

Camden Council's Proposed Special Rate Variation to continue the Community Infrastructure Renewal Program

In July 2010, Council introduced a Community Infrastructure Renewal Program aimed at improving the condition of some of the community's most critical assets (roads, drainage, footpaths, parks, playgrounds and community buildings). This \$3.68m program was entirely funded through a special rate variation of 4.5%. Funding for the current program will cease 30 June 2013.

Council is proposing to continue this successful program for a further 6 years to ensure our vast network of critical assets continue to perform to a satisfactory standard. Funding for the proposed \$6m program will be sourced from the following areas:

1. Special rate variation of 1.1% - \$2.5m
2. Low interest loan from State Government - \$2m
3. Council's internal reserves - \$1.5m

Importantly, Council will not be seeking to continue the existing 4.5% special rate variation but rather only 1.1% from July 2013. This proposed increase excludes the general rate increase of 3.4% recently determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal. Therefore, total rates will increase by 4.5% in 2013/14. This is a deliberate attempt to keep average rates in the Local Government Area the same in 2013/14 as in 2012/13.

Residents are invited to attend Open House Information Sessions at the following locations:

- Camden Civic Centre - Monday 4 February – 4pm to 8pm
- Narellan Library – Wednesday 6 February – 4pm to 8pm
- Catherine Fields Community Hall – Saturday 9 February 9am to 12 noon

Council encourages residents to provide feedback on this important proposal. Full details on how you can have your say are available on council's website www.camden.nsw.gov.au or contact Council on 4654 7777.