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## **STRONG SUPPORT FOR A NEW SHORT STAY CAR PARK IN EASTWOOD**

The Eastwood community has put forward their views on the new Eastwood short stay car park, which will address chronic parking shortages for shoppers in the area and help boost the local economy.

The community consultation recently carried out by the City of Ryde on the new short stay car park found an overwhelming majority of respondents supported the need for such a car park in Eastwood as well as the concept design produced by Council. More than 750 residents, workers and business owners from Eastwood as well as visitors to the suburb took part in the consultation.

The City of Ryde has committed to build a new multi-storey short stay car park on the current car park site at 53-71 Rowe Street, Eastwood. The new car park will have a minimum of 150 spaces and will be specifically designed for shoppers.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said every response received as part of the community consultation has assisted Council to identify the needs and requirements of the new car park.

“It is clear from the responses Council received that this short stay car park will address chronic parking shortages in Eastwood and help boost the local economy,” Cllr Laxale said.

“Based on the consultation, the majority of people who visit Eastwood get there by driving and stay for a short period of time and therefore would find enormous benefit through the introduction of the new short stay car park.

“Some great suggestions were also received about the features the car park could have, including solar panels on the roof, different car park time limits at various stages of the day/week and electrical vehicle infrastructure (such as charging stations) to accommodate the increase in electric cars in the future.”

Council will now prepare the necessary documentation to submit a development application for the new short stay car park in the coming months.

Residents who have registered to be kept informed about the short stay car park will continue to receive notifications as the project progresses and will have another opportunity to provide feedback at a later stage.

“This new short stay car park will be the biggest increase in public parking spaces in Eastwood in nearly 50 years. As a local resident, I understand that providing parking in Eastwood is essential as the lack of short stay parking is hurting local businesses and the town centre,” Cllr Laxale added.

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