



Planning and Strategy Committee of the Whole

SUPPLEMENTARY

AGENDA

11 November 2020

Commencing at 5.30pm

In light of the COVID-19, this meeting will be held remotely. Presentations can either be made in writing or by attending a Zoom meeting: see Public Involvement at Meetings on Council's website.

On-site Inspections - Nil

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS

8.7 Prioritisation of Projects for Bushfire Grant Applications3

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS –

(Copies available from General Manager's Office on request)

Open Attachments

Item 8.7 Prioritisation of Projects for Bushfire Grant Applications

*Attachment 1 Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund Program (BLERF)
Guidelines (Under Separate Cover)*

Closed Attachments

Nil

8.7 **Prioritisation of Projects for Bushfire Grant Applications (Ref: ; Author: Richards/Darcy)**

File Reference: 6728

Summary

This report seeks to provide an update on the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund Phase 2 Stream 1 and Stream 2 and resolve what projects will be shortlisted to apply for under the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund Program.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Note the update to projects applied for under Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund Phase 2 Stream 1 and Stream 2.**
 2. **Provide a recommendation on which projects to shortlist and prepare estimates for application under the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund Program.**
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Background

Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund (BCRRF)

As reported in the Ordinary Council Meeting on the 28 October 2020, this grant is to promote community well-being, social and broader recovery and future disaster resilience following the bushfires and has two streams

- a) **Stream 1:** Allocation of funds to local councils for smaller-scale, short term community Projects (\$250K). This is a non-competitive application open to local Councils only. At least 25% of the grant must be used for community grant projects. Applications have now closed.

The Local Recovery Committee was consulted and recommended the following projects be supported:

1. Development of a Community Resilience Plan for bushfire impacted regions in Braidwood Region (~\$80k)
2. Digitise My Business program to support the adaption of businesses to online sales and digital business techniques
3. Community grants program to fund the implementation of actions from the Community Resilience Plan (~\$170k)

After discussions with Resilience NSW, there was doubt that the Digitise My Business would be eligible and so was withdrawn. Leaving the remaining two projects to fulfill the application.

- b) **Stream 2:** Allocation of funds for medium to long-term community projects (\$20k-300k). This is a competitive application process open to local councils, joint organisation of councils; incorporated non-government organisations (including not-for-profit organisations, local community groups, business chambers and industry groups/peak

8.7 Prioritisation of Projects for Bushfire Grant Applications (Ref: ; Author: Richards/Darcy) (Continued)

bodies) and unincorporated community groups auspiced by an organisation that is eligible to apply in their own right. No co-contribution is required. Applications close 16 November 2020. New assets or infrastructure are not permitted as eligible expenditure. However, there was a late change to the guidelines under this Stream to now include the following:

- restoration and repair of community facilities owned by local government but are not considered to be essential public assets under the DRFA 2018.
- restoration and repair of facilities owned by non-profit organisations.
- community infrastructure projects on public lands, including upgrades to recreational facilities and community assets.

To date, projects proposed to be included in the Stream are:

1. Development of a Community Resilience Plan for bushfire impacted regions in Bungendore and Queanbeyan regions, to follow and build on the Braidwood plan completed under Stream 1 (~\$100k)
2. An environmental restoration and accompanying education program incorporating schools and community to rehabilitate damaged areas caused by the bushfires - \$TBA

Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund Program (BLERF)

The BLERF will make \$500 million available for projects in bushfire affected communities. All projects supported under this program will be jointly funded by the NSW and Commonwealth governments. Bushfire affected communities will have access to funding for infrastructure projects and local programs and initiatives that encourage short, medium and long-term recovery. Applications close 11 December 2020. Funding under this scheme will be for projects between \$400k to \$20million using a competitive process. Co-contribution is not mandatory, but projects can include funds from other sources. The NSW government recently announced that the Braidwood Heritage and Artisan Precinct Development was successful in receiving direct funding under this grant.

Council is asked to consider the following projects or other projects it may nominate for a shortlist to apply under this grant – projects and estimates drawn from the Delivery Program or those excluded from this year's Operational Plan:

1. Braidwood Carpark
2. Braidwood Skate Park
3. Cooma Road rehabilitation– between Braidwood and Captains Flat
4. Queanbeyan River Walk
5. Queanbeyan Riverside Botanic Garden development
6. Queanbeyan River platypus Viewing
7. Bungendore sculpture trail
8. Queanbeyan CBD arts trail
9. Araluen camping area amenities

8.7 Prioritisation of Projects for Bushfire Grant Applications (Ref: ; Author: Richards/Darcy) (Continued)

10. Stage 2 – South Jerrabomberra Regional Sports Complex (indoor sports centre)
11. Braidwood CBD - Wallace St refurbishment
12. Braidwood, Queanbeyan and Bungendore Smart Hubs
13. Tourism promotion campaigns (extension of Treasure Trail or other to boost economic activity)
14. South Jerrabomberra innovation hub building (~\$20m)
15. Restoration of bushfire impacted roads and bridges and improved road access
16. Community hall upgrades (various)
17. Community mental health programs
18. Energy security infrastructure
19. Extending Braidwood and Bungendore footpath network
20. Restoration or improvement to parkland or natural resources
21. Braidwood Pool Stage Two Upgrades. Approx. \$1.5 - \$2M:
 - Pool Reconfiguration (updating from 18m to 25m)
 - Plant Room Update (currently non-compliant)
 - Gymnasium (in accordance with Master Plan)
22. Queanbeyan Pool Change Room Updates. Approx. \$300K and includes:
 - Construction of three additional family change rooms
23. Bungendore Playground to integrate with Mick Sherd Oval. Approx. \$750k and includes:
 - Tripod swing (inclusive of the disabled), and other play equipment
 - Slide
 - Flying fox
 - Toffler equipment
 - Accessible water play area
 - Timber boat
 - Seating and bins
 - BBQ area with shelter
 - Pathways and dry creek bed remediation
 - Musical area

Other groups or entities in the LGA may be applying for grants under this program. Council staff have fielded enquiries regarding the Anglican Hall upgrade and the Araluen Hall upgrade

The BLERF Grant Guidelines are attached to provide a full explanation of eligible projects.

8.7 Prioritisation of Projects for Bushfire Grant Applications (Ref: ; Author: Richards/Darcy) (Continued)

Implications***Engagement***

Advice was provided to community members of the LRC on the grants with an invitation to suggest other potential projects, with the following received:

1. Braidwood carpark and redevelopment of the D&S site
2. Braidwood Skate Park
3. Fast-tracking the plans for extending Braidwood's footpath network
4. Road and bridges repairs
5. Improving the CBD area of Braidwood including the concept plans presented by Philips/Marler to redevelop the intersection of Wallace and Duncan Streets to improve pedestrian safety and carparking, as well as protection for the old plane trees
6. Communications and energy security infrastructure upgrades
7. Placing concrete water tanks at all the RFS sheds in the district
8. Old Anglican Hall upgrade in Braidwood
9. Araluen Hall upgrade

Financial

No contributions are required under the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund Phase 2 Stream 1 and Stream 2 and is not mandatory under Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund Program.

Conclusion

This report updates Council on the Bushfire Community Recovery and Resilience Fund Phase 2 Stream 1 and Stream 2 and seeks a recommendation of projects to shortlist for Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund Program.

Attachments

- Attachment 1 Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund Program (BLERF) Guidelines
(Under Separate Cover)