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HERITAGE REFORMS ENDORSED BY THE CITY OF RYDE

The City of Ryde has endorsed reforms that will provide stronger protections for items and areas of heritage significance across the local community.

Under the reforms, more than 300 items will have various forms of heritage protection. This includes three new heritage conservation areas, individual Federation buildings and Inter-War bungalows, public parks and street tree boulevards.

The three heritage conservation areas are located at Chatham Road, Denistone, Darvall Estate, Denistone and Tyrell Street, Gladesville. This means, the City of Ryde will now have eight heritage conservation areas in total.

Meanwhile, the former Squire's Brewery and Halvorsen's Boat Yard in Putney and the Glades Bay Baths in Gladesville will be listed as archaeological sites.

The items that are to be heritage listed were identified by a heritage review of the Ryde local government area that was undertaken earlier this year.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said Council had an obligation to identify and protect heritage items in the community.

"This Council has saved Ryde's history," Cllr Laxale said.

"These reforms – the most wide-ranging in generations – have corrected poor heritage policies of the past and have placed strong protections on our most treasured items which will now stand for generations to come.

"Crucially, the reforms endorsed by Council strike a balance between the views of owners of significant heritage residences and those held by the wider community. Ryde is NSW's third oldest settlement and our citizens have wanted heritage protections for years. We have delivered that."

In addition to the new items being heritage listed, Council also endorsed a funding increase for the Heritage Assistance Fund, which is designed to assist owners with the cost involved of repairing, restoring or conserving their residential heritage item.

A one-off budget allocation of \$500,000 will be made to the fund. Individual grants have also increased from \$5,000 to \$15,000.

A Planning Proposal will now be forwarded to the NSW Minister for Planning, recommending that the Ryde Local Environmental Plan be amended to incorporate the heritage reforms.

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