



MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon David Borger MP

Minister for Housing
Minister for Western Sydney
Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport

New operators for Fairfield City Farm

December 21, 2009

Minister for Western Sydney David Borger said a new operator has been selected to run Fairfield City Farm who will bring a renewed sense of vitality to the Western Sydney attraction.

Minister Borger said City Farm Pty Ltd was selected based on their application and their vision for the future of the Farm.

“The NSW Government recognises that City Farm Pty Ltd has the best interest of the farm and the community in mind with their future plans,” Minister Borger said.

Minister Borger said Fairfield City Council will close the farm from December 24 and the new operators will re-open in March after they have finished extensive maintenance work and improvements.

“The closure is, unfortunately, necessary to give the new operators a chance to make improvements to the farm and ensure its ongoing success,” Minister Borger said.

City Farm Pty Ltd plan to carry out \$350,000 of the first stage of farm improvement works including:

- Extension of the Animal Nursery
- An Environmental Centre which will showcase environmental projects to the public
- New toilet facilities designed to accommodate young children and their carers
- Landscape improvements, including the Café and surrounds
- New storage facilities
- Upgrade of the Farm entry and bus drop-off point to provide ease of pedestrian circulation
- Upgrade of the car park
- Emphasis on training, development and professional appearance of educational guides
- Live-in staff member will act as after hours caretaker

Smithfield MP Ninos Khoshaba said the new City Farm operators are committed to developing educational programs and working with the community.

“Their programs will focus outcomes on school curriculum requirements whilst still providing pre-school and infants school children with up close and personal interaction with farm and native animals,” Mr Khoshaba said.

“The new operators will provide an enhanced visitor experience through improved animal viewing and interaction together with upgraded farm and park presentation and amenities.

“This is a truly exciting outcome and will allow members of our younger generation to continue to enjoy the farm experience as their parents have done in the past,” he said.

Fairfield City Mayor Nick Lalich said the council is glad a new proponent could come onboard and continue the 20 year legacy of Fairfield City Farm.

“Due to financial constraints, Fairfield City Council was unable to keep operating the farm as a viable business. We are more than happy the new operator can dedicate the necessary time and money to keep the City Farm alive,” Mr Lalich said.

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