



Date: Tuesday, 25 February 2020
Time: 3pm
Location: Council Chambers, Serpentine

AGENDA

Late Reports

Ordinary Council Meeting

25 February 2020

Order Of Business

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9.1 BRIDGEWATER CHANGEROOM PROJECT FUNDING 3

9 DECISION REPORTS**9.1 BRIDGEWATER CHANGEROOM PROJECT FUNDING**

File Number: 16/04/010
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Authoriser: Phil Pinyon, Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

RECOMMENDATION.

That Council provide additional funding of \$166,633 to the Bridgewater changeroom project.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest for any Council staff member involved in the preparation of this report, or involved in the subject matter of the report.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

A briefing report was provided to the February 2020 Council forum.

BACKGROUND

In September 2017, Loddon Shire Council (Council) applied for \$100,000 through the *Female Friendly Facilities Program (2018/2019)* for the construction of female change-rooms at the Bridgewater Recreation Reserve. The Bridgewater Recreation Reserve is managed by a Crown (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning-DELWLP) Committee of Management.

Council was advised of the successful outcome of this grant and a funding agreement between Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV) and Council was signed in June 2018.

The total estimated cost of the project at that time was \$209,000 which included construction costs of \$183,000 and project management costs of \$26,000.

The funding committed to the project initially included:

SRV	\$ 100,000
Council (10% contribution as per Community Support Policy)	\$ 10,000
Bridgewater Football and Netball Club	\$ 20,000
Inglewood and District Community Enterprise Bank	\$ 30,000
Derby Hall	\$ 20,000
Total	\$ 180,000

ISSUES/DISCUSSION

Since signing the funding agreement Council officers have been liaising with representatives from the Bridgewater Recreation Reserve, the Bridgewater Football Netball Club and SRV to finalise the project scope and concept design, ensuring that all the necessary regulatory and sporting body requirements have been met. The governance and project delivery models have also been reviewed and strengthened to enhance the successful delivery of the project.

Following this, a reassessment of project costs was undertaken which identified the need to revise the cost estimate. The new total project cost estimate of \$366,633 includes project management, building contingency, construction costs, earthworks, building permits and service fees.

With the delays experienced in progressing to this stage, variations to the original project milestones have been negotiated; any additional delays may impact on expected milestones, requiring further discussions with the funding contributors as the project proceeds.

COST/BENEFITS

Council officers have re-confirmed the funding now committed to the project, with an increased contribution from the Bridgewater Recreation Reserve and Bridgewater Football and Netball Club.

SRV	\$ 100,000
Council (10% contribution as per Community Support Policy)	\$ 10,000
Bridgewater Football and Netball Club/Recreation Reserve	\$ 40,000
Inglewood and District Community Enterprise Bank	\$ 30,000
Derby Hall	\$ 20,000
Total	\$ 200,000

The revised project cost of \$366,633 along with the funding commitment of \$200,000 leaves a funding requirement of \$166,633. It is suggested that Council provide the required funds to allow completion of the project and staff can make some suggestions to Councillors at the meeting as to possible funding source/s to meet the shortfall.

The female changerooms currently available at the Bridgewater Recreation Reserve do not meet current standards and mean that many sport participants are required to find alternative arrangements prior to and after game play. This project will provide changerooms that meet the current expected standards, improving the amenity and experience for women participating in sporting activities conducted at the Recreation Reserve.

RISK ANALYSIS

Some of the initial risks associated with the delivery of the project will be mitigated through the improved governance and project delivery included in the new scope of works and project cost estimates.

Council has negotiated a variation to the original milestones, and faces political and reputational risks with the local community, Bridgewater FNC and the funding body if it fails to meet the new milestones of this project. The approval of the additional funding will allow the project to move to the next stage in an attempt to meet milestone deadlines.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Council officers have been liaising with representatives from the Bridgewater Recreation Reserve, the Bridgewater Football Netball Club and SRV to continue to progress this project.