Item 8.8 Environment Levy Partnerships 2021

Environment Levy Partnerships

Overview

- Environment Levy (EL) Partnerships program one of three components in the EL Partnerships and Grants Program, with the other two being EL Grants and EL Landholder Environment Grants.

- Fully funded from the Environment Levy.

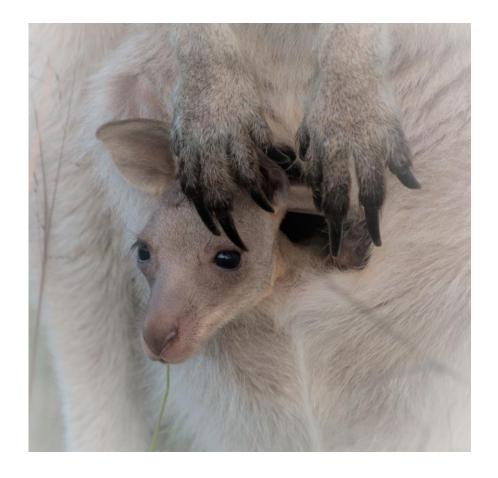- Program managed by Environmental Operations and administered by Community Connections.

Environment Levy Partnerships 2021/22

Summary

- EL Partnerships application/acquittal process:
  - Expression of Interest (EOI)
  - discussions with Env Ops staff and applicant organisation
  - submission of application
  - panel assessment,
  - senior manager independent review of applications, and
  - acquittal process that allows collection of data to quantify benefits to Council and broader community.

- 19 new applications recommended total value of $610,000.

- 18 previous partners, 1 new partner.

Environment Levy Partnerships 2021/22

Overview of 19 partnerships

- 18 of the applicant organisations have previously been in the partnership program

- 1 new group, Wildcare Qld, requested funds to assist with operational costs associated with wildlife rescues.

- In 2019/20, partner groups contributed
  - 3,733 volunteers
  - 415,172 volunteer hours = $12.45m

Examples of Environment Benefits

- In 2019/20, Coolum & North Shore Coast Care working at 11 sites have planted 1,700 native plants and removed 1,557 bags of weeds in addition to large number of environmental weeds managed *in situ.*

- Over last 3 years our 5 community nurseries have supplied 92,350 native plants to 300+ LFW properties.

- Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital – treated 9,562 admissions in 2019/20, approx. 50% from Sunshine Coast Local Government Area.

- GMAN – established and manage koala food plantation at Pinelands Park in partnership with Environmental Operations and Parks & Gardens.

Thank you.

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See council's website for further details
www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au