

9.5.3. PS - 20/04/2020 - Drought Communities Program - Round 2

Report by Director of People & Services

Reference

Minute 19-122: Ordinary Meeting of Council 27 May 2019.

Minute 19-202: Ordinary Meeting of Council 22 July 2019.

Minute 19-351: Ordinary Meeting of Council 25 November 2019.

Summary

In November 2019, Council was notified of its eligibility to submit an application for a further \$1 million under Round 2 of the Drought Communities Program by the Department of Industry, Innovation & Science. Council is required to submit its application to the Department by 30 March 2020 and all approved projects must be completed by 31 December 2020.

As Council is aware, the focus of the program is to provide local employment; keep money flowing through local shops and suppliers; and to support drought-relief through economic stimulus within communities experiencing drought hardship. In response, the Administration, sought community input into the projects that could best benefit the communities within the Lithgow LGA.

Community Submissions for the Drought Communities Program Round 2 were received from 2 December 2019 to 24 December, 2019, however, due to the Christmas closure and staff leave periods, submissions were accepted up until 17 January 2020. **A total of 24 submissions were received from the community.**

Following the closure of submissions, Council Officers have carefully investigated and assessed each submission against the funding criteria and the Frequently Asked Questions provided by the funding body noting that projects should:

- provide work for people whose employment has been impacted by drought
- stimulate local community spending
- use local resources, businesses and suppliers
- provide a long-lasting benefit to communities and the agricultural industries they depend on.

Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and can include:

- repairs, maintenance, upgrading or building new community facilities;
- repairs, maintenance, upgrades, construction and fit-out of community spaces;
- employing local contractors to undertake repairs and maintenance;
- holding events; and
- undertaking other drought relief activities (including water carting for human consumption).

As part of this process, the Administration has also consulted with NSW Farmers – Hartley Branch and Local Land Services.

Copies of the submissions are attached to enable Councillors to make an informed decision as to the projects to be included in the program application. Below is a summary of the submissions and Officers Commentary along with a priority listing of projects which have been identified as achievable within the completion timeframe and which fit within the criteria.

Commentary

Facility Improvements - Park/Playgrounds

1. Clarence Pirie Park, Capertee

A submission was received from the Capertee Progress Association for:

- the installation of a picnic table and bench seats with an awning,
- an additional awning for an uncovered picnic table at the park
- A shade sail to cover the slippery dip.

2. Wallerawang and Portland Skateparks

A submission was received from the Wallerawang/Lidsdale Progress Association which was supported by an internal submission for the installation of:

- Twin Exeloo toilet to replace the existing toilet facility at Kremer Park near the Skatepark and Children's Playground.
- Shade Structures to be installed at Wallerawang and Portland Skateparks and over Tweedie Park.
- Exeloo to be installed at Tweedie Park, Wallerawang (Skatepark)

Facility Improvements - Community Recreational

A submission was received from the Tarana Valley Community Group (TVCG) to undertake improvements at:

1. Tarana Recreation Reserve

- Create an entrance bay off Tarana Road with a sealed apron and driveway, post & rail fencing and central gateway & signage.
- Install 2 composting toilets
- Connect to town water supply
- Build a picnic table, shelter and BBQ
- Install a 60,000l water storage tank

Officers Comment

The administration has spoken with the TVCG in relation to the Reserve Management. The TVCG is of the opinion that, the Reserve was dedicated in 1927 from freehold land and therefore it is not subject to Native Title. However, Council's Land Use & Property Officer has investigated this matter and notes:

"Tarana Recreation Reserve is Lot 7001 in DP1025711, owned by State of NSW (i.e., the Crown) and Council is not the Crown Land Manager. The Crown may have appointed a reserve trustee (however, information available is unclear and inconsistent, so it's difficult to tell). Any reserve trustee would be a Category 2 non-council Crown Land Manager, and approval from the Crown would be required for any works. With regard to native title, it is unclear as to whether this parcel is part of the native title claim by Warrabinga-Wiradjuri #7, but the default position is to assume that native title rights and interests exist, unless the Federal Court has determined otherwise. Approval from Crown Lands would be required for any work proposed, and Crown Lands will be responsible for considering any native title matters".

2. Tarana Farmers Market Site

- Enhance the streetscape along Sodwalls & Diamond Swamp Roads and landscape the southern apex of this site with:
 - Terracing, retaining banks, fixed seating and picnic table
 - Planting 3 large advanced deciduous trees
 - Native plantings, landscaping, mulching and traffic exclusion protection along Diamond Swamp and Sodwalls Roads.

- Signage and Community Noticeboard.
- Footpath along the northern side of Mutton Falls Road linking the RFS Site to the Tarana Pub and Café.
- 80,000l rainwater tank at the fire shed.

Officers comment

It was agreed that this was a worthwhile project however, the proposed budget by the TVCG may not be adequate. It was further noted that this site is the location of the Tarana Rural Fire Services and that landscaping of the site may prove difficult for emergency vehicle access and egress.

Council has already identified funding in the 2019/20 budget for a Picnic Table and Noticeboard in Tarana and this will be undertaken prior to 30 June. It is estimated that a footpath along the northern side of Mutton Falls Road linking the RFS Site to the Tarana Pub and Café would cost approximately \$15,000 and that installation of a 110,000l rainwater tank would cost approximately \$10,000.

3. Yvonne Martyn Motorsport Park

Purchase and install a 14,500-litre plastic water tank and transfer pump to harvest rainwater from the roofs of the buildings at our Yvonne Martyn Motorsport Park on the Boulder Road at Portland. The harvested water would then be pumped up to a 1,000-litre header tank which supplies the toilet cisterns and hand washing basin taps. Excess water would be pumped into our water truck and firefighting trailer.

Officers Comment

It was noted that this is a worthy project in keeping with the spirit of water conservation during drought. As the project is only \$2,289, it was felt that this project, if not included, could be considered for funding under Round 1 of Council's Financial Assistance program.

4. Lidsdale Tennis Courts

A submission was received from the Wallerawang/Lidsdale Progress Association for repairs and painting to the Clubhouse at the Lidsdale Tennis Courts.

Officers Comment

This project is supported in principle however, the Clubhouse will need to be inspected for asbestos and lead based paint.

5. Lowther War Memorial

A submission was received from land managers of the Lowther War Memorial Reserve requesting the removal of existing damaged fencing and the erection of a new boundary fence using hinge joint fencing and steel strainer posts.

Officers comment

The Lowther War Memorial is located on Crown Reserve. Council's Land Use & Property Officer has investigated this proposal notes that:

"the project is feasible provided the new fence stays within the footprint of the existing fence, therefore it would not be too difficult from a native title compliance perspective. However, the appointed reserve managers will need to liaise with Crown Lands in respect of the proposed project".

6. Sporting Fields Irrigation

This project aims to continue the program commenced in Round 1 of the Drought Communities Program of installing irrigation systems in Sporting Fields. This program improves the quality of Council's playing fields and provides efficiencies as the system is installed insitu and is fully

automated. The system is programmed to water relevant facilities at night reducing the amount of water used and lost to evaporation. As it is fully automated, it can be remotely controlled by a mobile app and during times of heavy rainfall the amount of water applied can be adjusted accordingly.

It is proposed that irrigation would be installed at the following locations:

- Marjorie Jackson Oval
- Watsford Oval
- Conran Oval
- Tony Luchetti Field 2

7. Capertee Recreation Reserve

A submission was received from the Capertee Progress Association in relation to the establishment of a walking/bike track (approximately 2km) with fitness equipment, covered seating and landscaping on a portion of the Capertee Recreation Reserve. New Land Managers have been appointed by Crown Lands to a portion of the reserve located within the village behind the Capertee Royal Hotel.

Officers Comment

Council's Land Use & Property Officer has investigated this proposal notes that:

"The proposed works seem extensive and permanent and would definitely require a more stringent assessment in terms of native title compliance. The appointed managers will need to liaise with Crown Lands in respect of the proposed project".

8. Lake Wallace Recreation Area

Submissions were received from the Wallerawang/Lidsdale Progress Association and the Lake Wallace Community Boating Centre Inc. For upgrades to the following facilities at Lake Wallace:

- Power extended to the Baseball Shed
- Power extended to the Community Boating Centre
- Aeration System at Lake Wallace for fishing

Officers Comment

The Land in question is owned by Energy Australia. This project does not meet the requirements for eligible expenditure under the Drought Communities Programme Extension - grant opportunity guidelines - December 2019. Section 5.4 - Ineligible Expenditure (p8) cites the following example of ineligible expenditure which is relevant to this submission:

- *the development of private or commercial ventures, including licensed areas of registered clubs.*

Facility Improvements - Footpaths

A submission was received from the Wallerawang/Lidsdale Progress Association for construction of three footpaths:

- Wallerawang Police Station to the pedestrian refuge in Barton Avenue/Tweedie Street to make access to the pedestrian refuge easier.
- Along James Parade as both sides of the road are difficult to traverse.
- From Wallerawang Public School to Forest Ridge Drive.

Officers comment

The footpath between the Wallerawang Police Station and pedestrian refuge in Barton Avenue/Tweedie St is supported in principle as it meets a gap in the existing network.

The footpath along James Parade is supported in principle and would be subject to an inspection to determine feasibility and location of the footpath. Such a construction would directly connect

many residents to the existing Wallerawang footpath network, encouraging active transport in the area.

The construction of a footpath between Wallerawang Public School and Forest Ridge Drive has previously been considered by Council and it is noted that this would require completion of a feasibility study and widening of the bridge. At this time, the cost is expected to be prohibitive as a result of the causeway which exists for part of this length of Barton Avenue. Constructing a footpath here would require widening of the road profile by 2.5 metres as it is currently only 10m wide. Over 100m of armco railing will need to be relocated and over 180 lineal metres of bulk earthworks will be required to provide required space and retain existing roadside drainage.

Facility Improvements – Cemeteries

A community submission has been received from Wallerawang Lidsdale Progress Association for a new fence to be constructed at Pipers Flat Cemetery.

Tourism Signage

A submission has been received from the Portland Business Association for the installation of Wayfinding Signage for tourist walks and precinct hi-lights. The signage would allow the signposting of several tourist walks in Portland, identifying landmarks, toilets and parking within the CBD area.

Officers comment

In Round 1 of the Drought Communities Program, Council completed the design and manufacture tourism signage to key destinations in and around the LGA to promote local tourism and tourist attractions to be installed prior to 30 June. This project would provide another layer to the tourism offer in the Lithgow LGA.

Facility Improvements – Community Buildings

1. Union Theatre – Front of House Works

The purpose of the project is to deliver upgraded front of house spaces to increase venue revenue and local spending by offering multiple spaces for hire, including a refreshed event hall, large meeting room, and gallery space. The minor works involve painting all public spaces (excluding toilets), resurfacing the hall floors, replacing damaged sections of the pressed metal ceiling, repair/replacement of the proscenium, furnishings and minor repair works not usually considered maintenance (repair to floorboards, exterior cleaning).

Transforming the venue, which to date has primarily only serviced stage-based events, into a multi-purpose cultural venue will dramatically increase the opportunities for local creatives/business to promote their practices, reach audiences, and offer the community increased opportunity to participate in cultural activity. As well as engaging local contractors to undertake the works, the increased activity within the venue will also deliver opportunities for event-based employment.

2. Works Carried Forward from Round 1

Due to time constraints the following works were carried forward from Round 1. This was due to the discovery of asbestos and the difficulty with engaging specialist contractors in a short timeframe to undertake the asbestos removal.

- Wallerawang Memorial Hall – asbestos removal, internal ceilings, walls and floor repairs
- Vale of Clwydd Hall – asbestos removal, re clad outside of building, reline internal walls and ceilings.
- Hermitage Hall – asbestos removal, re clad outside of building, reline internal walls and ceilings.

These projects were all identified from community submissions received as part of the consultation process for Drought Communities Programme Round 1.

3. Lithgow Womens Shed – Clubhouse

A submission was received from Lithgow Women’s Shed.

OPTION 1: Funding to replace the water damaged building at the Lithgow Greyhound Track.

- Remove existing demountable building.
- Replace with demountable modular building or shed.
- Cement slab to enable installation of heavy equipment for example drill press & lathe.
- Building to include kitchen/meeting area, disabled toilet/shower, and disabled access (ramp & wide doors)
- Veranda/undercover area
- Install security system
- Hi-cube container to store timber.
- Upgrade car park area

OPTION 2: Funding to install demountable or shed on council supplied property.

OPTION 3: Funding to occupy suitable building supplied by council.

Officers comment

The Lithgow Women’s Shed currently has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Lithgow Greyhound Association to use a demountable building on their site. The current building is water damaged and they have been advised that it would not be suitable for renovating, therefore they are seeking to replace the building. It should also be noted that prior to commencement of any building works a Development Application would be required to be submitted.

Council’s Land Use and Property Officer has investigated this matter and advises

“Searches indicate that the greyhound track which is surrounded by Union, Inch, Donald and Bennett Streets (Lot 1 in DP327930) is not Crown land, but is private land owned by Lithgow Greyhound Racing Club Limited. Therefore, there is no impediment from a Crown land/native title perspective. But if Council does approve funding to the Women’s Shed, we should ensure that the Women’s Shed has a legitimate right to occupy the private land and, also ensure that ownership of the demountable building is clear.”

Furthermore, Option 1 does not meet the requirements for eligible expenditure under the Drought Communities Programme Extension - grant opportunity guidelines - December 2019. Section 5.4 - Ineligible Expenditure (p8) cites the following examples which are relevant to this submission:

- *the development of private or commercial ventures, including licensed areas of registered clubs.*

However, with respect to Options 2 & 3, subject to further investigation and due diligence, land at the Hermitage, adjoining the Lithgow Community Nursery, could potentially be suitable for development as a community space for facilities such as the Lithgow Women’s Shed. However, this would require further liaison with the Lithgow Women’s Shed, investigation into the feasibility of such a project, design and costing.

4. Lithgow Information & Neighbourhood Centre – Community Facility

As Council would be aware, LINC is seeking to increase the service delivery and support it currently offers the community. However, LINC has outgrown the building at 1 Padley Street Lithgow. *“The building at 1 Padley street is becoming unsafe and too small for our growing services”.*

Linc is therefore seeking the following:

- Council land in the town of Lithgow to develop a purpose-built Centre.
- Funds to cover the Development application, draftsman/designer and builder and cost to build.

Officers Comment

This project does not meet the requirements for eligible expenditure under the Drought Communities Programme Extension - grant opportunity guidelines - December 2019. Section 5.4 - Ineligible Expenditure (p8) cites the following examples which are relevant to this submission:

- *undertaking studies or investigations*

However, as with Options 2 & 3 of the Lithgow Women's Shed proposal, subject to further investigation and due diligence, land at the Hermitage, adjoining the Lithgow Community Nursery, could potentially be suitable for development as a community space for facilities such as the Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre. However, this would require further liaison with LINC, investigation into the feasibility of such a project, design and costing.

Waste Management

A submission has been received from NSW Farmers – Hartley Branch (which was supported by the Local Land Services – LLS) for the construction of boundary fencing around rural tips to prevent feral animals from entering. Discussions with LLS noted that fencing the rural tips would reduce the ability of feral pigs to enter the premises and reduce the spread of disease.

Officers Comment

It was noted that Lithgow Solid Waste Facility and Capertee Garbage Depot would benefit from fencing to exclude feral animals, however this would need to be investigated and costed.

Weed Management

Two submissions were received in relation to roadside weed management; one from Upper Macquarie County Council and the second from a member of the community.

Upper Macquarie County Council wish to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with Council for Roadside Weed Management (Biosecurity) - the work proposed is for additional weed treatment activity on Council land for the benefit of the Lithgow Community – particularly farmers. It will also assist Council better meet its weed biosecurity duty and to some extent get ahead of the problem before the post *drought* weed resurgence that is inevitable in some areas.

The community submission was received from a resident of the Hartley Valley who expressed concern with regard to African Lovegrass and other weeds on roadsides).

Officers Comment

Council currently has a Memorandum of Understanding with Upper Macquarie County Council. The Council Administration consulted with the Local Land Services in relation to weed management and it was noted as follows:

- *A roadside weed management program needs to be developed in conjunction with an education program for adjoining landholders. Spraying weeds along the roadside is not beneficial if the adjoining property remains infested.*

Community Wellbeing

1. Breakfast Club

A submission has been received from Headspace Lithgow to develop a Breakfast Club at Lithgow and Portland High Schools for two terms at a cost of \$2,900.

Officers comment

It was noted that this program was extremely worthy, it may not fit within the funding guidelines. It was however, considered appropriate to contact Headspace and recommend that they apply under Council's Financial Assistance Program.

2. Mental Health Officer

Submissions were received suggesting that there was a need to employ a mental Health Officer to assist drought affected farmers and residents who are isolated.

Officers Comment

Council has been working closely with the Sonia Cox, RAMHP Coordinator from [Rural Adversity Mental Health Program](#).

“The Rural Adversity Mental Health Program (RAMHP) is a major project of the Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health (CRRMH). RAMHP has 19 Coordinators based across regional, rural and remote NSW who inform, educate and connect individuals, communities and workplaces with appropriate services and programs. The Program links people to local mental health services and resources, educates workplaces and communities about mental health and wellbeing and responds in times of natural disasters and severe adversity”.

3. General Support

Some submissions were received in relation to provision of general support to individual members of the community who are vulnerable; isolated, homeless or recently impacted by the bushfires. It should be noted that these matters are outside the scope of the Drought Communities Program – Extension.

Marketing

A submission was received from Central West Media Ltd/Village Voice to undertake a marketing campaign supporting local business. The proposal is for a full page of local business advertising in the paper each week:

Officers comment

The submission requests that Council consider an allocation of \$33,000 for businesses to advertise in the Village Voice over a 52-week period. It is considered appropriate that, should Council wish to fund a business marketing program through local print media that, an amount be identified by Council and that advertising rates also be sought from the Lithgow Mercury, with businesses given the option to advertise with either paper.

Community Events

A number of submissions were received from community organisations and members of the community across the whole local government area regarding conducting Community events as follows:

- Community Submission - Regenerative farming conference to be conducted by Local Land Services similar to Greening Bathurst which was conducted last year.
- NSW Farmers – Hartley Branch - Conducting workshops and programs with Local Land Services including Dam Construction, Water Security and how-to-set-up.
- Capertee Valley Landcare (CVL) – Hydrological Landscape Part 2 - a project to improve the resilience of both the community and its landscape – proposed amount for this activity. \$50,000.

***Note:** Following discussions with a representative of CVL, this program is ready to roll-out to the community of the Capertee Valley and forms part of their ongoing educational program. The cost of the course is \$2400 per person and can educate a maximum of 20 people per Course. Should Council resolve to include this event in the Drought Communities Program – Extension, the CVL would be ready to run, the program and finalise the event by December 2020.*

- Capertee Valley Landcare – A Sustainable 2-day farm festival/field days event in the Capertee Valley - proposed amount for this activity - \$250,000
- Trybal Productions – Lithgow TV – Large Screen TV placed in Lithgow Valley Plaza, Cook Street Plaza and Lithgow Visitors Centre to promote tourist and community information.

- Trybal Productions – Immersive – Emergent Theatre Production - development of one or multiple theatrical and music pieces over the coming year to showcase the talents and the depth of experience and creative expression of the people of Lithgow.
- Central West Total Entertainment and Events
 - Option 1 - COUNTRY MUSIC Festival - at the Blast Furnace
 - Option 2 - BLAST FROM THE PAST Music Festival - Aussie Major Artists
 - Option 3 - TRIBUTE BANDS - A Day on the Green - FLASHBACK/REWIND

Officers Comment

The administration met with Local Land Services to discuss the proposed events and it was considered appropriate, should Council wish to host an event as part of the Drought Communities Program - Extension, that a central location be chosen with the Local Government Area, such as the Portland Foundations Site to host a Farm Field Day type event which would feature educational programs, sustainable farming practices, local products, farm gate tourism. However, this type of project would need to be fully developed and it may not be feasible to coordinate an event of this scale by the funding deadline of December 2020.

Local Land Services also referred Council to the Soil Conservation Society who run educational Programs on dam construction, location and erosion work. To run two workshops (Hartley and Capertee) including; presenters, catering and marketing \$6,000.

Of the events submitted by the community, only those submitted by Capertee Valley Landcare have been costed. It should be noted that Council has a responsibility to acquit the Grant by December 2020. As such, all projects must be completed and feedback, images provided on the success or otherwise of the activities.

Water Security

1. Water security

A number of matters were raised by the NSW Farmers – Hartley Branch in relation to water security as follows:

- Additional engineering of the Fish River Water Supply to act as an emergency reserve, increase Lithgow's capacity to act in an emergency and provide much needed value to the community during drought or fire events.
- Reducing evaporation and seepage from open channels – pipeline construction and/or channel covers.
- Investigate emergency water planning such as the use of temporarily idle water in the Aquatic centre for firefighting efforts.
- Investigate with Water NSW drainage schemes/divide maps for local catchment areas.

Officers Comment

The Fish River Water Supply can already supply the whole reticulated network in the LGA. The full reticulated network can also be supplied from Farmers Creek when required. Council does not have open channels used for water supply proposes and there are no irrigators within the Farmer Creek or FRWS supply.

2. Standpipes

- Council publish information on standpipes that can be used by landholders and review access rights including in relation to applications for keys or a sign in-sign out register.
- Review standpipe locations and investigate the possibility of re-establishing any disused standpipes in outlying areas.
- Provide access to local standpipes for farmers for stock and household water and assistance with transport.

Officers Comment

Council's drought assistance measure includes a 50% reduction on metered standpipe water usage charges for Farmers. There is no restricted access to the standpipes which have now been installed at Wallerawang, Cullen Bullen, Rydal, Portland and Glen Davis and payment is via a credit card payment system only (other than Glen Davis which will be coin operated). Water carting for human consumption is included as eligible expenditure in the grant guidelines if it is to allow a group of community members to replenish their water tanks (not individuals).

3. Water Subsidies/Cartage

A number of submissions were received in respect to cartage of water, provision of water for human consumption and stock, to purchase a water tank and fill with water.

Officers Comment

*Water carting for **human consumption** is included as eligible expenditure in the grant guidelines if it is to allow a group of community members to replenish their water tanks (not individuals). Provision of water for stock is not permitted. In addition to this the Drought Communities Program – Extension FAQ in response to subsidising payment of council and water rates states:*

“No. Providing rate relief is not eligible under the programme. The intent of the programme is to provide funding for projects expected to: lead to the employment of locals, contribute to the economic activity of communities/regions, or lead to the retention of business, services and facilities”.

4. Water Vouchers

A community submission was received requesting that funding be provided to support those with no water in their domestic ability (washing clothes) through vouchers for local laundry or making amenities available for rural ratepayers to access.

Officers comment

The Drought Communities Program – Extension FAQ in response to subsidising payment of council and water rates states:

“The intent of the Drought Communities Program - Extension is to support local community infrastructure and other drought relief projects. Support of this type (vouchers/gift cards) for communities impacted by drought is being delivered through the Drought Community Support Initiative Program”.

5. Water Supply Capertee and Capertee Valley Landcare

The following submissions were received from the Capertee Progress Association and Capertee Valley Landcare Association with respect to the supply of water to the Village and the Valley communities:

- The installation of a pipeline to Capertee potentially from Springvale to supply water for the town and the Capertee Rural Fire Service.
- Council to lobby NSW Water to install additional water hydrants and spurs with hydrants in the Fish River Pipeline to allow access for residents on Crown Station Road, Glen Alice Road and the Junction of Genowlan and Huntingdale Roads. These outlets are needed for firefighting purposes, watering of livestock and, if need be, community members who pay exorbitant money to have their water trucked in from outside, the valley.

5. Water Saving Devices

Two submissions were received requesting Council develop a program for the provision of water saving devices to community halls, commercial businesses and residents to upgrade their old amenities with new efficient fixtures and amenities.

Officers Comment

A program like this was run during the last drought by SaveWater NSW and it was found that based on a cost-benefit analysis that this was one of the least effective measures to conserve water.

Priority 1 Projects		Estimate
1.	Wallerawang and Portland Skateparks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of 2 Exeloos • Installation of shade structures over park and playground facilities. 	\$476,00
2.	Footpaths – Wallerawang <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wallerawang Police Station to pedestrian refuge in Barton Avenue/Tweedie Street. • James Parade 	\$15,000 \$100,000
3.	Union Theatre – Front of House Works	\$99,054
4.	Community Halls Upgrade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wallerawang Memorial Hall • Vale of Clwydd Hall • Hermitage Hall 	\$187,500
5.	Sporting Fields Irrigation Systems Installation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marjorie Jackson Oval • Watsford Oval • Conran Oval • Tony Luchetti Field 2 	\$135,000
Total		\$1,012,554

Additional Projects		Estimate
1.	Playground Improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarence Pirie Park, Capertee 	\$40,000
2.	Tarana Farmers Market Site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpath along the northern side of Mutton Falls Road linking the site to the Tarana Pub and Café. • 110,000l Rainwater Tank 	\$25,000
3.	Yvonne Martyn Motorsport Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of a 14,500l rainwater tank and transfer pump. 	\$2,289
4.	Pipers Flat Cemetery – Boundary Fence	\$40,000
5.	Wayfinding signage for tourist walks and precinct hi-lights in Portland	\$15,000
6.	Lidsdale Tennis Courts Club House repairs and painting	\$15,000
7.	Lowther War Memorial boundary fencing	\$8,000
5.	Lithgow Solid Waste Facility & Capertee Garbage Depot boundary fencing	\$100,000
6.	Central West Media Ltd/Village Voice – Business Advertising	\$33,000
7.	Soil Conservation Society – Dam Construction and Erosion Control Workshops – Capertee and Hartley	\$6,000
8.	Capertee Valley Landcare - Hydrological Landscape Part 2	\$50,000
9.	Capertee Valley Landcare - A Sustainable 2-day farm festival/field days	\$250,000

Policy Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

- Budget approved - Nil pending approval of the program application,
- Cost centre - various TBA.

- Expended to date - Nil.
- Future potential impact - capital projects require ongoing maintenance of assets and potentially future asset renewal costs.

Legal and Risk Management Implications

Nil.

Attachments

Nil

Recommendation

THAT

1. Council note the submissions received and respond accordingly.
2. Council submit an application under the Drought Communities Program for the following projects:

Priority 1 Projects		
		Estimate
1.	Wallerawang and Portland Skateparks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of 2 twin Exeloos • Installation of shade structures over park and playground facilities. 	\$476,00
2.	Footpaths – Wallerawang <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wallerawang Police Station to pedestrian refuge in Barton Avenue/Tweedie Street. • James Parade 	\$15,000 \$100,000
3.	Union Theatre – Front of House Works	\$99,054
4.	Community Halls Upgrade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wallerawang Memorial Hall • Vale of Clwydd Hall • Hermitage Hall 	\$187,500
5.	Sporting Fields Irrigation Systems Installation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marjorie Jackson Oval • Watsford Oval • Conran Oval • Tony Luchetti Field 2 	\$135,000
Total		\$1,012,554

3. The following programs be considered for funding under Council's 2020/21 Financial Assistance Program:

Additional Projects		
		Estimate
1.	Yvonne Martyn Motorsport Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of a 14,500l rainwater tank and transfer pump. 	\$2,289
2.	Lowther War Memorial boundary fencing	\$8,000
3.	Headspace Lithgow – Breakfast Club – Portland & Lithgow High Schools	\$2,900

4. Council investigate whether land at Hermitage Flat adjoining the Lithgow Community Nursery would be suitable for future development as a community space for the Lithgow Women's Shed Group and Lithgow Information & Neighbourhood Centre.