

Community Development Report

Committee Consideration – 11 September 2018
Council Resolution – 25 September 2018

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Committee	11 September 2018
Council	25 September 2018
Applicant	City of Nedlands
Officer	Amanda Cronin – Coordinator Community Development Marion Granich - Manager Community Development
Director	Lorraine Driscoll – Director Corporate and Strategy
Attachments	N/A

Executive Summary

This item seeks Council's endorsement of grant applications to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSCI) for the Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF) Annual and Forward Planning Grant rounds. The applications are as follows:

- City of Nedlands – Swanbourne Reserve Rehabilitation
- City of Nedlands – Floodlight Upgrade, Allen Park Lower Oval
- City of Nedlands - Irrigation Upgrade, College Park
- UWA – Floodlight upgrade, UWA Sports Park

Submissions to DLGSCI's 2019 CSRFF Annual and Forward Planning grant rounds close on 28 September 2018. All CSRFF applications to DLGSCI must be accompanied by a formal Council resolution.

Recommendation to Committee

Council:

1. **Advises Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSCI) that it has ranked and rated the application to the Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund Annual Grant round as follows:**
 - a. **City of Nedlands – Swanbourne Reserve Rehabilitation: Well planned and needed by the municipality (A Rating);**
 - b. **City of Nedlands – Floodlight Upgrade, Allen Park Lower Oval: Well planned and needed by the municipality (A Rating);**
 - c. **City of Nedlands – Irrigation Upgrade, College Park: Well planned and needed by the municipality (A Rating);**
 - d. **UWA – Floodlight upgrade, UWA Sports Park: Well planned and needed by the municipality (A Rating);**
2. **Endorses the above applications to DLGSCI on the condition that all necessary statutory approvals are obtained by the applicant.**

Discussion/Overview

Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund

DLGSCI administers the CSRFF. The purpose of the fund is to provide financial assistance to sporting clubs, community groups and local government authorities to develop basic infrastructure for sport and recreation. The program aims to increase participation in sport and recreation, with an emphasis on physical activity, through rational development of sustainable, good quality, well designed and well utilised facilities.

This fund has three categories, shown below:

Table 1: CSRFF Grant Categories

Grant Category	Total Project Cost Range	Standard DLGSCI Contribution	Frequency
Small Grant	≤ \$200,000	\$2,500 – \$66,666	Bi-annual
Annual Grant	\$200,001 - \$500,000	\$66,667 - \$166,666	Annual
Forward Planning Grant	≥ \$500,000	\$166,667 - \$1,000,000	Annual

For applications to be supported by DLGSCI, they must firstly be endorsed by the relevant Local Government Authority. For approved projects, DLGSCI will provide a grant of a maximum of 1/3 of the total project costs.

Ranking: the City is by required by DLGSCI to rank in priority order the applications received for each CSRFF round.

Rating: the City is required by DLGSCI to rate each application against the categories below:

- A Well planned and needed by municipality
- B Well planned and needed by applicant
- C Needed by municipality, more planning required
- D Needed by applicant, more planning required
- E Idea has merit, more preliminary work needed
- F Not recommended

Annual and Forward Planning grant round occurs annually, with the current financial year's applications to DLGSCI closing on 28 September 2018.

Swanbourne Reserve

Swanbourne Reserve is an old tip site and in poor condition with large dips and undulations. The existing condition of the surface is not suitable for active recreation. The reserve is widely used for passive recreation activities and is managed by the City.

Rehabilitation of the reserve was identified as being required, in the Allen Park Master Plan. Existing sporting groups that use the Allen Park ovals (Swanbourne Tigers Junior Football Club, Associates Rugby Union Football Club, Swanbourne Cricket Club and Claremont Nedlands Junior Cricket Club) have experienced growth in participation and Swanbourne Reserve would provide an excellent area for overflow training and junior games once its restored to active open space.

Allen Park

Allen Park is a well-used community reserve managed by the City. The main users of the reserve are Swanbourne Tigers Junior Football Club, Swanbourne Cricket Club, Associates Rugby Union Football Club and Claremont Nedlands Junior Cricket Club. The reserve is used by other adhoc hirers on a casual basis including various schools, personal trainers and recreation groups.

Lighting for the lower oval was identified as being required, in the Allen Park Precinct Master Plan. Currently there is little lighting to the lower oval which restricts training to mainly day light hours. A floodlight upgrade would allow for extended use of the oval for training and evening games. Women's football is also starting with its competition planned for Friday nights under lights so game standard lighting is required for the Club to accommodate this.

College Park

College Park is a well-used community reserve managed by the City. The main users of the reserve are Claremont Nedlands Junior Football Club, UWA Nedlands Football Club, Westside Wolves Hockey Club, Claremont Nedlands Junior Cricket Club, Western Suburbs Cricket Club and Kaos Ultimate Frisbee Club. The reserve is used by other adhoc hirers on a casual basis including various schools, personal trainers and recreation groups.

A new irrigation system is required for the reserve to ensure a high quality playing surface suitable for competition sport and to address an imminent reduction in groundwater abstraction allocations. The current irrigation system is nearly 30 years old and has reached the stage in its lifecycle where replacement is required. In the past, sporting clubs have raised concerns over the quality of the playing surface. While the City has improved the quality of the surface in recent years, this is only a short-term solution.

UWA Sports Park

UWA Sports Park is located adjacent to HBF Stadium in Mt Claremont and is home to 12 UWA sporting clubs and groups including Tennis, Rugby, Hockey, AFL, Soccer, Baseball, Cricket and Athletics. A masterplan for the sports park was finalised in February 2017 to provide a guide for its future development over the next 10 years. A floodlight upgrade was identified as a strategic priority to facilitate evening training, competitions and events at the precinct. This is stage two of the lighting project. UWA were successful in last years CSRFF grant round which has allowed them to start stage one of the project.

Legislation / Policy

Council Policy “Capital Grants to Sporting Clubs” states that:

To ensure the financial support it provides to sporting clubs is effectively targeted to achieve maximum community benefit, Council will consider the following key priorities:

- 1. Multi-use: priority will be given to developing facilities that will be used by more than one sporting club or type, particularly where such clubs are not yet sharing facilities. This is to facilitate the intent of maximising efficiencies and encouraging clubs to share some facilities while still retaining each club’s separate management and identity.*
- 2. Recreation Plan rating: priority will be given to supporting sports identified as a high priority in the City’s Strategic Recreation Plan. The Strategic Recreation Plan provides a rating for each sport type, based on two factors: the demand to play that sport type and the facilities already provided for that sport type. These two factors result in a rating for each sport type as high, medium or low priority for facility development. Sport types with a high level of demand (growing membership) and a low level of existing facilities receive the highest rating.*
- 3. Other funding: priority will be given to projects that are eligible for funding for other government bodies such as the Department of Recreation’s Community Sport and Recreation Development Fund (CSRFF) or LotteryWest funding. This is to facilitate the overall financial viability of the project and contribute most effectively to the upgrade of community facilities.*
- 4. Level of community benefit: priority will be given to projects that demonstrate a high level of benefit to the local City of Nedlands community. This will include, but is not limited to, City of Nedlands resident membership of the applicant sporting club (total and proportional), support for junior sport and the level of community access (i.e. by non-club members and by community groups and organisations).*

In general, DLGSCI will fund up to 1/3 of the total cost of an approved project, with the remaining 2/3 to be funded by either the applicant sporting club or a combination of the applicant sporting club and the relevant local government authority.

Project Overview

An overview of the CSRFF applications for the next Annual and Forward Planning round are listed below. There are three City applications and one application from UWA. All CSRFF applications to DLGSCI must be accompanied by a formal Council resolution.

Table 2: CSRFF Annual and Forward Planning Grant Applications 2019/20 Round

Applicant	Project	Grant Type	Total Project Cost (EX GST)
City of Nedlands	Swanbourne Reserve Rehabilitation	Annual Grant	\$210,000
City of Nedlands	Floodlight Upgrade, Allen Park Lower Oval	Annual Grant	\$253,000
City of Nedlands	Irrigation Upgrade College Park	Annual Grant	\$280,000
UWA	Floodlight Upgrade, UWA Sports Park	Forward Planning Grant	\$2,935,124

Swanbourne Reserve Rehabilitation

The City is seeking a CSRFF Annual grant to assist in funding the rehabilitation of Swanbourne Reserve. This project was identified in the Allen Park Master Plan. The application is from the City because the reserve is managed by the City, available to be booked by multiple users and not part of any Club's exclusive-use leased area.

The reserve is currently a passive reserve used by the community for passive recreation. The current condition of the reserve deems it unsuitable for structured recreation due to multiple undulations.

Rehabilitation of the reserve will have a high level of community benefit as the reserve will be a shared facility used by local sporting groups which will allow for the reduction of overuse of the neighboring ovals at Allen Park. An upgrade will also allow it to be also used as a community event space and provide general improvement of the amenity.

Floodlight Upgrade – Allen Park Lower Oval

In collaboration with STJFC, the City is seeking a CSRFF Annual grant to assist in funding a floodlight upgrade at Allen Park Lower Oval. The application is from the City because the reserve is managed by the City, available to be booked by multiple users and not part of any Club's exclusive-use leased area.

The current lighting is inadequate for training and use of the oval is restricted after dark. An upgrade to game standard lighting (100 lux) would allow for extended training hours and night games for the older teams. Women's football is also starting with a competition planned for Friday nights under lights. STJFC want to be able to

accommodate and encourage women's football at Allen Park so game standard lighting is required for them to do so.

Allen Park is a shared facility used by multiple sporting groups. The upgrade will have a high level of community benefit not only to STJFC but the wider community. The oval is available to the community to hire who can pay fees to council for use of the oval and floodlights. The reserve has the capacity to sustain greater use with the addition of adequate floodlighting, resulting in a high health and social dividend to the City.

Irrigation Upgrade – College Park

The City is seeking a CSRFF Annual grant to assist in funding an irrigation upgrade at College Park. The application is from the City because the reserve is managed by the City, available to be booked by multiple users and not part of any Club's exclusive-use leased area.

The existing reticulated irrigation system was designed and installed in 1990. The design, age and condition of the system significantly limits the ability to manage the watering requirements of the various recreational areas it supports. The project will involve installing a new PVC mainline with a 2 new wire communication cable. New gear drive sprinklers, HD poly lateral pipes, mainline piping and a new SD 2 wire controller and decoder system will be installed.

The limitations of the current system significantly impact the ability to maintain a safe and satisfactory sporting surface. In order to manage these limitations, and provide a safe and even sports surface, requires employing irrigation practices that rely on inefficient use of groundwater. The fundamental design of the system gives rise to hydraulic limitations resulting in poor system pressure capacity and distribution uniformity of irrigation water. To counteract this necessitates the over watering of sections of the sports field to ensure an acceptable and safe playing surface is maintained.

The Department of Water (DOW) have outlined their intention to reduce groundwater abstraction allocations associated with Ground Water Licences. Reduction of ground water allocations for significant users, including local governments, has been identified by the DOW as a short term measure to protect declining ground water resources. Reduced ground water abstraction allocations already apply to local governments for the watering of open space in all new developments in the northern coastal corridor of the metropolitan area. The DOW has outlined a future expectation that water users manage ground water abstracted for irrigation more efficiently through public open space and irrigation design more compatible with a lower rainfall environment.

The upgrade of the reticulated irrigation system will have a high level of community benefit as the reserve is a shared facility used by multiple sporting and community groups. A high percentage of users are City of Nedlands residents, resulting in a high health and social dividend to the City. The reserve has the capacity to sustain greater use, therefore providing greater physical benefit, if surface conditions can be improved and maintained.

Floodlight upgrade, UWA Sports Park

UWA has recently completed a master plan for UWA Sports Park to guide its future development over the next ten years. Providing adequate lighting for evening training and competitions has been identified as a strategic priority and should be prioritised for planning implementation and funding.

The project is recommended for Council endorsement. However, it is not recommended that Council provides funds to this project. Council's policy prioritizes facilities on local government controlled land. While the UWA Sports Park is located in the City of Nedlands, it is managed and controlled by UWA.

Risk Management

Funding available to DLGSCI for distribution throughout the state under the CSRFF program has been cut in recent years from \$20 million in the 2014/15 financial year to \$12 million in the current financial year. Therefore it is anticipated that this round of CSRFF funding will be highly competitive, increasing the risk of not receiving funding approval from DLGSCI.

Key Relevant Previous Council Decisions:

Item 13.5 – 19 December 2017 Allen Park Master Plan

Consultation

All applicants have completed formal applications to submit to DLGSCI for these projects. The applications are available to Councillors on request from the CEO's office.

For the Allen Park projects (floodlight upgrade and oval rehabilitation), all stakeholders were thoroughly consulted through the Allen Park Master Plan consultation which included the following:

- Your Voice project page
- Online community survey
- Sporting group survey
- Community drop-in session x 2
- 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.

Budget/Financial Implications

Table 3: Proposed Project Funding

Project	City	Club	DLGSCI	Sport Australia	Total Project Cost
Swanbourne Oval Rehabilitation	140,000	N/A	70,000	N/A	\$210,000
Floodlight Upgrade, Allen Park Lower Oval	\$42,167	\$42,166	\$84,333	\$84,333	\$253,000
Irrigation Upgrade, College Park	\$93,334	N/A	\$93,333	\$93,333	\$280,000
Floodlight Upgrade, UWA Sports Park	N/A	\$1,467,562	\$1,467,562	N/A	\$2,935,124

No further budget consideration is required for the City's applications as funds for these projects have already been included in the 2018/19 approved budget.

No budget consideration is required for the UWA project as Council policy prioritises projects on local government controlled land.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council endorses these CSRFF applications for funding to DLGSCI. Council's support for these applications will reinforce Council's position that supporting and developing sport and recreation infrastructure is essential for creating healthy communities