

Thursday 4 December 2014

RYDE FUTURES PARTNERSHIP CONTINUES

Ryde Futures, the partnership between the City of Ryde Council and Macquarie University, will continue with the renewal of a Memorandum of Understanding on Thursday 4 December 2014 between the two organisations.

The Ryde Futures Partnership, *Smart and Connected*, was formed in 2011 to bring together the research and intellectual capacity of the two organisations for the benefit of the City of Ryde community.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Bill Pickering, said the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding marks another step in a successful, collaborative partnership: "Ryde Futures harnesses the best of both organisations and demonstrates the importance of research and the sharing of knowledge in the planning and shaping of our City.

"This partnership is focused on achieving a long term beneficial outcome for both parties, that assists and enhances the strategic goals of both the University and Council," he said.

A number of projects undertaken since 2011 have produced positive results. These include a research study to understand how the Council is perceived by residents and how well the Council's strategic direction aligns with the view of the community. This initiative helped in assessing the effectiveness of the Council's Community Strategic Plan vision document.

"We are privileged to be at the centre of a rapidly changing neighbourhood in the City of Ryde," said Macquarie University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor S. Bruce Dowton.

"Macquarie is actively seeking to create an innovation nexus here, where we and our partners, including the Council, can contribute solutions to the world, through deep, lasting relationships."

The University's Vice-Chancellor and senior leadership joined the Mayor, Councillors and senior Council staff at the signing on Thursday 4 December at Macquarie University.

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