Item 15.2 CDG1175 Community Gym & Wellbeing Facility Oct and Nov 2023

Reporting: Growth & Strategy Manager – Helen Thomas

SUMMARY:

This report provides an update on activity on the Community Gym through October and November 2023. This includes:

- Withdrawal of Development Application
- Variation to grant deed with Commonwealth
- Resurfacing of tennis and netball courts

DISCUSSION:

Withdrawal of Development Application

Council is asked to formally withdraw the Development Application submitted in November for the Community Gym & Wellbeing Facility. Multiple checks had been made on the design as it was developed with indicative costs provided by an experienced quantity surveyor (QS) at each point, confirming the likely affordability of the design. However, the tenders received in late November were significantly above these estimates. As such, it is extremely unlikely that the development as described in DA2023-31 will be built and so consideration of this application will be unnecessary.

Variation to grant deed and project program

Further to the confirmation that Council cannot build the planned design with the funds available, the project team have discussed our options with the grant administrators. In summary, Council can:

- negotiate to reduce the deliverables under the grant deed (and subsequently the amount of grant funding offered);
- secure the additional funding required from another source, including its own reserves; or
- withdraw from the grant deed entirely, with reimbursement for amounts already expended.

At the Council workshop on 5 December, Councillors indicated that their preference was to proceed with delivering the improvements to the tennis / netball courts and the car parking as a minimum. As such, the project team have continued to seek firm costs and timeframes for this piece of work.

Alternative solutions for the delivery of a new wellbeing facility were suggested at the 5 December workshop and these are currently being considered by the project team. Any alternative solution which involves completing the project beyond 30 June 2023 will require a variation to be submitted to the grant administrators no later than 12 January 2024. Council is therefore asked to approve the General Manager's negotiations with the grant administrators on this matter.

Resurfacing of tennis and netball courts

During October and November, conversations have progressed with a potential contractor for the resurfacing of courts at the Currie Oval precinct. A site visit is being planned for early 2024 to inform a fixed quote and confirmation of timeframes for completion of the works.

As information is made available regarding options for resurfacing, line marking and installation of other equipment such as nets, Council will reach out to key stakeholders, including the Netball Association, to gain their insight and requirements.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:
The activities detailed above are included within approved budgets, except where indicated otherwise.

ATTACHMENTS:
Nil

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Receive and note the report for the Community Gym & Wellbeing Facility project for October and November 2023

2. Approve the withdrawal of DA2023-31 regarding the construction of the proposed gym and wellbeing facility on Netherby Road, Currie

3. Approve the General Manager's negotiation with the Community Development Grants Program administrators regarding revised project deliverables, budget and timeframe, delivering at a minimum: improvements to existing courts, and carparking

4. Note that a briefing will be provided to Council at a future workshop on the potential reallocation of any non-CDGP funds committed to this project.

Moved Cr I Allan
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3. Approve the General Manager's negotiation with the Community Development Grants Program administrators regarding revised project deliverables, budget and timeframe, delivering at a minimum: improvements to existing courts, and carparking

4. Commit any non CDGP funds to sport fitness and sport recreation projects.

CARRIED unanimously

275/23