

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## NEW RYDE CIVIC, CULTURAL & COMMUNITY HUB CONCEPT WINS THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

Council has endorsed progressing with its plans for a new civic, cultural and community hub, following the release of a report which identified 85% community support for The New Heart of Ryde proposal.

The report also identified several key themes for Council to consider when undertaking the detailed design for the project, including availability of parking, traffic management, and the inclusion of green space and a hall or performance space.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said, "The results from The New Heart of Ryde consultation are in, and they show an overwhelming 85% approval rating for Council's proposal. "For the first time we are really giving the community what they want."

"Our community has told us over and over again that more space is needed in our City for performances, meetings and cultural activities. I am so proud to say that this project will deliver a four-fold increase in community space, for our growing City", Clr Laxale said.

In response to community feedback new concepts have also been released for the site.

Under the plan, Council will retain ownership of the site, will prohibit residential development on the site, and has committed to not increasing rates or reducing services for this project.

Council will now go out to market with the proposal, with a view to report back to Council on The New Heart of Ryde in March 2020.





New concept images of The New Heart of Ryde

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