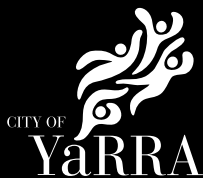


Working for you

Your rates in 2023/24



Budget highlights

Your rates help us deliver over 100 services and programs that contribute to the wellbeing and vibrancy of Yarra, making it a fantastic place for our diverse community to live, work and play. This year, rates account for 55% of Yarra's total income in the 2023/24 Budget.

Some highlights include:

- A \$100,000 grants fund to support emergency rent relief
- Delivering and designing new parks, and upgrading existing ones
- A range of improvements across Yarra's bicycle network
- Improving road safety and amenity with major infrastructure upgrades
- Planting double the amount of trees to address the climate emergency
- Support for local businesses to reduce emissions
- Enhancing youth engagement and participation
- Funding for community street events and activations

You can read more highlights and a full Budget breakdown at yarracity.vic.gov.au/budget

Your rates at work 2022/23

1,000 trees planted



1,200 hectares

of parkland maintained



128

major road and footpath works undertaken



760 metres

of new bike lanes added



2,500 metres

of bike lanes upgraded

890

families attended playgroups



330

grants delivered to community organisations and individuals



31,611

swimming lessons for kids



800,000

people visited our leisure centres



6,894 tonnes

of waste diverted from landfill for recycling



6,000

immunisations administered



500,000

books, ebooks and audiobooks loaned through our libraries



20,000

meals home delivered to older residents and residents living with disability



Calculating your rates

First we calculate the rate in the dollar

For 2023/24 the rate in the dollar is 0.032237540.

Here's how we calculated that:



Council determines the total funds needed to deliver services and infrastructure for the next financial year within the constraints of the rate cap



Divides that by the combined value of all rateable properties in Yarra



Which equals the rate in the dollar

We then apply the rate in the dollar to your property



To calculate your rates for the year



By multiplying the Net Annual Value of your property



By the rate in the dollar

How much will I pay?

The 2023/24 Budget includes a 3.5% rate increase, which is in line with the 2023/24 rate cap outlined under the Fair Go Rates system that applies to all councils in Victoria.

If your property increased in value by less than the average, your rates will increase by less than 3.5% (and might even reduce from the previous year). If your property increased in value by more than the average, your rates will increase by more than 3.5%.

Your rates notice also includes a separate Fire Services Property Levy, which is collected by the Victorian Government to partially fund Fire Rescue Victoria, and a separate Waste Services Charge (see dedicated section of this brochure for details).

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



How is my property value calculated?

Valuations for council rates, fire services property levy and land tax are made annually in accordance with the Valuation of Land Act 1960.

This ensures that your rates will accurately reflect the value of your property in relation to others in your area.

Valuer-General Victoria is the sole authority on property valuations.

Valuations are determined by comparing the data elements of your property to the data elements of similar properties that have sold. More information is available on our website at yarracity.vic.gov.au/valuation

Why has my rates notice total increased if my property valuation has decreased?

There are a number of reasons why your annual rates notice total may increase year-on-year despite a decline in your property value. Each year, the total amount of rates collected by each Victorian council increases based on the Victorian Government's rate cap, which is 3.5% in 2023/24. Because of this, your rates may increase by a greater amount than is offset by declining property values. This method of calculating rates is consistent among all Victorian councils.

Can I object to my valuation?

If a ratepayer disagrees with the valuations attached to their property, they may object. Lodging an objection is a formal process contained in the Valuation of Land Act 1960.

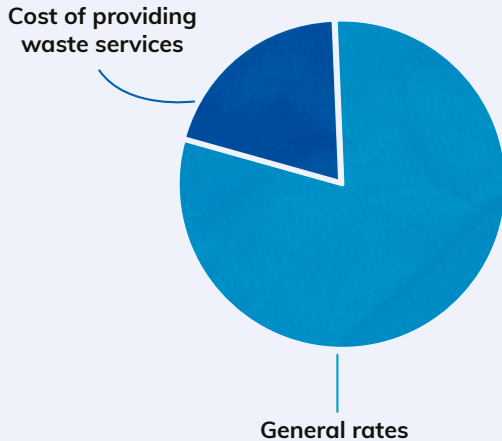
Ratepayers are required to complete the Notice of Objection form and lodge it with the Valuer-General Victoria within two months of the date of issue shown on the rates notice.

Valuation objections must be lodged with Valuer-General Victoria via their online objection portal. More information is available on our website at yarracity.vic.gov.au/valuation

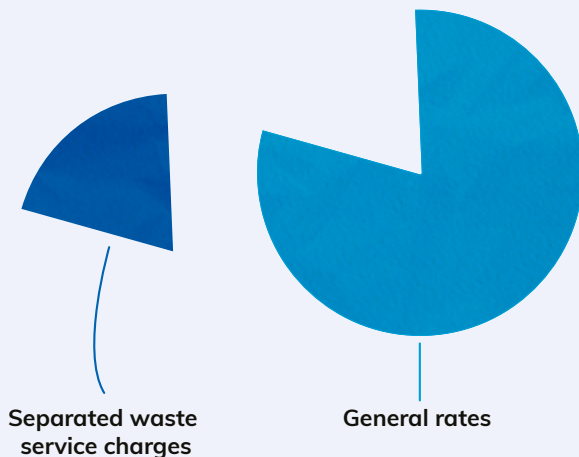


Waste services charge

Our current model



A separate waste charge



In March 2023, Yarra City Council resolved to separate waste service charges from general rates to account for the increasing costs of waste and recycling services, in line with all other Victorian councils.

Separating waste service charges from general rates will enable us to transparently recover the true costs of providing waste services to our community. This is the approach taken by all councils in Victoria and is an important change to ensure we remain financially sustainable into the future.

Yarra's Waste Services Charge will be made up of two elements: a public waste rate and a kerbside waste rate. The term 'rate' in this instance means that the cost will be scaled based on property value. This is the same way we calculate general rates. The kerbside waste rate will only be applied to properties that receive a kerbside waste collection service from Yarra.

If you have any questions or concerns about how the Waste Services Charge has been applied to your property, please reach out to our Customer Experience team on **9205 5555** or by email at info@yarracity.vic.gov.au

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 each month (or next business day) starting September 2023. You are required to complete a Direct Debit Form (available on our website) and return it to us to pay using this method.

Option 2 - Four instalments

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

- First instalment: 30 September 2023
- Second instalment: 30 November 2023
- Third instalment: 28 February 2024
- Fourth instalment: 31 May 2024

Pensioner support

We are one of the few councils to give additional rebates to pensioners

For the 2023/24 financial year we are providing eligible pension card holders with an additional \$204.10 rebate.

This is in addition to the \$303.20 rebate for 2023/24, which all Victorian councils provide.

Financial hardship assistance

If you're experiencing any form of financial hardship, let us know as soon as possible. We have a range of options regarding payment arrangements, which can be tailored to suit each ratepayer individually and their situation.

Please call us on **9205 5555** to discuss alternative payment arrangements. Or visit **yarracity.vic.gov.au/rates** to find out more and submit an application for hardship consideration under the Financial Hardship Policy.

YARRA COMMUNITY AWARDS 2023

NOMINATIONS NOW

OPEN



Nominate by
Sunday 3 September at
yarracity.vic.gov.au/awards

Contact us

For more information, visit
yarracity.vic.gov.au/rates

You can also contact us on **9205 5555** or
by email at info@yarracity.vic.gov.au

Yarra City Council

PO Box 168

Richmond VIC 3121

9205 5555

info@yarracity.vic.gov.au

yarracity.vic.gov.au

Interpreter Services

9280 1940

National Relay Service

TTY 133 677 then

03 9205 5555

Collingwood Town Hall

140 Hoddle Street, Abbotsford

Richmond Town Hall

333 Bridge Road, Richmond

Languages

العربية 9280 1930

中文 9280 1937

Ελληνικά 9280 1934

Italiano 9280 1931

Español 9280 1935

Tiếng Việt 9280 1939

Other 9280 1940

REF 19724

For a large print version call **9205 5555**.