

**MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD 14 JULY, 2003, CIVIC CENTRE, OXLEY STREET CAMDEN AT  
5.30PM**

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**MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD 14 JULY, 2003, CIVIC CENTRE, OXLEY STREET CAMDEN AT  
5.30PM**

**Present:** Cr. Anderson (Mayor/Chairperson) Cr. Corrigan, Cr. Patterson (Deputy Mayor) Cr. Campbell, Cr. Winn, Cr. Batros, Cr. Fekete, Cr. McFadden.

**Staff:** General Manager, Director Development & Environment, Director Works & Services, Acting Director Governance & Outcomes (Manager Corporate Services), Manager Outcomes, Manager Development, Manager Health & Environment, Manager Engineering, Administration Officer, Accessibility Officer, Section 94 Planner.

**Apologies:** An apology was received from Cr. Senise from this meeting.

*Resolved on the Motion of Cr McFadden Seconded Cr Fekete that leave of absence be granted to Cr Senise from this meeting.*

RS042/03 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**  
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**DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

- Cr Batros declared a Pecuniary Interest in relation to Item 2, as her son has recently gained casual employment with Standby Property Management.

**1. Investment Monies: Period Ended, 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2003**

(Director Governance & Outcomes)

In accordance with Clause 19 (3a & 3b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1993, a list of investments held by Council as at 31 May, 2003, is provided as **Tabled Document "RS 1"**.

It is further certified that all investments have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, the relevant regulations and Council's investment policy.

Current investments of the General Fund both term and call are returning an average daily yield of 4.98% and during the month of May 2003, the average return on all investments both call and term was 5.00%.

Recommended: That

- (i) Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations and Councils Investment Policy.
- (ii) The list of investments as at 31 May, 2003 be noted.

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- (iii) The interest rate return of 5.00% for the month of May 2003 be noted.

*Resolved on the Motion of Cr Corrigan Seconded Cr Winn that*

- (i) *Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations and Councils Investment Policy.*
- (ii) *The list of investments as at 31 May, 2003 be noted.*
- (iii) *The interest rate return of 5.00% for the month of May 2003 be noted.*

RS 044/03 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**  
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**2. Tender for Parkland Mowing – Mount Annan, Currans Hill, Narellan Vale and Harrington Park**

(File 4488) [Director Works and Services]

**Aim**

To facilitate the appointment of the successful tenderer(s) for 'Parkland Mowing' services for the suburbs of Mount Annan, Currans Hill, Narellan Vale and Harrington Park together with supplementary mowing for key district parks during periods of extreme seasonal growth.

**Background**

It has been Council's longstanding position to seek tenders for 'Parkland Mowing' and 'Landscape Maintenance' services in the new release suburbs of Mount Annan, Currans Hill, Narellan Vale and Harrington Park.

The 'Parkland Mowing' contract has, until recently, been jointly held by Standby Property Maintenance (Mount Annan) and the Parks and Gardens Section of the Works and Services Department – Camden Council (Currans Hill, Narellan Vale, and Harrington Park). Annually, these contracts are worth in the order of \$280,000.

As these contracts expired in June 2003, the Works and Services Department prepared contract documentation and sought Open Tenders in April 2003, in accordance with the Local Government Tendering Regulation 1999.

Tenders for 'Landscape Maintenance' are currently undergoing final evaluation and shall be the subject of a future report to Council.

**Contract Documentation**

The prepared contract documentation has been based upon Council's adopted service standards of monthly mowing of passive parks and reserves, and fortnightly mowing of sportsfields. This year, to combat recurring seasonal turf growth extremes, the tender was modified to include supplementary mowing of the following key district parks:

Belgenny Reserve	Hayter Reserve
Birriwa Reserve	Ponderosa Reserve
Kirkham Park	Elizabeth Reserve
Camden Cemetery	Harrington Green
Curry Reserve	Jack Nash Reserve
Cowpasture Reserve	Liquidamber Reserve
Nepean River Cycleway	River Road Reserve

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This will enable mowing between standard visits over a three month period, equal to a 'net' fortnightly mowing frequency.

Prospective tenderers were asked to demonstrate in their submission:

1. An appreciation and understanding of the contract document itself;
2. An understanding of the extent and scope of Council's service requirements;
3. A demonstrated capacity for ongoing improvement consistent with Council's 'best practice' principles;
4. Compliance with Council's Occupation Health and Safety and Environment Protection obligations;
5. A demonstrated capacity to meet Council's services requirements; and
6. A competitive price for the maintenance of parks and reserves within the individual suburbs.

To enhance Council's flexibility in administering the contract, the maintenance of each suburb has been identified as a separable portion. Council may therefore choose to select one company to maintain all suburbs or alternatively, select separate companies to maintain each suburb.

**Tender Appraisal – Parkland Mowing**

To assist Council in selecting a tender that offers the 'best value', the submitted tenders have undergone assessment by an evaluation panel comprised of the Manager Engineering, Independent/Probity Adviser, and the Parks Co-ordinator.

The evaluation panel's assessment has taken into account each tender's compliance to the contract documentation, price and non-price criteria.

Eleven (11) submissions for the 'Parkland Mowing' Contract 03/07 were received by the tender closing date of 4 pm. Friday 16 May 2003. Of the eleven (11) submissions received, seven (7) have been considered by the evaluation panel as not conforming to Council's minimum contract requirements. They are:

LR Landscaping  
Tony Brown Pty Ltd  
Quality Lawns and Grounds Care  
Australian Environmental Managers  
Instinct Property Maintenance  
New Link Pty Ltd  
Glascott Group

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These companies have been excluded from further assessment as they are unable to demonstrate a capability to discharge their service obligations under the contract.

The balance of conforming submissions which meet or exceed Council's minimum contract requirements have been assembled in the following schedule:

<b><u>Tenderer</u></b>	Tender Price (P) Mt Annan	Tender Price (P) Currans Hill	Tender Price (P) Narellan Vale	Tender Price (P) Harrington Park	Tender Price (P) District Parks
Premier Property Care	\$0	<b>\$52,600</b>	\$0	\$37,440.00	\$0
Standby Property Management	<b>\$84,963.00</b>	\$66,030.25	<b>\$70,386.00</b>	<b>\$32,701.50</b>	\$30,390.00
The Green Horticultural Group Pty Ltd	\$92,643.62	\$55,076.94	\$77,390.53	\$39,650.57	<b>\$29,085.71</b>
Camden Council	\$106,300	\$57,310.00	\$83,726.00	\$40,818.00	\$30,856.50

**Comment**

The market response to Council's 'Parkland Mowing' Contract has been encouraging with a wide range of companies taking interest.

Council's Probity Adviser and Independent Assessment Panel member, has confirmed The Parkland Mowing tender process was conducted in a fair, equitable and impartial manner. He attested that probity principles, together with the tender requirements and assessment criteria, were maintained throughout the evaluation process. He participated in both Evaluation Panel meetings held on 12 June and 23 June 2003 and concurred with the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting.

It is therefore considered that all conforming tenders have adequately demonstrated a capacity to meet Council's service requirements under the 'Parkland Mowing' Contract. As a consequence, Council need only to determine the tender or combination of tenders which offers the most competitive price.

In this regard, it is the recommendation of the evaluation panel that Council accept the tender price from:

- i) Standby Property Management for the parkland mowing of Mount Annan at a cost of \$84,963 plus GST;
- ii) Premier Property Care for the parkland mowing of Currans Hill at a cost of \$52,600 plus GST;
- iii) Standby Property Management for the parkland mowing of Narellan Vale at a cost of \$70,386 plus GST;

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- iv) Standby Property Management for the parkland mowing of Harrington Park at a cost of \$32,701 plus GST; and
- v) The Green Horticultural Group Pty Ltd for the parkland mowing of Key District Parks at a cost of \$29,085.71.

Recommended: That

- (i) Council accept the tender price from Standby Property Management for the parkland mowing of Mount Annan at a cost of \$84,963 plus GST;
- (ii) Council accept the tender price from Premier Property Care for the parkland mowing of Currans Hill at a cost of \$52,600 plus GST;
- (iii) Council accept the tender price from Standby Property Management for the parkland mowing of Narellan Vale at a cost of \$70,386 plus GST;
- (iv) Council accept the tender price from Standby Property Management for the parkland mowing of Harrington Park at a cost of \$32,701 plus GST;
- (v) Council accept the tender price from The Green Horticultural Group Pty Ltd for the parkland mowing of Key District Parks at a cost of \$29,085.71;
- (vi) Council delegate authority to the General Manager and the Director of Works and Services to formalise contract agreements with the respective tenderers, on Council's behalf;
- (vii) Council seal be affixed to the tender when necessary.

**(Cr Batros, having previously declared an interest in this Item, left the Chamber and took no part in discussion or voting on the matter, the time being 6pm)**

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Fekete Seconded Cr Winn that:

- (i) Council accept the tender price from Standby Property Management for the parkland mowing of Mount Annan at a cost of \$84,963 plus GST;
- (ii) Council accept the tender price from Premier Property Care for the parkland mowing of Currans Hill at a cost of \$52,600 plus GST;
- (iii) Council accept the tender price from Standby Property Management for the parkland mowing of Narellan Vale at a cost of \$70,386 plus GST;

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- (iv) Council accept the tender price from Standby Property Management for the parkland mowing of Harrington Park at a cost of \$32,701 plus GST;*
- (v) Council accept the tender price from The Green Horticultural Group Pty Ltd for the parkland mowing of Key District Parks at a cost of \$29,085.71;*
- (vi) Council delegate authority to the General Manager and the Director of Works and Services to formalise contract agreements with the respective tenderers, on Council's behalf;*
- (vii) Council seal be affixed to the tender when necessary.*

RS044/03 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**  
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**(Cr Batros returned to the Chamber the time being 6.02pm)**

**3. Consolidated Camden Section 94 Contribution Plan**

(File No 2767/7) (Director Works and Services)

**Purpose of the Report**

This report seeks approval by Council to exhibit a new contribution plan under Section 94 of the Environment Planning and Assessment Act and in addition to:

- Advertise the proposed repeal of Council's present Contribution Plans;
  - CP No 2 – Community Recreation Facilities for Narellan, Narellan Vale, Mount Annan and Currans Hill.
  - CP No 21 – Elderslie – Open Space, Community and Recreation Facilities.
- Advertise the proposed amendments of Council's present Contribution Plans;
  - CP No 1 – S94 Planning Administration
  - CP No 22– Holdsworth Drive – Extension to Mount Annan
  - CP No 23 – Holdsworth Drive – Narellan Vale
  - CP No. 16 - Ellis Lane & Grassmere (1994)
  - CP No. 17 - Narellan Town Centre

**Background**

In April 2000 Camden Council commissioned Dr Lindsay Taylor of Phillips Fox (Solicitors) to undertake a review of Council's contribution plans, and to provide a response on a number of issues relating to consolidation of those plans.

Council subsequently resolved to adopt the review report prepared by Lindsay Taylor in June 2001, and resolved to:

*“Formulate a consolidated Section 94 Plan to cover works within the categories of Administration, Recreation and Community, Open Space – Land Acquisition.”*

The primary purpose of the consolidated plan is to charge development equally for the provision of facilities required by development and subdivisions across the LGA. The plan proposes to charge a consistent rate per head of new population for Community and Recreation facilities. The provision rates and costs associated with the contributions are based on existing Council policy and State guidelines (where appropriate).

### **Objective**

The objectives of this contribution plan are to provide a contribution plan into which existing plans may be consolidated (refer **Tabled Document "RS 2"**).

### **Structure of the Plan**

The proposed contribution plan requires contributions in two categories;

1. LGA wide contributions, which are applied consistently across Camden. The Camden wide contributions cover all Open Space land, recreation facilities, community facilities and administration. The contributions will vary to some extent, based on development type and land valuations, the methods used to arrive at the contribution rate are the same.
2. The local contribution covers works such as road and drainage works, which are specific to the development area.

The proposed plan will include local contributions to incorporate existing CPs 22 and 23. These two plans exist simply to cover the cost of a collector roadway (in both cases portions of Holdsworth Drive extension) across specific land parcels in Narellan Vale and Mount Annan; as such they can be amended by inclusion into the new CP without any major alteration.

This method has allowed both Elderslie and Spring Farm to be incorporated into the plan, without the need for any separate contribution outside this plan.

At present the release areas of Elderslie and Spring Farm have been included in this plan using the present best estimates for local works required. There may be minor changes to the proposed contribution rates as the master planning is finalised for these areas. This is necessary as the Contributions Plan must be in place prior to any rezoning; if not, Council may be exposed to significant loss of income.

### **Functional Components**

#### **Administration**

Administration is charged in accordance with the principles laid out CP 1, with some slight variations. The contribution rates have been brought up to date and will still apply to each residential allotment, or to each hectare of industrial or commercial development. CP 1 has been amended simply to make these minor alterations and to bring CP 1 into the

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consolidated plan. Contribution Rates of \$251 per new residential allotment and \$2,855 per hectare of Industrial or Commercial development will apply.

In effect the plan is to incorporate CP 1 with little change, Council is therefore requested to approve amendment of CP 1 and inclusion in the consolidated plan.

Community Facilities

Community facilities are applicable to all residential forms of development being Rural Residential, Residential and Medium Density. The cost of community facilities has been devised using the provision rates required by State libraries, Department of Community Services, and by adopting rates commonly used by other Councils.

The rate for provision of community facilities has been calculated on the basis of a rate per head for all new population. The contribution will be applicable to all new residences being developed generating the need for "Community Facilities", a small component is also charged to all commercial or retail development. The rate charged on each development, will be a product of the cost per head of the facilities being required, the occupancy rate of the development type and the number of new dwellings proposed.

The contribution payable will be devisable into a local and district component; where facilities such as libraries being considered a district level facility.

Recreation Facilities

Recreation facilities are also applicable to all forms of residential development. The proposed contribution plan covers the cost of constructing facilities such as playing fields, tennis courts and the embellishment of open space reserves. The provision rates for the range of facilities applicable to development are derived from the 1993 GHD recreation strategy adopted by Council.

Similarly to the community facilities, it is possible to divide a local and district proportion. For example the Mount Annan Leisure Centre and an Athletics track are the only two district level facilities considered within the consolidated plan. The contribution rates for recreation facilities similarly vary dependant on development type and occupancy rate.

Land Acquisition

Land acquisition applies to residential development in two forms. The simplest being Open Space acquisition, with provision rates and standards set in Council's Open Space Strategy. Land is also to be acquired to serve the purposes of community facilities.

The proposed plan applies a contribution rate for "land acquisition", which will be charged per new lot or dwelling. It is a product of the open space provision rates, the occupancy rates, the value of land as determined applicable and the land areas required to fulfil the community facilities requirements.

The contribution rates stated within the plan are the present estimates. Valuations are presently being sought to ensure the plan values reflect market values, and are consistent with the methodology stated within the plan, minor variations in contribution rates may be necessary when this plan is presented to Council for adoption.

Indexation

The purpose of an index is to ensure the value of the contributions for the works laid out within the contribution plan to keep pace with the increasing costs of provision of these works over time. There are differing indexes currently applied within the existing contribution plans. The indexes most commonly used relate to the Consumer Price Index, the Road Cost Index, or the Building Price Index.

Within the consolidated plan it is proposed to apply only the Consumer Price Index which will apply to all works.

A major exception to the application of the index is the indexing of land value. The value of land increases over time and may increase substantially in one area of the LGA and not in other areas. The proposed plan includes a system of calculating contributions based on local en-globo land values, and to index those values on a quarterly basis. This method is the simplest manner of ensuring that Council has the capacity to deliver the objectives of the Open Space Strategy and recreation facility provision.

The indexing systems stated for this plan allow the contribution rates and works values to remain up to date without the need for the plan to be amended.

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Plan Format

The format of the plan is to charge development based on firstly development type. The proposed plan covers primarily residential developments, and charges differential rates based on the type of residential development. The variations in development type are due to differing occupancy rates or provision rates applicable to each development type. The format of the plan is consistent with most of Council's existing documents.

Existing Plans

Contributions Plan No 2 - Community and Recreation Facilities for Narellan, Narellan Vale, and Mount Annan.

Contribution Plan No 21 - Elderslie - Open Space, Community Recreation Facilities.

Should Council adopt the consolidated plan in the format proposed CPs No 2 and 21 will be redundant, and be replaced by the new plan. As the new plan is based on a completely differing methodology from CP 2 and 21, the appropriate course of action is to formally repeal CP 2 and 21. The repeal process requires advertising of the proposal, and subsequent consideration of any comments / objections. In terms of probity and transparency it is necessary for Council to allocate the existing funds held under those contribution plans to a works schedule derived from the schedule within the existing CP 2 and 21.

As at May 31, 2003, CP 2 holds \$12,932,510.00, and CP 21 holds \$474,893.08. The works schedules outlined in the proposed plan include these amounts, and clearly indicate the works they are to be expended against.

A summary of the works to be carried out specifically by the presently held fund is below:

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<b>Contribution Plan 2</b>	<b>Cost \$\$</b>	<b>To Dec 2003</b>	<b>Jan 04 – Dec 05</b>
<b>Land</b>	<b>\$ 2,736,236</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Various reserves Narellan area	\$ 1,798,841	\$ 1,798,841	
Mount Annan District centre	\$ 937,395	\$ 937,395	
<b>Community</b>	<b>\$ 6,494,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Narellan family community centre	\$ 594,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 544,000
Libraries	\$ 5,925,000	\$ 5,925,000	\$ -
<b>Recreation</b>	<b>\$ 3,702,274</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Mount Annan Leisure Center Stage 2	\$ 3,600,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 3,550,000
Open Space - Landscaping	\$ 102,274	\$ 102,274	
<b>Present Funds</b>	<b>\$ 12,932,510</b>		
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$ 12,932,510</b>	<b>\$ 8,863,510</b>	<b>\$ 4,094,000</b>

<b>Contribution Plan 21</b>	<b>Cost \$\$</b>	<b>To Dec 2003</b>	<b>Jan 04 – Dec 05</b>
Open Space - Landscaping	\$ 188,080	\$ 188,080	
Hardcourts	\$ 144,813	\$ -	\$ 144,813
Libraries	\$ 142,000	\$ 142,000	
<b>Present Funds</b>	<b>\$ 474,893</b>		
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$ 474,893</b>	<b>\$ 330,080</b>	<b>\$ 144,813</b>

**CP No. 16: Ellis Lane & Grasmere (1994)**

Contribution Plan No 16, applies to the residential development within Grasmere. CP 16 requires contributions towards Roadworks, Water Quality Facilities, Open Space and Professional Services.

There is a potential overlap with the New Camden Contribution Plan with respect to Open Space, (Land Acquisition), and Professional Services (Administration).

In order to remove any confusion as to the contributions required from development under CP 16, it is proposed that CP 16 be amended by deleting any contribution towards Open Space and Professional Services. These items will be covered under the Camden Contribution Plan.

This amendment will allow CP 16 to continue to function as a local works plan (refer **Tabled Document "RS 3"**).

**CP No. 17: Narellan Town Centre**

Contribution Plan No 17, applies to retail, commercial, service trades and residential development within a relatively small area surrounding the Narellan Town Centre. CP 17 requires contributions towards streetscape and public domain works, car parking, traffic facilities and road works, Somerset Avenue – rights of carriage-way and professional services.

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There is a potential overlap with the New Camden CP with respect to streetscape and public domain works, which includes open space acquisition, (land acquisition), professional services (administration) and parking.

In order to remove any confusion as to the contributions required from development under CP 17, it is proposed that CP 17 be amended firstly; by deleting any contribution towards professional services, and secondly by removing contributions from residential development, and finally by removing the contributions towards car parking.

CP 17 requires a contribution from all development types towards the provision of professional services, which are covered for all development types within the Camden CP.

Under CP 17 contributions towards streetscape and public domain works cover the cost of open space acquisition and landscaping costs. The works proposed are not adequate to cater for the needs of residential development but are appropriate to the development of the town centre. In addition the requirement of a contribution under CP 17 and the Camden CP would constitute a “double dip”. The removal of residential development from CP 17 allows council to require a more appropriate contribution from residential development for land acquisition and its embellishment cost through the Camden CP.

CP 17 requires a contribution from commercial developments in Somerset Avenue towards parking. The consolidated plan will require contributions towards parking from commercial and retail developments in Camden, and from any commercial, retail, and service trade developments in Narellan as defined by the Urban Improvement Program.

The remaining section of CP 17 will be reviewed separately following completion of the Narellan UIP. At that time Council will be able to better estimate the development potential and works required (refer **Tabled Document “RS 4”**).

**Conclusion**

It is recommended that the proposed contribution plan be advertised for a period of 6 weeks, and simultaneously advertise the amendment of Camden Council’s CP Nos. 1, 22 and 23, as being incorporated in the new contributions plan.

Council should also advertise the proposed repeal of Contribution Plan Nos. 2 and 21 as being replaced with the Camden Contribution Plan.

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Recommended: That

- (i) Council advertise the proposed Camden Contribution Plan according to the provisions of section 28 of the Environment Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000, and place this CP on advertisement for a period of 6 weeks.
- (ii) Council advertise the proposed amendment to Contribution Plan Nos 1, 16, 17, 22 and 23 according to the provisions of Section 32 of the Environment Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000 and advertise this proposal for a period of 6 weeks.
- (iii) Council advertise the proposed repeal of Contribution Plan Nos. 2 and 21 according to the provisions of section 33 of the Environment Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000, and advertise this proposal for a period of 6 weeks.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Corrigan Seconded Cr Winn

- (i) *Council advertise the proposed Camden Contribution Plan according to the provisions of section 28 of the Environment Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000, and place this CP on advertisement for a period of 6 weeks.*
- (ii) *Council advertise the proposed amendment to Contribution Plan Nos 1, 16, 17, 22 and 23 according to the provisions of Section 32 of the Environment Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000 and advertise this proposal for a period of 6 weeks.*
- (iii) *Council advertise the proposed repeal of Contribution Plan Nos. 2 and 21 according to the provisions of section 33 of the Environment Planning and Assessment Regulations 2000, and advertise this proposal for a period of 6 weeks.*
- (iv) *Council advertise the proposed Camden Contribution Plan with the amended page 59 as tabled at the Meeting.*

RS045/03  
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THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**

**4. Harrington Park Water Quality And Flood Management System**

(File 3638) (Director Works and Services)

**Purpose of Report**

This report provides an update of discussions relating to the proposed revised configuration for the Harrington Park Water Quality and Flood Management System. This matter was previously reported to Council at its Ordinary meeting held 28 January 2003.

This report outlines subsequent discussions with the relevant government agencies seeking their concurrence on the revised system.

Numerous discussions have been had with the relevant agencies to date. This report reviews the discussions and seeks Council's endorsement to approach the Minister to facilitate a final decision on this project.

**Background**

Council has adopted an extensive water quality and flood management system to be located on Narellan Creek within Harrington Park. This was developed through a process of mediation involving the developers of Harrington Park, Council, Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and Department of Land & Water Conservation (DLWC). These works are proposed to maintain the water quality of Narellan Creek and ensure that the impact of development on the Nepean River is not significant.

At Council's meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> August 2002, a number of alternatives were tabled by Harpak Developments for consideration. Council resolved at that meeting (motion 093/02) to enter into further discussions with Harpak's consultant to consider the various implications.

Subsequently a review of the alternatives and implications to Council of the preferred alternatives were presented to Council at its ordinary meeting of 28 January 2003. It was resolved (motion 010/03) that:

- (i) *Council approves in principle the modified water quality system (affecting water bodies 3A and 4) for discussion purposes with the State Government bodies.*
- (ii) *Request Department Land and Water Conservation and Environmental Protection Authority to approve the modified design for the water quality system to*

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*supplement the mediated agreement by the construction of Lake 4.*

- (iii) *Design and construction of the modified water quality system proceed, if approved by the State Government bodies.*

Council's officers have advised the EPA and the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainable and Natural Resources (DIPSNR, formerly DLWC) of the proposed amendments.

Council participated in subsequent discussions with both parties to further explain the proposal.

The EPA have concurred with Council after confirmation from Council's consultants that the outcome would provide an equivalent water quality outcome for Narellan Creek and discharge to the Nepean River.

The reply from DIPSNR indicated their support for the original mediated decision in preference to the revised configuration proposed. Concerns being in relation to salinity, water licensing restrictions, water quality in the existing waterbody, lack of available data to technically assess the remedial measures to prevent the occurrence of algal blooms in the existing waterbody, and the systematic loss of riparian and wetland vegetation.

A further series of discussions with the Department, Council and Council's consultant have yet to resolve a final response from the Department.

**Conclusion**

Following the numerous attempts to obtain a final response on this matter it is considered necessary to approach the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainable and Natural Resources to provide a decision. The purpose of the meeting is to confirm a course of action and proceed with confidence and justification in providing a water quality and flood management system on Narellan Creek.

Recommended: That

- (i) A delegation from Council approach the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainable and Natural Resources seeking support to proceed with the provision of the water quality and flood management system for Narellan Creek at Harrington Park.
- (ii) The Local State Member be requested to support this action.

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**MOTION**

*Moved Cr Batros Seconded Cr Winn that a further report be provided to Council outlining the concerns of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainable and Natural Resources (DIPSNR) compared to the original mediated decision and this report also include copies of any correspondence received from DIPSNR on the issues.*

RS046/03 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**  
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**5. Roads and Traffic Authority – 2003/2004 Block Grant**

(File 3212/6) [Director Works and Services]

The RTA recently advised of the level of funding available to Council for Regional Roads under the 2003/2004 Block Grant Agreement. The level of funding is tabulated below and compared to the previous year's funding;

<b>Component</b>	<b>2003/2004 (\$)</b>	<b>2002/2003 (\$)</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
(a) Roads	\$72,000	\$70,000	2.9%
(b) Ex 3x3	\$39,000	\$39,000	0%
(c) Traffic Facilities	\$98,000	\$95,000	3.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$209,000</b>	<b>\$204,000</b>	<b>2.5%</b>

The Roads component of the RTA Block Grant funding has satisfactorily increased from the previous year's allocation. The level of funding is considered adequate at this time.

The extended 3x3 Block Grant funding is, as previously advised, equivalent to funding received by Council in previous years; funding is to be used at Council's discretion for works on regional roads.

The Traffic Facilities component is intended to allocate appropriate funding towards the maintenance of traffic facilities on both regional and local roads across the LGA; such as regulatory signs and linemarking. Acceptance of such funding should allow Council to arrange to carry out necessary maintenance works as required. The conditions for acceptance of this grant are as in previous years and are acceptable to Council.

Recommended: That Council

- (i) Advise the RTA it will accept funding of \$209,000 for the Roads, 3x3 and Traffic Facilities components of the 2003/2004 Block Grant Agreement.
- (ii) Accept the conditions of the RTA 2003/2004 Block Grant Agreement.

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*Resolved on the Motion of Cr Winn Seconded Cr Fekete that  
Council:*

- (i) Advise the RTA it will accept funding of \$209,000 for the Roads, 3x3 and Traffic Facilities components of the 2003/2004 Block Grant Agreement.*
- (ii) Accept the conditions of the RTA 2003/2004 Block Grant Agreement.*

RS 047/03 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**  
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**6. Sustainable Regions Program**

(File 4598) (Director Governance & Outcomes)

**Purpose of Report**

This report seeks to inform Council that the Sustainable Regions Advisory Committee have approved funding of \$325,584.00 to Camden and Campbelltown Councils and the CSIRO for two projects relating to the development of sustainability tools for the region.

The report also seeks to advise Council of the details of the approved projects. Further, it seeks to inform Council of the status of other projects submitted by Council for funding.

**Introduction**

In September, 2001, the Federal Minister for Transport and Regional Services announced that Camden-Campbelltown region would be part of the Sustainable Regions Program.

The Sustainable Regions Program is a Federal Government initiative to help regions undergoing major economic, social or environmental change. The project will run for three years, with four million dollars of funding available each year.

On 3 July, 2003, it was announced that the following two projects have been approved for funding:

- A Sustainability Community Information System proposed by Camden and Campbelltown Councils received \$100,000.00; and
- A Regional Futures Planning Framework proposed by the CSIRO received \$225,584.00.

The funding was provided on the basis that the two projects be co-ordinated and complementary. Each project will be outlined in detail below.

**The Sustainability Community Information System**

This project primarily comprises the following two elements:

- the development of a website that will contain social, environmental and economic information about the region; and
- the development of regional sustainability indicators to measure the progress of the region towards sustainability.

A brief for the selection of a consultant to establish the website has been prepared and requires the website to contain the following elements;

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- A regional profile, incorporating social, environmental and economic data;
- Local profiles for Camden and Campbelltown local government areas;
- Profiles of suburbs within Camden and Campbelltown;
- Links to Camden and Campbelltown Council's websites and other relevant websites;
- A suite of regional sustainability indicators; and
- A suite of local sustainability indicators for Camden and Campbelltown local government areas.

The purpose of having information available at the regional, local and suburb levels is to recognise the differences between the local government areas of Camden and Campbelltown and to enable comparisons to be made within the region.

The local sustainability indicators for Camden have been through community consultation and are in the final stages of development and will be put to Council for adoption in the near future.

The development of the regional sustainability indicators will occur over the next couple of months, culminating in a regional forum, bringing together key stakeholders in the region. The forum will be based upon the regional priorities developed at a forum conducted by the Sustainable Regions Advisory Committee. The stakeholders will be asked how we might measure whether the region is becoming more sustainable in terms of those regional priorities. The indicators developed at the forum will then be exhibited to the wider community for comment.

It is anticipated that the website will be fully operational by December, 2003.

**The Regional Futures Planning Framework**

The Regional Futures Planning Framework proposed by the CSIRO will comprise the following elements:

- Systems thinking and tools workshops;
- Scenario development and prioritisation workshops;
- Development of futures tools and data systems;
- Futures workshops for scenario evaluation;
- Workshops on implementation and use of futures toolkit.

Whilst the Council's project is primarily based upon access to information by the community, the CSIRO project is aimed at giving the decision makers (primarily Council staff and Councillors, but also involving community and business

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leaders) tools to evaluate and test possible future development scenarios.

The “systems thinking” workshops will provide Council with a technical understanding of how issues affecting the region are linked. From these workshops, the CSIRO will develop a model of the linkages between various issues in the region.

The “scenario development” workshops will, by using the systems model, provide an opportunity for Council to understand how various scenarios can be tested to determine their impacts.

Following the collation of all relevant information, the CSIRO will then develop a computer tool that will calculate the flow-on impacts of various decisions. Information gathered as a result of the Council’s project, described above, will be used in the development of the futures tools.

The CSIRO project will run for approximately 18 months, with the “systems thinking” and “scenario development” workshops occurring this year and the development of the computer tools and the “futures” workshops happening in 2004.

**Status of Other Projects**

The Council submitted a number of other projects to the Sustainable Regions Advisory Committee in 2002 and in early 2003. The status of these projects is provided below:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Status</b>
Town Farm	Approved
Bicentennial Park	Awaiting final decision
Travel Behaviour Change Program	Rejected
Mount Annan District Centre Improvements Study	Rejected
Bushland Regeneration Project	Campbelltown Council were putting forward the submission for funding however missed the closing date for this round of funding. It is anticipated it will be submitted for the next round of funding.
CERES Community Environment Park	More information requested
Camden 50m Energy Efficient Pool	Rejected

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There is likely to be a third round of submissions for projects towards the end of 2003 or early in 2004.

**Conclusion**

The Camden and Campbelltown Region is fortunate to be a part of the Sustainable Regions Program which provides a total of twelve million dollars over three years to fund projects that will improve the sustainability of the region.

Council has now been successful in receiving funding for two projects and funding for a third (the Bicentennial Park Project) is in the final stages of the process.

The Sustainability Community Information System Project, in concert with the Regional Futures Planning Project to be developed by the CSIRO, will provide Council and the community with tools to evaluate the sustainability of the Camden-Campbelltown Region.

A Regional Forum to develop regional indicators will be held in August and a range of workshops will be held towards the end of 2003. Councillors will be invited to attend the forum and the workshops.

Further ideas for projects are welcome and may be able to be submitted in the third round of submissions.

Recommended: That Council:

- (i) Acknowledge receipt of the Sustainable Regions grants and continue to seek funding under this worthwhile program.
- (ii) Nominate any other projects that they feel may fulfil the criteria of the Sustainable Regions Program.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Corrigan Seconded Cr Winn that Council:

- (i) *Acknowledge receipt of the Sustainable Regions grants and continue to seek funding under this worthwhile program.*
- (ii) *Nominate any other projects that they feel may fulfil the criteria of the Sustainable Regions Program.*

RS048/03  
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THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED.**

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 6.35PM.