

STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor and Councillors
FROM: David Ward
DATE: 21 July 2006
SUBJECT: Murchison Sport Recreational and Cultural Complex

At its meeting of 24 November 2005 the Corporate Services Committee resolved:

THAT:

- a) **stage 1 of the Murchison Sport Recreation and Cultural Complex be adopted as a facilities rate funded project;**
- b) **A budget of \$2.4 million be allowed for stage 1 of this project, which will commence after 1 September 2006;**
- c) **A fundraising report be prepared for Council consideration no later than 30 June 2006, detailing progress against the approved fundraising programme;**
- d) **Following satisfaction with the fundraising report, and any other project related matters, Council will, no earlier than 1 July 2006, request that tender documents be prepared and advertise for the construction of the Murchison Sport Recreation and Cultural Complex;**
- e) **Stages 2 and 3 of the Murchison Sport Recreation and Cultural Complex be subject to further consultation with the Council, the community and an assessment of affordability.**

At today's meeting, members of the Murchison Sport Recreation and Cultural Complex will be in attendance to update the Corporate Services Committee on progress towards achieving their funding target. To assist Councillors, I attach a copy of the independent fundraiser's report detailing funds committed to date.

It is clear from the attached report that there has been significant financial achievement by the Committee during the period – in fact so much that the Committee have now raised their sights beyond the \$480,000 target in order that they can respond to additional requests that are starting to emerge from the community at large and specific user groups.

I believe we have reached the stage where we need to make a significant commitment to this project, the first step of which will be to review the plans for the complex and where necessary, revise costings. Accordingly, it is proposed that we advertise for the services of a project manager who will be able to assist in these two

aspects, together with the preparation and co-ordination of local/volunteer labour and resources, the financial benefit of which will need to be independently evaluated for inclusion in the local funding contribution.

It is suggested that the criteria for appointing a project manager be developed by a subcommittee comprising the two Ward Councillors, Chairperson and two representatives of the Murchison Sport Recreation and Cultural Complex Committee. This group would receive administrative assistance from the Community Services Manager and Corporate Services Manager.

Having received and considered responses to the appointment brief, the Subcommittee will then make their recommendation to the next appropriate meeting of either Council or the Corporate Services Committee.

Recommendation

That the Corporate Services Committee authorise staff to advertise for registrations of interest from project managers for the purpose of reviewing design, cost and funding aspects of the Murchison Sport Recreation and Cultural Complex.

David Ward
Corporate Services Manager