



**SOUTHERN DOWNS
REGIONAL COUNCIL SPECIAL
MEETING OF COUNCIL**

LATE AGENDA ITEMS
Wednesday, 22 July 2020


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4. CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS

4.8 Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Funding (QRRRF) 2019-20 Program

Document Information

 Southern Downs REGIONAL COUNCIL	Report To: Special Council Meeting	
	Reporting Officer:	Meeting Date: 22 July 2020
	Manager Community and Cultural Services Disaster Management Coordinator	ECM Function No/s:

Recommendation

THAT Council endorse the following projects and priority listing for submission for the Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Funding (QRRRF) 2019-20 Program with a 10% co-contribution from Council:

1. Stanthorpe Civic Centre – Emergency Generator System - \$100,000. Cameras at Connolly Dam and Storm King Dam Headwalls - \$140,000.
2. Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework – Consultant - \$60,000.
3. Eden Gardens - Multi Use Facility – Local Disaster Coordination Centre - \$100,000.
4. Easy Street upgrades - \$780,000.

Report

Local Governments are eligible to apply for Round 2 of the Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Funding (QRRRF) 2019-20 Programme. The above projects have recently been identified and applications close for the QRRRF on Wednesday, 22 July 2020.

Eligible applicants may submit one or more funding applications with funding allocated up to a maximum limit of \$2 million per project.

Applicants are expected to make a financial contribution towards the eligible project costs. Eligible applicants demonstrating a limited capacity to self-fund the project may seek an exemption from this requirement for consideration during assessment of the project proposal.

Anticipated Timeline of Milestones:

Applications close	22 July 2020
All Projects Completed	30 June 2022
Lodgement of complete acquittal documentation	30 September 2022

A brief outline of the scope of the five projects proposed for submission are included below:

1. Stanthorpe Civic Centre – Emergency Generator System - \$100,000

This project will provide immediate back-up power supply for the Stanthorpe Civic Centre, which may be utilised as an evacuation centre during a disaster event. At present, the facility does not have any back-up power options including any capability to connect portable generators into the facility's internal electrical network. Constant power to this facility is critical for the facility to function effectively as an evacuation centre, with lighting, heating/cooling systems, IT network connectivity and security systems all requiring a constant power supply. The project will include

both the procurement of an appropriately sized permanent 3-phase diesel generator of approximately 100kVa and a re-wire of the existing electrical network to be able to seamlessly switch to uninterrupted back-up power when required. This project will be project managed in-house and delivered through a licenced electrical contractor. Council will absorb the ongoing maintenance costs of this electrical upgrade and generator installation as part of the Asset Management Plan operational budget.

2. Cameras at Connolly Dam and Storm King Dam - \$140,000

During the dam safety audit for Connolly Dam by the Department of Natural Resources Mines and Energy back in June 2016, it was recommended to implement measures to remotely monitor condition of the dam during large flood events and therefore be able to notify in a timely manner near downstream residents that might be impacted.

Whilst remote monitoring is available for lake levels at Connolly Dam, the auditor has recommended implementing further systems for manually or remotely monitoring conditions of the dam embankment during large flood events as access to the dam is limited and the dam is inaccessible during large flood events for manual monitoring of the dam level and condition.

It is intended that a level gauge along with remote camera that provides 360 degree view and live images of upstream and downstream of dam embankment, spillway and water levels, including clear night time vision, will be installed. This arrangement will provide real time remote monitoring of the dam level and condition at any time. Cameras will be supplied with solar powered battery backup system.

Whilst, Storm King Dam is accessible most of the time, remote monitoring of dam level and condition during large flood events would assist with access to weather proof real time information especially in severe events where multiple accesses can be blocked due to heavy wet weather.

3. Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework – Consultant - \$60,000

The Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework (QERMF) process was endorsed by the Queensland Disaster Management Committee (QDMC) as a Queensland approach to disaster risk management in August 2017, accordingly, it is the legislated framework to be used by Council. The QERMF provides a risk assessment methodology that is used within disaster management planning and recognises the approach to the prioritisation, mitigation, and management of risk.

The Southern Downs Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP) Risk Register – Annexure C is out of date and the QERMF process must be considered by Council in order to achieve the requirements of the *Disaster Management Act 2003* and requirements by the QDMC.

The proposed project is to appoint a consultant who specialises in disaster management risk to undertake this body of work and finalise the Southern Downs Natural Disaster Risk Management Sub-plan.

4. Eden Gardens – Multi Use Facility - Disaster Coordination Centre - \$100,000

This project will transform the existing Eden Gardens Cemetery facility, which has limited current utilisation, into a full functioning Local Disaster Coordination Centre (LDCC) with multi-purpose Council administrative capabilities when offline.

Presently, all disaster coordination is run from the SDRC Administration building in Warwick, using both Council Chambers and Committee Room. The Eden Gardens Cemetery facility is tenanted by a not-for-profit organisation which would have the ability to be relocated. The structural infrastructure of this facility is sound however has deteriorated over the past several years. By undertaking general refurbishment works this will enable the facility to action as a dedicated Local Disaster Coordination Centre in the event of an emergency. This project will include various construction costs including electrical and IT data connectivity, renewal of heating and cooling systems, renewal of carpets, painting of internal walls and ceilings, lighting upgrades and internal building modifications. This project will be project managed in-house and delivered through

multiple trade contractors as required. In addition to Council funding the ongoing maintenance and operational costs of this facility, Council will be required to fund the internal furnishings and equipment to enable this site to be used as a Local Disaster Coordination Centre as they are ineligible costs for funding.

5. Easey Street Drain, Warwick – Upgrades

Flooding has regularly impacted properties in the Easey Street / Batterham Street area of Warwick, primarily due to the lack of stormwater infrastructure. Easey Street is located between the Cunningham Highway and the South Western railway line. Southern Downs Regional Council commissioned a catchment study of the area to identify the infrastructure required to address the existing flooding issues. The study also identified the infrastructure required as a part of future catchment development to prevent worsening of the situation.

The study identified that better drainage infrastructure was required to manage the stormwater flows in the Easey Street area.

Currently, a detailed design is being completed so that the appropriate width easements can then be acquired. If Council was successful in securing funding for this project, easements will be need to be acquired by 30 June 2021, permitting the construction of the drain to occur between 1 July 2021 and 31 December 2021.

Design plans and estimates have been prepared for the scope to include replacement of the culvert structure under the front road access of the Gymnastics Club, a concrete-lined channel around the exterior of the building and some modification to the proposed channel downstream to reduce the construction impact on the properties.

Budget Implications

Project	2020/21		2021/22	
	Project Value	Council Contribution	Project Value	Council Contribution
Stanthorpe Civic Centre – Emergency Generator System	\$100,000	\$10,000	-	-
Camera at Connolly Dam and Storm King Dam Headwalls	\$140,000	\$14,000		
Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework – Consultant	\$60,000	\$6,000		
Eden Gardens - Multi Use Facility – Local Disaster Coordination Centre	\$100,000	\$10,000		
Easy Street upgrades			\$780,000	\$78,000
TOTAL	\$400,000	\$40,000	\$780,000	\$78,000

Policy Consideration

Corporate Plan 2019-2024

1.31 Manage and develop SDRC's Disaster management and recovery responsibilities.

3.5 Identify new external revenue sources, including grants, to fund regional infrastructure and services.

Community Engagement

Internal Consultation

Executive Management Team and relevant departments across Council.

External Consultation

Nil

Legislation/Local Law

Local Government Act 2009

Disaster Management Act 2003

Attachments

Nil