

Monday 29 February 2016

DOMINELLO MERGER DEAL LEAVES RYDE RESIDENTS FACING UP TO 31% RATE INCREASE

As part of its submission in response to the State Government's merger proposal, City of Ryde has received independent rates modelling on the likely impact on Ryde residents.

The modelling demonstrates that residential properties across the City of Ryde could experience rate increase ranging between 11% and 31% due to potential differences in rating structures between Ryde, Hunters Hill and Lane Cove. Examples are:

- West Ryde - 11% increase
- Ryde - 11% increase
- Tennyson Point - 16% increase
- Denistone - 28% increase
- Denistone East - 29% increase
- Melrose Park - 28% increase
- North Ryde - 30% increase
- Denistone West - 31% increase

The increase could come into effect once the four year protection period for rate increases, currently proposed by the State Government, is removed in 2020/21.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, has called on Ryde Member, Victor Dominello, to explain to Ryde residents how he could support such a rate hike when the majority of surveyed citizens are opposed to forced mergers.

"In October 2015, Victor Dominello publicly supported a forced merger for Ryde. He was quoted in the press saying, 'Obviously I am completely supportive of Local Government Minister Paul Toole and the need for reform, Mr Dominello said. I am 100% committed to the Government's stance on this ...'.

"Instead of fighting for Ryde, and protecting our citizens from an unjustified rate hike, Victor Dominello has been too busy protecting his own career and towing the party line.

"This forced merger is a deal that he cooked up and supported, and one that will see our residents slugged with rates upto 31% higher than they are now."

In its submission to the Boundary Review Delegate yesterday, Ryde maintained its argument to stand alone.

"Our citizens have told us that they do not want to be forcibly merged. In light of this shocking new evidence, it is now time for Victor Dominello to support our community and reject the merger proposal."

To see the City of Ryde response submission www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/mergerproposalsubmission

Media Contact: Lee Kirkland City of Ryde Media Officer p●99528083 m●0434306444
e●lkirkland@ryde.nsw.gov.au