
NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS PAPER – 13 MARCH 2019
REPORTS TO COUNCIL – COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. NARROMINE SHIRE DROUGHT COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

Author: Director Community and Economic Development
Responsible Officer: Director Community and Economic Development
Link to Strategic Plan: CSP – 1.1.4 Promote services and provide facilities that foster health lifestyles
CSP – 1.1.5 – Recognise the importance and consider resources needed to maintain open spaces to encourage greater use by the community
DP - 4.3.03.01- Maximise opportunities for utilising grants to supplement and support identified Council priorities and projects. There are also additional links to community and economic growth throughout the strategic plan and Economic Development Strategy.

Executive Summary

This report provides Council with the details of the evaluation of applications submitted for the Narromine Shire Drought Communities Program.

Overview

In August 2018, the Australian Government announced an additional \$1 million in support for eligible councils as part of the Drought Communities Programme. The objective of the Drought Communities Programme is to deliver benefits in declared Council areas, by supporting investment in local infrastructure initiatives. Funding is targeted at infrastructure projects that provide employment for people whose work opportunities have been impacted by drought; stimulate local community spending; use local resources, businesses and suppliers; and/or provide a long-lasting benefit to communities and the agricultural industries on which they depend.

Narromine Shire Council has allocated \$110 000 of the \$1 million funding to its Community and Economic Stimulus grants program, which was announced in December 2018. This program is for capital works programs put forward by community groups and organisations. Applicants were invited to apply for up to \$20 000 to undertake each project and applications closed on Friday 15 February 2019.

Report

The Drought Communities Program was first advertised on Thursday, 24 January 2019 via numerous media channels, including social media, Council's website and the local newspaper through Council's Column.

On closing of the submissions, twenty (20) submissions were received.

The criteria used matched the priorities of the Drought Communities Programme to encourage the use of local trades and local spending during these dry times.

1. NARROMINE SHIRE DROUGHT COMMUNITIES PROGRAM (Cont'd)

Applicants were asked to submit details of their projects in a common format which included details of funding requested, the organisations contribution, the use of local trades and a description of the activity to be undertaken.

The evaluation of each of the projects was undertaken by a panel of Council staff who utilised the following criteria to determine a project ranking:

- Quality of Application
- Community and Drought Impact
- Own Contribution
- Project Completion

Once the projects were ranked further consideration was given as to the location of the projects to ensure that each of the Narromine Shire communities received a share of the funding to maximise the benefits of the projects across the Shire area.

The following table summarises the applications made **(See Figure 1)**.

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FIGURE 1. SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED FOR NARROMINE SHIRE DROUGHT COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

| | PROJECT | ORGANISATION | TOTAL PROJECT COST | AMOUNT REQUESTED |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Submission 1. | Outdoor BBQ area at Trangie Swimming Pool | Trangie Swimming Club | \$46,343.00 | \$10,000.00 |
| Submission 2. | Outdoor BBQ area at Wungunja Cultural Centre | Trangie Local Aboriginal Land Council | \$17,027.00 | \$16,200.00 |
| Submission 3. | To build a round yard at The Jeff Field Centre, at the agriculture plot. | P+C Narromine High School | \$4,668.00 | \$3,509.00 |
| Submission 4. | Build an outdoor area with concrete base and shade structure | Narromine Community Skills | \$26,150.00 | \$20,000.00 |
| Submission 5. | Update kitchen infrastructure to comply with current WHS Requirements. | Narromine Aero Club | \$49,474.82 | \$18,181.82 |
| Submission 6. | Upgrades to hall exterior through upgrades to concrete base. | Mungery Recreation Reserve | \$21,320.00 | \$17,000.00 |
| Submission 7. | Disability access ramp, BBQ area and open area with sliding door access. | Trangie United Services Memorial Club | \$27,650.00 | \$20,000.00 |
| Submission 8. | Roof renovation | Narromine Golf Club | \$25,000.00 | \$20,000.00 |
| Submission 9. | Squash Club wall renovation | Narromine Squash Club | \$23,000.00 | \$17,000.00 |
| Submission 10. | 20 metres shield quality synthetic grass, plus 60L contact adhesive. | Trangie Bowling Club | \$9,032.52 | \$7,226.00 |
| Submission 11. | Disability access BBQ for small groups. | Trangie Community Inc. | \$14,300.00 | \$8,000.00 |
| Submission 12. | Grandstands | Trangie Magpies Rugby Club | \$16,720.00 | \$16,720.00 |
| Submission 13. | A full course set of competitive standard jumps that meet safety specifications set up complete on a trailer. | Narromine Agricultural Show Society | \$22,471.00 | \$16,853.25 |
| Submission 14. | Purchase of a 40ft container to store tools equipment and parts for the Narromine Wetlands. | Rotary Club of Narromine | \$6,050.00 | \$4,050.00 |
| Submission 15. | To purchase a starter gun, a laptop, a printer and software to maintain club records. | Macquarie Yabbies Swim Club | \$2,801.64 | \$2,801.64 |
| Submission 16. | Connect the Narromine Pony Club clubhouse and storage shed to electricity from the main board at the main Showground building. | Narromine Pony Club | \$11,000.00 | \$8,000.00 |
| Submission 17. | Upgrade Noel Powell Oval canteen by installing an exhaust fan. | Narromine Junior Jets | \$8,625.00 | \$6,500.00 |
| Submission 18. | Provide upgrades to existing playground through installation of a landscape garden with vines and a cottage garden plus tree plantings. | Narromine Christian School | \$23,200.00 | \$17,400.00 |
| Submission 19. | Replace damaged bench seating; Purchase and install additional covered seating; and install sheltered park settings. | Tomingley Picnic Race Club | \$19,000.00 | \$15,000.00 |
| Submission 20. | Unused Principal's house (in the school grounds), is to be restored and converted to a school and community well-being Hub. | Narromine High School | \$70,000.00 | \$20,000.00 |

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Choosing the projects

The total pool available for this project within the Narromine Shire Council's Drought Communities program is \$110,000. In total twenty community projects were submitted and the total requested was \$240,000.

Projects were ranked by the Council staff panel utilising the following criteria:

| CRITERIA | DETAILS |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Quality of Application | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logical • Completed |
| Community and Drought Impact | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of locals affected • # Local trades utilised • Long-term legacy of project |
| Own Contribution | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear budget • Greater than or equal to 25% contribution • Quotes |
| Project Completion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliverability • Within timeframe (30 May 2019) |
| Project Location (approx.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narromine (75%) • Trangie (23%) • Tomingley (2%) |

Once this ranking process was completed, a cut-off point up to \$110,000 was used to determine which projects would be recommended for funding.

It is worth noting that all projects were considered as worthy to be evaluated and none were removed due to criteria not being met or not satisfying the priorities of the Drought Communities Programme Fund. The panel would recommend that all unsuccessful projects be further considered if another round of Drought Communities Funding was made available or if community funding of other types was available then they should be encouraged to be submitted.

The following projects have been recommended for funding utilising their evaluated ranking and available funding. They are reflected in **Figure 2** in no particular order.

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| FIGURE 2: RECOMMENDED SUCCESSFUL PROJECT SUBMISSIONS | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|------------------------|
| PROJECT | ORGANISATION/COMMUNITY GROUP | PROJECT | PROJECT LOCATION | FUNDING REQUEST |
| Submission 6 | Mungery Recreation Reserve | Upgrades to hall exterior | Narromine | \$ 17,000.00 |
| Submission 7 | Trangie USMC | Installation of disabled ramp | Trangie | \$2,870.00 |
| Submission 10 | Trangie Bowling Club | 20 metres shield quality synthetic grass plus 60L contact adhesive | Trangie | \$ 7,226.00 |
| Submission 11 | Trangie Community Connection Inc. | Disability access BBQ for small groups etc. | Trangie | \$ 8,000.00 |
| Submission 14 | Rotary Club of Narromine | Purchase of a 40ft container to store tools equipment and parts for the Wetlands | Narromine | \$ 4,050.00 |
| Submission 16 | Narromine Pony Club | Connect the Narromine Pony Club clubhouse and Storage shed to electricity from the main board at the main showground building. | Narromine | \$ 8,000.00 |
| Submission 17 | Narromine Junior Jets | Upgrade Noel Powell Oval Canteen by installing an exhaust fan. | Narromine | \$ 6,500.00 |
| Submission 18 | Narromine Christian School | Provide upgrades to existing playground through installation of a landscape garden with vines and a cottage garden plus tree plantings. | Narromine | \$ 17,400.00 |
| Submission 19 | Tomingley Picnic Race Club | Replace damaged bench seating; Purchase and install additional covered seating; and install sheltered park settings. | Tomingley | \$ 15,000.00 |
| Submission 20 | Narromine High School | Unused Principal's house (in the school grounds), is to be restored and converted to a school and community well-being hub. | Narromine | \$ 20,000.00 |
| | | | Total | \$106,046.00 |

1. NARROMINE SHIRE DROUGHT COMMUNITIES PROGRAM (Cont'd)

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications at this time.

Legal and Regulatory Compliance

Drought and Communities Programme eligibility criteria.

Tendering and procurement guidelines.

Risk Management Issues

Not applicable at this time

Internal/ external Consultation

Priorities for consideration have been undertaken in line with the eligibility criteria.

Additional consultation in regards to further priorities for community projects has been undertaken whereby community groups were invited to apply for the Narromine Shire Drought Communities Program, to undertake capital works projects associated with their organisation.

A report has also been written for those administering the Drought Communities Program to ensure that they are supportive of the recommended projects being funded and that they meet their criteria.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That subject to final approval from the Drought Communities Program the submissions outlined in **Figure 2** be awarded the funding amount requested as per their application; and
2. That successful applicants be informed of the outcome noting they have until Friday 22nd March 2019 to accept the letter of offer with Council, with all projects required to be acquitted by 31st May 2019; and
3. That the projects that were not successful in this funding round be notified; and
4. That those projects that were not successful in this round be further considered if there is another round of Drought Communities Programme Funding;
5. That the unsuccessful applicants be advised of any other suitable funding opportunities as they arise.

Phil Johnston

Director Community and Economic Development