

Friday 9 March 2012

MAYOR WELCOMES TASKFORCE FOR MACQUARIE PARK

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Artin Etmekdjian, has welcomed today's announcement that a new Taskforce will be formed to advise on the redevelopment of Government land at Macquarie Park.

Membership of the Taskforce will consist of representatives from Department of Finance and Services, Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Infrastructure NSW, NSW Treasury, Housing NSW, City of Ryde and Macquarie University.

The Mayor said: "The announcement complements the intention of the Council's recently adopted Community Strategic Plan that aims to encourage accommodation growth around town centres and keep high density development out of residential suburban streets, preserving the green leafy character of local neighbourhoods.

"The Council has long recognised the potential of Macquarie Park to provide the backbone of employment opportunities for the entire north western area of Sydney."

Over the next 10 years residential growth in the City of Ryde is estimated at 4%. It is also envisaged that there will be an estimated \$3 billion in commercial property investment in Macquarie Park and by 2030 the precinct is set to become the fourth largest CBD, creating many job opportunities.

"As the Mayor, I have been encouraging and developing close partnerships with the State Government and Macquarie University with whom we already have a close working relationship.

"We also have close relationships with business operators in the area as well as a wealth of planning expertise and these networks and skills will contribute significantly to this Taskforce.

"This announcement also strengthens the considerable investment that the State Government has made in the Chatswood-Epping and the North-West rail links.

"The City of Ryde's Community Strategic Plan aims to celebrate Ryde as *the place to be for Lifestyle and Opportunity*. This project fulfils this vision."