

7.2 MONASH NEIGHBOURHOOD MATCHING GRANTS

Responsible Committee: Monash Community Grants Evaluation Committee

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorses the Monash Community Grants Evaluation Panel's recommendation to provide \$855.00 as a one-off cash grant allocation through the Monash Neighbourhood Matching Grant program to the Winifred Street End of Year Party application.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to seek support from Council to fund one project via the Monash Neighbourhood Matching Grants program (MNMG).

BACKGROUND

The Monash Community Grants Program allocates approximately \$2.53M annually to a range of incorporated groups community organisations and groups. These allocations support seniors groups, emerging communities, arts groups and community organisations to deliver services and activities that benefit Monash residents. The nature of the program requires that these organisations be incorporated and have appropriate public liability insurance.

Consequently, informal neighbourhood groups who want to undertake a small local one-off project that could benefit their local area are ineligible to apply to the Monash Community Grants Program.

As a means to addressing this barrier, Council has designed a small, grass roots grants program that encourages applications from groups of neighbours who live in the City of Monash and come together with a good idea on how they can improve their neighbourhood. Many of these projects would not go ahead without some form of financial assistance; therefore this grant program allows these projects to come to fruition.

Grant Recommendations

An application has been submitted to Council for consideration under the Monash Neighbourhood Matching Grants program. This application is seeking funding to support an end of year street party for residents in Winifred Street in Oakleigh.

The application has been considered by the Monash Community Grants Evaluation Panel, consisting of Crs Klisaris, Little, James, Paterson and Zographos. This application is recommended to receive a cash allocation of \$855.00.

Project Title	Project Summary	Location of Neighbourhood Group	Recommended Allocation
Winifred Street End of Year Party	<p>A group of neighbours would like to celebrate the community and the eight diverse nationalities that are represented in the one street.</p> <p>They aim to bring people together and to encourage connections between the residents of the street to build an understanding of each other's cultures.</p> <p>They are seeking to hold a BBQ and make food from around the world to share at this end of year event. They also plan to hold a number of different games and events for the children of the street to play on the day.</p>	Winifred Street Oakleigh	\$855.00
TOTAL			\$855.00

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Neighbourhood Matching Grants policy has been implemented so that it supports the Council Plan and other strategic Council documents. It supports community connectivity and participation as well as targeting those whom are socially isolated.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Monash Neighbourhood Matching Grants Program has the potential to generate a greater sense of community. This will be achieved by encouraging greater participation in civic life by residents in a local area.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The total allocation recommended for this application is \$855.00, which is within Council's budget for this program.

CONCLUSION

The Monash Neighbourhood Matching Grants Program assists local residents to connect with their neighbours, come together and share ideas, foster a sense of belonging and increase community participation. This grant program builds on Council's commitment to create a greater sense of community in the City of Monash.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Monash Neighbourhood Matching Grant Guidelines