

Thursday 12 May 2016

MAYOR SAYS RYDE HAS BEEN ABANDONED BY VICTOR DOMINELLO

Today the Baird Liberal Government created 19 new mega-councils for NSW, with the City of Ryde's merger slated to go ahead pending the outcome of legal proceedings.

Surprisingly, a number of Council areas were saved from forced mergers due to heavy lobbying from their local MPs.

Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said the Ryde community has been abandoned by its local member, Victor Dominello.

Mayor Laxale said: "If it is good enough for Kiama and Walcha to be saved, then why hasn't Victor Dominello achieved the same for his own community?"

"We see yet again, that Victor Dominello is more interested in saving his own career, than fighting for the people he is meant to represent.

"Victor Dominello has ignored the voice of the people. 81% of the Ryde community said loud and clear that they are opposed to forced amalgamation. He has ignored a Parliamentary report which recommends against forced amalgamations.

"He has ignored the facts that this merger will increase our rates and will be a bad deal for Ryde."

"Let there be no mistake, today's announcement is all about politics. These forced mergers have been designed by the Liberal party, for the Liberal party."

In addition, the City of Ryde has also been advised that its current General Manager, Gail Connolly, has been appointed as the interim General Manager of the newly formed Georges River Council.

"The loss of Ms Connolly has sent shockwaves across the organisation and our community. She was a real asset to Ryde, and her departure will hurt our City.

"Her appointment was without notice, and is proof of how dysfunctional this entire process has been," Mayor Laxale said.

Mr George Dedes will be the Acting General until such time as the Council formally appoints an acting General Manager at an extraordinary meeting on Tuesday, 17 May 2016, at 8.00pm.

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