



Trenton Brown
Mayor



From the Office of the Mayor

An open letter to:

Prime Minister The Hon. Anthony Albanese MP

NSW Premier The Hon. Chris Minns MP

NSW Minister for Planning and Public Spaces The Hon. Paul Scully MP

NSW Minister for Local Government The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP

NSW Minister for Sport The Hon. Steve Kamper MP

Federal Member for Bennelong Mr Jerome Laxale MP

State Member for Ryde Mr Jordan Lane MP

31 May 2025

Dear sirs,

As you know, the City of Ryde has been a strident and passionate advocate for the creation and maintenance of essential green open space in our LGA, which is doing a lot of the heavy lifting in helping to achieve the State Government's ambitious housing targets in a time of crisis.

As Mayor, I have been committed to working collaboratively with you all to 'strike the right balance' between the accepted need for housing uplift and the accompanying open space required as our City's population grows exponentially.

Of particular importance to me and the City of Ryde community is the iconic 6.2ha TG Millner Fields in Marsfield.

Over the past five years, this Council has been part of a dedicated community campaign seeking to retain this vital site as green open space. Its owner, the North Ryde RSL, wants to bring in the bulldozers, transforming these historic and much-needed playing fields into a housing development with 132 low-rise dwellings.

TG Millner is located close to our Macquarie Park Innovation District (MPID) which, under the State Government's Stage 1 and Stage 2 rezoning proposals, faces a significant increase in density and population, with as many as 37,000 new homes to be constructed there over the next 15 years. The existing and future residents of MPID need and deserve access to areas of recreation, fresh air, grass and sunshine – a place for families to picnic, for kids to kick a ball, for local sporting teams to call home.

Mayor's Office

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Recognising its importance, Council has set aside funds for the compulsory purchase of TG Millner and is asking the State and Federal Governments to assist in its subsequent embellishment, in line with the financial aid promised for the redevelopment of Leichhardt Oval in Sydney's inner-west. I believe TG Millner is equally deserving of your love – and your money.

On Monday 2 June 2025, the Sydney North Planning Panel (SNPP) will be deliberating over a resubmitted proposal to rezone the TG Millner Fields site from RE2 – Private Recreation to primarily R2 – Low Density Residential.

If approved, this could open a new pathway for North Ryde RSL and developer Winston Langley to move ahead with their plans, despite the fact this proposal has already been twice rejected at the state level.

Today, I'm again asking for your support in helping to retain our beloved TG Millner Fields as essential green open space. This is an issue that is not only crucial for the City of Ryde community but for communities across Sydney who are crying out for the provision of more open space as increased residential high-rise and greater housing density become the accepted solution to the housing crisis.

Yours,

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