

10.2 R L PASH RESERVE UPGRADE - GRANT AGREEMENT**File Number:** IC22/220**Author:** Nina Phillips, Landscape Architect**Responsible Executive:** Sam Dilena, Director City Works & Presentation**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The State Government's Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) has recently offered a grant funding opportunity to Council for the upgrade of RL Pash Reserve in Collinswood as an outcome of the State Election. The grant requires for the following infrastructure upgrades to be delivered:

- Provision of new activity space for older children (eg. half-court and basketball ring) and update accessibility and inclusivity equipment for younger children,
- Relocate and upgrade existing outdoor exercise equipment away from road,
- Construct a fence along the park's D'Erlanger Avenue edge to improve safety of young children,
- Provision of a BBQ facility.

The Grant Agreement specifies that planning, design, and construction is required to occur by 30 June 2024. The Agreement will provide Council with a single lump sum payment of \$250,000 excluding GST for the implementation of the intended scope of the Agreement. There is no obligation for any Council contribution towards the funding of the upgrade.

Council staff expressed initial concerns to DIT regarding the limited funding for the intended scope that has been outlined in the Agreement. Should Council support the acceptance of this grant, Council staff will align expected deliverables with the available funding. Any variations to the scope and extensions to timeframes are able to be managed through the Agreement's terms and conditions.

The Department (DIT) have advised Council staff that the Grant Offer and Agreement is not able to be altered at this time due to the expectations of the ministerial office (election promises) and the community.

It is relevant to note that the Council has recently endorsed the Barker Inlet Central Stormwater Management Plan (SMP) that identifies RL Pash Reserve as a location for a stormwater water treatment solution with an estimated cost of \$220,000. The action from the SMP should be considered as part of the design for the upgrade of RL Pash Reserve.

Council's current Annual Business Plan allocates \$15,000 to Matthews Reserve for planning and design in the 2022/23 financial year. Due to the conditions of the Grant Agreement for RL Pash Reserve, Council staff recommend that this \$15,000 funding is re-allocated to RL Pash Reserve to enable broader reserve concept design to occur as well as align with the Grant Agreement. This means that the planning/design for Matthews Reserve will be delayed until the 2023/24 financial year. Within the Council's long term asset planning, RL Pash Reserve was proposed to commence concept design development for an upgrade in 2023/24, with the works proposed in 2024/25. In effect, this recommendation adjusts the timing of the RL Pash Reserve concept plan development, and subsequent upgrade, to align with this grant opportunity thus allowing for an integrated outcome to be achieved.

An engagement plan will be developed for RL Pash Reserve determining the scope of community engagement following the endorsement of the recommendations set out in this report. The final scope and deliverables of the upgrade of RL Pash Reserve can be negotiated and finalised through the consultation process involving the community and the ministerial office at DIT if needed.

A delegation to the Chief Executive Officer to sign the Grant Agreement from DIT is being sought at this time also.

RECOMMENDATION**That Council:**

1. **Having considered Item 10.2 R L Pash Reserve Upgrade - Grant Agreement receives and notes the report.**
2. **Endorses the Chief Executive Officer to execute a Grant Agreement for the upgrade of RL Pash Reserve.**
3. **Defer the concept design development for Matthews Reserve, as funded in the 2022/23 Annual Business Plan (\$15,000) to allocate this funding to RL Pash Reserve for concept design development in the 2022/23 financial year allowing integrated outcomes to be achieved.**
4. **Incorporate the Barker Inlet Central Stormwater Management Plan action for RL Pash Reserve as part the reserve's concept plan development.**
5. **Support contributing to the funding for the construction of RL Pash Reserve in the 2023/24 Financial Year in place of the construction of Matthews Reserve, for works required to fund the balance of infrastructure required beyond that funded by the State Government grant as part of its upgrade.**
6. **Supports a budget bid for the concept design development of Matthews Reserve upgrade concept being brought back to Council during 2023/2024 Annual Business Plan and Budget deliberations for consideration/reprioritisation.**

DISCUSSION

The State Government's Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) recently offered a grant funding opportunity to Council through the Community Infrastructure Grants Program, for the upgrade (facilities, equipment, and infrastructure) of RL Pash Reserve in Collinswood. The grant offer was established following an election promise in consultation with members of the local community through Lucy Hood, Member of Parliament.

The grant offer includes a letter of offer, acceptance of offer, grant details, grant terms and conditions and reporting forms for progress updates, completion, and acquittal.

The Grant Details outline the purpose of the grant funding as shown in Figure 1 below.

Upgrade of R.L. Pash Reserve in Collinswood, including the provision and upgrade of facilities, equipment and infrastructure ('**the Purpose**').

The final deliverables will be subject to available funding and developed in consultation with the community and the local Member of Parliament, and could include:

- Provision of new activity space for older children (e.g. Half court and basketball ring), and update accessibility and inclusivity equipment for younger children
- Relocate and upgrade existing outdoor exercise equipment away from road
- Construct a fence along the park's D'Erlanger Avenue edge to improve safety of young children
- Provision of a BBQ facility.

The intended scope will lead to development on public land facilitating conservation and/or recreation.

Figure 1 – excerpt from the Grant outlining the intended scope of works for the Reserve.

The funding period allows for planning, design, and construction to occur from the execution of the Funding Agreement up until 30 June 2024.

A single lump sum payment will be made to Council of \$250,000 excluding GST as soon as practicable after execution of the Agreement for the implementation of the scope of the Agreement. There is no obligation from the State Government for any Council contribution to the funding of the upgrade.

In addition, a Schedule of Works must be provided within 60 calendar days from execution of the Agreement that includes a description of the works, scheduled dates for key stages, and a

breakdown of estimated costs within the scope and duration of the Grant Agreement. This process may identify any shortfalls in funding on the intended scope against the projected deliverables and can be highlighted at the start of the process.

Council staff expressed initial concerns to DIT regarding the limited funding for the intended scope that has been outlined in the Agreement. DIT representatives have advised that the final scope and deliverables can be negotiated and finalised through the consultation process involving the community and the ministerial office. Any variations to the scope and timeframes contained within the Grant Agreement are able to be managed through the Agreement’s terms and conditions.

The Department (DIT) have advised Council staff that the Grant Offer and Agreement is not able to be altered at this stage due to the expectations of the ministerial office (election promises) and the community.

Furthermore, Council recently endorsed the Barker Inlet Central Stormwater Management Plan (SMP) that identifies RL Pash Reserve as a location for a stormwater water treatment solution. Figure 2 below describes the proposed action and estimated cost associated with implementation of that action.

R.L. Pash Park (Collinswood) (Q7)

At the upstream end of the HEP catchment, situated between Collins Street and Ellen Street is a small reserve, sitting atop a stormwater drain which takes water from Collins Street and part of Howard Street. It is proposed divert surface gutter flows from Collins Street into the reserve and construct a small bioretention system to treat stormwater. Removal of kerb and gutter to allow surface flows into the reserve would be required. The bioretention basin would require a filter area of 50 m² and an extended detention depth of 0.3 metres.

The estimated cost for these works is \$220,000.

Figure 2 – excerpt from Council’s endorsed Barker Inlet Central SMP for RL Pash Reserve

This action has been identified as having a medium-term priority for implementation in the SMP. Should Council consider endorsing the recommendations in this Council Report, then this action from the SMP should be implemented in the short term as part of the design process for the upgrade of RL Pash Reserve to ensure an integrated outcome occurs.

In addition, Council’s Open Space Strategy ‘Action Plan’ specifies RL Pash Reserve for planning and design in the 2023/24 financial year, with construction for the 2024/25 financial year. The Action Plan also specifies Matthews Reserve for planning and design in the 2022/23 financial year which was endorsed in the Annual Business Plan with \$15,000 of funds allocated to Matthews Reserve as shown in Figure 3.

Open Space Strategy - Matthews Res Consul/Concept				
CAP.46	Design and community consultation for Matthews Reserve, that is due to be upgraded in the 2023-2024 Financial Year.	15,000	-	15,000

Figure 3 – excerpt from Annual Business Plan 2022/23

Community consultation has not yet commenced as it relates to the concept plan development for Matthews Reserve.

Considering the timeframes in the Grant Agreement are not able to be altered, Council staff recommend that the planning/design and construction timeframes for Matthews Reserve and RL Pash Reserve are “swapped” to allow RL Pash Reserve to align with the requirements of the Grant Agreement. This means Council should adjust the Annual Business Plan for the 2022/23 financial

year by redirecting the funds (\$15,000) from Matthews Reserve to the planning/design of RL Pash Reserve upgrade instead.

Should Council endorse the recommendations in this report, Council staff will submit a budget bid for the planning/design of Matthews Reserve for the 2023/24 financial year, in anticipation for construction in the 2024/25 financial year.

Public Consultation

The planning and design stage of all Open Space upgrade projects involves consultation and engagement with the community and relevant stakeholders.

Since the endorsement of the Open Space Strategy in May 2018, Council have not consulted with the community specifically on RL Pash Reserve.

Two rounds of public consultation are proposed to be undertaken as part of the planning and design for the upgrade of RL Pash Reserve. Round 1 consultation will gather data on how the park is currently used and what users would like to see as part of the upgrade. Based on the feedback and the grant agreement scope, a draft concept plan will be developed. Round 2 consultation will present the draft concept plan to the community and stakeholders for feedback and gather the level of support on the plan and identify if anything is missing from the plan.

The proposed public consultation rounds with the community and stakeholders (including DIT & the Minister's Office) will determine the final scope and deliverables for RL Pash Reserve.

Furthermore, staff will hold necessary workshops with Council members to develop the concept plan and scope.

An engagement plan will be developed following the endorsement of the recommendations set out in this report.

Implications, Related Questions and Further Information

\$15,000 of funding is currently provided in the Annual Business Plan for the planning and design of Matthews Reserve. Administration recommends that these funds are redirected to RL Pash Reserve to align with the requirements of the Grant Agreement.

The (internal) resourcing allocated to Matthews Reserve can be redirected to RL Pash Reserve.

There will be additional external resources required specifically in relation to the Barker Inlet Central Stormwater Management Plan action, as a specialised consultant will be required to appropriately design the stormwater solution required at the reserve.

The grant from DIT for this project allows for both design and project management costs to be allocated for in \$250,000 funding for the grant funded scope.

Relevance to Core Strategies / Policy

- Council's endorsed Open Space Strategy
- Endorsed Barker Inlet Central Stormwater Management Plan

Community Plan: Towards 2040

► Responsible & Sustainable

2 to 5 year timeline

- RS2.2 Promote and support projects (public and private) that include water quality and Water Sensitive Urban Design measures
- RS2.7 Demonstrate innovation in the supply and delivery of infrastructure projects

ATTACHMENTS

Nil