

Victor Dominello MP

State Member for Ryde

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 15 May 2008

SCHOOL ZONE FLASHING LIGHTS A VICTORY FOR RYDE RESIDENTS

State Member for Ryde Victor Dominello, has today celebrated the installation of new flashing lights at Denistone East Public School, which mark a significant victory for local parents and school students in Ryde.

"The campaign to install flashing lights in school zones across the Ryde electorate has been long and difficult, but this victory sends a clear message to the people of Ryde that child safety is worth fighting for," Mr Dominello said.

Currently in the Ryde electorate, there are only two RTA school zone signs with flashing lights installed. The NSW Labor Government has not committed to any further signs under their current roll out plan.

School zone flashing lights advocate Peter Olsen installed two signs in the front yard of local residents homes yesterday at a cost of \$1,000 each, which is being funded by Denistone East Public School P&C. By comparison, the RTA school zone flashing light signs cost up to \$180,000.

"The hard work of Peter Olsen, Denistone East Public School traffic committee representative Jody Patman, P&C President Pauline Wong and parents of Denistone East should be applauded for the determination they have demonstrated throughout this process," Mr Dominello said.

"We must also thank local residents Charlie Zhuang and Grace Deryk for allowing the signs to be installed on their property.

The approval of Ryde City Council for the installation of the flashing light signs was greatly assisted by Councillor Bill Pickering who strongly supported this issue being addressed as a matter of urgency by Council on Tuesday night.

"This entire campaign highlights the dedication of our community in doing whatever it takes to protect school children and others in high-risk areas," Mr Dominello said.

"It is an unfortunate example of how out-of-touch NSW Labor is when local residents and the NSW Liberal/Nationals Coalition are able do more than the State Government in power.

"This is a clear message to Nathan Rees that NSW residents are sick of waiting for the Government to act. Labor has again demonstrated their inability to protect the children of this State.