in Town Centres
- More parking facilities
- Improved roads

Total estimated budget each year: \$185 million

WHAT EXTRAS DO I GET WITH OPTION 3?

1. Fairfield Library expansion
2. Water Park - Princeswood Leisure Centre, Stage 2 upgrade
3. Sportsgrounds renovations and upgrades
4. Open Space upgrades
5. Community Building upgrade
6. Fairfield Heights Town Centre upgrades
7. Cabramatta Town Centre upgrade
8. Roads, Kerbs and Gutters upgrades
9. Drainage upgrades
10. New Fairfield Town Centre Park - The Crescent

Total estimated special rate budget over five years: \$41 million

Delivery Address:
PO Box 21
Fairfield NSW 1980

**COUNCIL SERVICES
THE CHOICE SURVEY
Reply Paid 21
Fairfield NSW 1980**

**No stamp required
if posted in Australia**

AVERAGE INCREASE TO RESIDENTIAL RATES

Average increase: **\$0.32** per week **\$17** per annum

AVERAGE INCREASE TO RESIDENTIAL RATES

Average increase: **\$0.70** per week **\$36** per annum

AVERAGE INCREASE TO RESIDENTIAL RATES

Average increase: **\$0.83** per week **\$43** per annum

Note: Figures included in these tables are for residential properties based on the average Fairfield City rateable land value of \$200,000 - \$299,000

* IPART - Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal

Other
This could be any other option you think would be a better percentage increase, number of years and/or different projects

Option 1
With special rate of 5%, 4% or 3% 2% for five years
Average rate increase \$43 p.a.
1. Fairfield Library expansion
2. Fairfield Park - Upgrade Stage 2
3. Fairfield Park - Upgrade Stage 1
4. Fairfield Park - Upgrade Stage 3
5. Community Building Upgrade
6. Fairfield Heights Town Centre
7. Community Sports Centre Upgrade
8. Road and footpath upgrades
9. Fairfield Park - Upgrade Stage 1
10. Fairfield Park - Upgrade Stage 2

Option 2
With special rate of 2% each year over six years
Average rate increase \$56 p.a.
1. Fairfield Library expansion
2. Fairfield Park - Upgrade Stage 2
3. Fairfield Park - Upgrade Stage 1
4. Fairfield Park - Upgrade Stage 3
5. Community Building Upgrade
6. Fairfield Heights Town Centre
7. Community Sports Centre Upgrade
8. Road and footpath upgrades
9. Fairfield Park - Upgrade Stage 1
10. Fairfield Park - Upgrade Stage 2

Option 3
No special rate increase
Average rate increase \$17 p.a.
No extra projects

Which option do you prefer?
(Please tick the box next to your preferred option)

Mayor's Message

Council is committed to continuing the existing services you have told us are important to you, with the adoption of Councils Delivery Program 2013-2017. We will also carry out some improvements to the City from our on-going budget, including a new Adventure Park in Fairfield Park, additional CCTV cameras across the City and more car parking.

The community has also given us feedback that there are additional projects and increased services you would like, but they are beyond our regular budget. These new projects include improved library services, better sports grounds and recreational facilities and upgraded infrastructure such as roads, and community buildings.

Council has looked at how we might be able to fund these extra projects and we want to hear your views about whether you think a special rate variation is the way to do this.

In 2001 the community supported a special rate variation, and each year since then ratepayers have paid an extra 5% special rate, which Council has used to deliver the Cabravale Leisure Centre, improvements to the Fairfieldwood and Fairfield Leisure Centres, Hill St car park, playgrounds and upgrades to 101 local parks and traffic management works in Cabramatta. The current special rate will end in June 2014.

If Council applies for and is granted a special rate increase by IPART* for all ratepayers across the City, the new special rate would replace the old special rate. It would not start until July 2014 after the current 5% increase ends.

Please take the time to read the information about the options in this brochure and have your say at <http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.com.au> before Council decides whether or not to apply for a special rate increase.

Frank Carbone, Mayor of Fairfield City

What are you paying in rates compared to five years ago?

In 2008, Council committed to restructuring its rates over a period of five years. This saw more money collected from businesses and less from residents.

This has meant that over the past five years residential rates have decreased.

In 2008, the average resident was paying \$771 and today, in 2013, they are paying \$726. This includes the current 5% special rate variation.

Average Fairfield City Residential Rates 2008-2013

Year	Average Rate (\$)
2008-09	771
2009-10	765
2010-11	758
2011-12	751
2012-13	744
2013-14	726

*Residential rates are based on rateable land value

Average Fairfield Council Residential Rates Compared to Adjoining Councils 2002-2013

Council	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Fairfield	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Other Councils	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Have Your Say

Everyone can have a say and make a choice, this is how you can do it:

Online: www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au
complete our online survey at:
<http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.com.au>

Email: haveyoursay@fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au

Post: Fairfield City Council
88 Avoca Rd, Waleby NSW 2176
PO Box 21 Fairfield 1869

Complete the survey and return to Council.

Facebook: [facebook.com/fairfieldcity](https://www.facebook.com/fairfieldcity) Twitter: twitter.com/fairfieldcity

DID YOU KNOW

Every year IPART (Independent Prices and Regulatory Tribunal) determines the increase that all Councils can apply to your rates. It is called the 'rate peg' and it is usually about 3%. It helps councils keep up with the increasing costs of the services it already provides.

To deliver extra projects, councils can apply to IPART for an additional increase and this is called a 'special rate increase'.

EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours



Examples of advertisements in local paper and posters in Council facilities



EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

HAVE YOUR SAY

The community has highlighted extra projects and services for our City but these are beyond Council's regular budget.

Council is now seeking your input on how we should pay for extra projects and services.

Public Information Sessions will be held on:

- **Monday, 19 August 6.30-8.30pm, Fairfield RSL Club**
- **Wednesday, 21 August 10am-12noon, St John's Park Bowling Club**
- **Wednesday, 21 August 6-8pm, Cabravale Diggers Club**

Bookings are essential.

To register for the Public Information Sessions you can:
 email - haveyoursay@fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au
 or call us on 9725 0118 by Thursday, 15 August 2013

How to have your say

Everyone can have a say and make a choice, this is how you can do it:

<http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.com.au>

Facebook: [facebook.com/fairfieldcity](https://www.facebook.com/fairfieldcity)

Twitter: twitter.com/fairfieldcity



Examples of advertisements in local paper cont..
(Fairfield City Champion – City Connect Page)



CITY CONNECT

YOUR COUNCIL MAKING FAIRFIELD CITY A GREAT PLACE

FAIRFIELD CITY CHAMPION

26 JUNE 2013

MESSAGE FROM YOUR MAYOR



Frank Carlisle
Mayor of Fairfield City

REFERENDUM 'YES' WILL ENSURE COUNCIL FUNDING

A Referendum will be held on 14 September at the time of the Federal election to decide if councils will be guaranteed future funding from the Federal Government.

Ensuring the Federal Government is constitutionally obligated to continue funding Local Government ... is what the Referendum is about.

NEWS IN BRIEF

LIBRARY REPAIRS
The Fairfield City Library has completed repairs to the roof and walls of the main building. The library is now open for business.

LEISURE CENTRE POOL TEMPORARY CLOSURE
The Leisure Centre Pool will be closed for temporary repairs from Friday 28 June to Sunday 1 July. The pool will be open again on Monday 1 July.

PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS
The Fairfield City Library has a special exhibition of local history. The exhibition is open from Friday 28 June to Sunday 1 July.

WHAT'S ON

TRASH TALK
Friday 28 June, 10am-12pm
Fairfield City Council, 100-110 Sturt Street, Fairfield
Phone: 9725 5222

RECREATION CLUB
Friday 28 June, 10am-12pm
Fairfield City Council, 100-110 Sturt Street, Fairfield
Phone: 9725 5222

SAINTFIELD WETLANDS
Saturday 29 June, 10am-12pm
Fairfield City Council, 100-110 Sturt Street, Fairfield
Phone: 9725 5222

MESSAGE FROM YOUR MAYOR



Frank Carlisle
Mayor of Fairfield City

OPEN DAY A SHOWCASE OF SERVICES

Council staff will be on hand to answer your questions and provide you with information about the services we offer. The Open Day will be held on Friday 28 June from 10am to 12pm.

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MESSAGE FROM YOUR MAYOR



Frank Carlisle
Mayor of Fairfield City

Have Your Say

The community has highlighted extra projects and services for our City. But these are beyond Council's regular budget. Council is now seeking your input about whether a special rate increase is the way to pay for them.

Have Your Say
Friday 28 June, 10am-12pm
Fairfield City Council, 100-110 Sturt Street, Fairfield
Phone: 9725 5222

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Some articles on the SRV in the local papers

NEWS 05

1-26 18.71 127-69 172-79 80-85 86-88

Council gives residents a choice on rates and spending

FAIRFIELD residents are being given a say in where their rates dollars are spent. Fairfield Council is asking residents to nominate one of three options for rates increases over the next five years and will outline services residents will receive based on their choice.

A web portal has been set up to allow residents to find out more about each option, including the projects the council will be able to take on under each.

Mayor Frank Carbone said the council was responding to community expectations of having more infrastructure provided by the council.

"It's only right to ask the community," he said.

"There are two reasons for asking this. The first one is to alert the community they are already paying (a rates variation of 5 per cent."

Or Carbone said the first option was staying within the State Government's 3 per cent rates peg.

He said the second was a 3 per cent special variation on top of the 3 per cent rate and the third was a sliding scale starting at 5 per cent and decreased by 1 per cent each year for five years.

"It's up to the community to say what they want," Or Carbone said.

The 5 per cent variation was how we got things like the Cabra-Vale Leisure Centre and replaced all the equipment in our

from the variation went to infrastructure, not wages.

The website, www.fairfieldcity.com.au, includes options for residents to consider, a forum, a poll and tools explaining what the rate variation means.

The council also sent a brochure to ratepayers.

CABRAMATTA, WETHERILL PARK

Film tries to break new ground in hepatitis fi



Joe Le, Thien Nguyen and Chophoreak Ok all have lead roles in *Change Of Our Lives*, which aims to fight the virus.

HOPES TO CREATE DISCUSSION IN VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY

Kimberley Cairns

MARIA Tran hopes the launch of *Change Of Our Lives* will make the region a hub for hidden stories.

The Australian-Vietnamese film is a 10-minute soap opera focusing on the myths and misconceptions of hepatitis B in Vietnamese and Chinese communities.

The film will premiere at Hoyts Cinemas in Wetherill Park on Saturday.

"I think that this film puts a refreshing spin on Cabramatta as a dynamic and tight-knit place to be, with colourful characters, fantastic locations and where comedy (and) drama can take place," creative producer Ms Tran said.

"I want more mainstream production companies to think differently about our region."

With a high rate of hepatitis B in the Vietnamese community, Cancer Council NSW and the Information and Cultural Exchange are trying to break the reluctance to discuss the virus.

Cancer Council NSW community educator Debbie Nguyen said making a film about the disease was the most effective way to get the message across.

"Reshaping the hepatitis B message into the medium of film gives us a unique opportunity to raise awareness

in the V community," Ms Nguyen said.

Mr Nguyen said making a film about the disease was the most effective way to get the message across.

What type of rates do you want to pay?



Fairfield Council is calling on residents to give a feedback on the type of rates they want to pay.

The council is asking residents to nominate one of three options for rates increases over the next five years and will outline services residents will receive based on their choice.

By Bianca Martins

Fairfield Council is calling on residents to give a feedback on the type of rates they want to pay.

The council is asking residents to nominate one of three options for rates increases over the next five years and will outline services residents will receive based on their choice.

Blue Star Air Conditioning

Unit 38/2 Hume Highway, Cabramatta, NSW

Tel: 9725 0901 / 9726 8899

Mon to Fri: 9:00am - 5:30pm

Sat: 9:00am - 4:00pm

www.bluestar.com.au

DAIKIN

SPLIT INVERTER REVERSE CYCLE AIR CONDITIONING

Only **\$1399**

2.5 kW / 1.25 HP

FULLY INSTALLED

Back to Back / Low Set Home

DAIKIN

SPLIT INVERTER REVERSE CYCLE AIR CONDITIONING

Now Only **\$1999**

5.9 kW / 2.5 HP

FULLY INSTALLED

Back to Back / Low Set Home

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- Medical litigation
- Public place claims
- Workplace or job related claims
- Superannuation and life insurance claims
- Will dispute
- Family law
- Defective product claims
- Probate and

Level 8, 100 George St, Parramatta NSW 2150

www.turnerfreeman.com.au

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ILLUSIONS

30% FOR 30 DAYS ON ALL HAIR SERVICES* 30th July - 30th August 2013 eg. Trim, Cut & Blow wave

Normally \$110 (short hair) Now \$77!! BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL Call us now

Unique Style - Expert Technique - Passionate Staff

Spend \$30 or more and go into the draw to win a \$330 Keune Products Pack (30th July - 12 Sept 2013)

KEUNE THE ART OF HAIR DESIGN

- Cutting • Colours & Highlights • Bridal
- Treatments • Straightening • Extensions • Day Spa

*Conditions Apply. Minimum spend \$30.

Download our FREE app illusionshairandbeauty.com or check out our website www.illusionshair.com.au

Follow us on Facebook or check out our website

Call 13 24 25 ... That's Fairfax Community Classifieds

WETHERILL PARK Shop 44, Stockland | Wetherill Park | TEL: 02 9609 7178 Day Spa 9725 5123

Gift Vouchers Available

Fairfield City Champion, Wednesday, July 24, 2013 - 9

Have your Say Posters

(Used in displays, at community groups and meetings as well and online)



Example of displays Bonnyrigg Library & Open Day



LG Open Day – Special Rate Variation –
July 31, 2013 at Fairfield City Council



Website and Social Media information

(Included all documentation developed including frequently asked questions sheets, information sheets on projects and tables identifying rates increases)



Frequently asked questions and fact sheets

Frequently asked questions on understanding your rates, an SRV and funding options. Fact sheets on Council services, how are we talking to you, Council Assets and Business Information.



Advertising in Council magazines

City Life Issue 59

CITY LIFE
AUTUMN EDITION ISSUE 59

COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

WHAT'S INSIDE

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

COUNCIL SERVICES - MAKING FAIRFIELD A GREAT PLACE

City Life Issue 60

CITY LIFE
WINTER EDITION ISSUE 60

EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

WHAT'S INSIDE

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES AND OPTIONS FOR A SPECIAL RATE VARIATION

EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

WHAT'S INSIDE

EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

WHAT'S INSIDE

EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

CITY LIFE
WINTER EDITION ISSUE 60

COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

PLANNING OUR FUTURE

FUNDING THE PROPOSED INITIATIVES

CITY LIFE
WINTER EDITION ISSUE 60

EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

WHAT'S INSIDE

SPECIAL RATE VARIATION

CITY LIFE
WINTER EDITION ISSUE 60

COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

DID YOU KNOW?

WHAT'S INSIDE

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSIONS

In order to offer a variety of means to be able to access information on the SRV Council developed three Public Information Sessions hosted by the Mayor, these were spread out across the City and undertaken at different times during the day and night in order to cater for varying needs within the community. The following locations and times were selected;

Date	Time	Venue	Room
19 th August 2013	6.30pm – 8.30pm	Fairfield RSL 14 Anzac Avenue Fairfield NSW 2165	The Horsley
21 August 2013	10.00am-12 Noon	St John's Park Bowling Club 93 Edensor Road, St John's Park NSW	Edensor Room
21 August 2013	6.00pm-8.00pm	Cabravale Diggers Club 1 Bartley Street Canley Vale NSW	Wisteria Room

These information sessions were held by Council to provide the community the opportunity to have an informal discussion on the Special Rate Variation, how it will impact them and them with the opportunity to ask questions and access details on the options and works being considered.

The sessions were set up with a presentation by the City Manager providing an overview of what an SRV is how it came about and what was being considered, then the community had an ability to review information booths where experienced staff were available for any questions pertaining to the projects (tables for each project being considered), their rates, long term financial plan and Councils budget, etc. At these sessions Council also catered for its diverse community offering translation services at all sessions.

Despite dedicated advertising and communication of these sessions Council had a very limited attendance rate with less than twenty people attending the three sessions combined. However for those that did attend they acknowledged the effort and that all the information was detailed, informative and enabled them to better understand why Council needed to apply for an SRV. Some comments were that 'it was extremely informative', 'provided them with a better understanding of what Council does and why they need to do these things' and 'it's about time Council addressed their asset backlog'.

Photo's from Information Session – August 19, 2013 Fairfield RSL Club



Information Session – run sheet example and booth details

Public Information Sessions – 19 August 2013

Time	Allocated Time	Name	Outline Presentation Points
6.30pm	15 min		Registration, tea coffee biscuits provided
6.45pm	10 min	Alan Young City Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask to be seated WHS for location Welcome to Public Information Session on Special Rate Variation Options note Mayor and any Councillors present Advise how tonight is going to run – set scene only going to sit for a short period, I am going to provide a short introduction then we will be inviting you to have a look at the tables set up where you will be able to get answers your questions regarding any of the projects or about your rates and what the increase might mean to you. Let's start with the basics - What is a Special Rate Variation? Timeline – no decision on application yet however need to decide by December whether to apply to IPART or not and if Council does apply IPART make a decision in June 2014 Current SRV – was for 13 years and finishes in June 2014 before the new one would commence SRV money is set aside for those projects since 2001 new applications would not be for that long there more likely to be 3-6 years.
6.55pm		Information Tables Various refer attached	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have staff here tonight for you to ask questions of on the projects and the affects the SRV will have on your rates Tables have been set up for you Please complete the survey before you leave so you can have your say
8.30pm		Close	

Table No.	Group Manager/ Manager	Specialists	Information Tables	What the tables discuss.
1	Mick Raby	Zahid Hassan/ Brad Cutts	Assets – Civil and Built Roads, Kerb and Gutter, Buildings, Drainage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What roads are going to be fixed? What buildings are going to be upgraded? Why do we need to fix the drainage? Why do you need to spend more on roads?
2		Alison Mortimer/ Brad Cutts	Assets – Open Space Open Space and Sportsfields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What sportgrounds are you going to be doing up? What needs to be upgraded in the open space?
3	Dave Niven/ Amanda Bray	Ross Wilson/ Carolyn Burke (Wed am only)	Library Expansion/ Water Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why are you expanding Fairfield Library? How long is it going to take to construct the Library? What is a water park? Why are we building a water park? What benefit is there to having the water park?
4	Dan Favotto	Tony Walker/ Cheryl Bosler	Cabramatta/ Fairfield Heights Upgrades/ Fairfield Town Centre Park - The Crescent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do the upgrades include? How will this benefit us? What is the park going to include?
5	Petra Tinker	Fred Lloyd/ Suzie Melkie	Rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How are my rates calculated? What rates do I pay now? What other charges are on my rates notice? How much will I pay with the increase?
6		Tony Smith/Theo Peereboom	Long Term Financial Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why do we need to pay more? Can't you get money from somewhere else? What savings have you made to try and pay for these?
7	Andrew McLeod	Anna Cortese	General Council Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My bins didn't get emptied how can I get this done? My neighbour is building a carport There is a pot hole in my street that needs to be fixed.
	Mel Hollier	Lisa Mahoney/ Pamela Riviera	SRV Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This table is for completing the survey.
		Comms	Photo's on the night	

Additional People – Ross Smith, Di Cuthbert, Tim Robinson

[illegible]

Rateable Land Value		No. of Properties	2014/15 to 2020/21									
Rate Peg			2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22		
Special Rate Variation		-5% Current SRV	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%		
Total % Increase			3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%		
\$0 - \$99,999	8,113	\$20	\$7	\$13	\$13	\$14	\$14	\$14	\$15	\$15		
\$100,000 - \$199,999	4,982	\$27	\$10	\$18	\$18	\$19	\$20	\$20	\$21	\$21		
\$200,000 - \$299,999	33,793	\$35	\$13	\$23	\$24	\$24	\$25	\$25	\$26	\$27		
\$300,000 - \$399,999	8,212	\$40	\$15	\$26	\$27	\$28	\$29	\$30	\$31	\$31		
\$400,000 - \$499,999	585	\$50	\$18	\$33	\$34	\$35	\$36	\$37	\$38	\$38		
\$500,000 - \$599,999	352	\$57	\$21	\$38	\$39	\$40	\$41	\$42	\$44	\$44		
\$600,000 - \$699,999	208	\$65	\$24	\$43	\$44	\$45	\$47	\$48	\$48	\$49		
\$700,000 - \$799,999	124	\$73	\$26	\$48	\$49	\$50	\$52	\$54	\$55	\$55		
\$800,000 - \$899,999	124	\$80	\$29	\$53	\$54	\$56	\$58	\$59	\$60	\$61		
\$900,000 - \$999,999	585	\$88	\$32	\$57	\$59	\$60	\$62	\$64	\$66	\$67		
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	69	\$105	\$38	\$68	\$71	\$73	\$75	\$78	\$80	\$81		
\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	24	\$173	\$63	\$113	\$117	\$120	\$124	\$127	\$131	\$133		
\$2,000,000 - \$2,999,999	16	\$202	\$73	\$132	\$136	\$141	\$145	\$149	\$154	\$157		
Rateable Land Value		No. of Properties	2014/15 to 2020/21									
Rate Peg			2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22		
Special Rate Variation		-5% Current SRV	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%		
Total % Increase			5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%		
\$0 - \$99,999	8,113	\$20	\$1	\$22	\$23	\$24	\$26	\$27	\$27	\$28		
\$100,000 - \$199,999	4,982	\$27	\$2	\$30	\$32	\$34	\$35	\$37	\$38	\$39		
\$200,000 - \$299,999	33,793	\$35	\$2	\$39	\$41	\$43	\$45	\$48	\$50	\$51		
\$300,000 - \$399,999	8,212	\$40	\$2	\$45	\$47	\$49	\$52	\$54	\$56	\$57		
\$400,000 - \$499,999	585	\$50	\$3	\$53	\$55	\$56	\$58	\$61	\$63	\$64		
\$500,000 - \$599,999	352	\$57	\$4	\$64	\$67	\$71	\$74	\$78	\$80	\$81		
\$600,000 - \$699,999	208	\$65	\$4	\$72	\$76	\$80	\$84	\$88	\$91	\$92		
\$700,000 - \$799,999	124	\$73	\$4	\$81	\$86	\$89	\$94	\$98	\$101	\$102		
\$800,000 - \$899,999	124	\$80	\$5	\$90	\$94	\$99	\$104	\$109	\$114	\$116		
\$900,000 - \$999,999	94	\$88	\$5	\$98	\$102	\$108	\$113	\$119	\$125	\$127		
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	69	\$105	\$6	\$117	\$123	\$129	\$136	\$143	\$150	\$152		
\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	24	\$173	\$11	\$202	\$202	\$212	\$222	\$234	\$244	\$254		
\$2,000,000 - \$2,999,999	16	\$202	\$12	\$225	\$236	\$248	\$261	\$274	\$287	\$300		
\$3,000,000 and greater	5	\$309	\$19	\$345	\$362	\$380	\$399	\$419	\$443	\$466		

Properties		2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Rate Peg		3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Special Rate Variation		5.0%	4.0%	3.0%	2.0%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total % Increase		8.0%	7.0%	6.0%	5.0%	4.0%	3.0%	3.0%
\$99,999	8,113	\$520	\$14	\$32	\$29	\$26	\$22	\$17
\$100,000 - \$199,999	4,982	\$27	\$19	\$44	\$40	\$35	\$30	\$23
\$200,000 - \$299,999	39,793	\$35	\$23	\$56	\$52	\$46	\$38	\$30
\$300,000 - \$399,999	8,211	\$40	\$28	\$66	\$59	\$51	\$44	\$36
\$400,000 - \$499,999	585	\$50	\$35	\$80	\$73	\$64	\$54	\$44
\$500,000 - \$599,999	352	\$57	\$40	\$92	\$85	\$75	\$63	\$49
\$600,000 - \$699,999	208	\$65	\$45	\$104	\$96	\$84	\$71	\$55
\$700,000 - \$799,999	124	\$73	\$51	\$116	\$107	\$94	\$79	\$62
\$800,000 - \$899,999	124	\$80		\$129	\$118	\$104	\$88	\$68
\$900,000 - \$999,999	94	\$88			\$129	\$114	\$96	\$75
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	69	\$105				\$115	\$90	\$72
\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	24	\$173					\$147	\$111
\$2,000,000 - \$2,999,999	16	\$202						\$175



...have your say...
...minute survey

Fill in a one-minute

CO SERVICES
the choice
of DIVERS



10

Report – February 2014

ent – February 2014

ENGAGING THE CULTURALLY DIVERSE COMMUNITY

As previously identified Fairfield is one of the most culturally diverse areas in Australia with over 50% of people in Fairfield City come from countries where English is not the first language and 70% of people speak a language other than English at home.

Fairfield also has the highest number of humanitarian and family visa refugees in NSW which also presents another challenge for Fairfield in engaging its community as there is a tendency for these refugees to have authority issues and do not want to engage with government officials as well as the need to cater for and be responsive to religious considerations such as time food and practices. Council has incorporate this consideration into all its practices when dealing with the community and has required Council to partner closely with ethnic specific and settlement services.

To capture the broader (multicultural) community, surveys were distributed in five community languages to community groups and councils facilities, community information stalls were set up in Libraries with interpreters and advertisements were placed in four ethnic newspapers. This ensured that Council met the criteria as issued by the Division of Local Government.

SRV engagement was held with the committees and ethnic specific community groups that meet with Council officers on a regular basis (refer to table 3 below). This ensured that the SRV information was available, explained and distributed as much as possible to Fairfield's culturally diverse community in the most appropriate way possible.

Type	Description	Attendees
Multicultural Advisory Committee	PowerPoint, flyers and surveys	12
Information stall: Whitlam Library (predominately Asian)	flyers and surveys	15
Information stall: Fairfield Library (predominately Arabic)	flyers and surveys	13
Information stall: Bonnyrigg Library (multilingual)	flyers and surveys	12
Information stall: Wetherill Park Library (multilingual)	flyers and surveys	16
Fairfield Migrant Interagency Group	PowerPoint, flyers and surveys	31
Spanish Seniors Group (Amigas Unidas) x 2	PowerPoint, flyers and surveys	45
Spanish Seniors Meeting Prairiewood	PowerPoint, flyers and surveys	25
Vision Impaired Group CALD*	PowerPoint, flyers and surveys	13
Men's Shed – retired men from CALD backgrounds	PowerPoint, flyers and surveys	20
Arabic Women's Group	PowerPoint, flyers and surveys	18
Computer class – Vietnamese and Chinese (limited English)	PowerPoint, flyers and surveys	27
Bonnyrigg playgroup from CALD backgrounds	PowerPoint, flyers and surveys	17
MCCS computer class unemployed people - CALD	PowerPoint, flyers and surveys	10
Club Marconi – Italian Seniors Group	flyers and surveys	58
Cabramatta Moon Festival	flyers and surveys	Various
* CALD: Culturally and Linguistically Diverse		
TABLE 3: Community groups and committees		

Presentation developed for community groups and committees



Other information utilised for these discussions were the fact sheets and posters developed for the community.

A large number of surveys were completed at these sessions along with feedback and these were incorporated into the final survey results. A summary of the feedback received by officers attending these sessions are as follows;


- Too much to pay
- Do not want an increase but want more services
- Need to provide more services for non English speaking community's
- SRV Projects not related to the elderly and want to see more services for them
- Pensioner rebates need to increase if increasing rates
- Other questions and issues were raised relating to current services and these were forwarded to the appropriate departments

At these sessions participants were also encouraged to attend the information sessions where further information could be made available.

[illegible]

Translated advertisements place in ethnic newspapers

Type	Description
Advertising in ethnic newspapers – El Telegraph	¼ page advertisement
Advertising in ethnic newspapers – Dan Viet	¼ page advertisement
Advertising in ethnic newspapers – Australian Chinese Daily	¼ page advertisement
Advertising in ethnic newspapers – Extra Informativo	¼ page advertisement



您的意見

市政府就如何支付需要加設的項目和服務費用，公開向市民徵集意見。請查閱以下網頁更多信息：

<http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.com.au>

我們已列出增設的項目和服務清單，但超出了市政府的正常預算。這些加設的項目及服務包括：

- 改善圖書館服務
- 優化運動場和娛樂設施
- 基礎設施升級工程：例如道路和社區大樓

市政府希望擬定一項特別稅項評估Special Rate Variation以支付這些增設的項目或服務，並徵求市民的意見。

如何表達意見？

任何市民都可以表達意見作出選擇，方式如下：

<http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.com.au>

Facebook: [facebook.com/fairfieldcity](https://www.facebook.com/fairfieldcity)
Twitter: twitter.com/fairfieldcity

Chinese advertisement



قل كلمتك

يود مجلس بلدية فيرفيلد معرفة رأيكم عن كيفية تغطية نفقات مشاريع إضافية وخدمات. لمعرفة المزيد تفقد العنوان الالكتروني:

<http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.com.au>

لقد سلط المجتمع انتباهه على مشاريع إضافية وخدمات لمدينتنا ولكنها فوق نطاق الموازنة المخططة للمجلس. وتشمل هذه المشاريع الإضافية والخدمات:

- تحسين خدمات المكتبة
- ملاعب رياضية أفضل وتسهيلات ترفيهية
- تحديث البنى التحتية مثل الطرق والمباني المجتمعية

نود الاستماع لوجهة نظرهم فيما إذا كنت تظنون ان تغيير قيمة الضريبة الخاصة هي الطريقة لتمويل هذه المشاريع الإضافية والخدمات.

How to have your say
Everyone can have a say and make a choice. Here is how you can do it:

<http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.com.au>

Facebook: [facebook.com/fairfieldcity](https://www.facebook.com/fairfieldcity)
Twitter: twitter.com/fairfieldcity

Arabic advertisement



TIẾNG NÓI CỦA BẠN

Hội đồng đang cần ý kiến của bạn về cách chúng tôi phải trả tiền cho các dự án và dịch vụ. Tìm hiểu thêm tại:

<http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.com.au>

Cộng đồng đã khởi động thêm các dự án và dịch vụ cho thành phố của chúng ta nhưng mọi thứ đã vượt quá ngân sách thường xuyên của Hội đồng.

Các dự án và dịch vụ thêm bao gồm:

- Nâng cao chất lượng dịch vụ thư viện
- Sân chơi thể thao tốt hơn và khu vực giải trí
- Nâng cấp cơ sở hạ tầng như đường giao thông và khu nhà cộng đồng.

Chúng tôi muốn nghe quan điểm của bạn về việc bạn nghĩ rằng Special Rate Variation là cách để tài trợ cho các dự án và dịch vụ bổ sung.

Phương cách đóng góp tiếng nói của bạn

Mọi người có thể đóng góp tiếng nói và chọn lựa của mình, bằng cách như sau:

<http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.com.au>

Facebook: [facebook.com/fairfieldcity](https://www.facebook.com/fairfieldcity)
Twitter: twitter.com/fairfieldcity

Vietnamese advertisement



EXPRESA SU OPINION

El consejo de Fairfield solicita su opinión sobre cómo debemos pagar por proyectos y servicios adicionales. Más información en:

<http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.com.au>

La comunidad ha puesto de relieve los proyectos y servicios adicionales para nuestra ciudad, pero estos están fuera del presupuesto ordinario del Consejo. Estos proyectos y servicios adicionales incluyen:

- Mejoras en los servicios bibliotecarios
- Mejoras en los lugares e instalaciones de recreación
- Mejoras de infraestructuras, tales como carreteras y edificios comunitarios

Queremos escuchar sus opiniones acerca de lo que usted piensa de una tarifa especial (Special Rate Variation) para financiar estos proyectos y servicios adicionales.

Cómo dar tu opinión

Todos pueden opinar y hacer una elección, así es como puede hacerlo:

<http://haveyoursayfairfieldcity.com.au>

Facebook: [facebook.com/fairfieldcity](https://www.facebook.com/fairfieldcity)
Twitter: twitter.com/fairfieldcity

Spanish advertisement

RESULTS – STAGE 1

SURVEY AND FEEDBACK

Stage 1 community engagement was completed on 27 September 2013. This was the closing date of the SRV survey and comments which allowed the community to review three options to fund a list of 10 projects.

During the engagement period, Council used a variety of methods to engage its community as identified in the table below. This level of engagement is demonstrated by the number of surveys completed 1,149 completed surveys and many comments with these, which is a high response from the Fairfield City community and makes this a statistically valid survey.

Type	Description	No. Attendee's/Circulation
City Connect	Campaign in Champion Newspaper	No: of Issues 13 Circ each = 58,112
City Life	Fairfield LGA Distribution	65,000
Smithfield/Wetherill Park Group Meeting	Discussion	2
FCC Website	Social Media	238,899 hits
FCC – “Have Your Say” Online Survey	Social Media	1149 Surveys 1919 Visits
Facebook	Social Media	573 Likes
Twitter	Social Media	1,100 Followers
SRV Flyer Distribution	Brochure	65,000
Advertising FCC – Admin. Centre	Posters and Flyers	15,563 approx. per 1/4
Advertising within FCC Services - Libraries	Posters and Flyers	200,692 approx. per 1/4
Advertising within FCC Services – Leisure Centres	Posters and Flyers	96,541 approx. per 1/4
Advertising within FCC Services – Child Care Centres	Posters and Flyers	1,138 families were distributed with survey
SRV Advertising in Ethnic Newspapers – El Telegraph	¼ Page advertisement	Weekly Circulation: 33,000 Dates are week of: 29/7/2013 & 12/8/2013
SRV Advertising in Ethnic Newspapers – Dan Viet	¼ Page advertisement	Weekly Circulation: 20,000 Dates are week of: 29/7/2013 & 12/8/2013
SRV Advertising in Ethnic Newspapers – Australian Chinese Daily	¼ Page advertisement	Weekly Circulation: 22,000 Dates are week of: 29/7/2013 & 12/8/2013
SRV Advertising in Ethnic Newspapers – Extra Informative	¼ Page advertisement	Weekly Circulation: 25,000 Dates are week of: 29/7/2013 & 12/8/2013
LG Open Day	Stalls – FCC Services and Surveys on SRV	400
Seniors Network Group	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	12
Bonnyrigg ‘New Leaf’ Community	Discussion	3
Multicultural Advisory Committee	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	12

Type	Description	No. Attendee's/Circulation
Library Information Stall – Whitlam Library (predominately Asian)	Flyers and Surveys	15
Library Information Stall – Fairfield Library (predominately Arabic)	Flyers and Surveys	13
Library Information Stall – Bonnyrigg Library (multilingual)	Flyers and Surveys	12
Library Information Stall – Wetherill Park (multilingual)	Flyers and Surveys	16
Fairfield Migrant Interagency Group	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	31
Mayor Crime Prevention Committee Group – various organisations and members of public	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	16
Spanish Seniors Group (Amigas Unidas) x 2	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	45
Spanish Seniors Meeting Prairiewood	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	25
Youth Workers Network – various representatives from local organisations with young people/families	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	18
Public Information Session – SRV (pm)	Fairfield RSL Club – variety of material mediums	8
Public Information Session – SRV (am)	St Johns Park Bowling Club – variety of material mediums	3
Public Information Session – SRV (am)	Cabra Vale Diggers RSL Club – variety of material mediums	2
Fairfield Aboriginal Advisory Committee	Flyers/Surveys	7
Cumberland Business Chambers	Discussion with President and General Manager	3
Fairfield Storytime Parents Group	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	20
Vision Impaired Group CALD	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	13
Aboriginal Advisory Committee	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	10
Men's Shed – elderly men from different CALD backgrounds who are retired or disabled	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	20
Arabic Women's Group	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	18
Wetherill Park Rotary Club - Representatives	Informal Discussion	2
Computer Class Group – Vietnamese and Chinese (limited English)	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	27
Bonnyrigg Playgroup from CALD backgrounds	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	17
AC – Focus groups	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	17
MCCS Computer Class unemployed people - CALD	PowerPoint, Flyers and Surveys	10
Club Marconi – Italian Seniors Group	Flyers and Surveys	58

Type	Description	No. Attendee's/Circulation
Mayor Crime Prevention Group	Flyers and Surveys	15
Fairfield Youth Workers Network	Flyers and Surveys	18
Cabramatta Moon Festival	Flyers and Surveys	Various

The following tables provide the results of the survey with over half of the respondents (50.8%) showing support for a special rate variation and the implementation of extra projects (Table 1).

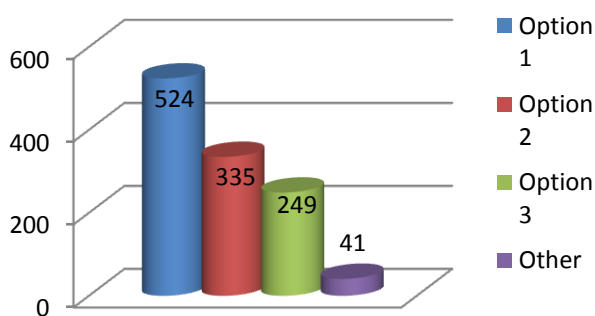
Option	Total	%
No SRV	524	45.6
For an SRV Option	584	50.8
Other	41	3.6
Total	1,149	100%

Table 1 – Summary SRV survey results

A breakdown of the responses to the three options and by what method they were received is at Table 2 below.

Option	Reply Paid	Online	Total	%
Option 1	443	63	524	45.6
Option 2	236	29	335	29.1
Option 3	169	39	249	21.7
Other	38	1	41	3.6
Total	886	132	1,149	100%

Table 2 – SRV survey results



Graph A – SRV survey results

Of the 1,149 surveys received, only 154 provided some form of comment in relation to the SRV options and projects. With such a low number of written responses in comparison to the number of surveys returned, and with no significant consistent response, there are no recommendations for changes based on these comments.

A summary of the feedback and comments received on the surveys and during information sessions and other presentations for each option is provided below:

No Increase (rate peg only)	<i>cannot afford less increase, i.e. 1% stop doing other services projects not suitable reduce staff costs</i>
2% each year over 6 years (including rate peg)	<i>public amenities hours upgrade pools/gym of leisure centres sportsgrounds upgraded in partnership with clubs showground upgrade cleaning money spent on projects identified</i>
5%, 4%, 3%, 2%, 1% over 5 years (including rate peg)	<i>car parks community centre upgrades some projects not suitable, more youth projects drainage more important ensure money spent on identified projects showground upgrade leisure centre upgrades</i>

This feedback was presented to Council with the final results. There were no significant and consistent messages in these responses other than affordability being the main concern for residents.

As outlined previously, Fairfield is one of the most culturally diverse areas in Australia. With 70% of people speaking a language other than English at home, it was essential that Council effectively engaged the broad community to inform them about the SRV application. Information was required to be presented in a way that all community members can understand.

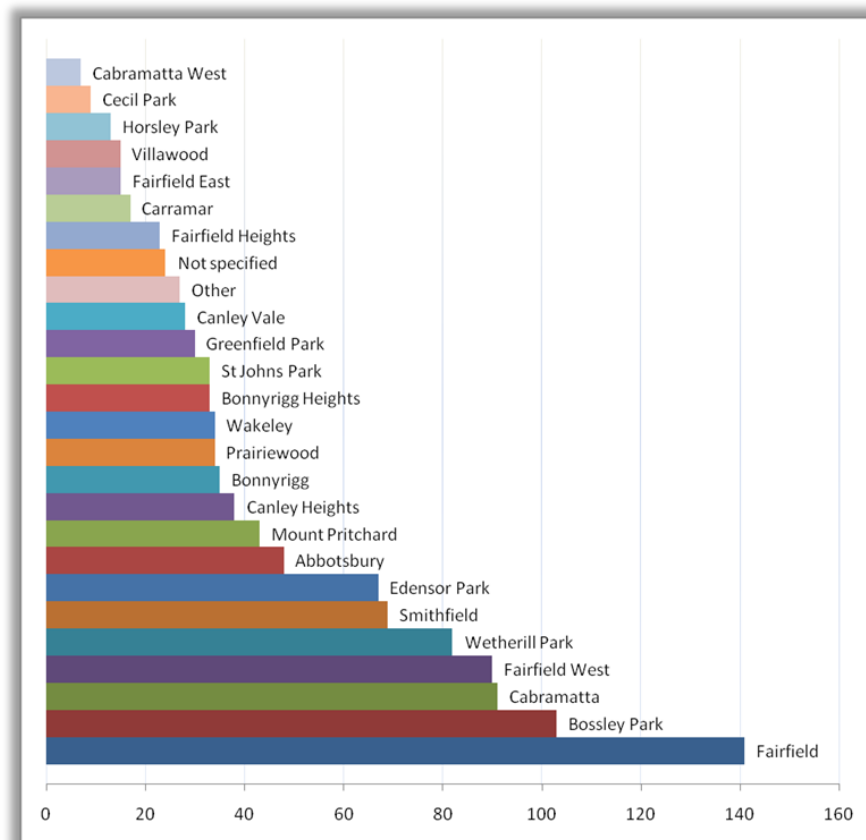
To capture the broader (multicultural) community, surveys were distributed in five community languages and advertisements were placed in four ethnic newspapers. This ensured that Council met the criteria as issued by the Division of Local Government.

Of the 1,149 surveys received, 36 languages were listed as the main language spoken at home. A summary of the top 10 languages received from the surveys is provided in the table below.

Language	Total
English	765
Vietnamese	84
Spanish	76
Arabic	32
Chinese	25
Italian	24
Khmer	22
Assyrian	22
Cantonese	16
Mandarin	12
Other	71
Total	1,149

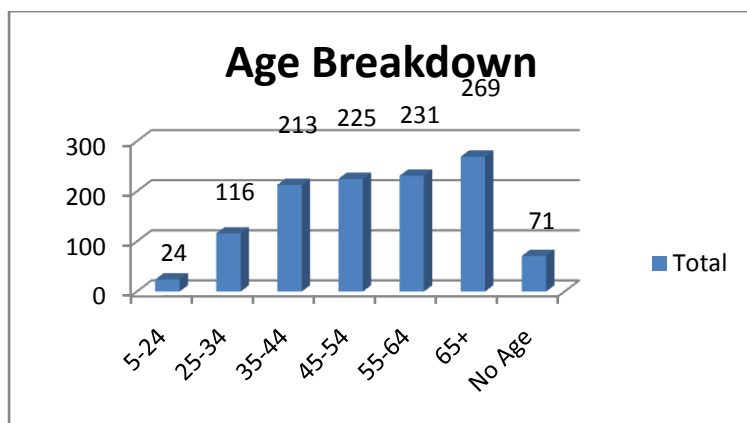
Table 3 – Languages represented in responses

Council also demonstrates through the graph B and C below that there was a broad representation from across the city and a diverse age range.



Graph B – Home suburbs of survey respondents

The age groups of the survey respondents are as follows:



Graph C – Age groups of survey respondents

Overall the survey produced a significant response from the community with 1,149 received. These responses were representative of a diverse age, culture and location within the Fairfield LGA. The final results of the survey indicated reasonable support for an SRV whilst raising some concerns on affordability based on comments that were included with survey responses.

Listed below are the marketing tools which were used to engage the multicultural community in Fairfield LGA. All meetings/sessions held had translators provided to be able to respond to any questions that were raised.

Listed below are the marketing tools which were used to engage businesses in Fairfield LGA.

Engagement Type	Description	Attendees / Circulation
Smithfield/Wetherill Park Group Meeting	Discussion	2
Cumberland Business Chambers	Discussion with President and General Manager	3
Wetherill Park Rotary Club	Informal discussions with representatives	2
Cabramatta, Canley Vale, Canley Heights Business Newsletter	Business Information on SRV included in Newsletter	Approx. 1300
Fairfield City Centre Business Newsletter	Business Information on SRV included in Newsletter	Approx. 1300

SUMMARY

Stage 1 community engagement produced a significant response from the community as evidenced by the number of responses to the survey. The results from Stage 1 community engagement on options for the special rate variation indicated reasonable support for the proposals while raising some concerns on affordability.

The level of feedback Council received indicated that the community's awareness of the proposal – a key requirement of the SRV process from IPART'S guidelines.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – STAGE 2

During the development of the draft 2014-2015 Operational Plan in October 2013, Council reviewed the outcomes from its Stage 1 engagement, the rates and charges it levies, further reviewed funding options in addition to the SRV proposal and the list of proposed additional projects. During this deliberation Council was particularly mindful of affordability concerns identified by the community.

Based on these considerations, in October 2013 Council recommended a new SRV option of a [permanent one-off increase in its rates of 10% \(including the rate peg\) in 2014/2015](#) and amended extra projects list (refer table 1 below) be considered by the community and included in Council revised IPR documents.

Table 1: Amended SRV Extra Projects List

Project	Description	Funding Source	2014-2015 \$	2015-2016 \$	2016-2017 \$
Fairfield Library Expansion	Construction of a second storey to Fairfield Library	Asset sales + Section 94 + SRV	718,000 2,482,000	1,800,000	
	Operation of the expanded Library	SRV		305,000	630,000
Water Park - Prairiewood Leisure Centre	Stage 2 installation of Water Park facilities	SRV	1,500,000		
	Maintenance	SRV		63,000	63,000
Sportsground Upgrades	Design	SRV	100,000		
	Works to upgrade sportsgrounds and sporting facilities	SRV		900,000	1,000,000
Open Space Upgrades	Open space and park upgrades	SRV		460,000	460,000
Landscaping park frontages program	Trees and landscaping along park frontages	SRV	100,000	100,000	100,000
Community Buildings upgrades	Design	SRV	170,000		
	Renewal works for community centres, halls etc	SRV		1,530,000	1,700,000
Fairfield Heights Town Centre upgrade	Upgrade of public domain	SRV		600,000	
Cabramatta Town Centre upgrade	Upgrade of public domain	SRV		1,020,000	
Fairfield City Centre Park - The Crescent	Construction of a Town Square	SRV			1,800,000
Roads, Kerb and Gutter upgrades	Works to renew roads, kerb and gutter	SRV		1,100,000	1,100,000
Footpath Connections in Smithfield-Wetherill Park, Canley Heights and connecting car parks	Construction to connect existing footpaths and destinations	SRV	100,000	100,000	100,000
Drainage upgrades	Works to upgrade the existing drainage system	SRV		150,000	150,000

REVISED IPR DOCUMENTS

The DLG guidelines and IPART's assessment process are based on an expectation that Council has engaged the community in a discussion on funding required through the Integrated Planning & Reporting (IPR) process. Council has met this requirement through the Stage 1 community engagement that Council undertook.

The guideline also requires that;

'Before applying to IPART for a special variation to general income, Councils must adopt their Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, Long Term Financial Plan and where applicable, Asset Management Plan. Councils may only apply to IPART for a special variation to general income on the basis of those adopted IP&R documents. However, councils do not have to adopt their Operational Plan for the coming year before applying to IPART for a special variation.'

To ensure comprehensive community engagement and to meet this guideline requirement, Council's IPR documents have been revised to take account the new SRV option and amended extra projects list.

Draft revised 2013-2017 Delivery Programs

As part of revising the 2013-2017 Delivery Program Council has updated the program of works from its regular budget, as well as including the proposed SRV income and extra projects. Two versions of the Delivery Program were developed as follows:

*Draft Revised 2013-2017 Delivery Program – **without** SRV*

This contains only works from Council's regular budget

*Draft Revised 2013-2017 Delivery Program – **With** SRV*

This contains works from Council's regular budget and the SRV extra projects

Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2014/2015 – 2023/24

Council's Draft LTFP incorporates the SRV projects listed above as well as 5 financial options to fund Council's ongoing capital works and operating position. The option from the Draft LTFP included in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan is Option 5 - SRV 7% plus 3% rate peg (10%) in 2014-15 with Intervention in 2018-19.

Draft appendices to Asset Management Policy and Asset Management Strategy 2013/14 – 2022/23 and the individual Asset Management Plans

As part of revising the 2013-2017 Delivery Program, Council updated the Asset Management Policy and Strategy 2013/14 – 2022/23 as well as the individual Asset Management Plans. This incorporates Draft Appendices to include the proposed SRV income, extra projects and the impacts on the Asset conditions and asset backlog. The level of funds sought by the SRV, whilst not eliminating the backlog, will seek to maintain the current average condition of Council's assets to the service levels currently identified by the community. The Asset Management Plans (AMPs) seek to identify the priority and best utilisation of these funds to achieve this goal.

Draft appendix to Workforce Management Plan 2013/14 – 2022/23

The draft Appendix to the Workforce Management Plan 2013/14 - 2022/23 recognises the SRV initiatives will add approximately \$5 million per annum of additional works. These will require different expertise for all of the projects to be completed and operate successfully. The resources are identified as either being within existing capability within the organisation or requiring specialist skills and knowledge from an external provider.

The timing of the projects and programs reflect the requirements to increase organisational capacity prior to commencing works in order to deliver the expected projects and programs on the specified timetable.

STAGE 2 ENGAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

As with Stage 1, Stage 2 community engagement involved information being provided to the community on what a Special Rate Variation is, how it is applied, what it would be used for, and the impact that it would have on their rates. All considerations of the community profile were considered especially the hard to reach groups.

In order to support this Council, as identified above Council revised its IPR documents and clearly demonstrated the impacts of this by developing two versions of its documents, one demonstrating the impact of no SRV and one demonstrating the impact with an SRV.

Engagement was then combined with the exhibition of the Revised Draft 2013-2017 Delivery Program. Engagement included the standard public exhibition requirements along with the additional advertising and engagement to inform the community specifically on the SRV option being considered. This was done through a similar engagement method as undertaken in Stage 1 including distribution of information to the networks and committees previously engaged.

The community were invited to provide any comments and feedback to Council through Council's 'Have your Say' facility on its website, by contacting Council via email, letter or phone.

The Stage 2 exhibition and engagement campaign ran from November 2013 to February 2014.

Stage 2 of the community engagement strategy comprised the following

- Information flyer developed and distributed to Council facilities
- Information distributed to 65,000 households in City Life magazine
- Included in the public exhibition material on the Draft Revised 2013-2017 Delivery Programs and Draft 2014-2015 Operational Plans
- Advertising in City Connect weekly in The Champion newspaper
- Information on Council's website
- Discussions in social media (facebook/Twitter)
- Information presented to business network groups and included in newsletters
- Information presented at community network groups and committee's

Examples of Stage 2 SRV information and communication:

SRV Flyer - English

EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

Council has committed to continuing the existing services along with some enhancements in Council's draft revised 2015-2018 Delivery Program with an extra annual budget of \$285 million each year. In addition, the community has identified a number of extra projects that Council could not afford within its regular budget, particularly with the current special rate variation of 3% due to expire in June 2016.

Council previously has engaged the community on these extra projects and the funding options of a new Special Rate Variation (SRV) to pay for them. These options were previously considered and after reviewing the feedback on these options, the community's capacity to pay and other funding sources Council has opted to consider an SRV for a permanent one-off increase in its rates of 10% (including rate peg) in 2014/2015.

What are the extra projects funded from this special rate increase?

Priority No.	Project Name	Cost \$
1	Fairfield Library Expansion including stage 2	5,300,000
2	Water Park - Stage 2	1,500,000
3	Sportsperson Association	1,000,000 per year and 1 sign
4	Open Space Upgrade	400,000 per year
5	Landscaping of park footpaths	100,000 p.a. 3 years only
6	Community buildings	1,200,000 per year
7	Fairfield Heights Town Centre	400,000
8	Colabaanra Town Centre	1,020,000
9	New Fairfield Town Centre Park - The Crescent	1,800,000
10	Road, Rock & Garden	100,000 p.a. 3 years only
11	Drainage Upgrade	150,000 per year

خدمات إضافية من المجلس البلدي - لتت من خيار

ما هي المشاريع الإضافية التي تتولونها هذه الزيادة الخاصة في معدل رسوم المجلس؟

الترتيب	اسم المشروع	التكلفة
1	توسيع مكتبة فريدفيلد	5,300,000
2	توسيع حديقة فريدفيلد	1,500,000
3	توسيع نادي رياضي فريدفيلد	1,000,000 سنوياً وعلامة
4	تحسين المساحات المفتوحة	400,000 سنوياً
5	توسيع المساحات المفتوحة	100,000 سنوياً
6	Fairfield Heights	400,000
7	Colabaanra Town Centre	1,020,000
8	توسيع مركز مدينة فريدفيلد	1,800,000
9	توسيع حديقة فريدفيلد	100,000 سنوياً
10	توسيع حديقة فريدفيلد	150,000 سنوياً

كيفية سائر هذه الزيادة على رسوم المجلس الخاصة بي؟

يُعتبر الرسم البلدي لعام 2014/2015 زيادة 10% من رسوم المجلس البلدي (SRV) على الزيادة في متوسط رسوم المجلس البلدي (SRV) من 2013/2014. في حال عدم الموافقة على زيادة معدل الرسوم، فإن معدل الرسوم البلدي لعام 2014/2015 سيكون 3% أعلى من معدل الرسوم البلدي لعام 2013/2014.

متوسط رسوم المجلس البلدي باشتاءات تكاليف إضافية، من مثل الفوائد المالية:

2014/2015	2013/2014
\$76.00	\$70.00

زيادة في متوسط رسوم المجلس البلدي على 10% من رسوم المجلس البلدي الخاص الجديد

معدل رسوم البلدي لعام 2014/2015: **0.76 سنت** لكل دولار

كيف سائر أن هذه المشاريع قائمة؟

يتم تمويل هذه المشاريع من خلال زيادة معدل الرسوم البلدي (SRV) على الزيادة في متوسط رسوم المجلس البلدي (SRV) من 2013/2014. في حال عدم الموافقة على زيادة معدل الرسوم، فإن معدل الرسوم البلدي لعام 2014/2015 سيكون 3% أعلى من معدل الرسوم البلدي لعام 2013/2014.

How will this increase affect my rates?

As shown in the graph below the 10% SRV means that the increase to average residential rates next year will be 30% compared to the rates paid in 2013/2014. If the SRV is not approved, average residential rates would go down by 3% due to the expiration of the current SRV.

Average Residential Rates excluding fixed charges e.g. domestic waste

2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
\$70.00	\$76.00	\$82.00

INCREASE TO AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL RATES WITH NEW 10% SRV INCLUDING THE 3% NSW RATE PEG

Average increase in 2014/2015: **\$0.76** per week **\$40** per annum

How will I know these projects are being done?

Council will report each year in its annual report on the implementation of the extra projects being funded by the special rate increase.

Further information on the special rate increase is available on Council's website www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au

كيفية سائر هذه الزيادة على رسوم المجلس الخاصة بي؟

يُعتبر الرسم البلدي لعام 2014/2015 زيادة 10% من رسوم المجلس البلدي (SRV) على الزيادة في متوسط رسوم المجلس البلدي (SRV) من 2013/2014. في حال عدم الموافقة على زيادة معدل الرسوم، فإن معدل الرسوم البلدي لعام 2014/2015 سيكون 3% أعلى من معدل الرسوم البلدي لعام 2013/2014.

متوسط رسوم المجلس البلدي باشتاءات تكاليف إضافية، من مثل الفوائد المالية:

2014/2015	2013/2014
\$76.00	\$70.00

زيادة في متوسط رسوم المجلس البلدي على 10% من رسوم المجلس البلدي الخاص الجديد

معدل رسوم البلدي لعام 2014/2015: **0.76 سنت** لكل دولار

كيف سائر أن هذه المشاريع قائمة؟

يتم تمويل هذه المشاريع من خلال زيادة معدل الرسوم البلدي (SRV) على الزيادة في متوسط رسوم المجلس البلدي (SRV) من 2013/2014. في حال عدم الموافقة على زيادة معدل الرسوم، فإن معدل الرسوم البلدي لعام 2014/2015 سيكون 3% أعلى من معدل الرسوم البلدي لعام 2013/2014.

كيفية سائر هذه الزيادة على رسوم المجلس الخاصة بي؟

يُعتبر الرسم البلدي لعام 2014/2015 زيادة 10% من رسوم المجلس البلدي (SRV) على الزيادة في متوسط رسوم المجلس البلدي (SRV) من 2013/2014. في حال عدم الموافقة على زيادة معدل الرسوم، فإن معدل الرسوم البلدي لعام 2014/2015 سيكون 3% أعلى من معدل الرسوم البلدي لعام 2013/2014.

متوسط رسوم المجلس البلدي باشتاءات تكاليف إضافية، من مثل الفوائد المالية:

2014/2015	2013/2014
\$76.00	\$70.00

زيادة في متوسط رسوم المجلس البلدي على 10% من رسوم المجلس البلدي الخاص الجديد

معدل رسوم البلدي لعام 2014/2015: **0.76 سنت** لكل دولار

كيف سائر أن هذه المشاريع قائمة؟

يتم تمويل هذه المشاريع من خلال زيادة معدل الرسوم البلدي (SRV) على الزيادة في متوسط رسوم المجلس البلدي (SRV) من 2013/2014. في حال عدم الموافقة على زيادة معدل الرسوم، فإن معدل الرسوم البلدي لعام 2014/2015 سيكون 3% أعلى من معدل الرسوم البلدي لعام 2013/2014.

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¿De qué manera este aumento afectará mis impuestos?

Como puede apreciarse en el gráfico que aparece a continuación, la SIV del 30% significa que los impuestos residenciales promedio del próximo año aumentarán \$40 con respecto a los impuestos pagados en el período 2014-2015. No se agranda los impuestos residenciales se reducen en \$3, debido a que caducará la actual SIV.

Impuestos residenciales promedio, sin incluir cargos fijos, p. ej.: residuos domiciliarios

Período	Impuesto promedio	SIV
2015/2016	\$760	30% SIV
2016/2017	\$800	29% SIV

ANUNCIO DE LOS IMPUESTOS RESIDENCIALES PROMEDIO CON LA NUEVA SIV DEL 30% INCLUYENDO EL AUMENTO IMPOSTIVO DEL 3% FUE EN NUEVA GALLA DESDE \$15.

Aumento promedio en 2014/2015: \$0,76 por semana \$40 por año

*Basado en terrenos impositivos residenciales valorados de \$200,000 a \$299,999.

¿Cómo sabré que estos proyectos se están llevando a cabo?

Cada año, en su informe anual, el Consejo Municipal proporcionará información sobre la implementación de los proyectos adicionales financiados con el aumento especial de impuestos.

Encontrará más información acerca del aumento especial de impuestos en el sitio web del Consejo Municipal www.newga.gov

Expresa su opinión

Todos pueden expresar su opinión y tomar una decisión a través de los siguientes medios:

- En línea: www.fairfieldcitynewga.gov
- Haga clic en la pestaña "Have your say" [Expresar su opinión]
- Correo electrónico: mayor@fairfieldcitynewga.gov
- Consejo postal: Fairfield City Council
- 86 Arco Rd, Walebury NSW 2276
- PO Box 21 Fairfield NSW 2264

facebook.com/fairfieldcity twitter.com/fairfieldcity

Fairfield City
Fairfield Council

這一稅率增加對我有何影響？

如下圖所示，10%的SRV 將使明年平均戶籍的總稅率從2015/2016年度增加40澳元。但新州或新市尚未對這項「新戶籍稅」作出規定，所以2016/2017年度將不會有這項稅收。

不包括固定收費（如生活垃圾清運費）的平均每戶物業稅

年度	總稅額 (澳元)	SRV 稅額 (澳元)	SRV 稅率
2015/2016	2015	1615	有 3% 新州固定稅率
2014/2015	1615	1615	有 3% 新州固定稅率

平均每戶物業稅的增加包括新的 10% SRV（含3%的新州固定稅率）

2014/2015 年度的平均增加額：每年 **0.76 澳元** 每年 **40 澳元**

*新市 2015/2016 年度 2000 澳元的環境稅在土地填土費中已費過。

如何瞭解這些項目的進展情況？

查詢會費者都可以在其年度報告中查閱有關項目的特殊稅費實施的轄外區域執行情況。

有關增加特殊稅費的更多資訊，可參見市區網頁 www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au

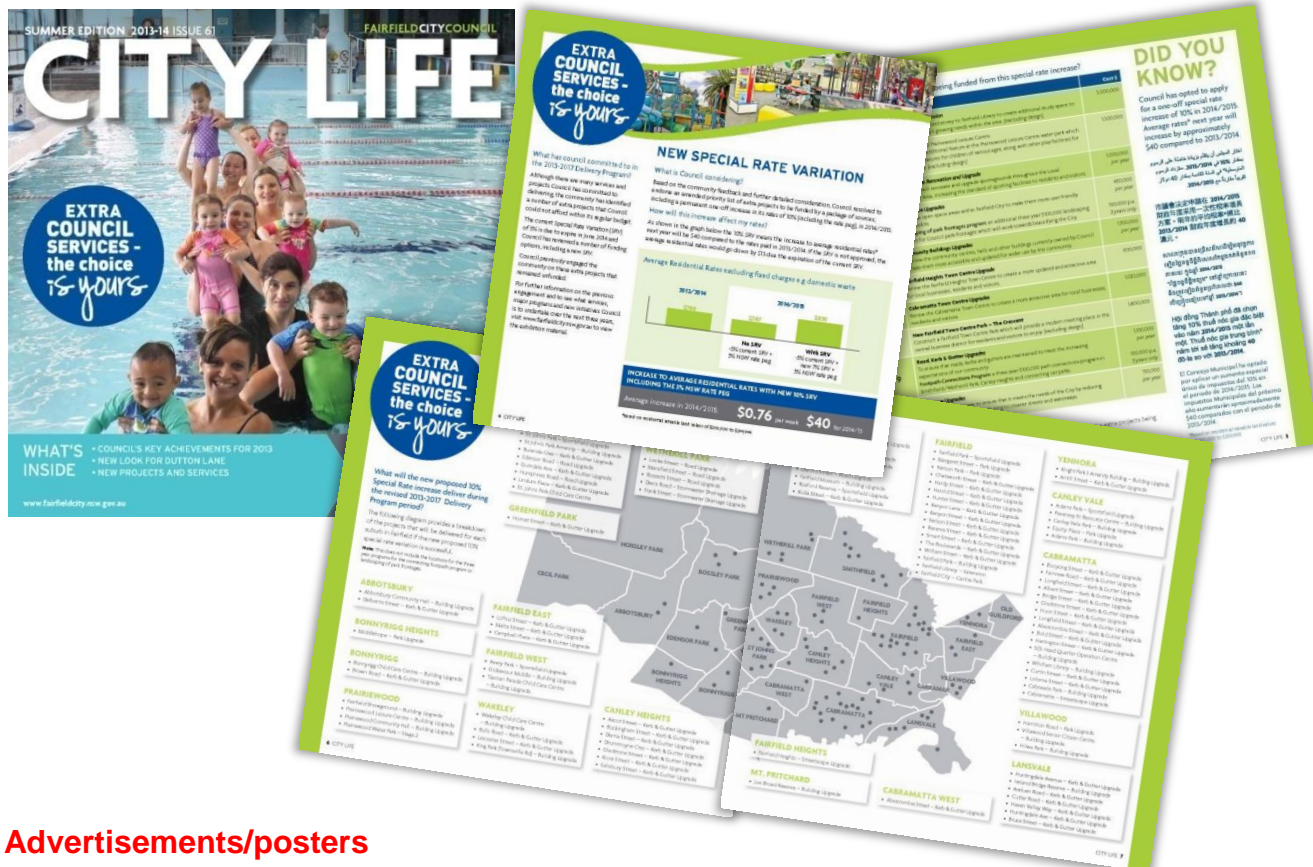
歡迎您暢所欲言

每個人都有權通過以下途徑發表自己的意見，做出自己的選擇：

線上
www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au
 電郵 Have.your.say@fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au
 或致電
 新市議會
 86 Arcoia Rd, Wakeley NSW 2176
 PO Box 21 Fairfield NSW

Facebook: [facebook.com/fairfieldcity](https://www.facebook.com/fairfieldcity) Twitter: twitter.com/fairfieldcity

FairfieldCity
Celebrating Diversity



Advertisements/posters



Examples of advertisements in Fairfield City Champion – City Connect Page – (November 2014 – February 2014)



Fairfield Champion – Articles – November 2014 – February 2014



Fairfield Advance – Article - February 2014



Advertising articles in Ethnic Newspapers – November 2014 – February 2014

Our home Our City Our future
徵集市民意見
2013-2017 Delivery Programs 修改草議和
2014-2015 Operational Plans 草議
Hội đồng đã hứa sẽ áp dụng giảm giá dài hạn 10% SRV trong năm tài chính 2014 - 2015 và để chứng minh kết quả rõ ràng, hai phiên bản của bản sửa đổi dự thảo chương trình phân bổ 2013 - 2017 và hai phiên bản của dự thảo kế hoạch hành động 2014 - 2015 đang được chuẩn bị để triển lãm - một phiên bản sẽ có và một phiên bản sẽ không có SRV.

Online: www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au
Write to us: PO Box 21, Fairfield NSW 1860
Email us: mail@fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au
Fax us: 9725 4249
Facebook.com/fairfieldcity
Twitter.com/fairfieldcity

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Website AND Social Media Advertising/Information November 2014 – February 2014

Have you had your say about Council's proposal to apply for a one-off 10% Special Rate Variation (SRV)? More info: bit.ly/1agydTZ

Delivery Program
We are pleased to present revised draft of Fairfield City Council's 2013-2017 Delivery Program. These detail the services, initiatives and major projects Council is going to deliver during its term of office that work towards the community's vision and priorities as set out in the 2012-2022 Fairfield City Plan.

Extra Council Services - the choice is yours
Have your say on Council's services, initiatives and major projects. Council is pleased to present a revised draft of Fairfield City Council's 2013-2017 Delivery Program and draft 2014-2015 Operational Plans. These include an option for a 10% Special Rate Variation (SRV) in 2014-2015, and detail the services, initiatives and major projects Council is going to deliver that work towards the community's vision and priorities. For more information on the above, and to have your say, please visit www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au.

RESIDENTIAL RATES

10% Special Rate Variation in 2014/2015

Table 1: Proposed rate increase for **residential properties** (excluding domestic waste and stormwater) for the 2013-2017 Delivery Program period.

Rateable Land Value	No. of Properties	Current 2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Total Cum. Increase Current to 2016/17
Rate Peg			3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	
Special Rate Variation		Current* SRV -5%	7.0%	10.0%	3.0%	11.5%
Total % Increase						
\$0 - \$99,999	8,101	445	438	467	496	51
\$100,000 - \$199,999	5,184	605	595	636	655	69
\$200,000 - \$299,999	33,854	780	767	820	844	89
\$300,000 - \$399,999	8,205	894	879	939	967	102
\$400,000 - \$499,999	582	1,103	1,085	1,158	1,193	126
\$500,000 - \$599,999	352	1,278	1,257	1,343	1,383	146
\$600,000 - \$699,999	207	1,443	1,420	1,516	1,562	165
\$700,000 - \$799,999	123	1,613	1,587	1,695	1,746	185
\$800,000 - \$899,999	125	1,786	1,757	1,877	1,933	204
\$900,000 - \$999,999	93	1,945	1,913	2,043	2,105	223
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	67	2,343	2,305	2,461	2,535	268
\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	21	3,355	3,300	3,524	3,630	384
\$2,000,000 - \$2,999,999	14	4,535	4,461	4,764	4,907	519
\$3,000,000 and greater	4	7,214	7,096	7,579	7,806	826

*Note this is what the residential rates would be when the current special rate ceases in June 2014 and the standard rate peg is applied. The column next to this on the right is the increase in rates with the new 10% special rate applied.

BUSINESS RATES

10% Special Rate Variation in 2014/2015

Table 2: Proposed rate increase for **business properties** (excluding domestic waste and stormwater) for the 2013-2017 Delivery Program period.

Rateable Land Value	No. of Properties	Current 2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Total Cum. Increase Current to 2016/17
Rate Peg			3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	
Special Rate Variation		Current* SRV -5%	7.0%	10.0%	3.0%	11.5%
Total % Increase						
\$0 - \$99,999	544	687	676	722	743	79
\$100,000 - \$199,999	950	1,383	1,360	1,453	1,497	159
\$200,000 - \$299,999	560	2,165	2,130	2,275	2,343	248
\$300,000 - \$399,999	350	2,991	2,942	3,142	3,237	342
\$400,000 - \$499,999	330	4,240	4,171	4,454	4,588	485
\$500,000 - \$599,999	219	5,250	5,165	5,516	5,681	601
\$600,000 - \$699,999	204	6,185	6,083	6,497	6,692	708
\$700,000 - \$799,999	130	7,058	6,943	7,414	7,637	808
\$800,000 - \$899,999	133	8,163	8,029	8,575	8,832	934
\$900,000 - \$999,999	85	9,012	8,864	9,467	9,751	1,032
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	238	11,422	11,235	11,998	12,358	1,307
\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	135	16,811	16,536	17,660	18,189	1,924
\$2,000,000 - \$2,999,999	121	23,061	22,684	24,226	24,952	2,640
\$3,000,000 and greater	187	55,583	54,675	58,390	60,142	6,363

*Note this is what the residential rates would be when the current special rate ceases in June 2014 and the standard rate peg is applied. The column next to this on the right is the increase in rates with the new 10% special rate applied.

FARMLAND RATES

10% Special Rate Variation in 2014/2015

Table 3: Proposed rate increase for **farmland properties** (excluding domestic waste and stormwater) for the 2013-2017 Delivery Program period.


Rateable Land Value	No. of Properties	Current 2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Total Cum. Increase Current to 2016/17
Rate Peg			3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	
Special Rate Variation		Current* SRV -4.5%	7.0%	10.0%	3.0%	11.5%
Total % Increase						
\$0 - \$99,999	2	571	562	600	618	65
\$100,000 - \$199,999				793	817	86
\$200,000 - \$299,999	1	755	743			
\$300,000 - \$399,999						
\$400,000 - \$499,999	9	1,065	1,047	1,119	1,152	122
\$500,000 - \$599,999	11	1,177	1,158	1,237	1,274	135
\$600,000 - \$699,999	12	1,258	1,237	1,321	1,361	144
\$700,000 - \$799,999	22	1,383	1,361	1,453	1,497	158
\$800,000 - \$899,999	25	1,480	1,456	1,555	1,602	169
\$900,000 - \$999,999	8	1,681	1,653	1,765	1,818	192
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	9	2,391	2,352	2,512	2,587	274
\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	6	3,151	3,099	3,310	3,409	361
\$2,000,000 - \$2,999,999	7	6,739	6,629	7,079	7,292	771

*Note this is what the residential rates would be when the current special rate ceases in June 2014 and the standard rate peg is applied. The column next to this on the right is the increase in rates with the new 10% special rate applied.



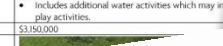
EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

Project No. 1 – Fairfield Library Expansion

Location	Fairfield
Project Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the space of the Library to meet the community's growing needs Provide spaces for meetings, training, seminars, study etc. Development of an e-library that caters for online study, books etc.
Description	Add a second storey to Fairfield Library to meet the community's growing needs for additional study areas and meeting space. Development to focus on 'e-library' concept and provide spaces for meeting, training, seminars, study etc while leveraging off digital resources and internet connectivity. Expansion to approximately double the existing 670m ² floor space with the building of a second floor.
Costs	\$5,000,000
Design	

EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

Project No. 2 – Water Park – Prairiewood Leisure Centre - Upgrade Stage 2

Location	Prairiewood
Project Aims	Provide water activities for toddlers, children and young people
Short Description	Construct a water park at Prairiewood Leisure Centre which will provide a safe and fun environment for children of various ages, along with other play facilities
Long Description	<p>Stage 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The water play features may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low ground sprays, water patterns for a safe place for children Slide activity centres, spillers, spouts and themed features Large dumpers, cannons and big sprays provide noise and fun Body and chute slides provide surprises dips and thrills <p>Stage 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes additional water activities which may include play activities.
Costs	\$3,150,000
Design	

EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

Project No. 3 – Sports Ground Renovation and Upgrade

Location	Throughout the Fairfield Local Government Area.
Project Aims	Upgrade sports grounds and facilities.
Description	The program will involve upgrading sports grounds throughout the local government area, including facilities for residents and visitors. This may include the upgrade of playing facilities, landscaping, signage, fences and playing surfaces. Located as per their condition identified in Council's Asset



EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

Project No. 4 – Open Space Upgrades and Landscaping of Park Frontages

Location	Throughout the Fairfield Local Government Area.
Project Aims	To provide an improved and consistent level of service in open space areas including playgrounds, parks and grass and bushlands.
Description	To make open space areas within Fairfield more user friendly, accessible and updated. This will include improving the standard playgrounds and parks, providing cleaner and better maintained open space areas. The works undertaken will be allocated as per their condition identified in Council's Asset Management Plan. The landscaping of park frontages (3 year program) including street trees to beautify and enhance Council's parks throughout the City.
Costs	\$1,000,000 per year – Open space upgrades
Design	


EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

Project No. 5 – Community Buildings Upgrades

Location	Throughout the Fairfield Local Government Area
Project Aims	Renew Council Buildings, building services and community halls.
Description	To renew the community centres, halls and other buildings currently owned by Council to make them more accessible and updated for wider use by the community. These upgrades will include items such as ceilings, plumbing, electrical, bathroom and kitchen facilities, fire safety and other essential structural works. The works undertaken will be allocated as per their condition identified in Council's Asset Management Plan.
Costs	\$1,700,000 per year
Design/Condition examples	<p>Examples of Building condition:</p>  

EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

Project No. 6 – Fairfield Heights Town Centre Upgrades

Location	Fairfield Heights
Project Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the visual quality and general amenity of the main street including public artwork Upgrade main street footpaths and pedestrian road crossings to improve pedestrian and road safety Improve signage to highlight the entrances to the Centre Connects the 'main street' with surrounding local residential footpaths.
Short Description	Renew the Fairfield Heights Town Centre footpaths to create a more attractive, comfortable and enjoyable experience for local businesses, residents and visitors.
Long Description	The proposed streetscape upgrade works are intended to be an integrated capital works package using a modern design style that improves the visual quality and level of safety (i.e. trip points) of the footpaths and road crossing points (i.e. pedestrian crossings). It will connect the 'main street' with local residential footpaths by removing footpath 'gaps', upgrade local signage to emphasise gateways, access routes and other amenities (i.e. parking, toilets etc) and install public artworks where most appropriate and relevant to the local community.
Costs	\$1,000,000
Design	



EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

Project No. 7 – Cabramatta Town Centre Upgrades

Location	Cabramatta
Project Aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the level of safety replace or refurbish some of the current seating upgrade the banner poles install a permanent shade cover over the southern portion of the plaza improve lighting renew landscaping and public domain elements install an integrated sound system prepare and install new signage renew security bollards around the perimeter of the plaza
Short Description	Renew the Cabramatta Town Centre to create a more updated and attractive area for local businesses, residents and visitors.
Long Description	The renewal project will involve revitalisation of the Cabramatta Town Centre and may include works such as upgrading existing lighting poles and perimeters, new paving, seating, day and night time lighting, integrated sound system, permanent shade cover, signage, security bollards, new landscaping to minimise maintenance, upgrade banner poles for simplified replacement and increase cleaning effectiveness.
Costs	\$1,020,000
Design	





EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

Project No. 8 – New Fairfield Town Centre Park – The Crescent

Location	Fairfield City Centre
Project Aims	Construct a 'town square' style public space in the Fairfield City Centre.
Description	Construct a modern public space on the Council owned site at 31-33 The Crescent. It will provide a modern meeting place in the central business district for residents and visitors to enjoy. The site will be designed to include space for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small events Casual seating Pedestrian walkway
Costs	\$1,800,000
Design	 



EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

Project No. 9 – Roads, Kerb and Gutter Upgrades

Location	Throughout the Fairfield Local Government Area.
Project Aims	Upgrade Roads, Kerbs and Gutters to a higher standard throughout the City to improve access and provide a better and consistent road network for the community.
Description	The program renews roads, kerbs and gutters. The maintenance of these assets assists in reducing costs into the future for maintaining roads and is a response to increasing expectations of our community including footpath connections program for the next three years in Fairfield/Westmead Park, Carley Heights and connecting car parks.
Costs	\$1,200,000 per year
Design	<p>Examples of Road Pavement condition:</p>    
Benefits	Driving comfort for the community is improved, improved kerbs and gutters reduce the potential for water damage (for garages) and address the backlog of works currently unfunded.

EXTRA COUNCIL SERVICES - the choice is yours

Project No. 10 – Drainage Upgrades

Location	Throughout the Fairfield Local Government Area
Project Aims	Update the drainage
Short Description	To update our drainage to ensure that it meets the needs of the city by reducing potential flooding and cleaner streets and waterways. The works undertaken will be allocated as per their condition identified in Council's Asset Management Plan.
Costs	\$500,000 per year
Design	<p>Examples of Stormwater Pit condition:</p>    
Benefits	Reduce the risk of flooding and damage to community property, help to provide cleaner streets and waterways.

RESULTS – STAGE 2

Council during the stage 2 engagement period 29 November 2013 to 7 February 2014 has extensively engaged the community through various mediums as identified in the table below.

Type	Description	No. Attendee's/Circulation
City Connect	Campaign in Champion Newspaper	No: of Issues 12 (29/1/14) Circ each = 58,112
City Life	Fairfield LGA Distribution	65,000
FCC Website	Social Media	234,063 hits
Facebook	Social Media	1414 Likes
Twitter	Social Media	1,295 Followers
SRV Flyer Distribution	Brochure	65,000
Advertising FCC – Admin. Centre	Posters and Flyers	18,427 approx. per 1/4
Advertising within FCC Services - Libraries	Posters and Flyers	216,905 approx. per 1/4
Advertising within FCC Services – Leisure Centres	Posters and Flyers	242,834 approx. per 1/4
Advertising within FCC Services – Child Care Centres	Posters and Flyers	684 families were distributed with survey
Advertising in Ethnic Newspaper - Dan Viet (Vietnamese)	Advertisement of Revised Draft Delivery Program with SRV and without SRV and Draft Operational Plan with SRV and without SRV	Weekly Circulation: 20,000 Dates are week of: - 16/12/13 - 8/1/14 - 22/1/14 - 29/01/14
Advertising in Ethnic Newspaper - El Telegraph (Arabic)	Advertisement of Revised Draft Delivery Program with SRV and without SRV and Draft Operational Plan with SRV and without SRV	Weekly Circulation: 33,000 Dates are week of: - 16/12/13 - 8/1/14 - 22/1/14 - 29/01/14
Advertising in Ethnic Newspaper - Chinese Daily (Chinese)	Advertisement of Revised Draft Delivery Program with SRV and without SRV and Draft Operational Plan with SRV and without SRV	Weekly Circulation: 22,000 Dates are week of: - 16/12/13 - 8/1/14 - 22/1/14 - 29/01/14
Advertising	Newsletter advertising SRV	1,100 copies distributed 800 hand delivered to Cabramatta Town Centre Businesses 200 hand delivered to Canley Vale and Canley Heights Businesses 100 reserved for attendance at meetings.
Cabramatta Cabra-Vale Lions Club	Posters and Flyers	December 2013 – 25 attendees
Cabramatta Chamber of Commerce, incl. reps from Canley Vale Chamber and Mayor Carbone	Information Sheet, printed in English, Vietnamese and Chinese	December 2013 – 45 attendees
Cabramatta Chamber of Commerce	Information Sheet, printed in English, Vietnamese and Chinese	Subsequently sent the sheet to 75 members via email.
Smithfield/Wetherill Park Discussion Group Meeting	Posters and Flyers	4/7/13 = 18 5/12/13 = 19
Bonnyrigg Town Centre	Posters and Flyers	13/11/13 = 14 (Note: SRV Information sent to an extra 10 Committee Members)

Type	Description	No. Attendee's/Circulation
Bonnyrigg Community Harmony Day, run by Newleaf	Posters and Flyers	21/11/13 = 100 approx
Chamber of Commerce	Posters and Flyers	1/4tly Meetings during 2013
Youth Advisory Committee	Discussion & Distribution of Flyer on December 19, 2013	22 attendees
Fairfield Senior Network	SRV Flyer, 4/11/2013	35 participants
Seniors Services Interagency	SRV Flyer, 20/11/2013	14 participants
Multicultural Advisory	SRV Flyer, 14/11/2013	15 participants
Aboriginal Advisory	SRV Flyer, 18/11/2013	15 participants
Fairfield Migrant Interagency	SRV Flyer, 22/11/2013	32 participants
Youth Workers Network	SRV Flyer, 21/11/2013	28 participants
Keith Atterton, President Wetherill Park Cricket Club, Onsite @ Emerson Park Field	SRV Flyers, 7/2/2014	Mr. Atterton was met by Alison Mortimer Council Staff member, who explained the SRV Proposals along with Draft Delivery Program & Operational Plans with/without SRV.

With no survey to be completed in stage 2, Council advertised and explained that any comments and feedback during this period could be forwarded to Council via a number of methods including letter, email, phone and online.

Feedback received during the engagement of network groups, committee's and other meetings consisted of comments about the new option being better and more affordable, still no projects specifically for the elderly, more activities for youth are needed and about time Council fixed up its assets.

Council had very little response from the community other than the feedback during consultation sessions with three forms of comment/feedback received from residents. This included one letter (refer **Appendix 1**) commending Council on its SRV application and included the following comments:

'AN UNFORTUNATE LACK OF AWARENESS

I consider the Special Rate Variation is essential and much more in line with better decision making than when the council 'reduced' rates not that long ago.

That decision was a poor one. I expressed this to the then 'new' mayor and a council executive officer at a meeting. The decision demonstrated an unfortunate lack of awareness of our city's needs. I noted subsequent variations, but not enough, adopted by the council.

WELCOME STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Council has been failing us in those day-to-day ongoing functions that councils perform. I welcome the relatively recent attention given to the infrastructure and other assets within this LGA. I am mindful and thankful that state governments have been drivers of an evolving approach by Fairfield and other NSW councils, in particular relating to community consultation and planning.

The draft delivery plan incorporating the Special Rate Variation is a step in the right direction.'

Another letter only requested further information on the SRV options considered and for Council to consider increasing its Pensioner Rebate to match the increase in rates.

The third submission was a phone call requesting further information regarding the SRV which was provided and no further comments were made.

SUMMARY

Although the feedback from the community was limited for Stage 2 engagement there was some positive feedback with support for Council in applying for an SRV. The lack of response can also indicate that the community were relatively satisfied with the new option being considered by Council.

RESPONSE TO CRITERIA 2 IN THE SRV GUIDELINES

Criteria 2 of the Special Rate Variation Guidelines states that Councils must provide;

‘Evidence that the community is aware of the need for and extent of a rate rise. This must be clearly spelt out in IP&R documentation and the Council must demonstrate an appropriate variety of engagement methods to ensure the opportunity for community awareness/input.’

Council’s stage 1 and stage 2 community engagements has demonstrated community awareness through the large number of networks, committees and groups engaged and particularly by the number of surveys received in stage 1. The lack of response to stage 2 can be an indication of the community’s satisfaction with the reduced option being considered.

Stage 1 engagement included information in relation to options that were being considered by Council in relation to an SRV being included in its IPR documents however with the development of Stage 2 engagement Council revised its IPR documents to include the new option being considered for an SRV, developing two versions of its Draft Revised 2013-2017 Delivery Program, one with and one without an SRV to ensure it clearly demonstrated the impact of the SRV for the community.

With a very diverse and unique community, Council has engaged the community in the most cost effective and varied way possible, ensuring the hard to reach groups were engaged and provided with the opportunity to have their say.

Based on the above Council believes that the community engagement undertaken in both stages 1 and 2 has exceeded the requirements of the guidelines with the multitude of information and engagement methods it has undertaken. It has succeeded in making its community aware of the need for, impact of and extent of the Special Rate Variation for a permanent one-off 10% increase in rates in 2014/2015.

