

# City of Ryde Council meeting summary - December meeting

Published on 20 December 2018

Council held its latest Ordinary meeting on 11 December 2018. Here is a summary of the main outcomes from the meeting:

## **New plan to solve Eastwood parking and traffic issues**

A concept plan will be developed that would support the creation of a new shopper car park on the western side of Eastwood as well as a new public plaza and community facilities.

Under the concept plan, the existing Glen Street car park would be relocated to the Shaftsbury Road precinct at the edge of Eastwood town centre. The Glen Street car park, meanwhile, would be transformed into a public plaza, creating a more vibrant open space for the community.

The finalised concept plan as well as the Draft Eastwood Traffic and Parking Study will be placed on public exhibition in early 2019, with a comprehensive consultation process to be undertaken involving residents, community groups and the local business community.

The new car park on the western side of Eastwood would be in addition to the new multi-storey short stay car park that Council will build at 53-71 Rowe Street, on the eastern side of the town centre.

[Click here for more information.](#)

## **Ryde enters into Friendship Agreement with Korean city**

The City of Ryde will enter into a Friendship Agreement with the City of Jongno-gu in the Republic of Korea.

Jongno-gu was nominated given its similarities with the City of Ryde regarding population and demographics, key industries and educational links.

Friendship Agreements provide opportunities for cities to create shared understandings and mutually grow through cultural, educational, business and technical exchanges.

## **Ryde opts-in to reduce parking fines**

The State Government recently made regulatory changes that allows NSW Councils to reduce their fines, however, to make the change Councils are required to opt-in to the new scheme.

The City of Ryde has agreed to opt-in to this new State Government policy to reduce parking fines.

A report outlining funding options and financial implications will be submitted to Council in February.

### **Honouring the women elected to the City of Ryde**

Council will consult with the Status of Women Advisory Committee regarding the possibility of naming a public space after Beatrice Beryl Sutton, who was the first woman to be elected to local government in Ryde.

The move comes after the City of Ryde recognised the 100-year anniversary since women became eligible to be elected to local government in NSW. A morning tea will be hosted with the women (or their representatives) who have been elected to local government in Ryde to commemorate the centenary.

### **Council seeks to become Reserve Trust Manager over Crown Land**

The City of Ryde will seek approval from the NSW Minister for Lands and Forestry to become Reserve Trust Manager over 12 parcels of Crown Land that are currently identified by the NSW Government as being 'devolved to Council'.

Changing Council's status to Reserve Trust Manager would allow Council to more effectively implement plans that would govern the use of each parcel of land.

There are 31 parcels of Crown Land in the City of Ryde, with Council the Reserve Trust Manager of the 19 other parcels of land.

### **Next meeting**

The next Ordinary Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 26 February 2019.

# Deployment of TPG small cell network within the City of Ryde

Published on 19 December 2018

Huawei, an information and communications technology infrastructure provider, is installing small cell network facilities within certain locations in the Ryde Local Government Area on behalf of TPG.

A small cell network facility is a box approximately the size of two shoeboxes and provides better bandwidth for TPG users (see Fact Sheets and FAQs for more information). TPG proposes to install the small cell network facilities on existing telegraph poles at a total of 35 locations within the Ryde LGA. TPG has chosen these locations for their location close to the fibre networks and higher density establishments.

Under the Telecommunications (Low-impact Facilities) Determination 1997 (Determination) schedule 3, the installation of these small cell network facilities do not require development consent from Council. [Click here for more information on the determination schedule.](#)

Council has been made aware of the community concerns regarding safety around these small cell network facilities. Council has been assured by TPG that these small cell network facilities are safe and have provided Fact Sheets and FAQs in regards to this matter.

In addition, carriers must abide with the Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Industry Code (Code) and further with the requirements in the Telecommunications Act 1997 and Telecommunications Code of Practice 1997 while carrying out the installation of certain types of telecommunication facility such as low impact facility.

[Click here to view a copy of The Telecommunication Code of Practice 1997](#) and [here for a copy of the Telecommunications Act 1997](#)

The Code also requires carriers to have written procedures for dealing with complaints about their compliance with the Code. If a complaint is not resolved, it can be referred to the The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA). The ACMA is responsible for ensuring facilities are installed according to the Code of Practice. Where a carrier has breached the Code of Practice, and if the ACMA is concerned that the carrier is not complying with the Mobile phone base station deployment Code, it can issue a formal direction to comply. If the carrier breaches this direction, the matter can be referred to the Federal Court, which can place financial penalties on the carrier.

[Click here for more information on how to make a complaint with the ACMA.](#)

# Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre diving into school holidays

Published on 19 December 2018



With the busy school holiday period underway, the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre (RALC) has unveiled a range of new facilities that will make the centre more efficient to run and more enjoyable for the entire community.

Headlining the improvements is the new solar harvesting power station, which was officially unveiled today, with Clr Christopher Gordon, Clr Penny Pedersen and Clr Bernard Purcell on site to mark the occasion.

The solar harvesting power station is the largest of its kind in North West Sydney and includes 846 solar panels, which will generate more than 300 kilowatts of power and save close to 66 equivalent tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions each year.

Those attending the RALC will be able to track the performance of the new solar harvesting power station through a special online tracking system that provides live data on how much energy the power station is producing on a display screen at the centre's café.

Combined with a previously installed cogeneration facility, the RALC is also benefiting economically from the new solar harvesting power station with the centre's reliance on the main electricity grid now down to around 30%.

In addition to the energy transformation, the RALC also invested in some new facilities. This includes the introduction of a new disability hoist, while water refill stations are also due to be installed in the new year.

The popular Surf Ryder along with many other activities and water features will be operating through the school holidays.

[Click here](#) for further details on the RALC.

## Council commits to next stages of Christie Park upgrade

Published on 18 December 2018



*Christie Park*

The City of Ryde has reaffirmed its commitment to undertake significant upgrades at Christie Park that will turn the venue into one of the leading sporting facilities in Sydney.

Following a resolution at its Extraordinary Meeting this week, Council plans to allocate funds for the next stage of upgrades in its 2019 – 2023 Four Year Delivery Plan. Funding will be also sought through relevant State and Federal grant programs.

Christie Park – located in the suburb Macquarie Park – is one of the most popular sporting venues in the City of Ryde and neighbouring areas.

This year, Council unveiled the first round of significant upgrades (known as Stage 1) at the venue with two new FIFA-accredited synthetic fields opening to the public, guaranteeing consistent playing surfaces all year-round. A new tiered seating section for 500 spectators was also installed.

The next stage of upgrades will be undertaken over two stages.

Stage 2 of the Christie Park expansion will include a first-class amenities building that will service the two fields currently in place at the venue, as well as additional futsal courts.

Stage 3, meanwhile, will result in a third synthetic field being installed with a new car park underneath.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said the upgrades would provide the community and local sporting clubs with a first class sporting venue right on their doorstep.

“By re-affirming its commitment to Stage 2 and 3 of Christie Park, this Council is delivering on a promise it made to the community to turn Christie Park into a sporting venue that has state-of-the art facilities and is accessible 365 days a year,” Clr Laxale said.

The total cost for construction of the amenities building and additional Futsal Courts at Christie Park is currently estimated at \$8.2 million.

# Top tips for a waste-free Christmas

Published on 17 December 2018

Now that we are getting ready for our Christmas celebrations we know that it will come with some extra waste.

We have put together a list of some waste wise tips which you may like to use before and after this Christmas so you can give to your family back to our community and even earn cash for your recycling.

With the philosophy and practice of Refuse, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle here are some great ways to change your waste footprint.

## Refuse



*City of Ryde offers discount worm farms and compost bins to residents*

Think about buying presents with less packaging and consider giving waste conscious gifts like experiences such as our [Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre](#) gift cards. This will give you access to all our programs for 2019 that the whole family can use. Or maybe you would like to consider one of our cost price [worm farms or compost bins](#). This means that all left-over food waste can go towards fertilising your garden.

Why not pass on this year's Christmas pine tree and decorate your front native tree or shrub instead! A cut-live Christmas pine tree has a short life span of about 4 weeks. If this is a tradition to be kept we also offer a [FREE chipping and mulching service](#). You can book your spot online and read our tips on how to dispose of your tree in the green bin.

# Reduce

The use of Ecards instead of Christmas cards are a great way to tell your family and friends you love them and the environment. There are plenty of websites to choose from such as [Canva](#), where you can design your own unique ecard.

When buying presents think of what the lifespan of the product will be, a great way to know this is to see what has already left the house before. This can also be a thought of when planning for the family Christmas lunch and ask yourself “how much food is too much?”

# Reuse



*Furoshiki is the Japanese art of gift wrapping using fabric*

Let's get creative! Old magazines and colourful paper are a great medium to create your own sentimental card. You can also revive last year's Christmas paper by ironing them out or use material to wrap up your presents. Scarves, tablecloths and tea towels with a nice pattern can give your present another dimension and a personal touch. We hold free Japanese fabric ('Furoshiki') wrapping classes throughout from time-to-time, or you can watch [free online tutorial](#).

It's cheeky but tried and true, it's the gift that keeps on giving, such as the bread maker that resurfaces every year to a different family member. This becomes the annual joke and a way for family to reconnect.



# Recycle



*Council problem waste recycling station*

Let's Recycle Right! [About 75 per cent of waste at households is recyclable.](#)

[Donating clothes](#) is such a great way to give back to community and non-for-profit charities! Use our [interactive map](#) to find the best location for you and/or look out for our green bins with the Smarter Greener Cleaner logo.

Want to clear out the cupboards for the new year? Why not hold a [garage sale](#) - we offer free advertising on our Council's website, which will also be tweeted out in social media.

The [community recycling centre](#) is located at 8 Waltham Road Artarmon and is open on Monday, Tuesday and Friday: 8.00am-2.00pm and Saturday and Sunday: 8am - 4pm and closed public holidays. This service allows you to recycle all those household goods that shouldn't go into landfill. For smaller items, just drop them in one of our [Problem Waste Drop-Off Stations](#) - we have several around the City.

So please make sure you recycle right during Christmas and make sure you keep recyclables loose and out of plastic bags. For more information on how to recycle right visit our [Recycling Collection page](#).

Blown your budget? Here is a way you can ['return and earn'](#) your recycling? Just go to the website and type in your [post code](#) to find the nearest return and serve location, take all your eligible bottles (not crushed or broken) to the station and you will receive 10 cents for each bottle/container. There are several stations around Ryde and all throughout Sydney.

You can also opt to donate the funds to a non-for-profit organisation such as [Red Cross](#) or [Achieve Australia](#) and not just help the environment but those in need within our local community especially over the Christmas period.

Also remember that the shiny metallic and glitter foil wrapping paper is not recyclable and will need to go in your general waste unless you keep it for next year's Christmas.

Here's to having a sustainable and fun Christmas.

# Temporary closure of Kissing Point boat ramp

Published on 14 December 2018

The City of Ryde wishes to advise that the Kissing Point boat ramp will be temporarily closed from 7 January 2019 to allow for repair work to be undertaken.

Warning signs have been erected to warn boat users of a sharp drop at the submerged toe of the ramp.

An alternative boat ramp is available nearby at Wharf Road, Melrose Park.

The City of Ryde apologises for any inconvenience.

For more information contact Customer Service on 9952 8222.

# New Eastwood car park to solve chronic traffic and parking issues

Published on 12 December 2018

The City of Ryde has resolved to develop a concept plan that would support the creation of a new shopper car park on the western side of Eastwood as well as a new public plaza and community facilities.

Under the concept plan, the existing Glen Street car park would be relocated to the Shaftsbury Road precinct at the edge of Eastwood town centre. The Glen Street car park, meanwhile, would be transformed into a public plaza, creating a more vibrant open space for the community.

The new car park could increase the number of off-street car parking spaces currently available on the western side of Eastwood from 450 spaces to approximately 600 spaces.

In addition, Council will engage in consultation with the relevant stakeholders to investigate the possibility of building vital community facilities in the vicinity of the new car park, which could include a new community hall, youth space and an occasional childcare centre. Options for temporary accommodation for these services while construction of the car park takes place would also be discussed with the stakeholders.

The move by Council to address the chronic traffic and parking issues in Eastwood comes after the release of the Draft Eastwood Traffic and Parking Study.

The independent study looked at several options for off-street car parking in Eastwood and found that moving the Glen Street car park to the Shaftsbury Road precinct would improve the traffic conditions in the area. The study also found that a weekday commuter car park would cause traffic grid-lock.

Given this, and in line with the study's commentary, Council also resolved to write to Transport for NSW encouraging the State Government to build a commuter car park in West Ryde.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said the relocation of the Glen Street car park would be a win for local residents and businesses.

"In just over a year, this current Council has managed to do what others have failed to do and provide a clear pathway to opening up Eastwood town centre, providing logical, evidence-based traffic and parking solutions that will make it easier for shoppers to access and going a long way to boosting the local economy," Clr Laxale said.

"This new vision for Eastwood will significantly reduce the chronic traffic and parking issues the local community has to deal with every single day in Eastwood, but also create a dynamic public space in the heart of the town centre.

# Outcomes from Council Meeting 27 November 2018

Published on 06 December 2018

Council held its latest Ordinary meeting on 27 November 2018. Here is a summary of the main outcomes from the meeting:

## **COUNCIL TO EXPLORE RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGET OF UP TO 60% BY 2030**

The City of Ryde will commission a report to determine the feasibility of how to transition towards greater renewable energy sources to power Council's facilities, in an effort to lower its greenhouse gas emissions.

Council resolved to investigate how a Renewable Energy Target of at least 60 per cent of electricity usage for which the City of Ryde is responsible for could be delivered from renewable energy sources by 30 June 2030.

If determined that this is indeed possible, the increase in renewable energy would be derived from energy sources such as solar power, wind power and hydro power, and not sourced from electricity that is generated utilising coal.

[Click here for more information.](#)

## **LOCAL ORGANISATIONS RECEIVE FUNDING UNDER COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM**

Five local organisations were allocated small grants to assist them in delivering community projects.

Organisations that received grants included The Northern Centre which received \$2,000 to help stage an evidence-based national music therapy program for vulnerable and at risk children aged 0-5 years old, as well Reach Community Initiatives which received \$2,000 to establish a breakfast club that would support students social and emotional skills.

The small grants are a category of the City of Ryde's Community Grants Program. The grants are designed to assist local groups and organisations to respond to changing circumstances which emerge outside of the six-monthly community grants cycle.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SHOW CITY OF RYDE REMAINS IN A SOLID FINANCIAL POSITION**

The City of Ryde's 2017/18 Financial Statements received external audit endorsement and have now been submitted to the Office of Local Government.

The 2017/18 Financial Statements showed Council remained in a solid financial position with financial indicators trending positively and well above industry

benchmark. Council's operating result (surplus) was \$3.8 million before capital income contributions.

It was noted that while the 2017/18 financial results were pleasing, it was critical that Council continues to exercise prudent financial management.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM DELIVERING RESULTS**

Council was provided with a detailed update on the Economic Development Program that has been initiated by Council staff to support the City of Ryde's business community.

A number of key initiatives were undertaken as a result of the program throughout 2017/18 including the Ryde Business Bootcamp program, Get Connected, Chinese trade delegations at Macquarie Park and the popular Shop Shapers program.

Over the next 12 months, the Economic Development Program will seek to continue to deliver successful existing initiatives, while identifying additional projects to expand its reach. Seeking continuous consultation with key stakeholders will also be incorporated into the expanded Economic Development Program.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 11 December.

# City of Ryde rejects planning proposal for 112 Talavera Road

Published on 05 December 2018

The City of Ryde has called on the State Government to support its recommendation to refuse a planning proposal which seeks to amend the building height and floor space ratio for 112 Talavera Road, Macquarie Park.

The planning proposal – submitted by Meriton – initially sought to increase the building height to 63 storeys, however, this was reduced to 42 storeys as part of an amended proposal by Meriton following concerns expressed by the community relating to height.

Despite the amended proposal, Council did not support the planning proposal at an Extraordinary Council meeting on Tuesday evening for the following reasons:

- The proposal does not meet community expectations identified in the objections received during the exhibition period;
- There is a lack of supporting infrastructure provided by the State Government;
- The increase in height and density is not in the community interest noting the recent growth and development experienced in the wider Local Government Area;
- The proposal is not required for the City of Ryde to meet its housing target set by the Greater Sydney Commission's North District Plan.

The Council's recommendation will now be forwarded to the NSW Government, which is the consent authority for the proposal. Council has never had the power to refuse or approve the proposal.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the submissions received during the community consultation highlighted the community concerns about the planning proposal as well as the impact on overdevelopment on the City of Ryde.

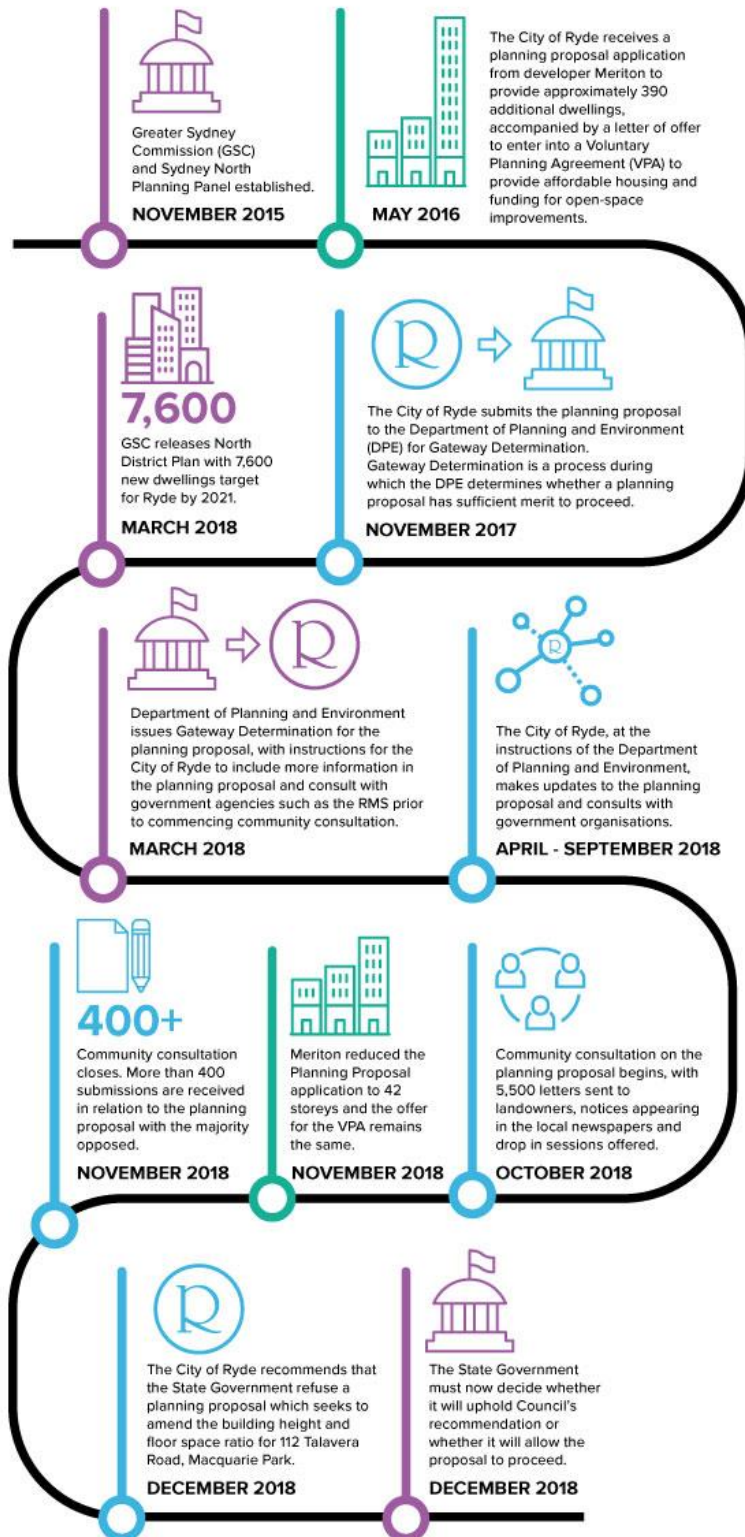
"Council received more than 400 submissions on this matter, of which the vast majority were against the planning proposal due to a range of concerns including traffic congestion, inadequate supporting infrastructure and loss of local amenity and character," Cllr Laxale said.

"People in Ryde are sick of State Government-enabled overdevelopment in Ryde. Priority precincts, the Medium Density Housing Code (MDHC) and State Government stacked planning panels are signs that they will continue to target Ryde despite considerable objections by the community."

Cllr Laxale urged the NSW Government to refuse the proposal by 31 December and highlighted Council's demands to the State Government to abolish priority precincts and exempt the City Of Ryde from the MDHC.

“Our community has seen straight through Mr Dominello’s lies, smear and pre-election stunts. They know his record and they’re angry. Our demands are simple; abolish priority precincts, exempt us from the MDHC and listen to our community.”

## Planning Proposal in focus





# Assurance review needs to focus on NSW Government planning policies

Published on 05 December 2018

The City of Ryde has called for the Greater Sydney Commission's assurance review into planning in the Ryde LGA to focus on unfair planning controls imposed by the State Government on the Ryde community.

At the request of NSW Premier Gladys Berejiklian, Greater Sydney Commission Chief Commissioner Lucy Turnbull will conduct an assurance review into the Department of Planning's work in the Ryde LGA, with a particular focus on the Macquarie Park Investigation Area.

Despite not knowing the terms of reference or being officially informed of the review, Council is specifically calling on the commission to investigate the State Government's Priority Precinct Program, which has increased the capacity of dwellings in the area to 15,000.

This has resulted in massive residential developments such as Lachlan's Line and Ivanhoe Estate being granted approval by the Department of Planning and Environment without the appropriate infrastructure and amenities to support them.

The review also needs to look at unfair housing targets set by the commission itself for the Ryde LGA. The State Government-backed Greater Sydney Commission has forced the City of Ryde to develop strategies to provide 7,600 new dwellings in the LGA by 2021, whereas Hunter's Hill has a target of only 150. Council has called for lower targets, but has been ignored by the State Government.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said: "This assurance review, whatever that means, is another desperate pre-election stunt by a local Liberal MP Victor Dominello. He's running away from his Government's over development record in Ryde and trying to blame everyone but himself."

Clr Laxale, said claims there was a "disconnect" between Council and the Department of Planning and Environment about planning decisions in Ryde LGA were wide of the mark.

"The only disconnect evident here is between Mr Dominello, the State Government and the Ryde community," Clr Laxale said.

"The City of Ryde has had a range of unfair planning policies forced onto it by the State Government and has been working extremely hard to work within these policies in the face of extreme community anger.

"The State Government approved the Macquarie Park Priority Precinct despite only 30 per cent community support. They tore down the Ivanhoe Estate and will increase dwellings from 259 to 3500 and they pushed ahead with Lachlan's Line (2700 units) despite fierce backlash from residents.

“On behalf of the community, the City of Ryde has been calling for the State Government to change its approach to planning in the Ryde LGA and abandon the government’s priority precincts in our LGA, but this has been met with silence.

“This is the same State Government that wanted to impose the Medium Density Housing Code on the City of Ryde.

“The code – deferred until 2020 after the City of Ryde campaigned against it – would have meant more than 10,000 low density lots in the Ryde LGA would be available for development into two storey flat buildings under the State Government’s changes. This could result in an additional 60,000 residents in our low density neighbourhoods.”

Clr Laxale said the review also needed to look at the NSW Government’s failed decision to take the ability to approve development proposals away from Councils and into the hands of independent planning panels.

“It is not just a fluke that this decision to take away the democratic voice of local government has coincided with so much overdevelopment being approved in the Ryde LGA. In the last four years, 64% of all dwellings approved in Ryde have been through the State Government and these stacked planning panels,” he said.

“The State Government has allowed these planning panels to act as rubber stamp factories. They’ve approved over 10,000 dwellings in Ryde since 2011 despite significant objections from the community.”

# Top-5 Ways to Keep Cool This Summer in Ryde

Published on 03 December 2018



*Putney Park*

As the jacarandas drop the last of their vibrant lilac-coloured blooms, summer takes the place of spring and with it comes a host of new ways to enjoy our City.

Despite being just 12 kilometres from the CBD of Australia's largest city, the City of Ryde is home to stunning parks, expansive bushland and sparkling rivers, complemented by an extensive range of Council facilities and services.

This makes it the perfect spot to keep cool during the warmer months and we've put together a list of a few recommendations to inspire you!

## 1. Park yourself in one of our many parks

With more than 200 parks and open spaces in our City, there's always a shady spot to read a book, walk the dog or make use of the free outdoor fitness equipment.

All of our parks and sportgrounds are available for hire, so if you're looking for a spot for an upcoming birthday or wedding, you may want to check out our [Book a Park or Sportground](#) page. Better yet, we don't charge fees for the use of the gazebos, barbecues or open grass areas (but you'll need to get there first!).

Not sure where to go? Search by park type, suburb or features using our easy [Park and Sportground finder](#).



*Minga Reserve, Ryde*

## 2. Take a refreshing dip in the pool

There's no better way to cool down than to take a dip in the pool. Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre (RALC) was one of the host facilities during the 2000 Summer Olympics, and for good reason! This indoor complex is home to a 50-metre pool, leisure pool, indoor stadium, onsite café, spa and sauna. On weekends and school holidays there's also a wave pool and giant slide, as well as a giant inflatable operating on the last Sunday of every month. There are regular swimming classes, including our Learn to Swim program, in addition to a variety of sporting programs and camps during the year.

It's also a good spot to host birthday parties, with games and activities and optional catering provided.

If you're a Fitness Passport holder, you'll be happy to know that the centre is a participating member.

To find out more, visit our [Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre](#) page.



*Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre*

### 3. Fill up for free using our water refill stations

Those hot days can really work up a thirst. Thankfully we have filtered water stations dotted across the City near walking paths and sports grounds. BYO water bottle to save money and reduce waste – fill up for free using the bottle refill point. Our new stations also feature a dog bowl, so your pooch can keep hydrated too!

To find one near you, visit our [Filtered Water Stations](#) page.



*Water Station at Elouera Reserve*

## 4. Let your inner water baby shine at Putney Park's water play area

Set on the banks of the beautiful Parramatta River, this expansive waterfront park has shaded picnic facilities, barbecues, a cycle way and walking paths.

But the real highlight for kids is the water-play playground. With a super slide, paddling bools, beach area and climbing equipment, it's the perfect spot to enjoy a family fun day out.

To find out more, visit our [Putney Park page](#).

There are also plans in the mix to make Putney Park a swimming site by 2025 as part of the Parramatta River Masterplan. [Find out more](#).



*Putney Park, Putney*

## 5. Join up and join in at our (air conditioned) libraries

Libraries have evolved considerably to become vibrant, exciting spaces catering to all ages, abilities, cultural backgrounds and interests.

Kids will enjoy the activities, books, DVDs, toy library, science kits and Curiosity Cabinet. There's also free computer and internet access, meeting rooms, photocopying, printing and scanning facilities and more.

Events include everything from author talks to workshops, musical performances and school holiday activities.

Membership is free, as are most of the events and facilities on offer. Better yet, all five branches are air conditioned, so they're a great place to escape the summer heat.

To find out more, visit our [Library page](#).



*Ryde Library, 1 Pope Street, Ryde*