

Thursday 4 August 2011

SURF'S UP AT RYDE

The Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre (RALC) is set to become the first community aquatic centre in New South Wales to offer the thrill of riding a surfboard all year round.

Council endorsed the installation of a surf attraction feature that provides riders with a surfable wave experience from a thin sheet of water that flows at speed over a fixed surface.

Regardless of age or skill levels, the thrill of surfing a wave can be experienced by teenagers, children and parents in a self contained and safe environment.

Mayor, Cllr Artin Etmekdjian said: "The RALC was built for the Sydney Olympics and is one of a handful of council-owned pools to operate at a surplus for the community.

"This attraction, that can accommodate up to 48 riders an hour, will give riders an adrenaline rush like no other and have them coming back for more.

"It will greatly enhance the RALCs appeal."

The concept plan presented to Council shows the surfing attraction, surrounded by lush vegetation, on underutilised land at Victoria Road side of the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre. The surf feature will be open air and covered by a retractable awning for year round surfing.

Council will investigate funding options expected to be in the vicinity of \$3.5 million and will call for tenders for the supply and installation of the surf attraction.

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