# City of Ryde Macquarie Park

Sydney, Australia

AUSTRALIA'S ORIGINAL INNOVATION DISTRICT

> Advanced Technologies Prospectus

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Macquarie Park is one of the largest commercial precincts in New South Wales and a thriving hub of research, development and innovation.

The City of Ryde is home to a dynamic workforce, world-class education providers, cutting-edge research centres and a vibrant cultural landscape. What sets the City apart is its spirit of collaboration across businesses, academia and all levels of government. This is what drives innovation in the City of Ryde and will continue to do so in the future.

The development of advanced technologies in fintech, cyber security, quantum computing, artificial intelligence and creative production continues to transform the way we live and work. Increased investment into the region's technology industry will attract new businesses to Macquarie Park, leading to greater employment and educational opportunities within the City of Ryde.

As the City of Ryde's first popularly elected Mayor, I am dedicated to working with our businesses, communities and partners, both locally and internationally, to ensure we uphold our reputation as leaders in the global market. It is my prerogative to ensure that Macquarie Park remains a globally competitive commercial district for current and future generations of students, workers and innovators.

Trenton Brown

Trenton Brown City of Ryde Mayor

Chief Executive Officer's message

Macquarie Park is Australia's original innovation district.

As an economic powerhouse of Australian innovation and home to leading organisations across a variety of high-growth sectors, Macquarie Park is the ideal location for technology-driven businesses to succeed. Its strategic location, diverse economy, international network, skilled workforce and culture of innovation set Macquarie Park apart from other commercial precincts in Australia.

Brilliant minds can flourish here, thanks to the world-class research taking place at Macquarie University and the industry-led teaching occurring at TAFE NSW and the Institute of Applied Technology – Digital. Businesses with a local presence can benefit from the pioneering research taking place at Macquarie Park's renowned educational institutions and access a pipeline of specialist talent.

Through our City of Ryde Economic Development Concierge, we provide a streamlined service to organisations looking to explore growth opportunities within Macquarie Park. We prioritise providing businesses with the practical support they need to navigate the ever-changing technology landscape.

More broadly, the City of Ryde Council is working hard to strike the right balance between investing in high-quality housing and providing excellent employment opportunities for the community. Promoting new investment into infrastructure, parks, cultural events and diverse housing options will ensure that the City and Macquarie Park continue to be great places to live, work, play and innovate. The City of Ryde is proud to be a place where lifestyle and opportunity is at your doorstep.

Wayne Rylands City of Ryde Chief Executive Officer

# Invest in New South Wales

Australia's largest state economy

The economy in New South Wales is larger than Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong, and it is also home to an established and highly innovative technology system.

**New South Wales** 

31%

Australia

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**13<sup>th</sup>** largest economy in the world

population



61% share of all capital raised in Australia

share of national output



**18** free trade agreements (FTAs)



**332,000** technology workforce (more than any other state)

Sydney





top-ranked start-up ecosystem in the Southern Hemisphere  $\square$ 

**Macquarie Park** 

70%+ office stock is prime grade (largest proportion across NSW)



6



top city globally for entrepreneurial success



**2<sup>nd</sup>** largest commercial district in NSW





10+ of the world's t

of the world's top 200 companies headquartered here

## A global fintech hub

Sydney is Australia's financial capital, built around the nation's \$4.2 trillion superannuation (pension) assets, and it is the first major financial market to open each day.

An impressive number of thriving fintechs began and grew in Sydney. Some notable examples include:

- Afterpay buy now, pay later platform
- Zip Co digital financial services company
- Brighte sustainable energy technology platform
- Athena Home Loans online home loans

The ASIC's enhanced regulatory sandbox makes it easier for businesses to test the market and it provides opportunities for participation in Asia-Pacific market expansion programs.

Macquarie University's incubator regularly houses fintech start-ups, with many of them subsequently moving to Sydney's CBD to co-locate with larger fintech companies based there.

#### Australia



Iargest pension savings pool in the world

Eth

Sydney



80% of foreign banks operating in Australia based here



800 active fintech

companies



**#11** global fintech hub ranking







60% of Australian fintech start-ups based here

# Advanced cyber security capabilities

New South Wales hosts the largest and most diverse range of cyber security providers in Australia.

The state government has created the **NSW Cyber Hub** to accelerate growth in the cyber security sector, which incorporates the following initiatives:

- The NSW Cyber Business Exchange connects businesses to the local cyber security ecosystem
- Accelerator in Residence Program attracts new participants in NSW by encouraging international applications

NSW is building its talent base by encouraging school students to enter the sector, developing the skills of higher education students and subsidising cyber businesses that hire students.

The majority of NSW's public universities have dedicated cyber research capabilities, including **Macquarie University** (MQ). **IAT Digital**, a collaboration between TAFE NSW, Microsoft, MQ, UTS and the Department of Education, offers courses in the digital skills businesses are looking for, including cyber security. Nurturing talent and building the knowledge needed to stay ahead of the curve in this area is a key state priority.

Macquarie Park has a growing presence of businesses involved in cyber security, including Meridian IT Australia and Hubify. It is also home to an increasing number of world-class data centres, with several companies offering dark fibre solutions to their clients.



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#### Australia

#### **New South Wales**



# **#7** in the National Cyber Security Index (measures countries' cyber capacities implemented by

central governments)

$\swarrow$	

# **36%** of Australia's cyber workforce live here



# **\*\$9.2bn** projected cyber security market volume by 2029



**30%** of nation's cyber security businesses based here

9



# **50%** of cyber security businesses export globally

## The rise of Industry 6.0

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New South Wales is seeing notable technological advances, including in quantum computing, semiconductors and artificial intelligence.

Recent developments in advanced technologies could contribute to the rise of Industry 6.0 in the future. The focus of Industry 6.0 goes beyond automation and data exchange, and seeks to harness the power of human intelligence, digital advancements and biological systems in an ethical and sustainable manner.

#### **Quantum computing**

NSW is home to several leading quantum computing businesses, many of which have spun out from local universities, where quantum research is an area of focus.

Start-ups that are attracting significant interest and venture capital investment include:

- Q-CTRL (Sydney) creator of pioneering quantum software
- Silicon Quantum Computing (Sydney) manufacturer of the world's first integrated silicon quantum computer chip
- Redback Systems (Macquarie Park) producer of high-resolution spectrometers

Four NSW universities with leading quantum technology expertise have formed the Sydney Quantum Academy:

- University of Sydney (USYD)
- University of New South Wales (UNSW)
- University of Technology Sydney (UTS)
- Macquarie University (MQ)

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The Silicon Platforms Lab at MQ, in partnership with Atto Devices, benefits from the expertise of Neil Weste and David Skellern, who are globally recognised as the creators of Wi-Fi.

#### **Semiconductors**

NSW is leading the way in improving the capability, workforce, market connectedness and competitiveness of the country's semiconductor sector.

**S3B**, a not-for-profit organisation funded by the NSW Government and supported by USYD, UNSW and MQ, has been set up to support and grow the semiconductor sector in NSW and more widely in Australia.

Macquarie Park has a relationship with Taiwan's Hsinchu Science Park Bureau, which houses the world's top two semiconductor companies. In 2024, the City of Ryde Council and Hsinchu Science Park Bureau signed a memorandum of understanding, the first of its kind in Australia's history, which focuses on the advancement of the semiconductor industry, collaboration in the synthetic biology space and the incubation of start-ups in Macquarie Park.

Macquarie University is part of a dual doctoral degree cooperation plan with the National Tsing Hua University in Hsinchu. The plan promotes the exchange of talent between the two world-class institutions, particularly in the areas of semiconductor engineering and synthetic biology.

## **Artificial intelligence**

NSW is an ideal location for AI product development, in part because of its deep AI research and development capabilities. The state is home to a large technology workforce that can bring AI strategies to life, as well as a diverse consumer base that developers can test products on and gather insights from.

**IAT Digital** offers courses centred on AI, in addition to big data, cyber security, cloud computing and software development.

Macquarie Park is home to Al@MQ, a world-leading research hub for Al and process automation.

#### Al@MQ also funds:

- The Data Science Lab at MQ
- The Big Data Society at MQ

With the help of these initiatives, the university covers the full spectrum of topics related to AI, data science and big data.

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NSW has a strong local cluster of Al businesses, similar in scale to Berlin and close to those of Singapore and Toronto.

## Australia



\$6bn expected revenue from quantum technology industry by 2045



# 19,400

new jobs expected in quantum computing by 2045



# 30+

years of leadership in quantum research



# 89% of large businesses using AI technology

# New South Wales





Australian state to publish its Al strategy

of Australia's total software and application programmers employed here



# Advanced Technologies Prospectus —

## Creative production at its finest

### New South Wales is leading the way in the production of Australian feature films and TV dramas.

NSW's diverse locations, experienced crews and world-class facilities are major draws for Australian and international producers and directors. There are also financial incentives from the NSW Government's key funding body, **Screen NSW**, which make it an attractive option. Incentives include the **PDV Rebate** and the **Made in NSW Program.** 

The state's continued investment in the film industry has helped to develop its strong PDV and CGI capabilities.

Some notable studios based in NSW include:

- Animal Logic (Sydney) design, visual effects and animation
- Industrial Light & Magic (Sydney) visual development, production and effects
- Disney Studios Australia (Sydney) largest end-to-end production facility in the Southern Hemisphere
- Pacific Bay Resort Studios & Village (Coffs Harbour) – planning is underway to build Australia's first fully-integrated feature film production and post-production complex

Macquarie Park is home to many thriving organisations operating in creative industries, ranging from national names like Universal Media Co and Foxtel to the multinational conglomerate FUJIFILM, whose FUJINON Cine Lenses have been used in production sites around the world.

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Macquarie University has one of the largest screen studios in Australia, with a dedicated sound stage, lighting hoists supporting LED fixtures and a 17x7m green screen. There are also field kits for location shooting, as well as state-of-the-art edit suites and computer labs for post-production purposes.

Advanced Technologies Prospectus -

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#### Australia

#### **New South Wales**



\$122.3bn annual economic contribution from creative industries

42% of creative

**42%** of creative industry jobs based here







70% of Australia's total creative industry exports



**28%** of Australian films produced by women



~50% of Australia's post-production industry based here



At the forefront of game development

# New South Wales is home to a fast-growing digital game development sector.

The growth of the digital gaming ecosystem in NSW is accelerating, thanks to the state's abundance of skilled programmers, artists, creative hubs, educational offerings and government support.

The NSW Government has committed to supporting the digital games industry with the **10 percent Digital Games Rebate,** which complements the Australian Government's **Digital Games Tax Offset.**  Located within Macquarie Park, the virtual reality lab at Macquarie University is where the VISOR research group uses the latest technology to investigate human-computer interaction. Their research focuses on the design and development of ubiquitous interfaces using VR, AR, computer graphics, computer games and interactive storytelling.

#### Australia



\$345.5m annual revenue from game development studios

#### **New South Wales**



**\$1.5m** future investment into supporting digital game producers



14

87% of game development income from offshore markets and investment



of Australia's game development studios based here

# Why Macquarie Park?

# A destination of choice

Macquarie Park is a thriving destination that is unique in its offering of a strategic location and a global business ecosystem, as well as access to a highly-skilled workforce and a pipeline of future talent.





- Macquarie Park is located 13km from Sydney's CBD.
   It is easily accessible by public transport from the CBD, via train, bus or the Sydney Metro North West Line.
- Access to major arterial roads, like the M2 and Lane Cove Tunnel, helps to connect the area to other parts of the City, including international gateways.
- Macquarie Park's A-grade and B-grade buildings continue to offer more affordable rental options than other markets in Greater Sydney.
- Macquarie Park is the closest commercial precinct of scale to the Hunter and Central Coast regions of NSW, where planning is in progress to deliver the Hunter-Central Coast REZ. The area has a population of more than one million people.
- The Port of Newcastle is a two-hour drive away, where the development of a Clean Energy Precinct is underway that will see the area become the state's hydrogen hub.



- Macquarie Park is home to one of Australia's top 10 universities, Macquarie University (MQ), and Australia's first fullyintegrated academic health sciences centre, MQ Health.
- The university has helped the area become a world-class destination for R&D, through its academic and industry partnerships.
- Vocational education institutions like TAFE
   NSW and other leading universities, such as UTS and UNSW Sydney, are a short commute from
   Macquarie Park and have helped create a pipeline of specialist talent for local businesses to tap into.

#### Average travel time from Macquarie Park (by car):

- Sydney CBD
   25 minutes
- Sydney Airport
   35 minutes
- Western Sydney Airport – 50 minutes



- Macquarie Park is home to a diverse range of businesses, including those in knowledgeintensive areas like the pharmaceutical, technology, media and telecommunications industries.
- The area's dynamic ecosystem of innovation and research attracts both established and start-up companies to the area.
- Australia's national science agency, CSIRO, has a strong presence across NSW, including its existing relationships with MQ and businesses operating in Macquarie Park.



- Macquarie Park exemplifies the City of Ryde's vision to be a place where lifestyle and opportunity is at your doorstep.
- There is an abundance of amenities, green spaces, recreational facilities, retail options and dining spots for residents, workers and visitors alike.
- The area is home to the expansive Lane Cove National Park and the Macquarie Centre, one of the largest shopping centres in Sydney.



- The City of Ryde Council is powered by 100 percent renewable energy.
- The Macquarie Park Bus Depot will be the first purpose-built battery electric bus depot to be delivered as part of the Zero Emissions Buses Program from the NSW Government.
- Commercial developments continue to push the envelope for sustainability and energy efficiency through construction and final built form.

Experience innovation on a global scale

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Macquarie Park is Sydney's premier innovation district, built on the foundations of a combined education and employment campus.

Covering nearly 7km<sup>2</sup> within the City of Ryde local government area, Macquarie Park is one of Australia's largest non-CBD office markets. It is a hub of global innovation and business activity, with more than **10 of the world's top 200 companies based here.** 

Macquarie Park is home to leading organisations across a significant number of business clusters.







Access world-class technology skills

Businesses based in Macquarie Park can tap into an established local network of skilled technology professionals.

NSW has the largest tech workforce in Australia, with over **332,000 people working in the sector**, which organisations located in Macquarie Park have access to.

The quality of the local talent is unmatched. The majority of people with a qualification in Sydney are qualified to a bachelor degree level, graduate diploma level or higher (51 percent), and this increases to 63 percent in the City of Ryde.

There is a diverse range of talent in the City of Ryde and NSW, more generally, which enables local businesses to access and prosper in overseas markets. The thriving international communities in the City of Ryde help to create a vibrant and supportive environment for those relocating to the area.

# DID YOU KNOW

The City of Ryde has a higher concentration of employment in professional, scientific and technical services (12.5 percent), compared to the average for Sydney (11.6 percent).



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275 languages spoken across NSW



languages spoken in the City of Ryde



**~50%** of the City's population speak a language other than English at home



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## Language spoken at home, 2021

City of Ryde

Greater Sydney



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021 (Usual residence data). Compiled and presented in profile .id by .id (informed decisions)

Establish a pipeline of future talent Macquarie Park is home to one of Australia's top 10 universities, Macquarie University, and two campuses belonging to Australia's leading vocational education and training provider, TAFE NSW.

#### DID YOU KNOW

NSW is home to four of the world's top 200 universities, including Macquarie University.

#### **Macquarie University**

Macquarie University (MQ) offers hundreds of undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications across a variety of disciplines. The university operates two incubators that support the establishment of new start-ups in the local area.

MQ is one of Australia's highest-ranking research institutions, with **100 percent of its research rated at world standard or above**. Its quality research has been internationally recognised, including the work taking place at the ARC Centre of Excellence in Synthetic Biology.

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#### **TAFE NSW**

TAFE NSW has industry-qualified and experienced educators who bring practical and real-world learning into the classroom. Macquarie Park hosts two TAFE NSW campuses:

**TAFE NSW Ryde** – an internationally-renowned centre for specialist training in hospitality, tourism, horticulture and environmental management.

**TAFE NSW Meadowbank** – a technologyfocused campus that offers degrees in network security.

Home to the **Multi-Trades and Digital Technology Hub**, which delivers industry-focused training, and **IAT Digital**, with its courses designed by trusted industry and educational experts. The NSW government has invested \$96 million into the construction of a world-leading RNA research and pilot manufacturing facility at MQ. It will be the first of its kind in Australia and it is expected to drive jobs and investment in the health and life sciences sector, as well as promoting growth for high-tech companies.

City of Ryde Economic Development Concierge

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## Supporting investment into Macquarie Park

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Our strategic focus is to attract new investment to the City, particularly to Macquarie Park, while also retaining and supporting the economic growth of our existing businesses of all sizes, operating across a broad range of industries.

Attracting and retaining businesses in the City of Ryde is focused on:

- Reducing the risks of doing business here
- Reducing the cost of doing business here
- Creating opportunities for economic activity and growth

To realise the above, we work closely with key government, academic, industry and community stakeholders to deliver innovative solutions. These solutions, in turn, demonstrate why the City of Ryde and Macquarie Park are attractive options for those looking to invest.

We seek to be a stakeholder's first point of contact when doing business here. We listen to the needs of organisations and investors and can connect them with our partners across:





# Site identification and development

Macquarie Park and the surrounding region has a variety of sites available for businesses to move into immediately, with options including laboratories, warehousing and new A-grade commercial buildings.

We support new businesses moving into the City, by putting them in touch with real estate agents, developers, architects and collaborators working within Macquarie Park.

We also provide guidance for investors and businesses on grants, incentives and government processes.

# Network and familiarisation visits

We curate bespoke tours of Macquarie Park to ensure visitors feel welcomed and informed about what the area has to offer, particularly in relation to economic, investment and trade opportunities.

The tours can include:

- Engagement with like-minded companies
- Engagement with faculties and researchers at Macquarie University



**City of Ryde Economic Development Concierge:** 



Call +**61 2 9952 8222** (outside Australia) **02 9952 8222** (within Australia)



Email invest@ryde.nsw.gov.au

For more information visit:



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www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/invest



# Glossary

Term	Definition	
AI	Artificial intelligence	
Al@MQ	Centre for Applied Artificial Intelligence at Macquarie University	
AR	Augmented reality	
ARC	Australian Research Council	
ASIC	Australian Securities and Investments Commission	
Austrade	Australian Trade and Investment Commission	
CBD	Central business district	
CGI	Computer-generated imagery	
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation	
FTAs	Free trade agreements	
IAT	Institute of Applied Technology	
LED	Light-emitting diode	
MQ	Macquarie University	
NSW	New South Wales	
PDV	Post, digital and visual effects	
R&D	Research and development	
REZ	Renewable energy zone	
RNA	Ribonucleic acid	
S3B	Semiconductor Sector Service Bureau	
TAFE	Teaching and further education	
UNSW	University of New South Wales	
USYD	University of Sydney	
UTS	University of Technology Sydney	
VISOR	Virtual and interactive simulations of reality	
VR	Virtual reality	

## References

List of references can be provided upon request.

Images in this document have been taken by Council staff, professional photographers and supplied with permission from Macquarie University.

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Customer Service Centre

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Lifestyle and opportunity at your doorstep