

How are my rates calculated?

This year we have increased our total rate revenue by 2.5% in line with the Victorian Government's rate cap.

We calculate your rates based on our total rate revenue and the value of your property.

Your rates notice also includes a separate Fire Services Levy, which is used by the Victorian Government to partially fund the Metropolitan Fire Brigade and Country Fire Authority.

For detailed information on the calculation used to determine your rates, visit yarracity.vic.gov.au/myrates

How much will my rates go up by?

Not everyone's rates will go up by 2.5%. Your rates could increase by more or less than 2.5% because rates are affected by changes in the value of your property.

Yarra properties decreased in value by an average of 9.41% in 2019/20. If your property decreased in value by less than this average, your rates will increase by more than 2.5%.

Do we get more rates from new developments?

There are many apartment buildings going up, but new developments don't result in extra recurrent rate revenue for Council.

This is because our total rate revenue cannot go up by more than 2.5%. So, as we get more apartments, the rate revenue just gets divided up among more people.

Valuations

This year, the Victorian Government has made some changes to the way your property is valued.

Valuations will now take place every year, rather than every second year. Annual property valuations mean that 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.

Can I still object to my valuation?

Yes, but you must do so within two months of the issue date on your rates notice.

You will still be able to lodge your objection with Council, and we will forward this on to the Valuer-General Victoria for assessment.

To find out more about the changes to your valuations, visit yarracity.vic.gov.au/valuations2019 or call us on 9205 5555.

Contact

For more information you can visit yarracity.vic.gov.au/rates or you can contact us on 9205 5555 or by email at info@yarracity.vic.gov.au

National Relay Service

TTY 133 677 then (03) 9205 5555

Languages		Italiano	9280 1931
العربية	9280 1930	Español	9280 1935
中文	9280 1937	Tiếng Việt	9280 1939
Ελληνικά	9280 1934	Other	9280 1940

REF 18410

Working for you

Your rates 2019-20



Mayor's message

Your rates help us deliver a broad range of services and infrastructure which support our community and make Yarra a fantastic place to live.

This year, our budget includes \$189m in total operating expenditure, of which 59% comes from your rates.

The budget breakdown below is designed to help you understand what your rates pay for.

Thank you for contributing to the Yarra community.

Cr Danae Bosler, Mayor



\$17M (9%)
Infrastructure and asset management



\$19M (10%)
Waste and recycling



\$14.2M (8%)
Leisure, arts, culture and venues



\$8.3M (4%)
Parks and recreation



\$7.4M (4%)
Strategic and statutory planning



\$3.2M (1%)
Construction management



\$20.8M (11%)
Compliance, parking and traffic



\$4.1M (2%)
Strategic transport and sustainability



\$3.1M (1%)
Customer service



\$18.3M (10%)
Family, youth and children's services



\$7.1M (4%)
Advocacy, engagement and communications



\$21.3M (12%)
Finance, performance, systems and people



\$6.8M (4%)
Aged and disability services



\$5.9M (3%)
Library services



\$7.7M (4%)
Governance



\$24.8M (13%)
Interest, depreciation and amortisation



Paying your rates

Payment methods

See the Valuation and Rates Notice included with this brochure for a full listing 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 in September 2019. You are required to complete a Direct Debit Form and return this to Council to pay by this method.

Option 2 - Four instalments

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

- First instalment – 30 September 2019
- Second instalment – 30 November 2019
- Third instalment – 28 February 2020
- Fourth instalment – 31 May 2020

Pensioner rebates

You could be eligible for a \$187.10 Council rebate on your rates for your principal place of residence if you hold a Pensioner Concession Card or a Gold Card issued by the Department of Veterans' Affairs to War Widows or Totally/Permanently Incapacitated Veterans.

This is in addition to the State Government Rebate of \$285.15 (which includes \$50 towards the Fire Service Levy).

Financial hardship

If you are experiencing difficulty paying your rates, please call our Revenue Services Unit on 9205 5555 to discuss an alternative payment arrangement.