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**MM11/20 ARTSAKH AND AZERBAIJAN WAR - Mayor, Councillor  
Jerome Laxale and Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM****File Number: MYR/07/10/20 - BP20/1071**

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**REPORT SUMMARY**

Following recent events in Artsakh, Councillor Yedelian OAM and myself move the recommendation below:-

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- (a) That Ryde Council acknowledges its long connection with, representation of and advocacy for the local Armenian-Australian community on a variety of important issues.
- (b) That Ryde Council notes that in 2018 it voted unanimously on a resolution recognising, among other things, the right to self-determination of all peoples including those of the Republic of Artsakh.
- (c) That Ryde Council notes that in 2019 it voted unanimously on a resolution to form a Friendship City relationship with the capital of the Republic of Artsakh, Stepanakert.
- (d) That Ryde Council:-
  - 1 condemns the military aggression launched on 27 September 2020 by Azerbaijan and Turkey against the right of self-determination of the indigenous Armenian population of Artsakh, who have lived on those highlands for millennia;
  - 2 condemns the indiscriminate shelling and missile attacks on the civilian population and infrastructure of Artsakh, including Ryde City's sister city in Artsakh, being the capital city Stepanakert, as well as the Holy Saviour Armenian Cathedral in Shushi, in complete violation of international law;
  - 3 calls on the Australian Government unequivocally to join the City of Ryde in the above condemnation and to call on Azerbaijan and Turkey to respect the OSCE Minsk Group peace process for the Karabakh / Artsakh conflict, in particular the non-use of force and the right to self-determination;

**MM11/20 (continued)**

- 4 notes that the international recognition of the Republic of Artsakh and its population's right to self-determination is the only permanent solution to the conflict, to avoid further attempts of such military aggression, and calls on the Australian Government to recognise the Republic of Artsakh.
- (e) That Council hold a minute's silence in honour of those who have lost their life during this unnecessary conflict.

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments for this report.

Report Prepared By:

**Mayor, Councillor Jerome Laxale**  
**Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM**