

# Ryde kicks a goal with FIFA World Cup live site

Published on 29 March 2018

Soccer fans will be able to kick off the FIFA World Cup in style with the City of Ryde to broadcast Australia's first game of the tournament live on a big screen at ELS Hall Park, North Ryde following unanimous support from Council at this week's meeting.

This year's FIFA World Cup will take place in Russia with Australia beginning their tournament against France on Saturday 16 June.

The live site at ELS Hall Park will be a family friendly event with food and fun activities planned throughout the evening.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said the FIFA World Cup live site will be a great opportunity for fans from across the City of Ryde to get together and cheer on Australia in what is now arguably the biggest sporting tournament in the world.

"Ryde is full of football fans and it is only right that they have the chance to come together and watch Australia begin their World Cup campaign at this dedicated live site," Clr Laxale said.

"It will be a terrific family event with great food, great football and great company. So mark it in your diary for 16 June, 6pm for an 8pm kick off and let's all get together to cheer on Australia.

"The City of Ryde is determined to enhance its night time economy and initiatives like the FIFA World Cup live site help achieve that."

Clr Laxale said the success of the FIFA World Cup live site event will help inform the feasibility of staging similar events for other sporting tournaments in the future.

# City of Ryde Fights To Save Bundara Reserve

Published on 29 March 2018



## **MORE THAN 20 TREES SET TO GO TO PROTECT FOOTBRIDGE FROM BIRD DROPPINGS**

The City of Ryde has expressed its strong objection to a NSW Government proposal to remove more than 20 trees from Bundara Reserve in North Ryde to, in part, mitigate the impact bird droppings will have on a new pedestrian footbridge.

Bundara Reserve is a small pocket of bushland located in the middle of Epping Road, Delhi Road and the M2 Motorway that crucially houses a stand of protected Turpentine-Ironbark trees.

The NSW Government initially gave assurances that a proposed footbridge over Delhi Road would not have any impact on Bundara Reserve. However, last week the NSW Government opened public consultation on a modified plan which would see the removal of trees from the green space to allow for the new footbridge.

An independent report was used by the NSW Government to justify the tree removal, claiming the removal was to “mitigate the effect of bird droppings” and to “mitigate the effect of falling branches” on the footbridge.

Incredibly, despite such a major modification, public consultation is only open for a two week period and includes the Easter break.

At its meeting this week, City of Ryde resolved to prepare a submission opposing the modified pedestrian footbridge and writing to the NSW Minister of Planning, the Hon. Anthony Roberts, requesting an extension of the public consultation period.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said from what he can see the only reason given to remove the trees at Bundara Reserve was to avoid undertaking regular maintenance work of the pedestrian footbridge.

“No vegetation on Bundara Reserve should be destroyed, particularly for something as trivial as to protect the paint on a footbridge from bird droppings,” Clr Laxale said.

“Quite literally, this State Government values paint ahead of protected trees and green space.”

“What is happening to Bundara Reserve is a symptom of the extreme overdevelopment that is impacting on the City of Ryde at the moment. And in a cynical move, they are trying to push this proposal through – which would see dozens of protected trees destroyed - without proper scrutiny or consultation with the community.

“The Bundara Reserve survived the creation of the M2 and the widening of Epping Road so it should definitely survive the installation of a footbridge. Local residents can be assured that the City of Ryde will do whatever it can to save this beautiful piece of green space.”

# Everyone belongs in Ryde this Harmony Day

Published on 16 March 2018

The City of Ryde in conjunction with the Community Migrant Resource Centre will be celebrating its diverse community and culture at the Harmony Day Community Information Expo on Thursday 22 March at Eastwood Plaza.

The expo will serve as a “one-stop shop” for information on the local services available to residents and new migrants, with more than 50 information stalls covering aged, home and community care, access to housing, education, volunteering as well as family and legal services.

To cater to the more than 50 nationalities represented in the City of Ryde community, information at the expo will be available in a number of community languages including English, Korean, Mandarin and Arabic.

The expo will also feature cultural performances, free chai tea, a children’s corner and the chance to win some fantastic prizes to celebrate inclusion and cultural harmony.

City of Ryde Deputy Mayor, Cllr Christopher Gordon, said the Harmony Day Community Information Expo was designed to celebrate the diversity of the City of Ryde community.

“The City of Ryde is committed to promoting social inclusion as one of its core values and events such as the Harmony Day Community Information Expo provide a great way for us to show to members of the community that they are all valued and respected,” Cllr Gordon said.

“The mix of cultures in Ryde is an asset to our community, and makes our City a vibrant place to be.”

The City of Ryde would like to thank the expo’s supporters, the Community Migrant Resource Centre, Ability Links NSW, United Way Australia, the Northern Centre and the NSW Police Force.

The Harmony Day Community Information Expo will take place between 9.30am and 12.30pm on Thursday 22 March at Eastwood Plaza.

# Outcomes from Council Meeting 6 March 2018

Published on 14 March 2018

Following the adjournment of the City of Ryde Council's Ordinary meeting 27 February, Council reconvened on Tuesday 6 March to address all the remaining items on the meeting agenda. Here is a summary of the main outcomes from the meeting:

## **SUPPORT FOR AUSTRALIA DAY**

The City of Ryde unanimously resolved to reaffirm its support for Australia Day to be held on 26 January. Council also resolved that Citizenship Ceremonies continue to be held on Australia Day.

## **RECOGNITION FOR FORMER COUNCILLOR TERRY RYAN**

A plaque will be unveiled to congratulate former City of Ryde Councillor Terry Ryan in recognition of the work he undertakes to maintain the Australian flag at Eastwood Plaza. The plaque for Mr Ryan will be mounted in an appropriate location at Eastwood Plaza.

In addition to the plaque, Council unanimously resolved to always fly the Australian flag and replace any damaged or weathered flags as soon as practicable.

## **NEW COMMUNITY GRANTS POLICY ENDORSED**

Council endorsed a new Community Grants Policy unanimously. The new policy was developed after an extensive review which involved consultation with a range of stakeholders.

Key changes in the new policy include an increase in overall funding, a doubling of community grant rounds per annum and the introduction of a new social inclusion grant. For more on this, click [here](#).

## **NEW PLAYGROUND PLAN FOR WEST DENISTONE PARK**

Council rescinded a motion it resolved at its Works and Community Committee meeting in February to proceed with the construction of an upgraded playground in the northern area of West Denistone Park and decommission the park's southern playground, following feedback from the local community.

The City of Ryde will continue with its plans for an upgraded playground in the northern area of the park and will now leave the southern playground until the end of its serviceable life. Construction on the new playground will commence later this year.

## **FOOD TRUCK TRIAL**

Council has endorsed the continued operation of food trucks within the City of Ryde following the food truck trial. The food truck guidelines used during the trial will be incorporated in the existing Mobile Food Vending Approval process for future regulation.

A new web page will be developed on the City of Ryde website to promote the guidelines and the specific requirements for all modes of food truck operation.

## **COUNCIL OPPOSES REMOVAL OF BUS STOPS ON M41 ROUTE**

Council resolved to not support plans to remove four existing stops from the M41 bus route.

The resolution was made in response to correspondence from Roads, Maritime Services in which it stated it would remove two stops in Marsfield, one in Macquarie Park, one in North Ryde and one in Ryde, which were all along the M41 bus route. Councillors voiced concerns that their removal would hinder residents' ability to access public transport.

## **CALL FOR A NEW BUS ROUTE IN EAST RYDE**

The City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, will write to NSW Transport Minister, the Hon. Andrew Constance and the Member for Lane Cove, the Hon. Anthony Roberts, requesting the State Government consider a new public bus route linking Boronia Park in East Ryde to Top Ryde and extend the route to connect with North Ryde train station.

## **COMMITMENT TO IMPROVE PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

The City of Ryde supported a commitment to improve public transport between Ryde, the Sydney CBD and Parramatta, with a view of exploring the possibility of introducing a metro rail link, additional bus services and other forms of public transport.

## **TRAFFIC LEVELS AT LANCASTER AVENUE IN MELROSE PARK TO BE MONITORED**

Following the investigation on the vehicle volume and speed along Lancaster Avenue, Melrose Park, City of Ryde staff will meet with residents to address their concerns before making any recommendations to the Traffic Committee.

## **IMPROVING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ON PITTWATER ROAD**

City of Ryde staff will prepare a report for the Works and Community Committee outlining options for a footpath along the City of Ryde side of Pittwater Road between Rene Street and the Field of Mars car park in East Ryde.

## **EASTWOOD FLOOD STUDY**

A study will be commissioned to identify options that could reduce the risk of flooding in Eastwood town centre.

## **OPENING OF COUNCIL BUILT FACILITIES**

It was agreed that the City of Ryde would, where applicable, invite the State and Federal Member of Parliament to jointly open all Council built facilities that have been funded by grants from either the Federal and/or NSW Governments.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 27 March.

# Come and celebrate the West Ryde Easter Parade and Fair's 25th Anniversary!

Published on 13 March 2018

There will be something for everyone at this year's West Ryde Easter Parade and Fair, with a day of festivities to take place on Saturday 24 March.

This year's West Ryde Easter Parade and Fair will take on added significance with the ever-popular event also celebrating its 25th anniversary. The fair was started in 1993 and is now regarded as the largest Easter event in the City of Ryde.

Approximately 5000 people are expected to attend the fair, which begins with a parade at 9.15am that makes a journey from Miriam Park to West Ryde Plaza.

Highlights for this year's fair include:

- Dance – traditional and modern styles
- Music – school orchestras and community bands
- Singing – church choirs and the Royal Rehab Choir
- Displays – Air League drill on the Plaza and marching pipe band
- Competitions – including best Easter Bonnet and the West Ryde Singing Star talent competition

There will also be a full program of family entertainment, carnival rides, international food stalls, displays, as well as market and information stalls.

In addition, children will be able to take advantage of unlimited rides on a giant slide, jumping castle, mechanical horses, 9-D Cinema, petting zoo, reptile display, racing car rides, flying elephants and much more for \$15 per person. The first 500 people will also receive a complimentary fair show bag.

Nora Etmekdjian, Secretary of the West Ryde Easter Parade and Fair Committee, said this year's fair would showcase local talent, community groups, churches, schools and businesses.

"Easter is an important time for many people given its significance on the Christian calendar, and it is terrific that we can once again come together and celebrate this occasion," Ms Etmekdjian said.

"I hope everyone can join us for this the 25th anniversary of the West Ryde Easter Parade and Fair and enjoy the large amount of activities we have planned for this year's event."



# Facebook Competition: Tell us what you love most about our parks

Published on 12 March 2018

In celebration of Parks Week, the City of Ryde is offering the chance to win a gourmet picnic for two!

The 4-course spread includes dessert and drinks, with all diets catered for.

Comment on our Facebook post and tell us in 25 words or less what you love most about our parks to be in with a chance to win.

The competition closes on Sunday 18 March 2018. Terms and conditions apply.

[\*\*Click here to find out more and to enter\*\*](#)

# **Your City - Summer 2018**

Published on 11 March 2018

**[View Interactive Version](#)**

**[View PDF Version](#)**

View the full newsletter: [Your City - Summer 2018](#)

# Improved Community Grants Program to deliver for the City of Ryde

Published on 08 March 2018

The City of Ryde is to make improvements to its Community Grants Program that will result in a doubling of community grant rounds, an increase in the maximum amount of funding that can be allocated for each project or event and the introduction of a new social inclusion grant.

The Community Grants Program supports not-for-profit organisations and groups within the community so that they can deliver projects and events that align with Council's strategic plan.

Last financial year, more than 40 projects received funding under the program. Examples of projects that received funding include a school readiness program for Ryde children who are hearing impaired, the Ryde Language Festival and a telephone counselling service for the Korean community.

Grants are currently issued for the following categories:

- Seniors
- Capacity Building
- Events
- Community Projects
- Sports and Recreation
- School Excellence Awards

Under the improvements, which will come into effect from 1 July 2018, an additional community grants round will be introduced, bringing the community grants' rounds from one a year to two each calendar year.

A Social Support and Social Inclusion Grant will also be introduced as a way to engage with organisations and small businesses to support inclusion, a key goal for the City of Ryde as part of its strategic plan.

Other key improvements include:

- The introduction of a separate Events category with an escalating funding scale based on attendance, up to \$7500
- An increase in funding for the School Excellence Awards from \$100 to \$200 for high school awards and from \$50 to \$100 for primary school awards
- An increase in funding for the Capacity Building category and the Small Grants scheme
- The ability for groups funded through the Social Support program to roll over that funding into a second year

The City of Ryde, at its meeting on Tuesday 6 March, endorsed the improvements unanimously following support by the Works and Community Committee. The improvements were developed following a review of the current Community Grants Program, which included an extensive round of consultation with stakeholders.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the improvements would mean more local community groups, clubs and organisations could access funding under the Community Grants Program.

“These annual grants are one of the ways the City of Ryde supports our local community groups to grow, prosper and carry out special projects and events that contribute to community well-being and help build a vibrant community culture,” Cllr Laxale said.

[Click here for more information on the Community Grants Program.](#)

# Outcomes from Council Meeting 27 February 2018

Published on 06 March 2018

Council held its first Ordinary meeting for 2018 on Tuesday 27 February. Here is a summary of the main outcomes from the meeting:

## **SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS FOR RYDE PUBLIC SCHOOL**

The City of Ryde will make improvements to pedestrian and vehicle safety outside Ryde Public School after concerns were raised by the school and local residents.

As part of the improvements, additional pedestrian fencing will be installed on Pope Street and line marking will be revised to delineate the pedestrian activated signals on Tucker Street. In addition, an investigation into extending the crossing durations times at the t-section between Pope Street and Smith Street during school drop off and pick-up times will be undertaken.

[For more on this, click here.](#)

## **CITY OF RYDE TO DO MORE TO ADDRESS YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT**

The City of Ryde will investigate opportunities to do more to assist young members of the community find more employment opportunities.

The City of Ryde currently undertakes an intern program to support young workers including partnering with University of Technology Sydney for senior student engineers, and at its meeting on Tuesday 27 February Council resolved to investigate opportunities to expand its current intern program to assist local graduates and apprentices gain work experience.

[For more on this, click here.](#)

## **DANGERS POSED BY MOVABLE SOCCER GOALS**

An inspection of movable soccer goals at parks will be undertaken by the City of Ryde. It is a legal requirement for movable soccer goals that are of a certain weight to be anchored so that they cannot tip over.

Councillors heard from local resident Emma Taylor about the dangers posed by movable soccer goals that are not anchored. Ms Taylor's three-year-old niece was killed in 2003 by a movable soccer goal that fell on her. Her passionate plea has prompted an urgent inspection that will take place within the next two weeks.

## **CHAUVEL STREET CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

The City of Ryde congratulated the residents of Chauvel Street, North Ryde for another successful Christmas light display in 2017.

Due to the growing popularity each festive season of the Christmas light display, Council acknowledged the increased risk for pedestrians and vehicles. As such, Council resolved to investigate the possibility of introducing temporary 'No Stopping' zones in Chauvel Street during peak periods in December.

Council will also consult with residents of other areas which display Christmas lights to establish whether there is a need of similar conditions in those areas.

### **WESTMINSTER OVAL TO UNDERGO MAINTENANCE**

Maintenance work will be undertaken at Westminster Oval prior to the 2018 football season.

### **SCULPTURE DONATION**

The City of Ryde accepted a donation of a sculpture from local artists David Hashimoto and Gabrielle Bates.

Titled 'Illumina-Trope', the sculpture is a stunning outdoor piece of art that depicts three vines rising and gently twisting around each other in a unified direction.

City of Ryde staff will now compile a list of suitable sites to erect the sculpture which will be considered by Council.

### **FLAG POLES AT KISSING POINT**

Council will be installing flag poles to fly the Australian flag and Indigenous flag at a suitable site in Kissing Point, Putney.

### **RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY GROUPS**

Separate commemorative plaques will be presented to the North Ryde Hawks Rugby League Club and the Epping Eastwood Lions Club for 60 years of service. Representatives from both clubs will be invited to a Council meeting in the future to receive their plaques.

### **NEXT MEETING**

Given all items were not addressed at the meeting, Council will reconvene the meeting at 8pm on Tuesday 6 March at City of Ryde Council Chambers.

# Thousands attend 10th Anniversary of the Eastwood Lunar New Year Festival

Published on 06 March 2018



The City of Ryde community has once again welcomed in the Lunar New Year in style with a hugely popular Grand Celebration closing off another successful Eastwood Lunar New Year Festival over the weekend (Saturday 3 March).

A terrific turnout of people took advantage of the beautiful warm sunshine in Eastwood on Saturday to attend the Grand Celebration, which included various cultural performances including the ever popular high pole lion dance.

The Grand Celebration was the culmination of the last three weeks of events that made up the festival, which was also celebrating its 10th anniversary and welcomed in the Year of the Dog.

The festival began with the annual Lunar New Year Cooking Competition, which was taken out by the Member for Parramatta, the Hon. Geoff Lee, who won over the competition judges with his delicious Zhongshan dumplings.

Also featured during the festival was a special Eastwood Night Markets evening which included the launch of the next phase of the exciting 'Ryde Lights' initiative that saw Eastwood Plaza lit up with a special Lunar New Year installation of 800 illuminated red lanterns.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the Eastwood Lunar New Year Festival gets bigger every year, and the 2018 edition was no exception.

“The City of Ryde is extremely proud to partner with the Lunar New Year committee in putting on this outstanding festival once again. Over the past three weeks, the City of Ryde has come together and celebrated our diverse, vibrant and multicultural community through an array of culture, colour and cuisine,” Cllr Laxale said.

“As I have said, our city is so fortunate to have this festival on our doorsteps and the thousands of people who attended the past three weeks of events would no doubt agree.”

Cllr Laxale paid tribute to Lunar New Year Committee Chairman Hugh Lee who is retiring after six years in the role.

“Hugh’s tireless efforts to build the Eastwood Lunar New Festival from what was a relatively small event to what it is today should be commended and I would like to thank him on all that he and his committee have achieved,” Cllr Laxale said.

“I would also like to thank Festival and Events Advisory Committee Chair Cllr Peter Kim for his involvement in the planning of the festival.”



# Safety Improvements to be made outside Ryde Public School

Published on 05 March 2018



The City of Ryde will make improvements to pedestrian and vehicle safety outside Ryde Public School after concerns were raised by local residents.

As part of the improvements, additional pedestrian fencing will be installed on Pope Street and line marking will be revised to delineate the pedestrian activated signals on Tucker Street, Ryde.

In addition, an investigation will be undertaken into extending the pedestrian crossing durations at the t-section between Pope Street and Smith Street during school drop off and pick-up times.

The improvements were endorsed by Council at its meeting on Tuesday 27 February.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said the improvements would go a long way to addressing the safety concerns outside of Ryde Public School. "When Ryde Public School and local residents first raised these safety concerns, myself and some of my fellow councillors went to the school during pick-up times and saw the real danger to pedestrians - particularly children - first hand," Clr Laxale said.

"The safety improvements that will be made will provide greater safety for pedestrians in the area, including school children at Ryde Public School, as well provide added guidance to motorists driving in the area during peak periods.

“I would like to thank Ryde Public School and the local residents who brought this issue to Council’s attention.”

Joanne Gartside from the Ryde Public School P & C said the decision by Council was a huge relief for both parents and children.

“These improvements would reduce the risk of someone being hurt and the fencing will keep people on the footpaths instead of spilling out onto the road. At the end of the day everyone just wants our children to make it home safely,” Ms Gartside said.

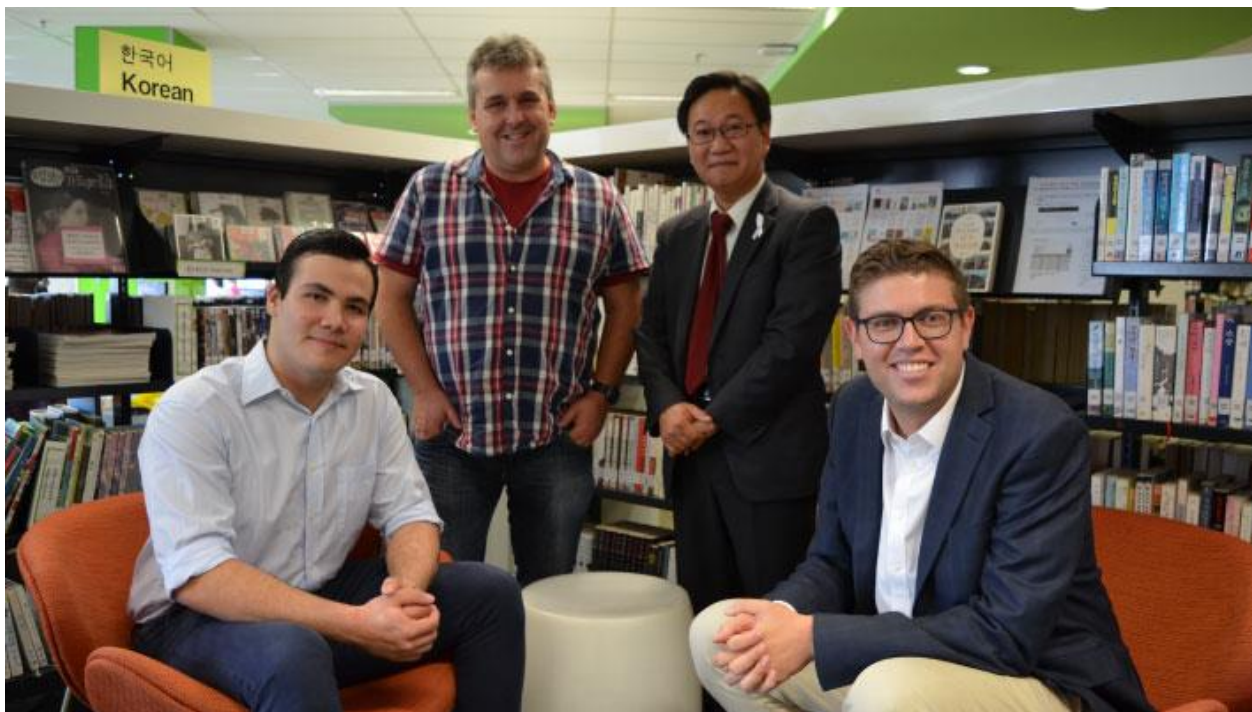
The improvements at Ryde Public School will take place alongside a round of consultation by City of Ryde on traffic and parking around local schools can be improved.

As part of this consultation, Cllr Laxale and City of Ryde staff will be hosting information sessions at schools throughout March and April.

[Click here for more information on the traffic and parking around schools consultation.](#)

# City of Ryde to do more to address Youth Unemployment

Published on 02 March 2018



*Rhett Prado, Mike Paine - Community Projects Officer Youth, Clr Peter Kim and Mayor of Ryde Jerome Laxale*

The City of Ryde will investigate opportunities to do more to assist young members of the community find more employment opportunities.

Statistics from the 2016 Census show that 14.7% of Ryde residents aged 15 to 24 years of age are unemployed, which is a higher rate than levels in neighbouring local government areas such as Willoughby (11.5%) and Strathfield (14%), and only slightly lower than Parramatta (14.9%).

The City of Ryde currently undertakes an intern program to support young workers including partnering with University of Technology Sydney for newly qualified engineers, and at its meeting on Tuesday 27 February Council resolved to investigate opportunities to expand its current intern program to assist local graduates and apprentices gain work experience.

Ryde Young Citizen of the Year Rhett Prado addressed Councillors about the struggle that young people in Ryde face in finding employment.

“Youth unemployment and under-employment, is an alarming issue facing the community of Ryde. With housing prices pushing up the cost of living, Ryde's younger citizens are finding it harder to make ends meet,” Mr Prado said.

“Expanding internships within the City of Ryde provides the Ryde youth an opportunity to gain valuable experience in the hope that it will increase their employment prospects and give them a kick-start into their future careers.

“These internships are not only valuable to the young people receiving them. It also gives Ryde Council many new bright and keen young workers who are willing to learn and grow in their positions.”

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said more needed to be done at all levels of government to assist young people in finding employment opportunities.

“Providing more opportunities for local graduates and apprentices to gain vital work experience will provide a great stepping stone for those struggling to find work,” Clr Laxale said.

“Expanding the Council’s intern program is just one initiative and I will be working with Councillors and staff over the next year to try and identify ways in which we can address youth unemployment in the City of Ryde.”

# Winners of 'My Ryde Vision 2028' Announced

Published on 01 March 2018



The City of Ryde is delighted to announce the winners of the 'My Ryde Vision' 2028 competitions, which were conducted as part of the development of the Council's community strategic plan – 'Ryde Vision 2028'.

The entrants were asked to show what they wanted the City of Ryde to look like in 2028 through a video and drawing.

The winner of the youth video competition, which was open to local residents aged 25 and under, was 16-year-old Eastwood resident Anthony Lai, who produced a 30-second clip of his vision for the City of Ryde which included a diverse community with access to affordable housing and recreational facilities.

The highly commended award in the video competition was awarded to Archie Seeto, 7, from North Ryde.

The winner of the drawing competition, which was open to students attending primary schools within the City of Ryde, was Lewis Mills, 8, from Gladesville Public School.

The kindergarten to year 2 runner-up was Sophie Kim and the year 3 to 6 runner-up was Emily Chan. Both students attend Denistone East Public School.

Announcing the winners at Council's meeting on Tuesday 27 February, City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, thanked everyone who entered the competition.

“It is essential that we involve the youth in developing the future vision for the City of Ryde as it will be the youth who be an integral part in realising this vision,” Clr Laxale said.

“We would like to thank all entrants for their great visions that were submitted.”

Ryde Vision 2028 is the City of Ryde’s long term strategy that identifies the community’s main aspirations and objectives for the next decade. The strategic plan is currently being drafted and will be open for community comment in May this year.