



BRIEFING REPORT – COUNCIL MEETING 18 JUNE 2020 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

15.1 COMMUNITY SPORT INFRASTRUCTURE STIMULUS PROGRAM

FILE NUMBER: AD0041

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FOR DECISION

Introduction

West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) was made aware of the Community Sport Infrastructure Stimulus Program (CSISP) in late May 2020.

This program is from part of the Victorian Government's Covid-19 recovery stimulus package by providing funding to fast-track spending on local infrastructure. The program provides a pool of \$68 million administered by Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV), which is available to fund community sport infrastructure projects valued from a minimum of \$1.0 million to a maximum of \$10.0 million.

Council officers have been in contact with SRV and have provisionally nominated two projects which could be completed within the guidelines of this project.

This report seeks formal Council approval to submit an application for both projects.

Declaration of Interests

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 1989* in the preparation of this report.

Background

The guidelines for accessing funding for projects under the CSISP include:

- Only Local Government Authorities or Alpine Resort Boards are eligible to apply
- Projects must be able to be completed within six months of the execution of a funding agreement with the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (the department which controls SRV)
- Applications must be for funding between \$1.0 million and \$10.0 million
- A 10% minimum financial contribution must be provided
- In-kind contributions will not be considered as determining the total project cost



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- Funding may be provided for the construction and/or upgrade of significant community sport and active recreation infrastructure only – purchase of land or equipment will not be considered
- Applicants may submit up to three applications

Council considers that there are two projects that have been considered as part of Council's longer term recreation infrastructure plans that fit these criteria:

- Upgrade to the Gorokey Recreation Reserve facilities, including rooms to be used by the football, netball and tennis clubs. This includes change rooms and toilet facilities – the toilet facilities will also be available for use as public facilities for casual users and visitors to the precinct. This project is supported by a very recently completed precinct masterplan and has significant community support.
- Upgrade to the Edenhope Recreation Reserve which includes the construction of new football change rooms, the provisioning of dedicated storage space for netball equipment and the upgrading of lighting around the football/cricket oval. This project has the support of all user groups.

It is anticipated that 'off the shelf' standard floor plans be utilised for the facilities – similar in layout to the buildings constructed at the Harrow Recreation Reserve. This will save costs and enable construction to be undertaken in a shorter timeframe.

Council considers that there are no alternative projects that are at the point that they can fulfil the grant criteria and be completed (including application) within the allowable timeframe.

Application must be formally lodged with SRV by 19 June 2020 and should be accompanied by a Council resolution confirming Council's commitment to the projects.

Risk Management Implications

As with all major projects Council stands to be exposed to financial risk by managing the grant funding. Council must ensure that all funds are spent and acquitted within the requirements of the funding agreement.

To this end Council will employ its project management framework that has been successfully applied to recent projects such as the Lake Charlegrark redevelopment and the Harrow Recreation Reserve Project.

Council will also apply its recently adopted Community Contributions Policy to ensure that the community contributions component of the funding is received in advance and held in trust to be used on the project.



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Legislative Implications

Any activities undertaken in the management of this project must comply with the *Local Government Act 2020* and any other specific laws applicable. Council must also comply with the terms of the funding agreement.

Environmental Implications

Any building works must comply with zoning and environmental laws.

Financial and Budgetary Implications

The total anticipated project cost for the Goroke Project is \$1.8 million. It is proposed that this will be funded via:

- \$130,000 Community Contribution (Goroke Recreation Reserve Committee)
- \$50,000 Council Contribution (matches the Council contribution to other funded projects such as the Harrow Recreation Reserve upgrade project)
- \$1.62million grant under CSISP

The total anticipated project cost for the Edenhope Project is \$1.2 million. It is proposed that this will be funded via:

- \$70,000 Community Contribution (Edenhope-Aspley Football Netball Club)
- \$50,000 Council Contribution
- \$1.08million grant under CSISP

The total Council Contribution to these projects will be \$100,000. This amount was not budgeted in Council's draft budget due to the CSISP not being announced until after the draft budget was prepared. This amount will need to be added to the draft budget as an amendment.

The total grants applied for under the CSISP will be \$2.70 million.

The total community contributions for these projects will total \$200,000.

Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy:
Community Contributions Policy
Recreation Policy



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Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following section/s of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 3: Quality sustainable community services and infrastructure.
- Strategic Objective 6: Participating in activities that address health and wellbeing issues.

Communication Implications

The Grant applications involve letters of support from the impacted community groups. These groups will be kept abreast of the progress and outcome of the grant applications, as will Council.

Conclusion

Council has the opportunity to facilitate significant community facility works for a small outcome. A total contribution of \$100,000 from Council will enable \$2.70million in grant funding and \$200,000 in community contributions and produce two significant public facilities within the municipality.

The grant application must be submitted on 19 June 2020. It is imperative that Council makes a decision on the progress of these projects at this Council Meeting.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council resolves to:

- 1. Approve a grant application be made under the Community Sport Infrastructure Stimulus Program for the following projects:**
 - a. Goroke Recreation Reserve upgrade for \$1.62million funding enabling a total project value of \$1.80million**
 - b. Edenhope Recreation Reserve upgrade for \$1.08million funding enabling a total project value of \$1.20million total**
- 2. Approve a revision to the 2020-21 draft budget to include a Council contribution of \$50,000 to each project (totalling \$100,000 for both projects)**

Attachments: Nil