

Tuesday 21 June 2016

ONE SCHOOL A BAND-AID FIX FOR EDUCATION NEEDS IN RYDE

City of Ryde Mayor Jerome Laxale has called on the Government to lift funding allocated to regional infrastructure in Ryde after the announcement that funds have only been allocated for one primary school in yesterday's budget.

The Mayor said: "Ryde Council has been lobbying for the Smalls Road site to be reopened for many years. However, this is really just a drop in the ocean when you factor in State Government's own modelling that shows the City of Ryde requires three new Primary Schools and one new High School to cope with future demand.

"Years of inaction have created this problem, and providing for only one school is like putting a band-aid on a bullet wound.

"If Mr Dominello was truly committed to helping parents and school aged kids in Ryde, he would have allocated funds for a high school as well," Mayor Laxale said.

The NSW *Growth Centres Commission* states that an additional Primary School is required for every 1500 dwellings and an additional High School is needed for every 4500 dwellings.

The State Government's two Priority Precincts at Macquarie Park and North Ryde will see the residential population in the immediate area increase from around 6,000 to more than 21,000 people, an estimated population increase of 15,000.

Clr Laxale continued: "Be it roads, hospitals or schools, the need for adequate regional infrastructure funding is critical. Time after time we see the State Government underfunding our infrastructure needs in Ryde and this budget again fails our City."

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