

## **1 PETITION TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC TOILETS AT ROTARY PARK PAKENHAM**

FILE REFERENCE INT1949181

RESPONSIBLE GENERAL MANAGER Tracey Parker

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council continue to liaise with Rotary Club of Pakenham members to facilitate the installation of the proposed public toilet at Rotary Park, Pakenham, and respond to the head petitioner advising them of the funding now committed by the Federal Government and by Council to implement the new public toilet.

### **Attachments**

1 Petition from residents, circulated to Councillors only 29 Pages

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Correspondence from Rotary Club of Pakenham was received November 2017 requesting the approval to several pieces of infrastructure including a toilet facility.

Council officers have been working with Rotary Club of Pakenham members to facilitate the delivery of the infrastructure items as per the November 2017 correspondence.

In July 2018, Council committed to funding the toilet connection costs, estimated to be \$26,000.

In May 2019, Jason Wood MP made an election commitment of \$180,000 to fund the proposed toilet facilities.

At the Council meeting on 17 June 2019 a petition with 170 signatures requesting Council to provide \$180,000 funding to install the toilet facility. This Council funding is now not required due to the Federal Government's election commitment.

### **BACKGROUND**

A petition has been received from the office of Brad Battin MP, the petition states:

"The Petition of residents in Victoria calls on the Cardinia Shire Council to provide funding for public toilets to be installed at Rotary Park Pakenham and not place the \$180,000 cost on volunteers. This Council Park is home to Parkrun and many great facilities used by locals, toilets are needed to be installed urgently and at the cost to Council".

The petition contains 702 signatures.

Correspondence from Rotary Club of Pakenham was received November 2017 requesting the approval to install the following items proposed to be funded by community grants and money raised by Rotary Club of Pakenham:

- Placement of two toilets along the 2.5km corridor.
- Placement of a new children playground.
- Placement of a second fitness station.
- Placement of seats along the pedestrian corridor.
- Formation of new garden beds and tree plantings.

In December 2017 a response was sent to the Rotary Club of Pakenham, stating a commitment to work with Rotary members to ensure the following items were successfully delivered:

- A single toilet unit, located at the North Eastern end of the corridor, adjacent the current Rotary shelter facility. Council has since agree to contribute \$26,000 to the connection costs associated with the new public toilet.
- A playground to be located adjacent the proposed toilet facility. Council officers are currently liaising with Rotary members regarding the planning phase of the playground which is due for completion in September 2019
- Additional seating along the pedestrian corridor. This has since been completed
- Assistance in the development of planting beds to facilitate community tree planting activities. Council officers have assisted Rotary members in the planting of over 1500 plants with the assistance of local school group and community members.

At a site meeting in July 2018 with Pakenham Rotary representatives, Councillors and council officers, a verbal request was made for Council to assist with the utility connection cost involved in the proposed toilet installation. Investigations were completed and a commitment was made for Council to fund the estimated \$26,000 connection costs to allow the toilet installation to continue.

During the 2019 federal election campaign, Jason Wood MP committed \$180,000 to fund the proposed public toilet at Rotary Park. The Rotary Club are now having discussions with Jason regarding the timing of the delivery of this funding.

## **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed facility infrastructure installations are considered to align with the Open Space Management Framework 2018.

## **RELEVANCE TO COUNCIL PLAN**

5.1.2 Enhance the community's confidence in Council's community engagement.

## **CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION**

Council Officers will continue to liaise with Rotary of Pakenham members to assist in the installation of the proposed toilet facility.

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Council have committed to funding the \$26,000 connection costs at allow the toilet installation to proceed. This funding has been allocated within the 2019/20 Financial Year approved capital works program.

## **CONCLUSION**

Council officers will continue to liaise with Rotary Club of Pakenham members to facilitate the installation of the proposed public toilet at Rotary Park, Pakenham.