

From: Lithgow City Council
Sent: Thu, 18 Feb 2021 10:09:38 +1100
To: Technology One Connect
Subject: FW: Letter regarding the proposed acquisition of 5.5 Inch Gun
Attachments: Council re Gun.docx

#ECMBODY

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 18 February 2021 10:02 AM
To: Lithgow City Council <council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: S [REDACTED]
<clr.[REDACTED]>
Subject: Letter regarding the proposed acquisition of 5.5 Inch Gun


To Whom It May Concern,

Please find attached a letter of support in regards to the proposed acquisition of the 5.5 Inch Artillery Piece

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

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18 February 2021

Dear Councillors,

I am writing to you, not as a member of the RSL, but as Lithgow resident, public citizen and a Veteran in my own right.

With regards to the proposed acquisition of the 5.5 Inch (140mm) Artillery Piece, I personally believe that the Lithgow City Council should obtain this rare and historically significant piece of Military History. I have done some research regarding this weapon and found that there are just Eight (8) examples of this gun on public display in NSW. Most surviving guns of this type can only be found within Australian Defence Force Establishment's, such as Puckapunyal Army Base in Victoria or on display at the Australian War Memorial.

The Australian Army used this weapon from 1942 until 1984, so there would be a good possibility that men from Lithgow had used this type of weapon, during their service, considering that it was not only used in World War Two, it was also used in the Korean War as well therefore obtaining this piece would be fitting to both our World War Two and Korean War Veterans.

Also, having the gun placed in Queen Elizabeth Park, purely from a tourism standpoint, is the only location to have it as most if not all of the regular tourist buses/coaches, not to mention a great number of other road traffic transit through Lithgow and many stop at Queen Elizabeth Park for a break. Most of these visitors also have a look at the Cenotaph and the plaques mounted on the walls, plus have a look at the 25pdr, and the other historical information boards, therefore it is only logical that the gun should be located in Queen Elizabeth Park.

So I submit that the Lithgow City Council should acquire this valuable and rare piece of equipment and place it in Queen Elizabeth Park, not only will it show both locals and visitors alike that we take great pride in honouring and remembering our Veterans and their service, but that we also take pride in preserving our military history for future generations and with appropriate signage everyone who stops in Queen Elizabeth Park and looks over the Cenotaph precinct will also receive a free history lesson.

Sincerely

