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Submission: I support BSC's application for a special rate increase. Although no-one wants the cost of living go up especially those on low income I believe the rising service costs detailed by Council are justified. Even with the rise, our rates are still some of the lowest in the state. In addition I request that the State government should consider providing an increase to the subsidy provided to rate payers who are on pension or welfare benefits to help with the rate increase. Land prices are rising fast here which drags up rating values so we need infrastructure spending to match this. We do not want this part of the coast to look like the Gold or Central coasts in 20 years time. The State government needs to do its part by paying Council something (even half the rate) for the massive amount of public land in this shire.