Item 15.5 Project Update – Community Gym

Reporting: **Growth & Strategy Manager – Helen Thomas**

SUMMARY:
This report provides an update on the King Island Community Gym project for May 2023.

DISCUSSION:

Project Control Group

The PCG had two meetings during the course of May, covering a range of topics including role of the PCG, a review of the concept design, communications plan, overall project program and potential operating models for the facility once completed. Meetings will be held on an as needed basis, rather than on a strict monthly or fortnightly schedule. The next PCG will be scheduled following a more detailed conversation with the project architect regarding the project program.

Construction Methodology

As noted above, during May the PCG discussed the best approach to engaging a builder for the project. The decision was made more complex because the group were also considering the best construction methodology for the building, with some benefits being identified for a modular or pre-fab approach. Following this discussion, the project architect has been seeking advice from modular and pre-fab builders on the level of information they need to see to provide an informed and firm quote for construction.

A discussion with the architect to review this feedback and schedule the procurement process is scheduled for mid-June 2023. It is anticipated that the PCG will have a timeframe for procurement before the end of June.

Operating Model

In discussing the operation of the gym once constructed, Council staff have been considering a number of options. This includes everything from leasing the facility in its entirety for another individual or organisation to manage, subject to meeting the required project outcomes, through to Council operating the facility directly, and a range of options in between.

Work will continue in June and into July to determine how to proceed, including further conversation with key stakeholders and operators of similar facilities elsewhere.

Communications Plan

Development of a project communications plan continued in May with a stakeholder register being created and desired outcomes for communication with each stakeholder group being discussed. The next steps in this process will be to identify the preferred methods of communication for each group and the desired outcomes and then

scheduling these communications at the required points across the remainder of the project.

This element of the project is being led by a sub-group of the PCG, comprising Helen Thomas and supported by Mark Wischnat as an adviser to the PCG.

Grant acquittal

Delays in determining the appropriate construction methodology mean that a variation to the Community Development Grants administrators needs to be negotiated for this project. This has been discussed with the grant administrators and agreement reached on the information to be gathered and presented by Council to inform this variation. Updates will be provided as this matter progresses.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:
Nil

Recommendations:

That Council receive and note the project update on the Community Gym & Wellbeing Facility.

Moved Cr I Cooke
Cr I Allan
That Council receive and note the project update on the Community Gym & Wellbeing Facility.
CARRIED unanimously

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