

Community Development Report

Committee Consideration – 14 July 2020
Council Resolution – 28 July 2020

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Committee	14 July 2020
Council	28 July 2020
Applicant	City of Nedlands
Employee Disclosure under section 5.70 Local Government Act 1995	Nil
Director	Lorraine Driscoll – Director Corporate and Strategy
Attachments	Nil
Confidential Attachments	Nil

Executive Summary

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

- Dalkeith Tennis Club (DTC) – Reconstruction of four hard courts; and
- Allen Park Tennis Club (APTC) – Tennis Court Fence Replacement

All CSRFF applications to DLGSCI must be accompanied by a formal Council resolution. As the DLGSCI 2020 CSRFF Small Grant Round closes on 14 August 2020, it is important that Council makes a decision on this matter at the Council meeting on 28 July.

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 Small Grant Round as follows:**
 - a) **Dalkeith Tennis Club – Reconstruction of Four Hard Courts: Well planned and needed by the municipality (A Rating);**
 - b) **Allen Park Tennis Club – Tennis Court Fence Replacement: Well planned and needed by the municipality (A Rating);**

2. endorses the above applications to Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries on the condition that all necessary statutory approvals are obtained by the applicants; and
3. approves an amount of \$48,799 (ex GST) for Dalkeith Tennis Club, conditional on the project receiving DLGSCI funding.
4. approves an amount of \$27,324 (ex GST) for Allen Park Tennis Club, conditional on the project receiving DLGSCI funding.

Discussion/Overview

Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund

The Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries 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	≤ \$300,000	\$2,500 – \$100,000	Bi-annual
Annual Grant	\$300,001 - \$500,000	\$100,001 - \$166,666	Annual
Forward Planning Grant	≥ \$500,000	\$166,667 - \$1,000,000	Annual

For applications to be supported by Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries, 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 Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries to rank in priority order the applications received for each CSRFF round.

Rating: The City is required by Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries 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

Small grant rounds occur bi-annually, with the current round closing on 14 August.

Legislation/Policy

Council Policy:

Council's Capital Grants to Sporting Clubs Policy 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).

DLGSCI Requirements:

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.

Overview of clubs and projects

An overview of the CSRFF applications for the next Small Grant Round are listed below.

Table 2: CSRFF Small Grant Applications 2020/21 Round

Applicant	Project	Total Project Cost (EX GST)
Dalkeith Tennis Club	Reconstruction of four courts	\$146,397
Allen Park Tennis Club	Tennis Court Fence Replacement	\$81,972

Dalkeith Tennis Club (DTC)

Total Membership	216
No. of City of Nedlands Members	135

DTC is located on the corner of Beatrice Road and Victoria Avenue in Dalkeith. It leases this building and the surrounding fenced tennis court area from the City. DTC has 24 courts with a mix of hard, grass and clay courts available. The Club and its facilities are used all year round.

DTC has a membership of 216 with 135 being City of Nedlands residents. As well as coaching and competitions, the courts are also used for school and casual bookings. During peak season over summer, the courts are used by an average 800 players per week. All courts are available to hire by members of the public through an online booking system.

DTC last received a CSRFF grant of \$49,024 from Council in 2016. This grant was for the upgrade to floodlights for four courts. The project was completed and acquitted in March 2017.

DTC is seeking a CSRFF small grant to assist in funding the reconstruction of four hardcourts. The courts are over 50 years old and reached their end of their life. The courts require the removal of the entire court surface, with a replacement of compacted road base, bitumen seal, asphalt, playing surface and court furniture. The courts will have shadow Hot Shots line marked and will have conduit laid for future lighting options.

The upgrade will have a high level of community benefit as approximately 63% of the Clubs members are City residents. Other community members also access the facilities at the Club by paying visitor fees.

This is not a shared facility because of the nature of tennis as a sport, which requires sport-specific courts (unlike sports such as football which can share ovals with other sports).

Allen Park Tennis Club (APTC)

Total Membership	200
No. of City of Nedlands Members	120

APTC was founded in 1929 and is located on Allen Park, Swanbourne. It leases this building and the surrounding fenced tennis court area from the City. APTC has 7 grass courts and 4 hard courts. The Club and its facilities are used all year round. APTC has a membership of 200 with 120 being City of Nedlands residents. As well as coaching and competitions, the hard courts are available to hire by members of the public through an online booking system.

APTC last received a CSRFF grant of \$46,000 from Council in 2013. This grant was for the extension of the clubrooms including toilets and storage. The project was completed and acquitted in June 2013.

APTC is seeking a CSRFF small grant to assist in funding the replacement of tennis court fencing. The fencing has reached the end of its life. The project will have a high level of community benefit as approximately 60% of the Clubs members are City residents. Other community members also access the facilities at the Club by paying casual court hire fees.

This is not a shared facility because of the nature of tennis as a sport, which requires sport-specific courts (unlike sports such as football which can share ovals with other sports).

Key Relevant Previous Council Decisions:

CM05.12 – 28 August 2012 – CSRFF Applications Small Grants Summer Round 2012/13 City of Nedlands and Allen Park Tennis Club Clubhouse renovations

CM06.15 – 22 March 2016 - Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund Application – Dalkeith Tennis Club Floodlight Upgrade.

CM01.20 – 31 March 2020 - Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund Application –UWA Sport and Dalkeith Tennis Club Reconstruction of four courts. Dalkeith Tennis Club’s CSRFF application was unsuccessful in the last funding round. Council support was conditional on receiving state government support therefore no Council grant was provided to the Club.

Consultation

The applicants have completed formal applications to submit to DLGSCI for this grant round. The applications are available to Councillors on request from the CEO’s office.

Strategic Implications

How well does it fit with our strategic direction?

The applications are consistent with Council's strategic priorities being renewal of community infrastructure and providing for sport and recreation. The projects will benefit the club members as well as the wider community who use the facilities.

Who benefits?

Members of both tennis clubs as well as other community users of their facilities will benefit from this Council decision.

Does it involve a tolerable risk?

The risks associated with providing grants to sporting clubs are mitigated by:

- Only providing grants to incorporated sporting clubs;
- Making the Council grant conditional on receipt of a grant from the state government;
- Making the Council grant conditional on the applicant club meeting all necessary approvals.

Do we have the information we need?

Yes. The City has received a full and detailed application from each club, summarised in this Council report and available to Councillors from the CEO's office, on request. The grant applications completed by the Clubs meet the necessary state government requirements.

Budget/Financial Implications

DLGSCI Funds Available for CSRFF

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.

Council Budget Implications

Table 3: Proposed Project Funding

Project	City	Club	DLGCSI	Total Project Cost (EX GST)
Reconstruction of Four Courts, DTC	\$48,799	\$48,799	\$48,799	\$146,397
Tennis Court Fence Replacement, APTC	\$27,324	\$27,324	\$27,324	\$81,972

DTC is requesting a grant of \$48,799 from Council, the same from DLGCSI with the Club providing the remaining 1/3. The overall cost of the project is \$146,397 (ex GST). The proposed works are within the Club’s leased area. Funds for this project are already included in the draft 2020/21 budget as Council approved a grant to the Club in the last CSRFF grant round. However, this project did not achieve approval of a state government grant in that round; therefore, the Club is re-applying. On this basis, the funds for this grant have been included in the draft 2020/21 Council budget.

APTC is requesting a grant of \$27,324 from Council, the same from DLGSCI with the Club providing the remaining 1/3. The overall cost of the project is \$81,972. The proposed works are within the Club’s leased area. This request is within the amount included for CSRFF grants to sporting clubs in the draft 2020/21 Council budget

Can we afford it?

Council usually budgets \$100,000 per financial year, for CSRFF grants to sporting clubs. This amount has again been included in the draft 2020/21 Council budget for CSRFF grants to sporting clubs, for Council consideration.

Council can afford to approve both of these grants, if Council approves the amount of \$100,000 included in the 2020/21 Council budget for CSRFF grants to sporting clubs.

How does the option impact upon rates?

This will be determined by Council in the context of the 2020/21 Council Budget. Expenditure of \$100,000 represents approximately 0.42% of rates.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council endorses these CSRFF applications for funding to Department of Local Government Sport & Cultural Industries and provides a grant of \$48,799 to DTC and \$27,324 to APTC, on the conditions they receive state government support for these projects and meet all necessary statutory approvals.

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.

While the 2020/21 Council budget year is a difficult one, the total amount of these two recommended Council grants is within the amount included in the 2020/21 budget for Council approval. Approving the grants will also assist these two local sporting clubs to upgrade their facilities, in a year that will also be a difficult one for them. Additionally, broader economic stimulus will also result from these capital projects being undertaken by these sporting clubs, of which cost Council is requested to provide only 1/3.