



GREATER
SHEPPARTON

AGENDA

Greater Shepparton City Council

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

5.30pm, Tuesday 21 April 2020

IN THE FUNCTION ROOM, RIVERLINKS EASTBANK

COUNCILLORS

Cr Seema Abdullah (Mayor)
Cr Dinny Adem (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Bruce Giovanetti
Cr Chris Hazelman OAM
Cr Kim O'Keeffe
Cr Les Oroszvary
Cr Dennis Patterson
Cr Fern Summer
Cr Shelley Sutton

VISION

GREATER SHEPPARTON, GREATER FUTURE

*A THRIVING ECONOMY IN THE FOODBOWL OF VICTORIA WITH
EXCELLENT LIFESTYLES, INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURE
A DIVERSE COMMUNITY AND
ABUNDANT OPPORTUNITIES*

**A G E N D A
FOR THE
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
TO BE HELD ON
TUESDAY 21 APRIL, 2020 AT 5.30PM**

**CHAIR
CR SEEMA ABDULLAH**

INDEX

1.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	1
2.	PRIVACY NOTICE	1
3.	APOLOGIES	1
4.	DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST	1
5.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS.....	1
5.1	Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings	1
6.	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	1
7.	MANAGEMENT REPORTS FROM THE INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE	2
7.1	Draft Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan.....	2
7.2	Signing of Leases	6
7.3	Contract 1897 - North Growth Corridor Drainage and Pump Station	9
7.4	Our Sporting Future Funding Round 2 - 2019/2020	12
7.5	Findings - No Fee Waste Day Trials at the Shepparton and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres, January 2020.....	21
8.	MANAGEMENT REPORTS FROM THE COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE	29
8.1	Community Arts Grants Round 2 2019-2020.....	29
8.2	Community Matching Grant Scheme - Round Two 2019/2020.....	36
8.3	Community Engagement Policy	47
9.	MANAGEMENT REPORTS FROM THE CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE	51
9.1	Contracts Awarded Under Delegation and Contracts Advertised but yet to be Awarded.....	51
9.2	Instrument of Delegation - Members of Staff and Development Hearings Panel	55
9.3	March 2020 Monthly Financial Report.....	59
9.4	2019/2020 Quarter 3 Forecast Review.....	61
10.	MANAGEMENT REPORTS FROM THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE	64
10.1	Adoption of Amendment C205 - Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II	64
10.2	Tatura - RV Friendly Township Proposal.....	80
10.3	Zurcas Lane Basin Extension.....	89
10.4	Community Sustainability Grants Round Two 2019/2020.....	95
10.5	Council Position on Murray Darling Basin Plan	102
10.6	Adoption of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020	106
10.7	Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020	111
10.8	Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD.....	126

11. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITIES	148
11.1 Councillors Community Interaction and Briefing Program	148
12. URGENT BUSINESS NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA	150
13. CONFIDENTIAL MANAGEMENT REPORTS	150
13.1 Designation of Confidentiality of Information – Report Attachments	150

RISK LEVEL MATRIX LEGEND

Note: A number of reports in this agenda include a section on “risk management implications”. The following table shows the legend to the codes used in the reports.

Likelihood	Consequences				
	Negligible (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Major (4)	Extreme (5)
Almost Certain (5) Would be expected to occur in most circumstances (daily/weekly)	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	EXTREME	EXTREME
Likely (4) Could probably occur in most circumstances (i.e. Monthly)	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	HIGH	EXTREME
Possible (3) Reasonable probability that it could occur (i.e. over 12 months)	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH
Unlikely (2) It is not expected to occur (i.e. 2-5 years)	LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Rare (1) May occur only in exceptional circumstances (i.e. within 10 years)	LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH

- Extreme** Intolerable – Immediate action is required to mitigate this risk to an acceptable level. Event/Project/Activity is not to proceed without authorisation
- High** Intolerable – Attention is needed to treat risk.
- Medium** Variable – May be willing to accept the risk in conjunction with monitoring and controls
- Low** Tolerable – Managed by routine procedures

PRESENT:

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

“We the Greater Shepparton City Council, begin today’s meeting by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land which now comprises Greater Shepparton. We pay respect to their tribal elders, we celebrate their continuing culture, and we acknowledge the memory of their ancestors.”

2. PRIVACY NOTICE

This public meeting is being streamed live via our Facebook page and made available for public access on our website along with the official Minutes of this meeting.

All care is taken to maintain your privacy; however as a visitor in the public gallery, it is assumed that your consent is given in the event that your image is broadcast to the public. It is also assumed that your consent is given to the use and disclosure of any information that you share at the meeting (including personal or sensitive information) to any person who accesses those recordings or Minutes

3. APOLOGIES

4. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with sections 77A, 77B, 78 and 79 of the *Local Government Act 1989* Councillors are required to disclose a “conflict of interest” in a decision if they would receive, or could reasonably be perceived as receiving a direct or indirect financial or non-financial benefit or detriment (other than as a voter, resident or ratepayer) from the decision.

Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the 18 February 2020 and 31 March 2020 Ordinary Council meetings as circulated, be confirmed.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.1 Draft Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Sporting Clubs Officer

Proof reader(s): Acting Manager Parks, Sport and Recreation

Approved by: Director Infrastructure

STATEMENT ON COVID-19

Greater Shepparton City Council understands the economic consequences that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on businesses across Greater Shepparton. To lessen the economic burden on businesses, Council has initiated the *Greater Shepparton Economic Response to COVID-19 Package* that aims to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on the health and wellbeing of Greater Shepparton residents, our vulnerable community, and provide immediate and ongoing support to our local businesses that are currently experiencing devastating levels of disruption and uncertainty.

However, in spite of this global pandemic, at some stage the pandemic will pass and the community will enter a recovery phase. It is important to note that this report relates to activities post the pandemic. It is important that longer term planning continues to ensure our community is best placed to rebound and prosper in and after the recovery phase.

Specifically, the comments and recommendations in this report are aimed at ensuring the future development plan for the Congupna Recreation Reserve has been communicated and agreed so that Council is in a position to progress with actions at this location once the pandemic has passed.

Executive Summary

The Congupna Recreation Reserve is located approximately 8km from the centre of Shepparton to the north east, within the township of Congupna. The township is centred along the Goulburn Valley Highway and Katamatite-Shepparton Main Road. Some of the main facilities include a primary school, football/cricket oval and tennis courts.

Council identified the need to develop a master plan to provide a current and detailed strategic framework for the future planning, development and management of sport and recreation opportunities, open space and preservation of natural environment for residents and to address the future community needs.

Consultation has taken place with key stakeholders in developing the Master Plan. The stakeholders have included the Congupna Recreation Reserve user groups, Council officers and peak sporting associations. Consultation included a survey to all user groups, face to face discussions, workshops and also phone conversations. This plan has also been prepared in conjunction with the Draft Congupna Framework Plan 2019 which has included a community drop in session and provided valuable community input to the Recreation Reserve Master Plan.

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.1 Draft Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan (continued)

A detailed background report has been prepared including a Landscape Master Plan summarising the key priorities for the recreation reserve which include:

- Heating and Cooling – Community Hall
- Toilet upgrades and compliance – Community Hall
- Football Change rooms – Minor upgrades and repairs
- Electronic Scoreboard
- New Community – Change room – Clubroom facility (Medium)
- Oval and Netball Court Lighting

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council release the *Draft Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan* for public exhibition from 22 April to 22 May 2020.

Background

Congupna plays a vital role in the provision of open space, sport, recreation, community and event opportunities for the local community.

Council has identified the need to develop a master plan to provide a current and detailed strategic framework for the future planning, development and management of sport and recreation opportunities, open space and preservation of natural environment for residents.

A detailed background report has been prepared including a Landscape Master Plan summarising the key priorities for the recreation reserve which include:

- Heating and Cooling – Community Hall
 - The community hall has not had a heating or cooling upgrade in over 40 years
 - Council Building Maintenance department have placed this project on the renewal program for the 2020/2021
- Toilet upgrades and compliance – Community Hall
- Football Change rooms – Minor upgrades and repairs
- Electronic Scoreboard
- New Community – Change room – Clubroom facility (Medium)
- Oval and Netball Court Lighting

Council Officers are seeking Council support to place the draft Master Plan on public exhibition for a period of four weeks.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

The proposal directly aligns with the following objectives of the Council Plan:

Theme 2: Social

Objective 2.2 Our community is supported to achieve and sustain physical, emotional and spiritual health and wellbeing.

Objective 2.6 Volunteering is promoted and encouraged along with other measures to improve community resilience.

Objective 2.9 Public places, open space and community facilities are safe and accessible for all and presented to a high quality.

Objective 2.10 Council demonstrates strong regional and local partnership efforts across health and wellbeing.

Theme 3: Economic

Objective 3.3 Greater Shepparton is a major destination for events and tourism.

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.1 Draft Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan (continued)

Risk Management

There are no adverse risks anticipated from releasing the draft Master Plan for public consultation.

Policy Considerations

All consultation associated with the draft Master Plan will be undertaken in accordance with Council's *Community Engagement Strategy 2009*.

Financial Implications

The recommendation to release the draft Master Plan for consultation does not have any financial or budgetary implications for Council, other than the direct costs associated with advertising and staff time. However, the future implementation of the recommendations will be subject to individual detailed investigations and funding allocations.

Legal/Statutory Implications

All procedures associated with the draft Master Plan comply with relevant legislative requirements.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The recommendation to release the draft Master Plan for public comment will not result in any adverse environmental or sustainability impacts.

Social Implications

The recommendation to release the draft Master Plan for public comment will not result in any adverse social impacts.

Economic Impacts

It is not expected that adopting the Master Plan will have any adverse economic impacts.

Consultation

Council officers recommend that Council release the draft Master Plan for public consultation.

Initial stakeholder consultation has been undertaken with the user groups of the reserve, Council officers and peak sporting associations.

The public consultation associated with the draft Master Plan will be undertaken in accordance with Council's *Community Engagement Strategy 2009*.

Following consultation, Council officers will review all feedback, comments and submissions during public consultation and make recommendations to Council. Council officers will provide a report to Council on the feedback received when seeking final adoption of the Master Plan.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.1 Draft Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan (continued)

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Direction 2: Community Life – Enhance social connectedness, physical and mental health and wellbeing, education and participatory opportunities in order to improve liveability with a greater range of public open spaces, and recreation and community services.

Vision 4.3.5 Different New Residential Development – A priority on an active community with walking and cycle networks linked to major attractions as a major consideration

b) Other strategic links

Greater Shepparton Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan – Priority 14 – Physical Activity

Conclusion

Council officers intend to release the draft Master Plan formally for public consultation. Any feedback received during this consultation phase will be considered prior to consideration of a final document.

Attachments

1. Congupna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Master Plan [↓](#) Page 153
2. Congupna Recreation Reserve and Community Master Plan - Short to Medium Term [↓](#) Page 154
3. Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan [↓](#) Page 155

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.2 Signing of Leases

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Coordinator Property

Proof reader(s): Manager Strategic Assets

Approved by: Director Infrastructure

Executive Summary

A number of leases of Council properties have been advertised in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. No submissions were received. To comply with legislative requirements Council is being requested to formally note that the required process has been undertaken and approve the leases be formally executed.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. Note that the following leases were advertised in accordance with section 223 of *the Local Government Act 1989* and no submissions were received:
 - Shepparton Heritage Centre
 - Shepparton Adventure Club
 - Shepparton Rowing Club
 - Shepparton Canoe Club
 - Shepparton Brass Band
 - Shepparton Art Museum
 - Shepparton Agricultural Society
 - Goulburn Valley Academy of Ballet
 - Scout Hall Kialla
 - Mooroopna Guides & Scouts Complex
 - Shepparton Aerodrome – hangar 4A (fuel site)
 - Shepparton Aerodrome – hangar 2 north
 - Shepparton Aerodrome – hangar 7 north
 - Shepparton Aerodrome – hangar 8 north
 - Shepparton Aerodrome – hangar 9 north
2. Approve the execution of the above mentioned leases.

Background

All of the leases listed in the recommendation have expired or are due to expire in the coming months. These leases have been advertised under section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. No submissions have been received regarding these leases, and therefore it is now appropriate that they be signed.

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.2 Signing of Leases (continued)

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

One of the aims identified in the Council Plan 2017-2021 under Built is “*Quality infrastructure is provided and maintained to acceptable standards*”. The provision of these new leases will allow the organisations to continue in occupation of the facilities, some of which have been built by the organisations, into the future.

Risk Management

There are no additional risks identified resulting from or associated with the signing of these leases.

Policy Considerations

This proposal does not conflict with any current Council policies.

Financial Implications

Each of the community organisation pay rent ranging from \$260 - \$300 per annum. Shepparton Art Museum Pty Ltd will pay rent of \$1 per annum. The Shepparton Aerodrome tenants will pay up to \$5,200 per annum based on valuations of each site. The Academy of Ballet will pay \$8,000 per annum.

Legal/Statutory Implications

All requirements of section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* have been undertaken in this process.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental or sustainability impacts identified in this proposal.

Social Implications

The provision of these leases will allow the community organisations to continue in their occupation of Council premises and allow these groups to provide community activities and services, which promote health and well-being and/or develop a strong sense of community. The creation of the new SAM lease will promote cultural activities within the community.

Economic Impacts

There are no adverse economic impacts identified with this proposal.

Consultation

Section 223 provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989* have been followed to ensure the general community is aware of the proposals to enter into the leases and has had opportunity to provide submissions.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

One of the strategies identified in the 2030 Objectives and Strategies is to “*Enhance social connectedness, physical and mental health and well-being, education and participatory opportunities to improve liveability and provide a greater range of community services.*”

b) Other strategic links

Nil.

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.2 Signing of Leases (continued)

Conclusion

It is now appropriate that Council notes the required process has now been completed and that the signing of the leases will proceed.

Attachments

Nil

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.3 Contract 1897 - North Growth Corridor Drainage and Pump Station

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report
Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest..

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Project Manager

Proof reader(s): Manager Projects

Approved by: Director Infrastructure

Other: Team Leader Projects

Executive Summary

This contract is for the upgrading of the existing basin and installation of new pump station and associated rising main for the North Growth Corridor (Warrumbungle Drive) Shepparton.

An open Request for Tender process has been undertaken with four submissions received. The tender of Mawson Constructions Pty Ltd is the highest scoring tender and the evaluation panel is satisfied that the tender meets the specification and timeline requirements for this project.

The recommended lump sum price for this contract is \$1,197,178.12 (ex GST).

It is recommended that Council award Contract 1897 to Mawson Construction Pty Ltd.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. accept the tender submitted by Mawson Constructions Pty Ltd of 20 Apollo Drive for Contract No. 1897 Construction of North Growth Corridor Pump and Basin Upgrade for the Lump Sum price of \$1,316,895.93 (inc GST).
2. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to sign and seal the contract documents.

Contract Details

This is a lump sum contract for the construction of the North Growth Corridor retardation basin including all earthworks, pump station supply and installation, drainage construction and all associated works.

Tenders

Tenders were received from:

Tenderers
Gradian Projects
Armstrong Constructions
Mawson Constructions Pty Ltd
Apex Earthworks Pty Ltd

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.3 Contract 1897 - North Growth Corridor Drainage and Pump Station (continued)

Tender Evaluation

Tenders were evaluated by:

Title	Branch
Manager	Projects
Supervisor	Group Coordinator - Drainage
Project Manager	Project Management Office

Evaluation Criteria

Tenders were evaluated on the following criteria:

Evaluation Criteria	Weighting
Price	50%
OH&S – pass or fail	Pass / Fail
Relevant past experience and capability	10%
Environmental & Sustainability	10%
Quality Systems and Management	10%
Benefit to Local Region	10%
Project Delivery – schedule & methodology	10%

During moderation it was noted that the Lump Sum Price in the Mawson Construction's tender did not include the value of the provisional items identified in the schedule. The panel considered this to be a clear administrative error and amended the Lump Sum price to include the provisional items for the purpose of the tender assessment.

Mawson Constructions are a local company with a proven construction history within the region and were the lowest price tenderer.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

Council 10 year Capital Works Plan 2018-2019 to 2027 2028

Quality Infrastructure (Built):

4.2 - urban and rural development is sustainable and prosperous.

4.4 – Quality infrastructure is provided and maintained to acceptable standards.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Traffic, Pedestrian and Buses /Trucks management during construction	Likely	Moderate	Moderate	Traffic management and work methodology to provide for vehicle and pedestrian access
Accident or injury to public or contractor staff.	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Site inductions, Safe Work Method Statement, Job Safety Analysis's and OH&S management Safety Management during construction – compulsory use of traffic control and "spotters" for overhead lines

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.3 Contract 1897 - North Growth Corridor Drainage and Pump Station (continued)

Policy Considerations

There are no conflicts with Council Policy

Financial Implications

	Approved Budget Estimate for this proposal ¹ \$	This Proposal GST Exclusive \$	Variance to Approved Budget Estimate \$	This Proposal GST Inclusive ² \$
Revenue	0	0	0	0
Expense	1,130,000.00	1,197,178.12	67,178.12	1,316,895.93
Net Total	1,130,000.00	1,197,178.12	67,178.12	1,316,895.93

¹ Budgets are GST exclusive

² For Contract Award reports the GST inclusive expense shall match the amount reported in the recommendation

Legal/Statutory Implications

Tender process has been carried out according to the requirements of *Section 186* of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no adverse environmental/sustainability impacts arising from this proposal.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Infrastructure – The provision and restructure of urban and rural infrastructure to enhance the performance of the municipality and facilitate growth

Conclusion

Mawsons Construction Pty Ltd has submitted a conforming tender and has been evaluated as the highest scoring tender. The evaluation panel is satisfied that Mawson Constructions Pty Ltd has the appropriate experience and resources to successfully undertake this project.

Therefore, the evaluation panel recommends that Mawson Constructions Pty Ltd be awarded Contract 1897.

Attachments

Nil

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.4 Our Sporting Future Funding Round 2 - 2019/2020

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Sporting Clubs Officer

**Proof reader(s): Team Leader Sports Development and Strategic Planning,
And Manager Parks, Sport & Recreation**

Approved by: Director Infrastructure

Executive Summary

Greater Shepparton City Council received 10 applications for the Our Sporting Future Funding Round 2 – 2019/2020: One club withdrew their application prior to the assessment stage due to ineligibility. Another application was deemed ineligible under the guidelines and therefore notified that their application would not be considered under this round of funding.

In total 8 applications were assessed for funding:

- Sports Aid Category – Two Applications
- Minors Category (not exceeding \$15,000.00) – Four applications
- Majors Category (not exceeding \$30,000.00) – Two Applications

All applications were assessed taking into account guidelines and budget available.

The following applications are being recommended for funding:

Sports Aid Category:

- Shepparton United Football Netball Club – Strategic, Operational and Participation Growth Plan for our Organisation
- Ardmona Football Netball Club - Strategic, Operational and Participation Growth Plan for our Organisation
- Shepparton Junior Soccer Association – Summer Sevens Commencement
**This application did not meet eligibility criteria for this category and therefore was not assessed. Feedback was provided to notify the club that the application was not eligible.*

Minors Category:

- Mooroopna Football Netball Club – Coaches/Media Box
- Murchison Bowls Club – Solar Power Project
- Merrigum Football Netball Club – Ground Redevelopment
- Tatura Cricket Club – Nets Upgrade

Majors Category:

- Central Park Tennis Club – Tennis Courts Remedial Works
- Tallygaroopna Football Netball Club – Netball Shelter
- Ardmona Football Netball Club – Resurfacing the Netball Courts
**This application did not meet eligibility criteria for this category and therefore was not assessed. Feedback was provided to notify the club that the application was not eligible.*

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.4 Our Sporting Future Funding Round 2 - 2019/2020 (continued)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council approve the recommendation of the assessment panel and subsequent funding for the following Our Sporting Future 2019/2020 Round Two projects:

Our Sporting Future – Minors Category

Club	Project	Allocation Excluding GST	Recommended for approval Including GST (*Not registered for GST)
Mooroopna Football Netball Club	Coaches Box	\$15,000.00	\$16,500.00
Murchison Bowls Club	Solar Power Project	\$5,527.00	\$5,527.00*
Merrigum Football Netball Club	Ground Redevelopment	\$10,728.00	\$11,801.00
Tatura Cricket Club	Club Nets Upgrade	\$4,565.00	\$4,565.00*
SUB TOTAL		\$35,820.00	\$38,393.00

Our Sporting Future – Sports Aid Category

Club	Project	Allocation Excluding GST	Recommended for approval Including GST (*Not registered for GST)
Ardmona Football Netball Club	Strategic, Operational and Participation Growth Plan for our Organisation	\$2,698.00	\$2,698.00*
Shepparton United Football Netball Club	Strategic, Operational and Participation Growth Plan for our Organisation	\$2,698.00	\$2,968.00
SUB TOTAL		\$5,396.00	\$5,666.00

Our Sporting Future – Majors Category

Club	Project	Allocation Excluding GST	Recommended for approval Including GST (*Not registered for GST)
Central Park Tennis Club	Tennis Courts Fencing & Seating	\$20,992.00	\$20,992.00*
Tallygaroopna Football Netball Club	Netball Shelter	\$19,380.00	\$19,380.00*
SUB TOTAL		\$40,372.00	\$40,372.00
TOTAL		\$81,588.00	\$84,431.00

Background

The Our Sporting Future Funding Program has been established to assist community organisations with the implementation of small to medium sized facility development

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.4 Our Sporting Future Funding Round 2 - 2019/2020 (continued)

projects. The types of projects that may be funded include:

- Sports surface development
- OHS and public safety improvements
- Lighting upgrades
- Pavilion upgrades
- Shade for participants
- Disability Access

The program also assists with development programs for new and developing sporting organisations throughout Greater Shepparton. Clubs such as the reformation of the Shepparton Rowing Club and the Shepparton Rugby Union Club have benefited from the Our Sporting Future Funding, Sports Aid program.

The funding program provides three categories for funding:

- Major facility development – for projects on a \$1 for \$1 basis but not exceeding \$30,000
- Minor facility development – for projects on a \$1 for \$1 basis but not exceeding \$15,000
- Sports Aid - funding between \$500 and \$5,000 (without matching contributions) for special sports projects that provide support to new and developing sporting organisations, for special access and participation projects, or for planning initiatives that address the future sport and recreation needs of the club/organisation

The Our Sporting Future Funding applications are assessed in two rounds annually, with the first round closing at the end of July each year and the second round closing in February each year.

A cross department assessment team was developed to improve the assessment of applications. The team consists of the following members:

- Communications Officer – Marketing & Communications
- Business Development Coordinator – Business & Industry Development
- Team Leader Arboriculture, Parks & Sports Facilities – Parks, Sport & Recreation

The Our Sporting Future Funding Program is available for all sporting/recreational groups within the municipality. The program was advertised this year in the Shepparton News and through social media. In addition Council held a grants information session, to help promote all Council grants. This campaign was highly successful and has increased the number of applications dramatically compared to previous rounds. The program is also promoted on Council's external website with testimonials from previous recipients of funding. ValleySport, the Goulburn Valley's regional sports assembly, actively advertise the funding program through their network of known local community sport and recreation groups.

The Our Sporting Future Funding Program has an acquittal process at the completion of the project. An electronic funding acquittal form is received including supporting documentation of invoices and photographs of installation. A Council Officer also undertakes a site visit.

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.4 Our Sporting Future Funding Round 2 - 2019/2020 (continued)

Details of each project

Mooroopna Football Netball Club

Funding Category	Minors		
Project	Coaches Box		
Short project description	Coaches box for home and away teams for football and also available for cricket during off season. Equipment storage for game day items and training equipment. A camera box will allow games to be filmed per league guidelines and match reviews for coaching staff and an administration area for game day.		
Who will benefit from the project	The Mooroopna Football Netball Club will not be the only beneficiaries of these improved facilities, but also the local cricket club, which as mentioned above would lead to more community involvement and sport participation rates with better facilities. The above sports (football and cricket) involve both male and female participants, along with being available to both junior and senior team participants. The location and region of our club participants spans the Greater Shepparton region. The additional storage area will be invaluable with the incorporation of additional women's teams for both football and cricket.		
Total Project Cost	\$46,900.00	Organisation Cash	\$31,900.00
Requested Council Contribution	\$15,000.00	Organisation In Kind	
Recommendation from the assessment panel	The project is consistent with the criteria in providing assistance to community organisations with the implementation of small to medium sized facility development projects.		

Murchison Bowls Club

Funding Category	Minors		
Project	Solar Power Project		
Short project description	As with most organisations, the Murchison Bowls Club currently pays premium pricing for supply and use of energy (electricity). It is anticipated that by installing a solar powered system we will be able to reduce the ongoing operating costs of the clubs electricity supply by approximately half. Reducing the annual operating costs will assist in ensuring that the club is able to continue supporting the community for many years to come as it has done since 1902.		
Who will benefit from the project	The club has also engaged with other organisations that have implemented similar systems to ensure we have learnt from their experience both good and bad. In addition the Club has engaged with our major state and national sporting bodies to gain their support and assistance with development of the application. Ongoing our clubs members and visiting bowlers will benefit along with many outside social and barefoot bowlers. Season 2018/19 saw in excess of 700 bowlers, both male and female use the facility.		
Total Project Cost	\$11,054.00	Organisation Cash	\$5,527.00
Requested Council Contribution	\$5,527.00	Organisation In Kind	

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.4 Our Sporting Future Funding Round 2 - 2019/2020 (continued)

Murchison Bowls Club (continued)

Funding Category	Minors
Recommendation from the assessment panel	The project is consistent with the criteria in providing assistance to community organisations with the implementation of small to medium sized facility development projects.

Merrigum Football Netball Club

Funding Category	Minors		
Project	Ground Redevelopment		
Short project description	Resurfacing of the oval to improve the surface condition and drainage on our football oval. Would also include replacing the old goal posts that have begun to rust.		
Who will benefit from the project	We currently have 4 football teams that will be playing regularly on the ground. This is equivalent to 75 people ranging from 10 (new Under 12 competition starting this year) to 50. Along with this, there is also the other 14 other clubs in our competition that will be using the facility as part of the Kyabram and District Football League.		
Total Project Cost	\$21,455.00	Organisation Cash	\$10,727.00
Requested Council Contribution	\$10,728.00	Organisation In Kind	
Recommendation from the assessment panel	The project is consistent with the criteria in providing assistance to community organisations with the implementation of small to medium sized facility development projects.		

Tatura Cricket Club

Funding Category	Minors		
Project	Nets Upgrade		
Short project description	The training nets at the cricket club are 15 years old and in need of an upgrade. The upgrade will involve the replacement to pullout nets with permanent steel fences.		
Who will benefit from the project	The upgrade will benefit the club, which consists of 4 senior and 4 junior teams.		
Total Project Cost	\$12,173.00	Organisation Cash	\$4,565.00
Requested Council Contribution	\$4,565.00	Organisation In Kind	\$3,043.00
Recommendation from the assessment panel	The project is consistent with the criteria in providing assistance to community organisations with the implementation of small to medium sized facility development projects.		

Ardmona Football Netball Club

Funding Category	Sports Aid
Project	Strategic, Operational and Participation Growth Plan for our organisation

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.4 Our Sporting Future Funding Round 2 - 2019/2020 (continued)

Ardmona Football Netball Club (continued)

Funding Category	Sports Aid		
Short project description	<p>The Ardmona Football Netball Club has experienced instability within the club and poor financial management over the last five years. The club now has people who are passionate about the club and its role in the community and prepared to volunteer. The committee would like to develop a strategic plan that will lay the foundations for the club's future success. Succession planning and general education on sport club administration are key areas the committee has identified as areas for improvement.</p> <p>We will achieve this by purchasing and undertaking the TDS community sports club solutions program. The skills we learn from this will help us create a strategic, operational and participation growth plan for our organisation. Many other clubs in the area (Shepparton Swans, Stanhope, Undera Merrigum) have successfully benefited from this program and is recommended by your League</p>		
Who will benefit from the project	<p>The club as a whole and all its current and future members will benefit as will the League. Every committee member and administrator will be involved and take advantage of the program, especially specific to their roles. Ultimately, each participant will benefit. The product will also allow for succession via handover of knowledge to the next committee. We will be working closely with TD Solutions to make sure we are implementing this program properly and we are getting the most out of it. As can be seen, TDS are "experts" in this area specializing in non for profit sporting organisations</p>		
Total Project Cost	\$2,698.00	Organisation Cash	
Requested Council Contribution	\$2,698.00	Organisation In Kind	
Recommendation from the assessment panel	<p>The project is consistent with the funding criteria in providing assistance to community organisations with the implementation of projects for special access and/or participation projects.</p>		

Shepparton United Football Netball Club

Funding Category	Sports Aid		
Project	Strategic, Operational and Participation Growth Plan for our organisation		
Short project description	<p>Shepparton United Football Netball Club is keen to develop a business plan and at the same time improve the skills of every single member of our committee. We will achieve this by purchasing and undertaking the TDS community sports club solutions program (refer attached quote and product brochures). The skills we learn from this will help us create a strategic, operational and participation growth plan for our organisation allowing us to be sustainable in the years to come. Many other clubs in the area (Shepparton Swans, Stanhope, Undera, Merrigum) have successfully benefited from this program and it's recommended by your League.</p>		

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.4 Our Sporting Future Funding Round 2 - 2019/2020 (continued)

Shepparton United Football Netball Club (continued)

Funding Category	Sports Aid		
Who will benefit from the project	Every committee member and administrator will be involved and take advantage of the program, especially specific to their roles. Ultimately, each participant will benefit. The product will also allow for succession via handover of knowledge to the next committee. We will be working closely with TD Solutions to make sure we are implementing this program properly and we are getting the most out of it. As can be seen, TDS are "experts" in this area specializing in non for profit sporting organisation.		
Total Project Cost	\$2,698.00	Organisation Cash	
Requested Council Contribution	\$2,698.00	Organisation In Kind	
Recommendation from the assessment panel	The project is consistent with the funding criteria in providing assistance to community organisations with the implementation of projects for special access and/or participation projects.		

Central Park Tennis Club

Funding Category	Majors		
Project	Tennis Courts fencing and seating		
Short project description	Removal of old damaged and inadequate tennis fence and replace with a new tennis fence to conform to Australian Standards AS1725.2-2010 Removal and replacement of existing aged and rotted wooden seating and replace with modern and safe aluminum structure.		
Who will benefit from the project	Tennis Club members, local tennis community, nearby schools and kindergartens. Existing fencing and seating needs replacing as it is unsafe and does not conform to current Australian standards. Council is engaging contractors to repair and resurface the courts. The existing fencing will not meet safety requirements. Yes ongoing meetings and discussions with the council and the Central Park Recreation Reserve Masterplan consultants, and within the grounds committee and the respective user clubs.		
Total Project Cost	\$41,984.00	Organisation Cash	\$20,992.00
Requested Council Contribution	\$20,992.00	Organisation In Kind	
Recommendation from the assessment panel	The project is consistent with the criteria in providing assistance to community organisations with the implementation of medium to large sized facility development projects.		

Tallygaroopna Football Netball Club

Funding Category	Majors		
Project	Netball Shelter		
Short project description	The netball shelter project includes the establishment of a new netball shelter across the netball court at the Tallygaroopna Recreation Reserve.		

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.4 Our Sporting Future Funding Round 2 - 2019/2020 (continued)

Tallygaroopna Football Netball Club (continued)

Funding Category	Majors		
Who will benefit from the project	All of the netball teams from the club will benefit from the project, in addition to the visiting teams that are in the Kyabram District Football Netball league. Consultation has been undertaken with the Netball Senior Vice President, Netball Junior Vice President and the whole committee. This will benefit all netball members of the club across all grades, along with their coaches and team managers from Tallygaroopna Football Netball Club, this would be approximately 100 females aged between 10 - 50 years old living in rural Victoria, along with visiting clubs each home game which would double the reach to the intended beneficiaries of this project.		
Total Project Cost	\$38,760.00	Organisation Cash	\$19,380.00
Requested Council Contribution	\$19,380.00	Organisation In Kind	
Recommendation from the assessment panel	The project is consistent with the criteria in providing assistance to community organisations with the implementation of medium to large sized facility development projects.		

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

The endorsement of the Our Sporting Future Funding Program is consistent with the following goals and objectives outlined in the *Greater Shepparton Council Plan 2017-2021*:

- 2.2 Our community is supported to achieve and sustain physical, emotional and spiritual health and wellbeing
- 2.4 Social and cultural, educational and employment opportunities are created to enable children, young people, individuals and families to actively participate in their community
- 2.9 Public places, open space and community facilities are safe and accessible for all and presented to a high quality
- 3.3 Greater Shepparton is a major destination for events and tourism (e.g. progression of the business case for the Greater Victoria Commonwealth Games Bid)
- 4.4 Quality infrastructure is provided and maintained to acceptable standards
- 4.5 Assets are well managed and their renewal is being planned through long term renewal strategies

Risk Management

Consideration has been given to risk management issues during the assessment of all applications for funding support.

Policy Considerations

There are no conflicts with existing Council policy.

Financial Implications

	2019/2020 Approved Budget	Funds previously committed in 2019/2020	Funds requested this round	Balance remaining from budget allocation
Minors/Majors	\$160,000.00	\$82,060.39	\$81,588.00	\$1,351.61

[†] Budgets are GST exclusive

^{**} \$5,000.00 from previous round was returned for reallocation.

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.4 Our Sporting Future Funding Round 2 - 2019/2020 (continued)

Legal/Statutory Implications

All project applicants must comply with planning, building and health legislative and statutory requirements prior to commencement of projects and/or release of the Council's funds.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental/sustainability impacts from this projects.

Social Implications

These projects will support ongoing community participation in sporting activity.

Economic Impacts

There is expected to be minor regional economic stimulus arising from the construction works.

Consultation

Officers believe appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

These proposals support the community and infrastructure objectives of the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy. Direction 2 – Community Life

b) Other strategic links

Council Plan 2017-2021

Goal 1 – Active and Engaged Communities (social)

Conclusion

The applications for funding through the 2019/2020 Our Sporting Future Funding Program Round Two were reviewed by an internal Assessment Panel which has recommended the above applications be funded.

The projects meet eligibility requirements for the Minors/Sports Aid and Majors categories for Our Sporting Future Funding Program.

Attachments

Nil

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.5 Findings - No Fee Waste Day Trials at the Shepparton and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres, January 2020

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Team Leader Waste

Proof reader(s): Manager Works and Waste

Approved by: Director Infrastructure

Executive Summary

At the December 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council adopted the trial of No Fee Waste Days to be held at the Shepparton, Ardmona and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres in January 2020. The Ardmona No Fee Waste Days did not occur due to a fire at Council's waste contractor's (Veolia) Shepparton facility and the interim agreement for Veolia to operate from Ardmona RRC.

The criteria to be used in the evaluation of the event included:

- uptake of service & first time users,
- volumes of waste streams,
- impact on illegal dumping of waste,
- customer satisfaction and
- cost

Key data from the event includes:

- 1,400 loads were processed without collecting fees over the trial days, noting some residents attended multiple times
- 1,400 loads equate to approximately 5.5% of Council's residential rate assessments
- Less than 2% of those who attended indicated they were first time visitors to the RRC
- Waste stream data included:
 - disposal of 350 tonnes of landfill waste
 - 389 mattresses
 - 719 tyres and
 - 19.5 tonnes of e-waste.

The total direct cost of this event was approximately \$200K.

Other key observations:

- There were significant issues around traffic management & public safety
- There was considerable dissatisfaction with delays & queues
- Indications that some had profiteered by collecting from residents at a cost and taking advantage of No Fee days to dispose.
- The provision of No Fee Days at the RRC's did not necessarily provide assistance to the most in most need within the community.
- There was some who supported the No Fee Waste days however many didn't think they were satisfactory.

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.5 Findings - No Fee Waste Day Trials at the Shepparton and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres, January 2020 (continued)

- Some criticism within the community that this initiative is cross subsidised by those who don't attend.
- There is a general lack of understanding of the cost of waste disposal.
- There were alternative suggestions to No Fee Waste Days however no single initiative identified as universally accepted.
- There was no identifiable reduction on illegal dumping during or post the event
- The volume collected on these days has created compliance issues for the site
- It was clear that providing this type of access was a disincentive to minimising, sorting and recycling.

Discussion

The Victorian Government has now released its Waste Policy "Recycling Victoria" which will have significant implications for our Waste Management including the introduction of a fourth kerbside bin, a Container Deposit Scheme, significant increase in landfill levy and investment in recycling infrastructure and education. In addition, Waste Services will be considered an essential service and be regulated by a new Authority.

The details of the policy implementation, including any subsidies, are not yet available however preliminary potential additional costs implications for residents are;

- Procurement of a 4th Kerbside Bin - \$1.96m
- Collection costs of 4th Kerbside Bin - \$800k/annum
- Increased landfill levy - \$600k/annum
- Increased collection cost for recycle (yellow lid) bin - \$? (impact of Container deposit scheme – not yet established).

These costs alone equate to an approximate increase of 16% on a typical 240L Waste recycle service charge.

The provision of No Fee Waste days or other similar initiatives such as waste vouchers come at a cost that ultimately rate payers fund and are not, as often promoted, "free". Residents would naturally support the provision of free services however the fundamental question is not should this be provided but rather how the cost of these services are to be recovered i.e. should recovery of the cost of waste services be based on user pays or socialised via rates.

For example, assuming only 50% take up and an average cost of \$30 per voucher, the financial implications of providing only 1 Waste Voucher per residential assessment is estimated at approximately \$375,000 or a further 3.6% increase on Waste charges per voucher. This will double to \$750,000 or (7.2% on waste charges) per voucher with the implementation of the State's Waste Policy.

The recommendation recognises that the new State Waste policy will have significant financial impacts which are not yet fully detailed or understood. Furthermore, it is important to note Council consulted the community and adopted its revised Waste Strategy in May 2019. This strategy identified actions including further investigations on effective ways to provide waste services to those who are most in need within the community, and agreed not to pursue other initiatives including Waste Vouchers. The cost implications associated with the new State policy reinforces this position; also the State policy establishes a target to divert 80% from landfill by 2030 which further supports this position.

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.5 Findings - No Fee Waste Day Trials at the Shepparton and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres, January 2020 (continued)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. Note the findings from the No Fee Waste Day trial and that no further No Fee Waste days will be pursued.
2. Note there are major financial implications from the State Government Policy – Recycling Victoria which will need to be incorporated in future budgets.
3. Not implement a waste voucher scheme, which would result in an additional cost in the order of \$375,000 for a one voucher scheme, increasing to \$750,000 with the introduction of the State's Waste Policy.
4. Expedite the project identified in the Waste Strategy to assist members of the community who experience mobility and transport issues to more easily dispose of household waste. This will include working with charity organisations and community groups to provide a service to those most in need within our community.

Background

At the November 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting, a resolution was passed via a notice of motion to consider a trial of complimentary tip days to be held in January 2020.

At the December 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council adopted the trial of No Fee Waste Days to be held at the Shepparton, Ardmona and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres in January 2020. The Ardmona No Fee Waste Days did not occur due to a fire at Council's waste contractor's (Veolia) Shepparton facility and the interim agreement for Veolia to operate from Ardmona RRC

The advertising of these days consisted of radio, newspaper, website and social media to cover all audiences.

Additional Council staff and bins were allocated to the Resource Recovery Centres, and a traffic management contractor was engaged at the Shepparton RRC to ensure safe traffic movement, maximised through put with minimised processing times for residents, while maintaining safety at the site. Waste Education Officers conducted customer surveys, asking a range of questions aimed at gauging customer satisfaction, waste behaviours and illegal dumping. In addition, the officers used the opportunity to provide general waste educational information and advice to residents.

From the survey and feedback, it is clear that no single option/service would be universally accepted by residents. Offering any such service would only create further divisions and customer dissatisfactions, as a portion of the community would always object and be unable to avail any such service.

Both the Shepparton and Murchison RRCs received significant volume of waste compared to their normal days. Some of the loads received during these events were unsorted and contaminated which led to recyclable items being disposed of to landfill.

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.5 Findings - No Fee Waste Day Trials at the Shepparton and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres, January 2020 (continued)

Findings and Data

Details of major waste items received are summarised in the below tables.

Shepparton RRC	11-Jan-20	25-Jan-20
Waste Type (major items)	Quantity	Quantity
Green Waste (m ³)	42.125	40.625
Mattresses (numbers)	197	149
Tyres (incl. all sizes) (numbers)	289	239
E-Waste - tonne	10	8
Landfill Waste - tonne	142	137
Murchison RRC	12-Jan-20	26-Jan-20
Waste Type (major items)	Quantity	Quantity
Green Waste (m ³)	15	7.5
Mattresses (numbers)	24	19
Tyres (incl. all sizes) (numbers)	101	90
E-Waste - tonne	1	0.25
Landfill Waste - tonne	35	28

The trial days at the Shepparton and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres respectively incurred direct costs totalling approximately \$200K.

A summary of the costs is given in the below table.

Item	Amount (excl. GST)
Traffic management	\$10,000
Bin hire and transfer	\$24,000
Landfill waste gate fees (incl. levy)	\$60,000
Green waste disposal	\$6,000
Mattress disposal	\$15,000
Tyre disposal	\$5,000
E-waste	\$20,000
Rest of waste (de-gas)	\$15,000
Additional Outdoor Staff	\$10,000
Additional Indoor Staff	\$11,000
Staff On-cost	\$3,000
Media (Radio and Newspaper)	\$11,000
Total Costs (approx.)	\$190,000

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.5 Findings - No Fee Waste Day Trials at the Shepparton and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres, January 2020 (continued)

Key data from the event includes:

- 1,400 loads were processed without collecting fees over the trial days, noting some residents attended multiple times.
- 1,400 loads equate to approximately 5.5% of Council's residential rate assessments.
- Less than 2% of those who attended indicated they were first time visitors to the RRC
- Waste stream data included:
 - disposal of 350 tonnes of landfill waste
 - 389 mattresses
 - 719 tyres and
 - 19.5 tonnes of e-waste.
- The total direct cost of this event was approximately \$200K.

Other key observations:

- There were significant issues around traffic management & public safety
- There was considerable dissatisfaction with delays & queues
- Indications that some had profiteered by collecting from residents at a cost and taking advantage of No Fee days to dispose
- The provision of No Fee Days at the RRC's did not necessarily provide assistance to the most in most need within the community
- There was some who supported the No Fee Waste days however many didn't think they were satisfactory
- Some criticism within the community that this initiative is cross subsidised by those who don't attend
- There is a general lack of understanding of the cost of waste disposal.
- There were alternative suggestions to No Fee Waste Days however no single initiative identified as universally accepted
- There was no identifiable reduction on illegal dumping during or post the event
- The volume collected on these days has created compliance issues for the site
- It was clear that providing this type of access was a disincentive to minimising, sorting and recycling

It was also evident that these days placed significant pressure on RRC's due to the surge of customers which not only resulted in long queues, customer dissatisfaction, an increase in waste contamination and additional waste being deposited to Cosgrove landfill but also significant safety issues at the waste facilities.

Long waiting times, time spent versus actual saving and safety of individuals was regularly put forward by residents on the day as issues. Social media comments on these events were mixed with many expressing their frustrations for the long queues, waiting time and overall Council operations. Some positive feedback was received for Council staff helping residents to drop off their waste.

There has been some criticism within the community that this initiative is simply cross subsidised by those who don't attend and that the system should be user pays.

No identifiable changes for illegal dumping were found during and after these events.

For reasons, including those listed in this report, it is recommended that "No Fee Waste days" are not pursued.

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.5 Findings - No Fee Waste Day Trials at the Shepparton and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres, January 2020 (continued)

It is important to note that when considering these factors and feedback from the trial days a range of these types of proposals including, No Fee Waste Days, Free Tip Vouchers, Hard Rubbish Collection were considered and consulted on during the review of the strategy in 2018. Following this consultation Council adopted the revised strategy based on community input which included actions to best achieve the intended outcomes for the community.

To adopt alternative actions would not align with the work currently being undertaken in line with the adopted Waste and Resource Recovery Management Strategy and potentially result in negative outcomes from a waste management perspective.

For example Waste Vouchers and No Fee Waste days reduce the incentive to sort recyclables (which are free to drop off). Adopting these types of actions do not support and are not aligned with the new State policy which has set a target to divert 80% of waste from landfill by 2030.

More specifically Council's Waste Strategy considered 7 additional initiatives including the provision of Waste Disposal Vouchers. The discussion in the report included the following:

Accepting and processing waste delivered to the Resource Recovery Centres for free under a voucher system still results in a cost. This cost must be recovered from rate payers and under a voucher system is spread across all rate payers not just those who use the system. Providing vouchers means that all rate payers pay the cost of the service whether they use it or not.

The provision of waste disposal vouchers is not recommended on the basis that there is still a cost that Council need to recover. A more effective means of providing assistance to residents in need is proposed (refer to Targeted Assistance below)

Targeted Assistance - Develop a plan that will enable the Waste and Community Development Team to work collaboratively with charitable services to assist people in need to dispose of their waste. This will ensure that charities can assist community members who experience mobility, health or transport issues impeding access to household kerbside collection and waste disposal facilities.

The adopted strategic action is:

“Develop a pilot project to assist people in the community to more easily dispose of household waste. To be developed internally in collaboration with Community Development and Sustainability”

This is still considered the most informed and appropriate action to achieve the intended outcome.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

No Fee Waste days are not aligned with the revised Waste and Resource Recovery Management Strategy adopted in May 2019. These events failed to meet community expectations and encourage behaviours contrary to the Waste Management Hierarchy, a tool which promotes waste avoidance and was endorsed by Council as part of the revised Waste and Resource Recovery Management Strategy.

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.5 Findings - No Fee Waste Day Trials at the Shepparton and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres, January 2020 (continued)

Risk Management

Council Staff have identified the following risks of No Fee Waste days conducted in January 2020:

- A sudden influx of waste streams requiring stockpiling which has resulted in a possible breach of EPA regulations.
- Waving of waste fees prompted some residents to not sort loads, resulting in contamination, lost resources and increased cost of disposal.
- Some residents with children waited in the queues for hours to dispose of items that are always free.
- Drivers reversing trailers in an unsafe manner among a very busy traffic flow.

Financial Implications

A preliminary assessment of cost implications of the State Waste policy implementation are:

- Procurement of a 4th Kerbside Bin - \$1.96m
- Collection costs of 4th Kerbside Bin - \$800k/annum
- Increased landfill levy - \$600k/annum
- Increased collection cost for recycle (yellow lid) bin - \$unknown (impact of Container deposit scheme – not yet established).

Council's fees and charges are established, to generally, manage the various aspects of the waste management system on a cost recovery basis. The total Residential rate assessments within Greater Shepparton are approximately 25,000.

The increase cost per residential rate assessment for the above, noting there are still unknown costs, could be in the order of \$65 per annum or equivalent to an increase of 16% on a typical 240L Waste recycle service charge.

Any initiatives such as Waste vouchers would be additional to these increases and for example; providing waste vouchers to residential assessments would equate to a further additional cost in the order of \$375,000 or (3.6% on waste charges) per one voucher scheme, increasing to \$750,000 or (7.2% on waste charges) per voucher with changes to the landfill levy under the State's Waste Policy.

Legal/Statutory Implications

There are no known legal implications.

Consultation

For the No Fee Waste Days, Council ran the following promotions:

- Newspaper advertisements in the Advisor and Shepparton News.
- Radio promotions across the region.
- External website updates and social media posts.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Topic: Environment

Theme: Best Practice land management

Objective 4: To reduce greenhouse gas emissions by local actions

Collection and processing of organics will reduce greenhouse gas emissions

b) Other strategic links

The Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy (2013 – 2023).

7. INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

7.5 Findings - No Fee Waste Day Trials at the Shepparton and Murchison Resource Recovery Centres, January 2020 (continued)

Conclusion

Based on the learnings, experience and outcomes of the No Fee Waste Days it is recommended that these not be pursued.

With current volatilities in the recycling sector as well as the ongoing environmental impact of waste, Council's strategy and actions should remain focused on waste reduction and avoidance.

The Victorian Government's Waste Policy "Recycling Victoria" will have significant implications for our Waste Management including the introduction of a fourth kerbside bin, a Container Deposit Scheme, significant increase in landfill levy and investment in recycling infrastructure and education. In addition, Waste Services will be considered an essential service and be regulated by a new Authority. The details on implementation and impacts of this are not yet available or fully understood, however the financial implications will be significant.

The actions contained in Council's Waste Strategy are still considered the most informed and appropriate action to achieve the intended outcomes and are aligned with the objectives of the State's policy.

No fee waste days, waste vouchers and the like would not appear consistent with the new State Waste policy.

Based on these aspects the recommendation in this report is:

That the Council note:

1. Note the findings from the No Fee Waste Day trial and that no further No Fee Waste days will be pursued.
2. Note there are major financial implications from the State Government Policy – Recycling Victoria which will need to be incorporated in future budgets.
3. Not implement a waste voucher scheme, which would result in an additional cost in the order of \$375,000 for a one voucher scheme, increasing to \$750,000 with the introduction of the State's Waste Policy

Attachments

Nil

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.1 Community Arts Grants Round 2 2019-2020

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Team Leader Business Development, Riverlinks Venues

Proof reader(s): Manager Performing Arts & Conventions

Approved by: Director Community

**Other: Grants Co-ordinator, Cultural Development Public Programs Officer,
Events Facilities Bookings and Support Officer**

Executive Summary

Greater Shepparton City Council has offered Community Arts Grants for many years. The intention of the Community Arts Grant funding is to facilitate projects which achieve some or all of the following objectives:

- Enhance the wellbeing of the community through artistic activities and pursuits which create cultural wealth.
- Encourage participation in arts and cultural activities for individuals, groups and the broader community.
- Encourage, support and promote innovation and skill development in the arts.
- Celebrate local and emerging culture and identity.
- Promote and encourage enduring and sustainable arts activities including those which may generate cultural tourism or income generating opportunities for artists.

All applicants are encouraged to discuss their applications with the Grant administrator prior to submitting their application to ensure that all application requirements are met..

Five applications were received in Round Two of the 2019/2020 Greater Shepparton Community Arts Grants. All applications were assessed as suitable using the Smarty Grants assessment process. The assessment panel subsequently met to determine if the applications met all of the grant requirements and details as requested. The eligible applications were considered for partial or full funding dependent on the extent to which the applications met the criteria. Overall the quality of applications was not to the usual standard with 3 of the 5 applications lacking the detail required by the assessment panel. The unsuccessful applicants will be alerted to the need to further discuss their projects with Council officers prior to future submission.

Given the quality of applications and the need for discussions around projects to be held before applications are submitted, the link for future rounds of the Community Arts Grant Program will be emailed to applicants following a discussion of their project.

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, the successful applicants will be required to submit a revised plan with suitable variations where necessary.

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.1 Community Arts Grants Round 2 2019-2020 (continued)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. Allocate \$3,380.00 (inc GST) of funding under Round 2 of the Community Arts Grants Program 2019/2020 to the following applicants:

Organisation	Event/Project	Allocation Excluding GST	Allocation Including GST
Shepparton Malayalee Association	South Indian Arts Promotion	\$800.00	\$800.00
Shepparton Brass and Wind	Student Instruction Term 2,3,4 2020	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
TOTAL		\$3,300.00	\$3,300.00

2. Note that variation to timeframes will be negotiated with each applicant if the event or project is postponed due to COVID-19, but still planned to go ahead prior to 30 June 2021.
3. Note that if a confirmed project has to be cancelled, funds must be returned.
4. Receives the acquittal reports below (under Background) for the completed Community Arts Grants 2018/2019 Round 1.

Background

Community Arts Grants 2018/2019 - Acquittal

Round 1 2018/2019 there were a total of 3 grants awarded, and 2 recipients have successfully completed their acquittal process and provided the required receipts and documentation.

There is currently an outstanding acquittal being followed up for:
Murchison Community Centre – Murchison Poetry Slam

The following is a summary of the Round 1 Community Arts Grant 2018/2019 projects as provided by the community organisations.

South Shepparton Community Centre – Artistry with paint project

The project was designed to teach the basic skills of painting, to community members who have aspired to learn how to paint and may not have been able to afford or find a suitable training. The majority of participants were low-income and held a concession card, there was no cost for those people. Eight people from the community attended three, five hour workshops, delivered by Heather Wellington, a local artist. Materials were purchased from Glasson's Art World to ensure local business was supported. All participants attended all three workshops, the pre and post surveys indicate that all enjoyed the workshops and increased their knowledge of painting. The tutor explained how to price paintings if participants were considering selling their art to supplement their income. Several participants are hoping to sell their art in the future. The Tutor benefited from the workshops as she normally teaches painting one-on-one and this project has

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.1 Community Arts Grants Round 2 2019-2020 (continued)

given her more confidence in handling group sessions. The general public/visitors to the Centre enjoyed the "First works exhibition" and were impressed with the quality of the artworks. Several have expressed an interest in attending weekly art classes in the future.

Dookie: The Musical Cast Recording

Pre-production took place in late October and early November, including recording session planning. The first stage of this project - the pre-production and recording of tracks - is essentially complete.

- Recording of GVCO (30 members) at Shepparton High School. For 90% of members this was their first experience of a recording session, and gained valuable experience and insight into the recording process.
- Recording of 8-piece band, some vocals, and others at GVGS. Approximately 25 people. Most of those involved had never been involved in a recording session, and gained valuable experience and insight into the recording process. A young emerging photographer was also on-hand to take photos and gained experience into the recording process.
- The editing of the tracks is currently taking place. After this is finished, further tracking will take place for lead vocals when further post-production can start.

The next stage involving the editing & mixing has been split into two. This is because of the exceptionally large scope of the editing aspect given the large number of songs recorded and microphone tracks involved. Also, the final stage of recording (lead vocals) has been pushed back in time as it cannot start until the bulk of the editing has been completed. The editing is being provided at no cost due to in-kind donation - this will allow expenses to be kept to a minimum, and prevent the original "editing & mixing" budget from being exceeded.

Projects funded in Round 2 2018/2019 and Round 1 2019/2020 are currently being undertaken and due to be acquitted in June 2020.

Community Arts Grants Round 2 2019/2020 - Applications

The Community Arts Grant was established as part of the 2014/2015 Council budget to enhance community wellbeing and the development of skills and innovation through artistic pursuits and participation. Prior to the 2014/2015 Council budget it was known as the Arts in the Community Fund.

Funding projects must be able to demonstrate that they are inclusive, have wide community support, and where appropriate, are sustainable following Council's funding. Funding may be used to conduct arts events, festivals, establish or develop artistic or cultural projects and workshops, build artistic capacity, enable artistic development and innovation or promote excellence in the arts.

The assessment panel reviews each application based on given criteria and recommends that grants be provided in full or part, or not at all if the criteria are not met. Details on each project and a summary of the extent it met selection criteria are provided here:

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.1 Community Arts Grants Round 2 2019-2020 (continued)

Organisation	Shepparton Brass and Wind
Project	Student Instruction Term 2,3,4 2020
Project Description	Music lessons and ensemble instruction offered to students and adults, with no limited to the age that can participate. Graduates are invited to play with the Shepparton Brass and Wind Ensemble. Students will learn to read music, pitch accurately, read and play rhythms confidently and learn a range of music terms and concepts. Students are provided the opportunity to perform at community events throughout the year. The project includes making music accessible through modifications to instruments for those who are unable to play in the traditional ways and larger print music for those impairments. A instrument rental component of the project removes the financial barrier for new musicians.
Who will benefit from the project	The project benefits young children, families, youth and people with disabilities who have the opportunity to participate as well as the broader community through the ensembles performances.
Amount Requested	\$2,500.00 No GST
Recommendation	Full funding of \$2,500.00 NO GST
Reasoning	The applicant hasn't previously received Community Arts Grant Funding. The project fosters an ongoing music development program, and includes accessibility training for those who are unable to play instruments in traditional ways.

Organisation	Shepparton Malayalee Association
Project	South Indian Arts Promotion
Project Description	Enhance and promote traditional cultural art forms of Kerala state of India within and outside Malayalee population in Shepparton through teachers, equipment and costumes for the Onam festival.
Who will benefit from the project	In 2019 the Onam festival attracted 400 people to the region from Melbourne, Kyabram, Cobram Tatura and Echuca. In 2020 they aim to attract more people from outside the Malayalee community.
Amount Requested	\$2,500.00 Plus GST
Recommendation	Partial funding of \$880.00 Including GST
Reasoning	The Association have recently been funded through the Community Arts Grant program for similar projects, the panel acknowledge the success of previous projects and encourage the association to become financially self-sufficient or look at other avenues for funding and sponsorship.

Organisation	Shepparton South Community Centre
Project	Art Photography for beginners
Project Description	2 x 3 hour workshops to learn basic skills of photography for art.
Who will benefit from the project	The workshops will be advertised and open to the community to participate. The workshops will have a small group of participants. The centre volunteers will also gain management and project delivery skills through the process.
Amount Requested	\$1,400.00 Plus GST

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.1 Community Arts Grants Round 2 2019-2020 (continued)

Organisation	Shepparton South Community Centre
Recommendation	Application unsuccessful
Reasoning	The panel would like to see further development of the project and more outcomes from investment in such projects. The reach for the project is quite small from the 2 workshops, the panel would like to see greater community involvement such as an exhibition following the conclusion of the workshops to support the amount requested. The panel recommends that they discuss their project with the Grants Administrator to develop a concise application for a future round.

Organisation	Kindred Spirits Tatura auspiced by Lions Club of Tatura
Project	Opera at the Farm
Project Description	Opera Australia performing on the farm, upskilling students of the Goulburn Valley.
Who will benefit from the project	Students of the Goulburn Valley performing in the Opera. The community will be invited and encouraged to attend.
Amount Requested	\$2,500.00 No GST
Recommendation	Application unsuccessful
Reasoning	The application was lacking detail, whilst the project was discussed with the Grants Coordinator in advance, the application on paper did not reflect the discussions. The panel recommends that they discuss their project further with the Grants Administrator to develop a concise application for a future round.

Organisation	Zion Worship Centre Inc
Project	Youth Alive
Project Description	Upgrade of musical instruments for the church worship band for use for music lessons and the Youth Alive event.
Who will benefit from the project	Those with musical abilities and musical interests, and sharing that with the church and broader community through the Youth Alive event.
Amount Requested	\$2,500.00 Plus GST
Recommendation	Application unsuccessful
Reasoning	The application was lacking detail and clarity of the project. The panel recommends that they discuss their project with the Grants Administrator to develop a concise application for a future round.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

Objective 2.3: Lifelong learning is valued and fostered in our community.

Objective 2.4: Social and cultural, educational and employment opportunities are created to enable children, young people, individuals and families to actively participate in their community.

Objective 2.5: Creativity and participation in arts and culture is nurtured and encouraged.

Objective 2.6: Volunteering is promoted and encouraged along with other measures to improve community resilience.

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.1 Community Arts Grants Round 2 2019-2020 (continued)

Objective 2.7: Greater Shepparton is valued for cultural celebrations, inclusion and engagement of our diverse communities.

Risk Management

Considerations have been given to risk management issues during the assessment of all applications for funding support. The panel assessed the risk of supporting applications with insufficient detail in the application, and determined that the best way to manage the risks were to not support the applications in the current round and encourage unsuccessful applicants to reapply after seeking support and guidance from the Grants Officer.

Policy Considerations

This report and its recommendations comply with existing Council grants policy and guidelines.

Financial Implications

The total budget for Community Arts funding under this scheme in the current financial year is \$20,000. \$14,438.95 was committed in Round 1 2019/2020, leaving a balance of \$5,561.05 available for projects in Round 2 2019/2020.

	Budget ¹	Previously committed in 2019/2020 Financial Year	Requested in current grant round GST Exclusive	Recommendations in this proposal GST Exclusive	Recommendations in this proposal GST Inclusive
Expense	\$20,000.00	\$14,438.95	\$11,400.00	\$3,300.00	\$3,380.00

¹ Budgets are GST exclusive

Legal/Statutory Implications

There are no known legal or statutory implications for Council. Applicants are required to hold suitable public liability insurance for the duration of the project.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

Where applicable, environmental and/or sustainable impacts have been considered by the applicants.

Social Implications

These projects support positive social outcomes.

Economic Impacts

Minor economic benefits are expected from projects where indicated.

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.1 Community Arts Grants Round 2 2019-2020 (continued)

Consultation

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Inform	Grants information is easily accessible through councils external website and public information sessions were conducted	Media releases Flyers, newsletters Websites Information sessions – including Creative Victoria and Regional Arts Victoria grant sessions Social Media
Consult	Council staff available to consult, in person, via telephone and email to all community groups.	Information sessions and follow up advice for applications as required
Involve	Grants involve community participation by their nature and scope	Approved projects include community participation as a required outcome
Collaborate	Community groups will be responsible for the planning and implementation of projects	Successful applicants will drive their own initiatives
Empower	Community groups will be responsible for the planning and implementation of projects	Community groups drive and deliver their projects

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Community Life: Encouraging Arts in the Community, City of Greater Shepparton

b) Other strategic links

Council Plan 2017-2021 as outlined above

Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan

Cultural Diversity & Inclusion Strategy

Greater Shepparton Youth Strategy and Action Plan

Greater Shepparton Safety Strategy

Cultural Diversity & Inclusion Strategy

Greater Shepparton Volunteer Strategy & Action Plan

Conclusion

The applications for funding through the Community Arts Grant Round Two 2019/2020 were reviewed by an internal assessment panel. Overall the quality of the applications lacked the necessary detail required for these grants. Of the five applications two projects meet eligibility requirements for grants under the initiative. Accordingly, the panel recommends that one application be funded to the full amount and the other be partially funded as above.

Attachments

Nil

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.2 Community Matching Grant Scheme - Round Two 2019/2020

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Community Development Officer

Proof reader(s): Manager Neighbourhoods

Approved by: Director Community

Executive Summary

Greater Shepparton City Council offers the Community Matching Grants Scheme to support the development and implementation of community projects and activities as a part of Council's Community Development Framework.

The Community Matching Grants Scheme has a total budget of \$75,000 for the 2019/2020 financial year. Round Two brings the total number of community projects funded since the Scheme was introduced in 2011 to 252 with an investment from Council of \$579,836.

Round Two 2019/2020 opened on Monday 2 December 2019 and closed on Monday 10 February 2020. A total of 12 applications were assessed by an internal Grant Review Panel.

There are 11 projects recommended for funding in the Community Matching Grants Scheme Round Two 2019/2020.

Variation to timeframes will be negotiated with each applicant if the event or project is postponed due to COVID-19 but still planned to go ahead prior to 30 June 2021.

If the event or project has been confirmed to be cancelled funds must be returned.

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.2 Community Matching Grant Scheme - Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council

1. Approve the recommendation of the Grant Review Panel to fund 11 projects as detailed below, to the value of \$38,646 (GST inclusive) representing Round Two for 2019/2020:

Organisation	Project	Allocation Excluding GST	Allocation Including GST
East Shepparton Bowls Club	Seating for New Complex	\$5000	\$5500
Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter	Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter – purchase of a trailer	\$5000	\$5000*
Goulburn Valley Chinese Association Inc	Raising Bilingual/Multilingual Children in a Multicultural Society	\$3000	\$3000*
Goulburn Valley Pride Inc	GV Pride Fun Run/Walk	\$2200	\$2200*
Horses for Hope	Equipment Purchase	\$4090	\$4499
Kialla Golf Club	Trailer Fire Fighting Unit	\$3220	\$3542
Mooroopna Bowls Club Inc	Renewable Energy - Solar Power Installation	\$5000	\$5000*
Mooroopna Men's Shed	Replace Roofing on the Work & Recreational Area	\$3360	\$3696
Multicultural Arts Victoria	To Be Seen - MAV Creator's Space - Visual Arts Program	\$1750	\$1925
Shepparton Search And Rescue Squad Inc	Presentation Skills Training	\$2700	\$2970
Tallygaroopna Men's Shed	Shed for Air Compressor & Dust Extractor	\$1314	\$1314*
TOTAL		\$36,634	\$38,646

*Not registered for GST **

2. Note that due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, Council Officers will work with approved applicants, and will seek approval of variations where appropriate and support organisations to complete the projects as intended.

Background

Greater Shepparton City Council launched the Community Matching Grants Scheme in September 2011. Community Matching Grants are designed to support projects from the Greater Shepparton community which:

- Build new social connections and partnerships within communities, or reinforce those that already exist.

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.2 Community Matching Grant Scheme - Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

- Allow participation in a community activity, at all stages of the project from planning to completion.
- Enable community members to acquire or develop a new skill.
- Create, renew or revitalise places and spaces within the community.

Grants are available for up to \$5000 with each project required to provide a matching component of the total project cost, either through a cash or in-kind (material or labour) contribution. The scheme aims to be as flexible as possible regarding matching funding so there are no concrete rules about the size of the matching contribution. As a guide, however, it is anticipated that the group applying will contribute around half of the total project cost, with no more than half of the applicant's contribution being in-kind. The ability of an organisation to provide financial and in-kind support to a project is taken into account during the review process to ensure a fair distribution of grant funds.

This round of Community Matching Grants has been promoted through the Council's external website, social media, a media release and via community organisation email lists and networks. A Grant Information session was delivered by the Grants Coordinator supported by Council Officers on the 22 January 2020. In addition the Community Development Officer continues to meet with community organisations to discuss projects and options for funding. The internal Grants Working Group facilitated by the Grants Coordinator continues to collaborate to ensure Council's investment in community, through the grant programs, meets best practice.

Round Two 2019/2020 opened on Monday 2 December 2019 and closed on Monday 10 February 2020. A total of 12 applications were received and assessed by an internal Grant Review Panel. Of the 12 applications assessed one application was declined as the proposed project is similar to the programs offered through the GSCC Community Safety Officer, Police and the Ethnic Council. The applicant will be referred to the Community Safety Officer for support to deliver this project.

Seven projects were fully funded in Round Two. As the Scheme was oversubscribed four projects are recommended for a reduced amount. The Internal Grants Assessment Panel believes these recommendations have provided the best outcome for all applicants within the funding constraints. Grants were submitted via the online application process, Smartygrants.

The applications were evaluated and scored against the funding criteria by a panel of internal staff. The applications were assessed taking the following factors into consideration:

- Applications meet some or all of the objectives of the Scheme
- The intended project meets an objective within the Council Plan
- Community benefit
- Project feasibility
- Matching component
- Evidence of community support

The applications were ranked in order of score with a cut-off point determined by the amount of funding available as per the Grant Distribution Policy. Final recommendations were determined at a meeting of the Grant Review Panel on Friday 21 February 2020. The panel have recommended 11 projects be funded. All of the recommended projects

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.2 Community Matching Grant Scheme - Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

meet eligibility requirements and all aim to build or strengthen the Greater Shepparton community.

Recommended Projects

Organisation	East Shepparton Bowls Club		
Project	Seating for New Complex		
Short project description	The East Shepparton Bowls Club has increased the capacity of the Bowling Club by over 50% with the building of a covered green. The additional seating will eliminate the risks associated with spectators providing their own seating which creates haphazard seating arrangements limiting the space available. The new seating will improve the spectator experience when we attract larger events.		
Requested Council Contribution	\$5000	Organisation Cash/in-kind	\$10,000/\$0
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommended		

Organisation	Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter Auspice: St Brendan's Catholic Church Shepparton		
Project	Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter - trailer		
Short project description	The Greater Shepparton Winter Night Shelter project involves 7 church venues per week and approximately 130+ volunteers over the 13 weeks of winter. Homeless guests are provided with a bed, dinner and breakfast. Each church takes one night of the week to be a shelter. All churches operate with the same policies and procedures. Each church provides food and cooks for the evening meal and items for a self-serve breakfast. A trailer is used to house equipment and bedding which is moved each day between venues. The Community Matching Grant will be used to purchase a trailer, stretcher beds, bedding, assortment of games and toiletries for the guests.		
Requested Council Contribution	\$5000	Organisation Cash/in-kind	\$5000/\$134,575
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommended		

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.2 Community Matching Grant Scheme - Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

Organisation	Goulburn Valley Chinese Association Inc.		
Project	Raising Bilingual/Multilingual Children in a Multicultural Society		
Short project description	<p>Non English Speaking Communities struggle maintaining and passing on their mother tongue to their children. There are a lot of myths within the communities regarding as to why, how and when to expose their children to the target language. They require assistance, guidance and strategies. The GV Chinese Association hopes to lead the way with this Project by delivering a number of workshops, forums and a Conference at Eastbank. This will bring an expert from the Research Unit for Multiculturalism and Cross-Cultural Communication (RUMACCC) of the School of Languages and Linguistics at The University of Melbourne presenting Raising Bilingual/Multilingual Children in a Multicultural Society to all CALD communities in the Goulburn Valley region.</p>		
Requested Council Contribution	\$5000	Organisation Cash/in-kind	\$9000/\$15,700
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommend reduced allocation \$3000		

Organisation	Goulburn Valley Pride Inc		
Project	GV Pride Fun Run/Walk		
Short project description	<p>The GV Pride Fun Run/Walk will involve a 2km and 5km run/walk in a highly visible public park followed by a park based celebration. The run will be offered free to increase inclusion. The park celebration will be family friendly. The event will encourage members of the LGBTIQA+ community and supporters to join together in a fun and healthy activity. The Greater Shepparton area has a very positive history in relation to celebrating diversity and inclusion; this event will add and enhance that reputation both within Greater Shepparton and throughout Victoria.</p>		
Requested Council Contribution	\$5000	Organisation Cash/in-kind	\$4365/\$7600
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommend reduced allocation of \$2200		

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.2 Community Matching Grant Scheme - Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

Organisation	Horses for Hope		
Project	Equipment Purchase		
Short project description	The grant will purchase safety equipment for participants to safely engage in the therapy process with our horses. Tablet computers will be used for participants to record the outcomes of their sessions and improve administration efficiency. This therapeutic work supports participants suffering from mental health issues to rewrite their own narrative in terms of how they see themselves and their capacities and enable them to deal more effectively with the effects of significant trauma and problems in their lives. Our Puddles Project works with otherwise normal children and young adults to give them the tools they need for problem solving, working in groups, showing and accepting leadership and learning interaction with other people and a large animal (a horse).		
Requested Council Contribution	\$4090	Organisation Cash/in-kind	\$4090/\$0
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommended		

Organisation	Kialla Golf Club		
Project	Trailer Fire Fighting Unit		
Short project description	Provide a portable firefighting unit to ensure in the case of emergency at Kialla Golf Club we have an adequate facility to prevent disaster. All that we have currently is a 1,000 litre tank mounted on a trailer and the water is gravity fed from the tank.		
Requested Council Contribution	\$5000	Organisation Cash/in-kind	\$1455/\$0
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommend reduced allocation \$3220		

Organisation	Mooroopna Bowls Club Inc.		
Project	Renewable Energy - Solar Power Installation		
Short project description	The Club will use the Matching Grant to purchase and install 10kw of solar panels onto the club roof with a 3kw inverter. This project is expected to reduce the Club's power bill by approximately 50%, reduce our environmental impact and return additional power to the local community energy grid.		
Requested Council Contribution	\$5000	Organisation Cash/in-kind	\$5700/\$500
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommended		

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.2 Community Matching Grant Scheme - Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

Organisation	Mooroopna Men's Shed Auspice: Mooroopna Education & Activity Centre Inc.		
Project	Replace Roofing on the Work & Recreational Area		
Short project description	The project will provide a modern clean, well lit, dry and environmentally sound area for our members to work. We will replace the rusted and worn out work and recreational area roofing with environmentally sound material that has 50mm of insulation, along with lighting.		
Requested Council Contribution	\$3360	Organisation Cash/in-kind	\$1446/\$1915
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommended		

Organisation	Multicultural Arts Victoria		
Project	To Be Seen – MAV Creator's Space – Visual Arts Program		
Short project description	MAV is seeking funds from Greater Shepparton City Council to assist with the delivery of a new visual arts program for local culturally diverse and First Nations artists to access free studio space and exhibit their work throughout 2020. We plan to engage, over a 7 month period at least 2 visual artists providing them each with: a 3 month studio residency, a 2 week exhibition and mentoring in all aspects of developing, curating, hanging and managing an exhibition.		
Requested Council Contribution	\$5000	Organisation Cash/in-kind	\$9950/\$0
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommend reduced allocation of \$1750		

Organisation	Shepparton Search and Rescue Squad Inc.		
Project	Presentation Skills Training		
Short project description	Shepparton Search and Rescue Inc. are looking to invest in our members to increase our capability in relation to presentation skills, public speaking, presentation design, audience participation and media engagement. This training package will provide the opportunity for ten members to be given comprehensive training in all of these areas. Shepparton Search And Rescue is involved in many community service programs as well as our own public relations in regards to road safety, water safety, community safety and ensuring that our service is promoted throughout the Shepparton district so that our community understands our operation and services. This program will build skills and capacity to allow these tasks to be shared with additional members rather than relying on 1 or 2 senior members.		

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.2 Community Matching Grant Scheme - Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

Organisation	Shepparton Search and Rescue Squad Inc.		
Requested Council Contribution	\$2700	Organisation Cash/in-kind	\$2102/\$600
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommended		

Organisation	Tallygaroopna Men's Shed		
Project	Shed for Air Compressor and Dust Extractor		
Short project description	The grant will be used to purchase the framing and cladding materials to build a stand-alone shed next to the Men's shed to house a dust extraction system and air compressor. Housing the equipment externally will address an identified OH&S issue and protect members from exposure to dust and noise. The labour to construct this shed will be supplied by the members who include retired trades' people including an Engineer who will oversee the project.		
Requested Council Contribution	\$1314	Organisation Cash/in-kind	\$0/\$1314
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommended		

Not Recommended

Organisation	Goulburn Valley Congolese Association		
Project	Justice Information for New Arrivals		
Short project description	New arrivals don't have enough information about the justice system of Australia. They may make mistakes just by ignorance. The project aims to organise information sessions on - Justice (family violence, drugs, taxation, contract on the phone) Police (summary offences) Local laws (animals, safety) VicRoads (driving important rules)		
Requested Council Contribution	\$5000	Organisation Cash/in-kind	\$2200/\$3840
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Not Recommended – referred to GSCC Community Safety Officer		

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

The endorsement of the Community Matching Grants recommendations is linked to the Council Plan 2017 – 2021. The majority of applicants have identified that their project meets one or more of the Council Plan objectives:

Social:

- Lifelong learning is valued and fostered in our community
- Social and cultural, educational and employment opportunities are created to enable children, young people, individual and families to actively participate in their community
- Creativity and participation in arts and culture is nurtured and encouraged.

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.2 Community Matching Grant Scheme - Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

- Volunteering is promoted and encouraged along with other measures to improve community resilience.
- Greater Shepparton is valued for cultural celebrations, inclusion and engagement of our diverse communities
- Public places, open space and community facilities are safe and accessible for all and presented to a high quality.

Risk Management

Insignificant to low risks have been identified and will be addressed at the operational level. All grant recipients will be required to consult fully with Council representatives prior to, and during their projects to identify any potential adverse consequences, and to devise a strategy to minimise any risks. Applicants have been asked to confirm that they have the necessary public liability insurances for projects where activities are being undertaken by the Grantees themselves. This will be confirmed prior to the release of any funds. The risk of conflict of interest to the Review panel members has been addressed with the inclusion of a Conflict of Interest Declaration on the Grant Assessment Form.

Policy Considerations

Approval of the Community Matching Grant recommendations supports existing Council policies including but not limited to the Grants Distribution Policy 43.POL1.

Financial Implications

Council has allocated a total of \$75,000 for the 2019/2020 financial year for the Community Matching Grants Scheme. It is recommended that \$38,646 (GST inclusive) is approved for the 11 recommended projects for Round Two 2019/2020. All but one of the projects incorporates a significant matching component where the community group share the costs with Council, the matched contribution being financial or in kind (materials or labour). The total cash/in-kind support from the recommended applicants is estimated at \$223,312. Six applicants are registered for GST.

	Approved Budget Estimate for this proposal ¹ \$	This Proposal GST Exclusive \$	Variance to Approved Budget Estimate \$	This Proposal GST Inclusive ² \$
Revenue	NA	NA	NA	There is no revenue associated with the Community Matching Grant Scheme
Expense	2019/2020 \$75,000	\$36,634	R1: \$38,368 R2: \$36.634 \$2 over allocation	\$38,646 GST: \$2012
Net Total	\$75,000	\$36,634	\$75,002	

¹ Budgets are GST exclusive

² For Contract Award reports the GST inclusive expense shall match the amount reported in the recommendation

Legal/Statutory Implications

The Community Matching Grants Scheme is consistent with the Local Government Act 1989 and the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act (2006).

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The approval of the recommendations for this round of the Community Matching Grant

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.2 Community Matching Grant Scheme - Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

Scheme will not have any negative environmental impacts. One project will see solar power installed on a community building to reduce energy costs.

Social Implications

The recommended projects demonstrate the strength of community connection, engagement and meaningful participation in community life in Greater Shepparton with an estimated in-kind contribution of over \$162,000 to these projects. The volunteer contribution required to deliver these projects is inspiring. The community are taking on bold solutions to challenges in our community. The Greater Shepparton Winter Shelter project aims to assist our local homeless during the winter months, Goulburn Valley Pride will raise awareness, inclusion and support for the LGBTIQA community and the Goulburn Valley Chinese Association will lead the way in providing support and opportunity for multicultural families to learn about the value of raising bilingual and multilingual children. Horses for Hope are finding a new way to utilise animals to assist those who are struggling with mental illness and trauma.

The Shepparton Search and Rescue is aiming to improve their capacity to provide a high standard of community engagement and communication to keep our community informed and safe. Kialla Golf Club like many organisations has reassessed their preparedness for future fire seasons. Our local Men's Sheds and Bowling Clubs are improving their facilities for the benefit of all who use them. Many of these venues are Council owned and the community are actively sharing the cost of improving and keeping those assets in good order. Together with the Multicultural Arts Victoria project the recommended applications in Round Two of the Community Matching Grant will reach a broad cross section of our community and the positive impacts will have a ripple effect in our community.

Economic Impacts

In most instances the applications are for the purchase of equipment, materials and services which will support local businesses.

Consultation

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Inform	Ensure that the information about the application process was widespread	Media Release Website Social Media Email lists and networks
Consult	Grant Information Session Appointments offered to discuss applications whilst the grants are open.	22 January 2020
Involve	Community Development Officers provide assistance to community groups	Consultation on an individual basis during the application process.
Collaborate	Successful community groups/members will be responsible for the implementation of their projects which will provide the opportunity for community capacity building.	Successful applicants will drive their own community initiatives. They can seek assistance if a variation is required during the delivery of the project.

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.2 Community Matching Grant Scheme - Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

Consultation (continued)

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Empower	Whilst decision making regarding successful grant applications is made by Council, community groups will be responsible for the delivery of projects.	Community organisations will deliver their projects.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Direction 2 – Community Life

b) Other strategic links

- Council Plan 2017 – 2021
- Greater Shepparton City Council – Community Development Framework
- Greater Shepparton City Council – Community Engagement Strategy
- Greater Shepparton City Council – Community Plan Implementation Policy
- Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021
- Universal Access and Inclusion Plan 2018-2021
- Greater Shepparton Multicultural Strategy 2019-2022
- Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2014-2030
- Greater Shepparton Volunteer Strategy and Action Plan 2019-2022

Conclusion

The applications for funding through the Community Matching Grants Round Two 2019/2020 have been reviewed by an internal Grant Review Panel in line with the Grant Distribution Policy of Council and the Guidelines of the Community Matching Grant Scheme. The Grant Review Panel has recommended 11 projects to be funded. All of these projects meet eligibility requirements and aim to both build and strengthen connections in the Greater Shepparton community.

Attachments

Community Matching Grant Scheme - Grant Guidelines 2019-2020 [↓](#) Page 194

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.3 Community Engagement Policy

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Community Development Officer

Proof reader(s): Manager Neighbourhoods

Approved by: Director Community

Executive Summary

In late 2019 Council undertook community consultation in broad terms about community engagement with a series of broad questions to the community. The results of this consultation were presented to Councillors at a briefing, and informed the Draft Greater Shepparton Community Engagement Policy. The Draft Policy was then released for public exhibition and consultation from 18 December 2019 until 14 February 2020. The consultation period for the Draft Policy has now closed, and feedback has been considered by the Community Engagement Working Group with changes made to the Draft Policy.

The Community Engagement Policy has been finalised.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt the Community Engagement Policy 07.POL4.

Background

Council needs to adapt, revisit, and strengthen its commitment to effective community engagement. The internal Community Engagement Working Group has been working on revising and strengthening Council's community engagement practices, with initial broad consultation occurring from 23 September to 14 October 2019.

The initial consultation resulted in more than 200 responses to the survey.

The results of the feedback received as part of this initial consultation process were considered in the development of the Draft Community Engagement Policy.

The Draft Policy was then released for public exhibition and consultation from 18 December 2019 until 14 February 2020.

Four people provided feedback about the Draft Policy.

Of those four:

- Two commented that they would like to receive a copy of the Greater Shepparton Community Engagement Corporate Procedure and Community Engagement Toolkit when they are completed, to enable a better understanding of what Council's approach to community engagement will be.
- One questioned the need to list some of Council's values in the Draft Policy, as they felt they did not have a meaningful purpose in the document. (These values have

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.3 Community Engagement Policy (continued)

since been removed from the Draft Policy, with an overarching statement regarding the values made instead.)

- One requested that Council listen to the voice of the majority (not minorities) and act on that voice.

The feedback received was considered by the internal Community Engagement Working Group and the Draft Policy finalised.

Council Officers now believe the Policy can be presented to Council for adoption.

Work is continuing on the Draft Community Engagement Corporate Procedure.

A Toolkit and training program will also be established to guide and support staff in the day to day operations of community engagement to ensure a consistent, considered approach to community engagement across the organisation.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

Community engagement is a core process that underpins the Council Plan and Integrated Planning Framework and ensures that community needs and aspirations are considered in developing and implementing Council's strategic directions and priorities.

Community engagement is linked to the following Council objectives:

- Leadership and Governance 1.3 Council demonstrate strong leadership and sound decision making in the best interests of the community.
- Leadership and Governance 1.8 Consultation that is transparent, robust and accessible, and clear, consistent and timely communication provided to inform, educate and engage with the community.

Risk Management

Council Officers will be provided with the tools, skills, and confidence to enable them to deliver consistent, considered and flexible community engagement. Council also needs to be mindful that the Victorian Government's *Local Government Bill* (recently passing through the Victorian Parliament) which will replace the Local Government Act.

When legislated, this Bill will impact upon local government policies regarding community engagement, and the way in which Council conducts and reports upon community engagement.

Policy Considerations

The following Policies and Procedures have been considered thus far:

- Community Planning Policy 55.POL1
- Corporate Procedures Media 07.PRO2
- Corporate Procedures Social Media for Staff, Contractors and Volunteers 07.PRO4
- Council Plan 2017-2021
- Emergency Communications Plan, Greater Shepparton Municipal Emergency Management Plan
- Greater Shepparton City Council Code of Conduct
- Language Services Corporate Procedure 02.PRO2
- Media Policy 07.POL1
- Privacy Policy 37.POL12
- Right to Make a Submission Corporate Procedure

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.3 Community Engagement Policy (continued)

There are no conflicts with any of the above Policies and Procedures.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with adopting the Policy.

There will be financial implications in the development of the Community Engagement Toolkit and in training Council Officers. It is anticipated these financial implications will be met within current budgetary capacity.

Legal/Statutory Implications

Legislation considered included:

- Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014
- Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

The Local Government Bill – Exposure Draft and the ‘Act for the Future – Directions for a new Local Government Act’ directions paper were also considered.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There will be no environmental/sustainability impacts as a result of this report.

Social Implications

Effective community engagement builds relationships between Council and the community. It enables two-way communication and ensures community feels valued and listened to.

Effective community engagement allows Council to be better informed, and achieve better outcomes with – and for – the community it serves.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts associated with this report.

Consultation

Consultation on Community Engagement was conducted from 23 September to 14 October 2019 via a survey, social media, website, print media, radio, engagement with committees and local networks.

Consultation on the Draft Community Engagement Policy was conducted from 18 December 2019 until 14 February 2020.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Nil

b) Other strategic links

- Council Plan 2017-2021
- Cultural Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan 2015-18
- Universal Action and Inclusion Plan 2018
- Reconciliation Action Plan Reflect July 2019 – June 2020

8. COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE

8.3 Community Engagement Policy (continued)

Conclusion

Community consultation has occurred regarding Council's community engagement practices in broad terms, and regarding the Draft Community Engagement Policy.

The Greater Shepparton Community Engagement Policy is now ready for adoption.

Attachments

1. Community Engagement Policy [↓](#) Page 200
2. Community Engagement Conversation Report [↓](#) Page 206

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.1 Contracts Awarded Under Delegation and Contracts Advertised but yet to be Awarded

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report
Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report
Author: Acting Team Leader Contracts and Procurement
Proof reader(s): Acting Manager Corporate Governance
Approved by: Director Corporate Services

Executive Summary

To inform the Council of the status of requests for tenders that have been awarded under delegation and those that have been publicly advertised but are yet to be awarded.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council note:

1. contracts awarded under delegated authority by the Chief Executive Officer;
2. contracts awarded under delegated authority by a Director; and
3. requests for tenders advertised but not yet awarded.

Contracts Awarded under Delegated Authority by the Chief Executive Officer

Contract Number	Contract Name	Contract details, including terms and provisions for extensions	Value inclusive of GST	Awarded to
1915	Dookie - Cosgrove Rail Trail - Stage 2a & 2b Civil Construction Works	Lump Sum Contract for Dookie - Cosgrove Rail Trail - Stage 2a & 2b Civil Construction Works	\$344,218.60	Jarvis Delahey Contractors Pty Ltd.

Contracts Awarded under Delegated Authority by a Director

Contract Number	Contract Name	Contract details, including terms and provisions for extensions	Value inclusive of GST	Awarded to
1920	Construction of Ferrari Park Car Park - Kerb & Drainage	Lump Sum Contract for Construction of Ferrari Park Car Park - Kerb & Drainage	\$146,884.79	Jarvis Delahey Contractors Pty Ltd.

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.1 Contracts Awarded Under Delegation and Contracts Advertised but yet to be Awarded (continued)

Requests for Tenders advertised but not yet awarded

Contract No.	Contract Name	Contract detail, including terms and provisions for extensions	Status
1897	North Growth Corridor Stormwater Pump and Basins Upgrade Works, Warrumbungle Drive, Shepparton	Lump Sum Contract for North Growth Corridor Stormwater Pump and Basins Upgrade Works, Warrumbungle Drive, Shepparton	Tender closed on 19 February 2020. Tender currently being evaluated.
1964	Provision of Parking Enforcement Services OR Provision of Parking Enforcement PLUS Administration Services	Lump Sum Contract for Provision of Parking Enforcement Services OR Provision of Parking Enforcement PLUS Administration Services	Tender closed on 22 January 2020. Tender currently being evaluated.
1980	Provision of Waste Operations Software	Lump Sum Contract for the Provision of Waste Operations Software	Tender closed 5 February 2020. Tender currently being evaluated.
2014	Provision of Food Services	Schedule of Rates for Provision of Food Services	Tender closed on 19 February 2020. Abandoned due to only one non-conforming tender being received. To be re-tendered.
2015	Construction of Sewer Rising Main and Pressure Sewer System, Victoria Park	Lump Sum Contract for a suitably GWV accredited contractor for the supply of all labour, plant and materials for the construction of the Sewer Reticulation, Pressure Sewer System and the associated Sewer Rising Main at Victoria Park Lake, Shepparton.	Tender closed on 18 March 2020. Tender currently being evaluated.

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.1 Contracts Awarded Under Delegation and Contracts Advertised but yet to be Awarded (continued)

Requests for Tenders advertised but not yet awarded (continued)

Contract No.	Contract Name	Contract detail, including terms and provisions for extensions	Status
2016	Construction of Water Main Works – Fitzjohn Street, Victoria Park Lake Shepparton	Lump Sum Contract for a suitably GVW accredited contractor for the supply of all labour, plant and materials for the construction of water main works at Fitzjohn Street, Victoria Park Lake, Shepparton.	Tender closed on 18 March 2020. Tender currently being evaluated.
2020	Appointment of SAM Brand Campaign Creative, Production and Media Placement Agency	Request for Quotation - Lump Sum Contract for the Appointment of SAM Brand Campaign Creative, Production and Media Placement Agency	Tender closed on 24 January 2020. Tender currently being evaluated.
2019	Supply of 40 RPM Bikes, Aquamoves Leisure Centre, Shepparton	Request for Quotation - Lump Sum Contract for the Supply of 40 RPM Bikes, Aquamoves Leisure Centre, Shepparton	Tender scheduled to close on 6 April 2020.
2024	Supply & Install of Upgraded Sound System – Riverlinks Eastbank	Lump Sum Contract for the Supply & Installation of Upgraded Sound System – Riverlinks Eastbank	Tender currently suspended due to closure of Eastbank.
2030	Provision of Development of Council Plan 2021-2025	Request for Quotation - Lump Sum Contract for the Provision of Development of Council Plan 2021-2025	Tender closed on 1 April 2020. Tender currently being evaluated.
2004	Construction of Katandra West Basin Station Upgrade	Lump Sum Contract for the Construction of Katandra West Basin Upgrade, Katandra West	Tender scheduled to close on 8 April 2020.
2009	Design and Construction of Route 5 Pedestrian Bridge and Shared Path, Lincoln Drive, Shepparton	Lump Sum Contract for the Design and Construction of Route 5 Pedestrian Bridge and shared Path, Lincoln Drive, Shepparton	Tender scheduled to close on 15 April 2020.
2022	SAM Art Collection Relocation	Lump Sum Contract for the SAM Art Collection Relocation	Tender closed on 1 April 2020. Tender currently being evaluated.

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.1 Contracts Awarded Under Delegation and Contracts Advertised but yet to be Awarded (continued)

Policy Considerations

Through the *Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer* the Council has delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer to award a contract up to the value of \$500,000 including GST.

The Council through the *Exercise of Delegations Policy* has delegated authority to the Director Corporate Services to approve a contract up to the value of \$500,000 and the Director Infrastructure, Director Community and Director Sustainable Development to approve a contract up to the value of \$150,000 for goods and services and \$200,000 for works. Through this Policy, the Manager Projects department also has delegated authority to approve contracts up to the value of \$100,000, for goods, services or works.

Legal/Statutory Implications

Section 186 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) establishes the requirements for tendering and entering into contracts.

Section 186(1) of the Act requires that before Council enters into a contract for the purchase of goods or services to the value of \$150,000 or more, or for the carrying out of works to the value of \$200,000 or more, it must give public notice of the purpose of the contract and invite tenders or expressions of interest from any person wishing to undertake the contract.

Conclusion

It is important that decisions and actions taken under delegation be properly documented and transparent in nature. The report details the publicly advertised contracts awarded by the Chief Executive Officer and Directors under delegated authority of the Council during the period 1 March 2020 to 31 March 2020.

Attachments

Nil

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.2 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Staff and Development Hearings Panel

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report
Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Team Leader - Governance

Proof reader(s): Acting Manager - Corporate Governance

Approved by: Director - Corporate Services

Executive Summary

The power of a Council to act by resolution is set out in section 3(5) of the Act:

“Where a Council is empowered to do any act, matter or thing, the decision to do the act, matter or thing is to be made by a resolution of the Council.”

As the Council is not a “natural” person, it can act in only two ways, which is by resolution or through others acting on its behalf. For others to act on the Councils behalf, the relevant Council powers must be delegated by the Council.

The Council has delegated the majority of its delegable powers to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who is permitted under the act to further sub-delegate these powers to other members of Councils staff. The powers conferred on the Council under some legislative instruments cannot be delegated through the CEO, and must be delegated by resolution of Council directly to Council officers.

The Instrument of Delegation to Members of Staff and Development Hearings Panel was last adopted by Council on 19 September 2019 and has since been reviewed and updated to reflect changes to legislation, position titles and reporting lines within the organisation. These changes are essential to ensuring officers are authorised with the appropriate powers, duties and functions to perform their roles effectively.

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.2 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Staff and Development Hearings Panel (continued)

RECOMMENDATION

In the exercise of the powers conferred by section 98(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989 (the Act)* and the other legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, Greater Shepparton City Council (**Council**) resolves that:

1. there be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached *Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff and Development Hearings Panel*, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.
2. the instrument comes into force immediately upon the common seal of Council being affixed to the instrument.
3. it authorises the Chief Executive Officer to sign and seal the Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff and Development Hearings Panel document
4. on the coming into force of the instrument all previous delegations to members of Council staff and Development Hearings Panel (other than the Chief Executive Officer) are revoked.
5. the duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

Background

The power of a Council to act by resolution is set out in section 3(5) of the Act:

“Where a Council is empowered to do any act, matter or thing, the decision to do the act, matter or thing is to be made by a resolution of the Council.”

The Council is not in a position to exercise all the powers conferred upon it by resolution and requires others to act on its behalf. This is made possible under section 98(1) of the Act which provides that a Council may, by Instrument of Delegation, delegate to a member of its staff any power, duty or function of a Council under the *Local Government Act 1989* or any other Act, other than certain specified powers.

The Council has delegated the majority of its delegable powers to the CEO. Section 98(2) of the Act provides that the CEO may, by Instrument of Delegation, delegate to a member of the Council staff any power, duty or function of his or her office, except the power of delegation itself. This is the avenue by which most Council officers are delegated the power to make decisions.

The powers conferred on the Council under some legislative instruments cannot be delegated through the CEO, and must be delegated by resolution directly to Council officers. The Acts and Regulations referred to in the attached *Instrument of Delegation - Members of Staff and Development Hearings Panel* are among those which require direct delegation.

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.2 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Staff and Development Hearings Panel (continued)

This Instrument has been reviewed and a number of changes proposed. These changes are necessary to reflect changes in the delegated powers and duties under these Acts and Regulations since the last delegation was adopted.

The Council subscribes to the Delegations and Authorisations Service provided by Maddocks Lawyers and the proposed changes have been recommended by this service.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

The regular review of the Instrument of Delegation to Members of Council Staff and Development Hearings Panel supports Objective 1.3 Leadership and Governance “*Council demonstrates strong leadership and sound decision making in the best interest of the community*”.

Risk Management

The review of Instruments of Delegation ensures that they remain valid, legal and that generally routine decisions are able to be made without the need for a Council meeting.

The Council subscribes to the Delegations and Authorisations Service provided by Maddocks Lawyers and the proposed changes have been recommended by this service. Subscribing to the Maddocks service reduces the risk that legislative changes which have implications for the Council’s delegations and authorisations are not properly identified and implemented.

Policy Considerations

All Instruments of delegation must be exercised in accordance with the Council’s Exercise of Delegations policy.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from the *Instrument of Delegation to Members of Staff and Development Hearings Panel*. Financial delegations have been made by the CEO and are consistent with the Council’s Exercise of Delegations Policy.

Legal/Statutory Implications

The Instrument of Delegation to members of Council Staff and Development Hearings Panel ensures that decisions made by Council officers are legally compliant and enforceable.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental/sustainability impacts on the coming into force of the *Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff and Development Hearings Panel*.

Social Implications

There are no social implications with the coming into force of the *Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff and Development Hearings Panel*.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts with the coming into force of the *Instrument of Delegations – Members of Staff and Development Hearings Panel*.

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.2 Instrument of Delegation - Members of Staff and Development Hearings Panel (continued)

Consultation

The review of the Instrument of Delegation was completed through Councils delegations software. Consultation was conducted with each Manager and Director on any proposed changes to the Instrument, with approval sought from the Executive Leadership Team.

All consultation was in conjunction with the advice provided by Maddocks Lawyers with the release of the new version of the *Instrument of Delegations - Members of staff* document.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

There are no direct links to the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

b) Other strategic links

There are no other strategic links

Conclusion

It is important that all of Council's Instruments of Delegation remain up to date with the latest versions of legislation and that the document reflects the current organisation structure. The amended Instrument of Delegation reflects such changes and it is therefore recommended that the updated document comes into force and the previous Instrument is revoked.

Attachments

S6 Instrument of Delegation to Members of Staff and Development Page 213
Hearings Panel [↓](#)

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.3 March 2020 Monthly Financial Report

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report:

Author: Manager Finance and Rates

Proof reader(s): Director Corporate Services

Approved by: Director Corporate Services

Executive Summary

The report presents Council's actual financial performance compared to the budget for the nine months ended 31 March 2020.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council receive and note the March 2020 Monthly Financial Report.

Background

The 2019/2020 Budget was adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 June 2019. The 2019/2020 Adopted Budget provided for an operating surplus of \$25.33 million with revenue of \$153.32 million and expenditure of \$127.99 million. The 2019/2020 Adopted Budget also provided for capital works of \$73.68 million.

On 15 October 2019, Council adopted the 2019/2020 Q1 Adopted Forecast with an accounting surplus of \$23.29 million which is \$2.04 million less than the 2019/2020 Adopted Budget. The capital works program of \$73.0 million is forecast to be expended during the 2019/2020 financial year which is a decrease of \$0.7 million from the Adopted Budget.

Council adopted the 2019/2020 Q2 Adopted Forecast on 18 February 2020, with an accounting surplus of \$23.96 million which is \$0.67 million more than then Q1 Adopted Forecast. The capital works program is \$73.5 million which is an increase of \$0.6 million from the Q1 Adopted Forecast.

Council's actual financial performance compared to the budget is presented to Council on a monthly basis.

The March 2020 Monthly Financial Report incorporates the following sections which are presented for Council's consideration:

- Operating Performance
- Capital Works Performance
- Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Cash Flow Statement
- Capital Works Statement

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.3 March 2020 Monthly Financial Report (continued)

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

The report is consistent with the leadership and governance goal “High Performing Organisation” as included in the *Council Plan 2017-2021*.

Risk Management

There are no risks identified in providing this financial report.

Policy Considerations

There are no conflicts with existing Council policies.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this proposal.

Legal/Statutory Implications

Section 137 of the *Local Government Act 1989* provides that Council maintain a budgeting and reporting framework that is consistent with the principles of sound financial management. In addition Section 138 requires that at least every 3 months a statement comparing the budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date is presented to the Council at a Council meeting which is open to the public. This report satisfies that requirement.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental or sustainability impacts associated with this report.

Social Implications

There are no social implications associated with this report.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic implications in providing this financial report.

Consultation

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Conclusion

The report presents Council’s actual financial performance compared to the budget for the nine months ended 31 March 2020.

Attachments

March 2020 - Monthly Financial Statements [↓](#) Page 318

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.4 2019/2020 Quarter 3 Forecast Review

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Manager Finance and Rates

Proof reader(s): Director Corporate Services

Approved by: Director Corporate Services

Executive Summary

The report presents the draft forecast financial performance for the 2019/2020 financial year compared to the Adopted Budget submitted by Responsible Managers.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt the revised forecasts identified by the 2019/2020 Quarter 3 Forecast Review.

Background

Under section 138 of the *Local Government Act 1989* the Chief Executive Officer at least every three months must ensure quarterly statements comparing the budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date are presented to the Council.

Council's actual financial performance compared to the budget is presented to Council on a monthly basis.

The 2019/2020 Budget was adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held 18 June 2019. The 2019/2020 Budget provided for an operating surplus of \$25.33 million with revenue of \$153.32 million and expenditure of \$127.99 million. The 2019/2020 Budget also provided for capital works of \$73.68 million.

The 2019/2020 Q1 Adopted Forecast was adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 October 2019. The 2019/2020 Q1 Adopted Forecast provided for an operating surplus of \$23.29 million, a reduction on the 2019/2020 Adopted Budget surplus of \$2.04 million, largely due to increases in non-recurrent materials and services expenditure. The 2019/2020 Q1 Adopted Forecast also provided for capital works of \$72.98 million, steady with the 2019/2020 Adopted Budget of \$73.68 million.

Council adopted the 2019/2020 Q2 Adopted Forecast on 18 February 2020, with an accounting surplus of \$23.96 million which is \$0.67 million more than the Q1 Adopted Forecast. The capital works program was \$73.5 million, an increase of \$0.6 million from the Q1 Adopted Forecast.

The 2019/2020 Q3 Forecast Review projects an accounting surplus of \$28.81 million which is \$4.85 million more than the Q2 Adopted Forecast, largely due to a \$3.73 million increase in Contributions – Non-Monetary (gifted assets). The capital works program

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.4 2019/2020 Quarter 3 Forecast Review (continued)

forecast is \$70.58 million, a decrease of \$2.95 million, mainly due to the proposed re-budgeting of capital works into the 2020/21 financial year.

The forecast review process involves Managers reviewing the adopted budget for their departmental areas compared to actual income and expenditure. Managers are to update forecasts to reflect the expected year end result. The Executive then undertake a detailed review to understand and confirm forecast variations. The review is then submitted to Council for consideration.

Please refer to the attached report for more details regarding the Quarter 3 Forecast Review.

Environmental Upgrade Agreements – Quarterly Statement

There were no new environmental upgrade agreements entered into this quarter.

There are currently six agreements in operation with charges totalling \$313,216.20, arrears \$19,143.20 and charges for the current year \$294,073.00. Total of payments which have fallen due this quarter are \$113,028.97, with \$109,944.29 being paid and charges not yet due total \$113,028.97. Interest has been charged on overdue amounts totalling \$1,497.30.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

This proposal is consistent with the strategic objective Leadership and Governance.

Risk Management

Monitoring of performance against the 2019/2020 adopted budget as well as the forecast year end position provides for prudent financial management and ensures that Council is made aware of any known or potential financial risks.

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Inability to achieve current budget due to income not reaching budgeted levels or costs exceeding budget exposing the Council to a cash deficit.	Likely	Moderate	Moderate	Review detailed monthly financial reports and take corrective action where forecast varies against budget.
Breaching the local Government Act by expending funds against line items without endorsed budget.	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Undertake quarterly budget reviews to formally consider and adjust for any known variances.

Policy Considerations

There are no identified conflicts with existing Council policies.

9. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

9.4 2019/2020 Quarter 3 Forecast Review (continued)

Financial Implications

Forecast variances to the 2019/2020 Adopted Budget are detailed throughout the attached report.

Legal/Statutory Implications

Section 138 of the Local Government Act 1989 requires that at least every three months the Chief Executive Officer must ensure a statement comparing the budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date are presented to the Council. A detailed financial report is presented to the Council each month.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental or sustainable impacts that will arise from this proposal.

Social Implications

There are no social impacts that will arise from this proposal.

Economic Impacts

There are no identified economic impacts.

Consultation

External consultation has not occurred regarding the contents of this report. Specific consultation, however, has and will take place on some specific items within the budget as and when appropriate.

Appropriate consultation has occurred with Council Officers and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Nil

b) Other strategic links

The report is consistent with the governance principle of Strategic Objective one of the Council Plan 2017-2021 "Leadership and Governance".

Conclusion

This report has been prepared and presented to identify and reflect known variances in the end of year financial forecast compared to budget.

Attachments

2019/2020 Quarter 3 Forecast Review [↓](#) Page 328

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Senior Strategic Planner

Proof reader(s): Team Leader Strategic Planning,

Acting Manager Building and Planning

Approved by: Acting Director Sustainable Development

Other: Graduate Strategic Planner Amendments, and Principal Strategic Planner

Executive Summary

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held in December 2017, Council resolved to adopt the *Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIC 2017* (the IIC Study) and to prepare a planning scheme amendment to implement it.

Council officers subsequently used the opportunity to review the heritage controls applied through the implementation of both previous heritage studies, the *Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II 2007* and the *Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIB 2013*, to ensure that all heritage controls were up-to-date and applied consistently across all places of similar cultural heritage significance.

To achieve this, all three heritage studies were consolidated to form the *Draft Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II 2019* (Draft Study). The Draft Study included updated information for places of local cultural heritage significance, made further recommendations in relation to appropriate heritage controls to conserve the significance of these places and provided the strategic justification for all changes proposed by Amendment C205 to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme (Planning Scheme).

Amendment C205 was exhibited for a total period of ten weeks from Thursday, 13 June 2019 to Monday, 26 August 2019, with a total of 43 submissions received during the exhibition period, plus a late submission received on the second day of the Panel Hearing (3 December 2019). Submissions sought corrections to the amendment documentation, the addition of further information or objected to the Amendment. The Amendment has been through exhibition, consideration of submissions and panel processes in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act).

The Panel Report (see Attachment 1 – *Panel Report*) recommends that Amendment C205 should be adopted subject to a number of post-exhibition changes that were discussed during the Panel Hearing. Council officers support all of the recommendations contained within the Panel Report with the exception of Recommendations 3(g), 5(j) and 5(l). These matters are discussed in greater detail in this Council Report.

The amendment documentation has been revised in accordance with the Panel's recommendations and to correct further anomalies not identified during the Panel Hearing.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

Council is now required to consider the recommendations of the Independent Planning Panel dated 4 February 2020 and must make a determination on Amendment C205 to the Planning Scheme.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council, having considered the report of the Planning Panel appointed for Amendment C205 to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme dated 29 January 2019, in accordance with Sections 27 and 29 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, Council in its capacity as the planning authority under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* in relation to Amendment C205, resolves to:

1. adopt all recommendations of the Independent Planning Panel Report for Amendment C205 except for Recommendations 3(g), 5(e), 5(h), 5(i), 5(j) and 5(l);
2. in relation to Recommendations 3(g), 5(e), 5(h), 5(i), 5(j) and 5(l) undertake the following:
 - adopt all of Recommendation 3(g) but in relation to HO362 (VRI Building at 2 Purcell Street, Shepparton) only apply Internal Alteration Controls to the Railway Station and not the adjacent VRI Building;
 - adopt Recommendation 5(e) in part but do not adopt the removal of reference to the demolished mud structure without the benefit of a site visit. Note that this work will be undertaken as part of further work that will also address Recommendation 7 and 8;
 - not adopt 5(h) or 5(i) and note that this work will be undertaken as part of further work that will also address Recommendation 7 and 8;
 - adopt all of Recommendation 5(j) to include additional detail about significant trees in the *Greater Shepparton Statements of Significance for Places in the Heritage Overlay Incorporated Plan* with the following exceptions for three places:
 - HO2 (former Scots Church at 100 Lenne Road, Ardmona) to no longer identify the pepper trees (*Schinus molle*) as they do not contribute to the significance of the place;
 - HO80 (Terminus Hotel at 121 High Street, Shepparton) to no longer identify the mature trees as they do not contribute to the significance of the place; and
 - HO362 (VRI Building at 2 Purcell Street, Shepparton) as only the Palm tree (*Phoenix canariensis*) contributes to the significance of the place.
 - adopt all of Recommendation 5(l), which recommends that the definition of 'lopping' a 'mature tree' be included in the *Statements of Significance Incorporated Document*, and instead include this definition in the *Greater Shepparton Heritage Incorporated Plan*.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

3. in relation to Recommendation 1(a), 5(e) and 6(b) regarding the amalgamation of multiple Heritage Overlays, Place Citation Reports and Statements of Significance, further apply this principle to two additional places known as 745 Dunbar Road, Merrigum and 5855 Midland Highway, Tatura to ensure consistency;
4. remove HO295 (35 Flynns Road, Moorilim) from the Heritage Overlay as the place is not of local cultural heritage significance;
5. adopt the Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II April 2020;
6. adopt Amendment C205 to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme with post-exhibition changes; and
7. submit Amendment C205 to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme to the Minister for Planning for approval in accordance with Section 31(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Background

The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) seeks to “conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value”.

A number of heritage studies have been undertaken by Council over the past two decades. Each heritage study has assessed and identified places of cultural heritage significance and recommended that the Heritage Overlay apply to these places to conserve their cultural heritage significance and guide any future development.

The *Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II 2007* (HSII) was implemented through Amendment C50 from 2004-2007 and the *Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIB* (HSIIB) 2013 was implemented through Amendment C110 from 2012-2013. Amongst other things, the latest heritage study, the *Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIC 2017* (HSIIC), was implemented through Amendment C205.

Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIC 2017

In July 2017, Council resolved to endorse and release the *Draft Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIC 2017* (Draft HSIIC) for a period of six weeks, commencing on 24 July 2017 and concluding 4 September 2017.

Heritage Concepts Pty Ltd (Heritage Concepts) prepared the Draft HSIIC, which initially identified 182 places of local heritage significance, including five new heritage precincts in Dookie and Murchison. All property owners were directly notified via letter to explain that their property had been identified in the Draft HSIIC and to outline why it was deemed to be of cultural heritage significance. All land owners were provided with an opportunity to meet with Council officers and Heritage Concepts either at Council offices or on-site.

57 submissions were received by Council, which provided a wealth of information to ensure the final HSIIC was accurate and robust. Based on the content of submissions received, Council officers and Heritage Concepts revised the Draft HSIIC in late 2017.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

The final HSIIC identified 180 places of local cultural heritage significance, and five new heritage precincts in Dookie and Murchison.

In December 2017, amongst other things, Council resolved to adopt HSIIC, and to prepare and exhibit a planning scheme amendment to include the findings and recommendations of HSIIC in the Planning Scheme.

Council officers began preparing Amendment C205 to implement HSIIC. Council officers used the opportunity to review the heritage controls applied through the implementation of both previous heritage studies, HSII and HSIIB, to ensure that all heritage controls were up-to-date and applied consistently across all places of similar cultural heritage significance.

To achieve this, all three heritage studies were consolidated to form the *Draft Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II 2019* (Draft Study).

Draft Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II 2019

The Draft Study consolidated all three heritage studies including the:

- *City of Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II 2007* (HSII) (prepared by Allom Lovell & Associates Pty Ltd);
- *Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIB 2013* (HSIIB) (prepared by Heritage Concepts); and
- *Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIC 2017* (HSIIC) (prepared by Heritage Concepts).

The Draft Study included updated information for places of local cultural heritage significance, made further recommendations in relation to appropriate heritage controls to conserve the significance of these places and provided the strategic justification for all changes proposed by Amendment C205 to the Planning Scheme.

The Draft Study included three additional place citation reports for:

- places of 'Individual' heritage significance in all heritage precincts; and
- 18 and 20 Thomson Street, Tatura and 36 Welsford Street, Shepparton.

Amendment C204

In March 2017, the Minister for Planning wrote to all councils outlining his support for the use of interim heritage controls in certain instances.

On 2 March 2018, a request was made to the Minister for Planning to prepare and approve a planning scheme amendment under Section 20(4) of the Act to apply interim heritage controls to all places identified in HSIIC.

On 20 November 2018, the Minister for Planning approved Amendment C204 to the Planning Scheme applying interim heritage controls to 178 of the 180 places identified in HSIIC. 215 Corio Street, Shepparton (previously identified as HO350) was demolished prior to the application of interim heritage controls and Bill's Water Trough in Merrigum (previously identified as HO292) is now located in a local museum and the application of the Heritage Overlay is not warranted for this reason. The expiry date for these interim controls was 2 May 2019.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

In accordance with Section 19(1)(b) and (c) of the Act, Council notified all land owners, occupiers of land and referral authorities of the approval and gazettal of Amendment C204. The letter also provided notice of the process being undertaken and an indicative timeframe for the exhibition of Amendment C205 to the Planning Scheme. Amendment C205 would seek to apply these controls on a permanent basis.

Amendment C216

In order to allow Council officers further time to prepare Amendment C205 to the Planning Scheme, Council requested that the Minister for Planning prepare a further planning scheme amendment to extend the expiry date of the interim heritage controls. Amendment C216 was subsequently prepared and approved extending the expiry date of the interim heritage controls to 1 May 2020.

Similarly to Amendment C204, all relevant parties were notified of Amendment C216 in accordance with Section 19(1)(b) and (c) of the Act and updated indicative timeframes for the exhibition of Amendment C205 were included in the letter.

Amendment C205 and Panel Process

Amendment C205 seeks to implement the Draft Study into the Planning Scheme. The Amendment proposes to amend the Municipal Strategic Statement, the Schedule to Clause 43.01 *Schedule to Clause 43.01 Heritage Overlay* and the Schedule to Clause 72.04 *Schedule to the Documents Incorporated in the Planning Scheme* of the Planning Scheme to implement the Draft Study.

Amendment C205 also proposes to revise the controls and mapping that apply to places where the Heritage Overlay already applies.

Exhibition

The Amendment was exhibited in accordance with Sections 17, 18 and 19 of the Act from Thursday, 13 June until Monday, 26 August 2019.

Councils are required to exhibit an amendment to the planning scheme for a minimum of one month. Given the amount of stakeholders affected by the Amendment, Council officers opted to exhibit the Amendment for ten weeks to allow appropriate time for submissions to be made.

All affected land owners and occupiers of land were notified of the Amendment via letter which provided information on whether their property was of 'Individual' Heritage Significance or of 'Contributory' or 'Non-Contributory' significance in a heritage precinct. In addition, relevant prescribed ministers and referral authorities were notified of the Amendment and invited to make a submission should they choose.

Property details

The Amendment applies to all land currently within and proposed to be included in the Heritage Overlay of the Planning Scheme within the City of Greater Shepparton. Specifically, the Amendment affects 1,089 properties in the City of Greater Shepparton as follows:

- 619 properties of 'individual' heritage significance (including places in 'group' listings);
- 327 properties of 'contributory' heritage significance in heritage precincts; and
- 138 properties of 'non-contributory' heritage significance in heritage precincts.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

A full list of properties affected by the Amendment is outlined in the Explanatory Report included in Attachment 4 – *Post-Exhibition Amendment Documentation*.

Submissions

A total of 43 submissions were received during the exhibition period, including a late submission received on 3 December 2019.

Three of the submissions (Submissions 1, 4 and 40) were received from referral authorities, which did not object to or request changes to the proposed Amendment.

40 submissions (Submissions 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42 and 43) were received that objected to and/or requested changes to the proposed Amendment.

The common issues identified in submissions are included in Figure 1 below.

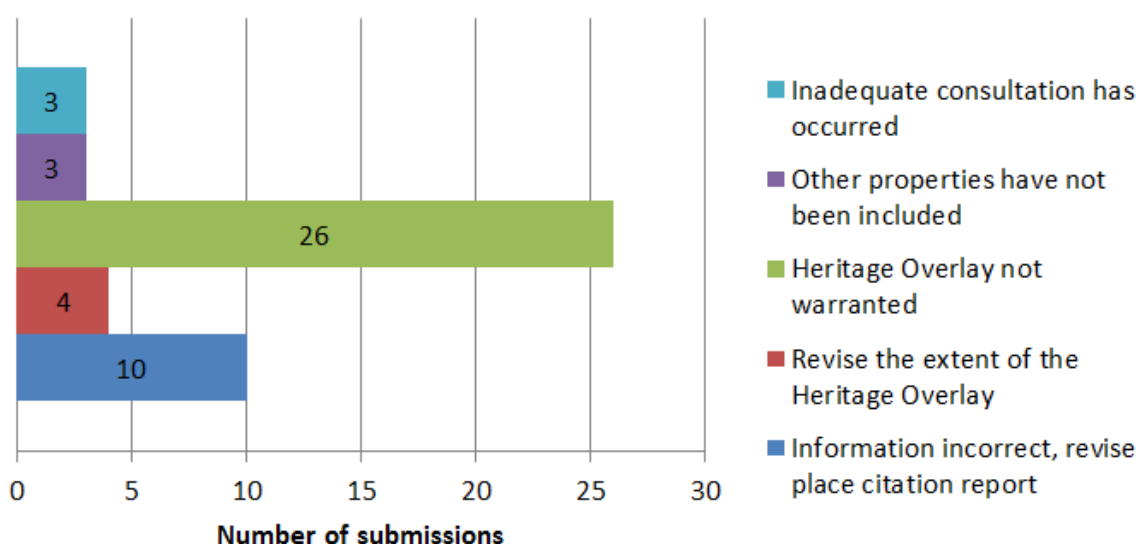


Figure 1 – Common Issues in Submissions.

26 submissions received stated that the Heritage Overlay is not warranted on their property. A breakdown of these responses is included in Figure 2 below.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)



Figure 2 – Justification in submissions for why the Heritage Overlay is not warranted.

A copy of the submissions received and Council officers' response to submissions is included in Attachment 2 – *Submissions Recorder*.

Council officers responded to all of the concerns raised in submissions as part of the Panel process. The Panel Report provides a summary of the key issues raised and Council officers' response to them. Please refer to Attachment 1 – *Panel Report*.

Independent Planning Panel Report

All submissions were referred to an Independent Planning Panel appointed by the Minister for Planning for consideration. The Independent Planning Panel Directions Hearing was on 18 October 2019, and Panel Hearing was held over 1.5 days on 2 and 3 December 2019 at LaTrobe University in Shepparton.

During the hearing, the Panel verbally requested that Council officers prepare a Part C Submission to summarise all proposed post-exhibition changes to the Amendment documentation. Council's Part C Submission was circulated to all parties on 16 December 2019.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

The Independent Planning Panel Report was received on 4 February 2019. The Panel Report considered all submissions and heard from a number of submitters at the Panel Hearing. The Panel's recommendations largely align with the post-exhibition changes proposed in Council's Part C Submission.

Panel's Recommendations

The Panel Report includes eight main recommendations. The first six recommendations outline post-exhibition changes to the Draft Study and amendment documentation, aligning with those proposed by Council officers at the Panel Hearing, and the final two recommendations suggest that further strategic work be undertaken on two items discussed during the Panel Hearing.

The eight main recommendations are:

1. No longer apply:
 - a. HO247 to 840 Kyabram-Cooma Road, Cooma.
 - b. HO260 to 75 Quarry Road, Dookie.
 - c. HO263 to 65 Doyles Road, Grahamvale.
 - d. HO218 to 201 Hogan Street, Shepparton.

2. Amend the curtilage of:
 - a. HO286 (Greenwood's House and Coolstore, 725 Byrneside-Kyabram Road, Merrigum) as identified in the Appendix 1 mapping changes in Council's Part C submission (Document 17).
 - b. HO321 (Ardmona Cannery, 16 Young Street & 6 Doonan Street, Mooroopna) as identified in the Appendix 1 mapping changes in Council's Part C submission (Document 17).
 - c. HO287 to remove the dwelling at 101 Morrissey Street, Merrigum as identified in the Appendix 1 mapping changes Council's Part C submission.
 - d. HO328 ('Waranga Park', 5 Murchison-Tatura Road, Murchison) to include the homestead and avenue of peppercorn trees and exclude the western paddock as identified in the Appendix 1 mapping changes in Council's Part C submission (Document 17).
 - e. HO368 (former Shepparton East Hall, 703 Midland Highway, Shepparton East) as identified in the Appendix 1 mapping changes in Council's Part C submission (Document 17).
 - f. HO404 (former Gribben log Building, 210 Zeerust School Road, Zeerust as identified in the Appendix 1 mapping changes in Council's Part C submission (Document 17).

3. Amend the Schedule to Clause 43.01 to:
 - a. Amend the description of HO142 to apply to the 'Homestead and log structures' at 840 Kyabram-Cooma Road, Cooma and insert 'Yes' under the 'Tree controls apply?' and 'Outbuildings or fences not exempt' columns and identify the log structures under the 'Internal alteration controls apply? Column.
 - b. Limit the extent of internal controls to the 1920s cork lined cool rooms along with all former external face brick walls and signage in the 'Internal alteration controls apply?' column for HO321 (Ardmona Cannery, 16 Young Street & 6 Doonan Street, Mooroopna) as identified in Appendix 2 of Council's Part C submission (Document 17).

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

- c. Insert 'No' under 'Internal alteration controls apply?' for HO342 (former Methodist Church, 325 Poplar Avenue, Orrvale).
 - d. Insert 'No' under the 'Outbuildings or fence not exempt' apply for HO186 (61 Maude Street, Shepparton).
 - e. Insert 'No' under 'Internal alteration controls apply?' for HO368 (former Shepparton East Hall, 703 Midland Highway, Shepparton East) as identified in Appendix 2 of Council's Part C submission (Document 17).
 - f. Insert '& toilet block' under 'Outbuildings or fences not exempt' for HO104 (former Zeerust Uniting Church and Hall at 400 Zeerust Road, Zeerust) as identified in Appendix 2 of Council's Part C submission (Document 17).
 - g. Amend the content of 'Internal alteration controls apply?' columns as identified in Appendix 2 of Council's Part C submission (Document 17).
4. Amend the *Kialla Village Settlement Incorporated Plan March 2019* to:
- a. Under '2. Purpose' delete the last paragraph relating to the Heritage Act 2017.
 - b. Delete Appendix 2 and associated Heritage Act 2017 Section references.
5. Amend the *Greater Shepparton Statements of Significance for Places in the Heritage Overlay April 2019* to:
- a. Include the historical place information for 150 Maneroo Road, Bunbartha as identified in Council's post-exhibition changes included in its Part A submission (Document 1) and Ms Kemp's evidence.
 - b. Delete the 75 Quarry Road, Dookie Statement of Significance.
 - c. Delete the 65 Doyles Road, Grahamvale Statement of Significance.
 - d. Delete the 201 Hogan Street, Shepparton Statement of Significance.
 - e. Consolidate the Statements of Significance for the Homestead and log structures at 840 Kyabram-Cooma Road, Cooma and remove reference to the demolished mud structure.
 - f. Note that the later additions to the coolstore at 725 Byrneside-Kyabram Road, Merrigum (Greenwood's House and Coolstore) are not significant.
 - g. Remove reference to the fence and correct the formatting under 'Why is it Significant?' for 61 Maude Street, Shepparton.
 - h. Include details on 'What is Significant?' and 'How is it Significant?' and identify the relevant Hercon Criterion for the former Uniting Church at 575 Toolamba-Rushworth Road, Toolamba West.
 - i. Include details on 'What is Significant?' and 'How is it Significant?' and identify the relevant Hercon Criterion and identify the significance of the toilet structure for the former Zeerust Uniting Church and Hall at 400 Zeerust Road, Zeerust.
 - j. Include additional detail about significant trees as identified in Appendix 1 of Council's Part C submission (Document 17).
 - k. Include detail about the application of internal controls as identified in Appendix 1 of Council's Part C submission (Document 17).
 - l. Include a definition of lopping as identified in Appendix 1 of Council's Part C submission (Document 17).
6. Amend the *Draft Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II, 2019* to:
- a. Amend the citation for 150 Maneroo Road, Bunbartha to include the historical place information identified in Council's post-exhibition changes included in its Part A submission (Document 1) and Ms Kemp's evidence.
 - b. Consolidate the citations for the Homestead and log structures at 840 Kyabram-Cooma Road, Cooma and remove reference to the demolished mud structure.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

- c. Amend the citation for 725 Byrneside-Kyabram Road, Merrigum (Greenwood's House and Coolstore) to note that the later additions to the coolstore are not significant.
- d. Amend the citation for 16 Young Street & 6 Doonan Street, Mooroopna (Ardmona Cannery) to reflect changes to the Heritage Overlay Curtilage and extent of internal significance as identified in Appendix 2 of Council's Part C submission (Document 17).
- e. Amend the citation for Waranga Park, 5 Murchison-Tatura Road, Murchison to identify the significance of mature trees as identified in Council's Part C submission (Document 17).
- f. Amend the citation for 61 Maude Street, Shepparton to remove reference to the fence.

The Panel recommended the following further strategic work be undertaken:

- 7. Council undertake further strategic work to review the Nixon Street Group (HO174) in line with the recommendation of the Panel for Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme Amendment C110.
- 8. Council undertake further strategic work to review the *Greater Shepparton Heritage Incorporated Plan 2019* to provide guidance in the form of a range of appropriate external paint colours.

Council officers will include this further work as part of the Building and Planning Department's strategic work program. Recommendations 5(e), 5(h) and 5(i) will be undertaken as part of this further work.

Further post-exhibition changes

Three departures from the Panel's recommendations and justification for them are listed in Table 1 below:

Table 1 - Justification for non-agreement with the Panel's recommendations

Panel Recommendation	Justification
3(g): Amend the content of 'Internal alteration controls apply?' columns as identified in Appendix 2 of Council's Part C submission (Document 17).	There was one minor omission in relation to HO362 (VRI Building at 2 Purcell Street, Shepparton). The exhibited Schedule to Clause 43.01 did not only apply Internal Alteration Controls to HO362 and, as such, it is not appropriate to seek to apply them as a post-exhibition change. Council's Part C Submission also erroneously identified the building as within HO91.
5(j): Include additional detail about significant trees as identified in Appendix 1 of Council's Part C submission (Document 17).	Tree Controls should be amended for the following places: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HO2 (former Scots Church at 100 Lenne Road, Ardmona) to no longer identify the pepper trees (<i>Schinus molle</i>) as they do not contribute to the significance of the place; 2. HO80 (Terminus Hotel at 121 High Street, Shepparton) to no longer identify the mature trees as they do not contribute to the significance of the place; and 3. HO362 (VRI Building at 2 Purcell Street, Shepparton) as only the Palm tree (<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>) contributes to the significance of the place.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

Table 1 - Justification for non-agreement with the Panel's recommendations (continued)

Panel Recommendation	Justification
5(l): Include a definition of lopping as identified in Appendix 1 of Council's Part C submission (Document 17).	This appears to be a minor error in the Panel Report. A definition for 'lopping' is required to be included in the <i>Greater Shepparton Heritage Incorporated Plan</i> and not in the <i>Greater Shepparton Statements of Significance for Places in the Heritage Overlay</i> .

Amalgamation of multiple Heritage Overlays where there is continuity of development
 Council's submissions to the Panel queried the appropriateness of applying two separate Heritage Overlays on one property where in instances there is a continuity of development.

The Panel Report considered this issue (specifically for the property at 840 Kyabram-Cooma Road, Cooma) and noted that a single Heritage Overlay should apply to the place where there is visible continuity of development. In light of this recommendation in the Panel Report, Council officers are proposing the following further changes:

Place	Proposed Post-Panel Revision
840 Kyabram-Cooma Road, Cooma (HO142, Log structures and HO247, Homestead Complex)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> remove HO247 from the property; revise the mapping for HO142 to include the curtilage currently reflected by HO247; and modify the place citation report for HO142 to include the information contained within the place citation report for the Homestead Complex (HO247).
745 Dunbar Road, Kyabram (HO145, Log structure and HO284, McLeod's Homestead)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> remove HO284 from the property; revise the mapping for HO145 to include the curtilage currently reflected by HO284; and modify the place citation report for HO145 to include the information contained within the place citation report for McLeod's Homestead (HO284).
5855 Midland Highway, Tatura (HO146, Moyola Park Homestead Log structure, HO383 Moyola Park Homestead and HO384, Moyola Park Homestead chock and log fence)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> remove HO383 and HO384 from the property; revise the mapping for HO383 and HO384 to include the curtilage currently reflected by HO146; and modify the place citation reports for HO146 to include the information contained within the place citation reports for the Moyola Park Homestead and the Moyola Park Homestead chock and log fence (HO383 and HO384).

As outlined during the Panel Hearing. HO295 (35 Flynns Road, Moorilim) is not deemed to meet the threshold for local cultural heritage significance and should be removed from the amendment as a post-exhibition change.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

Council is now required to consider the recommendations of the Panel Report and to make a decision on Amendment C205. If adopted, the Amendment will be sent to the Minister for Planning for approval.

Following approval, the Amendment would be published in the Victoria Government Gazette, at which point it will be included in the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme. All affected stakeholders including landowners and occupiers of land and referral agencies will be notified of this change by letter.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) seeks to “*conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value*”.

The *Greater Shepparton Council Plan 2017-2021* contains Objective 4.3 which seeks to ensure that Greater Shepparton’s heritage places, cultural landscapes, and objects are protected and conserved for future generations.

Amendment C205 is required to implement the recommendations of the Draft Study. The Draft Study consolidates a number of heritage studies previously prepared and adopted by Council to assess places of post-contact and shared cultural heritage significance within the City of Greater Shepparton.

Risk Management

The primary risk associated with the proposed Amendment is not meeting the timelines required by *Ministerial Direction No. 15 “The Planning Scheme Amendment Process”*. This Ministerial Direction requires each stage of the planning scheme amendment process to be undertaken within set timeframes.

In accordance with Ministerial Direction No. 15, under Section 29 of the Act, Council must make a decision to either adopt or abandon the proposed Amendment within 40 business days of receiving the Panel Report. It is recommended that Council make a decision on the proposed Amendment.

In accordance with Section 27 of the Act, Council is required to consider the Independent Planning Panel’s report before deciding whether or not to adopt the Amendment.

Policy Considerations

The Amendment is consistent with existing Council policy and is consistent with Council policy concerning places of heritage significance.

Financial Implications

All costs associated with the proposed Amendment have been met by Council, including the cost of the Panel. The costs of experts to represent Council for the Amendment were included in the Strategic Planning Team’s budget for 2019/2020.

A fee of \$481.30 must be paid to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning for approval of the Amendment.

Legal/Statutory Implications

All procedures associated with this proposed Amendment comply with the legislative

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

requirements of the Act. The Amendment has been assessed in accordance with the Act and the Planning Scheme. The assessment is considered to accord with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* (the Charter) – no human rights have been negatively impacted upon throughout the process.

The Charter recognises that reasonable restrictions may be placed on the use and development of land, and that there may on occasion be reasonable and acceptable offsite impacts on others. Provided these issues are properly considered, it would be a rare and exceptional case where the exercise of a planning decision in accordance with the regulatory framework is not Charter compatible.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The Amendment has no significant effects on the environment. The Amendment provides a mechanism for the protection of the richness and diversity of the built and natural environment of Greater Shepparton.

The Amendment will have positive environmental impacts by protecting places of heritage significance.

The Amendment applies the Heritage Overlay to several local parks and reserves throughout the municipality. The application of a Heritage Overlay to these places of natural heritage significance provides additional protection before any proposed buildings and works are undertaken.

The Strategies to Clause 12.05-1S also note that historic buildings and precincts should be protected from development that would otherwise diminish its value. The Amendment meets these strategies as the application of a Heritage Overlay will provide additional protection to prevent places of significance from being unsympathetically altered or demolished.

Social Implications

Section 12(2)(c) of the Act requires Planning Authorities, when preparing an amendment to consider the social and economic impacts of the Amendment.

The Amendment will have positive social effects through the conservation of places of heritage significance for the benefit of current and future generations.

The Amendment has identified and seeks to protect places of local cultural heritage significance across Greater Shepparton, that contribute to an understanding of the social, architectural and economic development of the municipality. The Amendment supports the wider community's expectation that places of significance in Greater Shepparton are protected.

Council officers submit that it is difficult to gauge the economic and social impact (either positive or negative) on one specific site affected by the Heritage Overlay.

Economic Impacts

A number of submissions raised concerns that the application of a Heritage Overlay would result in property devaluation and that it restricts saleability. Property values are usually not relevant to the identification and assessment of a place under the Heritage Overlay.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

The decision as to whether an overlay (which regulates particular characteristics of land) should apply to land is not a decision taken that has regard to impacts on property valuation.

The Panel Report states on pages 15 and 16 that:

The Panel acknowledges that the Amendment may have some economic impact on land owners, however this is a private economic impact rather than a broader community impact. The Panel does not consider that these private impacts outweigh the broader community benefit of the Amendment.

The Panel notes that private economic considerations can be further examined in more detail at the permit stage.

The Panel considers that any potential impacts will be relatively short-term impacts with the broader community benefit of retaining a precinct of cultural heritage significance having a more enduring impact. The Amendment delivers an outcome that is consistent with the objectives of the Act and Planning Policy Framework which aim to conserve heritage places within the municipality.

The issue of property devaluation and insurance premiums has been raised in numerous panel hearings in Victoria. The Panel Report for Amendment 118 to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme stated:

The Panel was not provided with information which showed a direct correlation between applying the Heritage Overlay and property value or insurance premiums. There are different variables which determine property value and it is often difficult to identify which individual variable is the contributing factor. The Panel considers that the net community benefit of applying the Heritage Overlay is likely to outweigh any financial impact on the individual property owners.

The Amendment is expected to result in a net community benefit.

Consultation

The Act provides requirements for how amendments to a planning scheme should be undertaken. Rather than undertaking the standard four weeks required by the Act, Council resolved to exhibit the Amendment for ten weeks to ensure that adequate consultation would occur. The Amendment was exhibited from Thursday, 13 June 2019 to Monday, 26 August 2019.

Council provided public notice by sending letters to affected land owners, occupiers of land, referral authorities and prescribed ministers, and public notices on Council's and DELWP's websites, Shepparton News, and the Victorian Government Gazette.

Council officers conducted over 50 one-to-one consultation sessions with land owners affected by the Amendment and fielded over 50 telephone conversations to discuss any queries and concerns regarding the Amendment.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

Council received 40 submissions that objected and/or requests changes to the Amendment. All submissions were referred an Independent Planning Panel for consideration.

Council officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy 2006

The Amendment is in accordance with the following objectives and strategies in the *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy 2006*, specifically:

- Cultural Heritage – pre settlement: *Objective 1- To conserve and protect identified sites of cultural heritage significance;*
- Cultural Heritage – pre settlement: *Strategy 1.1 - Promote the protection of places of heritage significance as these contribute to the character of the municipality;*
- Cultural Heritage – post settlement: *Objective 1 - To identify, protect and enhance sites and areas of recognised historic significance;*
- Cultural Heritage – post settlement: *Strategy 1.1 - Promote the protection of heritage buildings and sites so that heritage significance is not diminished or irreversibly damaged through proposed use or development; and*
- Cultural Heritage – post settlement: *Strategy 1.2 - Encourage the retention, adaptation and appropriate renovation of significant historic buildings and works, gardens and other areas as a viable alternative to demolition.*

b) Other strategic links

Greater Shepparton City Council: Council Plan 2017-2021

Built

- Objective 4.3 – *Greater Shepparton’s heritage places, cultural landscapes, and objects are protected and conserved for future generations.*

Planning and Environment Act 1987

Section 4(1)(a) of the Act seeks to “*conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value*”.

Councils in Victoria are obliged to conserve places of cultural heritage significance.

Conclusion

Amendment C205 to the Planning Scheme consolidates the recommendations of the previous heritage studies into one document: the *Draft Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II 2019* (Draft Study). The Amendment seeks to apply permanent heritage controls to all of the 178 places identified in the Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIC 2017, and to apply a Heritage Overlay on three additional places at 36 Welsford Street, Shepparton, and 18 and 20 Thompson Street, Tatura, and additional properties erroneously excluded from the Kialla Village Settlement (HO276).

The Amendment also revises heritage controls and mapping that apply to all places previously included in the Heritage Overlay and makes subsequent changes to the Schedule to Clause 43.01 *Heritage Overlay* of the Planning Scheme.

The Amendment affects approximately 1,089 properties in Greater Shepparton. Amendment C205 was exhibited from Thursday, 13 June 2019 to 26 August 2019 with a

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.1 Adoption of Amendment C205 – Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II (continued)

total of 43 submissions received, 40 of which objected to and/or requested changes to the proposed Amendment.

The Amendment and submissions received were referred to an Independent Planning Panel, which recommended that the Amendment be adopted subject to post-exhibition changes.

The Panel Report considered that the Draft Study is '*robust and has been prepared in a matter consistent with Planning Practice Note 1: Applying the Heritage Overlay using an appropriate methodology and level of analysis for an assessment of this scale. The Panel congratulates Council in undertaking such a comprehensive and wide scale assessment of its heritage assets.*'

Council is now required to consider the recommendations of the Panel Report and to make a decision on Amendment C205.

Council officers are of the view that Amendment C205 should be adopted with the changes recommended in the Panel Report (refer to Attachment 4 – *Post-Exhibition Amendment Documentation*).

Attachments

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| 1. Panel Report | ↓ | Page 349 |
| 2. Submissions Recorder | ↓ | Page 461 |
| 3. Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage II 2020 | ↓ | Page 463 |
| 4. Post-exhibition Amendment Documentation | ↓ | Page 464 |

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.2 Tatura - RV Friendly Township Proposal

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Tourism Projects Officer

Proof reader(s): Manager Economic Development

Approved by: Director – Sustainable Development

Executive Summary

The Recreational Vehicle (RV) market (caravan, campervan, motor home) has, and continues to have sizeable growth throughout the country. With this growth, local governments and communities are experiencing both positive and negative impacts as a result.

Council officers have received a request from some Tatura community members for Tatura to become RV friendly and provide free camping in a Council owned car park for the RV market.

The suggested site location is in the car park in Douglas Street, Tatura. Douglas Street and the subsequent car park runs parallel to Hogan Street and currently provides free all day parking to residents and workers of Tatura.

There is a need for a clear and consistent policy moving forward for our Local Government area in relation to providing and catering for the needs of the RV market, whilst also giving guidance to effectively manage arising issues.

Following consultation with nearby Tatura businesses and residents, Tatura Community group, Tatura caravan park operators and other relevant stakeholders it is recommended that a resolution be granted for a temporary twelve month trial RV proposal for fully self-contained RV's only. This trial will help provide data and relevant information to inform future direction for Council in the RV marketplace.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. Allocate space in the Douglas Street car park Tatura for a trial period of twelve months for up to three fully self-contained RV's only to camp for up to 48 hours only.
2. Note that in assessing the success of the trial, measures will be taken including the monitoring of the site via CCTV, increased patronage and expenditure in the township via a "photograph your receipt and send in" program and an increased profile of Tatura in the RV marketplace.
3. Approve associated expenses of providing the facilities and policing the site.
4. Note that due to the current restrictions imposed by COVID-19, Council officers will determine the most appropriate time for the trial to commence.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.2 Tatura - RV Friendly Township Proposal (continued)

Background

There is considerable debate regarding how significant the economic benefits associated with the RV market and they are difficult to quantify. There are groups that represent the RV Market and those who represent commercial caravan parks and businesses, with both noting arguments for and against the provision of a site for this market.

The Caravan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) actively lobby state and local Governments for the development and provision of RV camping parks and facilities including waste and water points. It is poignant to note that the CMCA does not imply that free facilities are required for your township to become an RV Friendly destination, the provision of low cost is sufficient. However, to be considered RV Friendly, access to a potable water supply, public toilets, black water dump point along with a safe area to park are considered essential and within 5km from your central business district.

The Victorian Caravan Parks Association opposes providing free camping / dump points and free water. As the peak body representing caravan parks throughout the state, they do not support these facilities being provided for free, but do encourage towns to be very welcoming to RV's with an alternative program, Community Welcomes RV's.

There are numerous reports both for and against the provision of free camping for RV's, but suffice to say, to provide the requirements for the RV's in a safe environment, requires subsidising by Council. In response to the ongoing requests for provisions, Council recently installed a dump point at the Shepparton Showgrounds for use by the RV Market at a cost of \$65,000. Seemingly well utilised by the market including local RVer's, both the Shepparton and Tatura dump points (which was previously existing) need maintenance at least fortnightly due to misuse and blocking of the unit, all at a cost to Council.

Tatura Community Group proposal

Local Tatura residents have approached the Economic Development Department to discuss the option of providing free camping up to 72 hours in the precinct of the Douglas Street car park to entice the RV market into Tatura. These residents are focussed solely on the Douglas Street location. All costs associated with providing these free facilities including lighting, rubbish collection, legalities and policing of the site would need to be absorbed by Council. The proposed location is considered by Council officers to lack a visitor experience, however the RV market focus mainly on location and cost. The proposed location is also the preferred location by those locals and businesses as the favoured option due to its close proximity to the main street. See attachment 5 noting Douglas Street site and outline of prospective positioning for RV parking.

Hill Top Golf Club option

An option was provided by the Hill Top Golf Club, located only 1.7km from the central shopping area, to allocate a space for the RV market, in conjunction with their current caravan park facilities. However whilst the residents were happy with the golf club to proceed, they were not sufficiently satisfied that this option was the best for the township and still preferred the close proximity of Douglas Street to the businesses in town.

Following further investigation by the Hill Top Golf Club, the club decided to cease proceeding with the RV option due to the cost of infrastructure installation to meet legislation and council requirements.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.2 Tatura - RV Friendly Township Proposal (continued)

As an alternative to the Douglas Street site, Hill Top Golf Club are willing and keen to trial a site on their premises, under the provision they do not have to upgrade facilities to meet Council and legislative requirements in relation to fire-fighting equipment. The Douglas Street site does not, and will not have such infrastructure for the trial, as this site will not have a charge, there is no requirement to meet the caravan park legislation. The suggestion the site can be run as a low cost option (e.g. \$10 per site per night) to offset costs was considered, however the caravan park legislation and private camping regulations would not permit this to proceed.

Further infrastructure in Tatura includes two other caravan parks with powered and non-powered sites available; however there are limitations to the number of sites that can accommodate large fifth wheelers and RV's such as buses.

Local Laws and Camping in Greater Shepparton

Currently free camping is prohibited in Greater Shepparton via Local Law 2.12 unless with a temporary camping permit. You can however currently camp free of charge in the Shepparton Regional Park which is part of Parks Victoria's jurisdiction however this may change in the future.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

The Greater Shepparton 2030 strategy produced in 2006 by Coombs Consulting makes reference to encourage tourism growth with strategy 1.1 stating support new tourist based enterprises to achieve an increase in bed stays and visits to the municipality, though no reference to the RV Market.

Risk Management

The below table specifies potential risks to Council. A major concern is there is only one entry and exit to Douglas Street via road. If a major incident was to occur the potential to evacuate the site via road is limited. The risk to council's reputation in the RV market space would improve with the provision of low cost or free camping space in the region, however, thought must also be to the visitor experience, of which there are limitations to the Douglas Street site. Nevertheless, the expectation of the RV market does not seem to be high.

The proposal also reveals that we as a Council enforce businesses such as caravan parks to meet legislation requirements and then not meet these ourselves by providing a free camping area.

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Trip hazard	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Regular review of the site and make appropriate repairs where necessary. Increase lighting to site. Or – refuse permission to utilise site for free camping

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.2 Tatura - RV Friendly Township Proposal (continued)

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Dumping of rubbish / grey water	Likely	Moderate	Medium	Install signage noting penalties for dumping of rubbish and grey / black water. Install rubbish bins for waste.
Evacuation of the site if an incident was to occur (such as a fire)	Rare	Major	Medium	Upgrade site access. Or – refuse permission to utilise site for free camping
Limb falling onto vehicle or person	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	Inspect trees by registered arborist
Potential loss of private investment into current caravan park infrastructure and employment if free camping is provided	Likely	Moderate	Medium	Continue to provide support and consultation to those businesses looking to expand or attract new investors. Limit the number of free sites available.
Potential to have backpackers and seasonal workers utilise the space who are not fully self-contained.	Likely	Moderate	Medium	Site would need to be policed regularly CCTV is proposed, ensure site is utilised as proposed with 2-3 sites only. Provision to clean up would be required (access to water, bins)
Fires from any prospective campfires lit	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	Site would need to be policed regularly, CCTV is proposed.
Positive reputation in the RV marketplace if the site (or alternative location) proceeds	Likely	Negligible	Low	Allow for promotion of the area to the RV market
Flood. The proposed site area is a flood zone	Rare	Negligible	Low	Evacuation management plan in place.

Policy Considerations

There are no policy considerations associated with this report.

Financial Implications

At this time the car park has undergone resurfacing improvements with line marking planned to be completed in the coming weeks, however there is no current budget for a

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.2 Tatura - RV Friendly Township Proposal (continued)

lighting upgrade. The Neighbourhoods department has previously applied for grants to improve the lighting of the area (requested \$130,000) however were unsuccessful in their bid. They are again applying for funding for the upgrade.

Local laws have advised that in order to police the site on a daily basis via visitation – Monday to Friday only, is \$99,320.00 annually. This does not include weekend visits, nor any administration of any offence violations. Due to the large costing involved, the option of providing CCTV for policing of the site is available via temporary solar powered cameras. Cost for the hire for 365 days (duration of the trial) is \$3,488 plus GST for one camera, with an option for a second for an extra \$2,978.40. CCTV is the favoured option moving forward with 89% of respondents surveyed in our consultation happy to have the site monitored under CCTV.

It would also be suggested that if the proposal was to proceed, bins and garbage collection would be recommended, promotional signage and marketing - these costings can be absorbed into departmental operational budgets.

Budget:

Item:	Cost: (ex GST)
CCTV camera	\$3488.00
Garbage Collection	\$1700.00
Signage	\$2500.00
Marketing	\$1500.00
Total	\$9188.00

Legal/Statutory Implications

Greater Shepparton City Council, as per State Legislation, ensures that commercial caravan parks comply with regulations relating to safety, fire, amenity, environment and registration standards. By providing free camping facilities that do not adhere to any of the above requirements, we open ourselves up to litigation if something was to occur. Camping without a permit also contravenes local law number 2.12 in Greater Shepparton.

The law states:

2.12 Camping

- (a) A person must not, without a permit, camp on any Council land, on a public place, or on any privately owned land within the municipality except within a designated camping area.
- (b) A person who camps or who occupies a campsite on Council land or in a public place must at all times maintain the campsite in a clean and tidy condition.

If the decision was to proceed with a trial, a resolution is required from Council allocating space for up to three sites for short term camping for fully self-contained RV's in the Douglas Street car park. If the trial proved successful, Council would need to make a resolution for the RV site to continue on a permanent basis in Douglas Street or revisit local law number 2.12 which broadens the adjustment to the law for the whole municipality, thus allowing camping in all areas.

The use of CCTV to monitor the site needs to be considered and adequate signage will be installed on the site to ensure patrons are aware of the site being monitored. Consideration must be given to the Guidelines to surveillance and privacy in the Victorian public sector, taking into account the intended and unintended purposes for what the

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.2 Tatura - RV Friendly Township Proposal (continued)

system is used for. Whilst during the trial period, temporary CCTV infrastructure which is hired will be in place and if the trial is successful, consideration will be given to the implementation and installation of a permanent fixture.

Competitive Neutrality Principles can also come into the mix in providing free camping locations. Designed to prevent unfair competition between all three levels of government and privately owned businesses by ensuring that all government bodies involved in the delivery of services within the same competitive market happens on fair and equal terms with private operators. See attachment Geelong Otway Tourism RV Report and Considerations for some independent research on the topic.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The possibility of environmental impacts on the area is very likely. Whilst RV's have the capacity to hold their grey and black water, there is a high possibility that they will release their grey water into the gutter and/or on the grassed area close by. This contravenes Council's local laws 4.7(b) to discharge water onto a road or Council land.

The law states:

4.7 Discharge of Water Prohibited

A person must not, without a permit or contrary to the conditions of the permit cause or allow:

- (a) The direct or indirect flow of any irrigation water onto a road or Council land;
- (b) The discharge of water onto a road or Council land, with the exception of stormwater which drains into a legal discharge point provided by Council; and/or
- (c) The discharge of water onto any land, including any land owned or occupied by that person, which enables such water to discharge onto a road or Council land.

There is also the prospect of those who utilise the area not being entirely self-sufficient. Due to the nature of the region being a fruit growing region, the possibility of those who are in the area for work may utilise the site. Backpackers and "bongo vans" (those who are not fully self-sufficient) may use the site and dispose of their waste in the area and as experienced at sites such as KidsTown, defecate and dispose of their rubbish in the direct vicinity.

Social Implications

The proposed location is at the rear of the Hogan Street shops with one house within 30 metres of the site. There is a chance that those utilising the site may be noisy, light a campfire, leave rubbish, dispose of grey or black water on the curb side or a possibility of more than the proposed two to three vans on the site impacting on car park availability.

A high number of RV travellers also travel with pets. The potential for increased noise due to the animals and their waste is also a possibility.

Alternatively, with the potential increase in visitation there would be increased traffic and a presence in what is currently a dark and quiet car park. Increased foot traffic and expenditure in the Tatura township and the profile of the township will potentially be seen as favourable in the RV market space.

Economic Impacts

The provision of this site for the RV market has the potential to attract further visitation into Tatura thus providing economic stimulus to local Tatura businesses. Whilst the RV market are traditionally not big spenders, the increase in traffic and the RV friendly profile of the township is beneficial.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.2 Tatura - RV Friendly Township Proposal (continued)

The proposal is to provide for two to three sites only, therefore the cost remains high if Council polices the site physically via local laws, rubbish removal, with the return on investment minimal. However with the proposed budget, costs are kept at a minimum and the return on investment beneficial whilst the increase in RV market profile advantageous. Council must also consider the level of risk in relation to the demographic of the RV market and potential litigation for tripping, falling limbs and reputation.

Consultation

Current consultation has been with members of the Tatura business community and nearby residents, Tatura Community Group, members of the Hill Top Golf Club and the Neighbourhoods team at Greater Shepparton City Council.

Officers have met with the three caravan park operators in Tatura to gauge what they can individually provide for the RV market along with extensive discussion on their thoughts on Tatura providing free camping in direct competition with their businesses. Comments from the individual operators included the following questions:

1. Do you see your business being impacted upon if this proposal was to go ahead (be it a trial period or longer term)?
2. Is the RV market a market you have considered providing for? If not, would you consider this market moving forward (e.g. Unpowered low cost site)?
3. Would you like to see Tatura become a classified RV friendly township as per the Caravan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) requirements?

Response from Tatura Caravan Park: Kaan and Linda

Park provisions include:

Seven Jayco cabins, five GSCC owned cabins and eight further cabins

Powered sites: four (\$25.00 per night or \$160 per week)

Unpowered sites: five (\$20.00 per night)

Responses to questions:

1. If the proposal was to go ahead with Council providing power and water at the site, the proposal will most definitely impact their business. As the proposal only is for two to three sites they didn't think it wouldn't impact them, however they have only been in the park for a few months and do not have a pattern of history to draw upon.
2. The RV market has not been considered previously as they have not had requests for non-powered sites for rigs that are self-sufficient. When those who are self-sufficient have stayed and have opted for the cheaper non-powered sites, they have found that they plug into power without permission. They are happy to consider providing for the market at a lesser cost, but need to be vigilant to those who choose this option and then plug in and use the facilities without permission or paying for it.
3. Happy to work towards Tatura being RV friendly in the future.

Responses from Hilltop Golf Club and Caravan Park: Paul Newman

Park provisions include:

No cabins available, fifteen powered sites (\$25.00 per night)

1. If the proposal was to proceed Paul noted that there would be only a marginal impact as the majority of their visitors are after the serene environment, golf course and a visitor experience.
2. The golf course has considered providing for the RV market and was keen to proceed, however there were Council and Fire requirements to meet to provide for this market (up to ten vans per night was considered). Upon costing out the

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.2 Tatura - RV Friendly Township Proposal (continued)

upgrades required to proceed, it was deemed to be unviable to them at this time and not a priority of the club.

3. Hill Top are keen to see Tatura become RV friendly and are also keen to have any potential RV trial on site, not Douglas Street, without meeting fire and council requirements (as per the Douglas Street site having no fire infrastructure).

Responses from Country Gardens Caravan Park: Luke

Park provisions include:

Cabins with mainly permanent residents

Powered sites: 6

Responses to questions:

1. If the proposal was to proceed with only 2-3 sites available they do not consider this to impact their business, however if there was approximately 10 sites, this would impact them.
2. The park only has powered sites available at \$25 per night so does not have the facilities to cater to lower than this cost.
3. They are interested to see increased visitation but it was dependent on numbers of potential visitors and the size of rigs – they do not have the capacity to grow to include large RV numbers and rigs.

Responses from Tatura businesses and directly impacted residents

Officers have also undertaken extensive consultation with the nearby business owners and residents that are situated in close proximity to the site and would be impacted the most. A survey was undertaken via Survey Monkey along with face to face visits by both local Tatura Community Plan Committee members as well as Council officers and the response was an outstandingly positive one to the proposal. 100% of those surveyed were in favour of the proposal along with the proposed location. In addition 58% preferred the option of a 48 hour stay for RVer's and 89% noted they had no objection to the area being under CCTV. Permission to utilise CCTV requires Council to install signage stating the area is under constant CCTV for the purpose of data collection. See attachment 4 noting the businesses that were consulted via a letter box drop of the survey, along with visits from both Council officers and Tatura Community Plan committee members.

Response from Council's Local Laws

In addition, Council's Local Laws team have stated they can help in provision of policing the site in the unlikelyhood of those utilising the space are not abiding by the regulations and requirements of the site.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

The Greater Shepparton 2030 strategy produced in 2006 by Coomes Consulting makes reference to encourage tourism growth with strategy 1.1 stating support new tourist based enterprises to achieve an increase in bed stays and visits to the municipality, though there is no reference to the RV Market.

Our current Municipal Strategic Statement states: In the current MSS, tourism is identified as an expanding industry with a major retail component, although from a small visitor base. Tourism is identified as having the potential to be a significant employer in smaller settlements.

b) Greater Shepparton Economic Development, Tourism and Major Event Strategy.

Adopted in 2017, outlines in Strategy 44 to continue to promote Greater Shepparton to the RV and touring market.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.2 Tatura - RV Friendly Township Proposal (continued)

Including:

Action 44.1 – Promote caravan parks in Greater Shepparton as key stopover locations for the traveling RV market.

Action 44.3 – Promote and develop Greater Shepparton’s small towns as RV friendly towns leveraging from east west travel (Adelaide to Sydney).

Action 44.4 – Investigate further developing RV friendly facilities across Greater Shepparton.

c) Other strategic links

There is no reference to the RV Market in the current Victorian Visitor economy strategy.

Conclusion

The RV market continues to grow and there is an increase in RV rest areas throughout Australia, some that provide toilet and shower provisions and others that are just an empty clearing with no facilities at all. Whilst RVer’s will utilise caravan parks at times, there is a growing number looking at the free options. There are also increasing options to stay on private property, with the Victorian Government announcing a review of laws around share economy camping, as part of the regulation of caravan parks and moveable dwellings. See attachment on Shepparton News Tourism law review pitch.

The proposal for Tatura and the subsequent decisions made moving forward sets the scene in providing RV friendly status in Greater Shepparton. We have received enquiries from Merrigum to provide free camping and from Murchison for the installation of a dump point. There has also been discussion to include Mooroopna as a site for free RV camping site.

Whilst there are numerous reports from RVer’s of the benefits they bring, their largest expenditure is on fuel and basic provisions. The largest benefit is also to those towns which are small in size and are traditionally on a major road to “somewhere” such as outback NSW and QLD where there is a traditionally long stretches of road with minimal townships and provisions available. However, the RV market is a growing market and we cannot dismiss the possibilities and potential for Greater Shepparton and a twelve month trial to assess the benefits for the township of Tatura and Greater Shepparton will be beneficial to determine future direction.

Attachments

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Map and Image of Proposed Tatura RV Location ↓ | Page 711 |
| 2. Geelong Otway Tourism RV Report and Considerations ↓ | Page 714 |
| 3. Shepparton News Article - Proposed Legislation Changes for Share Camping ↓ | Page 733 |
| 4. Tatura RV Proposal Consultation Map ↓ | Page 734 |
| 5. Tatura RV Proposal Site Map ↓ | Page 736 |

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.3 Zurcas Lane Basin Extension

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Statutory Planner

**Proof reader(s): Team Leader Statutory Planning,
Manager of Planning and Building**

Approved by: Director Sustainable Development

Executive Summary

The Zurcas Lane retention basin (the basin) provides a drainage outfall for a mix of commercial, industrial and residential properties over an area 37ha of land along and near Benalla Road, Shepparton.

Officers have identified that the basin provides storage for a 1 in 2 year storm event, whereas current standards require storage for a 1 in 100 year storm event.

Spiire undertook a drainage investigation of the basin in November 2017 and recommended that Council purchase land abutting the basin to allow extension of the basin to provide additional storage.

Since the completion of the Spiire report in November 2017 officers have unsuccessfully attempted to purchase land from the Shepparton East Bowls Club. Subsequently, the owner of 286 Doyles Road, Shepparton (the land) approached officers about a sale of land to extend the basin.

Officers propose to purchase 5600sqm of the land to allow extension of the basin. Council's valuers, Opteon have undertaken an assessment of the land's value and conclude that the land has a value of \$335,000 plus GST.

The area of land for purchase is shown on the plan below.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.3 Zurcas Lane Basin Extension (continued)



Officers have completed all necessary background work to allow this land purchase to be finalised in the current financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. Authorise the purchase of part of the land at 286 Doyles Road, Shepparton from the landowner to allow the upsizing of the Zurcas Lane basin for an amount of \$358,389 (inc GST).
2. Authorise the carrying out of necessary actions to effect this purchase in the 2019/20 financial year.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to sign and seal all documents associated with, or necessary to effect, the land purchase.

Background

In September 2000, CMM Fisher Stewart prepared an engineer's report on behalf of Council for a retardation basin and drainage reticulation for Doyles / Benalla Road (now known as Zurcas Lane basin). At the time of this report there was little or no formalised underground stormwater system for the area.

Zurcas Lane basin which has a current capacity of 18,250 cubic metres.

Officers commissioned Spiire to undertake a drainage investigation of the basin. This report was provided to officers in November 2017.

The below plan shows the catchment plan for the basin.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.3 Zurcas Lane Basin Extension (continued)



Spiire reached the following conclusions:

The previous G-MW standards require retardation basins to provide storage for a 1 in 100 year storm event for a 2 hour duration. The current G-MW standards for retardation basins now require basins to be design to provide storage volume for a 1 in 100 year 24 hour duration storm event.

As such, a review has been undertaken on the basin, where a feature survey was carried out by Spiire to enable the current storage volume to be determined. The review of information determined the retardation basin does not provide adequate storage requirements to meet the current G-MW standards for retardation basins.

A comparison of the required storage volume to the existing storage volume in the basin, uncovered the basin is only providing service for a 1 in 2.2 year storm event.

To achieve a 100 year storm event the required volume is 37,811 cubic metres therefore a basin extension of 19,561 cubic metres is required.

Shepparton East Bowls Club (the Club)

Officers in early 2019 held discussions with the Club in regards to purchase of 5070sqm of land from the Club to allow extension of the basin. Both officers and the Club obtained valuations for the land.

Following this valuation process negotiations were not continued as officers were not prepared to offer a purchase price more than Council's valuation.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

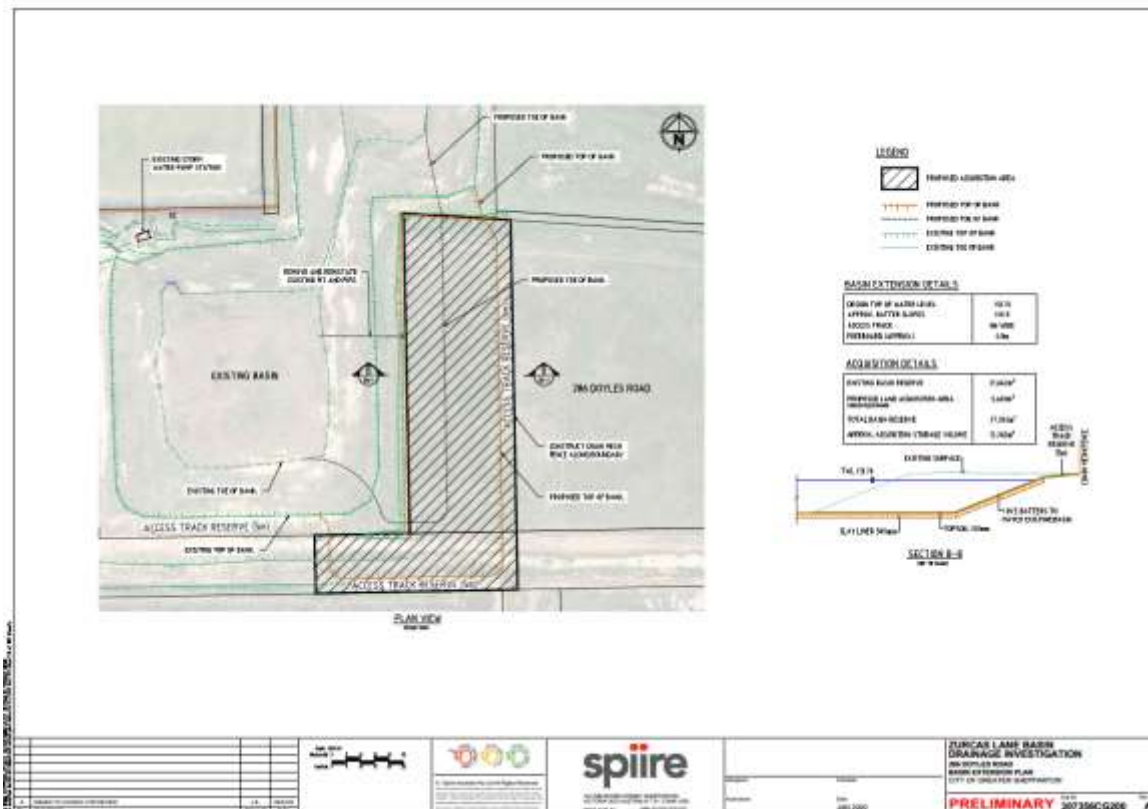
10.3 Zurcas Lane Basin Extension (continued)

286 Doyles Road, Shepparton

Officers in late 2019 were approached by the owner of the land who enquired if Council would purchase part of the land for the basin. Following this approach, officers engaged a valuer to determine the proposed purchase price of \$335,000.

The purchase of the land allows the basin to be extended by 12,263 cubic metres bringing the total volume to 30,513 cubic metres or about a 1 in 20 year storm event.

A plan of the proposed basin extension is shown below.



Council Plan 2017-2021 /Key Strategic Activity

Officers consider that the proposed land purchase implements the Council Plan particularly the following objective.

Quality infrastructure is provided and maintained to acceptable standards.

The purchase of the land is the next step in Council delivering a properly sized drainage basin to cater for its catchment that contains substantial employers such as Dowell Windows.

Risk Management

Officers consider that the main potential risk is acquiring the land at a value not in accordance with a formal valuation. Officers have managed this risk by engaging a valuer and offering a conditional purchase price which is consistent with the valuation.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.3 Zurcas Lane Basin Extension (continued)

Policy Considerations

Officers consider policy support exists at Clause 21.07-3 of the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme for the development of drainage infrastructure including:

Objectives - Urban stormwater management

- To maintain and enhance stormwater quality throughout the municipality.
- To ensure that new development complies with the Infrastructure Design Manual.

Financial Implications

Officers seek permission for a budget allocation in the 2019/20 financial year for the purchase of land from 286 Doyles Road, Shepparton for the amount of \$358,389 plus GST.

A purchase of the land by agreement is a more efficient process than Council having to acquire the land under a Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO) through the following savings:

- Remove need and associated costs of undertaking a planning scheme amendment to implement a PAO
- Allows land to be purchased without penalties type payments under the *Land Acquisition and Compensation Act, 1986* such as interest

Legal/Statutory Implications

Officers have a fee proposal from Holding Redlich Solicitors who will be engaged to ensure the land purchase is undertaken in accordance with the *Local Government Act, 1989*.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The proposed land purchase has no environmental or sustainability impacts. It is considered that the land purchase will ultimately facilitate improved environmental outcomes as the basin in time will incorporate water sensitive urban design.

Social Implications

Officers consider that the proposed land purchase and subsequent basin extension has a neutral social outcome given the functional nature of a drainage basin in a largely non-residential catchment.

Economic Impacts

The improved drainage capacity will allow officers to facilitate new commercial developments along Benalla Road which provide for employment and choice for consumers.

Consultation

Officers are in regular discussions with the owner of the land to ensure transparency in the proposed land purchase.

Strategic Links

Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy (GS2030)

Under the Infrastructure topic in GS2030 the following objective relates to drainage:
To maintain an efficient and environmentally sensitive stormwater management system.

Officers consider that the purchase of the land implements this policy direction by allowing the basin to be upgraded to meet Council's current design standards.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.3 Zurcas Lane Basin Extension (continued)

Conclusion

Officers consider that it is appropriate to advance this land purchase as the upsizing of the basin will result in a net community benefit through improved drainage services within an employment corridor being Benalla Road.

Attachments

Nil

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.4 Community Sustainability Grants Round Two 2019/2020

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Sustainability Officer

**Proof reader(s): Team Leader Sustainability and Environment,
Manager Environment**

Approved by: Director Sustainable Development

Executive Summary

The Community Sustainability Grants Program supports the development and implementation of sustainable projects and events, which will go towards achieving sustainability related actions within the Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

Greater Shepparton City Council launched the first round of the Community Sustainability Grants Program in July 2016. The second round for the Sustainability Grants for 2019/2020 was opened on Monday 2 December 2019 and closed 10 February 2020 with three applications received. All applications were assessed by an internal grant review panel and two applications were recommended for approval. The Community Sustainability Grants Program has a total budget of \$15,000 for the 2019/2020 financial year.

The project that has not been recommended to be funded by the panel did not clearly meet the objectives of the Community Sustainability Grant Guidelines. All projects recommended meet the objectives of the grant guidelines and the Environment Sustainability Strategy. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, there may need to be some concessions applied to the timeframes in which these projects are delivered and officers will negotiate any new terms with the applicants should this be required.

Variation to timeframes will be negotiated with each applicant if the event or project is postponed due to COVID-19 but still planned to go ahead prior to 30 June 2021.

If the event or project has been confirmed to be cancelled funds must be returned.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.4 Community Sustainability Grants Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt the recommendation of the Community Sustainability Grants Assessment Panel to fund the following two sustainability grants to the total value of \$4,200 (inc GST):

Organisation	Event/Project	Allocation Excluding GST	Allocation Including GST
Transition Tatura	Communities Shaping The Future: Sustainable Housing	\$2,000	\$2,000
Guthrie Street Primary School	Sustainable Gardening	\$2,000	\$2,200
	Total	\$4,000	\$4,200

Background

The Sustainability Grants are designed to support the development and implementation of sustainable projects and events, which will contribute to achieving sustainability related actions within the Environmental Sustainability Strategy. For the 2019/2020 financial year the total budget available for the Community Sustainability grants program is \$15,000. Grants are available for up to \$2,000 per application.

The intention of the funding is to facilitate projects which achieve some or all of the following objectives:

1. Encourage and support businesses, industry and the general community to reduce energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate the impacts of climate change
2. Increase the energy efficiency of existing and new residential and commercial buildings across the municipality
3. Raise community awareness of the relevance of climate change, the impacts it will have on our environment and way of life, and the opportunities it will present
4. Encourage participation in sustainability activities and events
5. Enable community members to acquire or develop new skills in relation to Sustainability
6. Increase recycling at public events or community spaces
7. Divert waste from landfill
8. Increase community awareness on waste minimisation and correct waste disposal
9. Enable community members to acquire or develop new skills in relation to sustainability.

This round of Community Sustainability Grants has been promoted through the Council's external website, social media and via a media release. In addition, a grants information session was facilitated by Council's Grants Coordinator and held in January. The internal Grants Working Group facilitated by the Grants Coordinator continues to collaborate to improve access for community organisations across the different grant programs within Council.

The grant opened on 2 December 2019 and closed on 10 February 2020 with a total of three applications being received. Grants were submitted via the online application

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.4 Community Sustainability Grants Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

process, SmartyGrants. Three applications were received with a total value of \$6,000 excluding GST.

Through the assessment process the panel has recommended two projects be funded. The panel agree that these projects will be a worthy investment into the community to achieve the objectives, and assist the community in raising awareness about sustainability and climate change. All of the recommended projects meet eligibility requirements and all aim to implement sustainability projects within the community.

One project did not meet the criteria and officers will work with this applicant to prepare for a future round of the Program.

Organisation	Transition Tatura
Project	Communities Shaping the Future: Sustainable Housing
Short project description	Short Film Festival with speakers, presentations, food and fellowship focusing on Sustainable Housing / "Small homes", other aspects of sustainability along with environmental challenges we all face. How local communities can make changes needed to face the challenges that the world already faces and how to reduce those that lie ahead for all of us. The goal is to offer practical advice so attendees can leave with strategies they can apply to their own lives and their local community immediately and reduce the impacts of climate change and peak oil.
Requested Council Contribution	\$2,000
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommended to fund \$2,000

Organisation	Guthrie Street Primary School
Project	Sustainable Gardening
Short project description	To create a vegetable garden that uses best environmental practices, such as rain water, composting, worm farming and growing vegetables from seeds. The desire is for all of Guthrie Street PS students to develop an understanding of how to grow their own vegetables and the benefits of being able to do so. They are hoping this leads to a lifelong interest in gardening and more importantly how there are better ways of doing things which can benefit the environment.
Requested Council Contribution	\$2,000
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Recommended to fund \$2,000

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.4 Community Sustainability Grants Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

Organisation	Shepparton Malayalee Association
Project	Responsible Waste Disposal and Community Education
Short project description	Install a rainwater tank for the garden at the Philippine House Community Hub
Requested Council Contribution	\$2,000
Recommendation from the Assessment panel	Not Recommended to fund – application did not meet the objectives of the program.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

Council Plan 2017-2021

Social Objectives:

- 2.2 Our community is supported to achieve and sustain physical, emotional and spiritual health and wellbeing.
- 2.3 Lifelong learning is valued and fostered in our community.
- 2.6 Volunteering is promoted and encouraged along with other measures to improve community resilience.
- Environment Objectives:
- 5.3 Waste is managed in a sustainable way that is environmentally friendly, reliable and sustainable for future generations.
- 5.4 Council has positioned itself to be a leader in building Greater Shepparton's response to climate change issues, in partnership with key stakeholders.
- 5.5 Alternative energy sources with both environmental and economic gains are promoted and encouraged.

Risk Management

Insignificant to low risks have been identified and will be addressed at the operational level. All grantees will be required to consult fully with Council representatives prior to, and during their projects to identify any potential adverse consequences, and to devise a strategy to minimise any risks. Applicants have been asked to confirm that they have the necessary public liability insurances for projects where activities are being undertaken by the Grantees themselves. This will be confirmed prior to the release of any funds. The risk of conflict of interest to the Review panel members has been addressed with the inclusion of a Conflict of Interest Declaration on the Grant Assessment Form.

Policy Considerations

Approval of the Community Sustainability Grant recommendations supports existing Council policies.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.4 Community Sustainability Grants Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

Financial Implications

	Approved Budget Estimate for this proposal ¹ \$	This Proposal GST Exclusive \$	Variance to Approved Budget Estimate \$	This Proposal GST Inclusive ² \$
Revenue	N/A	N/A	N/A	No revenue associated with the Community Sustainability Grant
Expense	2019/2020 Budget \$15,000	Round 1 3828.23 Round 2 \$4000	\$7171.77	Round 1 3828.23 Round 2 \$4200
Net Total	\$15,000	\$7828.23	\$7171.77	\$8028.23

¹ Budgets are GST exclusive

² For Contract Award reports the GST inclusive expense shall match the amount reported in the recommendation

Legal/Statutory Implications

The Plan conforms with the *Local Government Act 1989* and other relevant legislation

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The adoption of the recommendation stated above will support the implementation of the associated projects which will have a positive impact on the improvement of sustainability with the community.

Social Implications

The applications received this Round demonstrate the significant value of local volunteers and community organisations who contribute to the social connectedness of the Greater Shepparton community. There are projects that will engage the community to be involved in the projects and therefore have a positive social impact.

Economic Impacts

Grant allocations this round will contribute to community organisations being able to provide community events and opportunities. This will promote local business and have a positive effect on the local economy.

Consultation

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Inform	Ensure that the information about the application process was widespread	Media Release Website Social Media Radio interview Emailed to networks Information Sessions
Consult	Grant Drop in Sessions	sessions offered at the Council Offices during the day and evening.
Involve	Sustainability and Environment Officer provide assistance to community groups	Consultation on an individual basis during the application process

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.4 Community Sustainability Grants Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

Consultation (continued)

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Collaborate	Successful community groups/members will be responsible for the implementation of their projects which will provide the opportunity for incorporating sustainability initiatives into the community	Successful applicants will drive their own community initiatives.
Empower	Whilst decision making regarding successful grant applications is made by Council, community groups will be responsible for the delivery of projects.	Community groups will drive the delivery of their projects

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Direction 2: Community Life

Direction 3: Environment

b) Other strategic links

Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2014-2030

- 2. Healthy, productive and sustainable water resources
- 2.5 Partner with, support and empower our community to achieve healthy, productive and sustainable water resources.
- 3. Using our resources wisely – climate change and energy efficiency
- 3.1 Reduce council's greenhouse gas emissions and the financial costs of council's energy use.
- 3.2 Ensure that council is prepared for the impacts and opportunities presented by climate change.
- 3.4 Increase the energy efficiency of existing and new residential and commercial buildings across the municipality.
- 3.5 Council supports our businesses, industries, and residents to live more efficiently and sustainably.
- 3.7 Advocate and maximise partnership opportunities to reduce Council and community greenhouse gas emissions and respond to the opportunities and challenges of climate change.
- Waste Management Strategy 2013-2023

Education Programs

- Ensure there is a strong focus on community behaviour change and link this to initiatives that set a strong community recycling target
- Continue consulting with the community on its attitudes towards Council's waste minimisation
- Continue to engage in and encourage broader community and business participation in education programs facilitated by partner agencies such as Goulburn GV, Sustainability Victoria and the Victorian Litter Action Alliance

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.4 Community Sustainability Grants Round Two 2019/2020 (continued)

- Investigate opportunities to support or promote networks that connect the community and also businesses with each other that may support improved waste management outcomes (ie forums, business functions, swap meets etc)

Conclusion

The applications for funding through the Community Sustainability Grants 2019/2020 have been reviewed by an internal Grant Review Panel in line with Council's Grant Distribution Policy and have recommended two projects be funded. Both these projects meet eligibility requirements and aim to build or strengthen sustainability in the Greater Shepparton community. Officers recommend these applications be funded to ensure that Council takes advantage of the community's commitment to the projects listed.

Attachments

Nil

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.5 Council Position on Murray Darling Basin Plan

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Manager - Environment

Proof reader(s): Team Leader – Sustainability & Environment

Approved by: Director – Sustainable Development

Executive Summary

Ever since the adoption of the Murray Darling Basin Plan (MDBP) by the Federal Government and the States in 2012 there has been considerable commentary on the success or otherwise of the Plan and in the last twelve months with a severe drought across the majority of the Murray Darling basin, this commentary has increased in intensity and discord. This has been brought to a head recently with the NSW State Government threatening to withdraw from the Plan.

Council has, as a member of the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District Leadership Group, been very vocal about the impacts that the implementation of the MDBP has had and continues to have on the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District (GMID). To assist in explaining to the Federal Government, the Murray Darling Basin Authority and our residents, the Council through the GMID Water Leadership group has commissioned reports that have accurately predicted the impacts that the implementation of the MDBP would have on our area.

Council has been a member of the Murray Darling Association (MDA) since 2014. Cr Patterson is the Councillor representative to the MDA and has been appointed to the Chair of Region 2. Discussions with other member Councils from Region 2 have identified similar issues with the MDBP that have been identified above. To assist in raising these issues at the Annual General Meeting of the MDA, it is imperative that Council adopt a position toward the MDBP that can be shared with other member Councils to illicit support and allow Council to advocate on behalf of the Region.

This report is to inform and seek to adopt this Council's position in relation to the MDBP.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.5 Council Position on Murray Darling Basin Plan (continued)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt as its official position in relation to the Murray Darling Basin Plan the following:

1. Support the Plan in provision of 2750 GL environmental water to the river systems within the Murray Darling Basin, provided that the recovery of 605GL through the Sustainable Diversion Limit offset program is achieved and that further buybacks are not necessary.
2. Do not support buybacks to recover the proposed 450GL of water from irrigation entitlements within the Southern Basin.
3. That the passage of water intended for irrigation use downstream be minimised to flows that do not cause environmental harm to river environs and in particular the Barmah choke on the Murray River and the banks of the heritage listed Goulburn River downstream of Eildon Weir.
4. On-farm efficiency programs to recover the proposed 450GL should be subject to an independent socio-economic analysis that proves that such transfers do not cause negative socio-economic issues in regions where water is being recovered, or from other regions in the southern basin that consequently have access to less water as a result.

Background

The Murray Darling Basin Plan was released in 2012 and since that time there has been significant discussion and concern expressed about the effectiveness of the Plan. Of particular concern to Region 2 irrigators has been the proposal to allow for the recovery of an additional 450 gegalitres (referred to as upwater) from the GMID. The Council has not had an adopted position in regard to the Plan previously although the Council has indicated that it was supportive of providing water for the environment but only to a point that did not cause negative economic and social impacts on irrigation based communities.

The Council has been very supportive of the position taken by the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District Water Leadership Group which has had Council representation through the CEO; and has been identified as being a member of the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District Water Leadership Group in submissions forwarded to the Federal Government previously on the Plan.

Council has recently commissioned two reports that outline the impacts that the Murray Darling Basin Plan is having on the GMID community. The 'Creating the New Face of Regional Victoria' document identifies that the MDBP will or has created the following:

- The GMID would be \$4.4 Billion worse off under the MDBP from 2012 to 2020, outweighing the \$3.15 billion the district had received in funding under the MDBP
- There has been \$550 million in lost production in the Goulburn and Murray Valleys of Victoria every year since 2012
- An estimated 1000 jobs have been lost
- Irrigators in the region are paying \$20 million more per year for temporary water
- Dairy in the region has declined by 20 percent.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.5 Council Position on Murray Darling Basin Plan (continued)

The report also identifies the impact that climate change is having on our region and that the Greater Shepparton region will have a climate similar to that of Griffith in NSW by 2050. This summer has accentuated the hot weather normally seen in this region and the resultant devastating bushfires that have been experienced in South-east Australia. Continuing heat and subsequent rainfall reduction will continue to put pressure on the availability of water for agricultural purposes. The transfer of water from the region also increases the environmental impact that inter-valley transfer of water is having on the river environs of the heritage listed Goulburn River downstream of Eildon Weir and the Barmah Choke on the Murray River.

'The New Face of Regional Northern Victoria GMID Water Update – in Response to Basin Plan, The Drought, Climate Change and Water Trade!' - January 2020 presents an update on a previously commissioned report by the GMID Water Leadership Group in September 2016 'Basin Plan – GMID socio-economic impact assessment Final Report' that identified the impacts that the MDBP would have on the GMID area. The current update includes a review of previous predictions from the GMID Water Leadership Group in the report from 2016 (which have been proved to be correct), an analysis of where the region is currently at and where we may expect to be in the future and the challenges and opportunities the region will have to face.

The consistent messages emanating from both recent documents are:

- *No further water recovery from the GMID*
- *Reduce environmental impact by minimising inter valley transfers*
- *Drought declaration for Northern Victoria*

A drought declaration for Greater Shepparton was recently declared by the Federal Government.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

Leadership & Governance

1.3 Council demonstrated strong leadership and sound decision making in the best interests of the community.

1.7 Council advocates on issues, priorities and needs that matter to our community in partnership with key stakeholders

Economic

3.4 Water is protected and managed to optimise sustainable benefits for industry, the environment and the community.

Environment

5.2 The region's environmental assets are planned and managed to ensure they are enhanced and sustainable for future generations.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Not adopting a position on the Murray Darling Basin Plan	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Adopt the recommendations of this report

Policy Considerations

By adoption of the recommendations the Council will be able to project a position that can be officially used in dialogue with interested stakeholders.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.5 Council Position on Murray Darling Basin Plan (continued)

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications regarding this report.

Legal/Statutory Implications

There will be no legal or statutory implications in adopting the recommendation.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There will be no environmental implications in adopting the recommendation.

Social Implications

There may be social implications in adopting the recommendation, in that sections of the community may support or reject Council's position in regard to the MDBP.

Economic Impacts

There will be no economic implications in adopting the recommendation.

Consultation

The Plan has been in place for some years and has received widespread coverage across the whole basin. Councillors and Officers have been involved in many discussions and presentations with agencies, other Local Governments, Ministers and the general public.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

The direction for the topic of economic development is to promote economic growth, business development and diversification, with a focus on strengthening the agricultural industry.

b) Other strategic links

Greater Shepparton: Creating the New Face of Regional Victoria

RMCG: The New Face of Regional Northern Victoria GMID Water Update – in Response to Basin Plan, The Drought, Climate Change and Water Trade!

Conclusion

Council has long been part of the discussions around the implementation of the MDBP, but has never adopted a firm position on the Plan. Adoption of the recommendation will enable Council to represent its adopted position in the future to all levels of Government.

Attachments

Nil

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.6 Adoption of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Graduate Strategic Planner Projects

Proof reader(s): Team Leader Strategic Planning, Manager Building and Planning

Approved by: Director Sustainable Development

STATEMENT ON COVID-19

Council officers acknowledge that the current global pandemic will impact both the extent and growth rate of housing need across Greater Shepparton and Victoria. Council also acknowledges that a number of residents may experience mortgage and rental stress at this time. Council acknowledges the action taken by the Federal and State Governments to address this issue. If residents are experiencing any form of housing crisis at this stage they are encouraged to make contact with the relevant support agencies.

This Strategy will assist in addressing affordable housing issues in a post-Covid-19 environment.

Executive Summary

In June 2018, the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* was amended to include the objective “to facilitate the provision of Affordable Housing in Victoria”, requiring Council, in its role as Planning Authority, to consider the need and opportunity to implement Affordable Housing outcomes. The Act defines ‘Affordable Housing’ as ‘housing, including Social Housing that is appropriate for the housing needs of very low, low and moderate income households’.

Council was successful in obtaining a grant of \$50,000 from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), to support the development of an Affordable Housing Strategy, and appointed Affordable Development Outcomes to undertake the project.

Community consultation was undertaken in both pre-draft and draft phases, to inform its development, enable awareness of additional issues, and promote understanding of the complexity around Affordable Housing provision. In the draft stage particularly, the 10 responses received were detailed and well-thought-out. Several commended Council on its commissioning of the project, and many proffered information and ideas relating to specific affected cohorts. The draft strategy was amended to encompass many of the suggestions made and to clarify the relevance of the proposed actions in addressing the issues within the limitations of Council’s resources. Research and consultation outcomes are detailed in appendices to the Strategy.

The final Strategy draws on the premise of ‘Housing First’ which has been successfully implemented in Finland to reduce homelessness levels by a third over a seven year period. Beyond advocacy for State and Federal funding to undertake substantial

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.6 Adoption of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020 (continued)

construction of new housing stock, it outlines a variety of ways in which Council may facilitate and promote the provision of Affordable Housing through diverse agents, encouraging knowledge sharing, economical usage of existing resources, and collaboration between housing providers, government, developers, landowners, landlords and investors.

The Strategy aims to promote increased stock across the spectrum of affordable models, including crisis accommodation and social housing to address acute housing needs, 'alternative' options such as cohousing which may address the needs of identified 'at risk' cohorts, and broader diversity in size and configuration in the market based supply to mitigate potential future shortfalls.

These actions are expected to enable both incremental acquisition of Affordable Housing stock, and a cohesive framework to take advantage of increased funding attained through a renewed and coordinated advocacy platform.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy – Houses for People 2020*.

Background

In June 2018, the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* was amended to include the objective 'to facilitate the provision of Affordable Housing in Victoria', requiring Council, in its role as Planning Authority, to consider the need and opportunity to implement Affordable Housing outcomes. The Act defines 'Affordable Housing' as 'housing, including Social Housing that is appropriate for the housing needs of very low, low and moderate income households'.

In December 2018, Council was successful in obtaining a grant of \$50,000 from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), to support the development of an Affordable Housing Strategy. Affordable Development Outcomes was appointed in late May 2019 to undertake background research and develop the Strategy.

The first stage of the project, encompassing background research and pre-draft community consultation, demonstrated an undeniable need for Affordable Housing in Greater Shepparton. Beyond the municipality's identification as the Victorian regional city with the highest level of homelessness, at 5.6 homeless persons per 1,000, 1,041 households are on the waiting list for social housing support, 27% of low income households are facing housing stress (2716 households), and overall housing affordability decreased by 10% between 2008 and 2018.

Further community consultation was conducted in the draft stage, receiving 10 detailed and well-thought-out responses. Several commended Council on its commissioning of the project, and many proffered information and ideas relating to specific affected cohorts. The draft strategy was amended to encompass many of the suggestions made and to clarify the relevance of the proposed actions in addressing the issues within the limitations of Council's resources. Research and consultation outcomes are detailed in appendices to the Strategy.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.6 Adoption of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020 (continued)

In order to operationalise measures to address the broad range of issues and shortages around Affordable Housing, project offices identified three levels of housing need: acute, at-risk and potential. This enabled assessment of requirements for the provision of appropriate Affordable Housing for Greater Shepparton, taking into consideration the criteria prescribed by the Minister for Planning: allocation, affordability, longevity, tenure, type, location, integration and housing need.

Despite some allocations under a number of State and Federally funded programs, Council advocacy and programs to support low-income households, and remarkable work by housing providers, the resources required to address housing issues in Greater Shepparton substantially exceed those available.

The Strategy draws on the premise of 'Housing First' that has been successfully implemented in Finland to reduce homelessness levels by a third over a seven year period. Beyond advocacy for State and Federal funding to undertake substantial construction of new stock, it outlines a variety of ways in which Council may facilitate and promote the provision of Affordable Housing through diverse agents, encouraging knowledge sharing, economical usage of existing resources, and collaboration between housing providers, government, developers, landowners, landlords and investors.

The Strategy aims to promote increased stock across the spectrum of affordable models, including crisis accommodation and social housing to address acute housing needs, 'alternative' options such as cohousing which may address the needs of identified 'at risk' cohorts, and broader diversity in size and configuration in the market based supply to mitigate potential future shortfalls.

Key actions encompass the establishment of an Affordable Housing Reference Group, an assessment of Council-owned assets to determine suitability and feasibility for adaption to Affordable Housing purposes, strategic and policy support to negotiate with developers for inclusion of Affordable Housing in new development, and programs to maximise usage of existing dwellings.

These actions are expected to enable both incremental acquisition of Affordable Housing stock, and a cohesive framework to take advantage of increased funding attained through a renewed and coordinated advocacy platform.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

Theme: Leadership and Governance

Objectives:

1.1 Council demonstrates strong regional and local partnerships to improve health and wellbeing access and inequity.

1.7 Council advocates on issues, priorities and needs that matter to our community in partnership with key stakeholders.

Theme: Social

Objectives:

2.1 Greater Shepparton is a welcoming, inclusive and safe place for all.

2.2 Our community is supported to achieve and sustain physical, emotional and spiritual health and wellbeing.

Theme: Built

Objective:

4.1 Growth is well planned and managed for the future.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.6 Adoption of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Homes for People 2020 (continued)

Risk Management

Insignificant to low risks of negative public reaction associated with the adoption of the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Homes for People 2020*. Given the extent of the housing issues identified in the research, and the community expectations raised through the process of developing the strategy, failure to adopt may contribute to weakening of social cohesion and wellbeing.

Policy Considerations

The *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Homes for People 2020* supports existing Council policies.

Financial Implications

The recommendation to adopt the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Homes for People 2020* for consultation does not have any direct financial or budgetary implications for Council.

Actions arising from the Strategy will be subject to annual budgetary processes. External partnerships and funding opportunities will also be explored to implement projects.

Legal/Statutory Implications

All procedures associated with the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Homes for People 2020* comply with relevant legislative requirements. Adoption of the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Homes for People 2020* will not result in any legal or statutory implications.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The recommendation to release the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Homes for People 2020* for public comment will not result in any adverse environmental or sustainability impacts.

Social Implications

The long term implications of the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Homes for People 2020* are expected to have positive social impacts, increasing community cohesion, wellbeing, and resilience, and contributing to civic participation and life satisfaction.

Economic Impacts

The implementation of the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Homes for People 2020* is expected to have positive economic impacts, encouraging building and related industries, increasing participation in employment, and reducing dependence on welfare.

Consultation

In accordance with Council's *Community Engagement Strategy 2009*, a range of consultation activities were undertaken with the community and a number of key organisations, at pre-draft and draft stages:

- To provide the public with information to assist in understanding the problems, issues, alternatives and opportunities surrounding Affordable Housing (inform);
- To obtain public feedback on analysis, options, and potential solutions (consult);
- To ensure that concerns and aspirations are understood and considered (involve);
- To facilitate partnerships to develop alternatives and identify preferred solutions (collaborate).

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.6 Adoption of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020 (continued)

Council undertook pre-draft consultation in May and June 2019, conducting surveys with relevant organisations and the community, a stakeholder forum, and a number of one-on-one meetings. The surveys received sixty-six responses, with a broad range of additional comments and input given during the forum and meetings.

Council authorised the *Draft Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy 2019* for exhibition for six weeks beginning 20 October 2019 and concluding on 2 December 2019. The period was extended until 16 December to accommodate late responses. Ten submissions were received.

All responses received were considered in the formulation of the strategy, and are detailed in appendices to the Strategy.

Council officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy 2006

Relevant Objectives:

- To provide for a broader range of dwelling densities and types of housing to meet current and future community needs and differing lifestyles
- To increase the supply of medium density housing in appropriate locations.
- To provide an equitable and efficient distribution of community facilities and services
- To encourage and implement activities that will strengthen community spirit.

b) Other strategic links

Greater Shepparton Housing Strategy 2011

Greater Shepparton Public Health Strategic Plan 2018-2028

Conclusion

The *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Homes for People 2020* sets out Council's vision, objectives and a range of actions to respond to homelessness, housing stress and other housing related issues in the community, which have reached urgent levels.

Drawing on a proven approach, the Strategy enables a range of actions the Council may undertake, in partnership with other levels of government, housing organisations, landowners, investors and the community.

These actions are expected to enable both incremental acquisition of Affordable Housing stock, and a cohesive framework to take advantage of increased funding attained through a renewed and coordinated advocacy platform, to maximise community benefit.

Attachments

Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020 [↓](#) Page 739

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Economic Development Administration Officer and Events Coordinator.

**Proof reader(s): Team Leader Tourism & Major Events,
Manager Economic Development**

Approved by: Director Sustainable Development

Executive Summary

Greater Shepparton City Council aims to celebrate the local community and our diverse region through a range of major and community events each year. The various events supported by Council include sporting, cultural, commemorative, festive as well as annual community events.

The purpose of the Event Grants program is to provide financial assistance as well as marketing support to groups who are organising events within the Greater Shepparton municipality.

The total amount of funding allocated to the Small and Large Events Program is \$45,000 for the 2019/2020 financial year. This amount is split into two rounds.

Small Events can be funded from \$500 up to \$2,000 and Large Events can be funded from \$2,000 up to \$5,000.

Round two of the Major and Minor Events Grants 2019/2020 opened on 4 December 2019 and closed on 10 February 2020 with a total of fourteen applications received.

Based on the Grant Policy and approved guidelines, these fourteen applications were assessed by an internal assessment panel which is made up of four officers from within Council. For this round it is recommended that thirteen respective events are funded, a total of \$14,350 (GST Excl.) Please note fourteen events were originally approved by the panel for funding but one event that was approved has subsequently been cancelled due to the Corona Virus (COVID19) and four others have currently postponed pending further assessment of the current situation. Should these events not go ahead funds would not be distributed to applicants. It is proposed events approved have until June 30 2021 to host their event should they require to postpone their event.

All recommended events met the eligibility requirements and adhere to the objectives of the Events Grants Program.

Variation to timeframes will be negotiated with each applicant if the event or project is postponed due to COVID-19 but still planned to go ahead prior to 30 June 2021.

If the event or project has been confirmed to be cancelled funds must be returned.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020 (continued)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt the recommendation of the Grants Assessment Panel to fund 13 events as detailed below to the total value of \$14,435 (inc GST) representing Round Two of the 2019/2020 Major and Minor Events Grants Program:

	Organisation	Event	Allocation Excluding GST	Allocation Including GST
1	Pakistan Association of Goulburn Valley	Annual Community event and Independence Day celebration	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
2	Goulburn Valley South Sudanese Community Association	South Sudanese Independence Day	\$500.00	\$500.00
3	Goulburn Valley Congolese Association POSTPONED NEW DATE TBC	Welcoming new arrival Congolese from Africa to Shepparton	\$500.00	\$500.00
4	Tatura Community House. POSTPONED NEW DATE TBC	Monster Garage Sale	\$850.00	\$935.00
5	Dookie Military History Group Inc	Dookie Military Vehicle Rally	\$750.00	\$750.00
6	Shepparton Malayalee Association	Community Talent Show - Sheema	\$500.00	\$500.00
7	Shepparton Swimming Club	Shepparton Aqua Carnivale	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
8	Goulburn Valley Reining Horse Association CANCELLED	GVRHA Buckle Up and Slide Reining Spectacular 2020	0	0
9	Know your Roots (KYR) Incorporated	Fiafia Project & Pasifika Festival 2020	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
10	Soroptimist International of Shepparton POSTPONED DATE TBC	Women's Health and Pampering Day	\$500.00	\$500.00
11	Valley Radio Flyer	Shepparton Mammoth Scale Fly-In	\$500.00	\$500.00
12	Goulburn Valley Branch of the Aviculture Society of Australia POSTPONED DATE TBC	G V Bird Exhibition & Sale	\$750.00	\$750.00
13	Punjab Sports Club Shepparton	6 th Annual Punjab Sports Club Shepparton Tournament	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
14	Shepparton Competition Society Inc.	Shepparton Young Instrumentalists Award	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
		TOTAL	\$14,350.00	\$14,435.00

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE
10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020
(continued)

Applicant	Pakistani Association of Goulburn Valley Inc
Project Title	Annual Community Event and Independence Day Celebration
Brief Project Description	The Pakistani Community of Goulburn Valley gathers every year to celebrate the National Independence Day of Pakistan. This event also celebrates the new arrivals in the community.
Project Activities	Activities planned for the day are: Talks of Independence day and history of Pakistan Cultural and folk music presentations Children's speeches and presentations Talen and Tablo Shows by kids of all ages Arts and Fashion presentation Speeches form invited guests and community members Talks on importance of Multicultural Australia and incorporation of newly arrived and other community members into the local culture Prizes for the event contestants Dinner or lunch buffet
Expected Outcomes	To bring the community together, mix and mingle, discuss any issues or concerns any community member may have, propagate positivity and importance of integration to local cultures and communities at large.
Total Event cost	\$3,250.00
Grant amount requested from Council	\$2,000.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$1,000.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	Great community event with an estimated 120 people to be in attendance for the afternoon tea and the panel believe that \$1,000.00 will be sufficient.

Applicant	Goulburn Valley South Sudanese Community Association
Project Title	South Sudanese Independence Day
Brief Project Description	South Sudanese Independence day is a celebration which highlights the culture of South Sudan through music, food and information talks
Project Activities	Traditional South Sudanese Food, live music from children and adults, talks about the history of South Sudan and its cultures.
Expected Outcomes	This event will contribute positive social impact to the local community by encouraging social harmony, understanding and tolerance of different cultural groups. It will also provide an opportunity to learn about a different culture.
Total Event cost	\$3,400
Grant amount requested from Council	\$2,000.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$500.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	Council have supported this event over the past two years and has also provided a Community Matching Grant for \$2,500 in the 2019 budget. The panel are satisfied with the financial decision for this event.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE
10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020
(continued)

Applicant	Goulburn Valley Congolese Association - POSTPONED
Project Title	Welcome new arrival Congolese from Africa to Shepparton
Brief Project Description	Every year the GV Congolese Association welcome new arrival Congolese to Shepparton. It is an opportunity to ask friends from the wider community to come participate at the reception of the new arrivals. The Mayor will be invited to provide a welcome speech and share food and dance to cultural music. Representatives from the Shepparton Police are also invited to attend and talk on how they can collaborate with the police.
Project Activities	Welcoming speeches from the leader of the Congolese Community Welcome speech from the Mayor Gifts to new arrivals in the form of Vouchers Food sharing
Expected Outcomes	Ensuring the feeling of being accepted, supported and welcomed into a new community is essential for new arrivals. New arrivals come from refugee camps after escaping war from their native countries. The welcoming Ceremony is essential as one of the first steps of their settlement in Shepparton.
Total Event cost	\$4,000.00
Grant amount requested from Council	\$2,000.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$500.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	Council has supported this event for many years and being a stable yearly event officers believe that \$500.00 is an appropriate funding amount.

Applicant	Tatura Community House - POSTPONED
Project Title	Monster Garage Sale
Brief Project Description	The Tatura Monster Garage Sale is a very successful community event, now in its 8 th year. This event gives residents/businesses and groups the chance to clean up and be part of an amazing community day.
Project Activities	Town and Farm Monster Garage Sale Stuart Mock Place will be the central point this year for the Garage Sale Map Sales, BBQ, small stall holders and raffles.
Expected Outcomes	The Community House will benefit from an estimated 80 community members visiting the house during the registration period alone, providing an opportunity to connect with people who may not have used the services before. Tatura Township is expecting in excess of 300+ visitors to each garage sale providing opportunities for neighbours, locals and out-of-towners to connect socially. It is satisfying to witness the stories that go with selling used and loved objects and also the collaboration between neighbours who may have a combined sale.
Total Event cost	\$5,616.00

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE
10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020
(continued)

Applicant	Tatura Community House - POSTPONED
Grant amount requested from Council	\$2,000.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$850.00 (Excl GST)
Reason for panel's decision	Council has sponsored this event for a number of years. Costs this year are higher due to printing and promotional signage and the panel believe that \$850.00 will cover these extra costs and agree this is a suitable amount of funding.

Applicant	Dookie Military History Group Inc
Project Title	Dookie Military Vehicle Rally 2020
Brief Project Description	Display of the history of the military vehicle and equipment used by the armed forces. To encourage and recognise all types of military vehicles used and to provide a positive aspect to Australia's military history.
Project Activities	To present displays of various types of military vehicles and discuss their use and to remind the attendees of the place of these vehicles in military history. This activity enhances the remembrance of the efforts of the servicemen in supporting the safety and security of Australia.
Expected Outcomes	The economic benefit to the Dookie Township would be identified by a number of participants and visitors who attend the rally and who have a particular interest in the military history and vehicles as well as the swap meet for military enthusiasts.
Total Event cost	\$4,500
Grant amount requested from Council	\$2,000.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$750.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	This event has been supported by Council for a number of years and the panel believe this is adequate funding for this event.

Applicant	Shepparton Malayalee Association
Project Title	Community Talent Show
Brief Project Description	The event is a display of traditional, classical and contemporary music and dance forms, short plays, traditional music bands. The event is an opportunity for community members to exhibit their artistic talents and stimulate cultural awareness.
Project Activities	The event will have kids and adults in our community exhibit traditional and contemporary art form such as Bollywood dance, Kerala dance, classic drum band, short plays, kids group dance, kids short play, traditional fashion show and other activities.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020 (continued)

Applicant	Shepparton Malayalee Association
Expected Outcomes	People from the same community travel from neighbourhood places like Melbourne, Kyabram, Echuca, Cobram, Bendigo and Wagga Wagga. They bring friends, relatives, former residents and well wishes of the same community to Shepparton. As part of their visit they indulge in fishing, camping, fruit/vegetable foraging in farms and their experience of enjoying the South Indian Culture will be shared on social media. This is bound to boost the avenue of tourism in the Shepparton region.
Total Event cost	\$8,000.00
Grant amount requested from Council	\$2,000.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$500.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	Council have supported this group over a number of grant rounds and the panel believe that this amount is an acceptable amount of funding and could go towards the catering costs of this event.

Applicant	Shepparton Swimming Club
Project Title	Shepparton Aqua Carnivale
Brief Project Description	Most Swimming Clubs host an annual long course (50m Pool) competition. It is a part of the Shepparton Swimming Club's vision to be a thriving, vibrant, respected and competitive Swimming Club with champion people and a great culture we are creating a Long Course Competition with a difference. They want a competition that is not "just racing" but is a fun and fulfilling experience to attract and retain swimmers in what they feel is a great sport.
Project Activities	The event will take place at the outside 50mtr pool at Aquamoves and will be part of the Swimming Victoria Accredited qualifying meet. They will also host a BBQ, have music, elite Guest Swimmer to talk/meet/greet to inspire and motivate our regional swimmers who often only get to see elite swimmers in Melbourne. There will be games for swimmers, kick the footy (between races), circus skills, Basketball Shoot a Goal, an Inflatable Slide and as part of the swimming program, you can participate in the Zaidee's Rainbow Foundation Mixed 8 x 50m relay with a prize of \$250 to be won by the winning team.
Expected Outcomes	In 2019, the carnivale hosted 245 competitors with 192 of these coming from outside the region. Competitors and their families visit Shepparton for the day or overnight which is a good economic boost for Shepparton. They also bring with them coaches, families and in 2019 the Shepparton Swimming Club had an agreement with Essendon which helped generate attendance and we expect to do the same again in 2020. The club are expecting in excess of 600 people.
Total Event cost	\$5,500.00

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020
(continued)

Applicant	Shepparton Swimming Club
Grant amount requested from Council	\$5,000.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$2,500.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	The grants panel believe this is a suitable amount of funding for this event.

Applicant	Goulburn Valley Reining Horse Association - CANCELLED
Project Title	GVRHA Buckle Up and Slide Reining Spectacular 2020
Brief Project Description	Buckle Up & Slide is still a relatively new initiative to GVRHA with the first event held in May 2015. Following great success and a club record number of entrants in the inaugural event, it has been brought back in each subsequent year since then, with each year setting new club records of attendance. The event is now firmly cemented in the reining calendar as a 'must attend' event, having fun for five consecutive years with a sixth year in planning and plans to retain it as an annual event.
Project Activities	A full schedule of reining classes for all levels and abilities will be on offer, from beginners to reining to the best Open and Non Pro riders Australia has to offer.
Expected Outcomes	As well as benefiting the reining horse industry and competitors with the opportunity to show their horses at top notch facilities for great prizes, the local community also benefits greatly from the influx of competitors and spectators such as local eateries, caravan parks and motels.
Total Event cost	\$78,000.00
Grant amount requested from Council	\$2,000.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$750.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	Council has supported this event through the grants round for a number of years and believe that this is sufficient funding for this event. Please due to cancellation due to Corona Virus COVID 19 these event will no longer go ahead and funds will not be distributed.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020 (continued)

Applicant	Know Your Roots (KYR) Incorporated
Project Title	Fiafia Project and Pasifika Festival 2020
Brief Project Description	<p>Now in its fourth year, Pasifika Festival is a spectacular annual celebration of Pacific Islander arts and culture taking place in Shepparton. The festival was established in 2016 by a grass roots collective of local pacific artists and culture keepers in Shepparton with the aim to pass on knowledge and living culture through the arts and to provide a platform and a voice for the diverse Pacific communities in Shepparton.</p> <p>This grant round is for the Pasifika Festival only as the Fiafia Project will be held and supported by Riverlinks Eastbank.</p>
Project Activities	<p>Pasifika Festival 2020</p> <p>Annual Community event held at the Victoria Park Lake, Shepparton. The event will see local community organise and support performances for the event, Food Trucks and activations. The festival is dedicated to building the cultural capital and community infrastructure for Pacific Islanders in Shepparton and to connect and share their culture to the broader community. In 2020, the festival is scheduled for the weekend of the 20 & 21 November.</p>
Expected Outcomes	<p>Pasifika Festival is run every year by young Pacific Island youth from our local community. They work closely with mentors in event management from organisations such as Multicultural Arts Victoria, KYR Inc. and other professionals in the industry to develop skills in event management and coordination each year. The event contributes to positive social impacts on a local level by building community capacity, providing community members with opportunities to volunteer and most of all help our community in reducing social isolation by bringing out communities that are more proven to stay home and be hidden. Promotes harmony and builds understanding between cultures.</p>
Total Event cost	\$34,500.00
Grant amount requested from Council	\$5,000
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$2,000.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	Officers believe this is an exciting event for our region and Council fully support it by providing funding to cover bins and toilets at Vic Park Lake.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020
(continued)

Applicant	Soroptimist International of Shepparton - POSTPONED
Project Title	Women's Health and Pampering Day
Brief Project Description	A fun day for women of all ages in our community with health checks, massages, pampering, entertainment, giveaways and lucky door prized including lunch and morning tea – all for a gold coin donation.
Project Activities	Provided on the day will be beauty treatments, Make-up Demonstrations, Massages, health checks, blood pressure checks and Henna Treatments.
Expected Outcomes	To encourage women to attend and meet others and have a fun day for little cost. It also allows women to feel good, have a lovely lunch and enjoy each other's company.
Total Event cost	\$700.00
Grant amount requested from Council	\$500.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$500.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	A worthy event to our region and the panel agree to full their grant request of \$500.00.

Applicant	Valley Radio Flyers
Project Title	Shepparton Mammoth Scale Fly-in
Brief Project Description	Annual Event for large radio controlled aircraft in Australia. Valley Radio Flyers have competitors from all states come and fly and have in the past also had overseas competitors enter at different times.
Project Activities	Flying large scale planes. Allow the public to come into the pits and talk to the builder of the planes. Spot prizes are presented throughout the day.
Expected Outcomes	To allow a safe location for all enthusiasts to come and fly their aircraft in one location in a controlled environment. To promote our sport to external persons who come to view the event
Total Event cost	\$7,560.00
Grant amount requested from Council	\$5,000.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$500.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	Council has supported this event over a number of years and with their income from competitors and viewing the budget, we believe \$500.00 will cover toilet facilities at the event.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE
10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020
(continued)

Applicant	Goulburn Valley Branch of the Aviculture Society of Australia Inc. – POSTPONED
Project Title	Shepparton Bird Exhibition and Sale
Brief Project Description	The Shepparton Bird Exhibition and Sale is an Annual event that has been running for over 30 years. The event offers members of the public the chance to sell trade and purchase avian species.
Project Activities	The sale is open to the public from 9.00am until 2.00pm. There will be a bird display for the public to view a wide range of avian species before the sale commences. Access to a fast array of bird related products.
Expected Outcomes	The event brings approximately 1,000 people through the doors and they expect to do the same in 2020. A large percentage of these people travel from outside of Greater Shepparton area.
Total Event cost	\$5,486.00
Grant amount requested from Council	\$1,500.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$750.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	Council has supported this event for a number of years and support it to the value of \$750.00.

Applicant	Punjab Sports Club Shepparton
Project Title	6 th Annual Punjab Sports Club Shepparton Tournament
Brief Project Description	This event is now held over two days with one day being Basketball/Volleyball at the Shepparton Sports Stadium and the second day being Kabaddi – (round robin) Soccer event held at Rumbalara.
Project Activities	The tournament will be showing the Punjabi Culture and it will allow different cultures to unite and allow sports lovers to see a new sport and learn how to play it.
Expected Outcomes	With the event now being held over two days the club believe this will bring good visitors to our region. This will result in people staying overnight to then visit Kabaddi the next day which will result in visitors spending locally as they have to buy food.
Total Event cost	\$31,813.40
Grant amount requested from Council	\$5,000.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$3,000.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	This event has been supported through the grants round previously and we support this event to the value of \$3,000.00

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020 (continued)

Applicant	Shepparton Competition Society Inc.
Project Title	Shepparton Young Instrumentalists Award
Brief Project Description	Shepparton Competition Society runs each year the "Shepparton Young Instrumentalists Award". A music competition held at Eastbank. The event is run with the support of Riverlinks who cater to young musicians in the Shepparton region and across Victoria up to the age of 19 years.
Project Activities	Students register their instrument and age group online through Stardom.com.au. They attend Eastbank on the day of the event and perform in their age group in one of the performance spaces. Each student is given comments on their performance, and have the chance to be awarded 1 st , 2 nd or 3 rd or given an honourable mention. Prize money is awarded to winners in each age group.
Expected Outcomes	The event will provide a positive social impact and benefit the young people who attend the event. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Performance in a high quality space - Perform for their peers and watch their peers perform - Experience excellence in music performance to strive to achieve
Total Event cost	\$7,583.00
Grant amount requested from Council	\$3,000.00
Amount recommended by assessment panel	\$1,000.00 (GST N/A)
Reason for panel's decision	Based on the information provided in the application the panel agreed to support this event to the above value as Riverlinks are also supporting in-kind.

Background

Greater Shepparton City Council has provided two types of events grant funding to community groups for over a decade. The event funding is only available to not-for-profit organisations or organisations that have successfully obtained an auspice. Organisations that have previously been funded by Council and failed to comply with their financial and acquittal requirements will not be funded under the current guidelines.

The Events Grants applications are assessed in two rounds annually.

A total of 14 applications were received in the Small and Large Events Grants Round 2 (2019/20).

A cross department assessment panel has been formed to ensure there is a variety of backgrounds and knowledge which improves the assessment of applications.

The community is encouraged to seek alternative streams of funding to ensure that events are sustainable and viable. Information sessions are hosted by Council each year to educate locals in regards to the funding opportunities that are available.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020 **(continued)**

Small and Large Events Grant

The Large Events grant category applies to requests of \$2,000-\$5,000 for not-for-profit event organisers and community groups. The Small Event grant category applies to requests of \$500-\$2,000 for not-for-profit event organisers and community groups. Small and Large Event applications must address the following key selection criteria:

- Background of the organisation/club
- Background of the proposed event
- Event criteria
- Economic impact
- Social benefit
- Environmental impact
- Event budget
- Greater Shepparton City Council recognition
- Post event evaluation

Small and Large Events Grant Funding Objectives:

- Event stimulation: To increase visitation and event tourism to the Greater Shepparton area.
- Economic benefits: To maximise the economic benefits to our community from scheduled festivals, cultural events business events, major events and sporting activities.
- Event tourism to the region: To sustainably build the profile of events in the region to attract visitors from outside the local area and to sustainably build the volume and yield of the region's tourism products.
- Regional profile: To generate interest and to lift the profile, brand and reputation of Greater Shepparton throughout Victoria, Australia and internationally.
- Development and Enhancement of Events: To provide appropriate resources and advice to assist in the facilitation and enhancement of the region's events and create an environment for innovation and creation within the municipality.
- Education: To develop general public and community awareness and understanding in relation to the benefits of tourism and to create tourism opportunities in the region.
- Social Benefits: To build social relationships for our culturally diverse region by fostering and strengthening supportive inclusions between individuals and diverse groups.
- Wellbeing: Encourage groups/organisations to deliver events that contribute to the well-being of the Greater Shepparton community.
- Celebration: To encourage a diverse range of events to celebrate the tourism product strengths in the region.
- Capacity Building: Help develop event coordination skills of the Greater Shepparton Community.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

Greater Shepparton City Council Plan 2017 – 2021:

Social Goals:

- Greater Shepparton is a welcoming, inclusive and safe place for all.
- Creativity and participation in arts and culture is nurtured and encouraged.
- Volunteering is promoted and encouraged along with other measures to improve community resilience.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020 (continued)

- Greater Shepparton is valued for cultural celebrations, inclusion and engagement of our diverse communities.

Economic Goals:

- The Greater Shepparton economy is prosperous, high value and a focus of choice for business, investment and employment.
- Greater Shepparton is a major destination for events and tourism (e.g. progression of the business case for the Greater Victoria Commonwealth Games bid).
- Shepparton is the regional city centre supported by well-planned and designed existing and emerging commercial activity centres.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Financial – Insurance Claims	Unlikely	Low	Low	Ensure successful applicant has a current insurance policy/certificate
Strategic – Emergency / catastrophes	Rare	Low	Moderate	Ensure successful applicant has an Emergency Response Plan
Operations – OH&S	Possible	Medium	Moderate	Ensure a Risk Management Plan has been undertaken prior to each event
Operations – Infrastructure	Unlikely	Low	Moderate	Ensure all Council equipment and infrastructure has been checked and is in safe working order prior to distribution for event
Operations – Infrastructure	Unlikely	Low	Moderate	Ensure all Council equipment and infrastructure has been checked and is in safe working order prior to distribution for event

Policy Considerations

The assessment and recommendations have been made in line with the Grant Distribution Policy | 43.POL1.

Financial Implications

Events Grants have a total budget of \$45,000 plus GST annually. Following round 1 2019/2020 program there is \$20,500 plus GST remaining for round 2 funding. Please note as the Corona Virus (COVID19) continues to evolve more events may postpone or not go ahead. The Economic Development department will assess this as the situation unfolds and not progress fund payments if events do not go ahead prior to June 30 2021.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020 (continued)

	Approved Budget Estimate for this proposal ¹ \$	This Proposal GST Exclusive \$	Variance to Approved Budget Estimate \$	This Proposal GST Inclusive ² \$
Revenue				
Expense	\$20,500	\$14,350	(\$6,150)	\$14,435
Net Total	\$20,500	\$14,350	(\$6,150)	\$14,435

¹ Budgets are GST exclusive

² For Contract Award reports the GST inclusive expense shall match the amount reported in the recommendation

Legal/Statutory Implications

All events grants applicants must comply with planning, building and health legislative and statutory requirements prior to commencement of events and/or release of the Council's funds.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The approval of the recommendation stated above will not have a negative impact on the environment.

Social Implications

Events grants provided by Council are aimed at increasing opportunities for the community to come together as a whole, fostering community pride and esteem.

Economic Impacts

Events funded by Council have in the past resulted in increased visitation and an increase in overnight stays with participants of the events, organisers, families spending more time in the Greater Shepparton region over the course of events. Retail stores, local speciality stores as well as cafes and restaurants have also reported a positive economic impact during these events

Consultation

The Grants Working Group have successfully organised community information evenings and workshops to educate and inform the public regarding what Council grants are available as well as how to write and submit an online application. There are a number of Grants Administrators throughout Council who are available to answer and meet with members of the community to discuss future applications and events

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Inform	Keep the community informed into how to apply for grants and alternative streams of funding	Grants Forum 2019
Consult	Consult and listen to the community regarding their expectations of the funding process	Grants Forum 2019
Involve	Work with the community	Grants Working Group (Internal)

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.7 Major and Minor Events Grants Program - Round Two, 2019-2020 **(continued)**

Consultation (continued)

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Collaborate	Work alongside community groups to build a better Grants Program	Grants Forum 2019
Empower	We will provide the community with up to date information and service	Grants Forum 2019

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

2.3.2 Community Life

2.4.4 The Need to Grow

3.2 Supporting Principles

4.3.4 The Municipality is More Attractive

4.3.9 The Municipality is Culturally Active

b) Other strategic links

Council Plan 2017 – 2021

2.7 – Greater Shepparton is valued for cultural celebrations, inclusion and engagement of our diverse communities

3.3 – Greater Shepparton is a major destination for events and tourism

Conclusion

The applications for funding through the Minor and Major Events Funding Round Two 2019/2020 were reviewed by an internal Assessment Panel and it was recommended that the thirteen applications be funded. Due to the Corona virus (COVID19) pandemic one event has been cancelled no longer requiring funding. Four other events have been postponed but are planning to run an event when safe to do so. The approved events meet eligibility requirements for Council's Grants Policy and the Events Grants Guidelines.

Attachments

Nil

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Council Officers involved in producing this report

Author: Graduate Strategic Planner Amendments

Proof reader(s): Team Leader Strategic Planning, Manager Building and Planning

Approved by: Director Sustainable Development

Other: Team Leader Business and Industry Development

STATEMENT ON COVID-19

Greater Shepparton City Council understands the economic consequences that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on businesses across Greater Shepparton. To lessen the economic burden on businesses, Council has initiated the *Greater Shepparton Economic Response to COVID-19 Package* that aims to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on the health and wellbeing of Greater Shepparton residents, our vulnerable community, and provide immediate and ongoing support to our local businesses that are currently experiencing devastating levels of disruption and uncertainty.

The Package provides financial and direct support to businesses and the broader community to assist in managing and navigating the immediate and ongoing impact of COVID-19. The economic response provides 21 actions in four areas targeting residents, community groups, businesses and advocacy efforts.

However, in spite of this global pandemic, at some stage the pandemic will pass and the community will enter a recovery phase. It is important to note that this report relates to actions during the recovery phase when the pandemic has passed. Specifically, the comments and recommendations in this report that consider free off-street car parking are not part of a COVID-19 activation response; instead they are for the longer term.

The strategic approach and initiatives for car parking recommended in this report are anticipated to assist in the economic recovery of the Shepparton CBD post the COVID-19 pandemic and for the future ongoing long term sustainability of the CBD.

Executive Summary

The efficient management of car parking is essential to the functionality, liveability and sustainability of the Shepparton Central Business District (CBD).

This report collates previously identified actions, projects and investments required to appropriately manage car parking in the Shepparton CBD to ensure that the long-term needs of car parking are met. Council officers have developed a car parking policy that has balanced the competing needs for appropriate strategic planning to reflect the primacy of the Shepparton CBD, the need to continue to stimulate economic activity by ensuring the appropriate turnover of car parking spaces within the CBD, the extensive community feedback received on car parking in the CBD and the financial considerations of Council. The recommendations are financially responsible and prudent, aimed at ensuring the long term financial sustainability of the Council. This report seeks to outline

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

all of these factors before forming a series of recommendations for Council's consideration.

The development of Council's parking policy has been partly informed by the *Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy* (Parking Strategy) by GTA Consultants Pty Ltd (see Attachment 1 - Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy). The Parking Strategy seeks to guide the long-term management of car parking in the CBD through the use of best practice car parking management principles and tools. The Parking Strategy ultimately aims to utilise car parking to support the CBD by improving accessibility, liveability and balancing modal priorities.

The development of the Parking Strategy has been informed by a three stage process. Stage One involved car parking data collection and surveys undertaken by Matrix Traffic and Transport Surveys Pty Ltd in September 2018. Stage Two involved an analysis of the data to understand the current parking situation in the Shepparton CBD. This was undertaken by GTA Consultants Pty Ltd from May 2019 to June 2019.

Stage Three involved the creation of a Parking Strategy to guide the long-term management of car parking in the CBD. It considered four case study areas in the Shepparton CBD in detail, outlined the findings of the current parking situation, and suggested high level recommendations to manage and mitigate car parking demand across the case study areas, as well as making a series of recommendations for the Shepparton CBD as a whole.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 15 October 2019, Council resolved to provide a trial of free timed car parking in the Shepparton CBD over the Christmas and holiday period from the 2 December 2019 to 31 January 2020. In conjunction with the free parking period, Council and the *Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry* (SCCI) conducted separate surveys to measure business and community satisfaction of the trial. Feedback from survey respondents including shoppers and traders has been positive, with most indicating a preference that free parking continue to be provided by Council on an ongoing basis.

The current paid and time-restricted parking regime in the Shepparton CBD provides Council with net annual revenue of \$1.49 million, which in turn is then subsequently invested into the Parking Strategy – Urban Development Restricted Investment Fund. This is used to fund parking machine renewal, subsidise the school crossing supervisor program, fund administration of the parking function, as well as finance CBD activation and promotional expenditure, and streetscape work. To inform any further changes to the current paid parking regime, Council undertook a financial analysis of six modelled scenarios for alternative parking regimes across the Shepparton CBD to better understand the financial impact on annual revenue levels.

Based on the financial analysis and net benefit to the community, Council officers recommend adopting free timed off-street parking within the Shepparton CBD. It is estimated that this will lead to a \$250,000 per annum loss in parking revenue, but will result in improved economic and social outcomes in the CBD through increased visitation, and reduced on-street congestion. The option of a combination of free timed off-street parking and paid timed on-street parking is considered to provide an appropriate balance between the many competing factors outlined in this report whilst minimising the impact on Council's long term financial sustainability.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

In consideration of the Parking Strategy, the survey feedback from the community, and the financial analysis of the parking options, it is recommended that Council receive and note the *Parking Strategy*, receive and note the complimentary parking surveys from Council and the SCCI, and resolve to provide free timed off-street parking within the Shepparton CBD at selected Council-owned car parks.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. receive and note the *Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy* prepared by GTA Consultants Pty Ltd;
2. receive and note the complimentary parking survey conducted by the Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry;
3. resolve to provide free timed off-street car parking within the Shepparton CBD at Council-owned car parks;
4. note the estimated \$250,000 (ex GST) per annum reduction in income associated with free off-street car parking, and agree to address this shortfall in the 2020/2021 budget to be considered by Council at a Special Council Meeting on 28 April 2020.
5. note that any changes to the current car parking regime will be implemented at a suitable time as part of the COVID-19 recovery phase to ensure the ongoing safety of the community.

Background

The efficient management of car parking is essential to the functionality, liveability and sustainability of the Shepparton CBD. Council has identified actions, projects and investments required to address the long-term parking requirements across the Shepparton CBD.

The need to improve the provision and management of car parking in the CBD has been identified in numerous Council documents. The *Shepparton CBD Strategy 2008* (CBD Strategy) identified “*improving access to and provision of car parking within the CBD*” as a key priority. The CBD Strategy noted a public perception that parking is difficult in the CBD. Surveys have shown that the CBD has significant spare parking capacity; however, many available car parking spaces are outside of the main activity centres.

The CBD Strategy suggested that long-term parking should be provided in the periphery of the CBD in safe and accessible locations, short term parking (up to two hours) be provided in core retail areas to allow for higher turnover, multi-deck parking should be supported as part of redeveloping opportunities to enable a reduction of on-street parking in the longer term, and that wayfinding signage should be improved.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held in April 2017, Council resolved to endorse the *Movement and Place Strategy – Vision and Objectives* (the Vision), which created an objective of optimising parking management in centres. Similar to the CBD Strategy, the Vision noted a perception of inadequate convenient parking for residents and visitors using the CBD.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

Council currently provides a paid and time restricted parking enforcement regime in the Shepparton CBD. Paid parking is a steady source of revenue for Council and contributes to the efficient turnover of vehicles in the CBD, as well as providing funds for projects to improve the amenity, activation and maintenance of the CBD and subsidising the School Crossing Supervisor program.

Paid parking has been a contentious issue for Councillors and the community for a significant period of time. It has been debated by elected representatives over many terms of Council, with a large portion of the community and businesses providing significant feedback indicating that paid parking is a significant deterrent to shopping in the CBD precinct, which directly impacts on the ability to grow their business. It should be noted that the basic premise underlying the implementation of any paid parking regime is to stimulate activity by creating an environment that ensures the turnover of parked vehicles in high demand areas.

Given the need for a strategic approach to the management of car parking across the Shepparton CBD, Council engaged GTA Consultants Pty Ltd to prepare the *Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy* (Parking Strategy), which was undertaken as a three stage process.

Separate to the development of the Parking Strategy, Council resolved to conduct a timed but free parking initiative between December 2019 and January 2020. The effects of the initiative were analysed using surveys conducted by Council and the *Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry* (SCCI) of shopper and trader perceptions, and through a financial analysis measuring monetary transactions undertaken during the free parking period.

All of these disparate projects and initiatives have informed this report and the development of parking policy is outlined in Figure 1 below.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

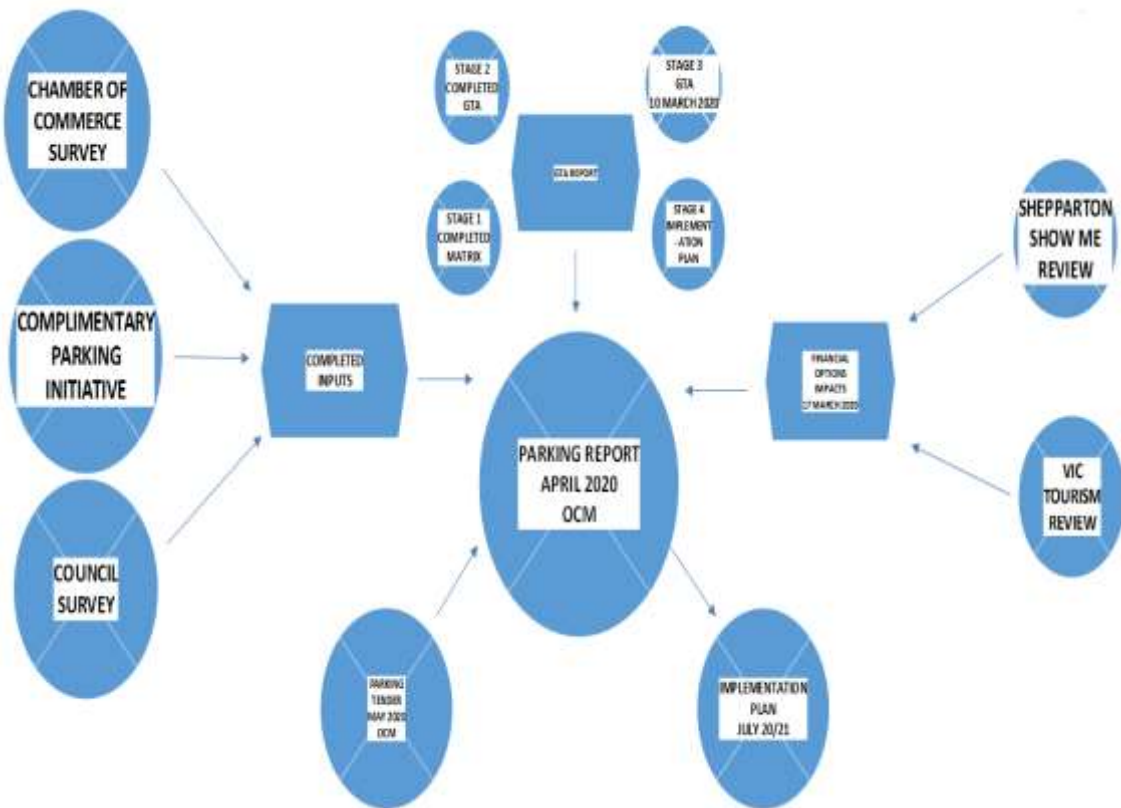


Figure 1: Development of the Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD report.

Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy

The development of the Parking Strategy has been informed using a three stage methodology, which is summarised in Figure 2.



Figure 2: Methodology of the Car Parking Strategy.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

Stage One

Matrix and Transportation Pty Ltd was commissioned to undertake a car parking survey, which included data collection of car parking usage and turnover rates. 700 intercept surveys were conducted in the Shepparton CBD on Tuesday 11 September 2018 and Friday 14 September 2018.

The purpose of the survey was to understand parking purpose and destination to assist in identifying locations of parking demand, as distinct from locations of where people park.

Stage Two

In May 2019, GTA Consultants Pty Ltd was appointed to undertake an analysis of the data secured in the car parking survey. The analysis found that the demand for parking across the CBD was not consistent, with different areas of high and low demands.

The Shepparton CBD has a total of 2,830 parking spaces. Peak time of the survey was between 10am to 12pm on a Tuesday, where 57% of the CBD's car parking supply was being utilised (see Figure 3). The utilisation of car parking is consistent across on and off-street car parking (58% and 52%) respectively (see Figure 4).

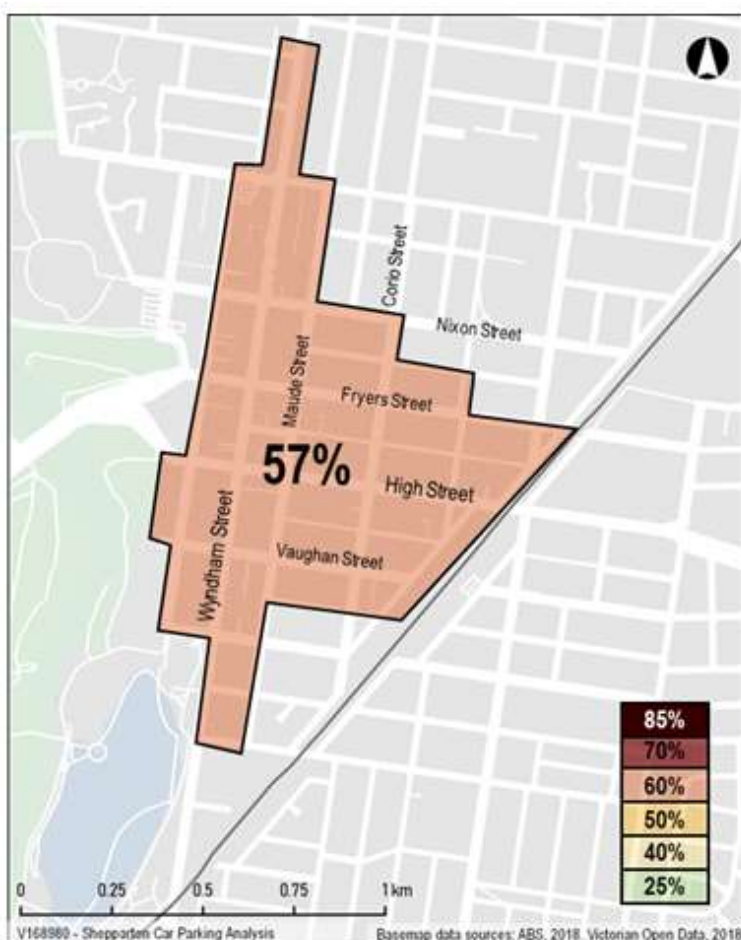


Figure 3: Total Car Parking Utilisation in the CBD.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)



Figure 4: On-street and Off-street Parking Utilisation.

This equates to a total of 1,129 car parking spaces vacant in the CBD, 843 of these were on-street. However there were numerous high-demand precincts in the CBD where around 70% of supply was being utilised (see Figure 5).

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

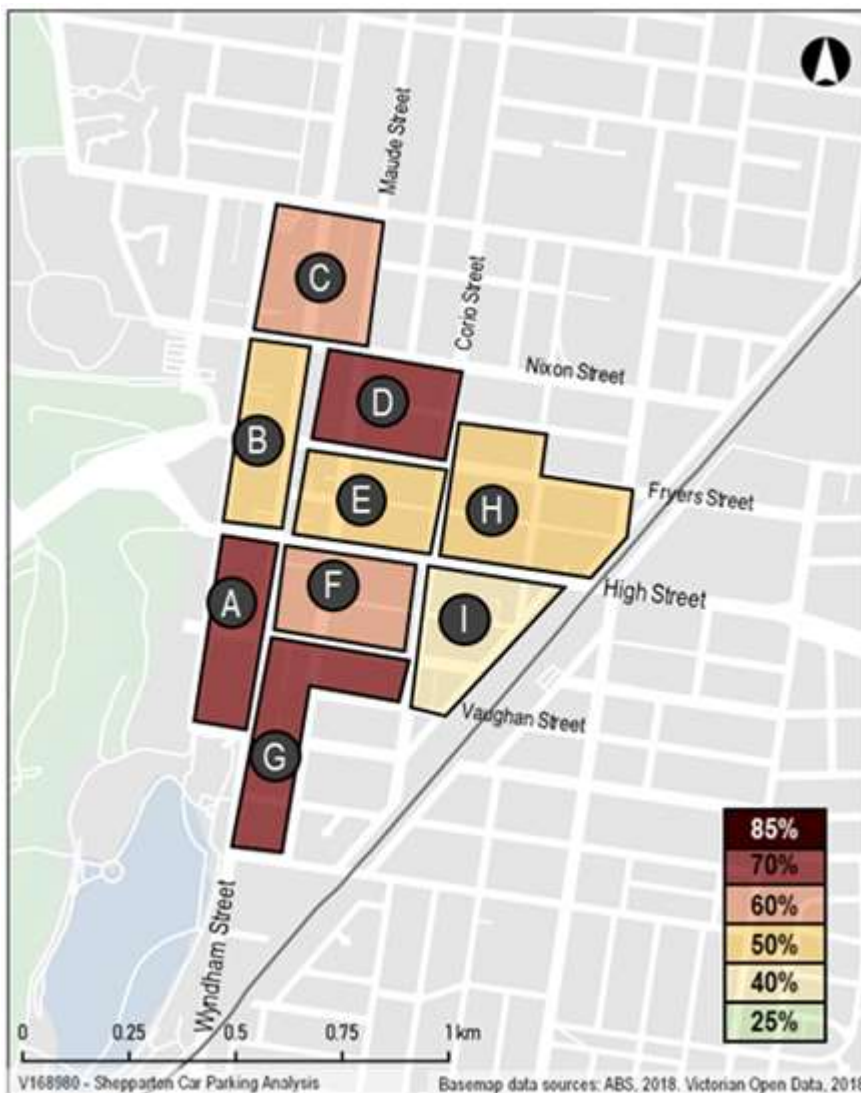


Figure 5: Car Parking Utilisation in the CBD at 12pm.

A key recommendation of the data analysis was the need to develop a strategic approach to car parking in the Shepparton CBD.

Stage Three

In October 2019, GTA Consultants Pty Ltd was appointed to prepare a strategic car Parking Strategy for the management of car parking in the Shepparton CBD.

The aim of the Parking Strategy is to:

- identify current and future challenges facing the Shepparton CBD;
- articulate Council and the community’s vision for parking;
- explore and recommend potential options to manage car parking;
- develop four case studies to test the application of car parking management approaches; and
- recommend the way forward for car parking in the Shepparton CBD.

The Parking Strategy developed four objectives that guided the development of the strategy (see Figure 6). The objectives were used to develop parking policies and management tools based on the principles of good parking management (see Figure 7).

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

These policies and management tools were tested on four case study areas in the Shepparton CBD (see Figure 8) where parking is known to be an issue; including over or under utilisation and known future growth. The Parking Strategy made specific recommendations for each of the case study areas that informed the recommendations for a CBD wide approach.

The four case study areas are:

- southern end of Welsford Street;
- High Street and Rowe Street car park area;
- heath precinct and multi-deck car park (this case study also included consideration of the off street carparks within the vicinity such as Nixon and Maude); and
- education precinct and Railway Parade.



Figure 6: The objectives of parking in the Shepparton CBD.



Figure 7: The principles of good car parking management.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

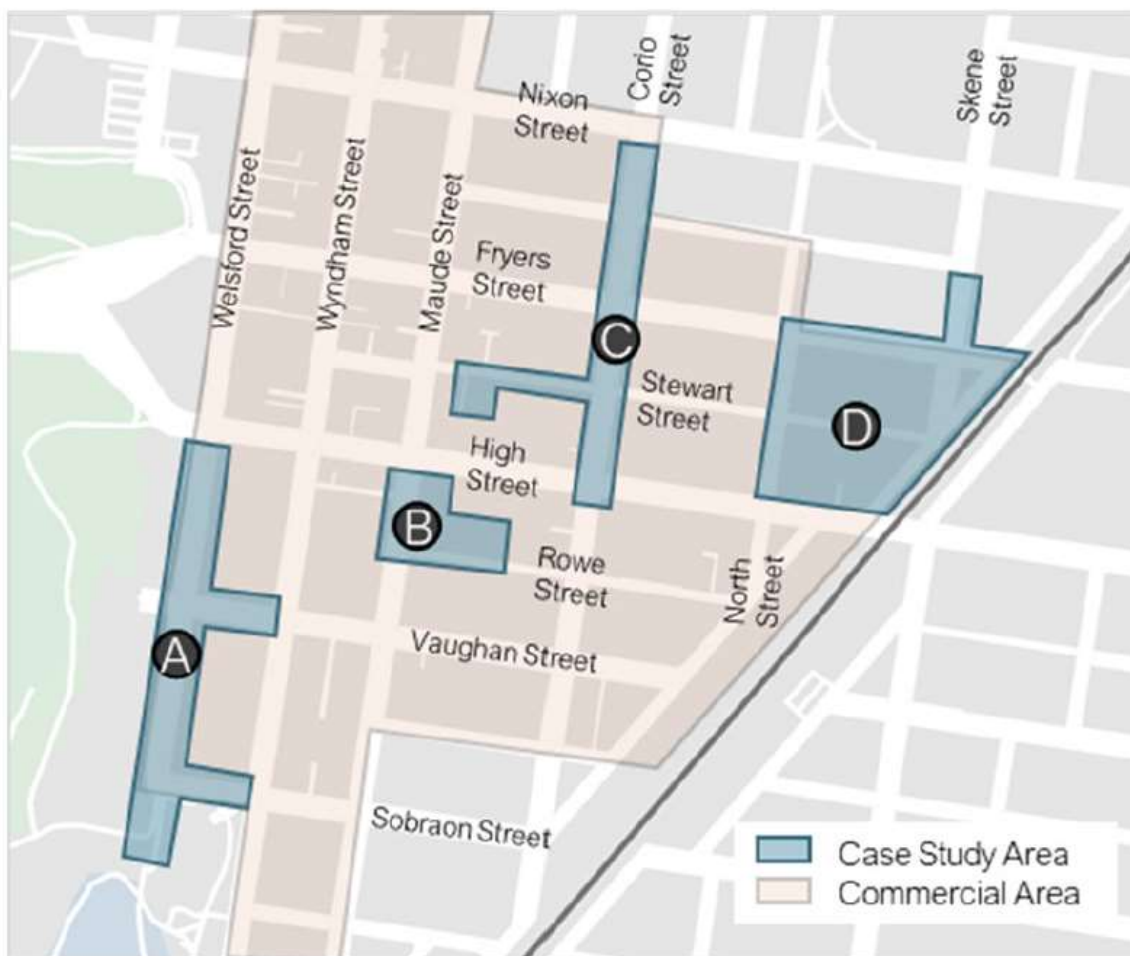


Figure 8: The four CBD case study areas.

Based on the case studies, the Parking Strategy made the following broad recommendations for the provision of car parking in the Shepparton CBD:

- implement a kerbside user hierarchy to ensure that car parking spaces in an area are allocated to the desired users;
- improve awareness of parking through wayfinding signage, implementing dynamic signage, and updating the parking app to provide real time data;
- convert all-day parking to short term parking to increase turnover in areas with high demand;
- review pricing structure: adopt a variable pricing structure & apply location specific paid parking policy (which may include elements of free off-street parking) ;
- review underutilised parking areas and consider making off-street parking cheaper / changing time restrictions to increase use; and
- identify long-term opportunity for increased parking provision.

The kerbside parking hierarchy deals with how parking is managed and can vary from street to street depending on the surrounding land use. It generally acknowledges the fact that different user groups have differing priorities and needs from both a safety and amenity perspective. An example of a commonly accepted and adopted kerbside user hierarchy for typical commercial centres / activity centre area is shown in Figure 9.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)



Figure 9: Kerbside user group hierarchy.

The Parking Strategy also made recommendations relating to the management of the current paid parking regime in the Shepparton CBD:

- maintain paid parking and adopt a variable parking structure which will enable any changes to be made to paid parking and reviewed;
- apply a location specific paid parking policy;
- establish a policy where by the level of income from paid parking is transparent and allocated to future capital works to improve the CBD;
- resolve any issues with the parking app as a priority;
- implement credit card payment technology in to all parking ticket machines; and
- continue free parking trial during December each year (between 1-31 December only) to support increased trade and public perception of parking and the CBD during Christmas (subject to the outcomes of the recent trial).

The Parking Strategy made more specific recommendations for each of the case study areas, and listed opportunities for a fourth stage to the Parking Strategy. This would undertake a holistic car parking strategy for the entire Shepparton CBD, and prepare an implementation action plan for the Parking Strategy. The completion of the Parking Strategy will feed into further strategic transport planning work being undertaken by Council.

Free Parking Initiative and Surveys

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 15 October 2019, Council resolved to:

1. beginning from Monday 2 December until Friday 31 January 2020, Council provide free timed parking in the CBD of Shepparton, for both on street and off street car parking owned by Council as part of a Christmas and Holiday promotion;
2. marketing of this action will be critical so will need to have input from the Council, Chamber of Commerce and Shepparton Show Me to enable them to work together to advertise the new parking arrangements to our community; and

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

3. to set up a sub-committee together with the Chamber of Commerce to work on the parking situation and future opportunities for investment, visitation and positivity in this precinct to once again be the vibrant heart of Shepparton.

As a result of the motion, Council provided free timed car parking in the Shepparton CBD over the Christmas and Holiday period from the 2 December 2019 to 31 January 2020. A car parking survey was conducted by Council during the period of free parking.

Questions included:

1. are you shopping in the CBD today because you didn't have to pay for parking?
2. do you know about the complimentary timed parking for the months of December 2019 and January 2020?
3. if yes, how did you hear about it?

In total, 1156 people participated in the survey, the results of which are listed in Figures 10 - 12. Overall 85.39% stated that they were shopping in the CBD today because they did not have to pay for parking.

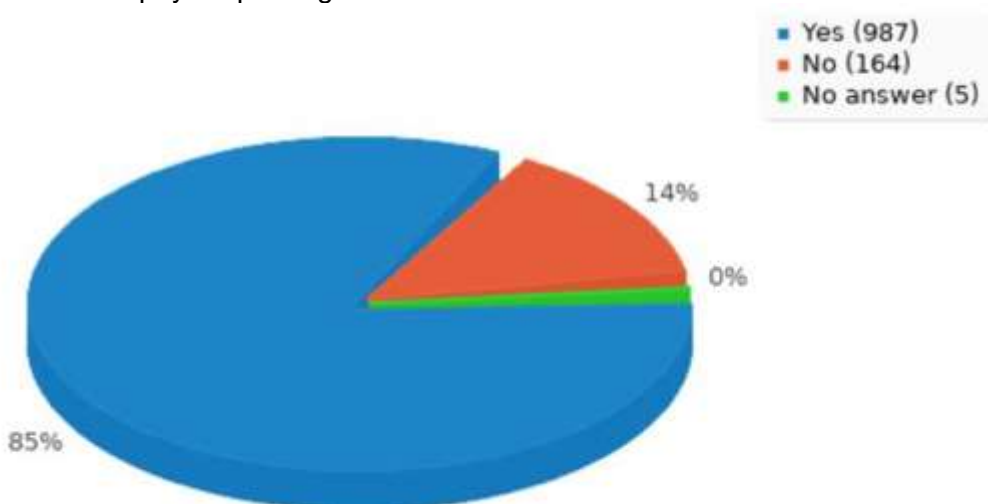


Figure 10: Number of respondents who were shopping in the CBD because they did not have to pay for parking.

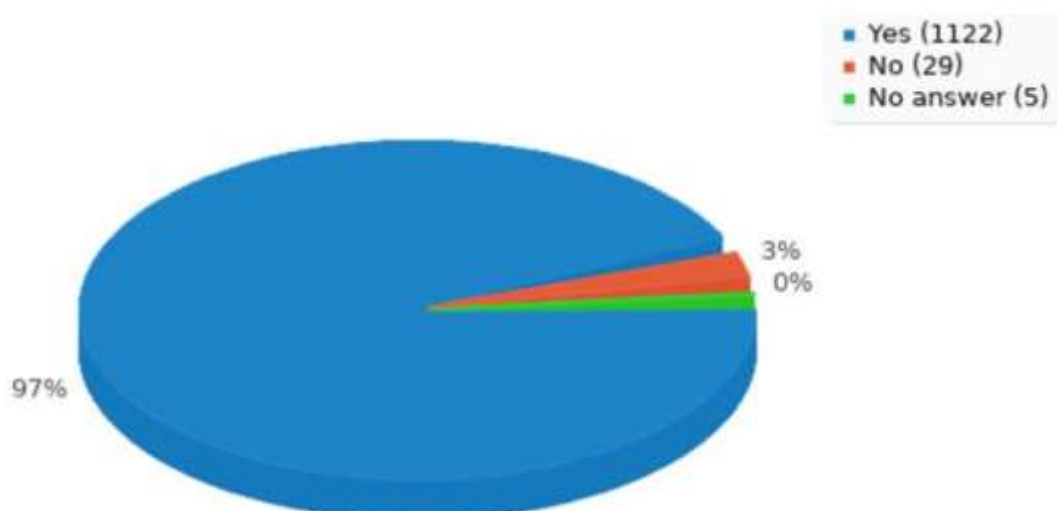


Figure 11: Number of respondents who knew about the free CBD parking trial.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

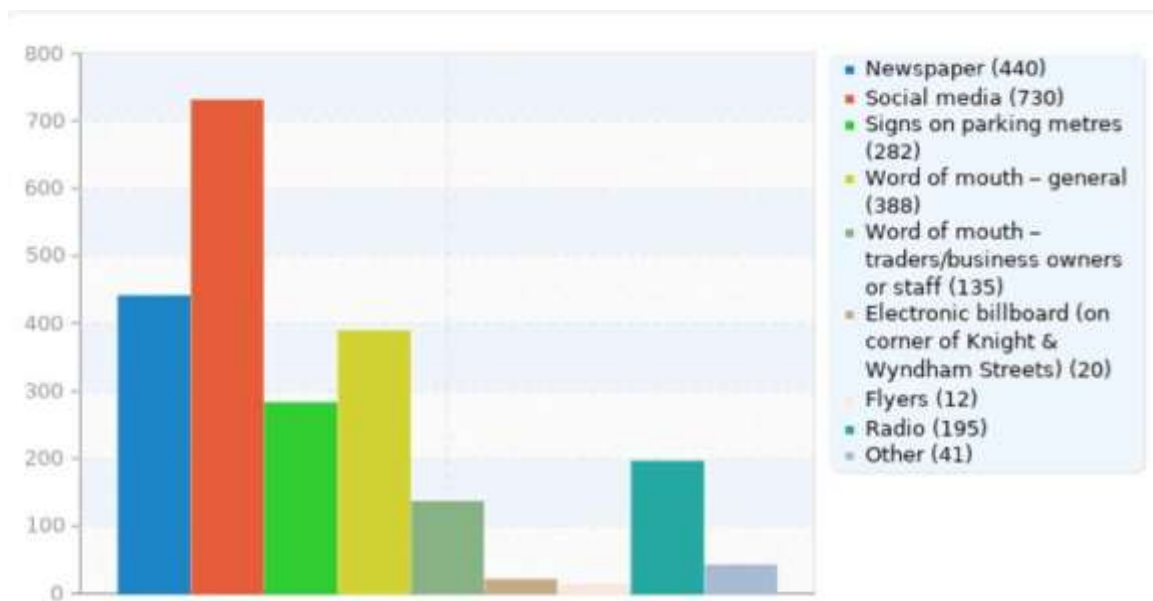


Figure 12: Indication of how respondents heard about the free CBD parking trial.

The *Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI)* conducted its own survey during the free parking period, surveying the thoughts of shoppers and traders. In total 200 shoppers and 167 traders participated in the survey. Questions for shoppers included:

1. Do you know about complimentary (timed) parking for the months of December and January?
2. Are you shopping in the CBD today because of complimentary parking?

Overall 67.5% of shoppers stated that they knew about the free parking, with 56.8% stating that they were shopping in the CBD because of the free parking initiative.

Questions for traders included:

1. Has this (free parking) initiative had a positive effect on your business?
2. Has there been a change to your business over this period compared to the same period last year?
3. Approx. percent up or down?
4. Would you support a further complimentary (timed) parking initiative over a longer period?

Overall 92.8% of traders stated that the free parking initiative had a positive effect on their business, with 76% stating that business was up compared to the same time last year. 98.2% of traders supported a further free parking initiative.

Written feedback from both shoppers and traders about the free parking initiative has been positive, with most indicating a preference that free parking continue to be provided by Council on an ongoing basis.

Parking Options for the Shepparton CBD

Council officers considered the financial impacts of changing the current paid and timed parking regime in the Shepparton CBD, including timings and costings of on and off-street parking.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

The following financial estimates have been based on historical financial information from the last three financial years in order to set a base line for comparison with the individual options.

OPTION ONE:

Continue with Paid and Time Restricted Parking

No change to the paid and time restricted parking would see Council continue to generate a net income (approximately \$1.49m per annum) to go to the Parking Strategy – Urban Development Restricted Investment fund.

	3 year average
Income – Fines	(\$1.51m)
Income – Fees	(\$1.16m)
Expense – Parking Administration	\$0.90m
Expense – Bad Debts	\$0.17m
Expense – Meter Maintenance	\$0.11m
Net (Profit)/Loss	(\$1.49m)

OPTION TWO:

Two Months Free

Based on financial information available from the recent free parking trial, a two month trial would see a reduction in both on-street and off-street Fee income. Fines are not expected to vary as greatly with data suggesting fines shift from ‘failure to pay’ to ‘overstay’. Therefore, financial projections are for no change to income from Fines. Parking operating expenses would not change as all items would still be required for the year.

The net impact to Council’s budget for this option would be reduced income per annum of approximately \$210,000.

	3 year average	Projected Result	Variance
Income – Fines	(\$1.51m)	(\$1.51m)	
Income – Fees	(\$1.16m)	(\$0.95m)	\$0.21m
Expense – Parking Administration	\$0.90m	\$0.90m	
Expense – Bad Debts	\$0.17m	\$0.17m	
Expense – Meter Maintenance	\$0.11m	\$0.11m	
Net (Profit)/Loss	(\$1.49m)	(\$1.28m)	\$0.21m

OPTION THREE:

All Free, All Timed

Making all parking free would see income from Fees drop to zero. This equates to roughly \$1.16 million in lost income per annum. As per Option Two, Fines income is assumed to have no change with fines moving from ‘Failure to Pay’ to ‘Overstay’. Parking Administration and Bad Debts expenses would not change under this option, however, with no need to collect fees from parking meters and ticket machines, meter maintenance expenditure would not be required.

The net impact to Council’s budget for this option would be reduced income per annum of approximately \$1.05 million.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

	3 year average	Projected Result	Variance
Income – Fines	(\$1.51m)	(\$1.51m)	
Income – Fees	(\$1.16m)	\$0	\$1.16m
Expense – Parking Administration	\$0.90m	\$0.90m	
Expense – Bad Debts	\$0.17m	\$0.17m	
Expense – Meter Maintenance	\$0.11m	\$0	(\$0.11m)
Net (Profit)/Loss	(\$1.49m)	(\$1.28m)	\$1.05m

OPTION FOUR:

Off Street Parking – Free but Timed

Off street parking generates less income than on street parking. As a result making off-street parking free but timed would see income from Fees drop by approximately \$250,000 per annum. As per previous options, income from Fines would be expected to stay relatively steady. No change to parking operating expenditure is expected either under this option.

The net impact to Council's budget for this option would be reduced income per annum of approximately \$250,000.

	3 year average	Projected Result	Variance
Income – Fines	(\$1.51m)	(\$1.51m)	
Income – Fees	(\$1.16m)	(\$0.91m)	\$0.25m
Expense – Parking Administration	\$0.90m	\$0.90m	
Expense – Bad Debts	\$0.17m	\$0.17m	
Expense – Meter Maintenance	\$0.11m	\$0.11m	
Net (Profit)/Loss	(\$1.49m)	(\$1.24m)	\$0.25m

OPTION FIVE:

Off-Street Parking – Free and Not Timed

Option Five continues the same assumptions as Option Four but allows for a reduction in Fine income as 'Overstay' fines would obviously reduce for off-street parking. Parking expenditure would remain unchanged with majority of the expenditure still required for on-street parking.

The net impact to Council's budget for this option would be reduced income per annum of approximately \$360,000.

	3 year average	Projected Result	Variance
Income – Fines	(\$1.51m)	(\$1.40m)	\$0.11m
Income – Fees	(\$1.16m)	(\$0.91m)	\$0.25m
Expense – Parking Administration	\$0.90m	\$0.90m	
Expense – Bad Debts	\$0.17m	\$0.17m	
Expense – Meter Maintenance	\$0.11m	\$0.11m	
Net (Profit)/Loss	(\$1.49m)	(\$1.13m)	\$0.36m

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

OPTION SIX:

On-Street Parking – Free and Timed

With the majority of Fee income generated from on-street parking this option would see a significant reduction of \$870,000 per annum in Fee income. As per previous options, leaving on-street parking as timed will see fines shift from 'failure to pay' to 'overstay'. Fine income remains unchanged as does parking expenditure.

The net impact to Council's budget for this option would be reduced income per annum of approximately \$870,000.

	3 year average	Projected Result	Variance
Income – Fines	(\$1.51m)	(\$1.51m)	
Income – Fees	(\$1.16m)	(\$0.29m)	\$0.87m
Expense – Parking Administration	\$0.90m	\$0.90m	
Expense – Bad Debts	\$0.17m	\$0.17m	
Expense – Meter Maintenance	\$0.11m	\$0.11m	
Net (Profit)/Loss	(\$1.49m)	(\$0.62m)	\$0.87m

Financial Implications

The table below summarises the financial impacts from each of the options.

		Net Income	Lost Income
Option 1	Continue with Paid and Time Restricted Parking	\$1.49m	
Option 2	2 Months Free	\$1.28m	\$0.21m
Option 3	All Free, All Timed	\$0.44m	\$1.05m
Option 4	Off Street - Free & Timed	\$1.24m	\$0.25m
Option 5	Off Street - Free & Not Timed	\$1.13m	\$0.36m
Option 6	On Street - Free & Timed	\$0.62m	\$0.87m

All surplus funds generated from parking operations are allocated into a Parking Strategy – Urban Development Restricted Investment fund. This restricted investment has provided the necessary funds for parking machine renewal, funding to support the school crossing program and the administration of the parking function. It has also provided funding support to CBD works and expenditure as below:

2015/2016

- Maude Street Stage 1a Upgrade Design \$102,000
- Maude Street Mall Wi-Fi Connection \$46,000

2016/2017

- Maude Street Stage 1a Upgrade Design \$200,000
- Fraser Street Mall Toilet \$150,000

2017/2018

- Contributions to recurrent expenditure for CBD Place Manager \$83,500
- Major CBD Activation/Innovation \$20,000

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

2018/2019

- Contributions to recurrent expenditure for CBD Place Manager \$82,500
- Major CBD Activation/Innovation \$22,500

As at the second quarter of the 2019/2020 financial year, the projected ending balance of the restricted investment at 30 June 2020 is estimated to be \$1.7 million. Any reductions in recurrent (yearly) income would see limited to non-existent funds available in the restricted investment in future years to fund the school crossing supervisor program, parking related capital works or urban/CBD related recurrent expenditure and capital works.

Based on the financial analysis, it is recommended that Council adopt Option Four to provide free timed off-street parking. This option will result in the lowest financial implications for Council at a cost of \$250,000 per annum in lost revenue, while providing the community with an ongoing parking solution in the Shepparton CBD. Providing free timed off-street parking will result in economic and social benefits for the Shepparton CBD. This includes increased visitation and improved user experience through not having to pay for car parking, reduced vehicle circulation for on-street parking and attracting demand into underutilised parking areas. Overall this option represents a balanced approach in terms of economic impact to Council while providing some free parking options.

The free timed off-street parking will apply to the following Council-owned car parks in the Shepparton CBD listed in Figure 13.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

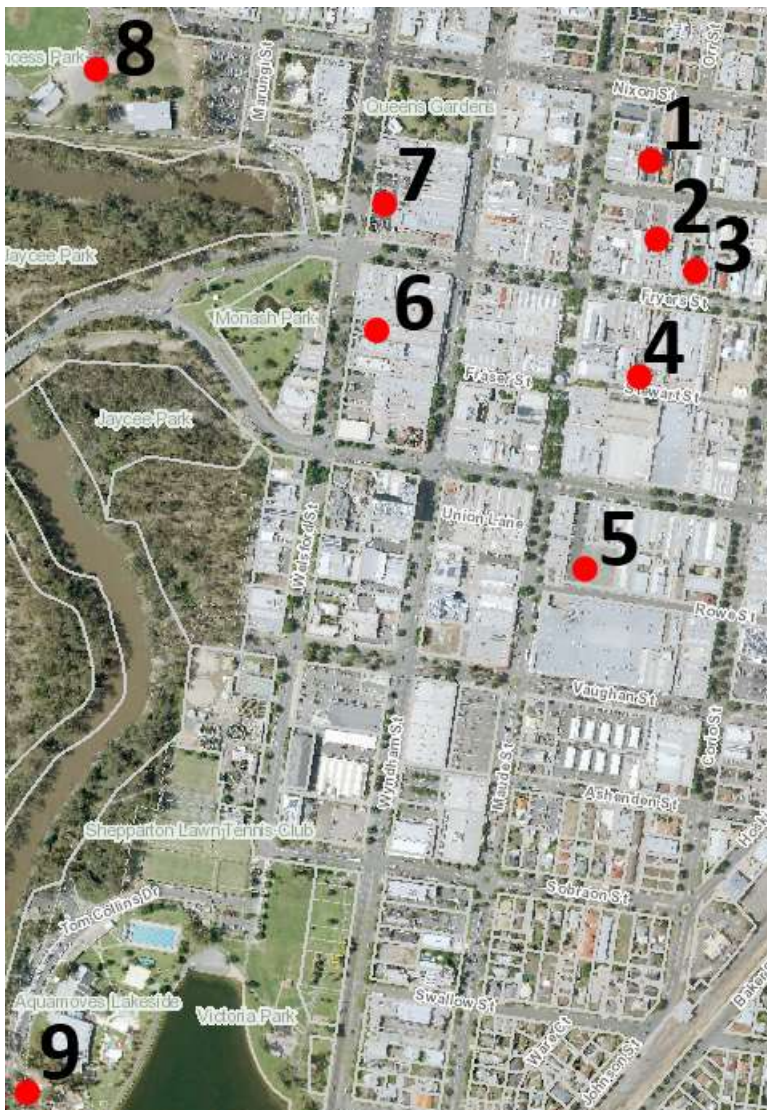


Figure 13: Council owned car parks in the Shepparton CBD.

1. Maude/Nixon carpark – 68 spaces including 2 disabled.
2. Edward Street carpark - 39 spaces including 1 disabled.
3. Fryers Street - 34 spaces.
4. Stewart Street carpark – 25 spaces including 2 disabled.
5. High Street carpark – 124 spaces including 5 disabled.
6. Welsford Street/Wyndham Mall carpark – 26 spaces including 2 disabled.
7. Opposite 90 Welsford Street – 85 spaces including 4 disabled (part Council part privately owned).

To assist with the provision of free all day parking, Council will also construct new car parks within the vicinity of the CBD and Aquamoves at the following locations:

1. Goyen Reserve – 26 new spaces currently under planning, with construction expected in the 20/21 financial year.
2. Tom Collins Drive – 25 new spaces currently under construction (5 sealed and 20 unsealed).

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

Theme: Leadership and Governance

1.3 Council demonstrates strong leadership and sound decision making in the best interests of the community.

1.4 Financial management is responsible and effective in responding to challenges and constraints with a focus on the financial sustainability of the Council.

1.7 Council advocates on issues, priorities and needs that matter to our community in partnership with key stakeholders.

1.9 Service standards and service delivery models are realistic and meet community expectations and demand while being financially viable and in line with Council's core business.

Theme: Economic

3.5 Shepparton is the regional city centre supported by well-planned and designed existing and emerging commercial activity centres.

Theme: Built

4.7 Reliable, safe, more frequent and connected local and broader transport system supporting the connection of people within, across and outside of Greater Shepparton.

Risk Management

There is no risk to Council associated with the recommendations of this report.

If the recommendations of this report are not adopted or postponed, there is a risk that Council may not be prepared to implement any changes to the Shepparton CBD parking regime in a timely manner during the post COVID-19 economic recovery phase, including the creation of promotional materials, undertaking public awareness campaigns and installing new signage.

It should be noted that if the results of the Parking Strategy were not included as a key input into future strategic transport planning work, it is considered that the strategy would be incomplete and not fit-for-purpose thus running the risk of wasting Council resources and/or reducing the obtainable benefits for the community.

Policy Considerations

All procedures associated with the development of the *Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy* will comply with relevant policy requirements.

Council should note that undertaking a further parking trial prior to the adoption of this work exposes Council to implementing a regime that is inconsistent with the *Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy*.

Financial Implications

The original contract cost for the preparation of Stage 3 of the *Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy* prepared by GTA Consultants Pty Ltd was \$134,000 (excluding GST). There were two variations to this contract for \$12,000 (excluding GST) and \$12,650 (excluding GST). The total cost of preparing Stage 3 of the Parking Strategy was \$158,650 (excluding GST).

The cost to Council of providing a free timed off-street parking initiative is estimated to be \$250,000 per annum in lost revenue. The loss of income will mean that reductions will need to be made in other areas of Council to account for the funding shortfall. This will be addressed in the 2020/2021 budget to be considered by Council at a Special Council Meeting on 28 April 2020.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

Legal/Statutory Implications

All procedures associated with the development of the parking strategy will comply with relevant legislative requirements.

There are no legal or statutory implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The recommendations of this report will result in positive environmental outcomes, as vehicular movements will be streamlined by reducing circulation for on-street parking, therefore reducing unnecessary pollutant emissions and improving the amenity of the Shepparton CBD.

Social Implications

The recommendations of this report for the Shepparton CBD may result in positive social outcomes for the community, facilitating a freer flowing CBD that will reduce congestion, and encourage more members of the community to visit the CBD and increase expenditure. This will have a positive impact on the CBD.

Economic Impacts

Maintaining Greater Shepparton as an attractive and relaxed locale with access to a broad array of activities and features is expected to have positive impacts on tourism, retail and commercial industries, and contribute to population growth and retention.

Any changes to the current parking regime could be both positive and negative dependent on the success of implementation. If the economy is stimulated by further consumer spend in the CBD due to not paying for off street car parking, this would be perceived as a positive impact for business, consumers and retailers. Should any change not meet the expectations of further generating activity in the CBD, the short term economic impact will involve the loss of Council revenue.

Based on the recent free parking initiative, it is expected that the recommendations of this report may have a stimulating economic impact on the Shepparton CBD, especially during the post COVID-19 economic recovery phase.

Consultation

The free parking initiative held by Council during December 2019 – January 2020 was surveyed by Council staff and the *Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry*. Both surveys indicated positive feedback from the community and traders regarding the free parking initiative, with the desire for another free parking trial.

The development of the *Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy* was informed through one-on-one meetings and workshops with representatives from key stakeholder organisations were conducted. This includes the *Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry*, *Department of Transport*, *La Trobe University*, and the *Shepparton Show Me Committee*.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy 2006

Topic: Settlement and Housing

Theme: Growth

Objective 4: to provide convenient access to a range of activity centres and employment opportunities that can serve the expanded community.

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

Topic: Economic Development

Theme: Retail/Commercial Centres

Objective 2: To develop the Shepparton CBD as a regional centre for commerce and entertainment.

Topic: Infrastructure

Theme: Traffic and Transport Systems:

Objective 1: To promote linkages with other regional cities to cater to traffic movements which include various users.

Objective 6: To ensure the safety and efficient functioning of the roads for a variety of users.

b) Other strategic links

Shepparton CBD Strategy 2008

Greater Shepparton Commercial Activity Centres Strategy 2015

Greater Shepparton Movement and Place Strategy – Vision and Objectives March 2017

Shepparton Railway Precinct Master Plan 2017

Shepparton Health & Tertiary Precincts Action Plan 2020

Conclusion

The efficient management of car parking is essential to the functionality, liveability and sustainability of the Shepparton Central Business District (CBD).

Council engaged GTA Consultants Pty Ltd to prepare the *Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy* (Parking Strategy) to explore car parking issues in four case study areas across the Shepparton CBD and to outline possible best practice car parking management principles and tools. The Parking Strategy makes several broad recommendations for car parking management across the CBD to improve vehicle turnover and reduce perceptions of parking supply issues within the CBD.

Council officers have developed a car parking policy that has balanced the competing needs for appropriate strategic planning to reflect the primacy of the Shepparton CBD, the need to continue to stimulate economic activity by ensuring the appropriate turnover of car parking spaces within the CBD, the extensive community feedback received on car parking in the CBD and the financial considerations of Council. This report seeks to outline all of these factors before forming a series of recommendations for Council's consideration.

The free parking initiative in the CBD between December 2019 – January 2020 was popular with shoppers and traders, with surveys from Council and the Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry indicating popular support for the initiative, with most indicating a preference that free parking continue to be provided by Council on an ongoing basis.

The current paid and time-restricted parking regime in the Shepparton CBD provides Council with net annual revenue of \$1.49 million, which in turn is then subsequently invested into the Parking Strategy – Urban Development Restricted Investment Fund. This is used to fund parking machine renewal, support the school crossing program, administration of the parking function, as well as support CBD streetscape works and related expenditure.

To inform any further changes to the current paid parking regime, Council officers undertook a financial analysis exercise of six modelled scenarios for alternative parking

10. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

10.8 Car Parking in the Shepparton CBD (continued)

regimes across the Shepparton CBD to better understand the financial impact on annual revenue levels.

Based on the financial analysis and net benefit to the community, Council officers recommend adopting free timed off-street parking within the Shepparton CBD. It is estimated that this will cost Council \$250,000 per annum in lost parking revenue, but will result in improved economic and social outcomes in the CBD through increased visitation and reduced on-street congestion. The option of a combination of free timed off-street parking and paid timed on-street parking is considered to provide an appropriate balance between the many competing factors outlined in this report.

Attachments

1. Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy [↓](#) Page 823
2. Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry Complimentary Parking Survey [↓](#) Page 899

11. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITIES

11.1 Councillors Community Interaction and Briefing Program

Disclosures of conflicts of interest in relation to advice provided in this report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

Councillors' Community Interaction and Briefing Program

From 1 March 2020 to 31 March 2020, some or all of the Councillors have been involved in the following activities:

- TatFest 2020
- Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting
- Visitor Economy Luncheon
- Presentation of Badges to School Leaders | Verney Road School
- University of the Third Age | Annual General Meeting
- SAM Advisory Committee Meeting
- Shepparton South Rotary Club and Nova Scotia Rotary Club
- Shepparton Soroptimist International
- Aerodrome Advisory Committee Meeting
- Dhurringile Community Action Group Meeting
- Small Town Meeting | Congupna
- Shepparton East Bowls Club | Site Tour
- Shepparton Malayee Association | South Indian Talent Show
- VACSAL Basketball Classic
- Public Hearing | Homelessness
- GV Brain Event
- Murray Darling Association | Strategic Workshop
- Disability Advisory Committee Meeting
- South Shepparton Community Centre
- Bouchier Street Primary School | Leadership Talk
- Shepparton Chamber of Commerce Parking Reference Group
- SAM Exhibition Opening
- Greater Shepparton Women's Charter | International Women's Day Event
- CALD Community Discussions
- Shepparton Festival Opening
- Islamic Museum of Australia Exhibition | Official Opening
- Kick for Cancer | Charity AFL Match

In accordance with section 80A of the *Local Government Act 1989* records of the Assemblies of Councillors are attached.

RECOMMENDATION

That the summary of the Councillors' community interaction and briefing program be received, and record of assemblies of Councillors be noted.

11. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITIES

11.1 Councillors Community Interaction and Briefing Program (continued)

Attachments

1. Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting - 2 March 2020 [↓](#) Page 924
2. Aerodrome Advisory Committee Meeting - 5 March 2020 [↓](#) Page 930
3. CEO and Councillor Catch Up - 10 March 2020 [↓](#) Page 932
4. Councillor Briefing Session - 10 March 2020 [↓](#) Page 933
5. CEO and Councillor Catch Up - 24 March 2020 [↓](#) Page 935
6. Councillor Briefing Session - 24 March 2020 [↓](#) Page 936
7. CEO and Councillor Catch Up - 31 March 2020 [↓](#) Page 938

12. URGENT BUSINESS NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA

13. CONFIDENTIAL MANAGEMENT REPORTS

13.1 Designation of Confidentiality of Information – Report Attachments

RECOMMENDATION

In accordance with section 77(2)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) the Council designates as confidential all documents used to prepare the following agenda item, previously designated by the Chief Executive Officer in writing as confidential under section 77(2)(c) of the Act.

- Report 7.3: Contract 1897 - North Growth Corridor Drainage and Pump Station. This report relates to a contractual matter, which is a relevant ground applying under 89(2)(d) of the Act.