Subject: Economic Development Advisory Committee – Minutes of Meeting

File No: URB/08/1/7/5
Document Ref: D15/12311
Venue: Civic Centre, Level 5, Room 1
Date: 5th February 2015
Time: 5.00pm Started at: 5.00pm Closed at: 6.00 pm
Chair: Clr Artin Etmekdjian
Meeting Support (MS): Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors
Staff Convenor: Nathan Pratt
Circulation:

Committee Role:

The primary role of the Economic Development Advisory Committee is to:

- Provide direction and support to assist and guide Council in implementation of the City of Ryde Economic Development Strategy (EDS), identified Strategy Actions, 2009-2014.
- Identify and recognise economic development issues / projects, government and business sector initiatives and actions that underpin the EDS’ three strategic themes of:
  - Marketing of the City of Ryde;
  - Employment Generation;
  - Building Partnerships.

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Apology</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position Title</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillor A Etmekdjian</td>
<td>Delegate (Chairperson)</td>
<td>City of Ryde</td>
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<tr>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>Councillor Craig Chung</td>
<td>Delegate (Acting Chair)</td>
<td>City of Ryde</td>
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<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Ms June Heinrich</td>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Macquarie Community College</td>
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<td>x</td>
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<td>Mr Brad Chan</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Eastwood Centre Developments</td>
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<td>x</td>
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<td>Mr David Tompkins</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>West Ryde Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>x</td>
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<td>Ms Yvonne Doorman</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Gladesville Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>Mr Tony Abboud</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Ryde/Macquarie Park Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>x</td>
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<td>Mr Stefan Sojka</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Cyrius Media Group</td>
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<td>Mr Morrell Boyce</td>
<td>Resident</td>
<td>Macquarie Park Forum</td>
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<td>x</td>
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<td>Ms Lydia Scuglia</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Ryde Business Forum</td>
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<td>Mr Graham Janes</td>
<td>Officer</td>
<td>Ryde Salvation Army</td>
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<td>Doug Hardy</td>
<td>Real Estate Agent</td>
<td>Meadowbank/West Ryde Progress Association</td>
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<td>Phil Peake</td>
<td>Business owner</td>
<td>Residents for Ryde community group</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Simone Checchia</td>
<td>Solicitor</td>
<td>Milne Berry Berger and Freedman solicitors</td>
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<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rebecca Lehman</td>
<td>General Manager</td>
<td>Connect Macquarie Park + North Ryde</td>
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<td>x</td>
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<td>Stephen Chang</td>
<td>Solicitor</td>
<td>Herbert Smith Freehills</td>
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<td>Cassy Norris</td>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Ryde Secondary College</td>
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<td>x</td>
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<td>Nathan Pratt</td>
<td>Acting Manager Urban Planning</td>
<td>City of Ryde</td>
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<td>Dominic Johnson</td>
<td>Acting General Manager</td>
<td>City of Ryde</td>
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Additional Attendees

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Meryl Bishop</td>
<td>Service Unit Manager – Urban Planning</td>
<td>City of Ryde</td>
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<td>John Brown</td>
<td>Place Manager</td>
<td>City of Ryde</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sam Cappelli</td>
<td>Acting Group Manager – Environment and Planning</td>
<td>City of Ryde</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fiona Anson</td>
<td>Guest speaker</td>
<td>Workible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linda Smith</td>
<td>EA to the Mayor and Councillors</td>
<td>City of Ryde</td>
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1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Those in attendance and apologies were noted. Being the first meeting for the year all members of the group provided a brief introduction of themselves.

Clr Etmekdjian also introduced Gail Connolly, newly appointed General Manager, who attended meeting briefly to introduce herself.

**Minutes from Meeting – 12th November 2014**

Confirmed and Endorsed

2. **Economic Development Plan 2015 - 2019**

Nathan provided the following information:

- The draft plan was submitted to Council on 2nd October 2014.
- It was exhibited on web, through library, RBF etc during Oct and Nov.
- Five submissions were received – all in favour
- A further report with no major changes to the original draft will be submitted to Council on 10th March for adoption of the plan.
- It was noted that targets have been set to be met by 2019 but that they are not restrictive.
- Annual targets have not been set, but it is possible to check on progress toward targets by using same measures as adopted in annual reporting.

The information was noted.

3. **Ryde Housing Affordability Summit**

The summit was held on Tuesday 18th November 2014. There were 90 people in attendance.

Three expert speakers presented to the summit (Dr Tony Gilmour, Professor Peter Phibbs and Dr Judith Stubbs) and a Q and A Session was held.

A workshop will be held with Councillors on 17th March 2015 to discuss the results of the summit.

The information was noted.

4. **Town Centre Initiatives**

John Brown advised that much of Council’s focus during the past few years, has been on Macquarie Park. Recent works there have included continuation of granite paving and the revitalising of Eloura Reserve.

- **Eastwood** - Council will now start working toward the improvement of Eastwood on both sides of the railway line. The Eastwood Chamber of
Commerce has recently requested that Council consider making Eastwood Plaza "smoke free". The cleanliness of Eastwood business district will also be examined e.g. laneways.

- **Quarry Road** – Works have been completed
- **Sagar Place** – design work will soon be completed
- **West Ryde** – It was noted that the completion of the TOGA development will trigger a more complete investigation of projects which can be undertaken in West Ryde.
- **David Tompkins** – Chamber President and Council staff will start to examine projects which can be implemented to activate the area.
- It was noted signage to parking and community facilities is lacking
- A meeting is proposed with land owners and property owners along Victoria Road

5. **Economic Development Activities Update**

Nathan provided an update on recent and upcoming activities including:

- Foodtruck event at Macquarie Park
- Ryde business bootcamp over 9 weeks
- Launch of Macquarie Park prospectus on 2nd March 2015
- Small business bus to visit Eastwood and West Ryde
- Skilled migrant program to commence in April
- Jobs Expo to be held in August

Surveys will be undertaken to measure the success of each event.

6. **Economic Development Conference 2014**

Clr Etmekdjian advised he attended the conference held in Darwin in October 2014. He noted the conference focussed on regional Australia and northern Australia.

He has requested the papers and summary from the conference and will make them available upon request.
## MEETING RECORD

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### 7. Dates for future meetings

The following meeting dates for 2015 were confirmed:
- Wednesday 13th May
- Wednesday 12th August
- Wednesday 11th November

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### 8. “Workible” Job matching app

Fiona Anson provided information about her firm and the app it has developed which matches employers and employees in jobs with a high turnover such as hospitality, health care etc.

- The app is aimed at helping local workers find local jobs and has been rolled out in Wollongong, Pt Stephens and Newcastle to date.
- NFC technology is used which lets users tap on a sign to find jobs. Newcastle will be the first area to trial this technology which will identify local jobs.
- Feedback is provided to job seekers along with recommendations for improving their chances of gaining employment.
- The service is free to job seekers with employers paying a fee (low) to list jobs.

Fiona was thanked for her informative presentation.  
It was noted her firm will attend the jobs expo to be held in August.

### 9. General Business

**Clearways on weekends**

Morrell Boyce asked if any information had been received regarding the changes to clearways which had been mooted last year.

**West Ryde**

David Tompkins asked if West Ryde audit details could be provided to him prior to the next Chamber Executive meeting.

**State Election**

Phil Peake provided details regarding a meet the candidates session to be held in March

**Gladesville Chamber**

Yvonne advised that plans are underway to mark Seniors week in March in Gladesville.

Nathan to follow up with relevant government authority.

Nathan to provide

Noted

Noted

### 10. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 5pm on 13th May  
Level 5 meeting room – Civic Centre

Noted
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