

**Community Development Report**

**Committee Consideration – 13 October 2020**

**Council Resolution – 27 October 2020**

**Table of Contents**

Item No. Page No.

[CM07.20 Swanbourne Tigers Junior Football Club – Floodlight Upgrade Allen Park Lower Oval 2](#_Toc51923275)

[CM08.20 Draft Strategic Recreation Plan 2020-2030 7](#_Toc51923276)

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| CM07.20 Swanbourne Tigers Junior Football Club – Floodlight Upgrade Allen Park Lower Oval |

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| **Committee** | 13 October 2020 |
| **Council** | 27 October 2020 |
| **Applicant** | City of Nedlands |
| **Employee Disclosure under *section 5.70 Local Government Act 1995*** | Nil |
| **Director** | Lorraine Driscoll – Director Corporate and Strategy |
| **Attachments** | 1. Letter from Swanbourne Tigers Junior Football Club |
| **Confidential Attachments** | Nil |

**Executive Summary**

This item presents the Swanbourne Tigers Junior Football Club (STJFC) request for the following:

* a repayment plan for the Club’s contribution to the completed floodlight upgrade at Allen Park Lower Oval;
* permission to undertake a further upgrade to game standard floodlighting (100 lux) at Allen Park Lower Oval, to be funded entirely by the club; and
* permission to install a plaque acknowledging sponsors of the lighting upgrade.

**Recommendation to Committee**

**Council:**

1. **agrees to repayment plan for Swanbourne Tigers Junior Football Club (STJFC) as an extension of credit terms to facilitate the Clubs cashflow for installed floodlighting as follows:**

* **$40,000 – 2020**
* **$20,000 – 2021**
* **$20,000 – 2022;**

1. **notes the upgrade of lights to game standard 100 lux, as recommended in Allen Park Master Plan;**
2. **agrees to manage the procurement and installation of game standard lighting, providing STJFC accepts 100% of project costs and payment is made to the City on completion of project;**
3. **approves the request to allow the Club to install a plaque acknowledging project donors on a floodlight pole, providing any necessary statutory approvals are obtained by STJFC.**

**Discussion/Overview**

Completed Project – 50 lux Floodlights on Allen Park Lower Oval:

The City recently completed the installation of floodlighting that meets training standards (50 lux) for large ball sports, on Allen Park Lower Oval. This project was jointly funded by the City, STJFC and Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSCI) with funding shared three ways. The total project cost was $240,005 (ex GST).

STJFC is proposing a staged payment to the City of their 1/3 contribution to this completed project as follows:

* $40,000 – 2020
* $20,000 – 2021
* $20,000 - 2022.

Proposed New Project – 100 lux Floodlights on Allen Park Lower Oval:

In December 2017, Council endorsed the Allen Park Master Plan which recommended the installation of game standard floodlighting (100 lux) at Allen Park Lower Oval.

While the new floodlights have made a huge difference to facilitating club training, STJFC now want to undertake a further upgrade to game standard lighting (100 lux) to be able to play evening games. Junior football is typically scheduled for Sundays but as the Club grows it struggles to accommodate all fixtures on Sundays. In addition, female football is growing in popularity and is typically fixtured for Friday evenings under lights. The existing floodlights allow for a straightforward upgrade to game standard lighting as this was factored in the design of the installation.

Council policy only supports providing funding for basic sporting facilities. Floodlighting to training standards would be considered basic provision. Therefore, any additional upgrades to game standard lighting would need to be funded entirely by the Club. STJFC is committed to fundraising to meet all costs for upgrading to game standard lighting. The club would repay the full amount to the City once the game standard lighting has been installed. STJFC wants to install a plaque acknowledging project donors on one of the floodlight poles once the project is completed.

Allen Park Ovals are managed by the City, available to be booked by multiple users and not part of any Club’s exclusive use leased area. The City would be able to project manage the procurement and installation for the next phase of the upgrade as long as STJFC can meet all associated costs.

**Legislation/Policy**

Council policy “Capital Grants to Sporting Clubs” states that: “Eligible projects must:

* Be for capital development of a sporting facility (i.e. a building, grounds or infrastructure such as sports lighting). Grants will not be provided for maintenance or operational purposes.
* Support participation in physical activity;
* Provide basic sporting facilities. For clarity, facilities such as playing surfaces, sports lighting, toilets, change-rooms and basic level club-rooms are considered to be basic sporting facilities. Bars and function rooms are not considered to be basic sporting facilities, nor are any part of a facility used for profit making purposes. While sporting clubs may include non-basic level facilities such as bars and function rooms in their planned development, Council will not contribute to these aspects of the facility.”

Game standard lighting would be considered above the basic level of sporting facilities that is supported by Council policy.

**Key Relevant Previous Council Decisions:**

Item 13.5 – 19 December 2017 - Allen Park Master Plan endorsed by Council

CM03.18 – 25 September 2018 - Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund Applications – Council endorsed the Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF) grant application for a floodlight upgrade at Allen Park Lower Oval

**Consultation**

The request to install game standard lighting has come from the STJFC and the City has liaised closely with the Club in the preparation of this Council report.

Additionally, the request is consistent with the Allen Park Master Plan. All stakeholders were thoroughly consulted in the development of the Allen Park Master Plan which included the following:

* Your Voice project page
* Online Community Survey
* Sporting group survey
* Two community drop-in sessions
* Face to face and telephone meetings with key users/stakeholders
* Meetings with state agencies, Department of Defence, Sport & Recreation (WA)
* Community workshop
* Advertising via onsite signage, posters, flyers, direct mail outs, social media, website and newspaper advertisements.

**Strategic Implications**

**How well does it fit with our strategic direction?**

This request is consistent with Council’s strategic priorities being renewal of community infrastructure and providing for sport and recreation. It is also consistent with the Allen Park Master Plan.

**Who benefits?**

The project will benefit STJFC members as well as the wider community who use the facilities at Allen Park. Other main users of the reserve are Swanbourne Cricket Club, Associates Rugby Union Football Club, Claremont Nedlands Junior Cricket Club and other ad hoc hirers on a casual basis.

**Does it involve a tolerable risk?**

Yes. The City will manage the project to ensure all statutory requirements are met and the infrastructure complies with the relevant standards.

**Do we have the information we need?**

Yes.

**Budget/Financial Implications**

**Can we afford it?**

An extension of credit terms for the completed project will assist STJFC in managing their cashflow while continuing their fundraising for the proposed new project. All costs associated with the upgrade of floodlighting to game standard will be met by STJFC.

**How does the option impact upon rates?**

There is no impact on rates as the Club is funding this project in its entirety.

**Conclusion**

It is recommended that Council supports this request from Swanbourne Tigers Junior Football Club for a payment plan for the existing floodlight upgrade. This will assist the Club in managing its cashflow while continuing to fundraise for the upgrade to game standard lighting at Allen Park Lower Oval. Installation of a plaque will allow the Club acknowledge project donors and assist with their fundraising efforts. The request is consistent with Council’s strategic direction, as expressed in the Allen Park Master Plan. It is also a cost-effective way of achieving an infrastructure upgrade that will benefit the Club as well as the wider community. The demand for night games is likely to increase in future, in response to the popularity of women’s football and increased demand for oval space at peak times. Council’s support of this request will enable the project to generate broader economic stimulus, needed at this time of economic stress. Support for this request will also reinforce Council’s position that supporting and developing sport and recreation infrastructure is essential for creating healthy communities.

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| CM08.20 Draft Strategic Recreation Plan 2020-2030 |

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| **Committee** | 13 October 2020 |
| **Council** | 27 October 2020 |
| **Applicant** | City of Nedlands |
| **Employee Disclosure under *section 5.70 Local Government Act 1995*** | Nil |
| **Director** | Lorraine Driscoll – Director Corporate and Strategy |
| **Attachments** | 1. Draft Strategic Recreation Plan 2020-2030 |
| **Confidential Attachments** | Nil |

**Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is to request Council approval to release the draft Strategic Recreation Plan for public comment.

**Recommendation to Committee**

**Council endorses the draft Strategic Recreation Plan 2020 - 2030 to be released for public comment.**

**Discussion/Overview**

Council last adopted a Strategic Recreation Plan (SRP) in 2005. The plan was reviewed in 2010 and expired in 2015.

In October 2019 the City appointed Dave Lanfear Consulting to develop a SRP for a 10-year period. The purpose of the SRP is to establish the local community’s current and future needs for sporting and recreational facilities, infrastructure and services. It will be used to guide future decision making in relation to sport and recreation in the City of Nedlands. The plan will determine Council’s broad approach in the provision of sport and recreation facilities and prioritise competing demands for resources allocated to sport and recreation. It will help ensure the effective use facilities and avoid duplication. The plan will provide direction for the future and help avoid ad hoc decision making. It will help the City keep pace with trends in sport and recreation and ensure that the provision of facilities meets the community’s current and future needs, maximizing physical activity for all. The main focus of the plan on opportunities for physical recreation, both structured (i.e. formal membership of sporting clubs) and unstructured (i.e. walking, running etc.)

The draft SRP is now complete (see Attachment 1 – Draft Strategic Recreation Plan) and is being presented to Council with a recommendation that it is now released for public comment.

Once the draft SRP is endorsed by Council for release, it will be released for public comment for a three-week period. Then the Plan, incorporating public comment, will be put to Council for adoption.

**Key Relevant Previous Council Decisions:**

* 26 October 2010 – CM27.10 - Strategic Recreation Plan endorsed by Council for release for public comment.
* 22 February 2011 - CM01.11 – Strategic Recreation Plan Incorporating Public Comment endorsed by Council

**Consultation**

The draft Plan has been developed through a variety of engagement activities including the following:

* Individual meetings with key stakeholders
* Two Councillor workshops
* Seven community workshops
* Two questionnaires were conducted, one for the sporting clubs and one for the general public.
* Feedback was accepted through the City’s Your Voice portal, email, phone and in person for a six-week period.

Invitations to participate in engagement activities were publicly advertised including through newspaper advertisements, letter drop, posters, website and social media adverts. Detailed feedback and submissions collated throughout the process are provided as an appendix to the draft plan in the form of consultation output report.

**Strategic Implications**

**How well does it fit with our strategic direction?**

Council’s strategic priorities include renewal of community infrastructure such as community and sports facilities and providing for sport and recreation.

**Who benefits?**

Community members who use community infrastructure for the purpose of recreation will benefit from this Council decision. In addition, having a Strategic Recreation Plan will target expenditure on recreational facilities more effectively, thereby making better use of Council’s limited resources.

**Does it involve a tolerable risk?**

Yes. Releasing the draft Plan for public comment will allow sporting clubs, community members and other stakeholders another opportunity to input into the plan, mitigating the risk of low stakeholder engagement in and support for the plan.

**Do we have the information we need?**

Yes. A detailed plan has been drafted and will provide stakeholders with an opportunity to comment on it before Council considers its adoption.

**Budget/Financial Implications**

Funds for the Strategic Recreation Plan were approved in the 2019/20 budget. Completion of the project was then delayed by the pandemic, so some of the funds allocated to this project were carried over into the 2020/21 budget and approved by Council.

**Can we afford it?**

Yes, the funds to undertake the plan have already been approved by Council, deciding that the project could be afforded.

**How does the option impact upon rates?**

This decision, to release the Plan for public comment, does not have any impact on rates. The Plan itself, once adopted by Council, will help target expenditure on recreational facilities more effectively, preventing the kind of ad hoc decisions that lead to financial waste.

**Conclusion**

It is recommended that Council endorses the draft Strategic Recreation Plan, as at Attachment 1 – Draft Strategic Recreation Plan, for release to the general community for public comment. The draft Plan will then be advertised as available for public comment, with copies also being send directly to local sporting clubs and other key stakeholders, informing them of the opportunity to comment on the Plan. Following the 3 week public comment period, the Plan, with any comments received, will again be presented to Council, with a recommendation for adoption.