

**ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL  
9 NOVEMBER 2009**

---

<b>3</b>	<b>FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS</b>
<b>LOCATION/ADDRESS:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:</b>	<b>JOHN HICKS, GENERAL MANAGER CITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES</b>
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	<b>SAM HEWETT, MANAGER ASSET SERVICES</b>
<b>FILE NO.:</b>	
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b>	<b>NIL.</b>

---

**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report updates council on the recently announced Commonwealth Government's Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP) and makes recommendations on projects that could be the subject of council's grant application.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- 2.1 Approves a grant application for the Federal Government's Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program 2009/2010 for the **Environmental Retrofits Project** to the amount of \$135,000.

**3. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

- 3.1 In November 2008, the Commonwealth Government announced economic stimulus funding would be made available to local governments to help boost local economies.
- 3.2 At that time, the City of Port Phillip was allocated \$352,000 and was asked to identify which local projects that funding would be applied against. In addition all councils were invited to make an application for the RLCIP – Strategic Projects funding of \$50 million.
- 3.3 In December 2008, council approved an application for three Play Space Upgrades (Garden City Reserve Playspace, Catani Gardens Playspace and Jacoby Reserve Playspace) in the amount of \$352,000. Council also made an application for funding of \$3.7million for the Urban Studies Centre project which was not successful.
- 3.4 In June 2009, the Commonwealth Government announced an additional \$220 million to the RLCIP. This fund was split into 2 components - \$100 million as a direct allocation to councils and \$120 million via a competitive grant process for a limited number of strategic projects nation wide. The City of Port Phillip

was informed at that time that it would receive \$135,000 as its direct allocation.

- 3.5 Council is asked to consider projects which are eligible for its \$135,000 direct allocation grant. To be eligible for these funding, *projects must be additional, ready to proceed or additional stages of current projects*. Funding can be used for construction, refurbishment or fit out of new or existing assets and construction must begin within 3 months of signing the service agreement.
- 3.6 Funding may be used for engineering, geotechnical, architectural works, land surveys and site investigations where those activities are minor components of larger RLCIP projects.
- 3.7 Funding cannot be used for projects which support council operations (eg upgrade of council offices) ongoing operational costs or maintenance, roads or related infrastructure or project management costs.
- 3.8 Applications close for these grants on November 20 2009 and the grant must be fully expended by December 31 2010.

#### **4 CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS**

##### **Internal**

- 4.1 The following internal departments have been consulted in relation to this matter
  - 4.1.1 South Melbourne Market, Parks and Open Space, Asset Services, Building Services as well as the Executive Management Team.

#### **5 DISCUSSION**

##### **5.1 ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN**

- 5.1.1 This recommendation is consistent with the Council Plan 2009 – 2013

Further advance the move from waste management to resource recovery – 2.3.5

##### **5.2 FINANCE / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.2.1 Should council choose to select a project with a cost in excess of the \$135,000 direct grant allocation, council will be expected to contribute the residual amount. The recommended option requires no additional funding to implement.
- 5.2.2 No additional staff resources will be required from council as part of this grant application. The project will be delivered using existing resources.

**5.3 OPTIONS**

5.3.1 Council may consider other projects which would be considered eligible under the grant guidelines. Each of the following projects meets the eligibility criteria.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Project Cost</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Preferred option - Environmental retrofits</b>	\$135,000	Stage 2 of retrofitting council owned buildings
Public Place Recycling Project	\$135,000	Project to install 3 way recycling bins across the municipality
Tree Planting St Kilda Rd – Dorcas St South Melbourne to Queens Rd St Kilda	\$200,000	Stage 5 of 5 of tree planting for this important thoroughfare
Beacon Cove Landscaping	\$400,000	Further landscaping of the Beacon Cove area
Pocket Parks	\$200,000	Continue the rollout of renewing pocket parks across the municipality
Improving water management practices and sports facilities renewals	\$200,000	Annual renewal program for sports facilities and grounds
Perce White Reserve	\$150,000	Design for park upgrade will be complete by March 2010
Bird and fly proof the South Melbourne Market	\$135,000	The market has received some advice to bird and fly proof the market
Rain water capture and storage at the South Melbourne Market	\$135,000	Capture water from the Deli Aisle and loading bay roof to be used in the wash down bays of the market.

**5.4 LEGAL & RISK IMPLICATIONS**

5.4.1 There is strict project eligibility attached to the grants offered by the Australian Government. In particular, the Commonwealth has stressed the need to fully expend the RLCIP funding by December 31 2010 and to begin construction of the projects funded under the RLCIP within 3 months of signing the service agreement.

**6 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

6.1 The Manager Asset Services will be responsible for the grant application for all reporting and the grant acquittal.

**7. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST**

7.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in the matter.