

Agenda

Ordinary Meeting

Thursday, 12 November 2015

commencing at 9.00 am

Council Chambers, 1 Omrah Avenue, Caloundra

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	DECLARATION OF OPENING.....	5
2	OPENING PRAYER.....	5
3	RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE.....	5
4	RECEIPT AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.....	5
5	OBLIGATIONS OF COUNCILLORS.....	5
5.1	DECLARATION OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST ON ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS.....	5
5.2	DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST ON ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS.....	5
6	MAYORAL MINUTE.....	5
7	PRESENTATIONS.....	5
8	REPORTS DIRECT TO COUNCIL.....	7
8.1	CORPORATE SERVICES.....	7
8.1.1	QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 1 2015/2016.....	7
8.2	REGIONAL STRATEGY AND PLANNING.....	13
8.2.1	DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION - 89-91 GREENOAKS DRIVE, COOLUM BEACH.....	13
8.2.2	DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION - BOTANICAL GARDENS AND WEDDING CHAPEL - 233 MALENY-STANLEY RIVER ROAD, WOOTHA.....	23
8.3	CORPORATE SERVICES.....	39
8.3.1	SEPTEMBER 2015 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT.....	39
8.3.2	SUNSHINE COAST COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2014/2015.....	47
8.3.3	DISPOSAL OF AN EASEMENT - 4 NATIONAL PARK ROAD NAMBOUR LOT 2 ON RP 212394.....	51
8.4	COMMUNITY SERVICES.....	55
8.4.1	2015/2016 COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM MAJOR GRANTS ROUND 1 RECOMMENDATIONS.....	55

8.4.2	2015/2016 REGIONAL ARTS DEVELOPMENT FUND SEPTEMBER 2015 RECOMMENDATIONS	63
8.4.3	PARKING AMNESTY FOR CALOUNDRA CBD	71
8.5	INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES	77
8.5.1	KOALA CONSERVATION PLAN	77
8.6	CORPORATE STRATEGY AND DELIVERY	83
8.7	OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CEO	83
9	NOTIFIED MOTIONS.....	83
10	TABLING OF PETITIONS.....	83
11	CONFIDENTIAL SESSION.....	84
11.1	REGIONAL STRATEGY AND PLANNING	84
11.1.1	CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - PLANNING APPEAL - MAROOCHYDORE.....	84
11.1.2	CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - CALOUNDRA SOUTH.....	84
11.2	CORPORATE SERVICES	85
11.2.1	CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - PROPERTY DISPOSAL KULANGOOR.....	85
11.2.2	CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY - SURPLUS LAND	85
11.2.3	CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - BRISBANE ROAD ACQUISITION	85
11.2.4	CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 1, 2015/2016	86
11.3	COMMUNITY SERVICES	86
11.4	INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES	86
11.5	CORPORATE STRATEGY AND DELIVERY	86
11.6	OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CEO	86
12	NEXT MEETING	86
13	MEETING CLOSURE	86

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

On establishing there is a quorum, the Chair will declare the meeting open.

2 OPENING PRAYER**3 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE****4 RECEIPT AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting (Round 2 Amendments to the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme) held on 12 October 2015 and the Ordinary Meeting held on 15 October 2015 be received and confirmed.

5 OBLIGATIONS OF COUNCILLORS**5.1 DECLARATION OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST ON ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS**

Pursuant to Section 172 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a councillor who has a material personal interest in an issue to be considered at a meeting of the local government, or any of its committees must –

- (a) inform the meeting of the councillor's material personal interest in the matter; and
- (b) leave the meeting room (including any area set aside for the public), and stay out of the meeting room while the matter is being discussed and voted on.

5.2 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST ON ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS

Pursuant to Section 173 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a councillor who has a real or perceived conflict of interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the local government, or any of its committees must inform the meeting about the councillor's personal interest the matter and if the councillor participates in the meeting in relation to the matter, how the councillor intends to deal with the real or perceived conflict of interest.

6 MAYORAL MINUTE**7 PRESENTATIONS**

8 REPORTS DIRECT TO COUNCIL**8.1 CORPORATE SERVICES****8.1.1 QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 1 2015/2016**

File No:	Statutory Meetings
Author:	Coordinator Corporate Plan Reporting and Risk Corporate Services Department
Appendices:	App A - CEO'S Quarterly Progress Report App B - Operational Plan Activities Report - Quarter ended September 2015 App C - Performance Measures Report

PURPOSE

This report presents the Quarterly Progress Report for the period 1 July to 30 September 2015 - Quarter 1. This report has been prepared to inform council and the community on delivery of the services, implementation of operational activities and significant operating projects from council's Operational Plan 2015/2016 and Corporate Plan 2014-2019.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Each quarter, council receives a progress report on the delivery of the corporate and operational plans. The report once adopted, is published and made available to the community.

The report is comprised of:

- Appendix A - reports from the Chief Executive Officer and Directors which outline service delivery
- Appendix B – report on operational activities and significant operating projects
- Appendix C – report showing corporate plan goal performance

There are 137 operational activities in the Operational Plan 2015/2016, with all activities underway. Detail on progress is provided in Appendix B to this report.

Highlights for the quarter ended 30 September 2015 are:

A new economy

- Infrastructure agreement for Caloundra South signed by council. This is a major milestone following five years of intensive negotiations to outline what infrastructure will be delivered in this development, proposed to house an additional 50,000 residents over the next 40 years.
- Smart City Framework launched, which has been developed to allow information and communication technology to enhance the liveability, workability and sustainability of the region.
- \$42.2 million (67%) of total purchasing spent during the quarter with suppliers that have a local presence.

A strong community

- Melbourne Storm announced that its National Youth Competition team will relocate to the Sunshine Coast Stadium from 2016. This occurred following council hosting the Melbourne Storm and Qantas Wallabies at the Sunshine Coast Stadium this quarter.

- Gold Award received at the prestigious National Trust Queensland Heritage Awards for the recently launched Mary Grigor Centre, a purpose-built archival and interpretive centre.
- Civic Centre Facilities enhanced. Council delivered or committed to the enhancement of each of the civic centre facilities: opened the Coolum Civic Centre refurbishment; relinquished lease of the Nambour Civic Centre enabling plans for conversion into a multi-screen cinema complex; increased investment over the next five years for council's oldest and largest venue, the Events Centre Caloundra.

An enviable lifestyle and environment

- Environment Levy and Transport Levy annual reports for 2014/2015 released. These documents outline the significant contributions and extensive activities these programs invest in and deliver.
- Wreck of the SS Dicky relocated, which included excavation, cutting and recording and removal of the visible pieces and the stern.

Service excellence

- A number of Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014 amendments released for public consultation and development activity continues to be positive across the region, particularly within the enterprise corridor.
- 133,502 rate notices issued with total rates and utility charges of \$140.2 million in July 2015.

A public sector leader

- Safety Symposium - Work Safe and Live Well held to launch the new corporate safety message.
- Mental health awareness campaign launched. A new procedure and policy was introduced which demonstrates council's commitment to raising awareness and support for employees experiencing mental health problems at work.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled "Quarterly Progress Report - Quarter 1 2015/2016"**
- note the Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Progress Report – Quarter 1, 1 July to 30 September 2015 (Appendix A) on service delivery**
- note the Operational Plan Activities Report – Quarter ended September 2015 (Appendix B) reporting on implementation of the Corporate and Operational plans**
- note the reallocation of operational activities 1.2.1.1 from CSD Directorate to Sunshine Coast Airport, 1.2.1.2 from Commercial Projects to CSD Directorate, 1.2.2.2 from Economic Development to Project Delivery, 2.3.2 from CRPS Directorate to Transport and Infrastructure Planning and 4.2.7 from Finance to Strategy and Coordination and**
- note the Performance Measures Report as at end September 2015 (Appendix C) reporting on corporate plan goal performance.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The cost of implementing the Operational Plan 2014/2015 was built into the Annual Budget 2014/2015.

Financial reporting information is not included in the report. A Financial Performance Report is provided to council each month covering operating revenue and expenses and capital programs.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A public sector leader*

Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service

Operational Service: S31 - Governance - providing internal leadership, legal opinion, governance and audit functions ensuring legislative accountability, transparency and ethical obligations are supported

CONSULTATION

Internal Consultation

Consultation has occurred with each department of council to provide information on service delivery and status of operational activities.

External Consultation

There has been no external consultation in relation to this report however the report is made available to the community following adoption.

Community Engagement

There has been no community engagement in relation to this report.

PROPOSAL

The Corporate Plan 2014-2019 and Operational Plan 2015/2016 have a strong focus on the core services that council delivers to the community. In addition, these plans also identify the operational activities that council will undertake, that align to council's goals.

Service delivery

The Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Progress Report – Quarter 1 (Appendix A) consists of the Chief Executive Officer's summary report and Directors' detailed reports. The purpose of the report is to inform council and the community on the delivery of core services outlined in council's corporate plan.

Operational activities

The Operational Plan Activities Report – Quarter ended September 2015 (Appendix B) provides details on the implementation of operational activities and significant operating projects outlined in council's operational plan.

It includes the status of each activity and project in the operational plan covering percentage complete, anticipated completion date and progress commentary.

Table 1 provides a summary on the status of all operational activities and significant operating projects.

Table 1: Summary of all operational activities and significant operating projects

Status	Number
Completed	2
Underway	133
Not started	2
Total	137

Table 2: Reallocation of lead responsibility for operational activities

Lead responsibility for operational activities may change during the financial year as the project focus or technical expertise changes. Table 2 below details changes to lead responsibility from Quarter 2.

Ref No	Operational activity	Existing lead	New lead
1.2.1.1	Finalise Council's contribution to all statutory approvals to advance the expansion of the Sunshine Coast Airport	CSD Directorate	Sunshine Coast Airport
1.2.1.2	Progress the endorsed financial strategy to secure the required investment to facilitate expansion of the Sunshine Coast Airport	Commercial Projects	CSD Directorate
1.2.2.2	Facilitate the application of smart city principles across the Maroochydore Priority Development Area and the Sunshine Coast Enterprise Corridor, to build the connectivity of communities, improve accessibility to information and services and build the value proposition of the region	Economic Development	Project Delivery
2.3.2	Conduct further due diligence assessment for the Nambour Heritage tramway	CRPS Directorate	Transport and Infrastructure Planning
4.2.7	Actively participate and contribute to advocacy initiatives for the Australian Local Government Association and Council of Mayors South East Queensland to influence the review of revenue powers and fiscal responsibilities of the three tiers of government	Finance	Strategy and Coordination

Corporate Plan Goal Performance Measures

A suite of 28 performance measures (Appendix C), endorsed by council are incorporated in the Annual Report. The majority of the measures have a three-monthly reporting frequency with performance for other measures captured and reported at agreed intervals.

Legal

There is a legislative requirement to provide a report on performance against the corporate and operational plans. This report meets the requirements of the Local Government Act and Regulation.

Policy

There is no policy associated with the presentation of a quarterly progress report however it is a component of the Strategic Corporate Planning and Reporting Framework.

Risk

Directors have provided in their reports an overview of service delivery for the quarter, including the outlook for the future and any associated risks.

In accordance with council's Enterprise Risk Management Framework, the risks and opportunities identified in relation to the quarterly progress report include:

- Reputation/public image: the report provides complete information on council's operations and builds a positive reputation for council with the community.
- Legislative: the report meets the legislative requirements of the Local Government Act and Regulation.
- Business activity: the report keeps council informed about the progression of the operational plan activities and provides a timely account of council's progress to the community.

Previous Council Resolution

Council adopted the:

- Corporate Plan 2014-2019 on 12 May 2014
- Operational Plan 2015/2016 on 18 June 2015

Related Documentation

- Corporate Plan 2014-2019
- Operational Plan 2015/2016
- Financial information provided to council in the Financial and Capital management report

Critical Dates

Quarterly Progress reports are usually presented to council within four weeks of the end of the calendar quarter, subject to the scheduled meeting cycle. Legislation requires the report to be presented to council at intervals of not more than 3 months.

Implementation

The report will be published and available for community access via council's website.

The Chief Executive Officer and Directors will provide a verbal report to council at the Ordinary Meeting.

8.2 REGIONAL STRATEGY AND PLANNING**8.2.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION - 89-91 GREENOAKS DRIVE, COOLUM BEACH**

File No: PBA15/0040
 Author/Presenter: Development Planner
 Regional Strategy & Planning Department
 Appendices: App A - Conditions of Approval
 Attachments: Att 1 - Proposal Plan

Link to PD Online:

<http://pdonline.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/MasterView/Modules/Applicationmaster/default.aspx?page=wrapper&key=1661313>

SUMMARY SHEET	
APPLICATION DETAILS	
Applicant:	Energex Limited
Proposal	Preliminary Approval for Building Work - Extension to Substation (Telecommunication Facility)
Properly Made Date:	01/07/2015
Information Request Date:	Not Applicable
Information Response Received Date:	Not Applicable
Decision Due Date	15/10/2015 (2 nd 20 business days)
Number of Submissions	2 properly made
PROPERTY DETAILS	
Division:	9
Property Address:	89-91 Greenoaks Drive, Coolum
RP Description:	Lot 111 SP 196609
Land Area:	5404m ²
Existing Use of Land:	Substation
STATUTORY DETAILS	
Planning Scheme:	Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme (9 March 2015)
SEQRP Designation:	Urban Footprint
Strategic Plan Designation:	Urban Area
Planning Area / Locality:	Coolum
Planning Precinct / Zone:	Community Facilities (Substation)
Assessment Type:	Impact

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek council's determination of an application for Preliminary Approval for Building Work - Extension to Substation (Telecommunication Facility) at 89-91 Greenoaks Drive, Coolum Beach. The application is before council as it involves a policy consideration under the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014 relating to building height.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The application seeks Preliminary Approval for Building Work - Extension to Substation (Telecommunications Facility), located at Greenoaks Drive, Coolum Beach.

The proposal is for a 23 metre high telecommunications facility, which is intended to form part of Energex's enhanced monitoring and control program, to improve restoration times during power system faults and to provide a platform on which future plant monitoring facilities can be implemented.

The proposed telecommunications facility would be located within the existing substation compound and would not result in the clearing of vegetation or any significant alterations to the site.

The proposal has a total height of 23 metres, which exceeds the height of buildings and structures overlay, which allows a maximum height of 8.5 metres for the site.

Despite the proposal exceeding the height specified in the height of buildings and structures overlay, the proposal complies with the code, as the proposal is:

- consistent with the purpose and overall outcomes of the code
- consistent with the built form character of the Coolum and the Sunshine Coast
- consistent with the reasonable expectations of the community and does not result in a significant loss of amenity.

The proposal is supported by a Visual Impact Assessment, which indicates that the proposal would not obstruct or affect views to significant landscape features and would not substantially alter the prevailing character and landscape qualities observed from vantage points including Emu Mountain, Mount Coolum and the David Low Way.

It is considered that the proposal would not negatively impact upon surrounding land uses and would result in a benefit to the community through improving the reliability of essential infrastructure.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council Approve With Conditions Application No. PBA15/0040 and grant a Preliminary Approval for Building Work (Extension to Substation - Telecommunication Facility) situated at 89-91 Greenoaks Drive, Coolum Beach, in accordance with Appendix A.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

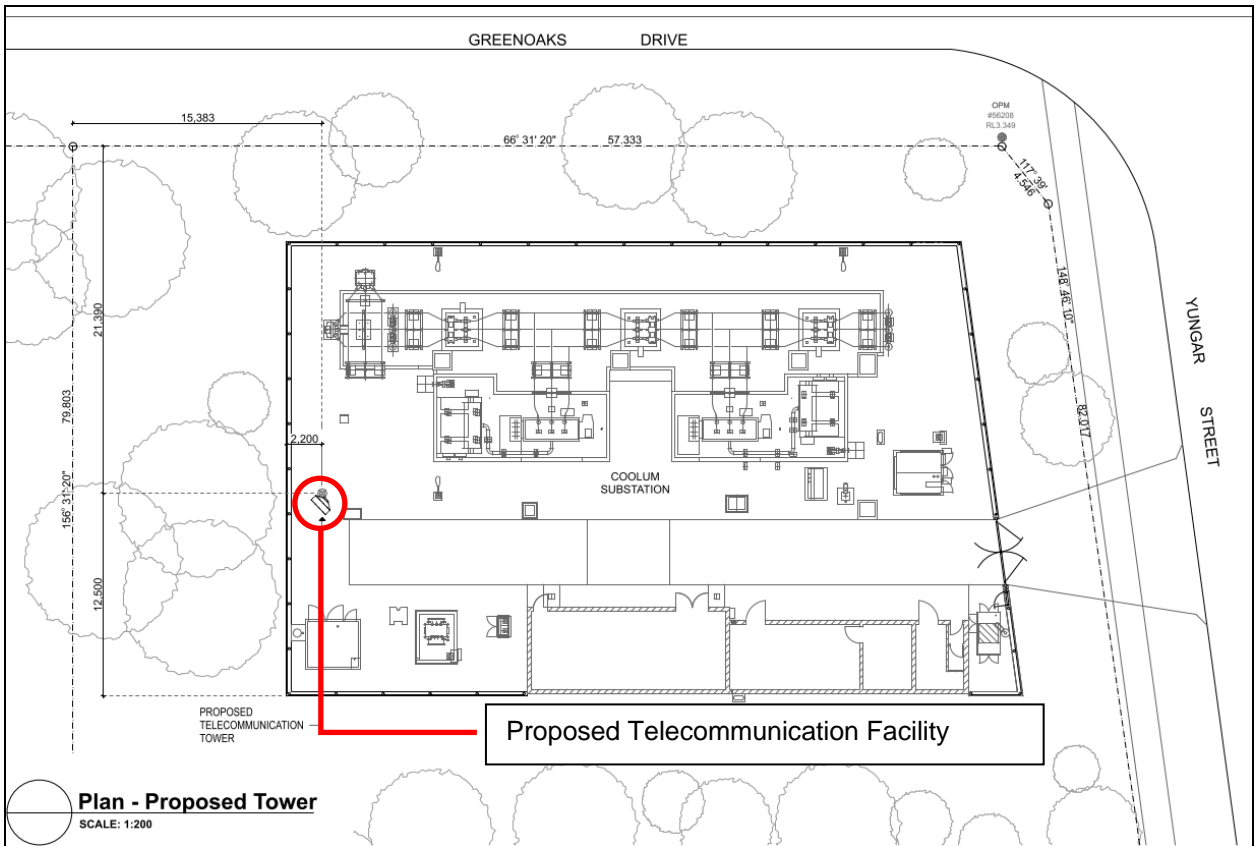
Infrastructure charges are not applicable to this application, as there is no charge for an extension to substation, under the *Register of Cost Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges for Sunshine Coast Council 2015/16*.

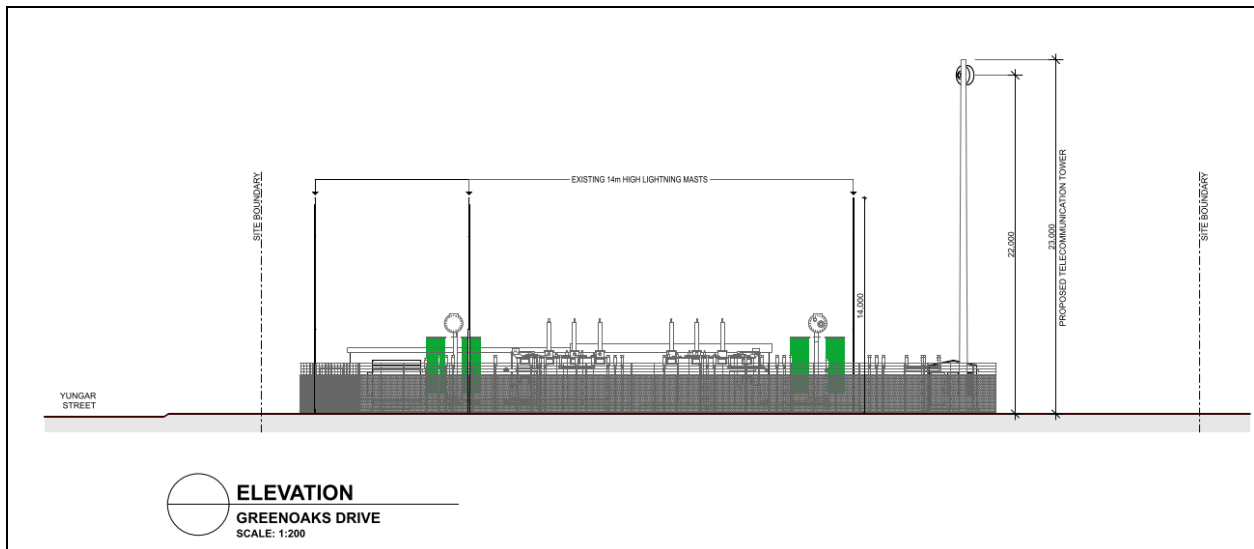
PROPOSAL

The application seeks Preliminary Approval for Building Work - Extension to Substation (Telecommunications Facility), located within the existing substation compound at 89-91 Greenoaks Drive, Coolum Beach.

The proposed telecommunications facility has a maximum height of 23 metres, with a 1.2 metre diameter dish located at the top of the pole.

The proposal is intended to form part of Energex's monitoring and control system and aims to provide extra communications with facilities external to the existing substation. The applicant anticipates that the proposal would improve restoration times and provide a platform on which future plan monitoring facilities can be implemented. The facility is not intended for the use by third parties.





SITE DETAILS

Background/Site History

PLM14/0252

A pre-lodgement meeting was held on 5 November 2014. It was advised that the proposed Telecommunications Facility was not considered a new use, as the tower is intended for use by Energex only and was, therefore, ancillary to the existing substation.

Council officers also indicated that a visual impact assessment would be required to demonstrate that the structure would not obstruct significant views.

This has been provided as part of the application.

Site Description

The site is located at 89-91 Greenoaks Drive, Coolum Beach. The site has dual frontages of 57 metres to Greenoaks Drive and 82 metres to Yungar Street, with access gained from Greenoaks Drive via an existing sealed driveway crossover.

The site has a total site area of 5404m², with the existing Energex compound having an area of 1216m². The site contains significant vegetation outside of the Energex compound, which is identified as 'Native Vegetation Area' as identified on the Biodiversity, waterways and wetlands overlay.



Surrounding Land Uses

The site is surrounded primarily by residential development to the north, south, east and west. The site directly adjoins Edith Place Park to the south and is located approximately 1 kilometre south-west from the beachside District Centre Zone and 450 metres south-west from the Local Centre Zone. It is noted that the site is not directly visible from the Coolum Beach and does not form part of any view line corridors as identified in the Scenic amenity overlay code or Coolum local plan code.



ASSESSMENT

Framework for Assessment

Instruments for Statutory Assessment

Under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* the application must be assessed against each of the following statutory planning instruments to the extent they are relevant to the development:

- State Planning Policies
- the South East Queensland Regional Plan
- State Planning Regulatory Provisions
- the Planning Scheme for the local government area.

Of these, the statutory planning instruments relevant to this application are discussed in the sections that follow.

Statutory Instruments – State and Other

State Planning Policies

The State Planning Policy has been deemed by the Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning as being appropriately reflected in council's planning scheme and, therefore, does not warrant a separate assessment.

South East Queensland Regional Plan

The site is located within the Urban Footprint of the South East Queensland Regional Plan. The proposed development is consistent with the regional land use intent, regional policies and desired regional outcomes for the Urban Footprint.

State Planning Regulatory Provisions

The following State Planning Regulatory Provisions are applicable to this application:

- Draft Amendment to the South East Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031 State Planning Regulatory Provisions
- State Planning Regulatory Provision (Adopted Charges).

The applicable planning scheme for the application is the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme.

The following sections relate to the provisions of the Planning Scheme.

Strategic Framework

The Strategic Framework considers the following matters:

- Settlement Pattern
- Economic Development
- Transport
- Infrastructure and Services
- Natural Environment

- Community Identity, Character and Social Inclusion
- Natural Resources
- Natural Hazards.

The application has been assessed against each of the matters above and found to be generally consistent with each matter.

Local Plan Code

The subject site is located in the Coolum Local Plan Area. The application has been assessed against the Local Plan Code and found to be compliant with, or can be conditioned to comply. The site is identified as being part of a significant view on the Coolum Local Plan Elements, but it is noted that the significant view only covers a small proportion of the site, and does not include the area intended for the development.

Zone Code

The subject site is located within the Community Facilities Zone.

The purpose of the Community Facilities Zone code is to provide for a range of community activities and other activities at varying degrees of scale and intensity which meet the social, educational, spiritual, cultural, creative, health or infrastructure related needs of the Sunshine Coast's existing and future communities.

The proposed telecommunications facility is ancillary to the existing substation and would increase efficiencies and reliability of the electricity infrastructure through improving restoration times and providing a platform on which future plan monitoring facilities can be implemented. Therefore, the proposal is consistent with the Community Facilities Zone code.

Overlay and Development Codes

The following codes which regulate land use and design are applicable to this application:

- Height of buildings and structures overlay code
- Biodiversity, waterways and wetlands overlay code
- Airport environs overlay code
- Flood hazard overlay code
- Utility code
- Telecommunication facility code
- Landscape code
- Nuisance code
- Safety and security code.

The application has been assessed against each of the above applicable codes and found to be compliant with, or can be conditioned to comply with, each. The pertinent issues arising out of assessment against the codes are discussed below.

Height

The proposal does not comply with the Acceptable Outcome or Performance Outcome of the Height of buildings and structures overlay code, as the proposal has a total height of 23 metres. This exceeds the height specified in the Height of buildings and structures overlay of 8.5 metres.

The height of buildings and structures overlay code provides exemptions for over-height Telecommunications Facilities (enabling certain applications to exceed the height of buildings and structures overlay and not trigger Impact assessment). Telecommunication facilities are only exempted from the requirements of the overlay code where the development does not adversely impact on the character of the local area, does not result in a significant loss of amenity for surrounding development, and is located in one of the following zones:

- (a) Rural Zone
- (b) Principal Centre Zone
- (c) Major Centre Zone
- (d) District Centre Zone
- (e) Specialised Centre Zone
- (f) Low Impact Industry Zone
- (g) Medium Impact Industry Zone
- (h) High Impact Industry Zone.

While the Community Facilities Zone is not included in the list above, there is an intention to allow some over height structures for the provision of services and industrial uses. This differs to over-height buildings, which are not supported by the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme.

The proposal complies with the Purpose and Overall Outcomes of the Height of buildings and structures overlay code as:

- The proposal does not negatively impact on the preferred built form character of the area. The site has been utilised as a substation in excess of 15 years. Accordingly, the proposed extension to substation reflects the existing established character on the site.
- The proposal is consistent with the reasonable expectations of the community. The existing substation compound includes four 14 metre high lightning masts. These existing masts exceed the height of buildings and structures overlay. Additionally, no submissions were received in relation to the height of the structure during the public notification process.
- In accordance with the submitted Visual Impact Assessment, the proposal would not impact upon the amenity of surrounding development in relation to overshadowing, privacy and overlooking, impacts upon views, character and appearance. This is due to the slender profile of the proposed structure. It is also noted that the facility does not transect any view line corridors and is buffered by established vegetation to the west and south.

Based on the above assessment, the proposal complies with the Purpose and Overall Outcomes of the height of buildings and structures overlay code.

Visual Amenity

The proposal does not comply with the Acceptable Outcomes of the Telecommunications facility code, as the proposal is located approximately 26 metres to the nearest dwelling to the north, 30 metres to the nearest dwelling to the east, 33 metres to the nearest dwelling to the west and 124 metres to the nearest dwelling to the south. The proposal is also located 60 metres to Edith Place Park, 80 metres to Yungar Street Park, 350 metres to a child care centre (Kids Plus Coolum Childcare) and 420 metres to Coolum State School.

Acceptable Outcome of the Telecommunications facility code requires a telecommunication facility to be located at least:

- 400 metres from any residential use
- 500 metres from any child care centre, community care centre, education establishment or park
- 20 metres from any public pathway
- 1 kilometre from any other existing or approved telecommunications facility.

The associated Performance Outcome of the code specifies that the telecommunication facility is located so as to *minimise any adverse impacts on the amenity of nearby residential, community and other sensitive land uses.*

The applicant provided a Visual Impact Assessment as part of the supporting material of the application. The Visual Impact Assessment indicated the following:

“This assessment found that the proposal would not obstruct or affect views to significant landscape features; would not substantially alter the prevailing character and landscape qualities observed from the identified vantage points; would not substantially affect views from scenic routes or from key locations. Ultimately, the proposal will be relatively unobtrusive and, particularly if recessive colours are employed, would minimise adverse impacts on surrounding premises and satisfactorily integrated with its setting”.

Council officers have undertaken a detailed review of the Visual Impact Analysis, and officers support the findings of the assessment that the proposal would not impact on surrounding land uses or key view corridors.

To ensure compliance with the Telecommunications facilities code, it is recommended that a condition be imposed that requires the telecommunications facility to be finished in a matte neutral grey between 27% and 40% black. Council officers have indicated that the choice of grey allows the structure to recede and blend in under most circumstances against a variety of backdrops.

CONSULTATION

IDAS Referral Agencies

Not Applicable.

Other Referrals

The application was forwarded to the following internal council specialists and their assessment forms part of this report:

- Development Engineer, Engineering and Environment Assessment Unit
- Environment Officer, Engineering and Environment Assessment Unit
- Urban Designer, Planning Assessment Unit.

Public Notification

The application was publicly notified for 15 days in accordance with the requirements of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*. Two properly made submissions were received.

The following table provides a summary and assessment of the issues raised by submitters.

Issues	Comments
Request that the telecommunications facility be of a colour that blends with the natural environment, rather than white.	As discussed in the visual amenity section of the report, It is recommended that the telecommunications facility be finished a matte neutral grey between 27% and 40% black. It is considered that this is the most appropriate colour to reduce the impact of the facility.
Health and safety impacts.	The Telecommunications facility code requires compliance with the <i>Radio Communications (Electromagnetic Radiation – Human Exposure) Standard 2003</i> . It is the applicants' responsibility to ensure compliance is achieved with the Standard.

CONCLUSION

The application seeks a Preliminary Approval for Building Work - Extension to Substation (Telecommunication Facility). The proposal is ancillary to the existing substation and is proposed to form part of Energex's enhanced monitoring and control program, which would improve restoration times during power system faults and would provide a platform on which future plant monitoring facilities can be implemented.

A visual assessment has been undertaken, which demonstrates that the structure will have minimal impact on view lines attainable from key areas including Emu Mountain, Mount Coolum and David Low Way.

Accordingly, the proposal is considered to generally comply with the requirements of the planning scheme and does not raise any significant issues that cannot be addressed by reasonable and relevant conditions. The application is, therefore, recommended for approval, subject to reasonable and relevant conditions.

8.2.2 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION - BOTANICAL GARDENS AND WEDDING CHAPEL - 233 MALENY-STANLEY RIVER ROAD, WOOTHA

File No: MCU14/0040
 Author/Presenter: Senior Development Planner
 Regional Strategy & Planning Department
 Appendices: App A - Conditions of Approval
 Attachments: Att 1 - Proposal Plan

Link to PD Online:

<http://pdonline.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/MasterView/Modules/Applicationmaster/default.aspx?page=wrapper&key=1466143>

SUMMARY SHEET	
APPLICATION DETAILS	
Applicant:	FA Shipp
Proposal	Development Permit for Material Change of Use of Premises (Outdoor Sport, Recreation and Entertainment & Function Room)
Properly Made Date:	16 April 2014
Information Request Date:	9 May 2014
Information Response Received Date:	Initial response - 12 September 2014 Response to outstanding issues - 13 August 2015
Decision Due Date	10 December 2014
Number of Submissions	18 properly made 2 not properly made
PROPERTY DETAILS	
Division:	1
Property Address:	233 Maleny-Stanley River Rd, Wootha
RP Description:	Lot 6 SP 127751
Land Area:	49.0397 Ha
Existing Use of Land:	Botanic Gardens (not approved)
STATUTORY DETAILS	
Planning Scheme:	Caloundra City Plan 2004 (16 September 2013)
SEQRP Designation:	Regional Landscape and Rural Production
Strategic Plan Designation:	Not Applicable
Planning Area / Locality:	Maleny Plateau Planning Area
Planning Precinct / Zone:	Rural Precinct
Assessment Type:	Impact

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek council's determination of an application for a Development Permit for a Material Change of Use of Premises (Outdoor Sport, Recreation and Entertainment and Function Room) located at 233 Maleny-Stanley River Road, Wootha. The application is before council at the request of a Councillor.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The applicant seeks a Development Permit for a Material Change of Use for Outdoor Sport, Recreation and Entertainment (Botanic Gardens) and a Function Room (Wedding Chapel) at 233 Maleny-Stanley River Road, Wootha. The application was lodged prior to the introduction of the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme and, therefore, is assessed against the Caloundra City Plan 2004. Both uses are identified as being neither consistent nor inconsistent uses.

The site is located within a Rural Precinct. The botanic gardens currently operate from the site. The application was lodged as a result of enforcement/compliance action by council, following complaints by the residents in the area. As such, retrospective approval is sought for a botanic garden and wedding ceremonies to occur on the site. The use of the site for wedding ceremonies only is appropriate provided they are limited in scale and hours of use. Conditions are recommended to ensure this occurs.

Ongoing discussions with the applicant's consultant have resulted in resolution of numerous outstanding issues, predominantly in relation to geotechnical issues identified across the site. Many of these issues have been exacerbated by the unlawful earthworks previously undertaken on the site.

18 properly made and 2 not properly made submissions were received about the application. 3 of the submissions were in support of the proposal, with the remainder either being against, or partially against the proposed development. A number of the submitters' objections were based on adverse impacts to residents from weddings/functions and the extent of unlawful earthworks that have occurred on the site.

A comprehensive external peer review of geotechnical matters was undertaken on behalf of council. With this advice now provided, officers are satisfied that the proposal can be supported subject to imposition of conditions to mitigate off site impacts. Accordingly, the application is recommended for approval despite its conflict with the Rural Precinct.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) approve with conditions Application No. MCU14/0040 and grant a Development Permit for a Material Change of Use of Premises (Outdoor Sport, Recreation and Entertainment (Botanic Gardens) and Function Room (Wedding Ceremonies) situated at 233 Maleny-Stanley River Rd, Wootha, in accordance with Appendix A and**
- (b) find the following are sufficient grounds to justify the decision despite the conflict with the Planning Scheme's Rural Precinct:**
 - 1. the development furthers the intent of the SEQ Regional Plan to provide recreation and tourism related activities outside the Urban Footprint**
 - 2. the development provides a tourism benefit for the region**
 - 3. the development would not compromise any useable rural land**
 - 4. the development does not prejudice any other adjoining or nearby landholding from undertaking rural activities.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

If council were to approve this development, the applicant would be required to pay infrastructure charges for trunk infrastructure. Council's Transport and Infrastructure Policy Branch has advised that an infrastructure charge of \$41,400 would be applicable.

PROPOSAL

The application seeks retrospective approval for a Material Change of Use for Outdoor Sport, Recreation and Entertainment (Botanic Gardens) and a Function Room at 233 Maleny-Stanley River Road, Wootha. The application was lodged as a requirement of compliance action by council following complaints. The application also seeks approval to undertake wedding ceremonies on the site and also to site a wedding chapel on the property, which is defined as a Function Room by the Planning Scheme. The wedding chapel is a 50m² church building relocated to the site (as identified on the proposal plans). A driveway will provide access to a parking area for the chapel.

The botanic gardens occupy approximately 11 hectares of the 49 hectare property. The balance of the site will remain as a rural use. The gardens are currently open to the public with an admission fee between 9am and 4:30pm, 7 days a week. It is proposed to continue operating at these times. With both general visitation and wedding quests, a maximum of 135 persons would be on the site at any one time (i.e. 35 persons - general public and 100 wedding participants).

The applicant has proposed that wedding receptions will not occur on the site. All wedding functions are to be limited to ceremonies only, along with light refreshments and photography. Wedding ceremonies are proposed anywhere within the botanic gardens area, including the proposed chapel.

Only one wedding ceremony is proposed to occur at any one time. The hours of operation for wedding ceremonies are proposed to be 9am to 7pm, with a maximum of 100 people on site at any one time. The applicant anticipates that there would be up to two weddings per week on average, lasting no more than 2½ hours each.

No further vegetation clearing is proposed or required for the development. The nearest proposed building would be 37 metres from the nearest mapped remnant vegetation. Access to the site would occur via a 5 metre wide established concrete driveway located at the northern part of the site.

SITE DETAILS

Background/Site History

8 January 2013	A complaint was received from residents near the subject site with concerns relating to the extent of earthworks and tree clearing occurring on the subject site (which included landslips downslope) and the impact of such clearing upon wildlife. Investigations by council officers revealed that the works undertaken were not approved. As a result, the property owner was advised that a development approval would be required if the use was to continue.
20 February 2014	A prelodgement meeting was held to discuss the application requirements.
16 April 2014	The subject application was lodged. The application was deficient in geotechnical information and further information was sought of the applicant on a number of occasions throughout the assessment process.
18 November 2014	A revised geotechnical report was received from the applicant. Due to the complex geotechnical issues relevant to the site, council engaged an external expert to undertake a peer review of the geotechnical report.
6 January 2015	The Peer review identified numerous issues, particularly with regard to the stability of the earth wall adjacent the existing access driveway and the ornamental dams that had been constructed throughout the property. At this point, council officers advised the applicant of the substantial issues (which potentially compromised the ongoing operation of the botanic gardens).
30 January 2015	The applicant agreed to undertake further investigations in an attempt to address the outstanding issues.
27 February 2015	A site meeting was held to discuss the identified geotechnical issues. At this time, it was noted that a recent significant rainfall event had resulted in some further slippage and instability on the earth wall along the site's internal driveway and had filled the ornamental dams such that they were over-topping.
13 August 2015	A revised geotechnical report was received, addressing the above concerns.
20 August 2015	Council's engaged geotechnical expert confirmed that all issues had been addressed satisfactorily such they were satisfied the risk across the site can be mitigated as much as practicable.

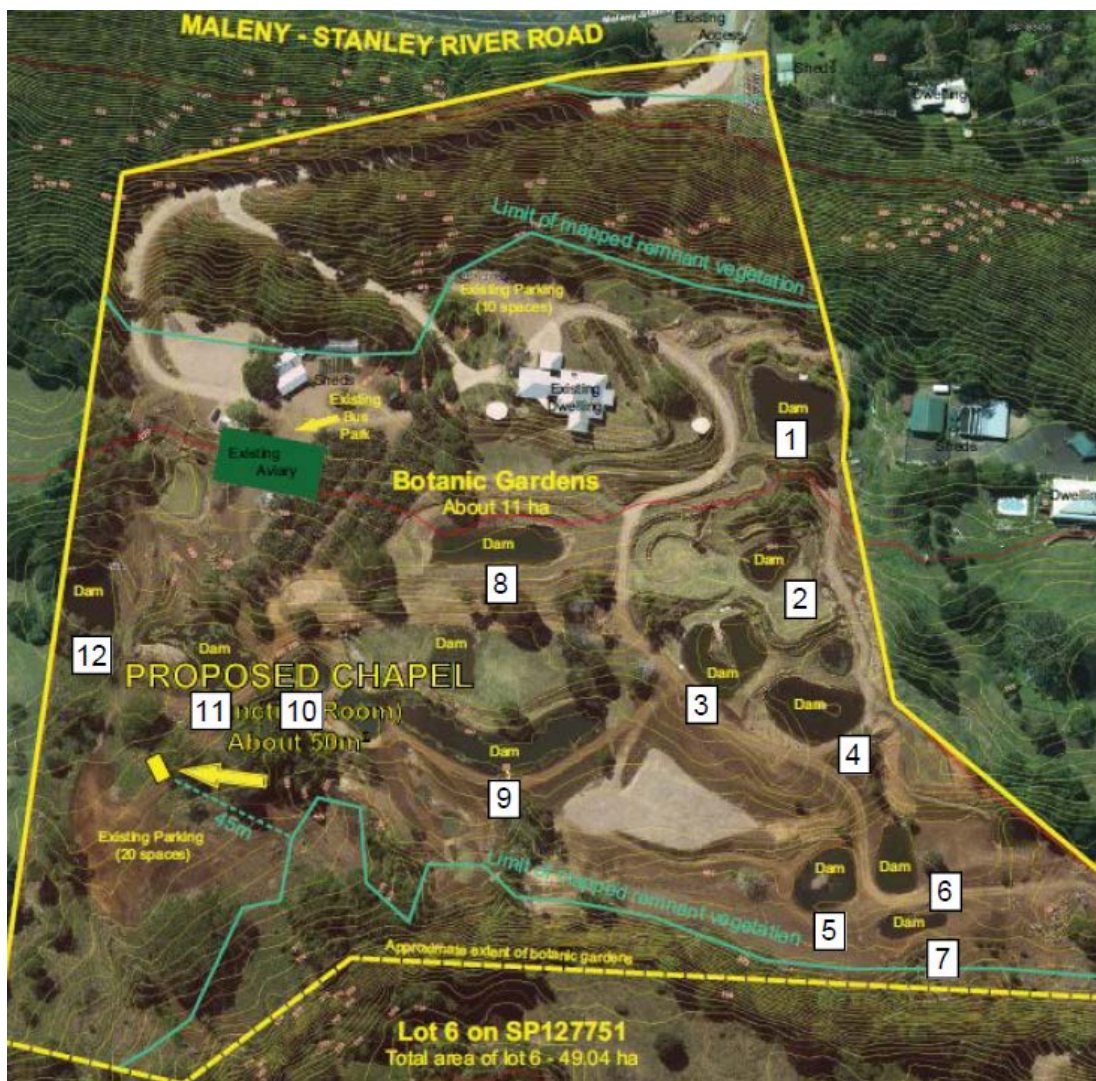
Site Description

It is understood that the site was used for cattle grazing prior to the establishment of the botanic gardens, which are now well established. The gardens currently occupy approximately 11 hectares of the 49 hectare site. They include over 6 kilometres of walking paths which meander through the gardens and associated ornamental dams/ponds (12 in total – refer image below). These ponds vary considerably in size/volume, with some having embankments up to 4 metres in height. The premises also comprise the main dwelling and associated ancillary structures/sheds, aviary, and various rotundas dispersed across the property.

Access is from Maleny-Stanley River Road at the site’s north-eastern corner. A steep driveway then traverses down the slope leading to various car parking areas. The grade of the driveways generally ranges between 11 and 27%. Many parts of the internal access driveways are currently sealed.

The topography varies across the site, with the steepest part being the large embankment where the existing driveway cuts through from Maleny–Stanley River Road leading to the main dwelling. The slope in this portion of the site is in the order of 65%, falling down from the Maleny–Stanley River Road. The site then flattens out significantly with an average fall of 15% toward the south (including some steeper sections/batters scattered though). Thereafter, the site falls again between 20% and 30% toward the southern property boundary. However, this portion of the site is not subject of the application and remains as a rural use.

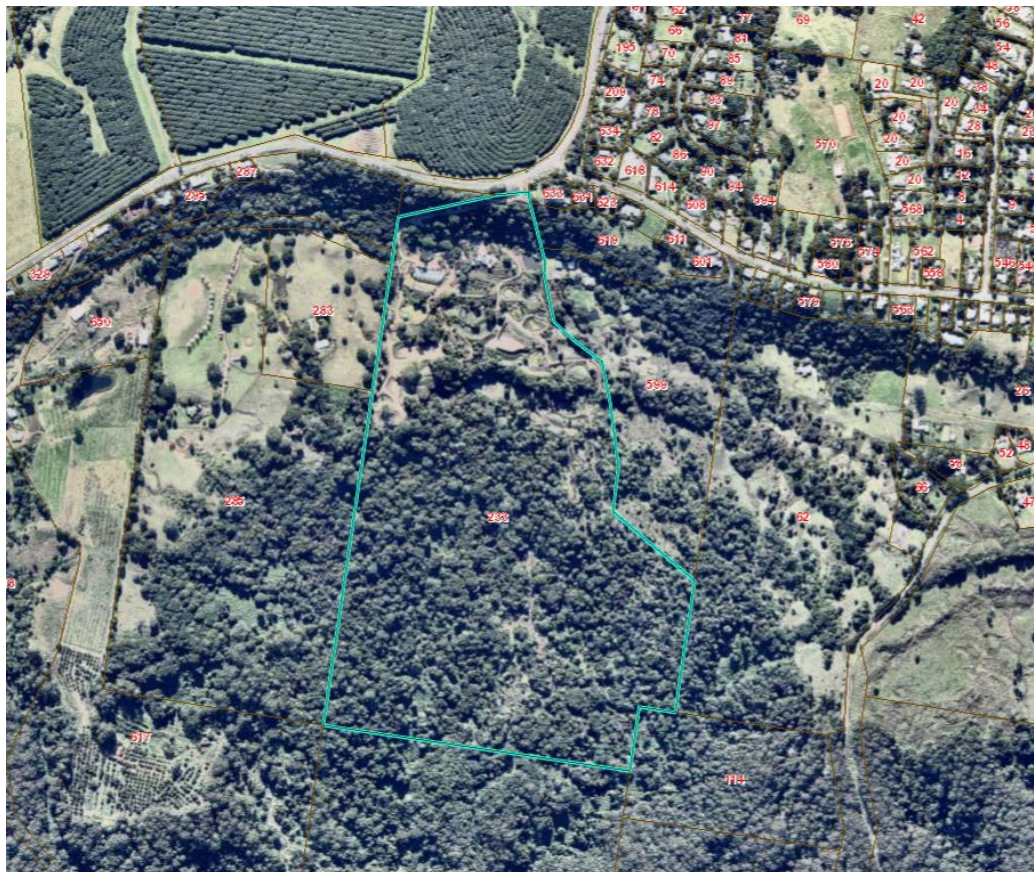
The figure below indicates the 12 ornamental dams/ ponds located throughout the gardens



Surrounding Land Uses

The subject site is located on the southern side of Maleny-Stanley River Road. A 5,807m² state-owned reserve is located directly north of the site. The site is generally surrounded by rural land with rural residential properties located to the north east.

The location of the subject site in relation to its surrounds is shown on the images below:



ASSESSMENT

Framework for Assessment

Instruments for Statutory Assessment

Under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* the application must be assessed against each of the following statutory planning instruments to the extent they are relevant to the development:

- State Planning Policies
- the South East Queensland Regional Plan
- State Planning Regulatory Provisions
- the Planning Scheme for the local government area
- any Temporary Local Planning Instrument in place for the local government area.

Of these, the statutory planning instruments relevant to this application are discussed in the sections that follow.

Statutory Instruments – State and Other

State Planning Policies

The Queensland Government established the State Planning Policy (SPP) in December 2013 to simplify and clarify matters of state interest in land use planning and development. The SPP took effect superseding all previous State Planning Policies, and is applicable to this application. Subsequently, the Queensland Government, as part of its planning reform process, has amended the SPP (July 2014) to incorporate current government priorities.

The SPP has not been incorporated into the Caloundra City Plan 2004. The application has, therefore, been assessed against Part E of the State Planning Policy: *Interim development assessment requirements*. The proposed development has been found to generally comply with the state planning policy.

South East Queensland Regional Plan

The site is located within the Regional Landscape and Rural Production of the South East Queensland Regional Plan. The development is consistent with the regional land use intent, regional policies and desired regional outcomes for the South East Queensland Regional Plan. In particular, it furthers the intent of the Plan as it facilitates *recreation and tourism activities in the rural areas of the region* and provides tourism related activities outside the Urban Footprint.

State Planning Regulatory Provisions

The site is not located within a Priority Koala Assessable Development Area or a Koala Assessable Development area. Therefore, the South East Queensland Koala Conservation State Planning Regulatory Provisions are not applicable to this application.

Statutory Instruments – Planning Scheme

The applicable planning scheme for the application is Caloundra City Plan 2004 (16 September 2013). The following sections relate to the provisions of the Planning Scheme.

Desired Environmental Outcomes (DEOs)

DEO 2.2 states that *the region is to have a diverse, dynamic and sustainable economy founded on a range of tourism attractions, facilities and accommodation types, where:*

- (a) *Tourist attractions and facilities are appropriately located, themed and designed to be compatible with their setting and location.*
- (b) *A range of tourist accommodation types is developed, compatible with their setting and location.*

The proposal can satisfy this intent as the botanic gardens provides for a tourist related activity located in a location that is compatible with its setting.

Local Area/Precinct Provisions

The subject site is located in a Rural Precinct of the Maleny Plateau Planning Area.

The relevant Overall Outcomes of the Maleny Plateau Planning Area Code essentially seek to preserve and support rural activities, allowing for some complementary activities (home based business, bed and breakfast, rural holiday accommodation and rural service industry), but keeping other commercial activities to small-scale functions that do not compromise the Local Business Centre precincts.

The Function Room use for wedding ceremonies would not compromise the functions of the Local Business Centre as it is associated, and commensurate with, the attraction provided by the botanic gardens. The site is suitable for both a botanic garden use and wedding venue. It is considered that there is no conflict with the Overall Outcomes of the Planning Area.

In terms of the Specific Outcomes for the Rural Precinct Class, the proposed development is identified as neither 'consistent' nor 'inconsistent'. However, the Overall Outcomes of the Rural Precinct Class Code states that development within the Precinct:

- (a) *provides for rural uses;*
- (b) *provides for the sustainable management of Caloundra City's natural resources and maintains the City's character and visual amenity; and*
- (c) *generally does not provide for urban services.*

The proposal does not adversely impact on the character or visual amenity of the Precinct, nor does it provide an urban service. It is considered that the continued use of the botanic gardens and proposed location of the chapel building will not have a detrimental impact upon the character or visual amenity of the area.

Land Use

The Overall Outcomes of the Code require that Outdoor Sport and Recreation uses are provided in appropriate locations, are effectively managed, are safe for users and are consistent with the Priority Infrastructure Plan. Specific Outcome O1 requires that the *siting and design of facilities are compatible with nearby development and conveniently located for users*. Specific Outcomes O6 and O7 require that the road network is capable of accommodating the expected traffic demand.

Firstly, a botanic gardens use is not typically envisaged by the Outdoor Sport, Recreation and Entertainment use definition of the Caloundra Planning Scheme. Rather, the definition is intended to capture uses such as sporting fields and the like. A botanic gardens use actually more closely aligns with the definition of 'Park'. However, as the proposal is privately operated, it does not meet the 'Park' definition. Nonetheless, it is considered that the site is appropriate for use as botanic gardens, which require large areas of land, and that the holding of wedding ceremonies is compatible with it. The topography, as well as the

vegetation located on the lower parts of the site, makes broad scale grazing and other rural activities challenging. Moreover, the road network should be able to accommodate the traffic generated by the use.

Vehicle Access and Parking

The applicant proposes 20 car parking spaces for the chapel, based on the floor area. The applicant also proposes to hold wedding ceremonies of up to 100 persons. While it is acknowledged that many guests would likely come in groups, 20 car spaces is considered insufficient for 100 guests, despite the Parking and Access Code requiring 1 space per 15m² of GFA. Specific Outcome O5 of the Code states that *sufficient on-site car parking is to be provided for the number and type of vehicles likely to be generated by the development activity*. It is recommended that sufficient space be provided to accommodate a minimum of 50 vehicles for wedding participants. There is a large area of flat ground set aside near the proposed chapel site for car parking. This would be sufficient to accommodate the required parking.

The Parking and Access Code does not specify a number of spaces for an Outdoor Sport, Recreation and Entertainment use but, instead, requires that *sufficient on-site car parking is to be provided for the number and type of vehicles likely to be generated by the development activity*. It is estimated from aerial photography that the site currently accommodates a total of approximately 110 visitor car parking spaces. It is, therefore, recommended that a minimum of 50 sealed car spaces be provided for the wedding chapel and 60 sealed spaces for the botanic gardens component. It is also recommended that all unsealed portions of the driveway, which is to be used by the public for either proposed use, be sealed.

Heavy vehicle access

The site comprises a steep driveway having grades of up to 27%. This well exceeds the maximum grades permitted by AS2890.02 for heavy vehicles, which provides for a maximum grade of 15.4%. The applicant's submitted traffic report acknowledges this but does not provide any meaningful solutions, other than to say the operator has had coaches entering the site on a number of occasions in the past. It is considered that the safety risk from potential brake fail/fade is too great and a condition is recommended to exclude heavy vehicles (coaches) over 4 tonne from entering the site. There is sufficient space on the road shoulder at the site's frontage for coaches to stand to offload passengers. The operator could then shuttle visitors down, or alternatively, visitors could traverse on foot. However, as there is currently a lack of adequate pedestrian access from the site's frontage, conditions are recommended to require a pedestrian connection down the slope south of the entrance driveway.

Impact to adjoining properties

The Overall Outcomes of the Nuisance Code requires that development does not impose unacceptable noise or light emissions on nearby development. The proposed use of the internal western driveway and car parking area by vehicles accessing the chapel would likely disturb dust. This driveway is the closest one to the dwelling on the adjoining property. A condition is recommended that this driveway and the associated parking area be sealed. Further, given considerably steep driveway grades into the property, engine and braking noise from large buses would have the potential to disturb neighbouring residents. Hence, in addition to the safety issues identified later in this report, it is recommended that coaches/buses be excluded from entering the site.

To minimise the impact upon nearby properties from the effects of the wedding ceremony gatherings, conditions are also recommended that restrict hours of operation, lighting and noise. Additional vegetation screening is also recommended along the boundaries closest to neighbouring dwellings. It is considered that, with the inclusion of these conditions, compliance with the Code is achieved.

On site effluent

The site has an existing effluent disposal system which is used for domestic purposes and for visitors to the gardens. It is reported to be operating sufficiently. As the site is not connected to the sewerage network, an additional on-site effluent disposal system is required for wedding guests. This is intended to be located proximate to the proposed chapel building. The provided Soil Test Report undertaken by EBIS (Engineering & Building Investigation Services) concludes that an advanced secondary (household-type) treatment facility/plant is required. Conditions are recommended to ensure an appropriate treatment system is provided.

Visual Amenity

The Visual Management Code essentially requires that development maintain the scenic amenity of Maleny-Stanley River Road. The development is located well down below Maleny-Stanley River Road and it would not have a visual impact upon it or any other views or vistas. The proposal satisfies the Code.

Steep Slope/Geotechnical Matters

Council engaged a geotechnical expert to undertake a peer review of the numerous iterations of the geotechnical assessment provided by the applicant's Geotechnical Consultant (hereafter referred to as 'Tectonic'). The main issues identified and investigated were as follows:

Driveway rock wall and batter

The rock cutting along the northern side of the access road varies in height across the length of the driveway generally between 4 to 10 metres (a typical profile if the existing driveway is shown in the image below).

Image showing part of the existing driveway profile



The wall has shown signs of possible instability, which was particularly evident at the time the geotechnical expert was on site. This was not long after a significant rainfall event. The steep slopes above the wall, which are at about 30%, also showed signs of potential instability and required investigation. Geological mapping of this rock wall was subsequently undertaken by Tectonic to seek a range of batter stabilisation measures. The assessment found that there was a risk of rock fall which may affect the public accessing the site. To address these risks, Tectonic recommends that a chain link fence be installed at the toe of the wall to catch any falling boulders, etc. Tectonic further recommends reducing the traffic flow along a portion of the wall to one-way traffic only (i.e. outer-most lane away from wall) and installation of a vehicle crash barrier along the southern edge of the driveway. It is recommended that this be implemented via conditions of approval. This necessitates provision of an automated (signal) mechanism at either end with queuing occurring on two lanes at either end. Conditions are recommended for this also.

The fill batter located on the southern side of the access road was also investigated for stability. It was found to be generally acceptable as it was determined that the driveway platform was mostly in-cut. To protect the integrity of this batter, Tectonic recommends the installation of an upright kerb along its southern edge to redirect surface flows to prevent erosion of the batter, in conjunction with revegetation of areas of bare soil.

Steep slopes at southern portion of site

Very steep slopes exist along the southern extent of the existing gardens and are estimated to be in excess of 30 metre in vertical height and generally around 35° to 45° in slope. These slopes form the actively-eroding edge of the basalt bedrock in this area. Land slip activity was evidenced at one portion of this slope located at the far south-eastern corner of the gardens. It was around 15 metres long and held mainly fill material. This slip has created a near vertical scarp up to about 1.5 metres high (and can be seen in the image below, which also shows some new plantings established in the slip area to help stabilise it). It was agreed among the experts that, for public safety reasons, measures should be applied to prevent members of the public accessing areas close to the escarpment. Conditions are recommended to ensure this occurs.

Land slip at the south-eastern corner of the gardens



Proposed Wedding Chapel site

The proposed chapel site location is generally acceptable and no significant geotechnical constraints were identified about its location, provided works are undertaken in accordance with Tectonic's recommendations.

Dams/Ornamental ponds

The stability of the soil and placed rock embankments around some of the existing dams/ponds throughout the site were identified as a significant concern. This was further exacerbated by heavy rains earlier this year, which had resulted in localised scour erosion where pond embankments had been overtopped. Given the extensive use of boulders on the dam embankments, post geotechnical certification is unable to be provided, as the only way to assess the construction would be to dismantle the dams. Given the impracticalities of this, it was acknowledged by the experts that the best solution is for strict observations of the dams to be undertaken following significant rainfall events. Some form of site management plan was identified as the best way to achieve this. It was also noted that long term stability of the dams can be further assisted by installing overflow pipes and spillways where existing drainage pipes are determined to be inadequate to cater for overflow during severe rainfall events. It was noted there is less risk to downstream properties because, should a dam wall fail, the water would traverse down the balance southern portion of the site and its velocity and volume would be diminished by the terrain and thick vegetation.

Site Management Plan

Tectonic prepared and submitted a 'Site Safety Management Plan' as part of the final Geotechnical Report provided. The greatest risk to dam failure is large volumes of rainfall over short periods, referred to as a 'trigger event' (which the Management Plan described as *more than 100mm of rain predicted during any 24hr period by the BoM*). Accordingly, the Site Safety Management Plan is intended to ensure appropriate inspection of the existing dams, driveway cutting and steep southern slope are undertaken following a 'trigger event'

and that stabilisation and repairs are undertaken as necessary to ensure public safety. In particular, it provides the following measures:

- (1) the Site Manager shall close the Gardens when more than 100 mm of rainfall is predicted by BoM within a 24 hour period (the 'trigger' event)
- (2) the Gardens shall remain closed to visitors and non-essential personnel until cessation of the rainfall and inspection by the Geotechnical Engineer indicates no change in conditions which could lead to instability. (Note that inspection also includes that of the driveway wall at the front portion of the site)
- (3) should any signs of instability be noted during the inspection program, the Geotechnical Engineer shall advise the Site Manager of any necessary maintenance and/or stabilisation works that are to be completed prior to re-opening the gardens
- (4) upon approval by the Geotechnical Engineer, the gardens may be re-opened.

The measures discussed above are considered appropriate to mitigate risk. However, the main shortcoming of this approach is that weddings are unable to be cancelled on 24 hours' notice. In the circumstance where a wedding is planned during or immediately after a 'trigger event', the operator would need to ensure the wedding is located on a less risk-prone part of the site (i.e. above the dams) until such time the site can be inspected by a geotechnical engineer. It is recommended that a condition is included to ensure this occurs.

Overall, it is considered that the risks presented to users of the site by its potential instability can be mitigated satisfactorily by conditions. This includes strict adherence to the Tectonic geotechnical assessment, registration of a geotechnical covenant over the whole of the site approved for public access, and specific development conditions pertaining to earthworks and drainage. It is recommended that such conditions be imposed.

CONSULTATION

IDAS Referral Agencies

The application was referred to the following IDAS referral agencies:

Concurrence

Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning (SARA)

The department is a concurrence agency for State Controlled Road matters. The department responded on 19 June 2014 providing conditions for the development relating to site access requirements.

Other Referrals

The application was forwarded to the following internal council specialists and their assessment forms part of this report:

- Development Engineer, Engineering and Environment Assessment Unit
- Hydraulics and Water Quality Specialist, Engineering and Environment Assessment Unit
- Environment Officer, Engineering and Environment Assessment Unit.

Public Notification

The application was publicly notified for 15 business days in accordance with the requirements of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*. 18 properly made submissions and 2 not properly made submissions were received.

The following table provides a summary and assessment of the issues raised by submitters.

Issues	Comments
Inaccurate/ incomplete development application material	It is agreed that the original application, and the response to the information request, failed to adequately address the full activities occurring on the site. However, following further site meetings and requests for further details (mostly geotechnical), officers are satisfied that the issues/risks are addressed.
The use already occurs without approval	This application seeks to make the existing use lawful.
Helicopters landing on property (for weddings)	Conditions are recommended to prohibit this occurrence, except where for a legitimate rural purpose.
Privacy concerns and disruption/impact to neighbours	The applicant only proposes to conduct a maximum of 2 wedding ceremonies per week. Wedding receptions or similar functions are not proposed. Conditions are recommended to restrict the extent of the use as well as provision of screening/fencing and appropriate separation to adjoining properties.
Landslips/steep land	Considerable assessment has been undertaken in regard to this issue. Conditions are recommended to assist in addressing any ongoing stability issues over the site.
The gardens are an asset to local business, bringing visitors to the Hinterland.	Agreed. The gardens would bring tourism benefits to the region.
Traffic concerns along Maleny-Stanley River Road	The existing property access is not considered to represent a safety concern. There is sufficient sight distance in either direction onto Maleny-Stanley River Road. There is no access restriction strip attached to the subject site that would restrict access at the current constructed driveway. Further, the Department of Transport and Main Roads has given approval for the continued use of the existing access point.
Unsafe driveway	Agreed. Measures are recommended to mitigate this risk, including provision of a single access lane and preclusion of large buses from accessing the site.
Noise from coaches using the steep driveway.	Agreed. It is recommended that buses be precluded from using the driveway due to both, noise and safety concerns.
Excavation of dams / vegetation clearing.	It is noted that a number of additional dams have been constructed on the site since the operator took ownership of the property and that they have been constructed without the necessary approvals. It was also noted that some unlawful clearing works had occurred on the property, mostly just south of the proposed botanic gardens. These matters were addressed by Council's Audit and Response Branch.
Impact upon drainage patterns and downstream properties. Dams should be drained.	Council's hydrologist has assessed the impact of works upon the site's drainage patterns including the numerous dams that have been constructed throughout the site. These are considered to be a suitable means of managing stormwater quality on this site. The dams would not have any notable impact upon the Stanley River catchment, or any of its associated tributaries. Draining the large

Issues	Comments
	dams is not warranted in this regard.
No application was made for gazebos, bird aviary, shop etc	Council's Audit and Response Branch has investigated all structures on the property and advised the operator where any building approvals are required to be obtained from a Private Certifier. Operational Works approvals will be required for previous and future earthworks. The structures on the property, as well as the small cafe/shop, do not require separate planning approval as they are an ancillary component of the Outdoor Recreation use. A condition is recommended to ensure the serving of food and beverages remains ancillary to primary use at all times.
Parking	Conditions are recommended to ensure sufficient parking can be provided on site to accommodate the peak number of guests anticipated.
Waste management	Conditions are recommended to ensure an appropriate number of waste receptacles are available to service the maximum number of guests.
Lighting	Given the use is to cease at 7pm, it is not anticipated that the use of lights would be overly offensive to nearby properties.
Use compromises rural land.	While the land is included in the Rural Precinct class, only about one fifth of the site is taken up by the gardens use. There is nothing to prohibit the (38Ha) balance portion of the site being used for rural purposes, provided it does not impact on the protected vegetation. Nonetheless, it is considered that the botanic gardens use of the northern part of the land is appropriate, despite its conflict with the Rural precinct (zone).
Concern that the Outdoor Sport, Recreation and Entertainment use could evolve into other uses/events	It is acknowledged that the use definition may permit uses such as sports facilities or other entertainment type uses, which could have significant impact on adjoining properties. To alleviate the issue, it is recommended that the use approval be limited to 'botanic gardens' and 'wedding ceremonies' only.
Provides minimal public benefit	Disagree. It is considered that the proposal provides a public benefit for the general public, particularly tourists.

SUNSHINE COAST PLANNING SCHEME

The subject site is zoned Rural within the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme and is not located within a Local Plan Area.

The proposed uses would be defined as Outdoor Sport and Recreation and Function facility, both identified as 'Potentially Consistent Uses' in the Rural zone code. The application would also trigger impact assessment, but would be more consistent with the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme than the superseded Caloundra Planning Scheme. The site would be affected by the following Overlays of the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme:

- Biodiversity, waterways and wetlands
- Bushfire hazard
- Height of buildings and structures
- Landscape Hazard and Steep Land

- Regional Infrastructure
- Scenic amenity
- Water resource catchments.

The development site constraints listed above are essentially the same as those that have been considered as part of the assessment under the superseded Caloundra City Planning Scheme.

CONCLUSION

The application seeks to make an existing use lawful. Considerable geotechnical issues have been identified as relevant to the site. However, these issues have been extensively reviewed and officers are now satisfied that the risk to public safety can be minimised sufficiently for the use to continue. It is considered that the use offers a significant tourism and public benefit to the region and that the subject site is suitably located for this purpose. The holding of wedding ceremonies, as proposed, is considered to be commensurate with the botanic gardens use and can be appropriately conditioned to reduce any adverse impacts to neighbouring properties. It is, therefore, recommended that the application be approved.

8.3 CORPORATE SERVICES

8.3.1 SEPTEMBER 2015 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

File No: Financial Reports
Author: Coordinator Financial Services
 Corporate Services Department
Attachments: Att 1 - September 2015 Financial Performance Report

PURPOSE

To meet Council's legislative obligations, a monthly report is to be presented to Council on its financial performance and investments.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The monthly financial performance report provides Council with a summary of performance against budget at the end of each month in terms of the operating result and delivery of the capital program.

Operating Performance

The operating result at 30 September 2015 of \$70.2 million shows a positive variance of \$7.4 million compared to the forecast position. The current budget has been updated to reflect the adjustments approved in Budget Review 1 2015/16.

Table 1: Operating Result as at 30 September 2015

September 2015	Current Budget \$000	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Operating Revenue	386,259	152,905	157,217	4,312	2.8
Operating Expenses	368,840	90,071	86,975	(3,096)	(3.4)
Operating Result	17,419	62,834	70,242	7,408	11.8

Achievement of the full year budgeted operating result will allow Council to meet its debt repayments and capital expenditure commitments.

Capital Performance

As at 30 September 2015, \$25.2 million (11.0%) of Council's \$229.4 million 2015/16 Capital Works Program was financially expended. The year to date anticipated spend was \$26.3 million, with financial expenditure 4.1% behind schedule.

Budget Review 2 2015/16 will assess the delivery capacity of the current program.

Investment Performance & Cash holdings

Council's investment portfolio remains within the guidelines established under the Investment Policy.

For the month ending 30 September 2015 Council had \$345.3 million in investment cash (excluding Trust Fund) with an average interest rate of 2.75%, being 0.61% above benchmark.

Council's financial ledger shows a cash balance of \$333.1 million, the difference to the investment cash being timing differences in revenue received on 30 September 2015. This cash position is \$30.3 million higher than projected.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report titled "September 2015 Financial Performance Report".

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

There are no finance and resourcing implications from this report.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A public sector leader*
Outcome: 5.2 - A financially sustainable organisation
Operational Activity: 5.2.2 - Ensure council's finances are well managed and systems are in place to analyse performance, generate revenue, reduce costs and manage contracts

CONSULTATION

Internal Consultation

All departments or branches participated in the formation of the recommendations associated with this report.

External Consultation

No external consultation is required for this report.

Community Engagement

No community engagement is required for this report.

PROPOSAL

The operating result at 30 September 2015 of \$70.2 million shows a positive variance of \$7.4 million compared to the forecast position.

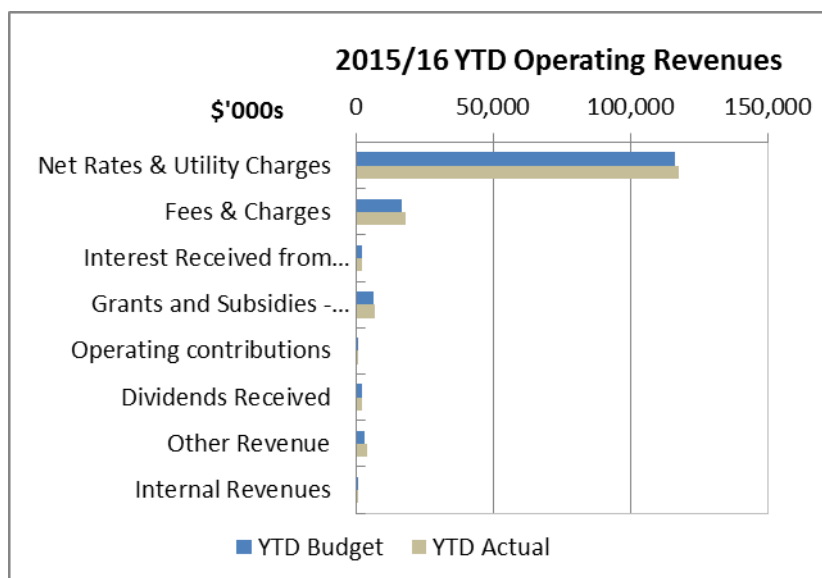
Achievement of the full year budgeted operating result will allow Council to meet its debt repayments and capital expenditure commitments.

Operating Revenue

Year to Date (YTD) actual revenues as at 30 September 2015 of \$157.2 million shows a positive variance of \$4.3 million.

Table 2: Substantial Revenue variances as at 30 September 2015

Large Variances	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Net Rates & Utility Charges	116,062	117,558	1,496	1.3
Fees & Charges	16,720	17,967	1,247	7.5
Other Revenue	3,080	3,790	710	23.1
Interest Received from Investments	1,925	2,301	376	19.6



Net Rates and Utility Charges

Of the favourable variance, \$760,000 in net rates & utilities is due to higher than anticipated cleansing charges. This variance is currently being analysed to determine if revenue is to be increased at the next budget review. Also \$860,000 of the favourable variance is being generated through prepaid rates adjustments. This is expected to be a timing variance, however will continue to be monitored.

Fees and Charges

Through Budget Review 1 2015/16, fees & charges income was increased by \$1.8 million. \$1.4 million of this increase was anticipated to come from development application fees relating to the superseded planning scheme applications.

Fees & charges continue to show a favourable variance of \$1.2 million. The favourable variance in fees and charges is mainly due to the following items exceeding the year to date budget:

- \$500,000 in development application revenue relating to plumbing inspections, operational works fees and building lodgement fees. This trend will be monitored and it is currently anticipated that another increase in forecasted revenue will be required in Budget Review 2 2015/16. Additional staff may be required to maintain this increase in workload.
- There are a number of small variances, none of which exceed \$150,000, which make up the remainder of the favourable fees & charges variance. At this stage these have been flagged as timing and will fall into line by end of year.

Other Revenue

Other revenue has exceeded the year to date budget by \$710,000 (23.1%) and mainly relates to the following unbudgeted items:

- \$264,000 received due to cost recovery action following legal proceedings – to be recognised in Budget Review 2 2015/16.
- \$110,000 payroll tax refund, this revenue will be recognised in Budget Review 2 2015/16 to offset the federal assistance grant being lower than budget.

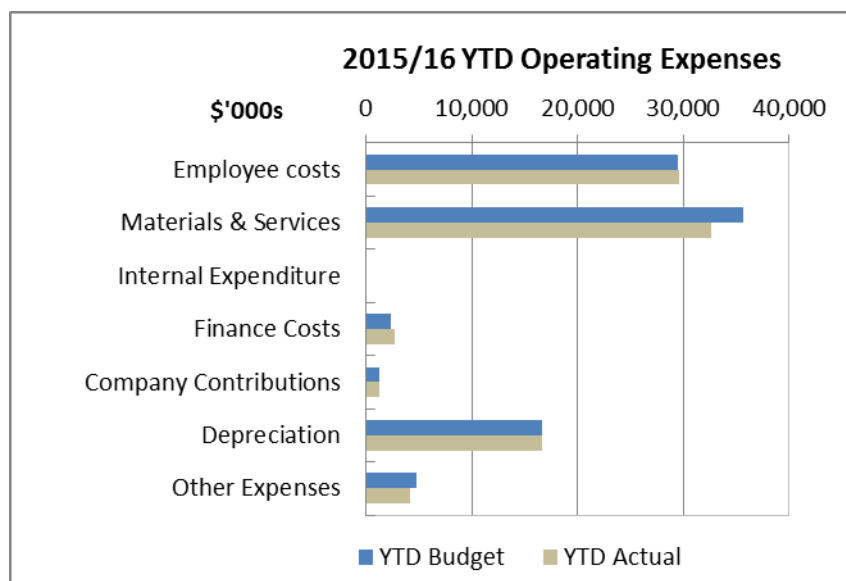
Interest from Investments

Interest from investments has exceeded the year to date budget by \$376,000 (19.6%) due to higher than budgeted cash balances. There is potential for a favourable adjustment in Budget Review 2 2015/16.

Operating Expenses

Table 3: Substantial Expenditure variances as at 30 September 2015

Large Variances	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Employee Costs	29,428	29,650	221	0.8
Materials & Services	35,732	32,631	(3,102)	(8.7)
Other Expenses	4,741	4,168	(573)	(12.1)



Employee Costs

As at 30 September 2015, employee costs of \$29.6 million were higher than the year to date budget by \$221,000 (0.8%).

As at the September 2015, a total of 1504.8 FTE hours were paid against an approved establishment of 1506.1. As the actual FTE hours match budget, the 3% vacancy rate built into the employee cost budget is not currently being achieved across Council.

The release of the Nambour Civic Centre lease has resulted in an unfavourable employee cost variance of \$183,000 at the end of September 2015. Work is currently being undertaken to establish a full year forecast for the Nambour Civic Centre, the result of which will be tabled in Budget Review 2 2015/16.

Materials and Services

As at 30 September 2015, materials and services costs of \$32.6 million were below budget by \$3.1 million (8.7%).

\$2.5 million of this favourable variance relates to operating or levy funded projects. At this stage these variances continue to be monitored and have been identified as timing differences.

Capital Revenue

Table 4: Capital revenue variances as at 30 September 2015

Large Variances	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Capital Grants and Subsidies	866	1,129	262	30.3
Capital Contributions	3,018	10,841	7,823	259.2
Contributed Assets	6,156	-	(6,156)	(100.0)

Capital revenues, at \$11.9 million, are above the year to date budget by \$1.9 million (19.2%).

- Capital grants are expected to increase by at least \$2.5 million in Budget Review 2 2015/16. The grants require matched additional expenditure from Council, so will increase the capital works program.
- Capital contributions, at \$10.8 million, are \$7.8 million ahead of budget. Analysis is currently being undertaken on revised full year expected revenue.
- Council hasn't received any contributed assets to date, at this stage no change is required to the full year forecast.

Capital Expenditure

As at 30 September 2015, \$25.2 million (11.0%) of Council's \$229.4 million 2015/16 Capital Works Program was financially expended.

The capital program for 2015/16 contains core Sunshine Coast Council projects as well as significant region making projects.

The core Sunshine Coast capital program has expended \$20.2 million against a target of \$23.1 million (-12.7%). The region making projects have expended \$5.0 million against a target of \$3.1 million (+57.5%).

Table 5: Capital expenditure variances by program as at 30 September 2015

Capital Works Program	Current Budget \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	% Variance on YTD budget
Buildings and Facilities	9,276	1,436	1,202	(16.3)
Coast and Canals	2,022	390	299	(23.5)
Divisional Allocations	3,762	475	533	12.3
Environmental Assets	1,408	198	197	(0.6)
Fleet	3,935	665	55	(91.7)
Parks and Gardens	14,148	2,694	2,297	(14.7)
Stormwater	7,014	1,815	2,075	14.3
Transportation	75,419	11,204	8,874	(20.8)
Information Communication Technology	4,592	945	659	(30.3)
Strategic Land & Commercial Properties	5,481	1,320	1,174	(11.1)
Aerodromes	533	48	56	16.2
Sunshine Coast Airport	7,534	567	873	54.0
Holiday Parks	1,260	163	101	(37.7)
Quarries	809	35	94	165.7
Waste	9,876	1,169	1,710	46.3
Total SCC Base Capital Program	147,069	23,124	20,198	(12.7)
Maroochydore City Centre	34,060	3,084	4,543	47.3
Solar Farm	43,328	115	494	329.7
Palmview	5,000	-	-	-
Total Region Making Capital Program	82,389	3,199	5,037	57.5
TOTAL	229,458	26,323	25,236	(4.1)

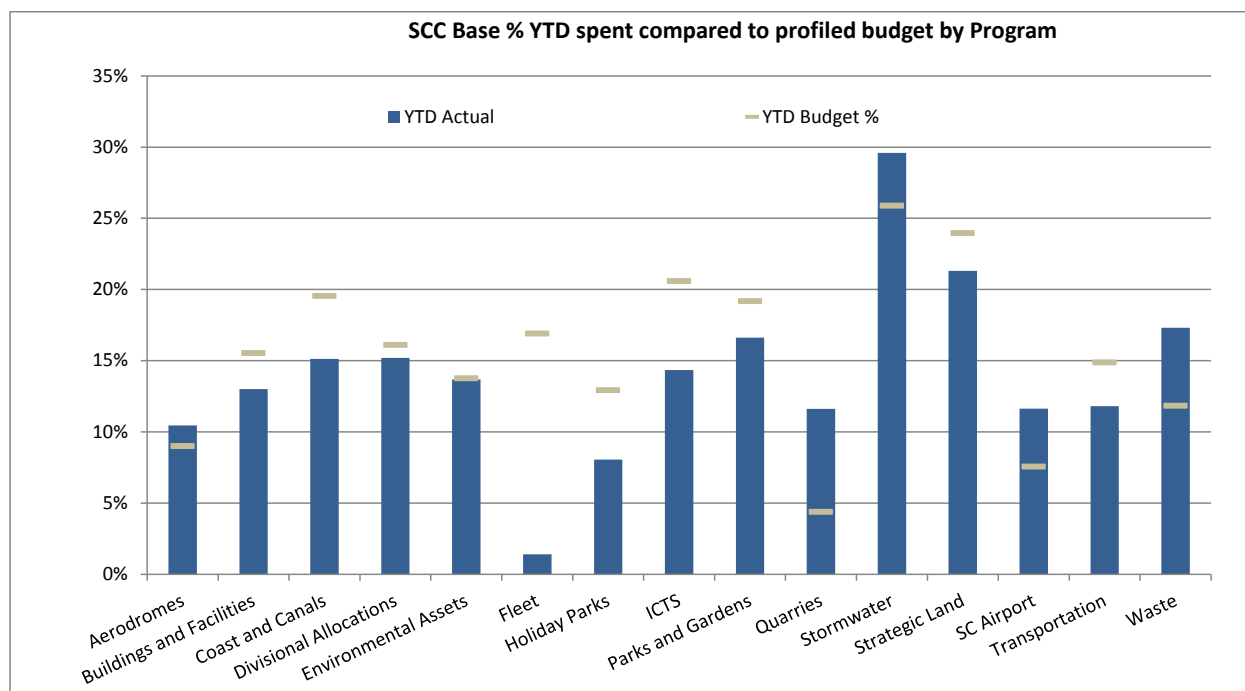


Table 6: Capital job quantities and budgeted value by status as at 30 September 2015 (excluding region making projects)

Project summary by Job status (SCC Base only)	Number of Capital Jobs	%	Current Budget \$000	%
Not Started	513	46.9	46,681	31.7
Works in progress	389	35.5	85,420	58.0
Complete	169	15.4	10,651	7.2
On hold	22	2.0	4,317	2.9
Total	1,093		147,069	

Budget Review 2 2015/16 will assess the delivery capacity of the current program.

Investment Performance & Cash Holdings

Council's investment portfolio remains within the guidelines established under the Investment Policy.

For the month ending 30 September 2015 Council had \$345.3 million in investment cash (excluding Trust Fund) with an average interest rate of 2.75%, being 0.61% above benchmark.

Comparing these results to the same period last year, Council held \$273.3 million in cash (excluding Trust Fund) and the average interest rate was 3.44%, being 0.94% above benchmark.

The benchmark used to measure performance of cash funds is Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index (BAUBIL) and the Bank Bill Swap Rate (BBSW) for term deposits.

Council's financial ledger shows a cash balance of \$333.1 million, the difference to the investment cash being timing differences in revenue received on 30 September 2015. This cash position is \$30.3 million higher than projected.

Table 7: Cash Flow variances as at 30 September 2015

Net Cash Flows	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Operating Activities	59,940	77,442	17,502	29.2
Investing Activities	(37,714)	(24,819)	12,895	(34.1)
Financing Activities	(6,873)	(6,873)	0.0	0.0

This higher cash holding is made up of:

- Higher than anticipated cash from operating activities of \$17.5 million, this reflects the higher income and lower expenditure, highlighted in this report.
- Lower than anticipated cash spent on investing activities \$12.9 million, which highlights that the capital expenditure is lower than budget and income from capital contributions and grants is higher than budget.

Legal

This report ensures that Council complies with its legislative obligations with respect to financial reporting in accordance with Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Investment of funds is in accordance with the provisions of the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982* and the associated Regulations and the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Policy

Council's 2015/16 Investment Policy, 2015/16 Debt Policy, 2015/16 Revenue Policy and Revenue Statement.

Corporate Services Credit Accounts, Debt Collection and Write Off Policy.

Risk

Failure to achieve the budgeted operating result will negatively impact Council's capacity to complete its capital expenditure program.

Previous Council Resolution**Special Meeting Budget 25 June 2015, Council adopted the 2015/2016 budget - Council Resolution (SM15/20)**

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Adoption of the 2015/2016 Budget and Forward Estimates for the 2016/2017 to 2024/2025 Financial Years"*
- (b) *adopt the 2015/2016 Capital Works Program, endorse the indicative four-year program for the period 2016/2017 to 2019/2020, and note the five-year program for the period 2020/2021 to 2024/2025 (Appendix A) and*
- (c) *adopt the 2015/2016 Budget Schedules (Appendix B) including Forward Estimates.*

Ordinary Meeting 17 September 2015, Council adopted the Budget Review 1 2015/16 (OM15/151)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Budget Review 1 2015/16"*
- (b) *adopt the amended 2015/16 Budget Financial Statements to include the identified operating and capital budget adjustments (Appendix A)*
- (c) *establish a Natural Disaster Restricted Cash Component of \$5 million, funded from the 2014/15 operating result and*
- (d) *in addition to (b) and (c), amend the budget to include the sum of \$90,000 in 2015/16 budget for Caloundra Skate Park as part of the Aquatic Centre complex.*

Related Documentation

There is no related documentation for this report.

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates for this report.

Implementation

There are no implementation details to include in this report.

8.3.2 SUNSHINE COAST COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2014/2015

File No:	Statutory Meetings
Author:	Coordinator Corporate Plan Reporting and Risk Corporate Services Department
Appendices:	App A - Sunshine Coast Council Annual Report 2014/2015 (Under Separate Cover)

PURPOSE

This report presents the Annual Report for Sunshine Coast Council, covering the period 1 July 2014 - 30 June 2015.

The Annual Report 2014/2015 is a requirement of the *Local Government Act 2009* and provides all statutory information required by the Act and associated Regulation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's Annual Report is one of the ways in which council informs the community and stakeholders about the services council has delivered, the projects it has undertaken, and its achievements during the financial year. It also includes council's audited financial statements.

The major achievements for the year include:

A new economy

- Awarded \$169 million in contracts to local business
- Commenced work on a new city centre at Maroochydore
- Approved 1,737 development applications
- Preferred route options identified for Light Rail project for the coast
- Completed the environmental impact statement for the Sunshine Airport Expansion

A strong community

- Adopted the Sunshine Coast Social Strategy 2015
- Delivered 1,800 library programs and workshops to more than 38,000 participants
- Awarded \$3.7 million in grants to more than 700 community applicants
- Hosted 28 major events attracting 63,000 people
- Received more than 178,000 customer phone calls

An enviable lifestyle and environment

- Progressed the new solar farm facility to tender stage
- Environmental land purchased through the Environment Levy now totals 2761 hectares
- Managed the largest Land for Wildlife program held by a local government in Australia, with 874 registrations
- Worked closely with developers to achieve new communities in Palmview and Caloundra South

Service excellence and a Public sector leader

- Delivered a balanced budget for 2015/16 - \$588 million
- Recognised for strong financial management by Queensland Audit Office

- Received awards for a variety of achievements including:
 - An Excellence in Innovation award from Local Government Managers Australia (LGMA) Queensland for an online development tool
 - Three awards at the Institute of Public Works Engineering State Excellence Awards for: Maroochy Sand Renourishment Project, Landscape Infrastructure Manual, Place + Beerwah, Public Domain Improvement Project

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Sunshine Coast Council Annual Report 2014/2015”
- (b) adopt the Sunshine Coast Council Annual Report 2014/2015 (Appendix A) and
- (c) note that the Chief Executive Officer may make minor amendments to the Annual Report to allow for publication.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The cost of preparing the Annual Report is included within the Corporate Governance Branch core budget. To minimise costs the report has been designed for viewing online. This will provide easy access and retrieval of the report via council’s website.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A public sector leader*

Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service

Operational Service: S31 - Governance - providing internal leadership, legal opinion, governance and audit functions ensuring legislative accountability, transparency and ethical obligations are supported

CONSULTATION

Internal Consultation

Corporate Governance staff worked with the Manager Communication to identify the achievements promoted in the report.

Directors and relevant staff were provided with the opportunity to review the major achievements and Part 2 Report on Implementation of the Corporate and Operational Plans.

External Consultation

There has been no external consultation in preparing this report.

Community Engagement

There has been no community consultation in preparing this report. The report once adopted by council will be promoted to the community.

PROPOSAL

The Annual Report presents information on implementation of council’s corporate and operational plans over the past financial year and features major achievements and highlights. The contents required in the Annual Report are determined by legislation.

The Annual Report 2014/2015 is comprised of four parts and each part is detailed below:

Section 1 - Introduction

Provides introductory information to the Annual Report and contains:

- message from the Mayor and message from the Chief Executive Officer
- key statistics on the Sunshine Coast and council
- Councillor names, divisions and portfolios
- Executive Leadership Team names and positions
- Organisation structure
- Major Achievements for 2014/2015
- Corporate Plan Performance Measures

Section 2 - Report on Implementation of the Corporate and Operational Plans

This section includes the annual highlights in delivering the Corporate Plan 2014-2019 and Operational Plan 2014/2015.

Section 3 - Annual Disclosures

Covers all non-financial information required to be published in council's Annual Report under the *Local Government Act 2009*, *Local Government Regulation 2012* and *Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*. In addition, disclosures considered best practice in Annual Reports, such as information on governance and risk management are included.

Section 4 - Financial information

This section contains council's Community Financial Report, audited financial statements and other financial information required under the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Legal

The Annual Report has been compiled following the requirements of legislation including the *Local Government Act 2009*, *Local Government Regulation 2012* and *Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*.

Policy

There are no policy implications associated with the Annual Report however the report is a component of the Strategic Corporate Planning and Reporting Framework.

Risk

There are no risk management issues associated with the recommendation in this report.

Previous Council Resolution

There are no previous resolutions in relation to the Annual Report 2014/2015.

Related Documentation

Council adopted the:

- Corporate Plan 2014-2019 on 12 May 2014
- Operational Plan 2014/2015 on 19 June 2014
- Budget and Forward Estimates 2014/2015 on 26 June 2014

Critical Dates

Under *Local Government Regulation 2012(s182)* council must adopt the Annual Report within one month after the auditor-general provides the audit report and be published within two weeks of adoption (*Local Government Regulation 2012 s182*).

Implementation

Following adoption, publication and communication channels will include:

- Sunshine Coast Council website – document viewing and ability to download the report and/or print
- Distribution of hard copy to council libraries and customer service centres

Community organisations and individuals requiring a copy will be able to access the report from council's customer service centres or print a free copy from council's website.

**8.3.3 DISPOSAL OF AN EASEMENT - 4 NATIONAL PARK ROAD NAMBOUR
LOT 2 ON RP 212394**

File No: Disp 0035
Author: Senior Property Officer
Corporate Services Department
Appendices: App A - Survey Plan
Attachments: Att 1 - Locality Map

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek an exception from Council, in accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, from the tender/auction process to allow registration of a water main easement over Council freehold land.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Regulation 2012* provides the process by which a local government may dispose of a valuable non-current asset, which includes land or an interest in land (e.g. easement). It provides that a disposal, other than by tender or auction, may only occur if an exception applies. Section 236(1)(b)(i) provides an exemption if the disposal is to a government agency. Section 236(2) provides that a local government must decide by resolution that an exception applies.

Unitywater requested that Council consider the provision of an easement for a water main on the site described as Lot 2 on RP 212394. The site is known as the Nambour Depot. A locality map is provided as **Attachment 1**.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Disposal of an Easement - 4 National Park Road Nambour Lot 2 on RP 212394"
- (b) resolve, pursuant to section 236 (2) of *the Local Government Regulation 2012*, that an exception to dispose of an easement in Lot 2 on RP 212394 other than by tender or auction applies, as the disposal is, pursuant to section 236(1)(b)(i), to a government agency and
- (c) note that the interests are for a water main easement as shown on SP 281176 (Appendix A).

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The impact on Council's freehold land was valued at \$1,500 with the cost of the valuation being \$2,200. Should Council resolve that an exception applies, Council will invoice Unitywater for the value of the easement and the valuation costs.

All direct expenditure associated with these dealings, including the survey plan and easement documentation will be met by Unitywater.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *Service excellence*

Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service

Operational Activity: S24 - Property management - comprehensive management of council's land and building assets to ensure that Council's property dealings are optimised, centrally managed and supports Council's objectives

CONSULTATION

Internal Consultation

A request for comments on the impact of the proposed water main on Council's freehold land to facilitate the upgrade of the water main was circulated to all relevant stakeholders, including the divisional Councillor. No objections were received, subject to nominated conditions and approval by Council.

Advice in relation to the exception provisions of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* has been received from the Manager Procurement and Contracts and a Solicitor from Legal Services.

External Consultation

Council officers from Property Management have liaised with Unitywater in relation to this matter.

Community Engagement

Due to the internal administrative nature of this report there has been no community engagement.

PROPOSAL

The applicant is proposing easement "J" for a water main containing an area of 66m² through Council's freehold property described as Lot 2 on RP 212394. The easement will be in favour of Northern SEQ Distributor-Retailer Authority (Unitywater).

The proposed easement will facilitate a 300mm water trunk main upgrade as the existing infrastructure has failed on several occasions causing the emptying of the Image Flat Road Water Treatment Plant tanks.

The Local Government Regulation 2012 provides the process by which a local government may dispose of a valuable non-current asset, which includes land or an interest in land (e.g. easement). It provides that a disposal, other than by tender or auction, may only occur if an exception applies. Section 236(1)(b)(i) provides an exemption if the disposal is to a government agency.

For an exception to apply, Council must decide in accordance with section 236(2) of *The Local Government Regulation 2012* that an exception applies. A resolution that an exception applies will enable an easement to be entered into without the need to engage in a tender or auction process.

Legal

Legal Services have been consulted on the section 236 exception process.

Policy

This report was developed in accordance with the procurement policy in relation to the disposal of Council assets.

Risk

There are no risk issues to address in relation to this report.

Previous Council Resolution

There are no previous resolutions in relation to this request.

Related Documentation

There is no related documentation relevant to this report.

Critical Dates

While there are no specific critical dates for these easements, it is incumbent on Council to finalise easements expeditiously so that service providers are provided with an acceptable level of service.

Implementation

Should Council resolve that an exception apply, the applicant will be invoiced for the land and valuation costs. Upon payment, Council will execute the easement document and the related survey plan.

8.4 COMMUNITY SERVICES**8.4.1 2015/2016 COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM MAJOR GRANTS ROUND 1 RECOMMENDATIONS**

File No:	ECM 12 November 2015
Author:	Team Leader Community Connections Community Services Department
Appendices:	App A - Major Grant Recommendations August 2015
Attachments:	Att 1 - Internal Consultation Att 2 - Major Grant Recommendations August 2015 - Additional Information (<i>Under Separate Cover</i>) - Confidential Att 3 - Funding Comparisons

PURPOSE

This report seeks Council consideration and endorsement of funding recommendations for the first round of the 2015/16 Community Grants Program Major Grants.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's Community Grants Program provides a transparent governance framework that complies with statutory requirements for the distribution of grant funding to community organisations across the region.

The program reflects Council's priorities as described in current corporate strategies, plans and policy positions. It ensures equitable opportunity for community groups to access Council funding for projects, which both meet identified community need and result in community benefit.

The Community Grants Program for 2015/16 Major Grants Round 1, closed on 24 August 2015. Council received 109 applications requesting a total of \$995,975 across seven categories:

- Community Development
- Community Events
- Community Facilities
- Cultural Development
- Cultural Heritage
- Economic Development
- Sport, Recreation and Healthy Living.

Funding totaling \$491,489 for 74 projects is recommended for Council's consideration and endorsement (Appendix A).

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled "2015/2016 Community Grants Program Major Grants Round 1 Recommendations" and**
- endorse the Major Grant Recommendations August 2015 (Appendix A).**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The Community Grants Program budget for 2015/16 provides a total of \$1,220,000 to fund:

- Two Major Grant funding rounds
- Three Minor Grant funding rounds
- Individual Development Grants
- Emergency Grants.

The year-to-date spend of the Community Grants Program budget totals \$84,918, leaving a balance of \$1,135,082 to fund the program for the remainder of the financial year.

This report to Council is in relation to the first Major Grant round for the 2015/16 Community Grants Program.

Council received a total of 109 applications requesting a total of \$995,975 at the closure of the first round on 24 August 2015.

This report recommends that 74 applicants be funded a total of \$491,489. There are sufficient funds in the 2015/16 budget to cover the recommendations in this report.

The recommended amount represents 40% of the Community Grants Program budget for the 2015/16 financial year.

The project budgets (based on figures supplied by applicants) for the successful applications total more than \$3.23 million. This is 6.5 times greater than the recommended Council contribution.

Details are provided in Major Grant Recommendations August 2015 (Appendix A).

Below is a summary of the applications and the recommended funding for each category.

Category	Applications received	Funding requested	Applications recommended	Funding recommended (GST exc.)	% Applicants recommended
Community Development	25	\$196,219	15	\$77,800	60
Community Events	22	\$153,915	18	\$82,812	82
Community Facilities	33	\$440,771	21	\$223,962	64
Cultural Development	7	\$48,098	4	\$17,500	58
Cultural Heritage	4	\$37,379	2	\$22,500	50
Economic Development	4	\$37,700	3	\$22,500	75
Sport and Recreation	14	\$81,893	11	\$44,415	79
Total	109	\$995,975	74	\$491,489	68

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A new economy*
Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service
Operational Service: S2 - Economic development - providing industry and business programs and initiatives to support the growth of the regional economy

Corporate Plan Goal: *A strong community*
Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service
Operational Service: S4 - Community and cultural development and partnerships - providing planning, partnering and supporting the community through a range of community development, civic and cultural programs and grants

Corporate Plan Goal: *A strong community*
Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service
Operational Service: S12 - **Sporting facilities** - providing regional, district and community sport and recreation facilities including aquatic centres, showgrounds and multi-sports fields

CONSULTATION**Internal Consultation**

Grants Development Officers attended assessment panels, reviewed outcomes and moderated across all grant categories to ensure equity and consistency.

Assessment panel membership for each category was made up of a number of key staff from the relevant area of Council. In addition, Council officers with expertise relevant to specific applications were consulted and provided information and/or advice to inform assessment processes. Attachment 1: Internal Consultation outlines the staff involved in each panel and additional staff consulted.

External Consultation

Grants Development Officers and internal category experts liaised with community organisations across the Sunshine Coast Council Local Government Area via a range of community meetings and conversations to ensure a high level of awareness of the Major Grants program and the application dates.

Assistance was provided for project development, preparation of application content and advice on the application process.

A wide range of traditional and social media tools were used to promote the Community Grants Program generally, and to invite applications.

Community Engagement

Broad community engagement was not required to inform this report.

PROPOSAL

Council recognises the vital contribution that community organisations make to the economic, environmental, social and cultural wellbeing of Sunshine Coast communities.

Through the provision of community grants, Council is committed to supporting the implementation of community initiatives and partnerships that align with Council's strategic

corporate priorities and demonstrate a purpose that is in the interests of the Sunshine Coast community.

The following principles provide a consistent approach to the administration of the Grants Policy and the delivery of Council's Community Grants Program:

- Community organisations are provided with funding support to provide benefit to the Sunshine Coast community, in line with Council's strategic corporate priorities
- Vibrant, engaged and more resilient communities are developed through capacity building and partnerships
- Community organisations and volunteers are acknowledged for the positive contribution they make to the local community and Council's vision for the future
- Funds are distributed in an equitable and transparent manner that ensures good governance and adherence to the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

The Policy ensures an equitable, open and transparent process for applicants to seek financial assistance, which complies with relevant legislation.

Promotion and Support

A wide range of traditional and social media tools were used to promote the Community Grants Program generally and invite applications. These included:

- Council's website, Facebook, Twitter and the CommunityHub website
- Online community newsletters
- Extensive newspaper advertising in local community newspapers including media releases and spotlight print columns
- Spotlight radio, Council's e-news, library e-news and messages on hold
- Features in Councillor columns
- Grant information and writing sessions
- Grant guidelines were available in libraries and customer service centres.

Grants Development Officers and internal category specialists liaised widely with the community by:

- responding to telephone enquiries, emails and action requests
- providing assistance with project development
- providing advice on the preparation of application content and the application process
- linking applicants with category specialists in all grant categories
- assisting applicants with identifying other grant and funding opportunities.

Applications

A total of 109 applications were received across the seven grant categories of the 2015/16 Community Grants Program Major Grants Round 1, requesting \$995,975 in funding. This represents a 5% increase in applications compared to the number of applications in the previous Major Grant round.

Assessment

Council officers pre-assessed each application to determine eligibility. Assessment panels for each category were then established (as detailed in Attachment 1). Panel members reviewed all eligible applications prior to the panel meeting and then met to assess the applications.

In accordance with Council's *Community Grants Policy*, any declaration of a panel member's conflict of interest must be recorded. That panel member must not be involved in the related deliberations. There were two conflicts of interest declared in the Sport and Recreation category of this Major Grants round. As per standard procedure, these panel members did not assess the applicable applications.

Panel discussion focused on alignment to category aims and priorities, community need and benefit and capacity of the organisation to achieve the project outcome. The panels also took into consideration the number of applications received and the amount of funding available. Panel members determined funding recommendations for Council's consideration.

Due to the large number of applications in each grant category, part funding was recommended in some instances. In each case where part funding was recommended, the panel:

- considered whether the project could be successfully completed with the part funding allocated and
- considered whether funding for stand-alone components of the project could be provided.

Recommendation

Of the 109 applications received, it is recommended that 74 projects be funded to the amount of \$491,489. The total cost of the recommended projects is valued at \$3,231,552 (based on figures supplied by applicants). This investment represents a \$6.50 return on every dollar contributed by Council in this grant round.

Details relating to the recommended outcomes are included in Appendix A.

The Confidential Attachment 2: Major Grant Recommendations August 2015 – Additional Information provides further detail relating to the assessment of applications and is provided in confidence under Section 275 (h) of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Attachment 3: Funding Round Comparisons details the funding comparison of the current round to the previous Major Grant round.

Program Evaluation

Ongoing evaluation of the Community Grants Program draws information from a variety of sources including:

- Analysis of data provided by community organisations in application and acquittal reports
- Engagement with community organisations
- Consultation with internal stakeholders including category representatives.

Benefits

Organisations recommended for funding in this round:

- reported the engagement of 3,126 volunteers and more than 42,145 volunteer hours to deliver their funded projects
- estimated direct beneficiaries of their projects totalled 275,791 people. This included event patrons and/or participants.

Legal

There are no legal implications relevant to this report.

Policy

The recommendations contained within this report are in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, *Local Government Regulation 2012* and in line with the adopted *Community Grants Policy*.

Any requested changes to funding recommendations made by the panel need to be supported by evidence and that evidence recorded.

Risk

There may be some community concern in relation to the number of community groups that were unsuccessful in their application for funding under this program or only part funded.

The panels' considerations were thorough and in line with the *Community Grants Policy* and *Community Grants Guidelines*, as well as budget availability.

Previous Council Resolution**Ordinary Meeting 29 January 2015 – Council Resolution OM15/5**

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Community Grants and Partnership Funding Review 2014"*
- (b) *endorse Option 1 for Council support to community organisations for 2015/16 and beyond*
- (c) *endorse multi-year funding under the Community Partnership Funding Program to provide funding for periods of up to 3 years*
- (d) *note "Community Grants Program and Community Partnership Funding Program Review Report" (Appendix A)*

Ordinary Meeting 22 May 2014 – Council Resolution OM14/68

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Funding Programs for Community Partnerships 2014/2015"*
- (b) *note the revised Community Partnership Funding Program guidelines (Appendix A) to provide one year of funding for the 2014/2015 financial year*
- (c) *note the newly established Environment Levy Partnerships and Grants Program Guidelines (Appendix B) for the allocation of Environment Levy funding (incorporating Landholder Environment Grants, Partnerships and Grants), with the Partnerships component to open for funding for the 2014/2015 financial year*
- (d) *note funding for community-managed public pools to be administered via individual agreements outside of the Community Partnership Funding Program through existing operational budget within the Community Facilities and Planning Branch*
- (e) *note the revised Community Grants Program guidelines (Appendix C)*
- (f) *refer the Community Partnership Funding Program proposed budget (\$1,017,248) to the June 2014 budget deliberations for 2014/2015 and*
- (g) *request the Chief Executive Officer conduct a review of the Community Partnership Funding Program and Community Grants Program in 2014 considerate of council's new Corporate Plan 2014 – 2019 and State and Federal funding opportunities not for profit community organisations and report back to Council in December 2014 with recommendations for future programs in the 2015/2016 financial year and beyond.*

Ordinary Meeting 20 June 2013 – Council Resolution OM13/109

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “**Community Grants Policy**”*
- (b) *adopt the Community Grants Policy (Appendix A)*
- (c) *note the Community Grants Guidelines (Appendix B) as amended by (f) below to implement the Community Grants Policy*
- (d) *adopt the Mayoral and Councillor Discretionary Funding Policy as amended (Appendix C)*
- (e) *note the Mayoral and Councillor Discretionary Funding Program Guidelines (Appendix D) and*
- (f) *amend the grants guidelines to include a clause that stipulates that each program is subject to annual budget allocations.*

Related Documentation

Related documentation includes funding agreements with successful community organisations.

Relevant policy and strategy documents include:

- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982*
- *Sunshine Coast Social Strategy 2015*
- *Sunshine Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033*
- *Community Grants Policy (2013)*
- *Community Grants Guidelines (2013)*
- *Cultural Development Policy (2012)*
- *Sunshine Coast Aquatic Plan 2011-2026*
- *Sunshine Coast Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2011-2026*
- *Sunshine Coast Access and Inclusion Plan 2011-2016*
- *Sunshine Coast Positive Ageing Strategy 2011-2016*
- *Sunshine Coast Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2016*
- *Community Land and Complimentary Commercial Activity Policy (2011)*
- *Public Art Policy (2011)*
- *Sunshine Coast Social Infrastructure Strategy (2011)*
- *Sunshine Coast Youth Strategy 2010-2015*
- *Asset Management Policy (2010)*
- *Community Events and Celebrations Strategy (2010)*
- *Events Policy (2010)*
- *Heritage Levy Policy (2010)*
- *Community Engagement Policy (2009).*

Critical Dates

The second round of Council's 2015/16 Major Grants under the Community Grants Program will open in February and close in March 2016.

Implementation

Following endorsement of this report, notification of outcomes will take place. Funding will be distributed during November and December 2015, following receipt of invoice and signed conditions of agreement.

8.4.2 2015/2016 REGIONAL ARTS DEVELOPMENT FUND SEPTEMBER 2015 RECOMMENDATIONS

File No:	Statutory Meetings 12 Nov 2015
Author:	Team Leader Cultural Programs Community Services Department
Appendices:	App A - RADF Funding Recommendations September 2015
Attachments:	Att 1 - RADF Major Grant Recommendations September 2015 - Additional Information (<i>Under Separate Cover</i>) - Confidential Att 2 - RADF Funding Comparisons

PURPOSE

This report seeks Council consideration and endorsement of funding recommendations for the September 2015 Funding Period of the 2015/16 Regional Arts Development Fund program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) program supports cultural activity through the professional development and employment of arts and cultural workers in regional Queensland.

RADF is a partnership between the State Government, through Arts Queensland, and Council. The program is jointly funded on a 40:60 basis by the State Government (Arts Queensland) and Council respectively. Each year local councils bid for partnership funding with a written agreement outlining the process of expenditure of the funds.

New guidelines, application and assessment processes were implemented with the opening of the 2015/16 RADF program. These were developed following a review of, and in line with, changes to the program by Arts Queensland. The review by Council officers included a significant community engagement process, which was used to help inform the new guidelines.

The new RADF program includes six funding categories for application by individuals and groups including:

- Major projects
- Seed funding (3 years)
- Individual funding
- Interest-free loan
- Concept development
- Mentorships.

Under the new guidelines, applications are submitted following a flexible and simplified Expression of Interest process. The program is open for applications all year round with assessment taking place in four funding periods annually.

Council's endorsed external RADF Committee assesses funding applications and makes recommendations for funding in the individual categories. The committee is made up of eight independent, external professional and arts industry representatives, is resourced and supported by a Council officer, and is chaired by the Community Programs Portfolio Councillor.

This report covers the first assessment period for 2015/16, assessed by the RADF Committee in September 2015.

A total of 12 applications were received requesting \$86,920.

The RADF committee determined funding outcomes based on the new Sunshine Coast Council RADF Guidelines, assessment criteria and according to merit, benefit, skill and capacity demonstrated in each application.

The RADF committee recommends nine applications for funding, totalling \$42,130 for Council's consideration and endorsement (Appendix A).

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "2015/2016 Regional Arts Development Fund September 2015 Recommendations" and**
- (b) endorse the RADF Funding Recommendations September 2015 (Appendix A).**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The successful recent application by Council to Arts Queensland for the 2015/16 RADF program has seen the total budget grow from \$171,200 in 2014/15 to \$268,080 this financial year.

The budget is jointly funded by the Queensland Government (Arts Queensland) with a 40 percent contribution of \$107,232, and Council with a 60 percent contribution of \$160,848. This provision for RADF was adopted in the 2015/16 budget process by Council.

The 2015/16 RADF budget enables funding as outlined in the table below.

Description	Budget
RADF Grants program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Major projects - Individual - Committee training and development 	\$168,080
Strategic Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sunshine Coast Festival of Arts & Culture - Best of Region Showcase - Local exhibition touring development - Creative and Cultural Industry Leadership via the Sunshine Coast Creative Alliance - DASSI Arts based programs (Heritage Levy) - Heritage regional digitisation program (Heritage Levy) - Arts and Ecology Centre - cultural programming 	\$100,000
Total RADF budget for 2015/16	\$268,080

No RADF budget has been spent this financial year.

The 2015/16 RADF funding program includes four funding periods at the end of which the applications received during that period are assessed. These periods end:

- 21 September 2015
- 1 December 2015
- 2 March 2016
- 28 April 2016.

This report covers the first RADF assessment period for the 2015/16 financial year, assessing applications received on or before 21 September 2015.

During this period, 12 applications were received requesting a total of \$86,920.

This report recommends the funding of nine projects totalling \$42,130. There are sufficient funds in the adopted 2015/16 budget to cover the recommendations in this report.

Below is a summary of recommendations for the September 2015 RADF funding period.

Applications received	Funding requested	Applications recommended	Funding recommended	% Applications recommended
12	\$86,920	9	\$42,130	75%

Two of the successful applications are recommended for multi-year funding through RADF's Seed Funding category. As this category provides up to \$10,000 in the first year, \$5,000 in the second year and \$2,500 in the third year for successful applicants to this category, there are ongoing budget implications for these two recommendations.

Budget implications of recommendations in this report are summarised in the table below.

Budget Implications	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
RADF September 2015	\$42,130	\$10,000	\$5000

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: ***A strong community***
Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service
Operational Service: S4 - Community and cultural development and partnerships - providing planning, partnering and supporting the community through a range of community development, civic and cultural programs and grants

CONSULTATION

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation was undertaken with:

- Portfolio holder for Community Programs and RADF Chair, Councillor Jenny McKay
- Team Leader Cultural Programs, Community Services
- RADF Liaison Officer – Admin Project Officer (Creative), Community Services
- Team Leader Community Connections, Community Services
- Management Accountant, Finance.

External Consultation

Council's RADF Liaison Officer provided assistance for project development, preparation of application content and guided applicants through the application process.

Under the new guidelines, applications are submitted following a flexible and simplified Expression of Interest process. This process is designed to save time for potential applicants, allowing those applicants with little or no chance of a successful funding outcome to be aware of this prior to completing a full application. It also provides an opportunity for applicants to receive advice and support in the development of their projects.

External consultation was also undertaken with the RADF Committee, which consists of eight independent community members, who have nominated and been selected to provide expert advice and recommendations to Council officers on matters related to RADF.

The vibrant and diverse membership of the committee includes representatives from two major Chamber of Commerce associations and creative sector representatives from industries such as Music, Dance, Visual Arts, Law, Film and Community Cultural Development.

This report also notes the commitment of film and literature industry representative Sonia Louise Armstrong who has stepped down from the Committee effective as of September 2015, after serving on the committee for four years.

Community Engagement

A wide-ranging community engagement program was undertaken as part of the RADF review process conducted between December 2014 and April 2015. However, no general community engagement was required to inform this report.

PROPOSAL

The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) supports cultural activity through the professional development and employment of arts and cultural workers in regional Queensland.

RADF is a partnership between State Government, through Arts Queensland, and Council, and is jointly funded on a 40:60 basis by the State Government (Arts Queensland) and Council respectively. Each year local councils bid for partnership funding and a written agreement outlines the process for expenditure of the funds.

New guidelines, application and assessment processes were implemented with the opening of the 2015/16 RADF program. These were developed following a review of, and in line with, changes to the program by Arts Queensland. The review by Council officers included a significant community engagement process, which was used to help inform the new guidelines.

The new RADF program includes simplified categories of funding available for individuals and groups as outlined in the table below.

RADF Funding Category	Description
Major projects	Amounts up to \$10,000 for projects that benefit creativity in the local region
Seed funding	Seed funding of \$10,000 in the first year, \$5,000 in the second year, \$2,500 the third year for projects that benefit creativity in the local region and have a strong prospect of commercial success in the long term
Individual funding	Funding to attend, present or showcase at professional development seminars, conferences, activities or appropriate arts events. Up to \$1,500 within Australia or \$2,500 international
Interest-free loan	To develop arts projects with strongly anticipated commercial success that will generate an income greater than the amount of the loan
Concept development	To develop arts research ideas and project proposals to the implementation stage. Funding up to \$5,000
Mentorships	To engage professional artists or creative workers to mentor emerging artists. Funding up to \$5,000

Under the new guidelines, applications are submitted following a flexible and simplified Expression of Interest process. This process is designed to save time for potential applicants, allowing those applicants with little or no chance of a successful funding outcome to be aware of this prior to completing a full application. It also provides an opportunity for applicants to receive advice and support in the development of their projects.

The program is open for applications all year round and assessment takes place over four funding periods annually. These periods end:

- 21 September 2015
- 1 December 2015
- 2 March 2016
- 28 April 2016.

Council's external RADF Committee assesses funding applications for recommendation to Council. The committee is made up of eight independent, external professional and arts industry representatives, is resourced and supported by a Council officer, and is chaired by the Community Programs Portfolio Councillor.

This report covers the first quarterly assessment period for 2015/16, assessed by the RADF Committee in September 2015.

Promotion and Support

Promotion of the new RADF program included extensive advertising in local community newspapers, media releases and emails to previous RADF applicants. An official launch of the 2015/16 program was held at the Sunshine Coast Creative Alliance Creative Industry Breakfast on 28 July 2015 with over 100 people in attendance.

All relevant information was posted on Council's website, Facebook and Twitter, featured in Councillor columns, spotlight print and radio, gallery e-news, library e-news and messages on hold.

Staff attended face to face meetings with applicants and responded to numerous telephone enquiries and emails.

Applications

A total of 12 applications were received, requesting a total of \$86,920 in funding. There were three Expressions of Interest received which did not proceed to full application.

Assessment

Council officers pre-assessed each application to determine eligibility.

The RADF Committee read each application prior to meeting to discuss applications, determine outcomes and allocate funds to successful applicants. The assessment meeting was attended by the Portfolio Councillor, RADF Committee and Council's RADF administrators.

The committee was chaired by the Portfolio Councillor, who attended to discuss strategic initiatives and was an apology for the assessment deliberations. This meeting was chaired by a Council officer. However, the officer did not participate in the deliberations or the recommendations.

In accordance with the RADF process, any declaration of a committee member's conflict of interest must be recorded and that committee member must not be involved in the related deliberations. There was one conflict of interest declared in this funding period. As per standard procedure, this committee member did not assess the applicable application.

Applications were assessed and scored in accordance with set RADF assessment criteria:

- Project supports locally determined arts and cultural priorities
- Project supports local artists and arts and cultural activity
- Provides opportunities for local communities to participate in arts and cultural activities
- Supports artists to develop and practice their creative endeavours
- Engages local communities
- Builds the capacity of local artists
- Builds existing partnerships and develops new partnerships
- Supports individual professional development opportunities.

Recommendations

A total of nine applications are recommended for funding totalling \$42,130.

The recommended projects are diverse, of a high quality and will involve the employment of a broad range of artists and arts workers engaged in the valuable arts and cultural industry across the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area.

The total value of the funded projects is \$401,620. This investment represents more than \$9.50 return on every dollar contributed by Council and the State Government in this grant round.

Below is a summary of recommendations for the September 2015 RADF funding period.

Applications received	Funding requested	Applications recommended	Funding recommended	% Applications recommended
12	\$86,920	9	\$42,130	75%

A list of the number of applications that were received and the number of applications that were successful, by RADF funding category, are provided in the table below.

RADF Funding Category	Number of applications	Number of successful applications
Project funding	4	2
Seed funding	3	2
Individual funding	2	2
Interest-free loan	0	0
Concept development	2	2
Mentorships	1	1

Details of recommended funding outcomes are provided in Appendix A.

Confidential Attachment 1 provides additional information relating to the assessment of applications and is provided to Council in confidence under Section 275 (h) of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Attachment 2: Funding Comparisons, details funding recommended in this funding period and the two previous funding rounds.

Legal

There are no legal implications relevant to this report.

Policy

The recommendations are in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, *Local Government Regulation 2012* and adopted *Community Grants Policy*.

Risk

Risk of legal liability is mitigated by having the successful funding applicants enter into agreements, which clearly set out the relationship between the parties and obligates them to hold levels of insurance and reporting requirements relevant to the funding agreement.

Previous Council Resolution

There is no previous Council resolution relevant to this report.

Related Documentation

Related documentation includes individual funding agreements with successful recipients.

Relevant policy and strategy documents include:

- *Local Government Regulation (2012)*
- *Local Government Act (2009)*
- *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act (1982)*
- Sunshine Coast Council Regional Arts Development Fund Guidelines (2015)
- Sunshine Coast Social Strategy (2015)
- Cultural Development Policy (2012)
- Public Art Policy (2011)
- Community Events and Celebrations Strategy (2010).

Critical Dates

The next RADF assessment period will take place in December 2015.

Implementation

Following endorsement of this report, notification of outcomes will take place.

Funding will be distributed throughout November and December, following receipt of invoice and signed conditions of agreement.

8.4.3 PARKING AMNESTY FOR CALOUNDRA CBD

File No: Statutory Meetings 12 November 2015
Author: Coordinator Community Land Permits and Parking
Community Services Department
Attachments: Att 1 - Request for Paid Parking Amnesty

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of a request from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce and Industry Incorporated for a six (6) week paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD commencing on Saturday 12 December, 2015.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 7 September, 2015, the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce and Industry Incorporated requested Council's Chief Executive Officer to implement a paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD for a six (6) week period, commencing on Saturday 12 December, 2015. If endorsed, the paid parking amnesty will conclude at midnight on Tuesday 26 January, 2016.

In November 2014, Council endorsed a six (6) week paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD, for the period 12 December 2014 to 26 January 2015 following a request from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce and Industry Incorporated. This amnesty was requested in an effort to support local businesses through the busy holiday period. A similar request was also endorsed by Council in October 2013.

While the amnesty was in effect, Council officers continued to conduct parking patrols ensuring vehicles were adhering to other parking breaches, including the two (2) hour time limit, parking in no stopping areas, disabled parking bays and bus stops. Council issued a total of 255 infringements for a variety of offences during the six (6) week amnesty, including 166 for overstaying the two (2) hour time limit.

The proposed paid parking amnesty in December 2015 and January 2016 will not result in any operational change to workload of parking officers in the Caloundra CBD during the six (6) week period. Parking Officers will continue to undertake their duties in the management of other parking conditions such as the two (2) hour time limit, no stopping, disabled parking bays and bus stop enforcement.

It should be noted that in October 2011, Council resolved that the operating surplus derived from the Caloundra CBD parking meters could be utilised for projects, facilities and other services for the Bulcock Street precinct. The request from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce, if approved, will translate into a decrease in revenue derived from the parking meters. Based on the paid parking amnesty last year, an approximate decrease in revenue of between \$57,000 and \$62,000 is projected.

In addition, Council resolved in September 2014, that the financial result of penalty infringement notice revenue associated with paid metered parking in the Caloundra CBD be allocated to the Regulated Parking Program as per Council's resolution in October 2011. The estimated infringement revenue for the period December 2015 and January 2016 is approximately \$40,000.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Parking Amnesty for Caloundra CBD” and
- (b) endorse a paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD for six (6) weeks, commencing Saturday 12 December 2015 until midnight Tuesday 26 January 2016.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

It is anticipated that the foregone revenue in metered parking for the proposed six (6) week amnesty period will be approximately \$57,000 to \$62,000. This figure has been determined based on an estimate of metered parking revenue during November and December 2014.

Two (2) Council parking officers (agency casuals) regularly monitor the Caloundra CBD area. Parking infringements would continue to be issued for instances such as exceeding the two (2) hour time limit, no stopping, disabled parking bays and bus stop enforcement. Expenditure related to the two Council parking officers in the Caloundra CBD is accommodated in the 2015/16 budget as adopted by Council. The estimated infringement revenue for the period December 2015 and January 2016 is approximately \$40,000.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *Service excellence*
Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service
Operational Service: S23 - Local amenity and local laws - maintaining and regulating local amenity through local laws, regulated parking, community land permits and management of animals, overgrown land and abandoned vehicles

CONSULTATION

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation has taken place with the following stakeholders in relation to this report:

- Councillor Dwyer, Division 2
- Director, Community Services
- Director, Infrastructure Services
- Manager, Community Response
- Senior Management Accountant, Financial Services.

Consultation has occurred with the Director, Infrastructure Services to ensure that this request has no bearing on the Caloundra CBD Parking fund or planned projects funded from this source.

External Consultation

No external consultation has been undertaken in relation to this report.

Community Engagement

No community engagement has been undertaken in relation to this report.

PROPOSAL

On 7 September 2015, Council received correspondence from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce and Industry Incorporated requesting Council's Chief Executive Officer to implement a paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD for a six (6) week period, commencing on Saturday 12 December 2015 and concluding at midnight on Tuesday 26 January 2016. The request, which has the support of the Divisional Councillor, is included as Attachment 1.

In November 2014, Council endorsed a six (6) week paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD, for the period 12 December 2014 to 26 January 2015, following a request from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce and Industry Incorporated. This amnesty was requested in an effort to support local businesses through the busy holiday period. A similar request was also endorsed by Council in October 2013.

While the amnesty was in effect, Council officers continued to conduct parking patrols ensuring vehicles were adhering to other parking breaches, including the two (2) hour time limit, parking in no stopping areas, disabled bays and bus stops. Council issued a total of 255 infringements for a variety of offences during the seven (7) week amnesty, including 166 for overstaying the two (2) hour time limit.

Caloundra is the only area on the Sunshine Coast to have paid meter parking. Current fees for metered parking are 25 cents per 10 minutes. This arrangement has been in place since 1992 and is adopted in Council's 2015/16 Schedule of Fees and Charges. There are 71 paid parking meters in operation in the Caloundra CBD.

In October 2011, Council resolved that the operating surplus derived from the Caloundra CBD parking meters could be utilised for projects, facilities and other services for the Bulcock Street precinct. The request from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce and Industry Incorporated, if approved, will translate into decreased revenue from the parking meters of approximately \$57,000 to \$62,000.

Two Council parking officers regularly patrol in the Caloundra CBD between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm on weekdays and between 9.00 am and 12 pm on Saturday mornings to monitor compliance.

All interactions with the parking meters are administered by the Technical Officer. Cash collection is managed by the Technical Officer, with some assistance either by the Supervisor Parking or another Parking Officer. During the proposed amnesty period, the Technical Officer will conduct a thorough audit of the 71 parking meters in an effort to ensure that all hardware is operational for the new calendar year. This will include a stocktake of spare parts, any mandatory servicing of parts, cleaning of the meters, and replacement of any decals/signage on the meters due to deterioration.

While the proposal from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce and Industry Incorporated will result in officers not being required to undertake cash collections for the six (6) week period, the proposal will not affect the time required to undertake parking compliance duties, general maintenance requirements, nor the budget associated with this work.

Legal

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

Policy

There are no policy implications associated with this report.

Risk

There are no identified risks to Council associated with this report.

Previous Council Resolution

The following previous Council resolutions are relevant to this report.

Ordinary Meeting 26 October 2011 – Council Resolution OM11/264

That Council:

- (a) *utilise the Operating Surplus from Caloundra CBD Regulated Parking for projects, facilities and other services for the Bulcock Street precinct;*
- (b) *request the Chief Executive Officer to develop a protocol for assessment and prioritisation of eligible projects to be funded by the Operating Surplus from Caloundra CBD Regulated Parking for projects, facilities and other services for the Bulcock Street precinct, in consultation with appropriate staff and Divisional Councillor;*
- (c) *review the allocation of the 2011/2012 Operating Surplus from Caloundra CBD Regulated Parking budget as part of the Budget Review 2 process with a view to funding projects, facilities and other services for the Bulcock Street precinct;*
- (d) *request the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report to Council 2 years post the implementation of (a) above to understand the impact of the allocation of utilising the Operating Surplus from Caloundra CBD Regulated Parking for projects, facilities and other services for the Bulcock Street precinct; and*
- (e) *note that the utilisation of said Surplus funds is not to replace, reduce or allow reallocation of current or future Bulcock Street funding.*

Ordinary Meeting 17 October 2013 – Council Resolution OM13/205

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “**Parking Amnesty for Caloundra CBD**” and*
- (b) *support an amnesty for paid meter parking in the Caloundra CBD for seven (7) weeks commencing Saturday 7 December, 2013.*

Ordinary Meeting 18 September 2014 – Council Resolution OM14/137

That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to:

- (a) *include in the Caloundra CBD Regulated Parking Program the net financial result of the Penalty Infringement Notice revenue associated with paid metered parking, noting;*
 - i) *this revenue forms part of the Regulated Paid Parking Program in the Caloundra CBD, as per Council Resolution OM11/264;*
 - ii) *that paid metered parking underpins this program thus providing a cost neutral result for council;*
 - iii) *the financial calculations associated with this matter commence on 1 October 2014; and*
 - iv) *that the above process is subject to a review following council's implementation of a future region wide Parking Strategy.*

Ordinary Meeting 13 November 2014 – Council Resolution OM14/158

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "**Parking Amnesty for Caloundra CBD**" and
- (b) endorse a paid parking amnesty in the Caloundra CBD for six (6) weeks, commencing midnight Friday 12 December, 2014 until midnight Monday 26 January, 2015.

Related Documentation

There is no related documentation relevant to this report.

Critical Dates

A Council resolution is required before 12 December 2015 to accommodate the request from the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce and Industry Incorporated.

Implementation

If endorsed, Council staff will work with the Caloundra Chamber of Commerce and Industry Incorporated to inform the community of the amnesty period and to ensure parking meters are non-operational from Saturday 12 December 2015 for a six (6) week period.

8.5 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

8.5.1 KOALA CONSERVATION PLAN

File No:	Statutory Meetings
Author:	Senior Conservation Partnerships Officer Infrastructure Services Department
Appendices:	App A - Koala Conservation Plan (<i>Under Separate Cover</i>)
Attachments:	Att 1 - Summary Actions Table

PURPOSE

The Koala Conservation Plan proposes a framework to guide management actions for retaining a viable koala population, as well as preserving and enhancing suitable habitat in the Sunshine Coast local government area. The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the five-year Koala Conservation Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's vision for the Sunshine Coast is to be Australia's most sustainable region – vibrant, green, diverse. The Koala Conservation Plan is underpinned by this vision and provides the framework for Council and the community to work in partnership to protect our unique natural environment and the biodiversity within it.

The development of a Koala Conservation Plan is supported by the Sunshine Coast Biodiversity Strategy 2010-2020, which provides the strategic direction for protecting and enhancing biodiversity values on the Sunshine Coast.

The requirement for Council to produce a Koala Conservation Plan originally arose from the State Planning Policy 2/10 Koala Conservation in South East Queensland (SPP), which was a statutory instrument under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*. However, in 2014 the SPP was replaced by the South East Queensland Koala Conservation State Planning Regulatory Provisions (Koala SPRP), which applies in addition to local planning instruments.

Although the SPP no longer exists, its desired outcomes are still considered good practice, they are embedded in council's Biodiversity Strategy and they are not inconsistent with the state's 2014 SPRP.

At Council's Ordinary Meeting of 21 May 2015, the Draft Koala Conservation Plan was endorsed for the purpose of undertaking community consultation. A total of 17 submissions were received outlining 159 comments/suggestions. The comments received have helped inform the final version of the final Koala Conservation Plan (Appendix A).

The Koala Conservation Plan incorporates a five year action plan to guide the management and protection of the Sunshine Coast's koala population. The action plan provides a realistic framework based on Council and community partnerships.

All thirty-four recommended actions in the Koala Conservation Plan contribute to a landscape conservation approach, which also supports broader environmental protection in addition to specific koala conservation outcomes.

The majority of the actions proposed in the Plan are already embedded in, or are consistent with, Council's current strategies and operational plans. 17 of the 34 proposed actions are already underway and 15 of the 17 future actions have been identified as low cost.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Koala Conservation Plan" and
- (b) endorse the Koala Conservation Plan (Appendix A).

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The Koala Conservation Plan contains 34 proposed actions. Of the 34 identified actions, seventeen are already underway and seventeen have been identified as future projects.

The majority of the proposed future actions have been identified as being deliverable through existing operational programs with the balance supported by either koala vegetation offset revenue, capital and/or Environment Levy funding, which will be subject to future budget recommendations for Council's consideration.

Throughout the life of the Koala Conservation Plan, Council will actively seek opportunities to apply for external grants and participate in joint research projects as opportunities arise.

See 'Appendix 2 Actions Summary Table' in the Koala Conservation Plan and Attachment 1 of this report for full 5-year project summary including funding source.

Please note, the cost definitions have been based on the following estimates:

- High – Above \$100,000
- Medium - \$10,000-\$100,000
- Low – Below \$10,000.

Table 1. Status and estimated cost summary of proposed actions

Cost	Action Underway	Future Action
Low	9	15
Medium	3	1
Medium/High	1	0
High	4	1

The seventeen actions identified as Underway are currently being delivered through existing operational and/or Environment Levy funding. The overwhelming majority of proposed future actions have been identified as low cost. The four high cost actions already underway fall within existing operational and strategic programs.

Based on the cost ranges outlined for low, medium and high cost actions the cost range for the implementation of future actions is \$155,000 to \$300,000. However, these estimates do not necessarily reflect the cost to Council. For example, the single identified high cost future action (Action 1.4) is actually being undertaken by the Threatened Species Unit within the state government's department of Environment & Heritage Protection (EHP) with no cash cost and minimal in-kind cost to Council. Many low and medium cost future actions can be either incorporated into existing operational programs or be undertaken in partnership with other organisations, primarily with in-kind labour contribution from Council officers.

Action 3.6, identified as medium and underway, has led to a recently commenced three-year partnership with the University of the Sunshine Coast to the value of \$20,000 per year for three years (subject to annual Environment Levy budget review).

See Attachment 1 for details of the 34 proposed actions.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *An enviable lifestyle and environment*

Outcome: 3.1 - Healthy natural ecosystems and protected remnant vegetation

Operational Activity: 3.1.1.3 – Identify appropriate management tools for the on-going protection of the region's rich biodiversity

CONSULTATION

Consultation has been undertaken with a range of internal and external stakeholders, including special interest groups and the broader community.

Internal Consultation

Consultation was undertaken with a range of council managers and/or staff from the following branches:

- Environmental Operations
- Environment Sustainability Policy
- Development Services
- Parks & Gardens
- Transport Infrastructure Management
- Healthy Places

External Consultation

External consultation has been undertaken with officers from the Threatened Species Unit with the state government's Department of Environment & Heritage Protection (EHP) and the University of the Sunshine Coast. Consultation with Department of Environment & Heritage Protection has resulted in a collaborative koala survey effort commenced in April 2015, with a mutually beneficial data sharing arrangement with Council. Consultation with the University of the Sunshine Coast has culminated in a 3-year partnership designed to enhance koala disease research and provide leverage for a larger Australian Research Council (ARC) grant for the university.

Community Engagement

Targeted community engagement was undertaken following council's endorsement of the Draft Koala Conservation Plan at the 21 May 2015 Ordinary Meeting. Koala and wildlife stakeholder groups were invited to participate in a consultation workshop with Council and Ecosure staff.

The draft Plan was also widely promoted to the general community via the following mechanisms:

- The 'Have Your Say' section of Council's website
- Council's social media network
- Radio and print advertising
- Media release
- Key internal stakeholders who have their own distribution channels and
- All Council libraries.

A total of 17 submissions were received outlining 159 comments/suggestions. The comments received have helped inform the final version of the final Koala Conservation Plan (Appendix A).

PROPOSAL

The koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) is an iconic Australian species that is under threat in South East Queensland. Loss and fragmentation of habitat, disease and trauma from car strikes and dog attacks are taking a significant toll on koala populations and there has been considerable public concern about declining koala numbers in recent years. Some researchers have warned that the koala could be at risk of local extinctions in South East Queensland.

There are many reasons to take action to conserve koalas on the Sunshine Coast. To many, the koala represents the quintessential nature of the Australian bush and is strongly tied to our national identity. Many people choose to live on the Sunshine Coast for its natural environment and, for many, knowing that they live alongside koalas and other native fauna contributes significantly to their sense of place. Tourism is a major sector within the Sunshine Coast economy and koalas are an important international ambassador and a major attraction. Research has shown that some 75% of international tourists hope to see a koala when deciding to come to Australia and it has been estimated that the koala contributes some \$1.1 billion to the Australian tourism industry.

The original requirement for council to produce a Koala Conservation Plan arose from State Planning Policy 2/10 Koala Conservation in South East Queensland (SPP). The SPP, however, was replaced in 2014 by the South East Queensland Koala Conservation State Planning Regulatory Provisions (Koala SPRP), which applies in addition to local planning instruments. In June 2015 a Draft Amendment to the SPRP was gazetted and left open for community consultation until 17 August 2015. The draft SPRP amendment will have the effect of maintaining the environmental offset requirements of the *Environmental Offsets Transitional Regulation 2014*, which expired on 1 July 2015. The draft amendment will maintain the current koala offsets provisions by referencing the *Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy*.

The development of a Koala Conservation Plan is also supported by the Sunshine Coast Biodiversity Strategy 2010-2020, which provides the strategic direction for protecting and enhancing biodiversity values on the Sunshine Coast. It is based on a philosophy of landscape scale habitat protection and rehabilitation to enhance the capacity of the landscape to protect biodiversity and build resilience to current and future threats. The Biodiversity Strategy Implementation Plan 2010-2015 identifies the development of a Koala Conservation Plan as a high priority action.

A total of seventeen submissions were received during the consultation period, which collectively offered 159 comments or suggestions. Wherever possible and practicable changes were made to the Draft Koala Conservation Plan, which resulted in the following material changes incorporated into the final Koala Conservation Plan:

- Addition of Action 3.5 – promoting liaison with all levels of government for a regional approach to koala management
- Addition of Action 3.6 – partner with research organisations to further research into koala ecology
- Addition of Action 4.9 – investigate potential locations for refuges for sick and injured koalas, and

- Addition of Action 4.10 – focus on adaptive management of koala habitat for improved climate resilience

This Koala Conservation Plan proposes 34 management actions that will help to retain a viable koala population, and preserve and enhance suitable habitat in the Sunshine Coast region. The Plan is intended to provide clear, measurable and prioritised actions based around five desired outcomes, as well as delegated responsibilities for implementation.

The overall objectives of the Koala Conservation Plan are:

- to determine where koalas exist in the Sunshine Coast Council local government area, and understand threatening processes at the local level
- to create robust scientific datasets, including koala habitat mapping, which will form the basis of management decisions
- to identify priority locations and target management actions in order to enhance the quality of core koala habitat and improve connectivity
- to ensure planning and development assessment processes support the protection of koalas and their habitat
- highlight where mitigation measures are most required and actions needed to monitor effectiveness and
- guide community involvement in programs and partnerships that increase koala habitat availability and enhance connectivity, build understanding and mitigate threats.

The actions in the proposed Koala Conservation Plan complement state government initiatives, including:

- Nature Conservation (Koala) Plan 2006 and Management Program 2006-16 (Koala Plan)
- Koala Sensitive Design Guidelines to offer guidance and advice relating to koala-sensitive design measures for planning and development and
- The Koala Nature Refuges Program.

Legal

The state's South East Queensland Koala Conservation State Planning Regulatory Provisions (Koala SPRP), under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, informs local government planning instruments.

The Koala Conservation Plan itself does not have any statutory head of power. Council may consider future amendments to the Planning Scheme if it reasonably believes that ground-truthing of habitat and other data validation supports an amendment.

Policy

The relevant policies include:

- South East Queensland Koala Conservation State Planning Regulatory Provisions (Koala SPRP)
- Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014
- Sunshine Coast Corporate Plan 2014-2019
- Sunshine Coast Biodiversity Strategy 2010-2020
- Sunshine Coast Biodiversity Strategy 2010-2015 – Implementation Plan
- Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016
- Environment Levy Policy
- Voluntary Conservation Agreement Policy
- Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy

- *Environmental Offsets Act 2014*
- *Environmental Offsets Transitional Regulation 2014*
- Draft SPRP Amendment 2015

Risk

There is no legal risk associated with this report.

There may be a risk associated with failing to meet a strong community expectation, particularly since the public release of the Draft Koala Conservation Plan, that Council do all in its power to ameliorate the threats to koalas in the region.

Previous Council Resolution

SM13/19 – Special Meeting (Budget), 25 June 2013

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “2013/14 Sunshine Coast Environment Levy Policy and Program”*
- (b) adopt the revised Environment Levy Policy 2013 (Appendix A) and note the supporting Environment Levy Organisational Guidelines (Appendix B) and*
- (c) adopt Year 1 (2013/14) expenditure of the proposed indicative 4-year Environment Levy Program (June 2013) (Appendix C).*

OM15/69 – Ordinary Meeting 21 May 2015

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Draft Koala Conservation Plan” and*
- (b) endorse the Draft Koala Conservation Plan (Appendix A), for the purpose of undertaking community consultation, with a report to be provided to Council on the revised plan, following consultation.*

Related Documentation

The Draft Koala Conservation Plan endorsed at the 21 May Ordinary Meeting is an earlier version of the Koala Conservation Plan presented in this report as Appendix A.

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates relevant to this report.

Implementation

Council’s Environmental Operations branch will have responsibility for the implementation of the actions outlined in the Koala Conservation Plan. Some actions will be undertaken in collaboration with Healthy Places, Development Services, Environment & Sustainability Policy, Transport Infrastructure Management and/or Parks & Gardens.

Council officers will actively pursue opportunities for external funding to support the implementation of the Koala Conservation Plan. It is also Council’s intention to continue to work in partnership with the State government, University of the Sunshine Coast, stakeholder groups and the broader community to implement this plan.

All actions identified as being funded from existing or future operational or Environment Levy funding are subject to annual budget approval.

8.6 CORPORATE STRATEGY AND DELIVERY

Nil

8.7 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CEO

Nil

9 NOTIFIED MOTIONS

10 TABLING OF PETITIONS

Petitions only eligible for submission if:

- * Legible
- * Have purpose of the petition on top of each page
- * Contain at least 10 signatures
- * Motion limited to:
 - Petition received and referred to a future meeting
 - Petition received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for report and consideration of recommendation
 - Petition not be received

11 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**11.1 REGIONAL STRATEGY AND PLANNING****11.1.1 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - PLANNING APPEAL - MAROOCHYDORE**

File No: MCU15/0081, APL15/0010 & LEG-718
Authors: Acting Coordinator Appeals Management
Regional Strategy & Planning Department
Solicitor
Office of the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (f) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to starting or defending legal proceedings involving the local government.

11.1.2 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - CALOUNDRA SOUTH

File No: Statutory Meetings
Author: Manager Major Urban Developments
Regional Strategy & Planning Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to any action to be taken by the local government under the Planning Act, including deciding applications made to it under that Act.

11.2 CORPORATE SERVICES**11.2.1 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - PROPERTY DISPOSAL
KULANGOOR**

File No: ECM
Authors: Principal Property Officer
Corporate Services Department
Coordinator Property, Projects and Development
Corporate Services Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (h) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

**11.2.2 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - DISPOSAL OF
PROPERTY - SURPLUS LAND**

File No: Statutory Meetings
Author: Principal Property Officer
Corporate Services Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (h) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

**11.2.3 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - BRISBANE ROAD
ACQUISITION**

File No: ECM
Author: Coordinator Property, Projects and Development
Corporate Services Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (h) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

**11.2.4 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - QUARTERLY
PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 1, 2015/2016**

File No: Statutory Meeting
Author: Manager Corporate Governance
Corporate Services Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (f) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to starting or defending legal proceedings involving the local government.

11.3 COMMUNITY SERVICES

Nil

11.4 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Nil

11.5 CORPORATE STRATEGY AND DELIVERY

Nil

11.6 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CEO

Nil

12 NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting will be held on 10 December 2015 in the Council Chambers, Corner Currie and Bury Streets, Nambour.

13 MEETING CLOSURE