

Wednesday 13 March 2013.

Working party to expedite West Ryde construction

A working party of senior executives from Coles, Ryde Council and West Ryde Chamber of Commerce has been formed to expedite construction of the Coles supermarket in West Ryde and to keep the community informed of progress.

The initiative came after a recent Council resolution was actioned for the Mayor and Acting General Manager to make representations direct to Coles senior management on the matter.

A meeting on Friday 8 March, between the Council and Coles Property Director Greg Chubb, discussed a range of issues associated with the town centre redevelopment that have impacted businesses and residents in West Ryde.

City of Ryde Acting General Manager, Danielle Dickson, said: "This was a very productive meeting and we have a firm commitment from Coles to 'make things happen quickly'.

"Council strongly represented the business community's concerns about the delays and lack of information, which Coles took on board. As a result, they have made a firm commitment to deliver the project as quickly as is practicable."

Coles has agreed to:

- Open a manned information centre to operate Monday – Friday (10.00am – 2.00pm) at the West Ryde Community Centre to answer project related enquiries from residents and business owners. The centre is expected to open this week.
- Keep the local community and businesses informed of progress on the development.
- Provide target milestones and timelines that ensure the project is completed as soon as possible.

Coles Property Director Greg Chubb said the meeting was productive and he was pleased that both parties now had a better understanding of the challenges related to the development.

"Coles is committed to completing this development as quickly as possible, and Council understands that most of the project delays to date have been due to factors outside of Coles' control," Mr Chubb said.

"I'm pleased we've now created a collaborative working party that is committed to ensuring this exciting development is completed as quickly as possible for the local community."

When completed the community will enjoy a new Coles supermarket with underground parking, a public square, improved roads, footpaths and public domain.

The new West Ryde Community Centre is already operational, providing a range of childcare and family support services as well as a large hall for public use.

For further details on the West Ryde Urban Village project, go to www.westrydeurbanvillage.com.au or call 1800 266 012.

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