

Wednesday 28 November 2012

## **NORTH RYDE SELECTED AS URBAN ACTIVATION PRECINCT**

At a meeting held yesterday between the City of Ryde and the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure, the Minister, The Hon Brad Hazard, met with the Mayor to discuss an Urban Activation Precinct (UAP) initiative for North Ryde.

A part of the Macquarie Park business corridor, the State-owned land around North Ryde station, has been selected as one of Sydney's first precincts for investigation as an appropriate site for high quality housing development, increased economic activity and employment opportunity.

As a result of the discussion, City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Ivan Petch, said he supported investment in the area and the prospect of more jobs but at the same time impressed upon the Minister that any impact on the local community had to be taken into account.

"It is vitally important to protect the amenity and character of our suburbs especially when they are in such close proximity to the burgeoning business precincts of Macquarie Park," the Mayor said.

"People do want to live near where they work and this Plan promises growth in jobs and opportunities.

"However, I believe commonsense must prevail when considering urban environments that co-exist with business precincts and that between the community and the Council the case for no intense development on the south side of Epping Road will be strongly put," he said.

"I also made the strongest representation to the Minister on behalf of the community to protect and keep the current Tennis World site and that it made no sense to develop adjacent to Bundara Reserve, which would virtually cut the park off from community access," the Mayor added.

Under the UAP guidelines the NSW Government has stated that it will work in partnership with the Council through a Working Group and with the community through the Community Reference Group.

The Plans will be placed on public exhibition in the future giving the community opportunity to make their views and comments known.