



News Release

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EPA joins Our Living River initiative, for a swimmable Parramatta River

The NSW Environment Protection Agency (EPA) yesterday formalised a strategic partnership with the Parramatta River Catchment Group (PRCG), signing a Statement of Joint Intent for the Our Living River initiative to make the Parramatta River swimmable by 2025.

NSW EPA CEO, MR Barry Buffier, said the partnership consolidates the EPA's commitment to working with local councils, state government agencies and community groups, for the benefit of the NSW community.

"We share the same goal; to maintain clean, unpolluted waterways. The EPA looks forward to helping develop compliance, monitoring and reporting systems that improve the Parramatta River's water quality."

PRCG Chair and Mayor of Ryde, Councillor Jerome Laxale, welcomed the EPA's membership.

"The Parramatta River Catchment Group has made great progress in the last year, and we are delighted to have the EPA on board as a member," Councillor Laxale said.

"The EPA's support and advice will be invaluable as we roll out the schedule to make the river swimmable again.

"We will soon finalise the selection of six pilot swimming sites along the Parramatta River to begin water quality modelling that will inform how we make the river swimmable again, so there is no better time for this partnership with the EPA to be forged.

"I look forward to working together to address the challenges of restoring the river to its full potential."

To find out more about the Our Living River initiative, visit www.ourlivingriver.com.au

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