

Our Vision for Ryde 2028
**COMMUNITY
STRATEGIC
PLAN**

© City of Ryde



2028 COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN - City of Ryde

March 2018 © City of Ryde

DISCLAIMER

While every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that this document is correct at the time of printing, the Councils of the City of Ryde, its agents and employees, disclaim any and all liability to any person in respect of anything or the consequences of anything done or omitted to be done in reliance or upon the whole or any part of this document.

Copyright Notice

If you wish to reproduce, alter, store or transmit material appearing in this submission document for any purpose, requests for formal permission should be directed to the General Manager, City of Ryde, Locked Bag 2069, North Ryde, NSW 1670 or email cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Contacts

George Dedes, General Manager - City of Ryde, 9952 8222.

Mayor's Message



Welcome to the 2028 Community Strategic Plan for the City of Ryde.

The 2028 Community Strategic Plan will be the guiding document for the City of Ryde over the next decade, outlining the community's collective vision as the place to be for lifestyle and opportunity @ your doorstep.

Essentially it is a strategic roadmap detailing the future of this great city.

This plan has been developed following extensive consultation with residents, workers, businesses, community groups and my fellow Councillors, whose invaluable input has ensured that this plan has a distinct City of Ryde feel and flavour to it.

As is outlined in this document, the next ten years is full of exciting opportunities for the City of Ryde. This includes enhancing our neighbourhoods to support sustainable growth, encouraging new investment, supporting local business and investing in innovation to make the region one of the major economic hubs in Australia.

But with great opportunities, also comes great challenges that we will all have to address. We have to ensure we do not sacrifice our quality of life to support the growth that will take

place. Continuing to provide ample outdoor spaces, working to reduce traffic congestion and taking further steps to protect our natural and urban environment will all be important if we are to achieve this outcome.

We also need to continue to harness what makes City of Ryde such a great place to live, work and play through celebrating its diversity and making it inclusive for people from all walks of life.

It is for these reasons that the 2028 Community Strategic Plan will be crucial as it is the over-arching document that will guide the City of Ryde through the next decade and ultimately make our stated vision a reality, not just for the current generation but for future generations to come.

As always, I encourage everyone in the community to provide feedback on the plan at any time they wish. It is an ambitious plan, and we can only realise its objectives through input and collaboration from each one of you.

Clr Jerome Laxale
- City of Ryde Mayor.

Introduction



The Ryde 2028 Community Strategic Plan supports the Vision of the City of Ryde as 'The place to be for lifestyle and opportunity @ your doorstep'.

This Community Strategic Plan builds on The City of Ryde 2021 Community Strategic Plan and responds to the latest forecasts on how the city will grow and change, and the feedback and inputs we received from residents and community leaders over many months of consultation.

This Plan sets out our priorities under seven key outcomes for Ryde's future, and how we will measure and monitor our progress towards these aspirations.

The Community Strategic Plan underpins Council's future planning and decision-making, so that resources are put towards the initiatives, services and outcomes that support our Vision. It guides Council's 10-year Resourcing Strategy, four-year Delivery Plan and one-year Operation Plan. This suite of documents provides clarity to our community on our priorities for the area and its people and the timing for them to be delivered.

The Ryde 2028 Community Strategic Plan is part of an overall hierarchy of strategic planning that begins at a State-wide level. It aligns with the targets and objectives set for the City

of Ryde by the draft Greater Sydney Region Plan and, through this, the draft North District Plan. These NSW Government plans make it clear that as a key area of Greater Sydney, the City of Ryde must meet its housing targets, supported by appropriate infrastructure, facilities and services for its growing community.

Our role is to achieve these outcomes in consultation with our community and with business so that we can protect what we love about Ryde, while offering greater economic opportunities, more lifestyle options for our community while protecting our precious natural areas. This Plan is at the forefront of this task.

This Community Strategic Plan prioritises protecting and enhancing the Ryde's natural and urban environments including bringing more green space into new developments.

It aims to bring a stronger sense of balance and sustainability as the city grows and use controls to see a greater range of housing, including affordable rental housing, to support our anticipated population growth over the coming decade.

It includes priorities to support renewed neighbourhoods and places and to ensure that transport connections, local services and community facilities continue to serve our community well.

It supports ongoing strategies to optimise Macquarie Park and to retain and attract more jobs closer to where people live.

Importantly, to address social and community needs, the Community Strategic Plan is underpinned by our desire to make every citizen of Ryde feel welcomed, safe and part of our multicultural community.

This is an ambitious program and we can only achieve it by working with our community and having considered and targeted consultation, advocacy and partnerships.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Dedes'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

George Dedes
- City of Ryde General Manager.

Our City

A central, integrated and scenic location

The City of Ryde encompasses an area of approximately 40 square kilometres, including waterways and parklands in Greater Sydney's North. It includes 16 suburbs; Chatswood West (part), Denistone, Denistone East, Denistone West, East Ryde, Eastwood (part), Gladesville (part), Macquarie Park, Marsfield, Meadowbank, Melrose Park (part), North Ryde, Putney, Ryde, Tennyson Point and West Ryde.

The City of Ryde neighbours Hornsby Shire and the Ku-ring-gai local government areas in the north, Willoughby City and Hunters Hill local government areas and the Lane Cove River in the east, and the City of Parramatta in the west.



12km

From Sydney CBD



1 Macquarie University

30,000+
Students



2 TAFE Colleges

13,000+
Students



24 Primary Schools

5 Secondary Schools

15,000+
Students



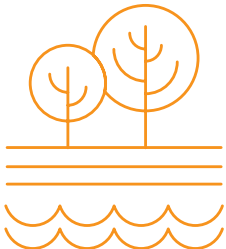
2 Shopping Centres

4 Town Centres

29 Neighbourhood Centres

16 Suburbs

3 Wards

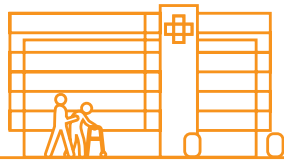


2 Major Rivers

200 Hectares of Natural Areas

60 Hectares of playing fields

1 Lane Cove National Park



3 Hospitals



900,000

Visitors to the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre annually



10 Community Centres & Halls



1 million visitors to Ryde Libraries annually

5 Libraries



207 Parks & Open Space

99 Playgrounds

Our Community

A rich and proud history

The City of Ryde is the third oldest settlement in Sydney. The first land grants to eight marines and ten emancipated convicts were given in 1792.

For thousands of years the area that includes the City of Ryde was home to the Wallumedegal clan of the Dharug people.

Population and Age Profile

The population of Greater Sydney is 4.7 million and is projected to grow by 1.7 million people to 2036. This growth will be distributed across the city.



116,302
Residents in 2016



160,000
Residents in 2031

Source: ABS 2016 Census data and 2016 NSW and Local Government Area population and Household projections, and Implied dwelling requirements.

AGE GROUPS	%
Babies > (0 to 4)	7,118
Primary school (5 to 11)	8,686
Secondary school (12 to 17)	6,430
Tertiary education (18 to 24)	12,474
Young workforce (25 to 34)	21,178
Parents/ homebuilders (35 to 49)	24,445
Older workers (50 to 59)	13,642
Retirees (60 to 69)	10,587
Seniors (70 to 84)	8,774
Elderly aged (85 and over)	2,972

5,347

People with Disability
needing assistance with
core activities
4.6% of the population



43,020

Households in 2016



62,000

Households in 2031

HOUSEHOLD TYPES	%
Couples with children	34.5
Couples only	23.6
One parent families	8.5
Other families	1.7
Group household	5.4
Lone person	22.3
Other	3.1
Visitor only households	0.9

A culturally diverse community



BIRTHPLACE	#
Australia	56,432
China	14,547
South Korea	4,545
India	4,128
Hong Kong	2,823
UK	2,811
Philippines	2,058
Italy	1,647
Malaysia	1,481

48%

Speak English

39%

Speak Another Language & English

8%

Speak Another Language & English not well or not at all

101

Countries

72

Languages

Macquarie Park

Macquarie Park is the northern anchor of Sydney’s Eastern Economic Corridor. Designated as a health and education precinct and strategic centre in the draft Greater Sydney Region Plan, it is the most prominent business and employment centre in the City of Ryde. In 2013 Macquarie Park contributed \$9.1 billion to the NSW Economy.

The City of Ryde has worked with State agencies and private enterprise to build Macquarie Park into one of Australia’s largest economic centres. Council is a member of the Macquarie Park Innovation District, working with business, government and Macquarie University to grow and diversify Macquarie Park in the context of the draft North District Plan.

The priority is to promote Macquarie Park as Australia’s leading business park. Macquarie Park is currently the largest non-CBD office market in Australia. With an estimated \$3 billion in commercial property investment anticipated over the next 10 years, it is set to become Australia’s fourth largest commercial precinct by 2030.

Jobs are expected to grow from around 58,500 in 2016, to 79,000 by 2036. Student places are expected to grow from 32,500 to 55,000 by 2030, making it the third largest concentration of jobs and students in NSW.

\$15.47 BILLION

Gross Regional Product



84.5%

Internet Connection

96,500

Jobs



12,245

Local Businesses

57,100

Employed residents of which 29% live and work in Ryde



MACQUARIE PARK

Global Economic Corridor

Challenges and Opportunities

Our growing population

By 2031 the projected increase in the City of Ryde's population will require an additional 17,000 new dwellings, an increase of more than a third from now.

This housing must meet the demand for choice and variety in the type of homes available, especially if there are fewer people living in each household.

An average of 110 new dwellings will be required every month for the next 13 years to house our anticipated population increase to 2031.

The City of Ryde will also require new workplaces and investment in transport, services, green spaces and community facilities to maintain the current standard of liveability and lifestyle that it currently offers.

Our opportunity is to use this growth to enhance the city's prosperity, uniqueness and liveability, and strategically plan for affordable and varied housing options for our growing community while maintaining the character of our many neighbourhoods.

Our changing population

Over coming decades the overall composition of our community will shift in some important areas.

For example, the number of people who have reached retirement age will increase by more than 60% requiring particular services and safe access to more places.

Similarly, many young families are moving to the City of Ryde, with numbers of children and teenagers projected to increase more than 40%.

Denser living means that more people will be living in units, increasing demand on the area's many lifestyle assets public spaces and local services. In 2016, 53% of dwellings in the City of Ryde were medium to high density, likely to increase significantly over the next decade.

There will be 40% - 60% more people accessing the City of Ryde's services and facilities by 2031.

The increasing and changing population will influence planning for schools, organised sports and youth services and also require us to reassess the services and facilities we offer, to ensure reasonable access for people at all stages of their lives.

Our opportunity is to protect and revitalise the places, facilities and services that people use and better target these to meeting the changing needs of our community.

Our part in Sydney's future

Over coming decades, Sydney will grow to a city of more than 6.4 million people by 2036 and 8 million by 2056.

State agencies such as the Greater Sydney Commission and Transport for NSW take a metropolitan perspective to plan for this growth and guide Sydney's development. The Greater Sydney Region Plan, Future Transport 2056 and the North District Plan set the parameters for the City of Ryde's future development and growth.

The City of Ryde is a key part in this much bigger picture.

The NSW Government has set an ambition for Greater Sydney to be a 30-minute city - where people live within 30 minutes of jobs and services.

Our opportunity is to work with the NSW government and other stakeholders to achieve outcomes for the City of Ryde that protect it's character and enhances the city's future prosperity, uniqueness and liveability.

Challenges and Opportunities

Adapting to climate change

Over the coming decade, natural hazards such as heatwaves, increased overnight temperatures and increased "hot" days during the year, as well as the frequency of extreme rainfall events and high intensity storms are expected to accelerate as the climate changes.

Adapting to life in a changing climate will also need to consider wider social and economic shocks.

The CSIRO, the insurance industry and State agencies predict that climate changes have the potential to threaten the future health and liveability of communities, especially for those that live in vulnerable areas.

Our opportunity is to ensure our neighbourhoods are prepared for changes to weather patterns and our infrastructure and urban areas are able to cope with more frequent extreme weather, bushfires, erosion and flooding.

Valuing our cultural heritage

In 2016, around 50% of City of Ryde's population were born overseas, compared to 36.8% for the rest of Greater Sydney. People from more than 50 different countries call our City home.

More than half of Ryde's residents speak a language other than English at home.

Our City is active in supporting the not-for-profit sector and building our multicultural community.

We host some of Sydney's biggest cultural events including the Granny Smith Festival, which has been running for more than 30 years and is enjoyed by nearly 90,000 people.

Immigration is expected to continue as the major contributor to Sydney's and therefore Ryde's population growth over the next decade.

Our opportunity is to protect and revitalise the places, facilities and services that people use and better target these to meeting the changing needs of our community.

Managing traffic and congestion

City of Ryde residents use their own car for approximately 70% of trips that they make. Almost 80% of people coming to City of Ryde use their car.

Every weekday there are up to 200,000 vehicle movements on the four major state roads that traverse the City of Ryde and more than 110,000 Opal Card taps on more than 1,200 bus, train and ferry services.

There are 71,000 registered vehicles in the City of Ryde Local Government Area.

All major roads in the City are at or near capacity during peak times. Limited availability of parking can restrict access to our centres and jobs.

By 2036, the number of journeys across Greater Sydney are projected to increase by 40% (from 2016). This means that by 2031 an additional 76,000 private vehicle trips per day will be made by residents, if people's choices about how they travel do not change

Our opportunity is to work with our stakeholders and the NSW Government, strongly advocating for improved transport links and making sure that appropriate infrastructure is planned and delivered to support major developments .

Responding to the priorities of our community

What our community told us

Our community survey confirmed the seven outcomes that formed the basis of The City of Ryde 2021 Community Strategic Plan were still valid.

Every group in our community identified traffic, congestion and parking as their number one issue. People also do not want to see unrestricted development that destroys the character and liveability of the City of Ryde and instead want to focus on protections for green open spaces and street trees and more landscaping and green spaces around new developments.

People are concerned about housing affordability and accessibility and acknowledge that some people in the community have particular needs and require specific services.

People want to see investment in infrastructure as the population grows, and they want village centres to remain vibrant and real places with more facilities and spaces where people can get together.

Residents love the City of Ryde's green spaces and parks and the range of services and recreational facilities that are available to them. Protecting bushland and open space and expanding green spaces, tree coverage, parks and their facilities are key priorities.

People want Council to demonstrate environmental and sustainability leadership and protect the natural environment from the pressures of development. They want to see new measures to encourage responsible disposal of waste, increase recycling of waste and materials, reduce our environmental footprint and improve the cleanliness and health of streams and rivers.

Our community sees local events and activities, history and heritage, public art and facilities for people to get together as important, adding to our city's vibrancy.

People want to be involved in Council decision-making across all areas, including development, and long-term planning for the area. They also want to see more effective communication and consultation by Council through a variety of channels, including online.

Maintaining and improving the full range of Council services and facilities such as customer services, food, health and noise enforcement, maintaining local roads and managing stormwater runoff, and providing support services for seniors, are considered essential.

Our community want to be supported through Council advocating on their behalf in areas that that are not the responsibility of Council such as education, health and community safety.

Our process

During the second half of 2017 we undertook an extensive consultation with our community.

In total 2,774 community members provided their input throughout the consultation process through a combination of phone surveys, online surveys, a face-to-face interactive activity, focus groups, creative competitions and in-depth interviews.

The diverse community of Ryde was well represented with residents, youth, community groups, businesses, Councillors and Government Stakeholders all participating in the process.

The feedback received helped Council better understand community attitudes and perceptions towards current and future services and facilities provided by Council; the Community Strategic Plan outcomes; and top priority areas for Council to focus on over the next ten years.

It also allowed Council to explore in greater detail the key strengths and challenges of the City of Ryde LGA, to identify projects, actions and ideas that will support this Plan's outcomes.





What people love

Our community rated the City of Ryde’s natural environment, green open spaces and parks as the thing that they love the most about the area.

The Community appreciates our City’s location, close to Sydney CBD and accessible to all parts of Sydney.

The diversity and welcoming atmosphere of different cultures is a highly valued aspect of Ryde, along with the services and facilities available to the community, including public transport.



Council's role

Our mission is to work with our community and partners to provide strategic leadership, effective projects and quality customer services.

City of Ryde Council manages 150 services for the community, \$1.5 billion of assets, and an annual budget of more than \$160 million.

Council's Roads and Catchment programs maintain infrastructure at acceptable standards. Waste and Recycling programs maintain a clean and sustainable City. Our Open Space and Sport and Recreation programs include active and healthy living initiatives and the Community and Cultural Program celebrates our rich diversity. Land Use Planning and Economic Development programs plan for our future and growing employment.

This work occurs within a structure of metropolitan-level strategic planning by the NSW Government, Greater Sydney Commission and, in some cases, the Australian Government, that clarifies the role the City of Ryde must play in accommodating forecast growth, including targets for population, housing and jobs growth. Investment in major transport projects such as North West Metro, the M2 and Northconnex, or other Sydney wide plans to plan to create more open space and vibrant centres illustrate that Ryde is part of a wider, complex network of places and connections.

The Community Strategic Plan is our highest level plan within the Integrated Planning and reporting framework. It guides Council's 10-year Resourcing Strategy, four-year Delivery Plan and one-year Operational Plan. This suite of documents describes our City's directions and priorities and what will be delivered for our community.

While council has a custodial role in initiating, preparing and maintaining the Community Strategic Plan, it is not wholly responsible for its implementation. Other partners, such as State agencies and community groups will be engaged in delivering its long-term outcomes. We work in partnership with these State agencies, educational institutions and not-for-profit and private sector organisations to represent and advocate for the community's best interests.

Community involvement and engagement is at the heart of Council's governance processes. Strong financial management is also a major priority for Council, in being financially sustainable to ensure we can continue to deliver services, facilities and infrastructure to the required standards.

Planning for outcomes

KEY

- GREATER SYDNEY COMMISSION
- CITY OF RYDE COUNCIL
- STRATEGIES
- PLANS
- REPORTS





Our vision of Ryde in 2028

The place to be for lifestyle and
opportunity at your doorstep.



Our vibrant and liveable city



Our active and healthy city



Our natural and sustainable city



Our smart and innovative city



Our connected and accessible city



Our diverse and inclusive city



Our open and progressive city



Our vibrant and liveable city



Ryde is a city of welcoming and vibrant neighbourhoods – a range of well-planned clean and safe neighbourhoods and public spaces, designed with a strong sense of identity and place. They are places with character that support sustainable growth and demographic change.

Sustained population and housing growth over the coming decade will put pressure on preserving our local character and heritage, and sustaining Ryde’s natural and urban environment.

Controlling development to protect and maintain the character and liveability of the City is a major priority for our community. There are concerns at the level of development, and people have made it clear that Ryde feels, in some parts, overdeveloped, with congested roads and parking issues. Residents want to see less high-rise and more green, open spaces and increased urban tree canopy cover and want natural areas, parks, sports grounds and street trees protected and enhanced. Residents also want to see action taken to ensure developments and neighbourhoods are appropriately regulated.

The community wants to see increased tree cover and greenspace within and around new residential buildings, a mix of densities and variety in the surrounding streetscapes and local centres. They want to protect and maintain Ryde’s character and heritage, protect our way of life and ease pressure on Ryde’s natural and urban environment.

Urban renewal will bring local streets, footpaths, parks and centres to life. It can offer a greater choice in the types of housing available, places to meet and socialise, better transport connections, as well as opportunities to prioritise the delivery of affordable housing for key workers and accessible housing for people as they get older.

This requires us to continue to advocate across government for investment in infrastructure that matches the needs of the growing population and builds vibrant, liveable neighbourhoods for our diverse, multi-generational communities.

Monitoring Progress

- Renewal of Town and Neighbourhood Centres
- Community sentiment
- City of Ryde’s Housing Targets

Our vibrant and liveable city

Great places, vibrant neighbourhoods

Centres are the focus of vibrant communities
Places are designed for people

- Protecting the local amenity of neighbourhoods and ensure they are well maintained, regulated, accessible, and safe.
- Creating active places and spaces in town and neighbourhood centres and well-connected open spaces that encourage active lifestyles and social interaction.

Collaborative development

People are at the heart of planning and influence how the city grows and changes

- Actively advocating to the State Government and the Greater Sydney Commission so that future developments are appropriately considered and well planned to ensure that the character and liveability of their immediate neighbourhoods are maintained.
- Actively consulting with the community on all major developments in and bordering the City.

Sustainable design

Neighbourhoods support sustainable growth.
Developments add to the character of their neighbourhoods

- Planning and designing our City to uphold and protect its unique character and encourage sustainable development, while also delivering diversity and housing choice.
- Ensuring the City of Ryde maintains leadership in the application of best practice planning and sustainable urban development.



Our active and healthy city



The City of Ryde is an active and healthy community, with diverse recreational spaces and opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds. People can easily gather in public spaces or at community events that bring residents together, helping everyone to feel part of the Ryde community.

Our active and healthy city

Residents have built a strong sense of community, actively participating in community life and in the workforce. They have access to an extensive range of recreational facilities and sports amenities, and can readily access specialised health and support services provided through government, not for profit, charity and volunteer organisations.

The results from our community consultation has made it clear that people love our City's green spaces and parks, and value the range of services, programs and recreational facilities available to them - every year around a million people use the city's playing fields, around 1 million visits are made to our libraries, over 900,000 visits are made to the Ryde Aquatic and Leisure Centre, and about 19% of Ryde's population volunteer. People acknowledge there are members of the community who have distinct and varied needs depending on their stage of life or circumstances.

Our community wants better access to facilities, programs and services so that they can spend time outside and socialise with others, whether for a casual walk or part of an organised event. As the population ages, opportunities for recreation, learning and remaining active and connected must be available for all generations.

Our range of events, support for community-run events, and the many social services available give people the opportunity to get involved, and provide avenues for community participation, or a place to turn when help is needed. As the city grows and changes, we need to plan to meet increased demand on the facilities and services that support the entire community, including a specific focus on spaces for both informal and organised sports and opportunities to participate and engage with others in lifelong learning and development opportunities.

Enhanced Recreational Spaces

Providing opportunities and choice for recreation and active learning and living

- Planning for expanded sport, recreation, leisure and library facilities to provide a range of choices for our community to achieve active and healthy lifestyles.
- Maintaining and promoting Ryde's great public spaces, parks, community venues, libraries, sporting facilities and clubs and ensuring they are easy to access and safe, and provide diverse opportunities for everyone to meet, play, learn and connect.

Well Targeted Services

Strengthening community life, connectedness and wellbeing

- Actively connecting with the community to promote activities and services that are available throughout the City of Ryde.
- Continuing to build and enhance services, including those supporting our residents at different stages of their lives.
- Working with our partners to encourage healthy, active lifestyles and social connections.





Our natural and sustainable city



The City of Ryde's open spaces and natural areas provide breathing spaces. People can easily access protected catchments and waterways. The built environment retains local character and heritage while providing contemporary energy and resource savings and sensible waste solutions.

Over the next decade, the changing climate and forecast population growth will increase pressure on the City of Ryde’s natural and urban environment.

Throughout our consultation, people emphasised the city’s natural environment, green open spaces and parks as the thing they love the most about Ryde. People want Council to show leadership in environmental and sustainability behaviour and initiatives.

Our priority over the next 10 years will be to protect and increase natural areas and parklands and address climate-related challenges such as extreme weather patterns, bushfires and flooding.

Our growing and changing City requires considered urban renewal that enhances natural assets and encourages sustainable living that reduces water and energy use, and waste. Better shade cover and green spaces throughout the urban environment and integrating new development with transport so that people have less need to use their cars are also key priorities for our city’s future.

This requires us to work with the community, non-government organisations, State agencies and neighbouring Councils to plan for sustainable growth and change.



Our natural and sustainable city

Sustainable Planning

Reducing our environmental footprint and protecting our natural and built environments

- Being active environment leaders in all that we do and leaders in ecologically sustainable development.
- Using planning controls to encourage developments that use less water and energy and maximise recycling.
- Innovating our waste and recycling services to achieve the highest level of resource recovery.

Protecting natural areas

Reducing our impact on our natural systems and strengthening the health of our natural corridors

- Continuing investment in programs that protect and enhance City of Ryde’s natural areas including our bushlands, waterways and eco systems.
- Collaborating with volunteers, businesses and the community to care for and enhance our natural areas.

Resilient Infrastructure

Managing infrastructure to reduce risk and impacts

- Building the City’s resilience to natural hazards and working to reduce long term and immediate climate related risks and impacts.
- Upgrading and managing stormwater, drainage and seawall infrastructure to improve service levels and reduce risks to the environment and the community.

Our smart and innovative city



The City of Ryde is designed and planned to encourage new investment, thriving local businesses, local jobs and business opportunities. Community and businesses flourish in an environment of innovation, progression and economic growth.

The City of Ryde is the second largest commercial employment zone in Sydney, producing an economic output similar to Hobart and Darwin combined. It is a diverse area, both in terms of the people and the residential and commercial mix.

Macquarie Park attracts large corporations and skilled jobs. We work with State agencies, universities and private enterprise, including our participation in the Macquarie Park Innovation District, to build Macquarie Park into one of the largest economic centres in Australia. Our City is also home to more than 12,000 businesses that provide employment and essential and vital services.

The community wants more support for local businesses, an emphasis on renewing places to attract investment, an established night-time economy, and more shops, cafes, restaurants and options for leisure activities in Macquarie Park.

Our ambition is for our City's economy to flourish and prosper in a well-designed and planned environment that encourages investment, local jobs and business opportunities.

A stronger local economy brings benefits to the whole community. A major part of this journey will be revitalising town centres and commercial areas to attract businesses and an increased diversity of shops, cafes and restaurants. The strategic review of Macquarie Park being undertaken by the State Government in partnership with Council and other key stakeholders will become the blueprint for further growth and plans for the Macquarie Park precinct.

Our smart and innovative city

Business opportunity and investment

Businesses benefit from a prosperous local economy

- Using urban design controls and continued collaboration to manage Ryde's growth and attract a diversity of business opportunities and jobs. This includes identifying ways to strengthen town and neighbourhood centres, build the night time economy, and promote and support small businesses.

Strengthening Business Networks

Partnerships shape business growth, investment and development

- Working with businesses, the community, non-government organisations, State agencies and neighbouring councils to implement our Economic Development Plan to support existing businesses and guide business growth, investment and development
- Working with partners to develop and promote Ryde's business brand and credentials and provide facilities, services and support to local businesses.

Macquarie Park

Macquarie Park expands its role as a leading commercial centre and innovation district

- Continuing our work with the NSW Government, Macquarie University and business partners to enhance Macquarie Park as a major commercial centre and innovation district.
- Creating a night time economy in targeted areas within Macquarie Park.

Monitoring Progress

- Business confidence
- Business investment in City of Ryde
- Jobs in the City of Ryde



Our connected and accessible city



Ryde is a city where it is easy, safe and convenient for people to get to work, visit friends or shops, or use local facilities and services. Walking, cycling and public transport are easy to use and well connected throughout the city.

City of Ryde's central location, close to Sydney's CBD and with good public transport links, is a key strength.

However, traffic is the number one issue identified by every group in our community. Traffic, congestion and availability of parking limit access to centres and reduce liveability. Forecast population and economic growth, and future housing development, will only increase these problems if left unchecked. Congestion increases travel time and has noise and pollution impacts. Already, many major roads in our City including Victoria Road, Epping Road and Lane Cove Road are subject to traffic queues every day. Public transport only offers a partial solution.

People want to see new transport connections and infrastructure in advance of new housing development, linking people to their local centres, around their neighbourhoods or to work. These must be networked, efficient, safe and able to be accessed by anyone, regardless of age or mobility.

Our aim is to improve connectivity across our City and improving accessibility to our suburbs, centres, open spaces and places. Relieving traffic and congestion on roads, reducing car use and increasing public transport, pedestrian and cyclist access to destinations across the city are key priorities. Addressing this very difficult challenge will involve a combination of infrastructure and technology solutions, improved or different services, and behavioural change by everybody who travels within the City of Ryde.

With transport primarily planned and funded by the NSW Government, and Council focused on local streets and centres, we must consistently advocate on behalf of the community for improved transport solutions while also enhancing and renewing existing civil infrastructure assets like roads and pathways.

Digital connectivity is also essential. Initiatives like expanding the availability of WiFi access in community spaces will help the City of Ryde's evolution to a 'Smart City'.

Our connected and accessible city

Connections to our City

Improving access to our suburbs, workplaces and major destinations

- Continuing to advocate for better transport connections for the City of Ryde, including a light rail link from Parramatta to Macquarie Park and improved transport interchanges in key locations.
- Promoting sustainable transport and reducing reliance on cars, in our work with the State Government agencies and through organisations such as Connect Macquarie Park and North Ryde.

Connections within our City

Improving access to our centres and recreation and reducing our travel footprint

- Continuing to enhance and maintain connections and accessibility to centres, open spaces and places including:
- Improved car parking options, especially in town centres,
- Planning for increased use of active and public transport options, and improved pedestrian access and mobility,
- Continuing investment in the road network, footpaths, cycleways and walkways, and
- considering technology solutions assisting parking and vehicle movement,

Digital Connectivity

Accessible digital connections for the community and business

- Growing digital connection to improve public accessibility to information and provide the infrastructure framework supporting future 'Smart City' initiatives.





Our diverse and inclusive city



The City of Ryde is home to a diverse community, where people celebrate their similarities and differences. The city includes diverse cultural spaces and places for people to come together. This rich social, cultural, historical and creative tapestry provides an enduring legacy for future generations.

Our diverse and inclusive city

Our city is a friendly, supportive community with a rich history and diverse background. As the city grows, we need to bring people together and strengthen community connections.

Nearly half our residents were born overseas and more than half speak a language other than English at home. Cultural events that occur throughout the year such as Granny Smith Festival, Lunar New Year Festival and Cinema in the Park, offer something for everyone. The heritage of the Wallumedegal people, who lived for thousands of years in the area, is reflected in public art programs and events.

Our community believes events and activities that celebrate our City's multicultural diversity are important. Residents want our local history and heritage to be protected and promoted, and they want to see more places for groups to meet. Our residents appreciate and support public art and cultural performance spaces throughout our city.

Residents suggested that community buildings and venues can be more functional and multipurpose and become places where people can come together, attend events and interact. Facilities and places for people to meet for activities and community events are considered essential to building an, inclusive community where neighbours look out for each other.

A rich range of social networks, community groups and partnerships will help residents and businesses to participate in creative, diverse, voluntary and philanthropic activities that connect neighbourhoods and improve the quality of life for people of all ages, abilities, health and cultures.

An engaged, connected community

People feeling connected within their community

- Working with stakeholders, partners and the community to support all members of the community and promote social inclusion.
- Through our community network and with State agencies, appropriately supporting all members of the community and providing access to available services and facilities.

Celebrating culture and heritage

A distinct local identity built on our city's character and rich cultural heritage

- Continuing to enhance our events program to provide opportunities to celebrate diversity and heritage and promote inclusion.
- Collaborating with community groups, businesses and community to ensure our events and activities remain relevant.

Accessible community facilities

Easy access to diverse cultural spaces, places and opportunities

- Planning for and enhancing cultural and community facilities to meet increased demand and ensure equitable access for all sections of our community





Our open and progressive city



The City of Ryde is well led and managed, supported by ethical organisations that deliver projects and services to the community by listening, advocating and responding to their needs. The community and residents are actively engaged in shaping the future of our City.

Our open and progressive city



The City of Ryde continues as a local government authority and proved its financial and governance strength throughout the proposed merger process. Our future as a City is positive. With the merger now abandoned the City of Ryde can plan for it's exciting and positive future.

A fundamental principle for Council is to operate on an open, transparent and ethical basis for its decision-making.

Our community has indicated they want to be better informed and want more active engagement, involvement and transparency in Council's decisions and in the long-term plans for our City. While some of the major decisions in respect of planning approvals are out of Council's direct control, the City of Ryde is committed to an active and comprehensive community engagement and consultation process for major decisions that impact the community.

The community wants Council to advocate on their behalf, especially on issues relating to increased development. This will be a major focus and priority of the Council over the next three years.

Advocacy on key issues

Achieving the best outcomes for the City of Ryde and its people

- In building our City's future with its stakeholders and community leaders we will be strongly advocating on behalf of our community, especially on development matters and emerging social challenges.
- Maintaining strong relationships with State agencies, business and key stakeholders in planning and shaping the City's future.

An engaged and informed community

Residents trust Council and feel well informed, heard, valued and involved.

- Actively engaging with our community on key issues.
- Focusing on how we collaborate and communicate with our community. We need residents and ratepayers to be well informed on all issues, including our progress.
- Using technology to support community engagement and program delivery.

Well Led, Financially Sustainable

Transparent, responsible leadership and governance

- Responsible civic leadership focused on delivering the best outcomes for the City and Ryde and its community, supported by transparent, accountable decision making and comprehensive governance and accountability frameworks.
- Continually improving the things our residents care about and drive efficiencies in our service delivery to deliver 'value for money'.
- Continuing to generate operational surpluses to maintain our services, facilities and infrastructure at the required standard.
- Continually improving Council's performance in the delivery of our services, facilities and infrastructure to our community.

Assessing our Success

This Community Strategic Plan captures the needs and aspirations of our community and lays out the Vision and Outcomes that the community wants for the City of Ryde over the next 10 years. It also captures our priorities for achieving these outcomes.

The City of Ryde Council's Resourcing Strategy and accompanying Four-Year Delivery Plan details how we plan to deliver these outcomes, providing a 10 year overview of the financial, workforce, asset and information technology requirements, as well as a map of Council's service delivery and planned expenditure over the next four years.

Our community will ultimately be the ones to guide us and inform us on whether we have met our vision and that the City of Ryde is indeed a place to be for lifestyle and opportunity @ your doorstep.

To deliver on this Plan and the seven outcomes for our city, we will continue to actively encourage our community to provide feedback on whether we are meeting our promises and getting things right.

To do this we will continue to monitor progress and change utilising a range of key performance indicators, and regular surveys to measure the community's perceptions of progress against each outcome and priority. If required, we will recalibrate the strategy and our response.

We will report our progress against the Four-Year Delivery Plan annually and evaluate the effectiveness of the Community Strategic Plan and our collaborative efforts at the conclusion of the council term in 2020.

Have your say

Your feedback is an essential and integral part of the process for developing and delivering our Community Strategic Plan and Four Year Delivery Plan.

These plans draw on the already extensive numbers of views, opinions and visions that that have been canvassed through our extensive consultation process.

We have already trialled the Outcomes and Priorities outlined in this plan among our people, community representatives and partners to ensure that they are on the right track. Through our consultation process we believe we have refined them to capture the important priorities for our community that will shape the City of Ryde over the next decade. Your feedback as to whether we have got things right is important to us.

We encourage feedback through the following methods:

By mail addressed to:

General Manager City of Ryde
Locked Bag 2069 North Ryde NSW 1670

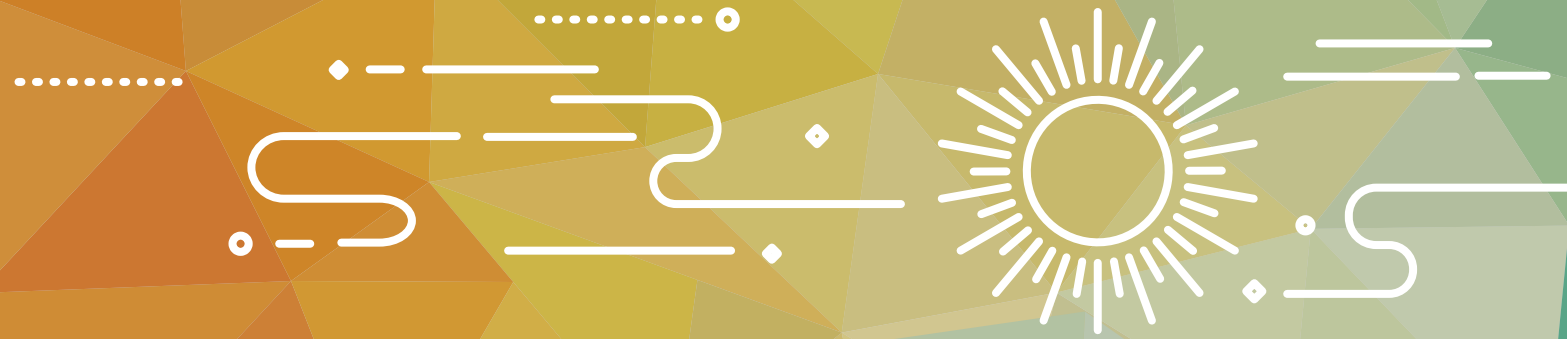
By email: cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au

On our website: www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay

If you do not have access to the internet, you can access our website at your local Council library.

Contact our Customer Service Centre on

(02) 9952 8222 for further information.



 City of Ryde