

Meeting Date: Tuesday 24 October 2023
Location: Council Chambers, Level 1A, 1 Pope Street, Ryde and Online
Time: 6.00pm

Councillors Present in Chambers: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li, Maggio, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song.

Note: Councillor Maggio left the meeting at 8.20pm and did not return. He was not present for voting on Notice of Motion 5 and Notice of Motion 8.

Apologies: Nil.

Staff Present: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager – City Shaping, Acting General Manager – Business and Operations, General Counsel, Chief Financial Officer, Executive Manager – City Development, Acting Executive Manager – City Infrastructure, Executive Manager – City Life, Executive Manager – People and Business, Chief City Designer, Executive Officer – City Spaces, Acting Executive Officer – City Places, Executive Officer – City Resilience, Executive Officer – City Fabric, Executive Officer – City Economy, Acting Manager – Engineering & Project Delivery, Manager – Business Assurance and Governance, Manager – Communications and Engagement, Manager – Community Services, Manager – Traffic Services, Manager – Operations, Financial Controller, Senior Coordinator – Community Services, Senior Coordinator – Program Delivery, Senior Sustainability and Environment Coordinator, Media and Communications Officer, Systems Support Officer, Civic Services Manager and Civic Support Officer.

PRAYER

Reverend Tim Kay of the Ryde Baptist Church, Ryde was present and offered prayer prior to the commencement of the meeting.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was sung prior to the commencement of the meeting.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillor Deshpande disclosed a Less than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in Matter of Urgency 1 – Investigating the Feasibility of Upgrades of Netball Courts within Meadowbank for the reason that her daughters play netball.

CONDOLENCES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING OF URSULA CARLILE – Councillor Roy Maggio

Ursula Carlile 1937-2023 – Australian Swimming has lost a national treasure, with the peaceful passing of Ursula Carlile in Ryde at the age of 86.

Ursula was a pioneer of sports science and forged a career that broke down barriers for women across the globe. While simple stats only scratch the surface of Ursula Carlile's life in swimming, they are remarkable.

- Worked with Forbes in the first specialist sports science laboratory.
- Establishing a backyard business that now provides more 1.3 million swimming lessons a year.
- The first woman to coach Australia's swimmers at the Olympics.
- The first woman to be head coach of the Australian Swimming Team.
- Member of the International Swimming Hall of Fame, Life Member of Swimming Australia, Life Member of the Australian Swimming Teachers and Coaches Association, Member of the Australian Swim Schools Association Hall of Fame, Member of the United States Swim Schools Hall of Fame. Indeed, to this day, Ursula Carlile remains the only woman to be the head coach of the Australian Swimming team, after leading them at both the 1974 Commonwealth Games and the 1975 World Championships.

She was a pioneer and a leader in her own right. At a time when our sport was dominated by highly conservative thinking and practices, overt officialdom and very limited opportunities for female coaches, she blazed a trail to be the first female coach of an Australian Olympic swimming team. An amazing achievement, despite the obstacles.

An amazing legend of the Ryde community Rest in Peace.

Note: The meeting then observed a one minute silence.

TABLING OF PETITIONS

No Petitions were tabled.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Li and Lane)

That Standing Orders be Suspended for Councillor Li to present Council with a banner from the Eastwood Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, the time being 6.11pm.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

Note: Councillor Li then presented the banner from the Eastwood Chinatown Chamber of Commerce to Council.

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Li and Lane)

That Standing Orders be Resumed, the time being 6.12pm.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

The following persons provided a written submission to Council:-

Name	Topic
Gerry Manderson	Notice of Motion 3 – Restoration of Glades Bay Road Reserve
Dr. Jo Anne Rey, Dharug Community Member	Notice of Motion 8 – City of Ryde’s Housing Affordability Strategy and Affordable Housing Options for Indigenous Rangers seeking to reside in the Local Government Area

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

The following persons provided a written submission to Council:-

Name	Topic
Veronika Bonora	There are a number of staff with jobs/companies/work in addition to their full-time position at City of Ryde. Could the CEO/Governance Manager please explain and provide evidence of the approval of these conflicts and how they are then managed.
Veronika Bonora	As a matter of legislative requirements could the CEO please provide unequivocal assurance that all his delegations to staff are correct and operating correctly. Could the CEO please provide evidence of this (as this is open access information that should be available to the public) in the form of the delegations register and detailed organisational chart. There should be no preparation required for this it should be readily and publicly available otherwise City of Ryde is acting illegally.
Mitchell Day	Please carefully consider funding an upgrade of the netball courts at Meadowbank. This would be a massive investment in continuing to encourage kids to be active and an opportunity to provide other facilities on the courts. Lots of games and recreational activities could then use them. Basketball, pickle ball, junior cycle courses of course on top of a massive use for netball. No other facility in the Council area impacts so many people yet investment has been in other smaller spaces / facilities for far less people. Yes they are functionally, however, barely. Acceptable standard - no. Fully safe - no. Provide an opportunity for rep teams to excel with up to date courts and facilities. It is a massive sport that needs this facility to be upgraded - courts are constantly slippery, covered in wash off from its surroundings and has significant drops that are dangerous and end up with puddles long after rain which then becomes very slippery. An upgrade of these courts needs to be a priority for the local council, along with an application to the state government and any other grants (lottery, etc) that the council can get. Please take the time to discuss this and find a way to positively impact so many people's enjoyment, safety and participation. Ryde has some great facilities but we are falling behind in this area - our rep teams do well but imagine how much better they could do with upgraded facilities.

MATTER OF URGENCY 1

Councillor Deshpande advised the meeting that she wished to raise a Matter of Urgency regarding investigating the feasibility of upgrades of netball courts within Meadowbank.

The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM accepted this matter as an Urgent Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Deshpande and Brown)

That Council consider a Matter of Urgency, raised by Councillor Deshpande, regarding investigating the feasibility of upgrades of netball courts within Meadowbank, the time being 6.17pm.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MATTER OF URGENCY 1 – INVESTIGATING THE FEASIBILITY OF UPGRADES OF NETBALL COURTS WITHIN MEADOWBANK

Note: Councillor Deshpande disclosed a Less than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in this Item for the reason that her daughters play netball.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Deshpande and Brown)

- (a) That Council undertakes a condition audit of the current state of netball courts in Meadowbank, noting the potential for injuries to be sustained by players.
- (b) That Council, based on the outcomes of the audit, investigate options for repairing the existing courts to ensure the facility is fit for purpose.
- (c) That Council provide an update on the status of the new netball courts at the old Marsden High School site.
- (d) That a report be provided back to Council as soon as practicable.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MATTER OF URGENCY 2

Councillor Pedersen advised the meeting that she wished to raise a Matter of Urgency regarding fox attacks across Ryde.

The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM accepted this matter as an Urgent Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Pedersen and O'Reilly)

That Council consider a Matter of Urgency, raised by Councillor Pedersen, regarding fox attacks across Ryde, the time being 6.24pm.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

MATTER OF URGENCY 2 – FOX ATTACKS ACROSS RYDE

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Pedersen and O'Reilly)

- (a) That Council acknowledge the sudden increase in fox sightings and attacks on residents pets and local wildlife over recent months.
- (b) That City of Ryde prepare:
 - i. A report on the current fox numbers and management program in Ryde to be circulated in the Councillor Information Bulletin.
 - ii. A submission for the NSW Invasive Species Management review before 31 October.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

COUNCIL REPORTS

1 ITEMS PUT WITHOUT DEBATE

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and Deshpande)

That Council adopt Item 2, Item 4, Item 9, Item 10, Precis of Correspondence 1, Precis of Correspondence 2, Precis of Correspondence 3, Notice of Motion 2, Notice of Motion 6, Notice of Motion 7 and Notice of Motion 9 listed on the Council Agenda as per the Recommendations in the reports.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

COUNCIL REPORTS

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – Council Meeting held on 26 September 2023

RESOLUTION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting 11/23, held on 26 September 2023 be confirmed.

4 REPORT ON COUNCILLOR EXPENSES – 1 JANUARY 2023 TO 30 JUNE 2023

RESOLUTION:

That Council receive and note the report and Attachment 1 regarding Councillor expenses and facilities for the period 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023.

9 CITY OF RYDE COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM REVIEW

RESOLUTION:

- (a) That Council supports the proposed changes to the Community Grants Program.
- (b) That Council adopt the updated Community Grants and Donations Policy, as attached.

10 REDUCING ORGANIC AND NON-ORGANIC MATTER IN OUR WATERWAYS

RESOLUTION:

- (a) That the proposed amendments to the servicing frequencies of waste from Council's GPT network be noted as at optimal frequency.
- (b) That the current street sweeping, and stormwater pit servicing frequencies are noted to be at optimal frequency, and for this servicing to continue in accordance with current practice.

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

1 RESPONSE BY OFFICE OF TANYA PLIBERSEK – WASTE SUMMIT

RESOLUTION:

That the correspondence be received and noted.

2 NSW STATE GOVERNMENT RESPONSE – COMMONWEALTH GAMES

RESOLUTION:

That the correspondence be received and noted.

3 LETTER REGARDING DETERMINATIONS BY VALUER GENERAL

RESOLUTION:

That the correspondence be received and noted.

NOTICES OF MOTION

2 EXTENDING HOURS OF OPERATION IN RYDE LIBRARIES DURING DAYS OF EXTREME TEMPERATURES – Councillor Justin Li

RESOLUTION:

(a) That Council note the following:-

- i. The increasing cost of energy experienced by Ryde households in recent years;
- ii. Extreme temperatures tend to disproportionately impact households on lower incomes and the disadvantaged;
- iii. According to the Bureau of Meteorology it is anticipated that Sydney will experience a very hot summer ahead.

(b) That in light of the above, Council moves that:

- i. Further to Council's resolution on 26 September 2023 considering extending libraries' hours of operation for students, Council also considers extending hours of operation in some or all local libraries on days of extreme temperatures (eg. 36 degrees plus) so that these facilities may be used by the local community seeking relief;

- ii. A report be provided back to Council exploring this proposal by December 2023.

6 WASTE EDUCATION CAMPAIGN – Councillor Bernard Purcell

RESOLUTION:

- (a) That City of Ryde undertake research for a specific education campaign in waste management – being bin stickers that inform users of the appropriate waste for each bin.
- (b) That a report be brought back to Council, at the earliest, with recommendations for this campaign.
- (c) That this campaign be funded out of the City of Ryde Domestic Waste Reserve.

7 SAFETY FOR CHILDREN PLAYING AT HEATLEY RESERVE IN EAST RYDE – Councillor Penny Pedersen

RESOLUTION:

- (a) That Council note the following:-
 - i. Local residents and shop owners have brought to the attention of Councillors that very young children playing in Heatley Reserve at East Ryde, have been seen running downhill into traffic on Moncrieff Drive.
 - ii. Moncrieff Drive and Sager Place are part of the 506 bus route, both City bound and Macquarie University bound, arriving and departing regularly and swinging around the corner.
 - iii. There is a 50 km hour speed limit on Moncrieff Drive, but residents complain that traffic is often travelling much faster.
- (b) That staff investigate the provision of a suitable barrier/deterrent (wooden fence or thick native hedge) along Heatley Reserve, East Ryde at Moncrieff Drive and Sager Place, to deter small children running directly into traffic and the bus interchange area.
- (c) That a report be presented to Council detailing the findings of the investigation outlined in part (b) above, including identification of different options and funding sources to provide a visually appealing deterrent that enhances the new design of the Reserve.

9 SAFETY ON THE STAIRCASE AT 1 POPE STREET BETWEEN COUNCIL CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE AND THE LIBRARY – Councillor Penny Pedersen

RESOLUTION:

- (a) Council notes the following:-
- i. A very steep staircase links the City of Ryde Customer Service Centre with the Library at 1 Pope Street, Top Ryde.
 - ii. That the balustrades have steel poles protruding from the top.
 - iii. That the staircase winds around quite sharply and that members of the public have contacted Councillors in regard to questions about safety and compliance.
- (b) That staff undertake an investigation regarding the staircase listed at part (a) above and provide a report to Council outlining the safety of the staircase and compliance with building codes.

MAYORAL MINUTE

MM20/23 RELOCATION OF RYDE FIRE STATION – Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

RESOLUTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

- (a) That the Mayor write to the Ryde Fire Station Chief and thank him for the dedication and professionalism displayed by all fire service personnel associated with the old Ryde Fire Station in Blaxland Road and that they be wished all the best at the new headquarters in Coxs Road, North Ryde.
- (b) That the Mayor provide a BBQ with assistance from Council staff during business hours at the new fire station with the present and past fire fighters serving at station 42 to be funded from the Mayors budget.
- (c) That the neighbours be invited to the BBQ.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

COUNCIL REPORTS

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - Council Meeting held on 26 September 2023

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

3 ANNUAL DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS FOR THE PERIOD OF 1 JULY 2022 TO 30 JUNE 2023

RESOLUTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillor Lara-Watson)

That the Register of Pecuniary Interest Disclosures is tabled as required under Clause 4.25 of the *City of Ryde Code of Conduct – Standards of Conduct*.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Motion: Councillor Maggio

4 REPORT ON COUNCILLOR EXPENSES - 1 JANUARY 2023 TO 30 JUNE 2023

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

5 DRAFT CITY OF RYDE SPONSORSHIP POLICY

MOTION: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and Lara-Watson)

- (a) That Council endorse the public exhibition of the revised Sponsorship Policy, as attached, for a period of at least 28 days.
- (b) That a further report be brought to Council if there are any substantive submissions requiring consideration by Council, otherwise the revised Policy be adopted after the public exhibition period has ended.

AMENDMENT: (Moved by Councillors Pedersen and Purcell)

- (a) That Council endorse the public exhibition of the revised Sponsorship Policy, as attached, for a period of at least 28 days with the below additions/amendments:

Change part 8 - Sponsorships not permitted under this policy to include:

- i. Sponsors who have been found to endorse or publish discriminatory language or opinions (including Racism, gender, religious discrimination)

- ii. The City of Ryde will not accept sponsorship from entities which derive their principle source of revenue from the following activities:
 - Gambling or manufacturing/sales of poker machines.
 - Fossil fuel production, sale, distribution, or mining for fossil fuels.
 - Fossil fuel power generation.
 - Foreign government owned business and foreign governments, unless approval has been given by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
 - Developers.
- (b) That a further report be brought to Council if there are any substantiative submissions requiring consideration by Council, otherwise the revised Policy be adopted after the public exhibition period has ended.

On being put to the meeting, the voting on the Amendment was four (4) For and eight (8) Against. The Amendment was LOST. The Motion was then put and **CARRIED**.

Record of Voting:

For the Amendment: Councillors O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Amendment: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li and Maggio

RESOLUTION:

- (a) That Council endorse the public exhibition of the revised Sponsorship Policy, as attached, for a period of at least 28 days.
- (b) That a further report be brought to Council if there are any substantiative submissions requiring consideration by Council, otherwise the revised Policy be adopted after the public exhibition period has ended.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

6 RYDE RESOURCE EFFICIENCY POLICY

Note: Councillor Brown left the meeting at 7.26pm during discussion on this Item and was not present for voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Lara-Watson and Brown)

- (a) That Council adopt the revised 'Target' (formerly Resource Efficiency Target 2020 within the Renewable Energy Target) as a new Council policy, to be known as the "Ryde Resource Efficiency Policy" (2023).

- (b) That Council adopts the updated Resource Efficiency Policy (REP) including all amendments.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Motion: Councillor Maggio

Note: Councillor Brown returned to the meeting at 7.32pm.

7 RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION - REVIEW OF SOCIAL MEDIA ADVERTISING

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and Lara-Watson)

That Council endorse the current practice of prudent use of social media channels to supplement traditional media channels.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li and Maggio

Against the Motion: Councillors O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

8 CAPITAL WORKS URGENT PROJECT BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Lara-Watson and Deshpande)

That the proposed budget variations be adopted by Council.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

9 CITY OF RYDE COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM REVIEW

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

10 REDUCING ORGANIC AND NON-ORGANIC MATTER IN OUR WATERWAYS

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

11 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF RYDE AND THE HSINCHU SCIENCE PARK BUREAU, TAIWAN

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Brown and Han)

That Council:

- (a) Approve the City of Ryde entering the Memorandum of Understanding at Attachment 1 with the Hsinchu Science Park Bureau.
- (b) Approve the Mayor of the City of Ryde signing the MoU on behalf of the Council, as per Council's *International Relations Policy* and invite any interested Councillors who wish to attend.
- (c) Note the information contained within this report, the Memorandum of Understanding at Attachment 1, and the merit-based assessment at Attachment 2.
- (d) Note that on 26 April 2023, the Council resolved (D23/60046) that it:
 - i) *Pursue the potential benefits that have been identified from this delegation [identified in the 2023 Evaluation Report of the City of Ryde's international delegation to the Taiwan Smart City Summit and Expo] and*
 - ii) *Seek opportunities for continued participation in the Taipei Smart City Expo and Net Zero Summit in 2024.*
- (e) That additional information be provided to Councillors in a workshop on implementing this motion.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li, Maggio and O'Reilly

Against the Motion: Councillors Pedersen, Purcell and Song

12 TRAFFIC AND PARKING MATTERS APPROVED BY THE RYDE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING - SEPTEMBER 2023

Note: Councillors Deshpande and Lane left the meeting at 7.50pm during discussion on this Item and were not present for voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

(A) ARGYLE AVENUE, RYDE - RAISED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

The following measures be considered on Argyle Avenue, Ryde:

- a) A raised pedestrian crossing be installed (subject to availability of funds) on Argyle Avenue, Ryde, as per Transport for NSW Technical Directions.
- b) The existing children's crossing be removed.

(B) ROBINSON STREET, RYDE - NO STOPPING

The following changes be made on Robinson Street, Ryde:

- a) The "NO STOPPING" zone be installed along the southern side of the bend at the property frontage of 1-2 Robinson Street, Ryde.

(C) SEE STREET AND MACPHERSON STREET, MEADOWBANK - REPOSITIONING OF GIVE WAY HOLDING LINE

The following changes be made at the intersection of See Street and MacPherson Street, Meadowbank:

- a) The "GIVE WAY" holding line on See Street be repositioned by 2.5m to increase space for vehicles waiting to exit onto MacPherson Street.
- b) 2.5m wide painted islands be installed on MacPherson Street at its intersection with See Street.

(D) FRANCES ROAD, PUTNEY - PROPOSED CHANGES TO PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Note: This matter was withdrawn.

(E) 33-35 EDGAR STREET, EASTWOOD - NO PARKING 5AM-11AM THU - WASTE VEHICLES EXCEPTED

The following parking changes be made on Edgar Street, Eastwood:

- a) A 13m long “NO PARKING 5AM - 11AM THU - WASTE VEHICLES EXCEPTED” zone be installed at the property frontage of 33-35 Edgar Street, Eastwood.

(F) 92 HERRING ROAD, MARSFIELD - RAISED MEDIAN ISLAND

The following changes be made on Herring Road, Marsfield:

- a) A further concrete central median to be constructed 8.5 metres to extend existing splitter island on the north-eastern leg of Herring Road/Dora Street roundabout.
- b) A “KEEP LEFT” sign and to be installed at the beginning of the extended central median (north-eastern end).
- c) An “ALL TRAFFIC LEFT” sign to be installed at the middle of the central median.
- d) NO STOPPING signs to be installed on both sides of driveway servicing 92 Herring Road.

(G) ARRAS PARADE, RYDE - REMOVAL OF DISABLED PARKING

The following parking changes be made on Arras Parade, Ryde:

- a) The 5.5m long disabled parking be removed and converted to unrestricted parking at the property frontage of 3 Arras Parade, Ryde.

(H) ROAD SAFETY UPDATE - ROAD SAFETY PROGRAMS

- a) The Road Safety report be received and noted.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

INFORMATION REPORT

13 REPORT FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL - INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

Note: An Information Report was presented to Council.

PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE FOR CONSIDERATION

1 RESPONSE BY OFFICE OF TANYA PLIBERSEK - WASTE SUMMIT

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

2 NSW STATE GOVERNMENT RESPONSE - COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

3 LETTER REGARDING DETERMINATIONS BY VALUER GENERAL

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

Note: Councillors Deshpande and Lane returned to the meeting at 7.53pm.

NOTICES OF MOTION

1 ESTABLISHING A MODERN EASTWOOD CHINATOWN SHOPPING PRECINCT - Councillor Justin Li

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Li and Lane)

Establishing a "145 CT" shopping precinct in Eastwood.

(a) That City of Ryde notes:

- Approximately 48% of residents in Eastwood identify as having a Chinese ancestry in the 2021 census.
- The Chinese Australian community has contributed significantly to the economic and cultural prosperity of Australia, NSW and the City of Ryde.
- The commercial areas of Rowe Street West and Eastwood Village have long been popular destinations for Chinese groceries, markets and restaurants.

- The Eastwood Chinatown Chamber of Commerce was recently established to represent local businesses and held a successful launch at Eastwood Plaza on 30 September 2023.
 - As seen from the success of Eastwood Koreatown, destination precincts contribute significantly to the economy of Ryde and help foster greater harmony and cultural exchange of Australians of different heritages.
- (b) That Council partner with the Eastwood business community, local residents and other appropriate stakeholders to establish a working party, chaired by Councillor Li and Councillor Song as a member to:-
- i. Identify appropriate boundaries to demarcate a “145 CT” precinct on the Western side of the shopping area in Eastwood.
 - ii. Upon successful identification of the precinct, develop a masterplan for appropriate and inclusive signage, decorations and other public art to create an identifiable “145 CT” precinct.
 - iii. Consult with the community about the masterplan.
 - iv. Develop a budget to allocate funding to be brought back to Council for consideration as part of the current Delivery Plan process by February 2024.
 - v. Report to Council on the outcomes of the working party deliberations.
 - vi. Upon completion of the project, organise an official launch of 145 CT with invitations sent to all those who participated in the process with the working party.
- (c) That Council requests the Chief Executive Officer to provide all necessary resources to the working party to achieve its goals.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

2 EXTENDING HOURS OF OPERATION IN RYDE LIBRARIES DURING DAYS OF EXTREME TEMPERATURES - Councillor Justin Li

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

3 RESTORATION OF GLADES BAY ROAD RESERVE - Councillor Roy Maggio

Note: Gerry Manderson made a written submission on this Item and a copy is ON FILE.

MOTION: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and Lara-Watson)

- (a) That Council note Glades Bay Road Reserve as a peaceful passive reserve enjoyed by Ryde residents who appreciate the expansive water views of Glades Bay.

- (b) That Council investigate the condition of Glades Bay Road Reserve, including community interest in restoring the Park by undertaking a survey of all neighbouring residents.
- (c) That a report be provided back to the March 2024 Council meeting which details the findings of the investigation, the views from the community consultation and an implementation plan (if required).

AMENDMENT: (Moved by Councillors Pedersen and Purcell)

- (a) That Council note Glades Bay Road Reserve as a peaceful passive reserve enjoyed by Ryde residents who appreciate the expansive water views of Glades Bay.
- (b) That Council investigate the condition of Glades Bay Road Reserve, including community interest in restoring the Park by undertaking a survey of all neighbouring residents.
- (c) That a report be provided back to the March 2024 Council meeting which details the findings of the investigation, the views from the community consultation and an implementation plan (if required).
- (d) That Council acknowledge that after many submissions and petitions from the community, Council staff consulted widely and worked with Birdlife Australia/the Powerful Owl project to design and build a refuge for the owls and other wildlife.
- (e) That any proposal to remove the refuge in the Ross Street Road Reserve should be done in consultation with Birdlife Australia, the Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society and The Parramatta River Catchment Group.

On being put to the meeting, the voting on the Amendment was seven (7) For and five (5) Against. The Amendment was **CARRIED** and then became the Motion.

Record of Voting:

For the Amendment: Councillors Deshpande, Han, Li, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Amendment: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Lane, Lara-Watson and Maggio

RESOLUTION:

- (a) That Council note Glades Bay Road Reserve as a peaceful passive reserve enjoyed by Ryde residents who appreciate the expansive water views of Glades Bay Road Reserve.

- (b) That Council investigate the condition of Glades Bay Road Reserve, including community interest in restoring the Park by undertaking a survey of all neighbouring residents.
- (c) That a report be provided back to the March 2024 Council meeting which details the findings of the investigation, the views from the community consultation and an implementation plan (if required).
- (d) That Council acknowledge that after many submissions and petitions from the community, Council staff consulted widely and worked with Birdlife Australia/the Powerful Owl project to design and build a refuge for the owls and other wildlife.
- (e) That any proposal to remove the refuge in the Ross Street Road Reserve should be done in consultation with Birdlife Australia, the Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society and The Parramatta River Catchment Group.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson, Li, O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Motion: Councillor Maggio

**4 TRAFFIC AND PARKING IN STREETS SURROUNDING PUTNEY VILLAGE -
Councillor Roy Maggio**

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Maggio and Pedersen)

- (a) That Council investigate opportunities to increase parking through changes to existing parking restrictions (e.g. converting existing "NO STOPPING" zones into time restricted parking) within the following local roads in the immediate vicinity of Putney shops:
 - i. Charles Street between Susan Schardt Way and Phillip Road;
 - ii. Morrison Road between Payten Street and Putney Public School;
 - iii. Delange Road between Morrison Road and Frances Road; and
 - iv. Douglas Street between Morrison Road and Phillip Road.
- (b) That community consultation be undertaken on any proposed parking changes recommended from the parking assessment/investigation within the local roads listed in part (a).
- (c) That the preferred parking option(s) from the community consultation be raised at the Ryde Local Traffic Committee and Council meeting for formal approval, prior to any works being undertaken.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

5 CULTURAL CENTRE - Deputy Mayor, Councillor Daniel Han

Note: Councillor Maggio left the meeting at 8.20pm during discussion on this Item and did not return. He was not present for voting on this Item.

MOTION: (Moved by Councillors Han and Brown)

- (a) That the Mayor write to Premier Minns to provide the budget and plans to build this Cultural Community Centre during this term of the Labor government.
- (b) That Council prioritise all resources necessary to ensure that within six (6) months of receiving the sufficient funds committed to the planning and development phase:
 - ii) For a planning proposal to be prepared to amend the RLEP to increase the allowable height in this part of Eastwood, as required for the construction of an appropriate Community Cultural Centre; and
 - iii) To allow for the preparation and lodgment of a Development Application to accommodate all the services and inclusions to enable the Community Cultural Centre to be able to function on top of a multi-level car park (such as but not limited to sewerage, air conditioning, mechanical ventilation, fire services, waste services and the like).
- (c) That staff investigate and provide a report back to Council regarding the quantum of funds required from the State Government for them to fulfil their pre-election commitment to build the Cultural Centre.
- (d) That in response to the advice provided by the Premier's office, Council to include the "Korean Cultural Centre" in the master planning of Eastwood Town Centre.

AMENDMENT: (Moved by Councillors Purcell and O'Reilly)

- (a) That should Council not be successful in reinstating the rejected State funding, it commits to funding the planning proposal, development application and associated community consultation.
- (b) Following the planning proposal, and development stage, Council investigates funding required to build a cultural centre and that Council includes the Cultural Centre in the Eastwood Precinct master plan.

On being put to the meeting, the voting on the Amendment was four (4) For and seven (7) Against. The Amendment was LOST. The Motion was then put and **CARRIED**.

Record of Voting:

For the Amendment: Councillors O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Amendment: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson and Li

RESOLUTION:

- (a) That the Mayor write to Premier Minns to provide the budget and plans to build this Cultural Community Centre during this term of the Labor government.
- (b) That Council prioritise all resources necessary to ensure that within six (6) months of receiving the sufficient funds committed to the planning and development phase:
 - ii) For a planning proposal to be prepared to amend the RLEP to increase the allowable height in this part of Eastwood, as required for the construction of an appropriate Community Cultural Centre; and
 - iii) To allow for the preparation and lodgment of a Development Application to accommodate all the services and inclusions to enable the Community Cultural Centre to be able to function on top of a multi-level car park (such as but not limited to sewerage, air conditioning, mechanical ventilation, fire services, waste services and the like).
- (c) That staff investigate and provide a report back to Council regarding the quantum of funds required from the State Government for them to fulfil their pre-election commitment to build the Cultural Centre.
- (d) That in response to the advice provided by the Premier's office, Council to include the "Korean Cultural Centre" in the master planning of Eastwood Town Centre.

On being put to the meeting, Councillors O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song abstained from voting and accordingly their votes were recorded Against the Motion.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lane, Lara-Watson and Li

Against the Motion: Councillors O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

6 WASTE EDUCATION CAMPAIGN - Councillor Bernard Purcell

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

7 SAFETY FOR CHILDREN PLAYING AT HEATLEY RESERVE IN EAST RYDE - Councillor Penny Pedersen

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

8 CITY OF RYDE'S HOUSING AFFORDABILITY STRATEGY AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS FOR INDIGENOUS RANGERS SEEKING TO RESIDE IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA - Councillor Penny Pedersen

Note: Dr. Jo Anne Rey, Dharug Community Member made a written submission on this Item and a copy is ON FILE.

Note: Councillor Maggio was not present for consideration or voting on this Item.

RESOLUTION: (Moved by Councillors Pedersen and Purcell)

- (a) Council notes that according to a recent Committee for Sydney report, 'Sydney's housing crisis is "crippling" the NSW economy costing the city an estimated \$10 billion a year in lost productivity. Housing affordability in Sydney is second only to Hong Kong in terms of housing unaffordability, with an average home costing more than 13 times the median salary. Rental availability and affordability are also at crisis levels, with 35.3 per cent of Sydney renter households experiencing the financial stress of paying more than 30 per cent of their monthly incomes on housing costs'. The report recommended the introduction of a zoning target to include affordable housing in new developments.
- (b) Acknowledge the suffering of all Ryde Residents during the housing crisis and more perspective are welcome on how to ease this burden. For a first nation's perspective, council staff should engage with the reconciliation action working group for how the City of Ryde can respectfully ease the pressure for first nations people living in Ryde.
- (c) Invite interested Councillors to read the 2023-2024 Operational Delivery Plan on page 19 where the City of Ryde is reviewing Council's affordable housing policy and this council has called for a workshop on this matter.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

9 SAFETY ON THE STAIRCASE AT 1 POPE STREET BETWEEN COUNCIL CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE AND THE LIBRARY - Councillor Penny Pedersen

Note: This Item was dealt with earlier in the meeting as detailed in these Minutes.

QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS AS PER POLICY

1 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE - Councillor Shweta Deshpande

Question 1:

What is the current expected timeframe and completion date for the stormwater drainage and road works in Hedgeland Close, Meadowbank?

Answer 1:

The key activities remaining for project completion are shown in the Table below which shows an anticipated completion date in late December 2023. This anticipated end date accounts for 22 days of unforeseen delays.

Task Name	Duration	Start	Finish
Construct sewer protection bridge	22 days	Wed 6/09/2023	Thu 5/10/2023
Curing time of the sewer protection slab	7 days	Fri 6/10/2023	Mon 16/10/2023
Excavate and Construct retaining wall	7 days	Tue 17/10/2023	Wed 25/10/2023
Shared pathway excavation and disposal of soil	5 days	Thu 26/10/2023	Wed 1/11/2023
Construct shared pathway	5 days	Thu 2/11/2023	Wed 8/11/23
Remove/dispose asphalt for the road construction	7 days	Tue 24/10/2023	Wed 1/11/2023
Repair soft spots	5 days	Thu 2/11/2023	Wed 8/11/2023
Asphalt laying	5 days	Thu 9/11/2023	Wed 15/11/2023
Demobilise/clean the site	5 days	Thu 16/11/2023	Wed 22/11/2023
Allowance for unforeseen delays (contingency)	22 days	Thu 23/11/2023	Wed 22/12/2023

Table 1 Program to completion

Question 2:

What has changed since the original estimated timeframe? What are the causes of the ongoing delay and slow progress in completing the works?

Answer 2:

This project was initially proposed to commence in September 2021 and planned to be delivered by March 2022. From the commencement of the project various challenges have impacted the project timeline. These challenges fall under three categories: latent site conditions, the COVID-19 pandemic, and unprecedented wet weather. The latent site conditions encountered included the following:

- Addressing the additional works and approvals required by utility providers such as Sydney Water, Jemena and Viva Energy Australia Pty Limited (Viva Energy) for the protection or augmentation of their assets.
- Revising designs and construction methodology to accommodate the condition of existing utilities and infrastructure, which were impacted by changing subsurface conditions.
- Proper handling of marine sediments onsite.
- Addressing unexpected difficulties associated with working below the tidal range.
- Implementing extra reporting and on-site measures to fulfill environmental obligations regarding groundwater.

These challenges had significant consequences, resulting in substantial delays and significant cost overruns. Details regarding the cost overruns cannot be disclosed at this time due to the project's ongoing status, as this information is commercially confidential. For a more comprehensive overview of these issues and their chronological occurrence, please refer to the Table below.

Date	Description of delay
Sep 2021	Commencement of works
Sep 2021 - Oct 2022	On-site management of marine sediments. This has involved blending the excavated soil with lime on site to neutralise any potential acidification that can occur with these sediments prior to offsite disposal. This has created a total delay of nearly two months across the construction program to date.
Sep 2021 - Aug 2022	Unforeseen challenges of working below the tidal range. This involved daily dewatering of existing stormwater line to provide safe working conditions
Sep 2021 - Dec 2021	Additional reporting and measures on site to meet environmental requirements relating to groundwater

Oct 2021 - Dec 2022	Revised designs and construction methodology to accommodate the condition of existing utilities and infrastructure impacted by changing subsurface conditions. This had significant impacts on construction of both the upstream and downstream drainage structures which took 5 months and 3 months respectively. Updated approval was also required for Sydney Water protective works which contributed to a 3 week delay.
Jan 2022 - Oct 2022	The La Nina weather pattern resulted in abnormally high rainfall throughout a significant portion of 2022 resulting in frequent delays due to the location of the site at the bottom of the catchment. Key impacts on site were the clayey soils which became unsafe for machinery and people to traverse when wet, as well as the need to dewater excavations which rapidly filled with water from the surrounding catchment. The month of March was a key event which resulted in a total site shut down for several weeks.
Nov 2022 - Mar 2023	Reapplication to Jemena for works around high-pressure gas main due to lapsed approvals and subsequent completion of these works. This created a 3 month delay in obtaining a revised letter of offer from Jemena and then a further 5 weeks to coordinate availability of both Jemena's nominated contractor and Jemena's supervisors into the sequence of works.
Apr 2023 - Sep 2023	Identification of clash with Sydney Water sewer overflow, design, approvals and subsequent construction of a protective bridging structure. This created a total delay of 5 months including three and a half months to obtain design approval followed by one month to obtain construction approval from Sydney Water.

Table 2 Timeline of Unforeseen Events

These delays created the perception of minimal on-site progress. However, in reality, specific work couldn't commence until all specialist designs and approvals were obtained.

Question 3:

Why were there long periods (as observed by local residents) where no works were occurring at all on site?

Answer 3:

The long periods during which no construction activities were observed on the site were primarily due to a series of unforeseen events and challenges, as outlined in Table 2 - Timeline of Unforeseen Events. These events had significant consequences and resulted in substantial delays, making it necessary to temporarily halt work until the various issues, such as utility provider approvals, were addressed and resolved.

Question 4:

It is noted that Councillor Penny Pedersen commented in the Meadowbank Community (NSW 2114) facebook group: “As an environmentalist I am concerned about what gets to our water from sewer overflows, development along the river and I am concerned about disturbing what is buried beneath the water, in the sediment. I support regulation and best practice around the river. There is a long history of industrial mistreatment buried in the sediment that should not be disturbed. There is also the VIVA PIPELINE which carries high pressure fuel from Gore Bay in Greenwich to Clyde (you just cannot mess with that pipe). Caution/regulation that governs safety, environmental protection is paramount and obviously slows work down... I'd be seriously worried if Sydney water, Viva and Jemena didn't scrutinise contractors work at this site!”

Have any third parties / authorities been responsible for the ongoing delay and slow progress in completing the works? If so, which ones and how have they caused the delays?

Answer 4:

As previously outlined, third parties and authorities have substantially contributed to ongoing delays in completing the project. These utility providers were responsible for requiring additional works and approvals to protect or enhance their assets. This included revising designs and construction methods to accommodate changing subsurface conditions and ensuring the proper handling of marine sediments on-site. These requirements, while necessary, contributed to project delays. Please refer to Table 2 for further information.

Question 5:

What will Council's public works team do differently to prevent similar cost blow outs and significant delays when managing similar civil works projects in the future? Set out all learnings from this project.

Answer 5:

Contingency measures are typically incorporated into projects to handle unforeseen challenges, especially when sub-surface work is involved. However, this project has been quite exceptional in terms of the magnitude of issues that needed to be addressed.

Among the setbacks that were identified, the most pressing concern was the high-pressure oil pipeline traversing within Council's stormwater pipe and the location of the high-pressure gas main on the site. This situation necessitated the hiring of specialised contractors to carry out the necessary corrective actions. In this case, there was no viable alternative but to acknowledge the additional time delays and associated costs, as failing to do so would have presented a significant risk of causing major damage to the surrounding sites if the work was not executed correctly.

An invaluable lesson that has emerged from this project pertains to enhancing communication with the community. When dealing with service providers and navigating approval processes, it is imperative to keep the community informed about expected delays throughout the project. Transparency not only fosters trust and cooperation but also manages expectations, reducing any possible frustration or confusion within the community.

Further to this, when dealing with major projects such as 146 Bowden Street, an important lesson learned is the importance of conducting thorough investigative work before initiating any construction activities. This would not have prevented delays or cost overruns but would have enabled Council to efficiently communicate and set realistic expectations about the project's timeline, making it clear that it couldn't be completed within a 12-month period and instead would require a 3-year timeframe for completion.

The meeting closed at 8.59pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 28TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2023

Chairperson