

Friday 23 March 2012

WEST RYDE COMMUNITY CENTRE OPENS

The new purpose-built West Ryde Community Centre (Cnr Anthony Road and Reserve Street) will be officially opened by the Mayor of the City of Ryde, Cllr Artin Etmekdjian, on Saturday 31 March, as part of the West Ryde Easter Fair celebrations.

The spacious four-storey Community Centre was designed as a one-stop-shop for child and family support services. It also contains a large hall for public use and below-ground parking.

Mayor, Cllr Artin Etmekdjian said: “The opening of this Community Centre marks an important milestone in the revitalisation of the West Ryde urban village and brings easy access to child and family support services right into the heart of the town centre.

“The community asked for more family services, newer and updated buildings, more areas to meet, to shop and to celebrate.

“This Centre ticks many of those boxes and brings us one step closer to realising our vision for a new and vibrant urban centre to meet the needs of residents and businesses.”

Services currently operating out of the new Community Centre include Ryde Family Support Services (www.rydefamilysupportservice.org.au or phone 9334 0111) and West Ryde Early Childhood Health Centre (phone 9874 2691).

The Mayor acknowledged the community’s contribution in managing some of the challenges in keeping the town centre functional during construction.

“The community has been actively involved in suggesting better ways to manage issues such as parking and pedestrian access during this ongoing construction stage. This dialogue has and will continue to ensure the best outcome for both residents and retailers.”

The new Community Centre is the result of a planning agreement between Coles Group, the developer of the West Ryde Urban Village, and the Council to provide crucial community facilities as part of the upgrade.

An open village square, will be the centrepiece of the rejuvenation of West Ryde. A new full-line Coles supermarket is currently under construction. www.westrydeurbanvillage.com.au for more details.