

Friday 14 November 2014

RYDE RATEPAYERS SUPPORT REASONABLE RATE INCREASE

A decision taken by a majority vote of Council last week in relation to applying for a Special Rate Variation shows that the City of Ryde Council is serious about preserving the future integrity and independence of Ryde.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Bill Pickering said: "In surveying our community, we received significant support for a reasonable rate increase to secure our long term future.

"The decision is based on support from close to sixty percent of rate payers who responded to the Council's comprehensive community consultation program. Their feedback showed that ratepayers not only understand the Council's financial difficulties in overcoming current funding restrictions but also indicates support of the Council's program for a progressive, inclusive future for Ryde.

"If we are to survive into the future we have to demonstrate that we are financially responsible and fit to lead our community. The rate payers of Ryde support our realistic approach and that we must move forward with purpose to achieve our shared goals."

Since July, the Council has worked with the local community through detailed information packs, community meetings, workshops and surveys to explain our funding structure, the savings the Council has put in place, and why it is necessary to secure extra capital to maintain our services and assets to an acceptable standard.

The next step in the public consultation process is for details of the Special Rates Variation proposal to be included in the Council's Four Year Delivery Plan 2014-18 which goes on public exhibition for an extended six-week period from Monday 17 December 2014 to Friday 6 February 2015.

Full details of the Special Rate Variation community consultation process at www.futureryde.com.au