

## 6.9. PETANQUE SHADE

**REPORT AUTHOR** Jeremy Lebeuf, Sport & Recreation Officer

**MANAGER** Lisa Golding

**DEPARTMENT** People & Community Services

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council resolves to:**

- 1. Allocate \$26,400 (GST exc) from the 2023-2024 Emergent Discretionary Fund to install shelters to provide shade at the Port Douglas petanque piste in accordance with Council's endorsed Sports Masterplan and requests from user groups, and**
- 2. Delegates authority under s 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009* to the Chief Executive Officer to finalise and execute matters in relation to this project.**

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received several requests from users of the petanque piste for the addition of shade structures over the benches surrounding the piste and for storage space for their equipment.

Council officers have been working with the petanque players to assist them to apply for grant funding for the structures but, as the group are not an incorporated body or formal club, they are ineligible for most grants.

Under auspice of the University of the Third Age (U3A), the petanque group applied for a Council Community Facilities grant but were ineligible as they don't hold a tenure agreement with Council for the use of the piste and the amount of funding required exceeded the community grants cap.

Providing shade over the piste is listed as a future action in the Council endorsed Sports Masterplan but is not rated as an immediate priority and has not been budgeted for in Council's 2023-2024 capital works budget.

This project can be budgeted for through allocation of funds from the 2023-2024 Emergent Discretionary Fund.

### BACKGROUND

The pétanque group has requested that Council install shade structures over the benches surrounding the piste in Port Douglas, of the same type as the larger shelters on the Esplanade at Four Mile Beach. The primary purpose of the structures is to provide shelter from the rain and sun when players are not in action. The group would prefer this type of structure to the shade sails across the whole piste as recommended in the Port Douglas Sports Complex Master Plan.

The players have also requested Council install a storage facility for the sole use of the group.

The pétanque group are not a registered not-for-profit club but are regular users of the petanque piste in Port Douglas and have been seeking funding to provide shade around the piste.

The group, under auspice of U3A, have applied for a Council Community Facilities grant to build their shade structure. Council grants are capped at \$10,000, and Council officers estimate that shade shelters will cost approximately \$26,000. Under the guidelines of the grant, applicants should have a tenure agreement with Council to be eligible, which the petanque group are unable to do without formalising their association.

Council officers have been working with the group throughout the year to overcome these barriers to obtaining funding for extra facilities at the piste.

## COMMENTS

The shade shelter at the pétanque piste will offer protection and comfort year-round to the users who are predominately an older population of the Douglas Shire community.

Pricing considerations for shade structures and bench seating with incorporated storage space:

- \$13,000 approx. for a shelter with roof area 5 x 5m
- \$2,500 per day times two days, labour costs for installation
- \$2,000 concrete slab if required
- \$900 for an electrician and fittings if lighting is required. Extra if there is no power supply nearby.
- \$8,000 bench seating incorporating storage

Total of approximately \$26,400 for one structure and bench seating with incorporated storage.

It should be noted that the petanque group request a minimum of two structures at approximately a total of \$52,800.

The Pétanque group has approximately \$2,000 of their own budget to put towards these shade structures.

## PROPOSAL

That Council resolves to:

1. Allocate \$26,400 (GST Exclusive) from the 2023-2024 Emergent Discretionary Fund to instal shelters to provide shade at the Port Douglas petanque piste in accordance with Council's endorsed Sports Masterplan and requests from user groups, and
2. Delegates authority under s 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009* to the Chief Executive Officer to finalise and execute matters in relation to this project

## FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

This project has not been budgeted for in the 2023-2024 capital works budget. For the project to commence in this financial year, budget will need to be provided from the Discretionary Fund.

## RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Council officers will project manage the capital works in line with Council's standard risk management process.

Allocating unbudgeted funds to requests from individual community members outside of usual grants and sponsorship processes creates the risk of setting a precedent or receiving allegations of ad hoc distribution of Council funds. This risk can be mitigated through transparent and accountable decision-making processes.

## SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

**Economic:** Budget for this project will need to be reallocated.

**Environmental:** Nil

**Social:** Shade structures will allow year-round protection from the sun and rain to maintain usage of the pétanque piste. As the primary users are older population of the community this is vital to support physical health as well as mental. Being active is one of the best things older adults can do to mitigate the effects of aging and help combat disease and depression.

## CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

### Corporate Plan 2019-2024 Initiatives:

#### Theme 1 - Celebrating Our Communities

Douglas Shire Council embraces the diversity of our communities and values the contribution that all people make to the Shire. We recognise that it is a core strength of the region. We acknowledge our past so that it may guide us in the future. We recognise the wrongs done to our Indigenous community and we actively seek to reconcile so that we may all benefit from and enjoy our Shire. We acknowledge early European settlers who forged an agricultural base for our economy and we welcome all new arrivals as part of our broader community.

**Goal 3 - We will develop programs that promote health, well-being and safety in the community.**

### Operational Plan 2023-2024 Actions:

New project arisen during the financial year.

## COUNCIL'S ROLE

Council can play a number of different roles in certain circumstances and it is important to be clear about which role is appropriate for a specific purpose or circumstance. The implementation of actions will be a collective effort and Council's involvement will vary from information only through to full responsibility for delivery.

The following areas outline where Council has a clear responsibility to act:

**Advocate** Council makes representation on behalf of the community on important issues, funding opportunities, projects and programs. Council will use its influence to seek the best outcomes for the community.

## CONSULTATION

**Internal:** Sport and Recreational officer  
Team Leader Property Services  
Coordinator Public Spaces  
  
Councillor Workshop 28 November 2023

**External:** Nil

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

NIL

## ATTACHMENTS

Nil