

5.1: EMU POINT BOAT HARBOUR CAR PARK

Land Description	: Emu Point Car Boat Harbour Car Park - Crown Reserve Numbers 42964 – Management Order with City of Albany, Reserve 49354 – Management Order with Department of Transport, and Reserve 22698 – Management Order with City of Albany
Proponent	: City of Albany – Funding Opportunity
Owner	: Crown Land - Reserve Numbers 42964, 49354 and 22698
Attachments	: Emu Point Marina Car Park Upgrade – Locality Plan
Responsible Officer(s)	: Acting Executive Director Works and Services (S Jamieson)

IN BRIEF

- To seek Council approval for acceptance of a Recreational Boating Facilities grant for the Emu point Boat Harbour Car Park project.

RECOMMENDATION

**ITEM 5.1 RESPONSIBLE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION
VOTING REQUIREMENT: ABSOLUTE MAJORITY**

THAT Council:

- **APPROVE the Recreational Boating Facilities Scheme funding offer totalling \$155,006 for the Emu point Boat Harbour Car Park, and**
- **APPROVE the reallocation of \$24,969 from the Emu Point Boat Pens Development Reserve Fund as its cash contribution to the project, these reserve funds being available.**

BACKGROUND

1. The Recreational Boating Facilities Scheme (RBFS) is a State Government grants program administered by the Department of Transport (DoT). The RBFS improves boating infrastructure by providing grants to eligible authorities.
2. The RBFS is funded from boat registration fees and offers grants to assist in the planning and construction of public facilities which benefit recreational boat users in Western Australia.
3. The City of Albany is eligible to apply for this funding.

CEO:

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:

4. The RBFS aims to:
 - provide project funding to improve recreational boating access to navigable waters;
 - enhance the safety of recreational boating infrastructure;
 - ensure that the environmental impact of recreational boating facilities is minimal;
 - provide a catalyst for new and improved recreational boating infrastructure; and
 - ensure consultation with recreational boating organisations.

5. RBFS grants are for:
 - planning new public recreational boating facilities;
 - construction of new public recreational boating facilities; and
 - upgrading existing public recreational boating facilities

6. Grants are calculated at up to 75 per cent of the estimated total cost of a project, up to a limit of \$2,250,000 (excluding GST) for an individual grant in regional Western Australia.

7. The remaining project cost must be funded by the applicant, but can include funding from other sources such as Government grants or in-kind contributions.

DISCUSSION

8. An application was submitted to the Department of Transport, Recreational Boating Facilities Scheme on 15 February 2011, for the upgrade of the Emu Point Boat Car Park, which includes modification and improvements to the existing Emu Point Boat Harbour Car Park to improve traffic movement, provide for a clear separation between pedestrians and vehicles, improve lighting of the area, improve disabled access and provide additional parking spaces for boat harbour users. The project funding was approved by the Minister of Transport in correspondence dated 6 June 2011.

9. The need for the proposed improvements has been highlighted by complaints received from the community, boatpen lease holders, and visitors. The City has monitored this situation for some time and in view of the problems identified, it was considered that feasibility or strategic studies would be of little value. The problems being experienced at the boat harbour have been clearly identified and the works proposed aim to bring about solutions to the concerns raised, whilst improving the safety and amenity of this popular tourist and recreation area.

10. The upgrade will improve and enhance toilet facilities, barbeques, seating, pathways, road access and the disabled access launch jetty.

11. This project is concept design ready, and has funding approval to complete the detailed design.

GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION

12. The City has consulted with the Departments of Transport and Fisheries.
13. Both departments support the City's proposed upgrade.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT

14. The City has undertaken preliminary consultation with the community groups and leaseholders in the area, in particular - Albany Boating & Offshore Fishing Club; Albany Sea Rescue, Squid Shack, Kalgan Queen River Cruises, Emu Point Slipway Services, and Friends of Emu Point.
15. The proposal has been referred to South West Aboriginal Land & Sea Council (SWALSC), Department of Regional Development & Lands and to the Department of Indigenous Affairs on 29 June 2011, and the City is awaiting the response.
16. The City anticipates positive responses from all these parties, and doesn't anticipate any delays to the project (Correspondence forwarded to the Department of Indigenous Affairs, South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council and Department of Regional Development and Lands on 29 June 2011 – awaiting responses).

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

17. An application for external funding does not require any legislative approvals, but should the funding be approved, the project itself may attract legislative conditions, such as planning approvals, building licences, environmental approvals, etc all of which would be attended to during the project life.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

18. This item directly relates to the following elements from the Albany Insight - Beyond 2020 Corporate Plan.

Priority Goals and Objectives:

Goal 4: Governance.

The City of Albany will be an industry leader in good governance and service delivery

Objective 4.3

Deliver excellent community services that meet the needs and interests of our diverse communities.

City of Albany Mission Statement:

At the City of Albany we are accountable and act as a custodian with respect to Council Assets.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

19. There is no Council policy regarding external funding applications.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

20. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City’s Risk Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Funding opportunity not endorsed by Council with negative public response	Unlikely	Medium	Medium	Council endorse the funding agreement

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

21. Council’s financial contribution totals \$24,969, which, if the funding application is supported, will be drawn from the Emu Point Boat Pens Reserve (currently totalling \$163,058).

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

22. The City is required to sign an agreement with Department of Transport that encapsulates agreed timelines, payment arrangements, and acquittal conditions.
23. The project completion date under that agreement will be 24 months from the date of signing the funding agreement.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

24. The Council may decline the funding opportunity, and reject the project.

Consulted References	Department of Transport - Recreational Boating Facilities Scheme – Round 16
File Number (Name of Ward)	TT.PJM.1 (Breaksea Ward)
Previous Reference	N/A