

Subject:	Economic Development Advisory Committee – Minutes of Meeting	Page 1 of
File No:	URB/08/1/7/5	
Document Ref:	D15/150237	
Venue:	Civic Centre, Level 5, Room 1	
Date:	11 th November 2015	
Time:	5.00pm Started at: 5.00pm	Closed at: 6.25 pm
Chair:	Clr Craig Chung	
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

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

Additional Attendees

Name	Position Title	Organisation
John Brown	Place Manager	City of Ryde
Dyalan Govender	Acting Manager - Strategic City	City of Ryde
Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde
Sui Li	Research and Insights Coordinator	City of Ryde

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>1. Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Those in attendance and apologies were noted.</p>	Noted	
<p>Minutes from Meeting – 12th August 2015</p>	Confirmed and Endorsed	
<p>2. Update on City of Ryde economy</p> <p>Nathan provided statistics relevant to the economy of Ryde.</p> <p>The statistics suggest that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gross Regional Product is levelling off after the last few years • NSW and Ryde have been growing in inverse proportion during the last few years • Over 1000 jobs have been lost in Ryde during the last couple of years • 6.2% unemployment in Ryde compared with 5.17% in Sydney • House prices in Ryde have risen greatly over the last few years. <p><u>Ryde Jobs and Skills Expo</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A successful event with three workshops providing advice on CV's, job search techniques and interview skills well attended. • 30 stall holders • Large number of visitors <p><u>Ryde Business Bootcamp</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A ten week course for new business owners • \$160.00 to take part • Well received by all who took part <p>HR Managers Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted by Ryde/Macquarie Park Chamber of Commerce in partnership with HR Management Group in Macquarie Park • Seventy people attended • Corporate social responsibility was a major topic of discussion <p>Ryde China Business Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be held on 27th November 2015 at Macquarie University • Reps from 20 large Chinese pharmaceutical companies to be in attendance • 40 – 50 attendees expected • Austrade and others to speak 	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>Cassie Norris advised she would like to see greater interaction between schools and corporates with regard to corporate social responsibility.</p> <p>Contact between Cassie and businesses to be arranged.</p>	

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>3. Business Survey Results</p> <p>Sui Li presented the results of the above survey.</p> <p>The survey consisted of twelve questions designed to provide key indicators as to how people feel about operating businesses in Ryde.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The survey was sent to 13,750 subscribers • 4083 people viewed the survey • 533 participated (a good figure) • 66% of respondents believe the number of people visiting Ryde has increased. • Employee numbers are expected to grow in the next two years • People would like to see improvements to the amount of parking provided, a greater variety of business encouraged and shop front improvements. • The results of the survey will be made available via enewsletters and will be provided to Councillors and this committee. 	<p>The information was noted.</p>	
<p>4. Affordable Housing Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy is currently on exhibition for comment • The aim of the policy is to ensure that affordable housing is provided in this community • By 2031, Council hopes to be a leader in the provision of key worker housing • The target is for 5% of new dwellings to be affordable housing to be made available to people on low to moderate incomes. • Developers have been seeking clear guidelines on this matter for some time. • Council can't work alone and will be working with other organisations to achieve affordable housing. • Management of the new housing will be undertaken by Community Housing companies. • Goal is for 600 new affordable dwellings, 400 from State Govt and 200 from Council through the DA process. • Construction of 20 or more units is required before the affordable housing provisions come into force. • There is much confusion about the terms used in respect of affordable housing. • Still many questions about how do you choose the people to go into affordable housing and how do you control the price etc. 	<p>The information was noted.</p>	

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<p>5. Chambers of Commerce Roundup</p> <p>Stefan advised that the main concern for all Chambers is the blurred line between the role of Chambers and the RBF. Many prospective members do not wish to join both organisations.</p> <p>He would like to see the RBF do more to promote the individual Chambers rather than in competition with them.</p> <p>Yvonne updated the group on the successful Spring food festival which was held recently.</p> <p>The event required the closure of Massey Street and was well received.</p> <p>Tony advised the RBF is looking to enhance the integrity of individual Chambers of Commerce.</p> <p>The RBF has also been very active in its support of Council against proposed amalgamations.</p> <p>It wants to see Ryde retained as one entity.</p> <p>The Combined Chamber and RBF Christmas Party will be held on 4th December 2015 at Denistone Bowling Club with CCA the beneficiary.</p> <p>The RBF has also endorsed the Ryde China Business Forum.</p> <p>Attempts are also being made to reduce the number of after hour functions arranged by the Chambers and RBF but to make them more relevant.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p>	
<p>6. Setting dates for EDAC meetings – 2016</p> <p>Suggested dates are: 10th February 11th May 10th August 9th November</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p>	
<p>7. General Business</p> <p>Clr Chung advised that Nathan Pratt is leaving Council after nearly five years as Economic Business Manager.</p> <p>Clr Chung noted that Nathan has been a very valued employee who has worked extremely hard with minimal resources to achieve some great initiatives.</p> <p>He especially singled out Business Bootcamp – COR is the only Council to conduct such an event and the Affordable Housing Policy which he called Nathan’s badge of honour.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>Clr Chung extended a vote of thanks to Nathan which was endorsed by all present.</p>	

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	Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
	Nathan stated he has enjoyed his time at City of Ryde and has enjoyed watching Macquarie Park grow to be the biggest CBD outside the city.		
10	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will be held at 5pm on 10th February 2016 Level 5 meeting room – Civic Centre</p>	Noted	