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File No:	URB/08/1/7/5	
Document Ref:	D16/19067	
Venue:	Civic Centre, Level 5, Room 1	
Date:	10 th February 2016	
Time:	5.00pm Started at: 5.05pm	Closed at: 6.30 pm
Chair:	Clr Artin Etmekdjian	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	John Brown	
Circulation:		

Committee Role:**The primary role of the Economic Development Advisory Committee is to:**

- Provide direction and support to assist and guide Council in implementation of the City of Ryde Economic Development Strategy (EDS), identified Strategy Actions, 2009-2014.
- Identify and recognise economic development issues / projects, government and business sector initiatives and actions that underpin the EDS' three strategic themes of:
 - *Marketing of the City of Ryde;*
 - *Employment Generation;*
 - *Building Partnerships.*

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation
x		Councillor A Etmekdjian	Delegate (Chairperson)	City of Ryde
x		Councillor Craig Chung	Delegate (Acting Chair)	City of Ryde
		Ms June Heinrich	Principal	Macquarie Community College
x		Mr Brad Chan	CEO	Banna Property Group
x		Mr David Tompkins	President	West Ryde Chamber of Commerce
x		Ms Yvonne Doornan	President	Gladesville Chamber of Commerce
	x	Mr Tony Abboud	President	Ryde/Macquarie Park Chamber of Commerce
x		Mr Stefan Sojka	Director	Cyrius Media Group
	x	Mr Morrell Boyce	Resident	Macquarie Park Forum
x		Ms Lydia Scuglia	Chair	Ryde Business Forum
		Mr Graham Janes	Officer	Ryde Salvation Army
		Doug Hardy	Real Estate Agent	Meadowbank/West Ryde Progress Association
x		Phil Peake	Business owner	Residents for Ryde community group
		Simone Checchia	Solicitor	Milne Berry Berger and Freedman solicitors
		Rebecca Lehman	General Manager	Connect Macquarie Park + North Ryde
		Kaylar Michaelian	Board Member	RBF
		Stephen Chang	Solicitor	Herbert Smith Freehills
x		Cassy Norris	Principal	Ryde Secondary College
x		John Brown	Place Manager	City of Ryde

Additional Attendees

Name	Position Title	Organisation
Dyalan Govender	Acting Manager - Strategic City	City of Ryde
Linda Smith	EA to the Mayor and Councillors	City of Ryde
Hannah Goodchild	Neighbourhood Activation Officer	City of Ryde
Mandy Juraev		TAFE

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>1. Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Those in attendance and apologies were noted.</p>	Noted	
<p>Minutes from Meeting – 11th November 2015</p>	Confirmed and endorsed	
<p>2. Economic Development Activities</p> <p><u>Skilled Migrant Program:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandy Juraev from TAFE addressed the group. • Mandy is responsible for overseeing an English language program and job seeker program at TAFE. • She advised that when state government funding of the skilled migrant program ceased at the end of 2015, Council provided funding which allowed a shorter version of the program to be run for 3 weeks in January. • The course provided assistance to 13 participants who had university qualifications from overseas and a high level of English but needed to improve their job seeking skills to allow them to seek work in Australia. • The course included assistance with preparation of resumes, covering letters, face to face interviews, telephone interviews, etc. • Usually students who undertake this course must be permanent residents but this course was open to holders of other visa categories. <p><u>Neighbourhood Activation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hannah Goodchild provided information regarding her role at Council. • She is currently working with staff to identify projects and develop 	<p>The information was noted with the group congratulating Mandy on the program.</p> <p>Mandy to be asked to forward details of the course to all school principals to allow the information to be passed to relevant people.</p> <p>It was suggested that the course be advertised through the local ethnic media.</p> <p>It was noted that if government funding is not available, courses may still be provided in the future, but for a fee.</p> <p>The course was identified as being of relevance to school leavers and university graduates and Mandy advised that similar courses are offered to these groups.</p>	

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>strategies for the various locations where neighbourhood activation is required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A priority has been given to Eastwood and West Ryde and efforts will be made to dovetail activation efforts with future public domain upgrades. 	The information was noted.	
<p>3. Council Mergers</p> <p>Dyalan provided the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State Government’s recommendations regarding Council mergers were released on 18th December 2015 • Dr Robert Lang is the delegate appointed by the State Government to act between Council, the State Government and the Office of Local Government for the proposed merger between COR, Lane Cove and Hunters Hill Councils. • A public meeting was held on 2nd February 2016 and attended by Dr Lang. • Final written submissions must be lodged by 28th February 2016. • Council will be forwarding a submission stating that it is fit and sustainable in its current form. 	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>If mergers proceed, new Council boundaries will be proclaimed and an administrator will be appointed to oversee the new Council area until an election is held.</p>	
<p>4. Ryde Housing Affordability Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft policy exhibition period closed on 5th February 2016. • Information sessions regarding the draft policy were held but there was not a lot of feedback. • The results of the community consultation will be reported to Council in April 2016. 	The information was noted.	

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<p>5. Night Time Economy – research study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 24th November 2015, Council resolved to prepare a report to examine the “night time economy”. • Macquarie Park is considered ripe for evening activation as it is a large geographic area that has the potential to support businesses outside regular business hours, ie cottage industries, creative industries, festivals etc. • Two urban centres near the shopping centre and train station are seen as potential village sites which could benefit from activation. • It is important to retain the viable commercial aspect of Macquarie Park in any activation process but it may be possible to encourage the park to become a 24 hr corporate park with high tech industries, ad agencies, radio stations etc open around the clock. • The Ivanhoe Estate area, shopping centre, university and station precincts all have potential for future development. • At West Ryde, it was noted that the opening of restaurants at night has tended to have a detrimental impact on some businesses as they are now surrounded by businesses which only open in the evening resulting in less custom through the day. 	<p>The information was noted.</p> <p>The brief provided at the meeting will be circulated and comments to John Brown are requested by next week.</p> <p>The night time economy study will examine the activities undertaken in various locations currently and the potential for other activities and uses of various local areas.</p>	<p>JB to circulate by 15 February 2016.</p>
<p>6. Chamber Activity Update</p> <p><u>West Ryde Chamber</u></p>	<p>The information was noted.</p>	

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Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The opening of Coles and the apartments built by TOGA have had a positive impact on the economy of West Ryde. • The MarketPlace needs activation once the handover by Coles is finalised. Currently there is little seating or atmosphere in the MarketPlace area. • It was noted that improved signage off Victoria Road would assist shoppers and businesses. • The West Ryde Easter Parade will be held on 19th March 2016. • The location of the child care centre near the roundabout on Anthony Road was discussed. <p><u>Ryde Macquarie Park Chamber</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chamber is currently in discussion with the RBF re offering combined membership. • Following the success of the corporate social responsibility breakfast last year, a social impact enterprise event will be held this year. <p><u>Gladesville Chamber</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is hoped that the completion of the development near the clock tower will result in the provision of a pleasant public area. • The Chamber continues to promote food outlets and restaurants in the local area. <p><u>Ryde Business Forum</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lydia asked if Council could confirm that premises will still be available for use by RBF following the relocation of Council administration staff to Pope Street. • Lydia asked if the combined event by the RBF and Council scheduled for June would proceed in 2016. 	<p>Council will consider options to improve the West Ryde Plaza space once control of this space is handed back to Council.</p> <p>Council will consider options to improve signage once control of the West Ryde Plaza space is handed back to Council.</p> <p>The information was noted</p> <p>The information was noted</p> <p>It is expected that space will be available for the RBF.</p> <p>The combined event to be held in June will proceed.</p>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An item is to be placed on the agenda of the next EDAC meeting to discuss a possible restructuring of the RBF. An update will be provided at the next meeting by the President of actions taken by the RBF over the last six months. 	<p>Item to be placed on the agenda of the next EDAC meeting re RBF.</p> <p>Tony Abboud to write to John Brown with further details.</p>	
<p>7. General Business</p> <p>The position of Economic Business Manager – formerly held by Nathan Pratt has been advertised. Applications close on 15th February 2016.</p>	<p>The information was noted.</p>	
<p>8. Employment opportunities for students with a disability</p> <p>Cassy Norris provided information regarding the lack of opportunities available for students who attend the support unit of local schools.</p> <p>Ryde Secondary College, Epping Boys High and Chatswood High Schools have dedicated Support Units with Riverside Girls and Marsden High having some support students enrolled in mainstream classes.</p> <p>Only 54% of people with a disability are employed although many have the skills to fulfil work in mainstream jobs.</p> <p>She highlighted the work of students at Ryde Secondary College who attend the support unit and undertake the sound and lighting obligations of the school and also run a regular football competition.</p> <p>Cassy asked that those present consider how business can contribute to the future employment prospects of physically and intellectually disabled students.</p> <p>Cassy hopes that work experience opportunities can be expanded to</p>	<p>Cassy to provide information regarding work experience for students attending the support units of various local high schools.</p> <p>John to arrange for this information to be forwarded in the regular business newsletter circulated in the local area.</p>	<p>JB to circulate in the Macquarie Park newsletter before the next meeting to be held on 11 May 2016.</p>

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	Details	Action	Responsibility and Date
	include these students.		
10	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will be held at 5pm on 11th May 2016 Level 5 meeting room – Civic Centre</p>	Noted	