



BUSINESS PAPER
EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING
OF COUNCIL

To be held on

Monday, 9 March 2020
5:30pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers
2W Hamilton Street, Walcha

Members:

Mayor – Councillor Eric Noakes
Deputy Mayor – Councillor Clint Lyon
Councillor Peter Blomfield
Councillor Kevin Ferrier
Councillor William Heazlett
Councillor Jennifer Kealey
Councillor Scott Kermode
Councillor Rachael Wellings

Quorum – 5 Members to be Present
WO/2020/00595

AGENDA

Submitted to Council: 9 March 2020

..... General Manager Mayor



Dear Mayor & Councillors

You are requested to attend the Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Walcha Council to be held in the Council Chambers, Hamilton Street, Walcha on **Monday, 9 March 2020** commencing at **5:30pm**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Modderno'.

Anne Modderno
General Manager

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- 1. Apologies
- 2. Senior Officers Reports
 - 2.1 Drought Communities Programme Priority Projects

WO/2020/00590

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Present:

Apologies:

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..... General Manager Mayor



Item 2:

Senior Officers'

Reports

Submitted to Council: 9 March 2020

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 2.1 **Ref:** WO/2020/00590
Title: Drought Communities Programme Priority Projects
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: Project Summary Report – Drought Communities Funding

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal: 3.2 – the public health and well being of the community will be protected and enhanced.

Goal: 5.2 – The existing strong community spirit and pride will be protected and promoted.

Goal: 8.1 – Walcha Council will exemplify good leadership, mutual respect and trust by being inclusive, ensuring open information and communication and encouraging active participation at all levels.

Introduction:

This report is for Council to finalise the projects for Council’s application under the Drought Communities Programme.

Report:

Drought Communities Funding

Walcha Council qualified for \$1million in the Federally funded Drought Communities Grant extension announced November 2019. Projects must meet eligibility criteria as defined in the grant funding guidelines, and all work must be completed by 31 December 2020.

Council requested project submissions from the community via local media in November 2019 and also discussed the program and funding at all of the Regional Meetings held in the same month.

Since then, Councillors have three workshops to discuss the proposed projects, held on Friday, 10 January 2020; Monday, 10 February 2020 and most recently on Friday, 28 February 2020. Factors outside the control of Council and Councillors have meant that changes to the originally supported program were required. These factors included project eligibility, additional follow up enquiries for school related projects, and the recent announcement of support Stronger Country Communities funding.

Following considerations of value for money, delivery risk, community benefit and drought relief, the attached program is proposed for Councillor’s consideration.

Future program development

The available funding did not support the design of the originally proposed rural ramps project. As noted in earlier workshops, Council propose to explore options for this project design for Council’s future consideration.

Submitted to Council: 9 March 2020

..... General Manager Mayor



Community Consultation

Council recognise the need to engage more frequently with our community regarding grant projects, strategic priorities and customer service. This work is planned to commence this month.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- 1. under the Drought Communities Programme Funding ENDORSE the following Projects:**
 - 1.1 Ingleba Hall**
 - 1.2 Nowendoc Rest Stop**
 - 1.3 Woolbrook Stampede Ground**
 - 1.4 Yarrowitch Hall**
 - 1.5 Walcha Showground Facility Upgrades**
 - 1.6 Walcha Public Infrastructure Upgrade**
 - 1.7 Walcha Water Infrastructure**
- 2. Support the development of a project model that will consider how we can utilise future grant funding packages to accelerate our rural Ramps Policy**

Submitted to Council: 9 March 2020

..... General Manager Mayor

Drought Communities Program – Extension

Proposed Projects

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A. Introduction

All project budgets listed include allowances for project management and relative contingency.

Walcha Council must submit one application for the entire program of projects. Any available savings amongst individual projects can be redistributed within the program.

B. Value Considerations and Project Delivery Risk

Each of the listed projects are considered to provide value for money, community benefits across multiple locations and drought relief.

The delivery risk for each project has been assessed considering project status and the required completion date of 31 December 2020. Delivery risk categories are defined below.

Low risk: project is shovel ready, detailed scope confirmed and project costs confirmed and market tested.

Medium risk: project scope is at concept stage and full details to be developed as part of initial project actions. Project delivery costs still yet to be confirmed in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy.

High Risk: no project scope or outcome documented, no plans to complete detailed scoping in near future and high risk of not being delivered by the due date as a result.

C. Summary of Projects – Endorsed prior to 28.02.20 Workshop.

1. Ingleba Hall

This project will upgrade the Ingleba Hall and facilities. This is a community facility well used by Ingleba and surrounding residents. The hall is used for community gatherings, meetings and social events. Project works will include the lining of the hall walls with gyprock, installation of new windows and doors, electrical upgrade and interior painting. The project will also include a small playground installation.

Project Budget \$71,500

Delivery Risk: Medium

2. Nowendoc Rest Stop

Construction of new men's, women's and disabled toilet block at the Nowendoc Rest Stop. This rest stop is commonly used by travellers; in addition the new amenities block is next to the existing Nowendoc Community Hall. The existing amenity is old and in disrepair and will be demolished.

Project Budget \$94,600

Delivery Risk: Medium

3. Stampede Ground Woolbrook

Woolbrook Recreational Trust have lodged this request for funding in the Drought Community's Program. The project will make extensions to the seating area of the canteen, closing in a section of south eastern corner to prevent cold wind blowing on patrons. The project work will bird proof the building, and repair damaged flooring. In addition facility boundary fences will be replaced as they are in disrepair.

Project Budget \$49,500

Delivery Risk: Low-Medium

4. Yarrowitch Hall

This project is an upgrade to the Yarrowitch hall, including the installation of a water tank. Hall repair works will include the replacement and painting all wooden external architraves around windows, cover windows with awnings, the replacement of external doors, painting and cover with awnings, replacement of the main hall guttering, lining the end wall of barbeque area, lining the eaves of barbeque area, replacing the bird proof mesh and painting all facias, external walls of foyer and external architraves on barbeque area windows. The project includes a new undercover area approximately 9 X 12 metres covered with a skillion roof and concreted. A new water tank will be installed as part of project works also.

Project Budget \$77,000

Delivery Risk: Medium

5. Walcha Showground Facility Upgrades

This project will result in new public toilets and showers, including a disabled access toilet for the Walcha Showground. The amenities will be located adjacent to the Youth Hall. This project will include disabled access and parking at the Showground Function Centre.

Project Budget \$211,200

Delivery Risk: Medium

6. Walcha Public Infrastructure Upgrade

This project focuses on the upgrading of infrastructure in the Walcha Township. This will include amenity refurbishment, fence and master plan for Lions Park (drainage, final complete design etc.), extension of the covered barbeque area at McHattan Park, top dressing of Peter Fenwicke oval, installation of two drinking fountains and public place bin surrounds. This will greatly improve the usability and aesthetics of Walcha public spaces.

Project Budget \$285,200

Delivery Risk: Medium

D. Summary of Projects – Removed on 28.02.20

7. Walcha Central School

This project is now being funded through SCCF Round 4 announced February 2020.

8. St Patricks Primary School

The eligibility of this project being accepted has been significantly reduced due to the Walcha Central School project now removed. Additional criteria and questions asked by the Grants Office regarding community access and before/after school care cannot be satisfied with this project. Walcha Council propose to complete all detailed scoping and plan development documents and hand these over to the school. These documents will support the school applying for a new round of SCCF funding. It is proposed that Council would also draft a *Letter of Support* for this project for other future grant opportunities.

E. Summary of Projects – NEW

9. Walcha Water (Council)

This project will provide the necessary infrastructure to assist Council in delivering quality drinking water to the community. Similar to other councils taking advantage of drought related grant funds to secure water supply, eligible projects include projects that have either been contributed to by the drought conditions, or lack available funds within the water fund due to less revenue available due to the drought and water restrictions. There are two components of this project:

1 – Chlorine Mixer and SCADA system (\$100k) – The ongoing drought has resulted in low chlorine levels being experienced in a few areas in the water network and to manage the levels of algae the W&S operators are currently having to dose 14L chlorine/hour into the clarifier. There have not been CCP breaches but there have been low and high chlorine alerts. Community members closest to the Water Treatment Plant are experiencing very high chlorine levels in their water supply. This project will provide for a mixer and scada control system to alleviate this problem.

2 – Water Treatment Plant back up power supply (\$110k) – The final component of the Walcha Water project is a backup power supply for the running of the Water Treatment Plant. The Water Treatment Plant is critical infrastructure for the Walcha community and there is currently no back power system at the site capable of running the plant in the event of a power failure. Council has access to a mobile generator; however this is not sufficient to operate the plant. Our current plan of action when power is lost is to advise Essential Energy and request that supply be returned as soon as possible. From a business continuity and critical risk perspective this plan is not considered to be an acceptable mitigation strategy.

During the cyclonic storm in December 2018 power was lost to many parts of Walcha, including the Water Treatment Plant (WTP). It was due to the co-operation of Essential Energy and the good fortune that the supply reservoirs at our plant are large (compared to similar WTPs) that our operators were able to continue supplying water during the aftermath of the storm. This disaster brought to Council's attention how vulnerable the town water supply is to power outages, which have been on the increase in recent years with the rise in storm activity. It has also highlighted the requirement to develop a business continuity plan for Council, which is an activity we have scheduled for FY21.

Both projects within the Walcha water project have been detailed scoped, priced and are shovel ready.

Project Budget: \$210,000

Delivery Risk: Low

F. Summary of Project alignment to Walcha Community Strategic Plan

	Ingleba Hall	Nowendoc Rest Stop	Stampede Ground Woolbrook	Yarrowitch Hall	Walcha Showground (hockey hall toilets)	Walcha Township public amenities upgrade	Water quality and security upgrade
CSP 2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>CSP 2.1</i>		X				X	X
<i>CSP 2.1.1</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<i>CSP 2.1.7</i>	X				X	X	
CSP 3	X		X	X	X	X	
<i>CSP 3.2</i>	X		X	X	X	X	X
<i>CSP3.2.1</i>	X		X	X	X	X	X
CSP 5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>CSP 5.1</i>							X
<i>CSP 5.1.1</i>	X		X	X	X	X	
<i>CSP 5.2</i>	X	X	X	X		X	
<i>CSP 5.2.1</i>	X		X	X	X		
<i>CSP 5.2.2</i>	X	X	X	X			X
<i>CSP 5.2.3</i>	X		X	X	X		
<i>CSP 5.3</i>	X		X	X		X	
<i>CSP 5.3.3</i>	X		X	X	X	X	
<i>CSP 5.6</i>	X		X	X	X	X	
<i>CSP 5.6.1</i>	X		X	X	X	X	

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	Ingleba Hall	Nowendoc Rest Stop	Stampede Ground Woolbrook	Yarrowitch Hall	Walcha Showground (hockey hall toilets)	Walcha Township public amenities upgrade	Water quality and security upgrade
CSP 5.7	X		X	X			
CSP 5.7.1	X		X	X	X		
CSP 5.7.2	X		X	X	X		
CSP 6	X	X	X	X		X	X
CSP 6.6	X	X	X	X			X
CSP 6.6.4	X	X	X	X		X	X
CSP 8						X	
CSP 8.2						X	X
CSP 8.2.4						X	X