
MM10/15 NIGHT TIME ECONOMY - The Mayor, Councillor Jerome Laxale**File Number: CLM/13/1/4/9 - BP15/1743**

The delivery of the Night Time Economy (NTE) in the City of Ryde is an emerging issue and opportunity for Council. City of Ryde is already a popular place to live and work; there is growing expectation that our Town and Neighbourhood Centres should be more activated, vibrant and accessible.

The NTE typically centres on food, jobs and entertainment. While the Town Centres of Eastwood/West Ryde, Top Ryde and Gladesville are developing a strong food culture, other centres are looking for ways to activate their Centres and respond to the expectations of workers and residents. In particular, the workers of Macquarie Park have consistently voiced through surveys and consultations that they are looking for more things to do during the day and into the evening. This expectation will only increase as the Priority Precincts at North Ryde and Macquarie University Stations are delivered.

In 2011-12, City of Sydney undertook a ground-breaking public consultation and research program to plan for the future and respond to the challenges and opportunities of the NTE ([City of Sydney - Future Directions for Sydney at Night, 2011-12](#)); I believe City of Ryde should undertake a similar process of engagement and research to position our city for the future. Such a study will have excellent synergies with the Macquarie Park Strategic Review currently being undertaken in partnership with the Department of Planning and Environment.

Benefits of undertaking this study include:

- Strategically plan and build our economy;
- Support the delivery of our core outcomes - Prosperity, Liveable Neighbourhoods, Well Being, Connections, Harmony and Culture;
- Activate Town/ Neighbourhood Centres;
- Create places and destinations which provide vibrancy for our residents, workers and visitors;
- Enhance the safety of our Centres through activation.

Activation supports the goals of Council Committees, including:

- Macquarie Park Forum;
- Economic Development Advisory Committee;
- Events and Promotions Committees.

MM10/15 (continued)

The Study will:

- Start the discussion with our community;
- Engage with business, retailers and residents to better understand their views;
- Quantify the existing and potential Night Time Economy;
- Identify opportunities and challenges;
- Plan for the future needs of our community.

I understand Council officers are already formalising guidelines for the use of Food Trucks in the City of Ryde – this work would complement this study by reducing red tape and enhancing activation.


RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That Council endorse the preparation of a Night Time Economy Study for the City of Ryde.
- (b) That Council fund the preparation of study to the value of \$15,000 from savings identified in the December 2015 Quarterly budget review.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

Report Prepared By:



**Councillor Jerome Laxale
The Mayor**