



WARRNAMBOOL
CITY COUNCIL

Business Promotion

Proposed Special Rate

Frequently asked questions

What is the proposed business promotion special rate?

The proposed special rate was put forward by business advocacy group Commerce Warrnambool. It would raise funds to conduct activities which would promote Warrnambool as a place to live, work, invest, shop and visit.

Who will pay the special rate?

The rate will apply to all rateable properties in the Warrnambool City Council municipality that are classified as Commercial or Industrial. The person responsible for paying the rates on the property will be liable for paying the rate.

How much will the special rate cost?

If introduced, the rate would raise an estimated \$300,000 annually with a minimum rate per rateable property of \$100 and a maximum rate of \$300. The total pool of funds raised by the special rate will increase by either three per cent or the Consumer Price Index (whichever is lower) per year for each year the special rate is operating.

When were notification letters sent out?

Notices were sent to affected businesses in the first week of October.

When will the rate take effect?

If approved, the special rate will commence on January 1, 2015 and remain in place for five years.

Can I Object to the proposed special rate?

If you are responsible for paying rates on a property that will incur the proposed special rate, you can lodge

an Objection. A tick box Objection form with a reply paid envelope was included in the notification mailed by Council. If you are the building occupier/lessee, you must provide proof to Council that you are responsible for paying rates. This could be in the form of a copy of your current lease, a letter from the building owner or a statutory declaration.

Can I make a Submission regarding the proposed special rate?

Any interested persons may make a Submission in relation to the proposed special rate. Letters should be addressed to Mr Bruce Anson Chief Executive Officer, Warrnambool City Council, 25 Liebig St, Warrnambool 3280.

What is the cut-off date for Objections and Submissions?

Those wishing to Object to or make a Submission regarding the proposed special rate must do so in writing by 5pm, November 3, 2014.

What is the next step?

If more than 50 per cent of businesses submit an Objection to the proposed special rate Council will not proceed with the proposal.

If fewer than 50 per cent of businesses submit an Objection to the special rate then the Council will, at its meeting on December 1, after considering all Submissions, vote on whether to introduce the special rate.

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