



**New playground for Anzac Park**

To coincide with the recent reopening of playgrounds in the City of Ryde, I am delighted to report that the upgrade to the playground at Anzac Park in West Ryde has now been completed.

This latest playground upgrade was based on extensive consultation with the community and delivers on this Council's promise to invest in new and improved playgrounds that cater to children of all ages.

This new playground includes a range of fun and exciting features that will appeal to children of all ages, including a rope bridge, climbing tower, slides, balancing timber elements and a sandstone water play feature.

As part of the upgrade, the playground was relocated which now allows for existing trees to provide naturally shaded areas for users of the playground.

For the safety of everyone, I encourage everyone who uses the new playground to practice social distancing, good personal hygiene and adhere to the current rules on outdoor gatherings.

**Major projects to continue and provide jobs for our City**

A motion to initiate a discussion regarding the immediate deferral of all major capital expenditure by the City of Ryde was defeated at an extraordinary meeting this week. The best way out of a global recession and jobs crisis is not through austerity.

The City of Ryde can now focus on working with the State and Federal Governments to create jobs, boost economic growth and invest in vital infrastructure and projects that will help put us back on the road to recovery.

Central to our economic recovery will be the Ryde Central project. This project will sustain over 1000 jobs and once completed will provide a four-fold increase in space for the community. In addition, it will save ratepayers \$2.5 million each year that Council is currently spending to rent office space in North Ryde.

**Small Business Hardship Fund**

When the first case of coronavirus (COVID-19) emerged in late January, the City of Ryde promised to help businesses get through what was going to be a very challenging period.

Fast forward four months and we have delivered with more than 230 eligible businesses receiving support grants via the City of Ryde's Eastwood Small Business Hardship Fund.

The Hardship Fund was established by Council to assist businesses experiencing significant financial hardship. Eastwood was hit earlier and harder than most small businesses, with disinformation and rumours leading to the usually vibrant shopping precinct resembling a ghost town well before social distancing and lockdown measures were implemented.

These support grants will help more than 230 businesses keep their staff employed and keep their doors open. Crucially, as the economic restrictions start to be lifted, they will help businesses get back on the road to recovery faster.

**Small Business Support Package**

In addition to the Hardship Fund support grants, Council has also implemented a Small Business Support Package to support local businesses during the COVID-19 outbreak and assist in business recovery during the post-pandemic phase.

Under the Small Business Support package more than 40 different fees and charges will be waived for six months.

In addition, Council will also negotiate financial assistance support for café and restaurant owners operating from Council premises and other commercial tenants of Council. These negotiations will be undertaken on a case-by-case basis to develop a tailored solution for each tenant and may include rent waivers, rent deferrals or lease extensions.

Sincerely,



**Clr Jerome Laxale**  
Mayor

Phone 9952 8222  
mayor@ryde.nsw.gov.au



**NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN**

**VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARDS**

CHANGING COMMUNITIES.  
CHANGING LIVES.

Every year a committed and largely unseen army of volunteers give of their time and skills to enhance and uplift the life of the community within the City of Ryde. Now more than ever it is important to recognise our unsung heroes.

Visit [ryde.rocks/volunteers](http://ryde.rocks/volunteers) for more information and to nominate.

**HAVE YOUR SAY**

**OPEN COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS**

You are invited to have your say about documents, projects and proposals that are currently on public exhibition, or provide feedback on services and concerns that affect the community.

- License of part of Christie Park, Macquarie Park (Closing 4.30pm 25 June 2020)
- Rowe Street East Smoke Free Zone Trial (Closing 31 August 2020)
- 'Dine out in Ryde' Trial Program
- Devlin Street Pedestrian Bridges
- Graffiti Vandalism in the City of Ryde
- Immunisation Clinic Customer Experience Survey
- Traffic & Parking Around Schools
- Save Our Streets

**Want to find out more?**

To find out more about one of the above projects or for information on how to provide feedback, please visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay) or call Customer Service on 9952 8222.

**LIBRARY NEWS**



COVID-19 is affecting every aspect of how we live, work, socialise and play in the City of Ryde. What we are experiencing now will become history for the future and the only way that history will be recorded is if we document it now.

We need your help to create a photographic record of what it was like to live through this once in a generation event. You may have already taken photos that relate to the topic from Easter and ANZAC Day or as things started to change around you.

Please join in and upload your photos and help us build the history of tomorrow for our community, visit [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/RydeAtHome](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/RydeAtHome)

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**LIBRARIES REOPEN**

Ryde, West Ryde, Eastwood and North Ryde libraries have reopened weekdays between 10.00am and 4.00pm, while Gladesville Library has reopened between 1.00pm and 4.00pm on Tuesday to Thursday and between 9.00am and 1.30pm on Fridays. For details on changes to services available and tips on how to maximise your visit, go to [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/PlanMyLibraryVisit](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/PlanMyLibraryVisit)

**CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE REOPENS**

Council's Customer Service Centre at 1A Pope Street, Ryde is now reopen. The Customer Service Centre will open every weekday between 10.00am and 4.00pm.

**Please note: Strict social distancing measures will be in place for all libraries and the Customer Service Centre.**

**QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY CLOSURES**

The City of Ryde Customer Service Centre and all City of Ryde libraries will be closed for the Queen's Birthday on Monday 8 June. After hours chutes will be available at all libraries for your convenience. Waste collections will continue as usual. For full details go to [www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/holidayhours](http://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/holidayhours)