



Alpine Shire

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

SPM13 - 17 December 2015

Bright Council Chambers

5:00pm



Notice is hereby given that the next **Special Meeting** of the **Alpine Shire Council** will be held in the Council Chambers, Great Alpine Road, Bright on **17 December 2015** commencing at **5:00pm**.

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1 OPENING STATEMENT

The Chief Executive Officer will read the Opening Statement.

2 APOLOGIES

Cr Daryl Pearce

Cr John Forsyth

Cr Peter Roper

Heather Green – Director Sustainable Development

3 DECLARATIONS BY COUNCILLORS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST



4 PRESENTATION OF REPORTS BY OFFICERS

4.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – DAVE BARRY

4.1.1 Audio-visual recording of Council meetings

File Number: 662.01

INTRODUCTION

This report outlines Council's commitment to providing accessibility to its ordinary and special council meetings, by providing audio-visual recordings accessible on its website.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. commence audio-visual recording of ordinary and special Council meetings;*
- 2. make the recordings available on online, including live streaming once technically achievable;*
- 3. not record proceedings of closed meetings or closed parts of meetings by audio-visual means;*
- 4. limit visual recording to Councillors and staff, noting that audio will be captured from the entire room;*
- 5. post signage on the door of the meeting venue to inform the public that the meeting will be recorded;*
- 6. verbally inform the public that the meeting will be recorded at the commencement of the meeting; and*
- 7. ensure that written minutes remain the official record of decisions made at Council meetings.*

BACKGROUND

At question time during the ordinary council meeting on 10 November 2015, the subject of the availability of council minutes was raised by the public gallery. During the discussion, Council's CEO advised that it has been Council's long held aim to commence the audio-visual recording of council meetings, and to then make the recordings available for the public to view on the internet.

The practice of recording and uploading council meetings to the internet is used by some Victorian councils in an effort to provide residents and ratepayers the ability to gain access to council meetings - while not having to attend them in person.

Some councils provide 'live-streaming' services, so that the meetings can be watched in real-time, while others provide access to the recordings to download or purchase on DVD after the meeting. Some are simply audio recordings, while others are audio-visual recordings.



ISSUES

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) released a discussion paper during 2015, detailing risks associated with the recording of council meetings - particularly around defamation issues, but also covering: potential for infringement of copyright, breach of privacy / disclosure of personal information, publishing of offensive material, offensive behaviour on the basis of race, colour or national or ethnic origin, vilification or inciting hatred, confidential or privileged council information, and conflict of interest.

Council has been considering opportunities to provide audio-visual recordings of ordinary and special council meetings for some time, and considers the benefit of the improved access to council processes outweighs the risks associated with the recordings.

Open and Closed meetings

Section 89(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* ('the Act') specifies that meetings must be open to the public, unless there is a resolution under Section 89(2) to close the meeting under specified conditions. Recording the public meeting and making it available on the internet provides more opportunity for the public to access the decisions and debate that occurs in a council meeting, without having to be in attendance.

It is intended that only ordinary and special council meetings that are open to the public will be recorded.

Where there is a resolution to close the meeting under Section 89(2), the recording device(s) will be switched off until there is a resolution to re-open the meeting.

Where an entire meeting is deemed confidential in accordance with Section 89(2), there will be no recording devices used.

Question Time and other public comments

The intent of the audio-visual recording of council meetings is that the video camera be focused on the councillors and staff only, and the public gallery not be part of the video imaging. However, the audio-visual recording may capture any comments made within the room - regardless of whether they are from Councillors, staff, or the public gallery.

Public attendees must be made aware that when speaking, their names, voices, and comments made during public question time will be recorded on audio, which will be made available on Council's internet website. This also applies to any other verbal comments made during the course of the meeting.

Council must comply with the Information Privacy Principles that form part of the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*. In order to do this, Council will ensure that there is signage at the entrance of the council meeting venue to advise the public that the meeting will be recorded by audio-visual means. Also, there will be a statement read out at the start of each meeting to enable any persons who do not wish their details to be recorded to take suitable action. This process also covers



Council's requirements for consent under the *Surveillance Devices Act 1999*, which pertains to any inadvertent capture of private conversations on the audio recording.

If a member of the public requests to be heard before council but objects to their name and questions being made public through the audio-visual recording, Council may consider closing the meeting to protect the privacy of the questioner / submitter. Section 89(2) allows closing the meeting to the public if any of the following are discussed:

- (a) personnel matters;*
- (b) the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;*
- (c) industrial matters;*
- (d) contractual matters;*
- (e) proposed developments;*
- (f) legal advice;*
- (g) matters affecting the security of Council property;*
- (h) any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person;*
- (i) a resolution to close the meeting to members of the public.*

Once the public are advised that the meeting is being recorded, it is implied that by participating in the meeting, the public will be giving their consent that their verbal comments will be recorded in the audio of the meeting.

Live-streaming and editing

Council has the capacity to 'live-stream' the recordings to the internet in 'real-time'; however it is not intended to start with this practice immediately. The ability to live-stream means that the recordings would go directly to the internet without editing - which as MAV points out, is part of the 'risk' to councils where potentially offensive comments may be made by any parties in attendance.

Given that it is Council's intent to move towards live-streaming, and given the resources that would otherwise be required, there will be no editing of the recordings before they are uploaded to the internet - unless they relate to camera malfunction, or do not form part of the formal council meeting.

The first number of council meeting recordings will be used to verify technical equipment and any other issues that need to be resolved. Recordings will not be made available on Council's website until any technical or other issues are resolved.

Archiving of records

The Public Records Office of Victoria deems that audio recordings are temporary records, and do not need to be retained in the same manner as permanent records. The written minutes are considered the official record of the council meeting and hence are a permanent record of council.



After the initial test period, Council will keep audio-visual recordings of council meetings for at least three months. These will be accessible on Council's website.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The proposed recording of council meetings meets the Alpine Shire Council Plan 2013-2017 (review 2015) through the following:

Council Plan Theme: Inspired Community Leadership - Council values effective community advocacy and partnerships

- *1.1 Strategic Objective: To effectively communicate and engage with stakeholders*
- *1.1.1 Strategy: Regularly inform and involve our community*

Council Plan Theme: Performance Focused Organisation - A customer focused, equitable and sustainable service to the community

- *5.3 Strategic Objective: To support people and business practices*
- *5.3.2 Strategy: Deliver effective and innovative processes and technology solutions*

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Council has taken a low-cost approach to the recording of council meetings. A camera and equipment required for the audio-visual recordings has been purchased, and earlier in 2015 Council had installed microphones and a speaker system into the council chambers.

Staff time will be required to process the videos and upload them to the website.

Council has the ability to live-stream meetings, which has a low monthly cost for a small number of viewer hours. The ongoing costs of live-streaming may increase if the number of residents watching the recordings increases over time.

If Council were to engage a third party company to set up the necessary equipment and stream the videos, this would add significantly to the cost - up to \$10,000 per annum.

CONSULTATION

The CEO has engaged the knowledge of Council's IT staff to ensure that the equipment is adequate for the job, while being as cost effective as possible.

Officers have spoken to metro councils that provide recordings of meetings on the internet, and also spoken to the office of the Commissioner for Privacy and Data Protection (CPDP).



CONCLUSION

While the practice of recording / live streaming council meetings to the internet is not currently widespread in Victoria, it is a practice that provides improved access to the debate and decisions made within a public Council meeting. An initial test period will enable Council to 'iron out' any issues prior to the recordings being made available to the general public.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Chief Executive Officer
- Governance Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 4.1. MAV / LMI recording and publishing Council Meetings



4.2 DIRECTOR CORPORATE PERFORMANCE – TREVOR BRITTEN

4.2.1 Mount Beauty Library Redevelopment

File Number: 1780.78

INTRODUCTION

Council is committed to providing great library services and part of that is the planned redevelopment of the Mount Beauty library.

But the imminent return of library services to Council and the progressive digitisation of visitor information services provide a changing landscape, and the trigger to reconfirm the project scope with the community.

The purpose of this item is to report the outcomes of the community consultation process conducted during October and November and inform the redevelopment project, allowing it to commence.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the:

- 1. overwhelming community support for the Mount Beauty Library to remain at its current location be acknowledged and noted*
- 2. Mount Beauty Library redevelopment project proceed at its current location, as originally planned, and*
- 3. Upper Kiewa Valley Community Association be acknowledged for arranging and hosting the town-hall meeting.*

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

Council commenced a strategic review of Mount Beauty community facilities in 2011 with the purpose of informing and guiding future development and improvements. That process ignited significant community debate and angst.

The Mount Beauty Community Facilities Strategy:

- noted that the library could stay where it is, locate with the Community Centre, or move to the Visitor Information Centre
- recognised that the Community Steering Group and the High Country Library Corporation strongly favoured refurbishing the library at its current location
- noted Council's alternative of integrating library services in a central location,
- concluded that the library could be more centrally located, but recommended the refurbishment of the current library facility, and
- was adopted at the March 2013 Council Meeting

In June 2014 Council received \$280,000 from the State's Living Libraries Fund to upgrade the existing facility. The total budget for this project is \$420,000 with construction originally scheduled to commence in November 2015 and conclude in May 2016.



At its July 2015 meeting, Council resolved to disestablish the High Country Library Corporation and replace it with collaboration model where the management and operation of branch libraries is 'returned' to respective Councils.

In August 2015, Council received a report describing the progressive digitisation of visitor information services (currently 4 people use the website for every 1 person visiting the Visitor Information Centre, and this disparity is increasing).

This sequence of events, and the fact that the proposed redevelopment has not yet commenced, provided a last opportunity to consider integrating library, visitor information and customer services into a single facility with the potential of:

- greatly increasing accessibility to all services (opening hours and location)
- providing a greater Council presence in Mount Beauty
- increasing the range of programs and activities on offer
- securing library, visitor information, and customer services in Mount Beauty, and
- utilising confirmed funds

Council discussed integration opportunities and considered the following Mount Beauty facilities for possible redevelopment:

1. Existing library
2. Visitor Information Centre
3. Country Club
4. Community Centre
5. Neighbourhood Centre

Cognisant of the history and capital costs, Council requested that options 1 and 2 be carefully explored and discussed with the community.

ISSUES

The community consultation process indicates overwhelming support to redevelop the library where it is, and not to integrate services. However, informal feedback received after the town-hall meeting is that this outcome may not reflect the broader community view.

But the fact is that two community consultation processes have now been conducted in four years. On both occasions and in the intervening period, Council has not received support to investigate, move or integrate library services at another location.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This project is consistent with the following Council Plan Objectives:

- 2.3 - To improve the condition and management of Council's assets
- 3.1 - To support the health and wellbeing of communities; and
- 4.1 - To effectively plan and deliver strategic and major projects.



FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The redevelopment project budget is confirmed (and unaffected by the recommendation) as follows:

State Government Living Library Fund	\$280,000
Council	\$140,000
Project total	\$420,000

CONSULTATION

The community consultation was conducted in three stages:

1. meet the original members of the Community Facilities Review Steering Committee
2. drop in session and public forum
3. written and online feedback

The consultation results are as follows:

	Attendance / number	For current site	For VIC site
Drop in session	60-80	95%	5%
Public forum	80-100	95%	5%
Written feedback	24	67%	33%

CONCLUSION

From the outset, Council promised to listen and to be guided by the community's view.

Council has engaged with the community in the manner requested by members of the original Community Steering Group.

The recommendation is consistent with the overwhelming community support to 'leave the library where it is'.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director Corporate Performance
- Project Consultant

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 4.2.1 Stakeholder Engagement Plan



4.2.2 December 2015 Audit Committee Meeting

File Number:

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to present the minutes of the December 2015 Audit Committee (the Committee) meeting to Council. Key items discussed were:

Health and Safety Audit and Culture Survey;

Quarter 3 Risk and OHS Report (confidential);

Purchasing spot checks audit; and

Audit Committee annual self-assessment survey results.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That:

- 1. the minutes of the 1 December 2015 Audit Committee meeting be received and noted, and*
- 2. the following committee recommendations be adopted, that:*
 - a. the outstanding action sheet be updated to record all quarterly and annual requirements as standing actions for future meetings.*
 - b. the following items arising from the 2015 Audit Committee self-assessment survey be implemented:*
 - annual endorsement of the internal audit program by the Audit Committee*
 - new members of the Audit Committee to be informed of the internal audit program on their commencement, and*
 - audit actions to be carefully considered, prioritised and programmed to ensure achievable target dates*
 - c. the following items arising from the 2015/16 Quarter 1 invoice audit be implemented:*
 - the creation of a procurement signature database, to be managed by the finance team*
 - provision to the Audit Committee in advance of the meeting, of documentation supporting the quarterly invoice audit, and*
 - the continuation of quarterly invoice audits until determined otherwise*
 - d. the following items arising from the health and safety audit and culture survey be implemented:*
 - the development of the Health and Safety strategy as a single document comprising strategic, improvement/action, and communication sub-plans, and*



- *endorsement of the Health and Safety Strategy implementation plan*
- e. *the Confidential 2015/2016 Quarter 1 Health and Safety report be adopted.*

BACKGROUND

Risk and OHS

The recently completed Health and Safety Audit and Culture survey was presented to the Audit Committee following an extensive review carried out in October and November 2015. The result of this work is the development of a draft health and safety strategy comprising the following elements:

- strategic plan
- improvement plan
- communication plan

The draft strategy will be finalised according to the following schedule:

Review and finalise documents:	Alpine Management Team	December 2015
	Health and Safety committee	February 2016
Prepare final documents:	Health, Safety and Risk Officer	February 2016
Endorse final documents:	Chief Executive Officer	February 2016
Allocate to responsible officer - Ignite:	Health, Safety and Risk Officer	March 2016
Budget considerations:	Manager Corporate Services	Mar-Jun 2016

In addition to the audit and culture survey results being presented, the Audit Committee reviewed the 2015/16 Quarter 1 Risk and OHS Report (confidential). The focus for quarter 1 has been reviewing and understanding the status of the health and safety management system and the attitude of stakeholders to health and safety.

Four new health and safety representatives also completed their initial 5 day training as required by the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004. Other training focussed on return to work, health and safety policy awareness and handling asbestos.

Purchasing spot checks

Council's internal auditors have been undertaking purchasing spot checks on a quarterly basis at a cost in excess of \$1,500 per audit. To eliminate this cost, council's finance department are now completing the spot checks and presenting the results to the Committee quarterly. This quarter was the first time the internal results had been presented to the committee. There were no exceptions noted in the testing. Overall the Committee was satisfied with the report, however requested additional information be presented in future to support the findings.



The Committee has noted that purchasing checks conducted internally by the finance team does not negate the need to conduct purchasing reviews as part of Council's ordinary internal audit program.

Audit Committee annual self-assessment survey

The Audit Committee Charter requires the Committee to undertake an annual self-assessment survey. This process is important to ensure the Committee is fulfilling its responsibilities to Council and allows for members to identify any areas for improvement. The results of the annual self-assessment highlighted the Committee's satisfaction with how meetings are presented and conducted (100% satisfied). A noted area for improvement centred on the internal audit program and programming of internal audits going forward. A report will be presented to the Committee at its next meeting.

IMPLICATIONS

Legislative Issues

Council complies with the following sections of the Local Government Act:

- Section 139 requires Council to have an audit committee and act within the guidelines made by the minister for Audit Committees.
- Section 136 requires Council to implement the principles of sound financial management.

This report is consistent with the following strategic documents:

2013-2017 Council Plan	
Strategic Objective 5.2	manage resources well to ensure sustainability
2013/14 Budget	
Strategic Objective 2.5	Performance focused organisation

CONCLUSION

The Committee again expressed satisfaction with the detail provided in the agenda and the quality of Officer Reports. The significant progress made by Council regarding OHS was noted. The Audit Committee recommends Council adopt the detailed resolutions.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interest to disclose in providing this report.

- Manager Corporate Services
- Director Corporate Performance

ATTACHMENTS

- 4.2.1 Audit Committee Minutes 1 December 2015



4.2.3 Myrtleford Landfill Operations Review

File Number:

INTRODUCTION

An extensive review of the Myrtleford Landfill and its future operation has been completed as part of Council's ongoing commitment to efficiency and business improvement. The purpose of this report is to provide the findings and recommend a course of action.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That:

- 1. the Myrtleford Landfill Operations Review be adopted;*
- 2. the Myrtleford Landfill facility be converted to a best practice waste transfer station and closed according to EPA requirements, with no impact on the services provided to the public or opening hours subject to:*
 - a. Sustainability Victoria contributing \$500,000 towards the new assets required at Myrtleford, Porepunkah and Mount Beauty waste facilities to enable this outcome to be achieved*
 - b. the current contract with Cre8tive Waste Management Pty Ltd being suitably modified to reflect the new operational arrangements*
- 3. waste be diverted by Ellwaste, pending the market testing of waste transfer services prior to August 2016.*

BACKGROUND

Current arrangements

The Myrtleford Landfill currently comprises a Transfer Station and Landfill, operated by Cre8tive Waste Management Pty Ltd on behalf of Council. The site receives and processes waste from Council's kerbside collections, Porepunkah and Mt Beauty Transfer Stations, and from patrons visiting the site personally.

Operationally, waste is received onto a concrete pad, where it's pushed onto a conveyor that feeds a baling machine. The baling machine compacts the waste into 1 tonne bales and wraps them in silage. The wrapped bales are then stacked in the landfill cell.

The baling operation was introduced as an innovation to increase waste compaction and therefore maximise cell life, but the low volumes being processed and increasing EPA requirements make the process inefficient.

Currently 2,755 tonnes (occupying about 4,250m³) is processed at the site annually.

The current cell is full (filled in November 2015), but Council has EPA approval to construct an additional 4 cells providing airspace of approximately 110,000m³, which equates to a life of between 25 and 35 years using the current baling system.



The construction of a new cell was included in the 2014/15 budget, but this has been deferred, pending the outcome of this report.

The alternative to operating our own landfill is to collect the waste and transfer and dispose of it at a large, efficient regional site.

State perspective

NEWRRG is developing a Waste Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan as required by the Victorian Government; a key component of the plan is a Future Landfill Options Study (FLOS). The FLOS:

- identifies the Myrtleford Landfill site as being small and inefficient
- recommends diversion as the preferred future method for Alpine Shire Councils waste to landfill, and
- recommends options for diversion for Alpine Shire Council and other North East Victorian Councils.

The EPA and Sustainability Victoria (SV) have identified the Myrtleford Landfill for closure, with waste diverted to a regional landfill site as the alternative. To achieve this outcome, SV has approved funding of up to \$500,000 to convert the site to a best practice transfer station and resource recovery facility.

ISSUES

Significant capital cost is involved in the construction, capping and rehabilitation of landfill cells.

EPA operating, reporting and compliance requirements continue to change and become more stringent (recent changes have resulted in significant cost increases).

The current method of baling waste increases compaction and therefore extends cell life, but there's insufficient scale and therefore the operation is inefficient and expensive.

The current cell reached capacity in November 2015 and is now full. The EPA has not approved temporary storage on site; therefore baled waste is currently being transported to Patho by Ellwaste.

Closing the landfill will not remove current legacy costs at the site. Leachate management and monitoring requirements will continue for many years (current guidelines indicate 30 years from the 'closure' of the landfill operation).

Modifications will need to be made to operating processes and infrastructure to accommodate a waste diversion strategy.

Council's management contract with Cre8tive Waste Management Pty Ltd will need to be modified if a diversion strategy is initiated.

Review Of Landfill Operations And Alternatives

An extensive review of landfill operations and alternatives has been conducted, in light of the identified issues, the State's perspective, and Council's desire to continuously improve. The review:



- compares the status quo, to operating the site as a transfer station and resource recovery centre and diverting landfill to alternative sites (Patho in Northern Victoria, operated by Ellwaste; Wollert near Craigieburn, operated by Hanson; Albury, operated by Albury City; and Benalla operated by Benalla Rural City)
- analyses operating and capital costs for the period to 2037, and
- is summarised in the following table:

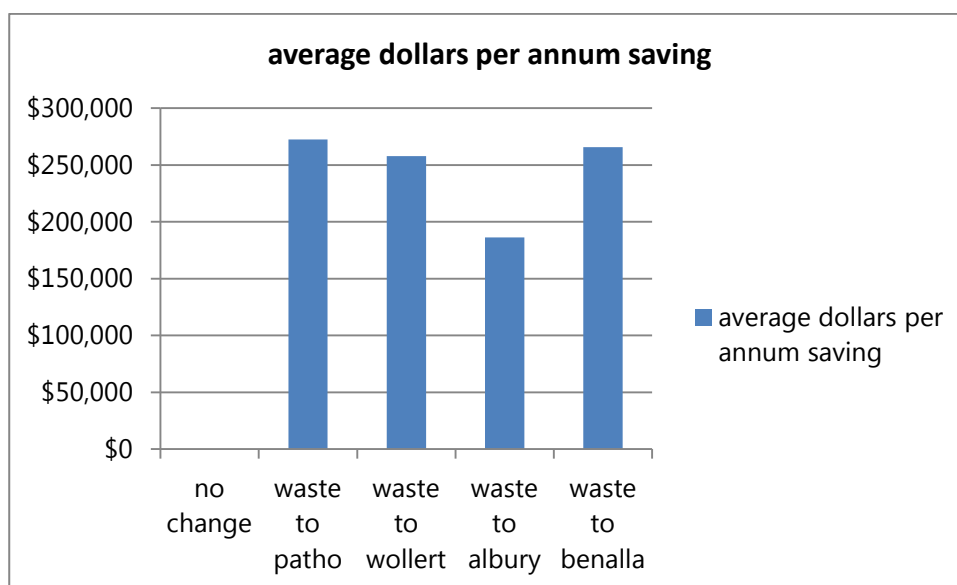
Total Life Costs (Net Present Value) 2015/16 to 2036/37

	Status quo	waste to Patho	waste to Wollert	waste to Albury	waste to Benalla
Landfill Operating Cost	\$12,561,852	\$1,834,849	\$1,834,849	\$1,834,849	\$1,834,849
Landfill Capex	\$5,327,700	\$580,000	\$580,000	\$580,000	\$580,000
Landfill \$/tonne	\$301	\$41	\$41	\$41	\$41
TS Operating Cost	\$3,206,103	\$3,261,183	\$3,261,183	\$3,261,183	\$3,261,183
TS Capex	\$465,000	\$260,000	\$260,000	\$260,000	\$260,000
TS \$/tonne	\$62	\$59	\$59	\$59	\$59
Diversion Operating Cost	\$0	\$9,732,175	\$10,152,103	\$11,626,335	\$9,878,448
Diversion Capex	\$0	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000
Diversion \$/tonne	\$0	\$170	\$175	\$202	\$172
Total Opex	\$15,767,955	\$14,828,207	\$15,148,135	\$16,722,367	\$14,974,480
Total Capex	\$5,792,700	\$1,190,000	\$1,190,000	\$1,190,000	\$1,190,000
Total Cost	\$21,560,655	\$16,018,207	\$16,338,135	\$17,912,367	\$16,164,480
Total \$/tonne	\$363	\$270	\$275	\$302	\$272
Variance to status quo (total)	\$0	-\$5,023,768	-\$4,604,308	-\$3,612,775	-\$4,839,489
Variance to status quo (\$/tonne)	\$0	-\$93	-\$88	-\$61	-\$91



Key Findings

1. All of the diversion options deliver savings compared to remaining with the status quo (cost per tonne savings are in the range of \$61 to \$93 for the diversion options reviewed).
2. Significantly reduced capital costs associated with the diversion options account for the majority of the savings.
3. Operating the Myrtleford site as a transfer station and resource recovery centre, and diverting landfill to Patho, has the potential to deliver significant savings.
4. Average savings in all diversion scenarios exceeds \$170,000 per annum as shown graphically below:



Review Parameters

The following variables have been used to generate the 'Total Life Costs' shown above (sensitivity analysis on the bolded variables follows this table):

Key Variables	Reference amount
Average load in tonnes	25
Freight charge per hour	140
No change Contractor fee landfill	350,000
No change contractor fee TS	80,000
Diversion Contractor fee landfill	35,000
Diversion Contractor fee TS	85,000
Diversion Contractor fee Diversion	30,000
Metro landfill levy	26.92
Tonnes waste	2,700
CPI	2.50%



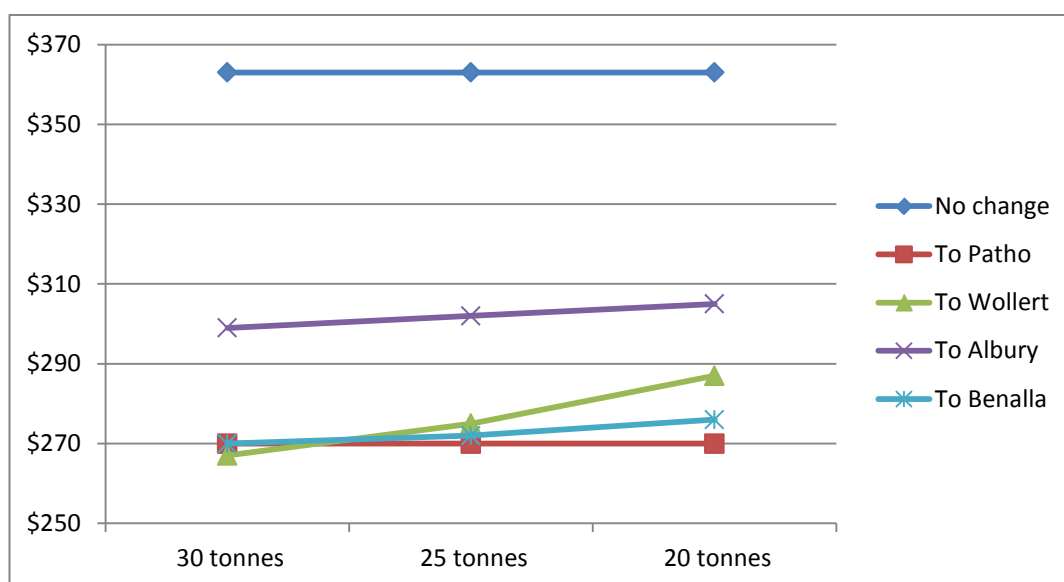
Cost Sensitivities

A sensitivity analysis examining the key variables of compaction, transport costs, and operating costs has been undertaken as follows:

Sensitivity to compaction variables

Sensitivity to compaction increases with distance as shown below:

Compaction	30 tonnes	25 tonnes	20 tonnes
No change	\$363	\$363	\$363
To Patho	\$270	\$270	\$270
To Wollert	\$267	\$275	\$287
To Albury	\$299	\$302	\$305
To Benalla	\$270	\$272	\$276



A reduction of 5t per trip (from the reference amount of 25t) increases the annual cost of transport by:

- \$12/tonne (\$30,000 p.a.) for Wollert (worst case scenario), and
- \$3/tonne (\$1,000 p.a.) for Albury or Benalla

As Patho have only provided an all up price we cannot yet determine the effect on their costs if average load weights fell to around 20 tonnes per load.

This shows that even in a pessimistic scenario of achieving only 20t per trip, it's still more efficient to divert landfill to an alternative site than to continue with the status quo.



Sensitivity to transport variables

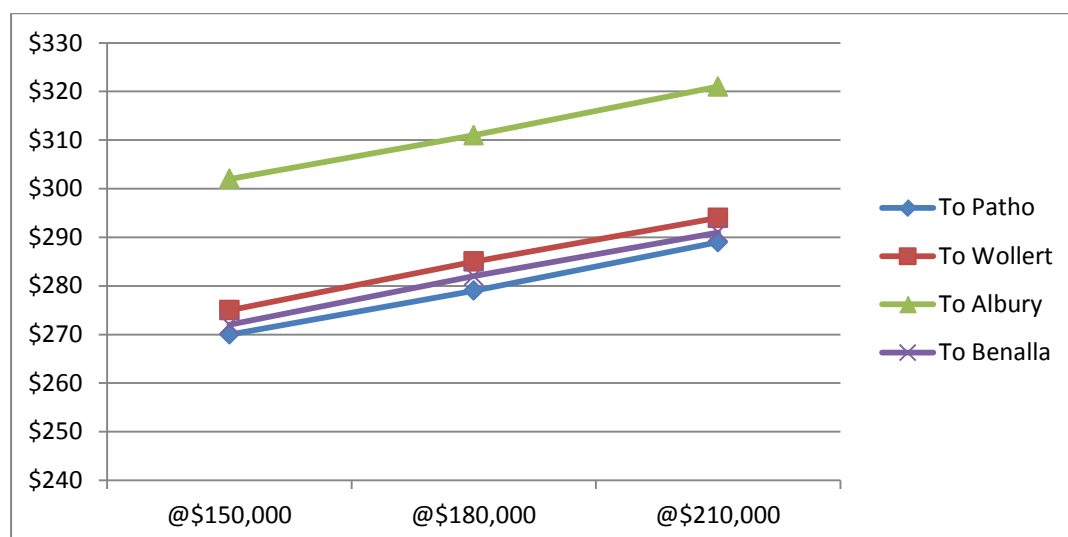
Sensitivity to transport costs is relatively low, as shown below:

Transport hourly charge	Average load 25 tonnes		
	\$140/hr	\$145/hr	\$150/hr
No change	\$363	\$363	\$363
To Patho	\$270	\$270	\$270
To Wollert	\$275	\$277	\$278
To Albury	\$302	\$302	\$303
To Benalla	\$272	\$273	\$273

Sensitivity to Diversion Operator costs

Three different Diversion Operator cost scenarios are examined as follows:

Operating costs	Annual Diversion Operating costs		
	@\$150,000	@\$180,000	@\$210,000
To Patho	\$270	\$279	\$289
To Wollert	\$275	\$285	\$294
To Albury	\$302	\$311	\$321
To Benalla	\$272	\$282	\$291





The reference amount for Diversion Operator costs is \$145,000. As expected, an increase in this figure has a direct and proportional effect on \$/tonne. The range depicted is based upon staffing levels of 2.5, 3.0 and 3.5FTE using the waste industry award as a reference. The Nolan report proposes a range of 2.5 – 3.0 FTE for a non-compacted method of operation.

A \$30,000 increase in Diversion Operator costs corresponds to a \$10/tonne increase in unit cost.

At the highest end of the Diversion Operator cost models:

- Albury is still \$40/tonne below the status quo, and
- the others are in the order of \$70/tonne below the status quo

Sensitivity to Operator Cost variables if continuing with the status quo

Three different variations to continuing with the status quo have been analysed as follows:

Operating costs	Annual contract fee from July 2018		
	@\$430,000	@\$400,000	@\$350,000
Status quo	\$430	\$353	\$337

The \$430,000 scenario reflects a new contract being awarded in 2018 at current contract rates, the second scenario assumes a revised baling process allowing a significant reduction in labour costs, and the third scenario reflects possible further savings via competitive tender.

But these savings are unlikely and fall short of those that will be achieved by diversion.

FOGO

The introduction of an organics/green waste kerbside collection service (FOGO) has been considered in this modelling. Data from regional councils that have introduced a FOGO service indicates a reduction in kerbside waste to landfill of 40 to 50%.

Savings associated with these reductions are likely to be offset by increased kerbside collection costs and the introduction of a third bin.

Landfill Licence

Current advice is that the EPA will issue a Pollution Abatement Notice calling for the closure and rehabilitation of the Myrtleford Landfill if operations cease. This would mean that the current works approvals would become void, and effectively end Councils option to operate a landfill in the municipality.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report is consistent with following sections of the Council Plan:

- 2.3 - Improve the condition and management of Council's assets



- 2.4 - Reduce Council's ecological footprint
- 4.1 - Effectively plan and deliver strategic and major projects
- 5.2 - Manage resources well to ensure sustainability

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Recurrent savings

Refer to the 'Total Life Costs (Net Present Value) 2015/16 to 2036/37' table in the body of the report; indicating recurrent annual savings of at least \$170,000.

Capital conversion costs

The analysis identifies the following significant capital investments necessary to successfully decommission the Myrtleford Landfill and operate the site as a transfer station:

- Site conversion works, and
- Purchase of an Excavator

Sustainability Victoria has approved and will provide matched funding of up to \$500,000 for the site conversion.

\$550,000 is allocated in the 2015/16 budget for the development of a new cell at the Myrtleford landfill.

CONSULTATION

Extensive consultation has taken place with Councillors, the current Landfill Operator, Sustainability Victoria, NEWRRG, EPA, Infrastructure Solutions and other regional landfill operators.

Numerous site visits and investigations have been undertaken.

Reference has also been made to the findings of the two FLOS reports commissioned by NEWRRG, as well as the State-wide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan (SWRRIP).

Both Sustainability Victoria and NEWRRG are supportive of the recommendation in this report.

CONCLUSION

The business case to close the Myrtleford Landfill and divert waste to an efficient regional site is sound, the following advantages are identified:

- significant financial savings have been demonstrated and will be achieved
- the efficient management of waste in a large regional site is environmentally responsible
- Council's risk exposure to increasing regulation and compliance requirements is minimised
- ongoing rehabilitation responsibilities are capped



- external funds have been secured to assist with the conversion of the site, and
- the opportunity to consolidate services and contracts is achieved

Sensitivity analysis indicates a low risk associated with change.

Adoption of the recommendation will deliver further savings and complete another element of Council's business transformation project.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director Corporate Performance
- Manager Facilities

ATTACHMENT(S)

- 4.2.3(a) Briefing Session presentation - 8 December 2015
- 4.2.3(b) Detailed 'Total Life Costs (NPV) 2015/16 to 2036/37' spreadsheet
- 4.2.3(c) Nolan report
- 4.2.3(d) Future Landfill Options Study



4.3 DIRECTOR ASSETS – CHARLIE BIRD

4.3.1 Regional Jobs Infrastructure Fund – Implementation of Alpine Better Places priority projects in Bright

File Number: 1780.78

INTRODUCTION

An opportunity exists for Council to seek funding for the implementation of Alpine Better Places priority projects in Bright. This report outlines the project and details on funding the project.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Authorise the submission of a State Government grant application with a Council commitment of no more than \$600,000.*

BACKGROUND

Regional Development Victoria (RDV) is the lead agency in developing rural and regional Victoria. Delivering on the Victorian Government's commitment to drive jobs and more prosperous communities in regional Victoria they are implementing the Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund (RJIF).

The RJIF supports major projects, job creation and the building of stronger regional communities through funding opportunities across three streams.

The Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) is the main infrastructure program of the RJIF. It aims to harness key regional strengths to improve regional Victoria's productivity and liveability. The RIF provides funding for four program streams.

Projects seeking funding under the Rural Development stream need to demonstrate how they will improve economic performance; harness key regional strengths; improve the liveability and attractiveness of rural towns; and enhance the resilience and competitiveness of the location.

The Rural Development program is only accessible to the 38 rural Local Government areas. Under this program stream, grants for infrastructure are capped at \$500,000. RDV will contribute maximum funding ratios of up to \$2:\$1.

Council commenced its Alpine Better Places design project in early 2015. The soon to be completed Stage 1 of the project will deliver detailed concept designs for two to three priority projects in each of the town centres of Porepunkah, Bright and Myrtleford. The project is progressing well with two rounds of community consultation complete and a final round currently in progress.

Council is seeking \$500,000 through the RJIF to support stage two of the project; implementation of priority projects for Bright.



These projects will:

- Provide cycle friendly infrastructure that recognises Bright not only as the final destination of the Murray to Mountain Rail but as the centre of road, mountain and recreational cycling in North East Victoria.
- Identify clear township gateways that welcome visitors and direct them to the town centre.
- Recognise Mafeking Square as the social and cultural heart of Bright and resolve issues of vehicle, bike and pedestrian circulation to make it a safer and friendlier environment for people to move about.
- Create distinctive settings within the town centre that invite people to visit and stay longer.

ISSUES

Released in August 2015 the Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund is the first state regional funding opportunity available since the change in Government in November 2014. This is Council's first submission under this fund. It is expected that there will be future submissions for the implementation of Alpine Better Places projects in the townships of Porepunkah and Myrtleford.

Following discussion with RDV the Rural Development stream has been identified as the most appropriate funding option for this project. The project satisfies all of the program's criteria particularly improving economic performance and harnessing key regional strengths.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Implementation of the Alpine Better Places priority projects in Bright is consistent with the following Strategic Objectives of the Council Plan:

- 2.2 - To improve the quality of the built environment and amenity;
- 2.3 - To improve the condition and management of Council's assets;
- 3.1 - To support the health and wellbeing of communities; and
- 4.1 - To effectively plan and deliver strategic and major projects.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The first stage of this project is being delivered in partnership with the State Government of Victoria through the Putting Locals First Program. The total cost of this stage is \$200,000 with 75% being funded by the State Government of Victoria. This stage included stakeholder engagement, planning and design phases only and will be completed in February 2016.

Whilst this project would involve asset renewal, discretionary capital expenditure would be required. A review of Council's Long Term Financial Plan indicates that these priority projects can be delivered by June 2017. Council has already committed \$100,000 towards the commencement of delivering the Mafeking Square project in its 2015-16 Budget. This is one of the priority Alpine Better Places projects for Bright



and is expected to be completed by June 2017, with the majority of capital expenditure in 2016-17.

The current project budget to implement the priority Alpine Better Places projects in Bright (trail head, Mafeking Square and gateways) is \$1,003,000. Funding of \$500,000 is being sought from the RJIF to supplement Council's contribution to implementation of these priority projects. It is proposed that Council commit to capital expenditure of up to \$600,000 over two years; \$100,000 has been committed in 2015-16 and the remainder would need to be committed in 2016-17.

CONSULTATION

Council and the Bright community have been involved through the development of the Alpine Better Places design project:

1. Council and community input was sought in March to prioritise projects in each of the townships
2. Council and Community feedback on the preliminary concept designs was sought in June.
3. The draft detailed concept designs are currently on public exhibition and due to close on 16 December 2015.

The regional office of RDV is very encouraging of this proposal. Assistance has already been provided with the preparation of the application.

CONCLUSION

Implementation of the Alpine Better Places priority projects in Bright will be significant and has the potential for enormous benefits not only for Bright but as the catalyst for the implementation of Alpine Better Places projects in Porepunkah and Myrtleford. Council has the ability to fund and deliver this project by June 2017 and should seize this opportunity to secure funding from the State Government.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director Assets
- Project Consultant

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Nil



4.3.2 Contract 1504901 - Construction of Mount Beauty Town Centre and Foreshore Landscape Works

File Number: 1543.17

INTRODUCTION

This tender report relates to the award of the Contract for the construction of the Mount Beauty Town Centre and Foreshore Landscape Works.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Award Contract No: 1504901 – Construction of Mount Beauty Town Centre and Foreshore Landscape Works to Fineblade Pty Ltd for a lump sum price of \$471,250.15 (excl. GST).*

BACKGROUND

The upgrading of the Mount Beauty Foreshore (Bicentennial Park) and Town Centre together comprise the Progressing Place Project. Delivery of Progressing Place is supported by funding obtained through Regional Development Victoria and contributions from the Alpine Shire Council and Alpine Health.

Contract 1504901 is for the construction of both the Town Centre and Foreshore Landscape Works and comprised two parts, listed as follows.

Part A: Town Centre landscape works include:

- Site establishment
- Provision for traffic and environmental management
- Demolition of existing surfaces
- Set out of works
- Earthworks, drainage and grading
- In-situ concrete and gravel paving
- Freestanding and retaining stone walls
- Edging
- Grassing
- Garden beds and planting
- Irrigation
- Installation of site furniture
- Maintenance of installed works.



Part B: Foreshore landscape works include:

- Site establishment
- Provision for traffic and environmental management
- Demolition of existing surfaces
- Set out of works
- Earthworks, drainage and grading
- In-situ concrete, asphalt, stone and gravel paving
- Playground softfall mulch and sand
- Freestanding stone walls
- Edging
- Grassing
- Garden beds and planting
- Post and rail fencing
- Installation of site furniture
- Application of painted finish to existing barbeque
- Installation of a drinking fountain
- Lighting and electrical works
- Maintenance of installed works.

The Invitation to Tender was advertised in the Herald Sun 14 October 2015, Border Mail 17 October 2015, and on the Tenders.Net and the Alpine Shire Council web-sites. Tenders closed on Wednesday 4 November 2015.

The Tender documents were downloaded by 17 prospective tenderers and four tender submissions were received.

EVALUATION

The evaluation panel consisted of the Director Assets, Acting Manager Asset Development and Project Officer - Delivery.

The Tenders were evaluated according to the key selection criteria listed in the Invitation to Tender:

- Price
- Qualifications and Previous Performance
- Delivery
- Social

Following the initial assessment of offers, two of the tenders were shortlisted to take part in further evaluation. The tenderers were contacted to discuss their overall offers, to clarify some of their rates and pricing, as well as their ability to meet the required



timeframes. The revisions to the offers were then reassessed in accordance with the selection criteria.

Following the assessment of offers by the evaluation panel it was determined that the tender from Fineblade Pty Ltd, for both Part's A and B, best met the selection criteria and offered the best value for Council.

ISSUES

Fineblade Pty Ltd has not previously undertaken landscape works for Council, however reference checks have confirmed that they are a reliable contractor for this type of work, who have completed works to the required quality, on time and on budget.

Fineblade Pty Ltd also confirmed that they can complete the Park Street Reserve landscape works in January 2016, allowing the Lake View Children's Centre to expand their temporary outdoor space into this reserve from the start of February.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The works associated with Contract 1504901 are consistent with the following Council Plan's strategic objectives:

- 2.1 - To provide and maintain quality parks, gardens and natural environment;
- 3.1 - To support the health and wellbeing of communities.

The tender was advertised and evaluated in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The total budget for Progressing Place Project is \$875,000, with \$525,000 allocated to the Foreshore and \$350,000 allocated to the Town Centre.

The tendered price for these works (\$471,250.15) is within the budget allocated for the Foreshore and Town Centre landscape works.

CONSULTATION

Council officers have engaged with the Mount Beauty and surrounding community regarding the proposed landscape works on numerous occasions. This has been achieved through targeted consultation meetings with key stakeholders, letter drops to directly affected stakeholders, a listening post at the July community market in Mount Beauty and monthly updates on the Alpine Shire Council website.

CONCLUSION

Following a comprehensive tender assessment and reference checks, the tender from Fineblade Pty Ltd is considered to offer the best value option for Council.



DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director Assets
- Acting Manager Asset Development
- Project Officer - Delivery

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Nil



4.3.3 Contract 1504401 – Supply and installation of Myrtleford Holiday Park Cabins

File Number: 1780.81

INTRODUCTION

This report relates to the award of the Contract for the supply and installation of two fully furnished two bedroom cabins for the Myrtleford Holiday Park.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Award Contract No. 1504401 for the supply and installation of two fully furnished two bedroom cabins at the Myrtleford Holiday Park to Town and Country Homes Pty Ltd for the lump sum price of \$163,466 excluding GST.*

BACKGROUND

Invitation to Tender 15044 comprised two separable parts, A) Supply of two fully furnished two bedroom cabins and B) Supply of two twin ensuite units. This report relates only to Part A.

Alpine Shire Council is the appointed Committee of Management for the Myrtleford Holiday Park and has been directly managing the Park since November 2008. The Park has experienced continued improvement in the appearance, reputation and increased patronage and revenue since Council has been the operator.

The Myrtleford Holiday Park Business Plan provides a strategy for investing in the park to increase the star rating and subsequently further increase revenue. The addition of two fully furnished two bedrooms cabins is identified as a key objective responding to market preference.

There have been two Invitation to Tender periods for this purchase. The first was advertised in the Herald and Border Mail on the 14 October 2015, with tenders being received up until the 11 November 2015. Tenders were made available on the Tenders.Net and Alpine Shire Council websites. There were 16 downloads with two submissions received. Only one of these offers was considered viable however following evaluation the offer was not considered best value.

The Invitation to Tender was then released a second time and advertised in the Herald and Border Mail on the 14 November 2015, with tenders being received until 9 December 2015. Tenders were also made available on the Tenders.Net and Alpine Shire Council websites for this period. There were 17 downloads with three submissions received from this second tender process.

EVALUATION

The Invitation to Tender process was undertaken in accordance with Alpine Shire Council's procurement policy. The evaluation panel consisted of Manager Facilities, Acting Manager Asset Development, Project Manager and Facilities officer.

The Tenders were evaluated according to the key selection criteria listed in the Invitation to Tender:



- Price
- Qualifications and previous performance
- Product quality
- Delivery
- Social

Clarification of the product, fixtures and fittings, and timing for delivery was ascertained via further correspondence and phone interview.

The references of the preferred Tenderer were checked and all provided positive endorsement regarding quality of product and timeliness.

ISSUES

Supply and installation in readiness for Easter is a critical issue. Easter is a peak visitor period and it is important the cabins are completed including site stabilisation and landscaping ahead of this time.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This project is consistent with Council's following strategic documents:

- Council Plan: Strategic objective 4.2 – To support investment and existing enterprise.

Myrtleford Holiday Park Business Plan.

The tender was advertised and evaluated according to the Procurement Policy.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The purchase of the cabins has been provided for through the allocation of \$275,000 in the current 2015/16 Budget. Other costs associated with this project include supply and installation of Part B – Two twin ensuite units, connection to services, landscaping and project management.

The tendered price for these works (\$163,466) is within the budget allocated for the supply and installation of two fully furnished two bedroom cabins at the Myrtleford Holiday Park.

CONSULTATION

The current park managers and the Department of Land Environment, Water and Planning as the Crown land manager were consulted during the preparation of this Tender.

CONCLUSION

Following an open competitive tender process, comprehensive tender evaluation, interviews and reference checks the tender from Town and County Dwellings Pty Ltd is considered to be the best value option for Council and can deliver before the Easter holiday period.



DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director Assets
- Acting Manager Asset Development
- Project Manager.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Nil



4.3.4 Contract 1506301 - Supply of Electricity and Public Lighting

File Number: SU1745.01

INTRODUCTION

This report relates to the award of the Contract for the supply of electricity (large and small market) and public lighting throughout the Alpine Shire. The contract term is three years, and will define levels of service and costs for electricity at all Alpine Shire Council operated facilities, as well as public lighting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Award Contract No. 1506301 - Supply of electricity (large and small market) and public lighting to AGL for a three-year contract term.*

BACKGROUND

Alpine Shire Council is currently serviced for both electricity and public lighting under contract from AGL. The existing contract for public lighting has been extended from its original term to expire on the 30 June 2016. The contract for the supply of electricity is for a three year period, which also expires on the 30 June 2016.

The recently conducted Procurement Australia tender enabled partnership of a large amount of Councils throughout Australia, in part to offer a large and attractive package for tenderers and also to take advantage of similar and shared customer requirements.

The tender called for pricing on large market electricity, small market electricity, supply of natural gas (not relevant for Alpine Shire) and public lighting. Respondents to the tender could bid for a single sub category or all of them. The tender prices have been assessed as a load weighted single price, including tariffs and any extra charges for monitoring or billing services.

Procurement Australia reported that nine retailers attended the initial briefing, with a total of seven tender submissions for electricity and public lighting. The process then involved short listing of four suppliers for second round pricing followed by a BAFO process (Best and Final Offer).

Tenders were evaluated on value for money, considering both price and non-price criteria. The non-price criteria considered the tenderers commitment to the Federal Renewable Energy Target, quality assurance processes, customer relationship process, corporate governance, social involvement and environmental programs.

Billing service improvements were included in the tender, which will allow consolidated billing and/or data capture that will provide clarity around expenditure for different asset classes and inform decisions into the future.

After the final and BAFO round, AGL was assessed as providing the best option within each tender sub category. The difference was minor in the large market and more distinct with public lighting and small market electricity.



ISSUES

There are two factors that contribute to the end cost of energy for Council, the wholesale price of electricity and the margin that retailers apply to then on-sell this energy to us, their customer.

The wholesale price of energy has gone up by between 10-15% in 2015. Future projections see increases in wholesale prices being more likely than reductions (this is in part linked to recent announcements of Renewable Energy Targets, and subsequent announcements of closures of Coal Fired Power stations). Ultimately, whilst it may have been preferable to go to the market 12 months ago, if we do not secure pricing now the likelihood is that wholesale pricing will continue to rise.

The proposed offer presents a 43% discount on the normal retail price of small retail electricity supply, which compares well with the 39% discount in Council's current contract. It should be noted however that the gazetted tariff itself has gone up significantly, and is not subject to strict regulatory control.

Results and competitiveness of the tender give confidence that the increase in retail price follows increase in wholesale pricing, i.e. that the retail margin is not excessive.

The wholesale price offers fair value, and the retail margin applied for service and supply also offers good value.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The tender process run by Procurement Australia is meets the requirements in Council's Procurement Policy.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Impact statements have been forwarded by Procurement Australia to each member of the tender, which outline the expected financial impact of a contract with the successful tenderer. The impact detailed for the Alpine Shire Council in Year 1 is summarised in the table below.

Figure 1: Forecast electricity and public lighting cost in 2016-17

Item	Current contract	Proposed contract	Saving
Electricity	\$214,960	\$189,297	\$25,663
Public lighting	\$99,926	\$105,139	-\$5,213
Total	\$314,886	\$294,436	\$20,450

It is important to note that an annual price increase will be subject to CPI, and also will be affected to some degree by product offerings that increase efficiencies.

Tender participants must return agreements by 15 January, or deemed outside the contract conditions and subject to price increases. This issue has been highlighted by various council officers at the recent briefing as a deficiency in the process.



CONSULTATION

In partnership with other Councils, Alpine Shire Council has engaged with Procurement Australia to:

- Inform the non-financial criteria for the tender assessment
- Ensure the successful service provider(s) provides electricity consumption data in an improved format.

CONCLUSION

The procurement process run by Procurement Australia has recommended AGL as the preferred supplier of electricity (small and large market) and public lighting in Victoria for a three-year period. This offer presents value to Council and it is recommended that Council award AGL the contract.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director Assets
- Acting Manager Asset Maintenance
- Engineering Coordinator

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Nil



4.3.5 Storm damage - Emergency declaration for the purpose of infrastructure reinstatement

File Number: 535.26

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the report is to advise Council of the emergency situation as a result of the Tuesday 8 December 2015 storm event and seek an exemption from Council's Procurement Policy to reinstate Council infrastructure damaged by the storm event.

RECOMMENDATION

That as a result of the emergency situation caused by Tuesday 8 December 2015 storm event, Council:

- 1. Resolves, in accordance with Section 186 (5)(A) of the Local Government Act 1989, that contracts be entered into for the following:*
 - a. General road and associated infrastructure repair / replacement*
 - b. General culvert repair / replacement*
 - c. General debris clean up and vegetation removal.*
- 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to*
 - a. Negotiate with contractors for the necessary works to be undertaken*
 - b. Split contracts as required to enable reinstatement works to be completed*
 - c. Enter into the necessary contracts and sign and seal the relevant contract documents*
 - d. Appointment of a project manager to manage the infrastructure reinstatement program for infrastructure damaged by the storm event.*

BACKGROUND

On Tuesday 8 December 2015 there was significant storm event that resulted in widespread damage to Council infrastructure across the Shire, including roads, drainage and trees. The areas that appear to have incurred the greatest damage include the Kiewa Valley, Nug Nug and surrounding area, Porepunkah and Bright.

ISSUES

It is imperative that Council acts quickly to reinstate infrastructure damaged by the storm event. Delay in completing reinstatement works presents a risk to public safety and further infrastructure damage, as the infrastructure cannot function as intended.

If we do not act quickly in appointing contractors we could possibly experience delay in addressing the infrastructure reinstatement as the contractors will be in demand from other affected areas in North East Victoria.



POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Section 6.4 of Council's current procurement policy states that *under specific circumstances exemption from the methods of this policy can be sought*.

Under the Local Government Act Council is able, in an emergency situation, to also step outside the procurement limits set for Council under the Act.

Excerpt from the Local Government Act 1989:

Part 9 – Specific Functions, Powers and Restrictions

Section 186 Restriction on power to enter into contracts

(5) This section does not apply if –

(a) The Council resolves that the contract must be entered into because of an emergency.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

These events are above and beyond Council's normal funding sources as such Council officers have requested access to the Natural Disaster Financial Assistance Fund (NDFA) for Local Government

The NDFA provides financial assistance for the restoration of essential public assets. The Victorian Government will meet 75% of approved restoration costs between \$10,000 and \$110,000, and 100% of the proportion of costs above \$110,000.

An initial assessment of damaged infrastructure indicates that the cost reinstatement works could exceed \$200,000.

CONSULTATION

Council has been in contact with directly affected community members, relevant agencies and the Department of Treasury and Finance.

Community members who have been affected have requested that infrastructure repairs are undertaken in a quick and timely manner. The community has been very understanding of the situation.

CONCLUSION

It is imperative that Council acts quickly to reinstate infrastructure damaged by the storm event. Delay in completing reinstatement works presents a risk to public safety and further infrastructure damage.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director Assets
- Acting Manager Asset Maintenance

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Nil



4.4 ACTING DIRECTOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – ELAINE BURRIDGE

4.4.1 New Event Funding

File Number: 1610.25

INTRODUCTION

Further to the Event Funding recommendation endorsed by Council at the 4 August Council meeting, whereby an amount of \$10,000 was set aside for "Event Attraction", the following new events have presented applications to hold events and for event funding for events being held in Alpine Shire within the 2015/2016 FY. The budgeted amount of \$10,000 for "Event Attraction" is intended to be utilised for the recommended events.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Approve funding for two new events as detailed.*

Event	Applicant	Funding
<i>Community Outdoor Cinema Christmas Event</i>	<i>Cloud 9 Cinema</i>	<i>\$750 Sponsorship \$500 capped Logistics</i>
<i>Beyond the Buckland 4WD event</i>	<i>4WD Victoria</i>	<i>\$1,000 capped Logistics</i>

- 2. Approve additional funding to support the Mount Beauty Music Festival to a maximum of \$3,000.*

BACKGROUND

The 2015/16 Event Funding round opened on Monday 25 May and closed on Friday 10 July. During this time 52 applications were received, which is approximately 15 more than in previous years. A total of \$169,500 was endorsed by Council and has been allocated to events across sponsorship, logistical support and includes an amount of \$10,000 for new event attraction. The two events that have applied to hold an event within Alpine Shire and have lodged applications seeking event funding support were received outside of the normal event funding program and are new events for the region. In addition an established event has sought funding due to the loss of a venue.



ISSUES

Assessment

The applicants for the two new events have provided event management plans with their application which includes: a brief outline of what the event is, who is likely to participate and how many people are expected to participate, what the funds are required for as well as risk, communications and marketing plan/s and budget. Due to the timing of these applications being received, assessment of the two event funding applications was undertaken by: Manager of Community and Economic Development, and Development Officer (Events). As a result of the assessment it is considered that these two events are worthy of support.

Community Outdoor Cinema Christmas Event

This event is a concept put forward by Cloud9 Cinema as a community Christmas movie celebration for residents of the Shire. Cloud9 have proposed to host similar events into the future across Shire townships. A community Christmas cinema is a feel good concept that provides Cloud9 Cinema opportunity to test success for other community events.

Beyond the Buckland 4WD

This event is in augural year, and will be held from the 12th to 20th March 2016. The event will bring approximately 200 people into the region with the event based in the Buckland Valley, Beveridge Station. The event will include escorted tours to different locations in the region for predominantly four-wheel drive vehicles, tours to local wineries, gourmet food venues, historic sites and attractions. The funding through the new events budget will be utilised for waste management and other resources.

Mount Beauty Music Festival

Further to the event funding recommendation above, representatives of the Mount Beauty Music Festival have met with Council officers to raise concerns regarding the loss of use of the Mount Beauty Country Club due to its recent closure. This venue has been used for festival activities hosting between 300 -350 people at a time in the past. This event is a very well-run community event attracting in the vicinity of 1,000 participants each year. It is the major event for Mount Beauty and continues to evolve and create new audiences. Council officers are currently working with the event organiser exploring solutions, including the possible erection of a portion of Councils marquee or sound proofing of the stadium. It is likely that additional funding will be required, on top of the \$1,000 financial contribution and \$1,500 logistical contribution already provided for the 2016 event. It is estimated that this extra contribution will not exceed \$3,000.

Future of events in the Shire

Council supports all events held in the Shire by providing ongoing logistic support and seed funding for new events.

Consideration will need to be given in the preparation of next year's budget for allocation of additional funding for events if event attraction remains a high priority to Council.



Event	Applicant	Town	Requested sponsorship	Estimated logistics requested	Funding
Community Outdoor Cinema Christmas Event	Cloud 9 Cinema	Bright	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$750 Sponsorship \$500 capped Logistics
Beyond the Buckland	4WD Victoria	Buckland & Surrounds	Nil	\$3,000	\$1000 capped Logistics

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Alpine Shire Council Plan

- Strategy 4.2.1 Prosperous Economy, Employment and Investment – Implement targeted tourism and business support

Arts and Culture Strategic Plan 2008 – 5.5 Events

- Creative, efficient, effective and strategic support of culture and arts programs, events and facilities.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

In this report, the total recommended for sponsorship and logistics for the two events is \$2,250. This will leave a residual of \$7,750 for other new events from the \$10,000 new event attraction budget.



CONSULTATION

The annual Event Funding program was widely advertised in the local paper, on the Alpine Shire Council website and emailed directly to all event organisers listed in Council's directory.

As these applications were received outside of the normal annual event funding program an assessment of the applications was undertaken by Manager of Economic and Community Development, both Development Officers (Events) and in consultation with Director Sustainable Development.

Applications were assessed against the following criteria:

- Alignment with the Alpine Shire Council Tourism Development strategies
- Alignment with township brands
- Level to which the event will attract outside visitors (intrastate and interstate)
- Future growth and sustainability of the event
- Value added to the existing calendar of events
- Offer a significant economic benefit to the wider Alpine Shire community
- Marketing/ promotional strategies – how they complement Alpine Shire Council
- Organisational capacity of the event and its managing participants
- Potential for the event to develop into a key tourism or visitor attraction in the foreseeable future.

There was general agreement about the events that met the criteria and have greatest benefit to the Shire.

CONCLUSION

Events are extremely important to the Shire by providing economic activity, community and cultural enrichment. Council officers assist event organisers by providing guidance, ongoing logistic support and where possible recommend sponsorship.

This recommendation aligns with event funding criteria.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director of Sustainable Development
- Manager Community and Economic Development
- Event Development Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Nil



4.4.2 Dinner Plain unbudgeted asset renewal works

File Number: 110.01

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update of asset renewal works to be undertaken in Dinner Plain in the current financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the asset renewal works to be undertaken at Dinner Plain;*
- 2. Endorse the additional funds required (\$47,739) which is above the current financial year budget allocation, to complete all works.*

BACKGROUND

An amount of \$50,000 was allocated to the capital works budget for the 2015/16 financial year for Dinner Plain road renewal. A comprehensive review of roads, carparks, footpaths and kerb and channel throughout Dinner Plain was undertaken in September with a number of works identified as requiring immediate attention. Quotes for the works have been received and collectively are higher than the budget allows.

ISSUES

The asset renewal works identified include:

Castran Corner

The footpath and stairs concrete that was laid when the Castran Corner complex was developed in 2010 has failed. The walkway and stairs surface has diminished and currently poses an OH&S risk. The failure is as a result of the materials used and snow clearing (by machinery) required over the winter season. The concrete and stairs replacement works have been quoted with a cost of \$60,000. The current balustrade arrangement on the walkway that protect pedestrians from falling from height onto the road has also failed and is estimated to cost \$20,000 for replacement.

Scrubbers End Car Park

Scrubbers End Car park surface requires renewal. There has been limited programmed maintenance works undertaken on the car park in recent years and over time snow clearing operations have damaged the surface along with normal wear and tear from traffic. This car park serves as over night and day time parking for the village and is heavily utilised over the winter season by ski slope patrons and guests staying in the village.

Road Kerb and Channel concrete renewal

A review of all of kerb and channel for Dinner Plain has been undertaken. Works that require immediate attention have been quoted with costing of \$50,000. The Roads to Recovery program will fund works as planned.



Fire Access Trail

Council has recently been successful in securing funding from the state government through the CFA Road Access Funding program to create a 380m fire access trail from the Great Alpine Road to the industrial precinct of the village. This serves as a second access for emergency service vehicles to access Dinner Plain village. The funding has been provided on a 1 : 7 basis and so will require some funding from Council. The trail is an existing trail that requires upgrade to allow movement of emergency services vehicles.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The works outlined in this report are consistent with the following strategic objective in the Council Plan:

- 2.3 - Improve the Condition and Management of Council Assets.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications of the proposed asset renewal works are outlined in the table below, which shows a deficit of \$47,739 to complete the proposed works.

Item	Cost	Funding
Castran Corner stairs concrete replacement	\$60,000	
Castran Corner balustrade replacement	\$20,000	
Scrubbers End car park repair	\$15,000	
Kerb and channel replacement	\$50,000	
Fire access trail upgrade	\$21,909	
Dinner Plain road renewal 2015-16 budget		\$50,000
Roads to Recovery funding		\$50,000
CFA Road Access Funding		\$19,170
Total	\$166,909	\$119,170

CONSULTATION

Consultation has occurred through Dinner Plain Advisory Committee and through other informal discussions and correspondence with business operators and rate payers. Consultation with respect to the fire access trail works has been undertaken with local and regional CFA representatives.

CONCLUSION

The priority works proposed are required to maintain infrastructure at Dinner Plain and provide safe movement of pedestrians and vehicles throughout.



DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Under Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following officers declare that they have no interests to disclose in providing this report.

- Director of Sustainable Development
- Director Assets
- Manager Economic and Community Development

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Nil



5 DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

RECOMMENDATION

That the following documents be signed and sealed.

1. *Section 173 Agreement – Douglas & Margaret McConville. Lot 1 on Lodged Plan no. 78528, Volume 6238 Folio 526.*

Conditions 23 and 27 of Planning Permit 2012.007 for the subdivision of land to create three lots and an easement at 3 Robertson Street, Myrtleford.

The Agreement identifies Country Fire Authority conditions and Bushfire Management Plan.

2. *Contract 1503901 in favour of Murray Valley Piling Pty Ltd for the Freeburgh Bridge Replacement.*