

## Other Pluses

- The project will provide guaranteed headquarters for non-government organisations to continue to carry out invaluable work to assist people living with a disability in the community.
- ROYAL REHAB is funding the relocation of the Riding for the Disabled (RDA) organisation to a new, more appropriate and purpose designed equestrian facility after more than 25 years on the Centre's Ryde site.
- Academic Research and Educational Units will remain on-site for teaching medical, nursing and allied health students.

## Keeping the Community Informed

ROYAL REHAB has spent more than a decade working to provide new facilities at its present site.

ROYAL REHAB has listened to and recorded people's comments and criticisms. The approach has been open and transparent.

Concept Plans have been amended in response to community and stakeholder feedback.

ROYAL REHAB has undertaken an unprecedented three separate traffic studies on the impacts of the project.

**Communication has included:** Monthly Household Brochures; Project Updates on website; Fact Sheets on website; Media Releases on website; Appointment of world wheelchair tennis champion David Hall as Ambassador at Large; Monthly advertisements in local newspapers; Briefings.

## Recreational amenity is part of our vision



## Where to go for more information?

You can visit the **ROYAL REHAB** website for updates. [www.royalrehab.com.au](http://www.royalrehab.com.au).

You can address questions or concerns to our Community Consultation Officers, Jim Towers ~ Phone: 02 9808 9229 [jim.towers@royalrehab.com.au](mailto:jim.towers@royalrehab.com.au) and Deborah Frith ~ Phone: 02 9807 1144 [deborah.frith@royalrehab.com.au](mailto:deborah.frith@royalrehab.com.au)

**ROYAL REHAB** provides regular updates in:

- The Northern District Times
- The Weekly Times



# ROYAL REHAB Community Project Update

**JUNE 2008**

See Development Application, subdivision plan and other project information at: [www.planning.nsw.gov.au](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au)

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VEAS 06/08

**ROYAL**  
REHABILITATION CENTRE SYDNEY  
*Maximising Abilities - Optimising Lifeskills*

## NEW CENTRE PLANS Lodged

ROYAL REHAB, the 109-year-old independent charity organisation, will spend some \$70 million to provide a state of the art medical campus on its existing site at Ryde under plans lodged with the NSW Department of Planning.

The scheme, if approved, will deliver the most modern and best equipped rehabilitation and disability facility in the southern hemisphere.



Artist impression of inside the proposed new Medical Facility.

### The Chairman of ROYAL REHAB, Clive Austin said:

*“The new ROYAL REHAB will continue a long and distinguished tradition of care, but only better with the latest technologies, greatly improved facilities, and a more satisfying environment for clients and staff.*

*“This world class facility will serve the people of Sydney and NSW as well as the rest of Australia, and also a growing international demand for decades to come.*

*“It will form the hub of a network of community and home-based services, integrating rehabilitation and disability services into the community, in keeping with the growing trend of in-home treatments.”*

Under the plans, the bulk of the existing buildings on the site, none of them heritage-listed, will be demolished in a staged development to ensure operations are maintained as normally as possible throughout the process.

The new design follows extensive research into the world's leading rehabilitation centres.

It also reflects extensive consultation with the user groups at the existing facility in order to provide clarity of functional operations, accessibility and circulation.



Artist impression of outdoor setting of new ROYAL REHAB Centre.

### Community Facilities

The material benefits flowing back to the local community as a result of this project are worth some \$20 million.

They include parklands, passive and active recreational facilities, wetlands, cycleways, picnic grounds, wellness gardens, ancillary medical services, childcare centre, public meeting room and roadways.

The recreational areas cover some 4.48 hectares and will be for public use as well as for clients.

Extensive consultation with the Weemala user groups informed the development of the brief for both the internal and external spaces of the new Weemala high care residential facility.

### 10 Years in the Making

*“The process to upgrade our buildings and services has been ongoing within ROYAL REHAB for more than 10 years,” Mr Austin said.*

*“We comprehensively investigated a range of options in that period – from relocating to shutting our doors to staying put. We had to face the fact that our facilities were becoming outmoded and outdated.*

*“Our decision to press forward and undertake this major scheme will guarantee that Sydney will continue to provide the best possible disability and rehabilitation services available.*

*“The fact is, the demand for enhanced rehabilitation and disability services continues to grow as a result of medical breakthroughs, people living longer, public expectations, increasing accident and survival rates.”*

ROYAL REHAB is funding the new facility from the sale of part of its freehold land at Ryde.

### More Care, Better Treatments

The new world-class rehabilitation and disability centre will allow ROYAL REHAB's specialists to provide increased treatment and care to more clients.

New services and facilities will help reduce bottlenecks in patient treatment by allowing smoother progress of people from acute hospital wards to a specialised rehabilitation and disability support environment

#### Treatment will cover people affected by:

- Brain injury
- Spinal injury
- Stroke
- Amputations
- Burns
- Orthopaedic injury
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Falls
- Workplace and sporting accidents
- Assaults

### Benefits For Clients/Residents

- Latest diagnostic, assessment and research technologies;
- Expanded medical and scientific research and educational facilities;
- Advanced rehabilitation techniques;
- Modern therapy facilities and private accommodation for residents/clients during their rehabilitation stay;
- Sporting and recreational complex, including multi sport courts, café and Gymnasium;
- Healing gardens to aid recovery, rehabilitation and community socialisation;
- Modern home-like environment for people undergoing rehabilitation and extended care services and community living options;
- Services for people with complex care disability support needs who are aged or aging;
- Increased transitional living accommodation for clients re-integrating back into the community;
- Modern and private patient accommodation.