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## **COUNCIL TO SUBMIT DESIGNS FOR PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC LIGHTS IN EASTWOOD**

New pedestrian traffic lights in Eastwood town centre are one step closer with the City of Ryde set to submit new Traffic Signal Control designs to the Road and Maritime Services (RMS) for consideration.

The designs propose converting the zebra crossing at The Avenue near Eastwood Plaza and two zebra crossings at West Parade to pedestrian traffic lights.

The installation of pedestrian traffic lights is one of the recommendations from the independent Eastwood Traffic and Parking Study, which found they would assist in reducing chronic traffic congestion in the town centre.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the development of the Traffic Signal Control designs provided Eastwood with its strongest chance to have the pedestrian traffic lights installed.

“The Eastwood community has waited nearly a decade for these pedestrian traffic lights, but to date the RMS has not agreed with Council to have the lights installed,” Cllr Laxale said.

“The Eastwood Traffic and Parking Study, based on logical and evidence-based traffic and parking solutions, confirmed what locals already knew, that pedestrian traffic lights will assist in improving traffic operation across the Eastwood Town Centre.

“Subject to the findings of the Road Safety Assessment, Council will submit the designs for the pedestrian traffic lights with the RMS for their approval. I hope the RMS will agree with the experts to install this vital piece of traffic infrastructure and help us reduce the traffic congestion in Eastwood.”

The City of Ryde’s efforts to reduce traffic congestion in Eastwood coincide with plans to improve parking issues in the area.

In October, the independent Sydney North Planning Panel approved Council’s development application for a new shopper car park on Rowe Street East. The new multi-storey shopper car park will be located at 53-71 Rowe Street and will be able to accommodate some 150 cars.

Meanwhile, a concept plan is being developed to relocate the existing Glen Street shopper car park on the western side of Eastwood to the Shaftsbury Road precinct and increasing the number of spaces from 450 to approximately 600 spaces. Under the concept plan, the Glen Street car park would be transformed into a public plaza, creating a more vibrant open space for the community.

Council resolved to develop the concept plan after the Eastwood Traffic and Parking Study found that moving the Glen Street car park to the Shaftsbury Road precinct would improve the traffic conditions in the area.

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**Media Contact: Michael East, City of Ryde Communications**  
p • 9952 8083 m • 0466 091 059 e • [meast@ryde.nsw.gov.au](mailto:meast@ryde.nsw.gov.au)