

**CCS382: 2022/2023 CLUB NIGHT LIGHTS PROGRAM GRANT ROUND APPLICATIONS-VERSION 2**

<b>Proponent / Owner</b>	: City of Albany
<b>Attachments</b>	: Albany Speedway Club Correspondence and Project Assessment Sheet
<b>Report Prepared By</b>	: Acting Manager Recreation Services (M Green)
<b>Authorising Officers:</b>	: Executive Director Community Services (N Watson)

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:

- **Pillar/Priority:** People
- **Outcome:** A happy, healthy and resilient community

**In Brief:**

- To seek Council endorsement of the priority ranking for the submitted Club Night Lights funding round administered by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSCI).
- To seek Council support to provide funding assistance in line with the Council Policy of the Community Sports & Recreation Facilities for the Albany Speedway Club project upon return of successful Club Night Lights Program Grant application.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**CCS382: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION 1**

That Council **RANK** the Club Night Lights application in the following order for the Club Night Lights Program Grant 2022/23 Funding Round:

1. Albany Speedway Club – Lighting and Power Upgrade (Rank 1 of 1)

**CCS382: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION 2**

That Council **APPROVE** amending the Community Sports and Recreation Facilities Small Grant Funding Policy to include the Department of Local Government, Sports and Cultural Industries, Club Night Lights Program.

**CCS382: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION 3**

That Council **APPROVE** a total of \$70,000.00 (exc. GST) from the 2021/2022 Capital Seed Fund to the following community sporting project as the Council's commitment upon successful Club Night Light Program grant application:

1. Albany Speedway Club – Lighting and Power Upgrade (\$70,000.00).
2. This funding will still be allocated even if the funding application is unsuccessful, providing the applicant can demonstrate that the project will be completed and acquitted using funding from other sources; and
3. The funding amount does not exceed \$70,000 (exc. GST).

## BACKGROUND

2. The Club Night Lights program is a new funding program administered by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSCI) that follows similar guidelines and requirements to the established Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund.
3. The purpose of the Club Night Lights program is to provide financial assistance to community groups and local governments to develop sports floodlighting infrastructure.
4. The program aims to maintain or increase participation in sport and recreation with an emphasis on physical activity, through rational development of good quality, well-designed and well-utilised facilities.
5. Through the Club Night Lights Program, the State Government will invest \$10 million over four years towards floodlighting infrastructure. The maximum grant offered for standard grant applications is one third of the total estimated project cost (excluding GST) up to a maximum grant of \$1 million.
6. The Club Night Lights Program does not fall under the suite of CSRFF funding programs, however the program criteria and process of assessing and administering the applications aligns with the CSRFF.
7. Applicants must be either a local government authority or a not-for-profit sport or community organisation incorporated under the WA Associations Incorporation Act 1987.
8. Clubs and local government authorities applying for funds must demonstrate equitable access to the public on a short term and casual basis.
9. The land on which the facility is to be developed must be one of the following:
  - Crown reserve.
  - Land owned by a public authority.
  - Municipal property.
  - Land held for public purposes by trustees under a valid lease, title or trust deed that adequately protects the interests of the public.
10. Whilst there is no obligation for Local Government to contribute to the community sporting projects, local government is viewed as a key funding partner in supporting improved community sporting amenities.
11. The City of Albany has a Community Sports & Recreation Facilities Small Grant Funding Policy to guide how it will allocate funding through its annual Capital Seed Fund towards community sporting projects applying for CSRFF funding. Whilst the Club Night Lights program does not sit under CSRFF, the project aligns with the outcomes of the Capital Seed Fund.
12. The DLGSCI – Sport and Recreation application form requires applications to be initially submitted to the Local Government within which the project proposal is located.
13. The Club Night Lights funding application process requires Local Government to assess all relevant applications and to rank the applications in priority order for the municipality. The applications are then submitted to DLGSCI on behalf of the applicants prior to September 30, 2021.
14. Once the assessment process from Local Government Authorities is complete, all applications received from Western Australian organisations are assessed by the relevant State Sporting Association and the DLGSCI – Sport and Recreation CSRFF Committee against a number of criteria, with the final decision on funding being at the discretion of the Minister for Sport and Recreation.

## DISCUSSION

15. The DLGSCI grant guidelines require Council to provide a ranking for the projects.
16. The DLGSCI – Sport and Recreation provides guidelines for Local Government Authorities to assess each submission. This assessment uses the following criteria and a project rating of satisfactory/unsatisfactory or not relevant:

- Project justification.
- Planned approach.
- Community input.
- Management planning.
- Access and opportunity.
- Design.
- Financial viability.
- Coordination.
- Potential to increase physical activity.
- Sustainability.

With overall project rating, being:

- Well planned and needed by municipality.
- Well planned and needed by applicant.
- Needed by municipality, more planning required.
- Needed by applicant, more planning required.
- Idea has merit, more planning work needed.
- Not recommended.

17. The Club Night Lights Program can fund new or upgraded facilities which will maintain or increase physical activity and participation through the provision of floodlighting.

Examples of projects which will be considered for funding include:

- providing floodlighting to community training and/or local match play standard where existing facilities do not meet training standard;
- meeting strategic objectives for state sporting associations by providing facilities for competition play at formally identified locations;
- replacing aging metal-halide floodlighting with energy efficient LED floodlighting to community training and/or community match play standard; and
- power upgrades directly linked to the development of lighting.

18. All eligible Club Night Lights projects would ordinarily be eligible for CSRFF grant rounds.
19. Projects are ranked on the strength of the application, participation numbers, and ability to increase physical activity and potential impact as well as consultation with the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation and the applicant.
20. The City of Albany has engaged a peer review independent of the City's administering officers to review the City's assessment process and subsequent ranking of projects. The independent assessment panel involved the following representatives:
  - Lee Sounness – Manager Corporate Service, Shire of Denmark.
  - Lisa Forward – Capacity Builder WA Primary Health Alliance.
  - Anthony McEwan – Manager Major Projects.

21. This independent assessment review provides a higher level of transparency and provides a higher level of confidence for Council when considering the officer recommendations and proposed rankings.
22. Of the three reviews, all were of the view that the projects submitted met the CSRFF criteria, and were supportive of the proposed project rankings. The independent review comments are attached.

23. The City of Albany has received one (1) Club Night Light grant application this round. The following additional information is provided about the project and funding application:

**Project: Lighting and Power Upgrade – Albany Speedway Club**

24. The funding application is a Club Night Lights grant application to replace lighting and light towers with low energy LEDs and upgrade the power supply to support energy requirements.
25. The project will significantly enhance the safety for speedway users and events, increasing visibility that is currently hampered by ageing existing infrastructure which is almost 40 years old and well beyond its end of functional life.
26. The current lighting infrastructure is now down to 30 Lux in some parts of the track and the speedway requires a minimum of 100 Lux to meet WA Speedway Commission Speedway Safety and Racetrack Guidelines
27. Albany Atwell Park Speedway is a popular venue, regularly attracting users and event entrants from Albany, Katanning, Manjimup, Collie and Esperance. It is the best equipped speedway outside of Perth City.
28. Club membership currently sits at 102 with a relatively stagnant growth rate of approximately 1.3% per annum.
29. It is expected that following the project, participation in speedway activities is expected to increase in line with a targeted growth of 20% membership to 2025/26 (from 102 to 122 members)
30. Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation Great Southern Regional Manager has indicated that the project meets the criteria and would be supported at a regional level.
31. The below ranking recommendation has been provided based on the applicant meeting the required criteria and its overall project ranking.

RANK	ORGANISATION	PROJECT DETAIL	OVERALL PROJECT RATING
1.	Albany Speedway Club	Lighting and Power Upgrade to the race track.	Well planned and needed by the applicant. This projects meets Club Light Nights Guidelines and is consistent with the outcomes of CSRFF and the Community Sports and Recreation Facilities Small Grant Funding Policy.  The project addresses ageing infrastructure and safety concerns and provides appropriate Lux levels across the entire track to meet industry safety standards

32. Correspondence requesting financial assistance and a completed Officers Project Assessment Sheet for the project application is attached.

## GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

33. The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation Regional Manager for the Great Southern has been consulted with by the City of Albany (July 2021).

## STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

34. There is no statutory requirement.
35. Council Officers assess each project and make a recommendation for the ranking of projects based on the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries criteria and strategic overview.
36. The Council Officers ranking recommendation has been independently peer reviewed.
37. Council has the opportunity to provide a recommendation that ranks applications in priority order for the City of Albany.
38. It should be noted that the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation will make the final decision on funding allocation.

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

39. The Club Night Lights grant round guidelines are consistent with the Community Sports and Recreation Facilities Fund and requires local government assessment and ranking of applications, therefore the Community Sports and Recreation Facilities Small Grant Funding Policy principles have been applied in the assessment and recommendations.

## RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

40. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City's Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
<b>Reputation &amp; Community Property</b> <i>Failure to secure required funding may result in the condition of the amenities deteriorating to an unsafe condition</i>	Possible	Minor	Medium	<i>Council can choose to support the funding application, or work with City officers and the Club to source alternate funding streams.</i>
<b>People Health &amp; Safety</b> <i>Failure to secure required funding may result in the condition of the amenities deteriorating to an unsafe condition</i>	Possible	Moderate	Medium	<i>Council may choose to support the funding application, or work with City officers to source other funding streams.</i>
<b>Reputation &amp; Financial</b> <i>Failure to distribute the Council's Financial Support in an equitable and sustainable manner may result in community dissatisfaction or projects not going ahead.</i>	Possible	Moderate	Medium	<i>Council may choose to support the officer's recommendation, or work with City officers to deliver an equitable allocation of funding.</i>

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

41. The City allocated a total of \$75,000.00 Capital Seed Funding for Sporting Clubs in the 2021/2022 financial year to assist in the development and maintenance of community sporting infrastructure as determined through the CSRFF funding process.
  - \$121,184.00 has been carried forward from the 2020/21 Budget.
  - \$39,572 has been committed as part of the CSRFF Small Grant Round.
  - A Total of \$156,612.00 is currently available in the Capital Seed Fund.
42. The Capital Seed Fund has been established to assist with leveraging State Government funds for sporting clubs. Funds from unsuccessful grant applications are returned to the Capital Seed Fund to be reused for other grant applications.
43. The total project cost is \$404,410.00.
44. The club has requested a total of \$70,000.00 from the Capital Seed Fund.
45. The project is reliant upon finding additional funding support of \$64,803. The City will be working with the club to find suitable funding opportunities to fund this balance i.e. Sport Australia, Bendigo Bank etc.
46. The next CSRFF Club Night Lights Grant Round is expected in March 2022.
47. The following table provides the project budget detail and requests for financial support from each of the applications received:

Project	Total project cost (ex GST)	Applicant contribution (ex GST)	CSRFF Grant (ex GST)	Request from other Financial Support (ex GST)	Request for Council Financial Support (Ex GST)
Albany Speedway Club – Lighting and Power Upgrade	\$ 404,410.00	\$ 134,803.00	\$ 134,803.00	\$ 64,803.00	\$ 70,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 404,410.00</b>	<b>\$ 134,803.00</b>	<b>\$ 134,803.00</b>	<b>\$ 64,803.00</b>	<b>\$ 70,000.00</b>

48. The Albany Speedway Club application draws down on the current Capital Seed Fund. If the application is successful there will be \$86,612.00 remaining in the Capital Seed Fund for the next CSRFF Small Grant Round (February 2022)
49. If the application is unsuccessful, the applicants can reapply in the next round.

## LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

50. Nil

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

51. There are no direct environmental impacts associated with the project.

## ALTERNATE OPTIONS

52. Council may choose:
  - a. Not to provide funding assistance for the submitted projects.
  - b. To provide more or less funding assistance to the submitted projects.
  - c. To change the project ranking based on its strategic priorities.

## CONCLUSION

53. The Club Night Lights is a new funding round through the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries that has guidelines and an assessment process that is consistent with its established CSRFF rounds.
54. The application from Albany Speedway Club fits the eligibility criteria for the CSRFF Small Grant Round and could have been expected to have been submitted through this program in the absence of Club Night Lights round.
55. The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation requires local government to assess received applications and to rank applications in priority order for the municipality.
56. The project meets the criteria provided by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation. Council is required to endorse the officers ranking.
57. Council may consider capping its financial contribution or sourcing alternate means to meet budget allocations.
58. The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation requires a response from the City of Albany on the priority ranking order and financial contributions by 30 September 2021.

<b>Consulted References</b>	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="http://dlgsc.wa.gov.au">Club Night Lights Program (dlgsc.wa.gov.au)</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Community Sports &amp; Recreation Facilities Small Grant Funding Policy (25/02/2020)</a></li></ul>
<b>File Number (Name of Ward)</b>	:	All Wards
<b>Previous Reference</b>	:	Nil.