

Tuesday 28 January 2020

## **EASTWOOD LUNAR NEW YEAR FESTIVAL POSTPONED**

The City of Ryde, in consultation with the Lunar New Year Sub-Committee, has made the decision to postpone the Eastwood Lunar New Year Festival.

The festival was scheduled to take place on Saturday, 8 February, however, due to current community health concerns, the City of Ryde cannot guarantee the event would be well-attended if it proceeded next week.

The committee will meet in due course and reschedule the event in consultation with the Eastwood Lunar New Year Festival's valued sponsors, performers and the community.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said he supported the decision to postpone the event.

"The Eastwood Lunar New Year Festival is one of the most important events for the City of Ryde and has been running in Eastwood for more than 10 years as a way of celebrating our multicultural community," Cllr Laxale said.

"The City of Ryde has a responsibility to put on a great and well attended event for our City and our sponsors, however, given the concern within the community it is just not the right time to stage such an important event."

City of Ryde Deputy Mayor and Committee Chairman, Cllr Simon Zhou, said the decision to postpone was taken after careful consideration and consultation with committee members and stakeholders.

"The 2020 Lunar New Year Grand Celebration has been a very well prepared event and the decision to postpone was not an easy one, but our committee felt it was the only course of action to take as we should take care of our local community, especially in regards to health and safety," Cllr Zhou said.

"On behalf of the committee I would like to thank everyone for their continued support and understanding, and I hope everyone will be able to attend the rescheduled event in the future."

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