



Monday 22 July 2019

BUSINESS ON BOARD WITH THE NEW HEART OF RYDE

The Riverside Business Chamber has become the latest organisation to voice its support for The New Heart of Ryde.

The New Heart of Ryde is the new vision for the Ryde Civic Centre, delivering a four-fold increase in community facilities without the introduction of any residential development on the site.

Riverside Business Chamber President, Tony Abboud, said the proposal meets the needs of the entire City of Ryde community.

“In my 39 years of being involved in the local business community, The New Heart of Ryde is the best proposal I have seen for the Ryde Civic Centre site,” Mr Abboud said.

“In terms of the needs of the business community, it ticks all the boxes. Businesses will be able to hold conferences and stage large-scale events such as the Local Business Awards. At present the Local Business Awards sells out with some nominees unable to attend the event simply because we do not have a large enough venue in the City.

“There is also the opportunity for The New Heart of Ryde to be a one-stop shop for the community, with dedicated Council offices and space for other government services that will have synergies with the retail businesses at Top Ryde. It really will be a true civic hub.”

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the initial reception to The New Heart of Ryde has been overwhelmingly positive.

“The New Heart of Ryde is one of the most exciting projects undertaken by the City of Ryde. It will be built for the community and owned by the community, without any residential development,” Cllr Laxale said.

“It has won the support of local residents, community groups such as the Ryde Eisteddfod and now the local business community.

“Given the importance of this project, it is essential that all members of the community take part in the formal consultation that is currently underway. All feedback submitted during this period will help shape the final design and report that will be submitted to Council later in the year.”

Members of the public have until Sunday 25 August to provide feedback. Submissions can be made:

- Through an online survey at www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/heart
- By email at cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au
- By post to General Manager, City of Ryde, Locked Bag 2069, North Ryde NSW 1670.

In addition to receiving submissions, the City of Ryde will also undertake a wide range of communication activities during the formal consultation period including a community roadshow and displays at local shopping centres.

The New Heart of Ryde will be financially sustainable that will not result in increased rates or cuts to any services for this project. Council will also retain complete ownership of the site.