

4.2 MRRG GRANT - MARSHALL ROAD FROM BERINGARRA AVENUE TO BEECHBORO ROAD NORTH

(Altone) (Operations)

KEY ISSUES

- In late September 2006 Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) offered the City an MRRG Improvement Grant of \$763,333 for Marshall Road from Beringarra Avenue to Beechboro Road North.
- The reason for this offer was that surplus funds from the 2006/07 MRRG Rehabilitation Program was diverted into the 2006/07 MRRG Improvement Program.
- Following investigation, the City accepted the offer, with the proviso that the project completion date be extended to 1 December 2007.
- The MRRG Technical Members' meeting of 5 October 2006 and the full meeting of the MRRG held on 26 October 2006 approved the grant and extension of time.
- The City's contribution of \$381,667 will be funded in 2006/07 from the Roads to Recovery Supplementary grant of \$861,721.

It is recommended that the Council endorse the acceptance of the \$763,333 MRRG Improvement Grant for Marshall Road from Beringarra Avenue to Beechboro Road North, with a completion date of 1 December 2007.

BACKGROUND

MRRG submissions are split across two sections, the road improvement program and the road rehabilitation program. Submissions include project description, estimated costs and project benefits.

MRWA, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Regional Road Group has developed separate criteria and guidelines pertaining to road improvement and rehabilitation projects. These methods involve ranking various projects on a metropolitan-wide basis with the highest priority in State Road Funds distribution being given to projects with greater points. In addition, maximum funds distributed to any individual Council in any one year does not exceed the limits detailed below. Funding assistance is given on the basis that MRWA contribute two-thirds to Council's one-third contribution.

Program	Maximum Allowable Annual Project Cost
Road Improvement Program	\$1,500,000
Road Rehabilitation Program	\$ 750,000

In May 2005 the City of Swan submitted six Improvement Projects for consideration for the 2006/07 financial year - three for Hepburn Avenue, two for Marshall Road and one for Beechboro Road North. In the initial consideration process none of these projects had sufficient points to gain approval, when competing against the other projects submitted by other metropolitan councils.

REPORT

On 22 September 2006, MRWA asked the City of Swan whether it was in a position to complete one of the 2006/07 Marshall Road projects mentioned above and recoup a MRRG grant of \$763,333 by 30 June 2007. This project was the section between Beringarra Avenue and Beechboro Road North. The reason for this change was that as there was a surplus of money for 2006/07 Rehabilitation Projects, the MRRG Technical Officers decided to put the additional \$981,000 into Road Improvement Projects for 2006/07. Other projects were ahead of this section of Marshall Road on the list, but the City of Armadale were not in a position to undertake their submitted project and the end result was the MRWA offer of 22 September.

Currently the City is completing Marshall Road (Bellefin Drive to Beringarra Avenue), a 2005/06 project, which has been granted an extension of time until the end of 2006. This has a total project cost of \$1,100,000 with \$733,333 being the MRRG 2/3 contribution, and the City's contribution being \$366,667.

Marshall Road, Beringarra Avenue to Beechboro Road North, has a total project cost of \$1,145,000, with \$763,333 the MRRG 2/3 contribution, and the City's contribution \$381,667. The project does not include any upgrading of the Marshall Road/Beechboro Road North intersection and traffic lights.

The total project cost for these two sections of Marshall Road from Bellefin Drive to Beechboro Road North is \$1,100,000 plus \$1,145,000 or \$2,245,000. Two-thirds of this total, or \$1,496,666, is the MRRG grant. The balance, or \$748,334, is contributed by the City.

Following estimate and scoping checks, on 28 September 2006 the City responded to the MRWA offer, accepting the MRRG grant, with the proviso that the project completion date be extended from 30 June 2007 to 1 December 2007. This was because about three months of the 2006/07 financial year has already passed, the City had its construction schedule finalised and the project could not be commenced on site until May-June 2007. It was thought that the offer was too good to turn down, because in the normal course of MRRG Improvement applications, this section of Marshall Road would find it very difficult to accumulate enough points, resulting in the City having to fund its upgrade from municipal funds. The City's response was considered by the Metropolitan Regional Road Group Technical Officers meeting on 5 October 2006, during which the offering of the Marshall Road project to the City was endorsed. It was tabled for ratification at the full MRRG meeting on 26 October 2006,

and was approved. Shortly the MRWA will advise the City officially of this outcome in writing.

The City's contribution of \$381,667 will be funded in 2006/07 from the one off Roads to Recovery Supplementary Grant of \$861,721, received as a result of the May 2006 Federal Government budget. A 2006/07 budget adjustment will be required.

Final designing of Marshall Road, Beringarra Avenue to Beechboro Road North, is currently underway. As stated above, construction is scheduled to commence in May-June 2007 and be completed by 1 December 2007, i.e. to span two financial years. Some land acquisition will be required near to the Marshall Road/Beechboro Road North intersection where the new dual carriageway merges back into a two-lane road prior to the intersection.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Key Result Area 2: Developing the City of Swan

2.2 Ensure competitive, cost effective and environmentally sustainable infrastructure and facilities that support business, industry and community

2.2.1 Construct and maintain infrastructure, facilities and public spaces to meet a standard of safety and amenity required by the community

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The City's contribution of \$381,667 will be funded in 2006/07 from the one-off Roads to Recovery Supplementary Grant of \$861,721. A budget adjustment will be required to identify the source as the R2R supplementary grant.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council resolve to:

- 1) Endorse the acceptance of the City of Swan of the \$763,333 MRRG improvement grant for Marshall Road from Beringarra Avenue to Beechboro Road North, with a completion date of 1 December 2007.

CARRIED