

September, 2015

Parramatta Pulse: '...plan to be fit for the future; vision brings new life to ...river'.

In Parramatta Council's Community Newsletter, July-September, 2015, the Parramatta Council confirms that (contrary to the wishes of neighbouring Auburn, Holroyd, Ryde and the Hills Shire councils), it is supportive of amalgamating local councils as an 'opportunity for Parramatta to move from being a well-run suburban council to a strong regional council at the centre of the largest growth corridor in Sydney', with the capacity to 'be a true partner to the State and Federal Governments...'.

At the same time, in 'Vision brings new life to Parramatta River', a plan 'adopted by the Parramatta City Council' proposes the development of the river foreshore as a public precinct for 'walking, cycling, picnicking and hosting major events'. 'This long-term vision will enhance the amenity and usability of the foreshore...'.



PARRAMATTA PULSE | Parramatta City Council's Community Newsletter | July - September 2015

PARRAMATTA'S PLAN TO BE FIT FOR THE FUTURE

Parramatta City Council has outlined its vision for the creation of a new, expanded Parramatta Local Government Area (LGA) in its submission to the NSW Government's local government reform program, 'Fit for the Future'.

The State Government has made clear its intention to reform and improve the overall sustainability of the local government sector and is seeking to reduce the number of local government areas in Greater Sydney by encouraging amalgamations between councils.

Neighbouring councils – Auburn, Holroyd, Ryde and The Hills Shire – decided not to work with Parramatta City Council to analyse the State Government's 'Fit for the Future' option. This led Council to complete and lodge its own submission without their direct input.

If adopted, Parramatta City Council's submission would see the creation of a new, expanded LGA which would include the whole of the Parramatta and Holroyd LGAs and portions of the Auburn, Ryde, Hills and Hornsby council areas. Council believes this model is as good as, or better than the model proposed by the Independent Local Government Review Panel.

Under the Parramatta submission, a new LGA would be created along natural boundaries with the scale and capacity to respond to the challenges of the future. It would incorporate the business hubs at Sydney Olympic Park, Macquarie Park and Epping.

Equally as important, the new council would have the resources necessary to deliver increased and improved services for all communities in an expanded LGA.

This is an opportunity for Parramatta to move from being a well-run suburban council to a strong regional council at the centre of the largest growth corridor in Sydney. The new council would have the capacity to be a true partner to the State and Federal Governments and would be in the best possible position to serve the broader community and help shape the future vision for Sydney.

For more information visit parracity.nsw.gov.au or fitforthefuture.nsw.gov.au

LATEST NEWS **PARRAMATTA CITY COUNCIL AND LIBRARY ARE MOVING**

Parramatta City Council's Administration Offices located at 30 Darcy Street will relocate to 126 Church Street, Parramatta. We will begin our operations from 10 August 2015 at this location. Parramatta City Library will also relocate from Civic Place to 1-3 Fitzwilliam Street, Parramatta, opening on 14 August 2015 after a short closure from 9 August. Our operating hours, mailing, telephone and email details will remain the same. If you have any questions please call 9806 5050 or visit parracity.nsw.gov.au/wearemoving.

PARRAMATTA WE'RE BUILDING AUSTRALIA'S NEXT GREAT CITY

VISION BRINGS NEW LIFE TO PARRAMATTA RIVER

A river quay, vibrant new outdoor entertainment areas and terraces, and a world-class public square are part of a bold new vision to activate the Parramatta River foreshore under a plan adopted by Parramatta City Council.

New and improved spaces will be created to revitalise the foreshore between Gasworks Bridge and Rings Bridge, O'Connell Street for walking, cycling, picnicking, outdoor dining and hosting major events such as New Year's Eve and Loy Krathong.

The first phase of the project will be the development of Parramatta Quay to coincide with the \$100 million commitment from the State Government to upgrade Parramatta and Rydalmere Ferry Wharves. Work is also underway to progress plans to realise River Square, a large multi-purpose riverside public space designed to accommodate up to 10,000 people for celebrations and major civic events.

"This is a plan for a world-class river foreshore that recognises

the importance of the river to the City and complements the transformation Parramatta is undergoing," Lord Mayor of Parramatta Cr Scott Lloyd said.

"The City was founded around the Parramatta River but the river is currently an underutilised asset. This long-term vision will enhance the amenity and usability of the foreshore and help drive the revitalisation of the precinct. It will improve the City's connection with the river and protect it for people to enjoy."

The \$200 million public domain project will be completed in stages over a 20-year timeframe with funding from a range of sources including Council, the State Government and the private sector.

Parramatta City Council is also part of the Parramatta River Catchment Group's 'Our Living River' initiative, which aims to improve the water quality in the river and make it swimmable by 2025.

