



Hawkesbury City Council

supplementary  
ordinary  
meeting  
business  
paper

date of meeting: 11 October 2011  
location: council chambers  
time: 6:30 p.m.



**ORDINARY MEETING - Supplementary**

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**ORDINARY MEETING - Supplementary**

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**SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS**

**Item: 241            IS - Funding Offer - Hawkesbury River Environmental Estuary Management Study and Management Plan - (95495, 95498, 121837)**

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**REPORT:**

**Executive Summary**

The purpose of the report is to accept the funding offered under the 2011/2012 Estuary Management Program to the total value of \$125,000 made up of \$75,000 (2011/2012) and \$50,000 (2012/2013), on the basis of Council allocating matching funding, to undertake the Hawkesbury River Environmental Estuary Management Study and Management Plan.

**Consultation**

The issues raised in this report concern matters which do not require community consultation under Council's Community Engagement Policy.

**Background**

Correspondence has been received from the Hon. Robyn Parker, MP, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, advising of successful funding under the 2011/2012 Estuary Management Program for the Hawkesbury River Environmental Estuary Management Study and Management Plan. Council has been offered matching funding (1:1) to the value of \$125,000 over two years. The make-up of funding for the two years is \$75,000 (2011/2012) and \$50,000 (2012/2013).

The purpose of this project is to undertake an Estuary Management Study and Plan to determine future management planning requirements and corrective work actions that will ensure the quality of the Hawkesbury River to provide a viable ecosystem capable of supporting recreational and commercial activity.

Many sectors of the Hawkesbury Community have been expressing, for some considerable time now, significant concern with the continuing and increasing degradation of the Hawkesbury River. The causes of the degradation are many and complex with significant contributors to this situation being ongoing siltation, bank erosion and weed infestation due to decreased flows. It is anticipated that the study and subsequent management plan will identify the major concerns and provide a framework to plan for ongoing works and measures to improve the river regime.

The matter is being reported to this meeting as the grant must be accepted by 1 November 2011 (prior to the next meeting of Council) and the required matching funding is not currently identified within the budget. Funding is addressed under financial implications.

**Conformance to Community Strategic Plan**

The health and viability of the Hawkesbury River has been identified in the Hawkesbury Community Strategic Plan.

The proposal is consistent with the Caring for Our Environment Directions statement;

- To look after our cultural and environmental assets for future generations so that they too can enjoy and benefit from a clean river and natural eco-systems, rural and cultural landscape.

and is also consistent with (or is a nominated) strategy in the Community Strategic Plan being:

- Work in partnership with relevant stakeholders to protect designated waters.

**Financial Implications**

In order to accept this grant it will be necessary to identify the matching funding of \$75,000 for 2011/2012 within the budget. It is proposed that this will be further investigated and dealt with as part of a quarterly revue.

The balance of the matching funding of \$50,000 required for 2012/2013 will be incorporated within the budget for that year when prepared.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the offer of funding, to be matched by Council under the 2011/2012 Estuary Management Program for the Hawkesbury River Environmental Estuary Management Study and Management Plan made up of \$75,000 (2011/2012) and \$50,000 (2012/2013) with a total value of \$125,000 over two years be accepted.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

There are no supporting documents for this report.

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ordinary  
meeting

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