

Tuesday 4 June 2019

CITY OF RYDE COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY – MAY MEETING

Council held its latest Ordinary meeting on 28 May 2019. Here is a summary of the main outcomes from the meeting:

‘The New Heart of Ryde’ to deliver enhanced facilities for entire community

The City of Ryde endorsed new plans to commence consultation on an exciting redevelopment of the Ryde Civic Centre site, with Council retaining complete ownership and not increasing rates for this project.

Described as ‘The New Heart of Ryde’, a redeveloped Ryde Civic Centre site will see a four-fold increase in community space without the introduction of any residential development on the site.

Half of the space will house public meeting rooms, offices, childcare facilities, commercial and retail facilities, a plaza and open space, on-site parking and Council chambers. The remaining half will be dedicated to a flexibly-designed cultural and community space that will cater to a large range of activities from concerts to theatre groups, dance classes, study groups, businesses and artists among others.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Emergency Services Levy to increase

Council supported a call from Local Government NSW for the State Government to cover the increase in the Emergency Services Levy for all NSW councils.

The above-inflation increase to the levy cost will have an \$180,000 impact on the City of Ryde’s 2019/20 budget.

The Emergency Services Levy is a compulsory levy that all NSW councils must pay towards funding part of the NSW Emergency Services.

New Model Code of Meeting Practice adopted

A new Model Code of Meeting Practice was adopted by Council. The new code will guide the conduct of all City of Ryde Council meetings and committee meetings.

The new code features a range of changes to the previous version including a requirement for all committee meetings to be audio visually recorded and made available on the City of Ryde website. In addition, motions which require an additional expenditure but do not identify a source of funding will need to be deferred pending a report detailing the availability of Council funds.

Voluntary Planning Agreement for Eastwood

A Voluntary Planning Agreement was accepted by Council in relation to a development application at 152-186 Rowe Street and 3-5 Rutledge Street, Eastwood, which will accommodate retail, commercial and residential uses.

Under the terms of the VPA, Eastwood Plaza will be upgraded and five affordable housing apartments will be included in the development.

The development application will now be determined by the Sydney North Planning Panel.

Re-elected members of parliament congratulated

The City of Ryde congratulated Prime Minister, the Hon. Scott Morrison, and Member for Bennelong, the Hon. John Alexander OAM, on their re-election to Federal Parliament.

City of Ryde vows to address climate emergency

Council acknowledged that there is a state of climate emergency that requires urgent action by all levels of government.

A report will be brought back to Council examining how City of Ryde plans, policies and work programs can address the climate emergency and ensure this is embedded in future strategic plans.

Decision on parking fines

A report was received by Council that analysed the potential impact opting into a State Government policy to reduce level 2 parking fines would have on local businesses and residents.

The City of Ryde resolved not to opt-in to the policy. In doing so, Council noted that 82 per cent of all level 2 fines in the City of Ryde are issued to non-residents.

Ticketed parking scheme for Glen Street Car Park to be investigated

A report investigating the cost and feasibility of a ticketed parking scheme at Eastwood's Glen Street Car Park will be prepared for Council.

Under the scheme being investigated, motorists would be able to park for a specified period of time in addition to the current two to three hours of free parking.

Convex mirror to overcome blind spot at Symons Reserve

A convex mirror will be installed at the site of a blind corner on the Symons Reserve shared path in Denistone.

The work will be undertaken after concerns were raised by cyclists about numerous near-misses between cyclists and pedestrians on the shared path.

City of Ryde recognised for drought fundraiser

Rural Aid presented the City of Ryde with a certificate of appreciation for Council's fundraising appeal to assist farmers living in drought affected areas of NSW.

The appeal raised more than \$26,000 for Rural Aid's Buy A Bale campaign which delivers hay and other essential items to farmers who have no feed left for their livestock.

Karaoke singing competition proposed to help isolated seniors

The Federation of Korean Societies of Oceania Inc has been invited to apply for a grant through the City of Ryde's Community Grants Program for a proposed karaoke singing competition aimed at gathering isolated senior citizens together.

Pedestrian facilities near Our Lady Queen of Peace Primary School

Council will ask the Roads and Maritime Services to investigate incorporating pedestrian facilities at the intersection of Victoria Road and Westminster Road, Gladesville, near Our Lady Queen of Peace Primary School.

Next meeting

The next Ordinary Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 25 June 2019.

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