

**2.1 COMMUNITY SPORT INFRASTRUCTURE STIMULUS GRANT – ROUND 2**

(Author: BG)

Responsible Director: Russell Hopkins

**RECOMMENDATION***That Council approves:*

1. *A Round 2 funding application to the State Government's Community Sport Infrastructure Stimulus Grant program for a multi-reserve Sportsground Lighting Package of Works; and*
2. *A Council funding contribution (if successful) of 20% (or \$404,340 excluding GST).*

**INTRODUCTION**

Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV) recently announced the opening of the Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Grant Program - Round 2.

The objective of this program is to provide a stimulus to local economic activity by planning and building new or redeveloped significant community sport and active recreation infrastructure; responding to new participation opportunities that have broad community and sector support and increasing participation by disadvantaged communities and under-represented groups.

Council was unsuccessful in securing funding for the Sportsground Lighting Package of works in Round 1 of this program which required a 10% Council contribution.

**BACKGROUND**

In May 2020, the State Government launched the \$68 million Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program to fast-track investment into critical shovel-ready community sport and recreation infrastructure.

Recognising the number of high-quality projects that were unable to be funded through the initial investment, the State Government is providing a further \$110 million through the 2020-21 State Budget for Round 2 of the Program.

A selection of Local Government Authorities and Alpine Resort Boards who submitted meritorious but unfunded applications from Round 1 have been invited to resubmit specific applications. Only those organisations that did not receive funding in Round 1 are eligible to apply under Round 2.

Monash has been invited to resubmit its Round 1 sportsground lighting package application. Projects invited to reapply must be consistent in scope

to those submitted previously or as approved by SRV. SRV has also recommended that Council –

- scale back the application to include full lighting infrastructure upgrades only (i.e. remove LED conversion sites that were included in the Round 1 application); and
- consider a higher Council contribution amount (e.g. from 10% to 20%, endorsed by Council), as this would be looked upon more favourably.

As a result, Council's second round application will include the upgrade of existing sportsground lighting at Pinewood Reserve, Mulgrave Reserve, Southern Reserve, Capital Reserve, Meade Reserve and Freeway Reserve to Australian Standards (*i.e. AS 2560.2.3 – 2007 Specific Applications – Lighting for football (all codes) for training or night matches*).

Council was not invited to resubmit applications for its other Round 1 applications which included a Playspace Package and Shared Trails Package of works.

### **DISCUSSION**

COVID-19 has had implications on Monash Council's 2021/22 Capital Works program and budget with the deferral of planned floodlighting projects. This has been done to help offset cost impacts of the pandemic.

Funding through SRV's Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Grant Program - Round 2 will be provided for the construction and/or upgrade of significant community sport and active recreation infrastructure where construction can commence within six (6) months of executing a funding agreement. Applications that have been approved for resubmission in Round 2 must be consistent in scope to those submitted in Round 1 and/or as otherwise advised by SRV.

If successful, Round 2 funding will allow Council to accelerate planned floodlighting upgrades at several sporting reserves. It will also significantly boost the number of recreational capital infrastructure projects delivered in the 2021-22 financial year.

The sportsground lighting package includes floodlighting upgrades at: Pinewood Reserve; Mulgrave Reserve; Southern Reserve; 100 lux lighting levels at Meade and Freeway Reserves; and 150lux lighting levels at Capital Reserve. Increased lux levels will also allow for night training and potential night games, thereby further enhancing participation opportunities for tenant sporting clubs, the broader community users and under-represented groups.

The application process is outlined below:

RESUBMISSION OPEN	RESUBMISSION CLOSE	OUTCOMES ADVISED	FUNDING AGREEMENTS EXECUTED FOR SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS
18 December 2020	2 March 2021	May 2021 onwards	June 2021
			

Funding Agreements need to be executed with first payments made in the 2020-21 financial year.

### **CONSULTATION**

As part of the Round 1 application process officers connected with tenant clubs and State Sporting Associations and obtained letters of support for the floodlighting projects in the funding package. Officers will re-engage with these groups to get updated letters of support for Round 2. Community consultation will be completed with all neighbouring residents if the funding application is successful.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Application funding for the program must not exceed the original Round 1 application amount (\$2,848,257.90) and include a minimum 10 percent financial contribution from Council. Maximising or increasing Council's contribution is considered key for Round 2 resubmissions. Officers recommend increasing Council's contribution from 10 percent to 20 percent for Round 2 as SRV has indicated a higher contribution amount would be viewed more favourably in evaluations.

In support of Round 2 applications, officers are required to submit evidence of a Council resolution confirming its capital contribution amount.

The following table summarises the financial implications associated with a 10 percent or 20 percent Council contribution.

<b>Implications of a 10% Council contribution</b>			
<b>Reserve</b>	<b>Total Project Cost (including PM 5% &amp; Contingency 10%)</b>	<b>Council Contribution 10%</b>	<b>State Government Grant Amount 90%</b>
Pinewood	\$333,680	\$33,368	\$300,312
Capital	\$366,020	\$36,602	\$329,418
Meade	\$318,665	\$31,866	\$286,798
Freeway	\$289,662	\$28,966	\$260,696
Southern	\$399,455	\$33,945	\$305,509
Mulgrave	\$374,220	\$37,422	\$336,798
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,021,700</b>	<b>\$202,170</b>	<b>\$1,819,530</b>
<b>Implications of a 20% Council contribution</b>			
<b>Reserve</b>	<b>Total Project Cost (including PM 5% &amp; Contingency 10%)</b>	<b>Council Contribution 20%</b>	<b>State Government Grant Amount 80%</b>
Pinewood	\$333,680	\$66,736	\$266,944
Capital	\$366,020	\$73,204	\$292,816
Meade	\$318,665	\$63,733	\$254,932
Freeway	\$289,662	\$57,932	\$231,730
Southern	\$399,455	\$67,891	\$271,564
Mulgrave	\$374,220	\$74,844	\$299,376
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,021,700</b>	<b>\$404,340</b>	<b>\$1,617,360</b>

The total cost of the floodlighting package of works is \$2,021,700. This amount does not exceed the original (Round 1) requested amount of \$2,848,257.90.

If successful in Round 2, the State Government's contribution would be \$1,617,360 and Council's recommended 20% funding contribution would be \$404,340. Council's contribution would need to be funded from Council's 2021/22 Capital Works budget.

### **CONCLUSION**

It is recommended that Council support a Round 2 multi reserve Sportsground Lighting Package application to SRV's Community Sport Infrastructure Stimulus program with a Council funding contribution commitment of 20 percent.