

8.4 GROWING SUBURBS FUND GRANTS 2020/21 – ROUND 2

Author: Lyn Morling - Recreation and Open Space Coordinator

File No: GT/01/034

Attachments: Nil

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To obtain Council's support to make three applications under Round 2 of the Growing Suburbs Fund (GSF) 2020/21 and determine the priority order of the applications.

2. Background

- 2.1 In late 2020, the State Government announced a second round of the 2020/21 GSF with an additional \$50 million available over the ten interface and six peri-urban councils. The updated GSF guidelines were released in mid-January, when applications opened, closing 2 March 2021. The new guidelines place a greater emphasis on job creation and evidence of council support/priorities, including libraries as eligible and provide for longer project commencement and delivery timelines.
- 2.2 The GSF's focus continues to be supporting the more-timely delivery of community infrastructure and services that support resilient and liveable neighbourhoods.

3. Key Matters

- 3.1 In the past, Council has supported GSF applications for JJ Clancy Integrated Community Facility and Beveridge Recreation Reserve Activation. These were however lower Council priorities than family and children's service -based applications, which were successfully funded.
- 3.2 This second 2020/21 round provides the opportunity to resubmit these two projects as well as another high priority one, the Chittick Park Play Space. No other projects, which would maximise external funding, have been identified as eligible and/or viable within GSF timelines.

Recommendation

THAT Council:

1. Endorses the priorities of Council's Round 2 Growing Suburbs Fund 2020/21 applications as 1. JJ Clancy Integrated Community Facility, 2. Beveridge Recreation Reserve Activation, 3. Chittick Park Play Space.
2. Endorses the submission of applications to Round 2 of the Growing Suburbs Fund 2020/21 for JJ Clancy Integrated Community Facility, Beveridge Recreation Reserve Activation and Chittick Park Play Space.

GROWING SUBURBS FUND GRANTS 2020/21 – ROUND 2 (CONT.)

4. Financial, Resource and Asset Management Implications

- 4.1 Under GSF guidelines, councils are expected to make a financial contribution, usually at least \$1:\$1. Discussions with the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (under which the GSF now falls) officers have indicated that Mitchell's contribution will need to be considered. This provides opportunities to maximise external funding towards priority projects and/or bring forward project delivery, reducing Council's commitment to future projects.

Project	Cost	Council Contribution
JJ Clancy Integrated Community Facility	\$3.8M	\$400K
Beveridge Recreation Reserve Activation	\$1.3M	\$550K
Chittick Park Play Space	\$0.8M	\$200K

5. Consultation

- 5.1 Considerable consultation has been undertaken on the JJ Clancy and Beveridge Recreation Reserve developments as part of other Council site-specific planning.
- 5.2 Broader community consultation on the Chittick Park Master Plan has been delayed due to COVID-19. Consultation with user groups has however been undertaken and this supports renewal and upgrade of the existing play space on its current site. Some of the existing infrastructure can remain. Council's intention to provide a Community Hub on nearby land has also been considered.

6. Sustainability Implications (Social and Environmental)

- 6.1 The projects identified are consistent with the desired objectives of the GSF, with each aiming to improve social, environmental and wellbeing outcomes for Mitchell communities.
- 6.2 **JJ Clancy Reserve, Kilmore**, is the community sport and recreation hub of Kilmore. It is home to 900+ registered users (33% female, 83% juniors) across tennis, netball, little athletics and junior and senior Australian rules football. It also hosts a number of significant community events annually. The JJ Clancy Integrated Community Facility will provide a quality community facility built on universal design and sustainable environment principles. It will provide an attractive space for a broad range of community

GROWING SUBURBS FUND GRANTS 2020/21 – ROUND 2 (CONT.)

activities and events. GSF guidelines require this type of facility to demonstrate broad community use.

- 6.3 **Beveridge Recreation Reserve** will activate the only open space serving residents east of the Hume Highway in Beveridge. Improvements include a new circuit pathway with bridge and interpretative features over a wetland area and outdoor fitness stations, play space upgrade and reconstruction of two freely accessible tennis/netball courts. The works will enhance and interpret the high environmental value of water reserve as well as provide opportunities for physical activity and community connections.
- 6.4 **The Chittick Park Play Space** renewal and upgrade will deliver the premier and highest level of service play space in Seymour. It will offer a wide range of play opportunities for children of all ages and a very high level of accessibility and inclusion opportunities for children and carers with additional needs, it will also be based on universal design principles, providing a high level of access and inclusion. It will eventually be integrated with the planned Seymour Community Hub, both serving a highly disadvantaged area of Seymour.

7. Policy and Legislative Implications

- 7.1 The identified projects align with the *Council Plan 2017-2021* and adopted plans and strategies.

8. Alignment to Council Plan

- 8.1 The projects identified align with the *Council Plan 2017-2021* Strategies:
- Chittick Park Play Space - 4.1 Provide adaptable community infrastructure and participation opportunities for all ages, cultures and abilities,
 - JJ Clancy Integrated Community Facility - 4.3 Establish and maintain high quality roads, footpaths, parks, recreation facilities, streetscapes, bike paths and public open spaces
 - Beveridge Recreation Reserve Activation - 7.5.2 Enhance and promote environmental reserves through implementing priority actions under the Mitchell Open Space Strategy.

9. Conflict of Interest

- 9.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

GROWING SUBURBS FUND GRANTS 2020/21 – ROUND 2 (CONT.)

10. Risk Implications

Risk	Risk Ranking	Proposed Treatments	Within Existing Resources?
Difficulties in meeting GSF milestone requirements	Low	The previous guideline timelines have been proven to be ambitious across the board. The new guidelines have increased project commencement from six months from grant announcement to 18 months and project completion from 12 months to 24 months from project commencement.	Yes
Project budget cost over-runs	High	Project development and cost estimates have improved since forward planning and design funds have been available. These have been used on all three projects.	Yes
Broader community may feel Master Plan should be completed first or not support location of Chittick Park Play Space	Low	Communication and engagement with broader community on the draft master plan (includes play space design) will commence soon. It is unlikely consultation would support relocation of the play space, which will be retaining some existing infrastructure.	Yes
GSF expectation of greater contribution from Council is required	Med	Discussion and negotiation may be required.	Depends on outcome of negotiations

11. Discussion

- 11.1 The availability of the funding program provides an opportunity to stimulate the local economy and to optimise external funding towards Council's higher priority projects, thereby reducing the burden on ratepayer funds and facilitating the earlier delivery of services to meet community needs.

9 GOVERNANCE AND CORPORATE PERFORMANCE

9.1 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCIL RECORD

Author: Lidia Harding - Manager Governance & Corporate Accountability

File No: CL/04/013-02

Attachments: 1. Assembly of Council Record

1. Background

- 1.1 This report provides Records of Assemblies of Councillors that have occurred since the last Council meeting, which includes matters considered and any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor.
- 1.2 Section 58(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* refers to the public transparency principles and states that Council decision making processes must be transparent except when the council is dealing with information that is confidential by virtue of this Act or any other Act.
- 1.3 A written record of an assembly of council includes the following:
 - (a) Names of all Councillors and members of Council staff attending.
 - (b) Matters considered.
 - (c) Any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending the meeting.
 - (d) Whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest as required by leaves the assembly.

2. Key Matters

2.1 An Assembly of Councillors means:

- A planned or scheduled meeting that includes at least half the Councillors and a member of Council staff (providing that the matter/s considered are intended or likely to be the subject of a future decision by the Council or an Officer decision under delegated authority); or
- An Advisory Committee of the Council where one or more Councillors are present.

Some examples include:

- Councillor Briefings – Strategy meeting, Councillor and Officer Discussion (Pre-Council meeting);
- Advisory Committees – Audit and Risk Committee, Mitchell Environment Advisory Committee, Mitchell Early Years Advisory Committee, Mitchell Fire

ASSEMBLY OF COUNCIL RECORD (CONT.)

Consultative Forum, Mitchell Youth Advisory Committee, Social Justice Advisory Committee, Australia Day Awards Committee and Mitchell Heritage Advisory Committee.

Lists of the Assembly of Councillors Records for the period December 2020 and January 2021 are attached.

Recommendation

THAT Council receive and note the record of assembly of Councillors.

ASSEMBLY OF COUNCIL RECORD (CONT.)

3. Financial, Resource and Asset Management Implications

3.1 There are no financial resource and asset management implications associated with this report.

4. Consultation

4.1 Assembly of Council records have been received for meetings across Council services.

5. Sustainability Implications (Social and Environmental)

5.1 This is an administration process and does not have any environment and sustainability implications associated with this report.

6. Policy and Legislative Implications

6.1 This report is in line with the requirements of Section 58(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

7. Alignment to Council Plan

7.1 Item 6.4: Develop and adopt policies and procedures that reflect responsible, transparent and accountable management of Council finances and risks.

8. Conflict of Interest

8.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

9. Risk Implications

Risk	Risk Ranking	Proposed Treatments	Within Existing Resources?
Perceived lack of transparency	Low	All assembly of council records and the issues discussed are made public	Yes

10. Discussion

10.1 This report outlines the assemblies of council records recorded over the December 2020 to January 2021 period.

ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS RECORD

DECEMBER 2020 AND JANUARY 2021

Assembly of Councillors -

- o A planned or scheduled meeting that includes **at least half the Councillors** and a **member of Council staff**; and the matter/s considered are intended **or likely to be** subject of a future decision by the Council; **OR**
- o An **Advisory Committee** of the Council where **one or more Councillors** are present.

Assembly Details	Councillor Attendees	Officer Attendees	Matters Discussed	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
Strategy Session 7 December 2020	<u>In Attendance</u> Cr Rhonda Sanderson (left the meeting at 1.20pm and returned at 1.30pm) Cr Fiona Stevens (apology for 12.00pm to 3.30pm session) Cr Nathan Clark (left the meeting at 1.20pm and returned at 3.10pm) Cr Bill Chisholm (attended at 1.00pm, left at 3.20pm and returned at 4.40pm and then left at 5.40pm) Cr Louise Bannister (left the meeting at 1.44pm and returned for the 4.30pm session) Cr Rob Eldridge (left at 5.36pm) Cr Bob Cornish (left at 5.50pm) Cr Christine Banks Cr Annie Goble (left at 3.20pm)	Brett Luxford Mary Agostino Laurie Ellis Mike McIntosh Lidia Harding Chris Cheal Sean Greer Justin Harding Karen Watson Jo Wilson Adam Evans Rosemary Scott Jade Goodrich Tim Partridge Jason Batty Ricardo Ramos Robert Ford Celeste Jordan Bryan McCarthy Buffy Leadbeater Mark Cachia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kilmore Rejuvenation – Sydney Street Improvement Works • Amendment C139 • Overview of Advocacy and Community Services • Councillor/CEO Only Time • Draft Council Agenda • Mock Council meeting 	Nil

	<p><u>Apologies</u> Cr Annie Goble (apology for the 4.30pm session)</p>			
<p>Australia Day Awards Committee 9 December 2020</p>	<p><u>In Attendance</u> Cr Rhonda Sanderson Cr Fiona Stevens</p> <p><u>Apologies</u> Cr Annie Goble Cr Bob Cornish</p>	<p>Lidia Harding Rebecca Argent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment and weighting of nominations • Next Steps • Australia Day 2021 Wallan Preparations • Australia Day Ambassadors 2021 • EOI for Host Town 2022 	<p>Nil</p>
<p>Budget Consultation and Draft Capital Works Program 9 December 2020</p>	<p><u>In Attendance</u> Cr Rhonda Sanderson Cr Fiona Stevens Cr Nathan Clark</p> <p><u>Apologies</u> Cr Annie Goble Cr Bill Chisholm Cr Louise Bannister Cr Rob Eldridge Cr Bob Cornish Cr Christine Banks</p>	<p>Brett Luxford Mary Agostino Laurie Ellis Mike McIntosh Nicole Maxwell Tim Partridge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Consultation and Draft Capital Works Program 	<p>Nil</p>
<p>Strategy Session 14 December 2020</p>	<p><u>In Attendance</u> Cr Rhonda Sanderson Cr Bill Chisholm (left the meeting at 2.57pm and returned at 3.06pm) Cr Fiona Stevens (attended at 11.35am, left at 2.12pm and returned at 2.38pm) Cr Nathan Clark (left at 2.57pm and returned at 3.00pm) Cr Louise Bannister (attended at 12.20pm, left at 1.45pm and</p>	<p>Brett Luxford Mary Agostino Laurie Ellis Mike McIntosh Lidia Harding Nicole Maxwell Sarah Clark Russell Joiner Jo Wilson Rebecca Sirianni Nic Adams</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor/CEO Only Time • Councillor Code of Conduct • Council Agenda • Overview of Governance and Corporate Performance • Advocacy for Federal/State Election Campaign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr L. Bannister advised Councillors that although she does not have a conflict of interest in Item 10.1 Amendment C129 Wallan Area Network Improvements person I wanted to make the community aware that I have previously submitted a return of consultation to council regarding the Wallan Town Master Plan in which I express concern over the Wallan Park being used for a future road. I

	<p>returned at 2.00pm, left at 4.00pm and did not return) Cr Rob Eldridge (left at 2.40pm and returned at 2.44pm) Cr Bob Cornish (left at 2.40pm and returned at 2.44pm) Cr Christine Banks (left the meeting at 4.00pm and returned at 4.04pm)</p> <p><u>Apologies</u> Cr Annie Goble</p>			<p>also joined the save Wallan Park Facebook group before I was elected to learn more about community's concerns on this project. I am no longer a part of this group on Facebook. I am not personally affected by this project and therefore do not have any personal interest in or bias in relation to the outcome of the matter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr C. Banks declared a general conflict of interest on Item 10.2 Amendment C129 - Wallan Area Network Improvements Submission My property adjoins the Wallan Community Park which is in the Special Control Overlay area, and I have as a resident made a submission of objection to DEWLP and requested to speak at the public hearing in February 2021 on my own behalf, to state my reasons.
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<p>Follow Up Budget Consultation and Draft Capital Works Program 16 December 2020</p>	<p><u>In Attendance</u> Cr Rhonda Sanderson Cr Fiona Stevens Cr Nathan Clark Cr Rob Eldridge Cr Bob Cornish Cr Bill Chisholm</p> <p><u>Apologies</u> Cr Annie Goble Cr Louise Bannister Cr Christine Banks</p>	<p>Brett Luxford Mary Agostino Laurie Ellis Mike McIntosh Nicole Maxwell Tim Partridge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow Up Budget Consultation and Draft Capital Works Program 	<p>Nil</p>
<p>Community Vision and Council Plan Workshop 17 December 2020</p>	<p><u>In Attendance</u> Cr Rhonda Sanderson Cr Fiona Stevens (attended at 9.57am) Cr Nathan Clark Cr Bob Cornish Cr Rob Eldridge</p> <p><u>Apologies</u> Cr Annie Goble Cr Bill Chisholm Cr Louise Bannister Cr Christine Banks</p>	<p>Brett Luxford Mary Agostino Laurie Ellis Mike McIntosh Lidia Harding Ellen McComish Gavin Wilson Rosemary Scott Jo Wilson Rebecca Sirianni</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Vision and Council Plan Workshop 	<p>Nil</p>