

## Your rates in action

### We're working for you.

Your rates will help us deliver a wide range of services and programs that contribute to the wellbeing and vibrancy of Yarra, making it a fantastic place for our diverse community to live.

This year, rates account for 60% of Yarra's 2020/21 Budget. Some highlights of this year's Budget include:

- \$7.46 million in support for residents, businesses, and organisations hit hardest by COVID-19
- \$8.08 million to bring important community facilities up to modern and safe standards
- \$9.23 million to renew our footpaths and roads and keep pedestrians and motorists safe
- \$1.2 million for upgrades to Richmond Kindergarten
- \$815,000 to reconstruct some of Yarra's much-loved bluestone laneways
- \$800,000 for a new 1.2 million litre rainwater storage tank at Edinburgh Gardens
- \$620,000 for new library resources to educate and inspire residents of all ages

You can see the full Budget breakdown at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/budget](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/budget)



### We're one of the few councils to provide additional rebates to pensioners

For the 2020/21 financial year we are providing eligible pension card holders with an additional \$190.90 concession. This is in addition to the \$291 concession for 2020/21, which all Victorian councils provide.

**Yarra City Council**  
PO Box 168 Richmond  
VIC 3121  
T 9205 5555  
[info@yarracity.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@yarracity.vic.gov.au)  
[yarracity.vic.gov.au](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au)

**Interpreter Services**  
9280 1940

**National Relay Service**  
TTY 133 677 then  
(03) 9205 5555

**Languages**  
العربية 9280 1930  
中文 9280 1937  
Ελληνικά 9280 1934  
REF 18771

**Bargoonga Nganjin  
North Fitzroy Library**  
182 St Georges Road,  
North Fitzroy

**Collingwood  
Town Hall**  
140 Hoddle Street,  
Abbotsford

**Connie Benn Centre**  
160 Brunswick St, Fitzroy

**Richmond Town Hall**  
333 Bridge Road,  
Richmond

Italiano 9280 1931  
Español 9280 1935  
Tiếng Việt 9280 1939  
Other 9280 1940



The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation makes grants that allow charitable organisations to create real and lasting positive change for Melbourne

Show your support at  
[www.lmcf.org.au](http://www.lmcf.org.au)

Printed August 2020 on 100% recycled paper.  
For a large print version call 9205 5555.



## Working for you

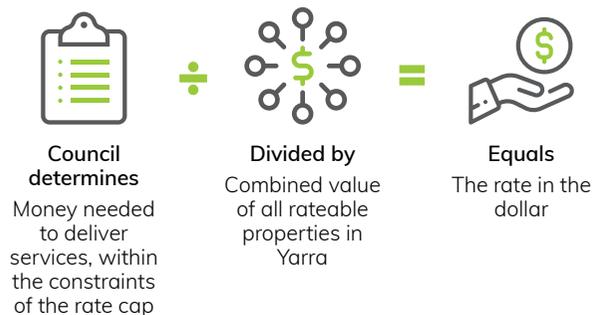
### Your rates 2020-21



## Calculating your rates

### First we calculate the rate in the dollar

For 2020/21 the rate in the dollar is 0.0394154609. Here's how we calculated that:



### We then apply the rate in the dollar to your property



## Will my rates increase?

The Yarra Budget for 2020/21 includes a 2% rate increase, which is in line with the 2020/21 rate cap outlined under the Fair Go Rates system. It's also consistent with most other councils in Victoria. Not everyone's rates will go up by 2%. Your rates could increase by more or less than 2% because rates are affected by changes in the value of your property. Around half our ratepayers will receive a lower increase and, in some cases, a reduction.

Your rates notice also includes a separate Fire Services Property Levy, which is used by the Victorian Government to partially fund Fire Rescue Victoria.

For detailed information on the calculation used to determine your rates, visit [yarracity.vic.gov.au/2020rates](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/2020rates)

## How is my property valued?

Property valuations now take place every year rather than every second year. Annual property valuations mean your rates will more accurately reflect the value of your property in relation to others in the area.

Valuations are now being carried out by the Victorian Government meaning that they are no longer managed by local councils. The Valuer-General Victoria will now be the sole authority on property valuations. This will not change the methods used to value your property.

Yarra properties increased in value by an average of 3.38% in 2020/21. If your property increased in value by more than this average, your rates will increase by more than 2%.

### Can I object to my valuation?

Yes, but you must lodge your objection within two months of the issue date on your rates notice using the Valuer-General Victoria's objection form.

Lodge your objection with us, and we will forward this on to the Valuer-General Victoria for assessment. You can download the form, and find out more, at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/valuation](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/valuation) or call us on 9205 5555.



## Paying your rates

### Payment methods

See the Valuation and Rates Notice included with this brochure for a full list of payment methods.

### Due dates

You have two options for paying your rates.

#### Option 1 - Ten monthly instalments

Direct debit only - Pay 10 monthly instalments on the 15th of the month (or next business day) starting September 2020. You are required to complete a Direct Debit Form and return this to us to pay by this method.

#### Option 2 - Four instalments

You may choose to prepay any or all of your instalments before these dates:

- First instalment: 30 September 2020
- Second instalment: 30 November 2020
- Third instalment: 28 February 2021
- Fourth instalment: 31 May 2021

### Ratepayers experiencing financial hardship

If you're experiencing financial hardship that prevents you paying your rates by the due date, please contact us as soon as possible to discuss an alternative payment arrangement, through our financial hardship policy.

We have also introduced a COVID-19 hardship policy to create flexibility for both commercial and residential ratepayers, in addition to our existing hardship policy.

If you are experiencing genuine financial hardship, we can tailor payment arrangements to suit each rate payer and their situation individually.

Please visit [yarracity.vic.gov.au/2020rates](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/2020rates) to find out more about how we can help you, and to submit an application for hardship consideration. Alternatively you can call our Revenue Services Unit on 9205 5555 to discuss an alternative payment arrangement.

## Contact us

For more information, visit [yarracity.vic.gov.au/2020rates](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/2020rates). You can also contact us on 9205 5555 or by email at [info@yarracity.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@yarracity.vic.gov.au)