

Statement of Object and Reasons for Imposing Differential Rates for 2023/24

The following Statement is provided in accordance with Section 6.36 of the *Local Government Act 1995* to inform ratepayers of the City of Mandurah's Objects and Reasons for the differential rates being proposed for the 2023/2024 financial year.

The City of Mandurah applies a differential rate in the dollar depending on the characteristics and/or uses of the land, with the gross rental value (GRV) to determine the rates levied for each land that is rateable.

This document outlines the objects and reasons for implementing differential general rates.

Proposed Rates

The City proposes to impose differential general rates to all gross rental values in its district according to one or a combination of:

- The purpose for which land is zoned.
- Whether or not the land is vacant land.

For the 2023/24 year, Council is proposing to impose five differential rates as shown in the table below:

| Category | Rate in the dollar | Minimum Rate |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Residential Improved | \$0.08624 | \$1,236 |
| Residential Vacant | \$0.16535 | \$1,023 |
| Business Improved | \$0.09410 | \$1,236 |
| Business Vacant | \$0.17248 | \$1,236 |
| Urban Development | \$0.15374 | \$1,236 |

Objects and reasons

The following are the objects and reasons for each of the differential rates:

Residential improved land – rate in the dollar \$0.08624

Object This proposed rate in the dollar is regarded as the base rate as it represents the greatest number of properties in the City. It is for properties that are zoned and used for residential purposes.

Reason This rate aims to ensure that all ratepayers contribute towards local government services and programs.

Residential vacant - rate in the dollar \$0.16535

Object This proposed rate in the dollar is set at a higher level as the City wishes to promote the development of all properties to their full potential.

Reason This rate in the dollar will act to deter land holdings and acts to stimulate residential development.

Business improved - rate in the dollar \$0.09410

Object This rate is to recognise that certain expenditures in the budget are specifically directed towards the economic development of the City and the additional costs associated with the service provision related to business activities.

Reason This rate will ensure that the City meets the level of service costs associated with business properties and the area within which they are situated, including:
(a) provision and maintenance of road infrastructure and streetscapes including road renewals and upgrades, car parking, footpaths and traffic issues; and
(b) activation, facilitation and amenity improvements to promote the economic and social attractiveness to businesses areas.

Business vacant - rate in the dollar \$0.17248

Object This rate is set at a higher level as the City wishes to promote the development of all properties to their full potential.

Reason This rate in the dollar will act to encourage commercial development and stimulate economic growth.

Urban development - rate in the dollar \$0.15374

Object This proposed rate in the dollar relates to land held for future development (super-lots larger than 10 hectares in size). The City wishes to promote the development of all properties to their full potential.

Reason As with other vacant land rates, this rate is set at a higher level to deter the holding of land and acts to stimulate residential development. .

Specified Area Rates (SAR)

The City imposes Specified Area Rates (SAR) on certain locations in the district. SAR's enable the enhancement and maintenance of the general amenity of an area by way of increased service levels for the benefit of the owners/residents who live or work in the area.

The authority to impose specified area rates is set out in section 6.37 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act). This section of the Act requires that the money raised from a SAR be used solely for the purpose which the rate was imposed, with any residual amount remaining being placed in a reserve for that same purpose.

Waterside Canals - rate in the dollar \$0.0000 (no charge this financial year)

This is levied on all properties within the Waterside Canals. The purpose of the rate is for owners to make a reasonable contribution toward maintaining and managing the canals. There is sufficient funds in the Waterside Canals SAR Reserves Account to cover the proposed expenditure of canal water quality testing, canal management fee, canal hydrographic survey costs and litter control.

Note: All owners are required to maintain/replace the canal walls on their land.

Mandurah Ocean Marina – rate in the dollar \$0.01170

This is levied on all properties within the Mandurah Ocean Marina. The purpose is to provide for an enhanced maintenance standard and asset replacement costs. The SAR proposed expenditure includes maintaining navigable depths in the entrance, basin and boat ramp, maintenance to reflection wall along Breakwater Parade, maintenance of revetment walls, maintenance of cleaning and lighting boardwalk, contribution to security, maintaining navigational aids, environmental monitoring, Marina management, maintenance of Marina plant and equipment. There is also a requirement for funds to be transferred into the reserve to fund the future dredging requirements and replacement of revetment walls and reflection wall (along Breakwater Parade) when required.

Mandurah Quay – rate in the dollar \$0.00425

This is levied on all properties within the Mandurah Quay sub-division. The purpose is to ensure the maintenance of the marina (i.e. water body and walls) and is levied to cover the life cycle expenses of the marina. The SAR proposed expenditure includes litter control, hydrographic survey, water quality monitoring, canal management fees and minor maintenance of the walls (including the header course blocks). Note:

- There is a requirement for funds to be transferred into the reserve to fund any major maintenance works as well as the future replacement of canal walls when required. This is being phased in over five years commencing in the 2023/24 financial year.
- The SAR does not fund the maintenance expenses for the pavement, garden beds and lighting along the public access way.

Mariners Cove – rate in the dollar \$0.0010

This is levied on all canal frontages on the Mariner Cove canals. The purpose of the rate is for owners to make a reasonable contribution toward maintaining and managing the canals in accordance with the Artificial Waterways Policy – Canals and Core Management Group.

The SAR is to cover the proposed expenditure of canal water quality testing, canal management fee, canal hydrographic survey costs and litter control. In the 2022/23 financial year, no SAR was charged due to sufficient funds held in Reserve to offset the required annual expenditure. Due to no funds remaining in the Reserve, the properties are now required to pay the SAR.

Note: All owners are required to maintain/replace the canal walls on their land.

Port Bouvard Eastport Canals - rate in the dollar \$0.0013

This is levied on all canal frontages on the Eastport canals. The purpose is to recoup the costs of litter removal from the canal waterbody together with the costs of water quality testing, canal management fee, surveying and minor maintenance.

Note: All owners are required to maintain/replace the canal walls on their land.

Port Bouvard Northport Canals – rate in the dollar \$0.0022

This is levied on all canal frontages on the Northport canals. The purpose is to recoup the costs of litter removal from the canal waterbody together with the costs of water quality testing, canal management fee, surveying and minor maintenance/canal cleaning.

Note: All owners are required to maintain/replace the canal walls on their land.

Port Mandurah Canals – rate in the dollar \$0.00348

This is levied on all canal frontage properties located within the defined area of Port Mandurah Canals. The purpose of the rate is for owners to make a reasonable contribution toward maintaining and managing the canals in accordance with the Artificial Waterways Policy – Canals and Core Management Group. The SAR proposed expenditure includes litter control, hydrographic survey, water quality monitoring, canal management fees, contribution to the Port Mandurah Residents Association and transferring funds into the dredging reserve for when the constructed depths exceed the tolerance limits and dredging is required.

The defined area has been identified within the Government Gazette published 23 June 1995 as Schedule B in the City of Mandurah (Specified Area) Order No.1.

Note: All owners are required to maintain/replace the canal walls on their land.