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COUNCIL TO UNLOCK THE RYDE RIVER WALK'S MISSING LINK

The City of Ryde will complete one of the key missing links of the Ryde River Walk after Council approved construction of the link between Bill Mitchell Park and Ross Street at Glades Bay in Tennyson Point.

The award winning 12 kilometre Ryde River Walk was opened to the public in 2008, providing access to the Parramatta foreshore for walkers and cyclists between Gladesville Bridge and Ryde Bridge.

However, a 150 metre section at Tennyson Point diverts from the foreshore and instead forces people up a steep stairway and into local streets. The stairway has proved to be an impediment for some people while also depriving others of accessing a major part of the foreshore.

Councillors voted in favour of building the missing link along Glades Bay, between Bill Mitchell Park and Ross Street, at the reconvened October Council meeting last night. It will be funded as part of Council's Passive Parks Capital Works Program.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the decision was a big win for the entire community.

"The Parramatta River belongs to everybody. By completing the missing link of the Ryde River Walk, we are opening up our jewel to everyone," Cllr Laxale said.

"The Ryde River Walk is one of Sydney's great waterfront walks and building its missing link will not only improve this fantastic outdoor space but also ensure the entire community can access this picturesque part of the Parramatta River."

The final design for the missing link is based on extensive consultation with key stakeholders and ensures none of the boardwalk will be built on private land. It will help to preserve the ecological importance of the area and has considered maintaining suitable access to the river for residents and boating enthusiasts.

Council has also resolved that a report be prepared for Council on completing an additional link of the Ryde River Walk located between Putney Park and Kissing Point Park. The City of Ryde will continue to implement the Ryde Riverwalk Master Plan, available on Council's website, as funding becomes available.

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