

# Apply Now for a Community Grant

Published on 21 December 2017

Locally based, not-for-profit community groups, clubs and organisations are invited to apply for a 2018 City of Ryde Community Grant.

These annual grants are one of the ways Council supports a diversity of community groups to grow, prosper or carry out special projects that contribute to community wellbeing and a vibrant, diverse community culture.

## New Grant Categories

The revamped format offers new categories provide better opportunities for applicants to identify a grant that best suits their objectives. There are six new categories offering grants ranging from \$2,000 up to \$5,000.

These categories are:

- **Seniors Grant (up to \$2,000)** - this category is for local seniors groups to enhance existing programs or encourage new activities.
- **Capacity Building Grant | 3 sub categories (up to \$3,500)** - this category is for all groups to help boost organisation growth potential and realise its vision. There are three sub-categories covering Events, Emerging/Small Groups and a General section which includes Arts and Culture.
- **Sports and Recreation Grant (up to \$3,500)** - for local sporting and recreation groups to develop activities that increase the opportunity for participation in sports, recreation and physical activity.
- **Community Projects Grant (up to \$5,000)** - these grants will support special projects aim at working towards building a cohesive and connected community, based on inclusion, enhancing community well-being and cultural growth.
- **Social Support Grant (up to \$10,000)** - this is a new grant for local groups and organisations to provide programs such as information and referral, food subsidies, financial counselling, financial assistance and reducing social isolation to improve the life and living conditions for vulnerable people in the community.

For more information on the Community Grants, download the following Guidelines and Policy.

- [Community Grants Program Guidelines](#)
- [Community Grants Policy](#)

Applications close on **Friday, 16 February 2018**.

# Take the Chief Scientist's Storytime Pledge

Published on 19 December 2017

[Chief Scientist's Storytime Pledge](#) was launched on 14 December 2017, asking people to read a book to a child this holiday season.

"Parents, grandparents, guardians, aunts, uncles, cousins, neighbours, family friends: let's all take the pledge to give our children a head-start on life", Dr Alan Finkel, Australia's Chief Scientist.

ALIA CEO Sue McKerracher said, "This is a wonderful initiative by our Chief Scientist and makes the point that you can't have a successful STEM agenda without having children who can read and write. Basic literacy is the essential building block."

Australia's 1500 public libraries run 121,000 story times every year, attracting more than three million participants. They also contribute to the STEM agenda and to the digital economy.

Storytime pledges will be posted on the Chief Scientist's website [www.chiefscientist.gov.au](http://www.chiefscientist.gov.au). Add your pledge using the Twitter hashtag #StorytimePledge.

# New Nature Inspired Playground for ELS Hall Park

Published on 18 December 2017

A new, nature inspired playground that encourages children to have fun and explore outdoors will be created at ELS Hall Park, near Field No. 1. Work on the playground overlooking the sportsfield will begin in early 2018 and is the latest addition in a series of new and upgraded playgrounds being built by City of Ryde.

Concept design for the playground is the result of extensive community consultation, including special workshops with children, and includes four main play zones. They are:

- Water play
- Toddler area with softfall
- Active zone with climbing and slides
- Relaxed zone with swings.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said: “This will be a unique, purpose-built playground that will appeal to families with children of all ages, including toddlers, letting them explore, interact and connect with the natural environment.

“It is designed to inspire and encourage children to engage in exciting, creative and imaginative outdoor play.”

A unique feature to the playground design is a large sculpture component, which has been integrated into the design. It will feature two metal ‘cubbies’, wrapped in cladding and joined via a net structure. Children will be able to explore and climb through the various layers within the ‘cubbie’.

Construction of the new playground is scheduled to begin in the first half of 2018.

# Council to Investigate 'Live' Sites for FIFA World Cup

Published on 18 December 2017

Football fans in and around Ryde are set to see the 2018 World Cup live on the big screen following Council's decision to investigate the hosting of live sites during the event, with particular emphasis on the three Australian Group C games.

Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale said: "This event will be watched by millions of fans all over the world.

"Ryde has a great footballing reputation and it is only right that local fans should have the best opportunity to see this event on the big screen, like so many of the major cities around the world.

"Live sites generate a real buzz around our city, as well as boosting our night time economy. Initiatives like this are all about making Ryde an even more vibrant and exciting place to live.

"Over the coming months, our amazing events staff will engage with key stakeholders and prepare a report to Council with a way forward."

# Funding for Pedestrian Safety Lights Sought from State Government

Published on 15 December 2017

City of Ryde Council will seek a meeting with the Member for Ryde, The Hon Victor Dominello, and representatives of the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), to gain support and funding for the installation for two sets of signalised pedestrian lights at Eastwood Plaza as well as other ideas for traffic and pedestrian improvements in Eastwood.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said: "The RMS is the approving authority for all signalised pedestrian crossings and Council has supported the provision of pedestrian lights at Eastwood Plaza for over eight years, but to date the State Government and the RMS have not made this possible."

None of the eleven existing pedestrian crossings in Eastwood Town Centre meet the RMS's strict criteria for signalised pedestrian crossings, even when significant growth in the area is taken into account.

"Pedestrian safety in Eastwood is now an urgent matter and I look forward to sitting down with the local member for Ryde and members of the RMS to discuss how Council and the State can work together to get action on this important community safety project. To date, without their support we have been unable to break through bureaucratic red tape. With the support of the Council, I am hopeful they will listen and we will get their support for this and other traffic improvement measures in Eastwood," the Mayor said.

The matter of replacing existing pedestrian crossings in Eastwood was tabled at the Ryde Traffic Committee (RTC) meeting in March 2009. Subsequent traffic and pedestrian surveys were tabled at the RTC meeting of June 2017, but no further action could be taken by Council to convert the existing pedestrian crossings as RMS warrants were not met. If signals are to be installed, a network-wide modelling is necessary to take into account trip generation from future land use, co-ordinating new and existing traffic signal sites, and ensure pedestrian/vehicular interactions are equitable.

Funding through the \$25million Transport Access Plan Grant and another State Government sources will be sought for the installation of the pedestrian lights to be located at both ends of Eastwood Plaza, at the intersections of Rowe Street and West Parade, and at Rowe Street and The Avenue.

# Ahoy Shipmates! New Pirate-Themed Playground Sets Sail

Published on 14 December 2017



A new, pirate-themed playground has set sail in popular Lynelle Park, Eastwood in time for the Christmas holiday season where imaginations can run wild.

The new playground got some finishing touches from Council crews this week and has already given young adventure seekers plenty of fun and enjoyment with a range of kid-friendly play equipment including a ship-shaped combination unit with slippery dip and a ship's mast climbing structure.

The Lynelle Park \$170,000 upgrade is part of Ryde Council's Play Plan designed to provide safe, imaginative and high quality play spaces to local families.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, who was on hand to hoist the Jolly Roger, said: "This is the twenty-ninth playground that we've updated since I was first elected in 2012. With more and more families moving to Ryde it's great to see so many of our playgrounds being updated.

"Imaginative play helps children develop skills, think creatively, to cooperate and coordinate. Adding inspiring play areas to our playgrounds will benefit children for years to come."

The new playground offers youngsters a choice of play equipment including a colourful ship-shaped combination play unit, a ship mast with look-out, swings, spinner and springer. New loop paths, extensive landscaping and seating are also provided for the enjoyment of parents and families.

Council playground upgrades ensure that play equipment meets current Australian safety standards and offer families a range of play spaces, equipment and activities suitable for all ages, including adventure playgrounds, spaces for passive play and gentle activities for younger children.

Three new playgrounds in Elouera Reserve, Peel Park and ELS Hall Park are set to open in 2018.

**Lynelle Park, Abuklea Road, (off Balaclava Road), Eastwood/Marsfield**

- Choice of play equipment including a colourful ship-shaped combination play unit, ship mast with lookout, swings, spinner and springer
- New entry and loop path connects play areas
- Sandstone blocks outlining new informal play areas, including kick-about space
- Seating options for family picnic and parental supervision
- New tree planting providing shade and green vistas
- Stage 2 garden plantings and extensions commence 2018.



# **Interim Heritage Order No.3 330 Rowe Street Eastwood (Lot 3 DP18275)**

**Published on 05 December 2017**

Council on 28 November 2017 resolved to apply an Interim Heritage Order to 330 Rowe Street Eastwood as the property is the subject of a Local Development Application (LDA) to demolish the existing dwelling house.

The LDA was available for community comment between the 23 October and 15 November 2017. A petition and submissions received by Council in response to the LDA raised concerns regarding the heritage significance of property.

330 Rowe Street, Eastwood is not listed as an item of heritage significance under the provisions for Ryde Local Environmental Plan 2014. However, the property was identified as having local heritage significance in the City of Ryde Draft Heritage Study 2010.

The Draft Heritage Study 2010 recommended that 330 Rowe Street, Eastwood be listed, because it was identified as a substantially intact Federation style dwelling and a representative example of the architectural style. It is also aesthetically distinctive within the streetscape, being complemented by its generously proportioned landscaped garden setting.

Council considered the Draft Heritage Study 2010 on 17 August 2010 and resolved not to pursue the heritage listing of any property unless the land owner specifically applied for a heritage listing of that property.

## **CITY OF RYDE HERITAGE STUDY 2010**

The Ryde Heritage Study 2010 was commenced in 2003, when the members of Council's Heritage Advisory Committee sought heritage nominations from the community groups they represented.

71 properties were identified and recommended for heritage listing and comprised 47 dwellings, 15 public buildings/churches and 9 stone survey markers.

Council resolved only to list properties where the owners consented to the heritage listing, together with the removal of heritage listings, minor changes to existing heritage listings and boundary changes to the Maxim Street Heritage Conservation Area. In summary 5 properties (3 dwellings and 2 public buildings) and 9 stone markers were listed.

## **INTERIM HERITAGE ORDER (IHO)**



- [View the Interim Heritage Order](#)

The Interim Heritage Order is also available for public inspection at the Customer Service Centre, 1 Pope Street, Ryde, during normal office hours (8.30 am - 4.30 pm).

### ***What is an Interim Heritage Order?***

An IHO is a temporary heritage protection measure against the demolition of a potential heritage item. It also provides Council with the time to further assess the heritage significance of a potential item and take the appropriate steps to list the item if warranted.

The legal effect of an IHO made by a local Council is that approval is required for any development for the life of the order and demolition is prohibited during that period.

One of the key requirements for imposing an IHO over a property is that Council must consider that the subject property is being or is likely to be harmed.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Council will prepare a Planning Proposal to include 330 Rowe Street, Eastwood within Ryde Local Environmental Plan 2014 Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage. The Planning Proposal will be submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment with a request for a Gateway Determination (which will specify conditions for the public exhibition of the Planning Proposal)

# Major Upgrades to Christie Park on Track

Published on 04 December 2017



*The Mayor, Clr Laxale with the Ryde Panthers and Koalas*

City of Ryde Council has announced \$8.2 million in funding to make major improvements to Christie Park.

Initial works to upgrade the park's sportfields to an all-weather, synthetic surface are already underway as part of a three-stage masterplan that aims to transform Christie Park into a home of football. This new funding would expand on these improvements and address stage two of the plan to include futsal fields and an amenities block to cater to growing demand, particularly among female sportspeople.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, said: "This is a game-changer for sports fans in our community and clubs like the North West Sydney Koalas and Gladesville Hornsby Football Association."

The Stage 2 works will provide more training space, café facilities and as well as upgrades to change and club rooms.

"With women's football booming in Ryde, it is so important that our amenities buildings and facilities are built with everyone in mind. This stage 2 funding will make Christie Park more accessible for all."

The funding was negotiated by staff as part of a Voluntary Planning Agreement offered by Meriton relating to the development of their site at 112 Talavera Rd, in Macquarie Park. The offer was unanimously accepted by Council last Tuesday.

The planning proposal will be forwarded to the Department of Planning and Environment, with Council seeking approval to obtain feedback from the community through public exhibition.

# BizSafe Forum a Success

Published on 04 December 2017



*BizSafe Forum in Eastwood with Chantha Mau, Multicultural Community Liaisons Officer, Detective Inspector Glyndwr Baker, and Superintendent John Duncan from the Ryde Local Area Command, Mayor Jerome Laxale, CLr Simon Zhou and Crime Prevention Officers Senior Constable Shane Carne and Senior Constable Julie Lewis.*

Around 80 members of the local community attended the BizSafe Forum in Eastwood this week. The meeting was facilitated to update business operators and community leaders on programs, future plans and new strategies to address safety matters raised by the members of the community.

City of Ryde Mayor, CLr Jerome Laxale said: “Council is committed to providing a safe environment for all and works closely with the local Police and agencies to monitor and update strategies that help make a safer community.

“Council invests a lot of resources in ensuring our public spaces are safe and welcoming and awareness programs are effective.

“Community safety is an important issue that impacts all who live, work and do business in the City of Ryde and ongoing dialogue between all the parties is the way forward.”

Highlights of the forum include:

- Update on the relationship between Council and the Police in developing crime prevention strategies
- How the Police rely on community members to report crime and the tools available for them to report crime

- Importance of effective security arrangements for cash handling businesses and staff
- Recent statistics that identify the City of Ryde as having one of the lowest crime rates in the State
- Recent success in apprehending criminals
- Current investigations and details of uniformed and undercover Police officers operating in the area
- How the Council's Night Time Economy action plan is helping to activate town centres including how creative lighting installation contribute to safer places
- Request for a more visible Police uniformed presence in Eastwood.

# Council Takes Action to Save Heritage Building

Published on 01 December 2017

An Interim Heritage Order has been made by the City of Ryde Council to prevent the demolition of a beautiful Federation style dwelling at 330 Rowe Street, Eastwood. The action came after a Mayoral Minute to save the heritage property was tabled by Mayor Laxale and unanimously adopted by the Council.

The Eastwood property was recently the subject of an application to replace the building with a new two-storey child care centre which drew strong opposition from local residents resulting in a petition signed by 150 people.

Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said: "Ryde's heritage buildings are central to our community's sense of identity and provide a priceless link to our City's past and I thank concerned residents from Eastwood and Meadowbank for caring so much about our heritage.

"This Council is making it a matter of priority to make sure our heritage buildings are cherished and respected for our kids and their kids.

"We have committed to delivering a detailed heritage study which will form the basis of an active effort to ensure significant items are appropriately listed and protected."

A Planning Proposal that lists the property as an item of local heritage significance will be prepared and forwarded to the Department of Planning and Environment requesting a gateway determination.

Ryde's last heritage study, which was undertaken in 2010, left the protection of some properties to their owners. While many owners have respected the significance of these buildings to the wider community and meticulously maintained and protected them, a number of properties have been lost to development.

A similar action to save *Dellina Palm Cottage* at 87 Bowden Street, which was also under threat of development, was taken by the Council in early 2016.

# Ryde Mayor Welcomes School & Transport Interchange

Published on 01 December 2017

Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, has welcomed this week's announcements by Prime Minister Turnbull and Premier Berejiklian.

Mayor Laxale said: "It is heartening to see that the State Government has adopted my policy position from January 2016 when I highlighted the opportunity to repurchase the Peter Board School Site that was closed in 1998. This site should have never been sold, and it is good news that it will be returning into public hands.

"The need for adequate regional infrastructure and the lack of schools in the Macquarie Park area, coupled with significant population growth forecasts, have made this issue critical for some time and I am pleased that the NSW Government has finally acted. Better late than never.

"Furthermore, the Macquarie Park Bus Interchange announcement has been a long time coming. It would have been nice to have had the Federal and State Government fund this back when Council first identified this project as critical in 2013.

"Had this announcement been made sooner, it would be at or nearing completion, which would have helped during the rail line shut-down," the Mayor said.

Figures show that local schools in the City of Ryde are at or near capacity, with reports suggesting up to a 40 percent increase in enrolments in recent years.

Planned Priority Precincts at Macquarie Park and North Ryde will see the residential population in the area increase by 15,000.