



Colac Otway
SHIRE

UNSCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

Wednesday 13 March 2024

at 1:30 PM

COPACC

95 - 97 Gellibrand Street, Colac



COLAC OTWAY SHIRE UNSCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 13 March 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 Declaration of Opening.....	3
2 Present.....	3
3 Apologies	3
4 Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country.....	3
5 Question Time	4
6 Declarations of Interest	4
7 Officer Reports.....	5
7.1 Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund grant application endorsement.....	5

COLAC OTWAY SHIRE UNSCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the next **UNSCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING OF THE COLAC OTWAY SHIRE COUNCIL** will be held at COPACC on Wednesday 13 March 2024 at 1:30 PM.

AGENDA

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, we seek your blessing and guidance in our deliberations on behalf of the people of the Colac Otway Shire. Enable this Council's decisions to be those that contribute to the true welfare and betterment of our community.

AMEN

2 PRESENT

3 APOLOGIES

4 WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Colac Otway Shire acknowledges the original custodians and law makers of this land, their elders past, present and emerging and welcomes any descendants here today.

RECORDING AND PUBLICATION OF MEETINGS

Please note: Council meetings will be live streamed and recorded when the meeting is held either at COPACC or online. This includes the public participation sections of the meetings. When meetings are held in other locations, Council will endeavour to make an audio recording of the meeting for community access. Matters identified as confidential items in the Agenda will not be live streamed or recorded regardless of venue or mode.

By participating in open Council meetings, individuals consent to the use and disclosure of the information they share at the meeting (including any personal and/or sensitive information).

As soon as practicable following each open Council meeting, the live stream recording will be accessible on Council's website. Audio recordings are also taken to facilitate the preparation of the minutes of open Council meetings and to ensure their accuracy. Recordings will be retained by Council for a period of four years.

This meeting will be livestreamed to the public via Council's YouTube channel (search Colac Otway Shire Council at www.youtube.com).

The sole purpose of this Unscheduled Council meeting is to consider the following agenda item:

- Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund grant application endorsement.

5 QUESTION TIME

Please note that as this is an Unscheduled Council meeting, only questions pertaining to this agenda will be responded to. A maximum of 15 minutes is allowed for question time at Unscheduled Council meetings. Any person wishing to participate in question time by videoconference will need to register their intention to do so by contacting the shire prior to 5pm on Monday 11 March 2024. Question time is not a forum for public debate or statements.

1. Questions received in writing prior to the meeting. Written questions must be received by 5pm on Monday 11 March 2024.
2. Questions by videoconference (by prior arrangement).
3. Questions from the floor.

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A Councillor who has declared a conflict of interest, must leave the meeting and remain outside the room while the matter is being considered, or any vote is taken.

Item: 7.1

Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund grant application endorsement

OFFICER	Tamzin McLennan
GENERAL MANAGER	Ian Seuren
DIVISION	Community and Economy
ATTACHMENTS	Nil

1. PURPOSE

To consider potential applications to Sport and Recreation Victoria's Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund (RCSIF), which opened on 5 December 2023, was established by the Victorian Government as part of its \$2 billion regional package following the cancellation of the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

The RCSIF's primary focus is on delivering new and upgraded community sports infrastructure to support participation opportunities in active sport and recreation.

Applications to all Sport and Recreation Victoria grant programs require a high level of pre-planning, project scoping and community engagement to be undertaken, as well as confirmations of a commitment to providing matching funding and underwriting the projects to ensure successful completion. Any projects that receive funding under the RCSIF must be capable of being completed within 24 months of receipt of the grant.

This report recommends that Council applies for funding for one playspace redevelopment and five electronic scoreboard installations at local recreation reserves.

3. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Endorses the following projects to be submitted to the 2024 Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund Round 1:**
 - a. **Donaldson Street Playspace Redevelopment, to be submitted under the 2024 Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund Round 1's Community Facilities category, seeking a Victorian Government grant of \$400,000 with a Council contribution of up to \$100,000.**
 - b. **Bluewater Leisure Centre Stadium Electronic Scoreboard, to be submitted under 2024 Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund Round 1's Community Facilities category, seeking a Victorian Government grant of \$70,991 with a minimum local contribution of \$17,748 to be provided by the Colac Basketball Association.**
 - c. **Colac Secondary College Oval Electronic Scoreboard, to be submitted under 2024 Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund Round 1's Community Facilities category, seeking a Victorian Government grant of \$77,378 with a minimum local contribution of \$19,344 to be provided by the Irrewarra Cricket Club.**
 - d. **Elliminyt Recreation Reserve Electronic Scoreboard, to be submitted under 2024 Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund Round 1's Community Facilities category, seeking a Victorian Government grant of \$119,039 with a minimum local contribution of \$29,760 to be provided by the South Colac Football Netball Club.**
 - e. **Warrowie Recreation Reserve Electronic Scoreboard to be submitted under 2024 Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund Round 1's Community Facilities category, seeking a Victorian Government grant of \$80,992 with a minimum local contribution of \$20,248 to be provided by the Irrewarra Beeac Football Netball Club.**
 - f. **Western Reserve Electronic Scoreboard, to be submitted under 2024 Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund Round 1's Community Facilities category, seeking a Victorian Government grant of \$92,211 with a minimum local contribution of \$23,053 to be provided by the Colac Imperials Football Netball Club and West Warrion Cricket Club.**
2. **Notes that Council has allocated \$100,000 to the Donaldson Street Playspace Upgrade from the Local Roads and Infrastructure Fund Round 4, which can be used as its matching contribution for that project application.**
3. **Notes that it will be required to underwrite the Donaldson Street Playspace Upgrade as per standard funding agreement obligations.**
4. **Notes that the tenant clubs have agreed to underwrite the installation of electronic scoreboard projects occurring at reserves/facilities they occupy as outlined below:**
 - a. **Colac Basketball Association (Bluewater Leisure Centre)**
 - b. **Irrewarra Cricket Club (Colac Secondary College Oval)**
 - c. **South Colac Football Netball Club (Elliminyt Recreation Reserve)**
 - d. **Irrewarra Beeac Football Netball Club (Warrowie Recreation Reserve).**
 - e. **Colac Imperials Football Netball Club and West Warrion Cricket Club (Western Reserve)**
5. **Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to submit applications for the endorsed projects to the 2024 Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund Round 1.**

4. KEY INFORMATION

Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund

The Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund (RCSIF) is a Victorian Government competitive investment program administered by Sport and Recreation Victoria, open to Local Government Authorities in rural and regional Victoria and Alpine Resorts Victoria, to deliver new and upgraded community sports infrastructure.

The RCSIF has five categories offering between \$50,000 up to \$3 million under the following categories:

- Indoor Stadiums and Aquatic Facilities
- Community Facilities
- Women and Girls Facilities
- All Abilities Infrastructure
- All Abilities Participation

All programs with the exception of All Abilities Participation require matching contributions from applicants.

The RCSIF aims to:

- Provide additional participation opportunities through the development of multi-use community sport and active recreation infrastructure.
- Increase participation opportunities for people with disability and other individuals and groups who participate less, including socio-economically disadvantaged communities.
- Provide equitable and inclusive participation opportunities for women and girls in community sport and active recreation.
- Increase local economic activity.
- Ensure Victoria has modern, accessible and welcoming places and spaces for sport and active recreation.
- Providing new active recreation opportunities through the appropriate design and usage of community sport and active recreation infrastructure.

The program's guidelines can be found at the following weblink – <https://sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding/our-grants/regional-community-sports-infrastructure-fund>

Ratios for rural and regional Victoria are outlined in Table 1 below along with maximum grant amounts available in each stream.

Table 1:

Funding stream	Number of applications	Maximum total grant amount per applicant
Indoor Stadiums and Facilities	One application per LGA/ARV for a single project. Or Up to 2 applications for major aquatic facilities where each individual grant request must be more than \$1 million.	Up to \$3 million SRV : \$3 to Local : \$1
Community Facilities (includes sports lighting)	Unlimited applications seeking a total of up to \$1 million per LGA/ARV.	Up to \$1 million SRV : \$4 to Local : \$1
Women and Girls Facilities	Unlimited applications seeking a total of up to \$1 million per LGA/ARV.	Up to \$1 million SRV : \$4 to Local : \$1
All Abilities Infrastructure	Unlimited applications seeking a total of up to \$1 million per LGA/ARV.	Up to \$1 million SRV : \$4 to Local : \$1
All Abilities Participation	One Participation Initiative Request per infrastructure application. The Participation Initiative Request must accompany an All Abilities Infrastructure application.	Up to \$50,000 per Participation Initiative Request. Local contribution not required although encouraged.

Details on recommended projects

Donaldson Street playspace redevelopment

The Donaldson Street parkland is the primary parcel of open space in Colac West. The Donaldson Street playspace was installed in 2002 and is nearing the end of its asset life and does not meet community playspace standards. In addition, the open space is uninviting due to limited landscaping and lack of picnic and leisure facilities.

Council has allocated \$100,000 from the Federal Government's *Local Roads and Infrastructure Fund Round 4* to upgrade the playspace, and the RCSIF is an opportunity to use these funds to leverage additional funding to implement the community's entire vision for the space, which includes a basketball/soccer area as well as renewed play equipment, improved path networks, tree planting and landscaping, and park furniture including a replacement barbecue, new shelter, picnic settings and bench seats.

Community engagement on this project commenced in November 2023, and Council has a clear understanding of the community's aspirations for this open space. Concept designs have been prepared along with cost estimates.

This project would fit under the RCSIF’s Community Facilities category. One of the fund’s investment priorities is to support rural and regional communities with the highest levels of socio-economic disadvantage. The playspace is located in an area of socio-economic disadvantage in Colac, which has strong alignment with the RCSIF’s investment priorities.

Installation of electronic scoreboards

The RCSIF’s Community Facilities Category allows for applications for scoreboards and fixed equipment. Council is aware of a strong level of interest in the installation of electronic scoreboards amongst clubs operating at local reserves and facilities.

Electronic scoreboards make scoring easier on volunteers, improve spectator experience, and provide a platform for clubs to attract and showcase sponsorships.

Electronic scoreboards are considered to be ‘sports specific infrastructure’ rather than infrastructure that provides benefit to the broader community. This means that clubs that install such infrastructure do so on the understanding that the management, maintenance and/or renewal/replacement of the scoreboards is the responsibility of the clubs.

Council conducted an expression of interest amongst local sporting clubs to understand which clubs may be interested in participating in the grant application process. It was made clear that clubs would be responsible for preparing sufficient information for a potential application including sourcing all quotes for design and installation, meeting landowner consent requirements, providing matching funding to required levels and financially underwriting the project.

Five applications were received as indicated below, and Council has worked with those clubs to ensure their applications are of a sufficient level of detail to be ‘grant ready’:

- Installation of an electronic scoreboard at the Bluewater Leisure Centre basketball stadium.
- Installation of an electronic scoreboard at Colac Secondary College oval.
- Installation of an electronic scoreboard at Elliminyt Recreation Reserve.
- Installation of an electronic scoreboard at Warrowie Recreation Reserve.
- Installation of an electronic scoreboard at Western Reserve.

Preparation for future Sport and Recreation Victoria funding rounds

The RCSIF Guidelines identify that there will be a second round of the program later in 2024. There may also be a round of Sport and Recreation Victoria’s Local Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSIF) during 2024. There are a number of other potential projects that are currently not quite funding ready that Council could consider for future Sport and Recreation Victoria funding programs such as RCSIF Round 2 or LSIF, including but not limited to:

PROJECT	DETAILS
Irrewillipe Recreation Reserve Pavilion Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Facilities do not meet modern requirements and expectations for community sport. -Current Council-led architectural design project underway due for completion by mid-year. -Cost estimates are not yet known, but project will cost several million dollars.

Elliminyt Recreation Reserve pavilion upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Facilities do not meet modern requirements and expectations for community sport. -Current Council-led architectural design project underway due for completion by mid-year. -Cost estimates are not yet known, but project will cost several million dollars.
Birregurra Recreation Reserve Pavilion Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Facilities do not meet modern requirements and expectations for community sport. -Club-led architectural design project complete, costings being prepared. -The reserve is Crown Land managed by Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA).
Forrest Common Playspace Redevelopment Stage 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Requires funding for further design work in order to be progressed to a 'grant ready' stage. -Design phase would need to include community engagement to refine the project scope from what is outlined in the masterplan for the site.
Colac Bike Park Development Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Requires funding for consultation and design work in order to be progressed to a 'grant ready' stage. -Engagement and design will cost approximately \$50,000. -Design project funding may be available through future round of LSIF (not available through RCSIF).
Birregurra Bike Park Development Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Community is progressing planning for a bike park in Birregurra. -Plans and investigative work is not yet progressed to a point where they could be considered 'grant ready'.
Lake Oval Pavilion Redevelopment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Building does not comply with modern requirements and expectations for community sport. -Design work required in order to be considered 'grant ready'. -Design project funding may be available through future round of LSIF (not available through RCSIF).
Bluewater Electrification Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Involves replacement of gas infrastructure at Bluewater with electric including gas boilers, domestic hot water system, HVAC and an electricity supply upgrade. -Not eligible for funding through RCSIF.

5. CONSIDERATIONS

Overarching Governance Principles (s(9)(2) LGA 2020)

This report aims to align with all overarching governance principles in that it explores opportunities for potential grant applications and upgrades to community sporting infrastructure in an open, transparent and strategic manner.

Policies and Relevant Law (s(9)(2)(a) LGA 2020)

Not applicable.

Environmental and Sustainability Implications (s(9)(2)(c) LGA 2020)

Not applicable.

Community Engagement (s56 LGA 2020 and Council's Community Engagement Policy)

The recommended projects for RCSIF Round 1 have all been subject to community/club engagement.

Community engagement for the Donaldson Street Playspace Redevelopment commenced in November 2023, and through a number of sessions with the community, Council has a clear understanding of the community's aspirations for this open space.

This report notes that several projects, including other playspace and bike park projects, would need additional project-specific community consultation in order to be eligible for future grant applications to Sport and Recreation Victoria.

Public Transparency (s58 LGA 2020)

A list of proposed projects for RCSIF Round 1, along with a potential future pipeline list of projects, are presented within this report to ensure decisions on priority setting are discussed and undertaken in an open forum.

Alignment to Plans and Strategies

Alignment to Council Plan 2021-2025:

Theme 3 – Healthy and Inclusive Community

Objective 1: All people have the opportunity to achieve and thrive in our shire

Objective 2: People are active and socially connected through engaging quality spaces and places

Objective 3: We are a safe, equitable and inclusive community

Theme 4 – Strong Leadership and Management

Objective 2: We are a financially robust organisation

There are a range of documents supporting Council's approach to the management, provision of and future planning for active sports infrastructure. They include but are not limited to the Colac City Reserves Planning Project (Reserve specific masterplans), Public Open Space Strategy and relevant G21 sports-specific strategies.

Financial Management (s101 Local Government Act 2020)

A number of community sports facilities across the shire are aging and don't meet modern day community expectations and sport requirements. Grant programs such as the RCSIF are a way that Council can seek funding to upgrade or replace ageing infrastructure with fit-for-purpose community sports facilities.

Council has allocated \$100,000 to the Donaldson Street Playspace Redevelopment through the *Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund Round 4*, which could be used to leverage further funding from the Victorian Government to complete the full scope of the project as detailed through the community engagement process. Cost estimates have been prepared which include costs for construction along project management costs and a healthy contingency of 20%.

No matching funding is required from Council for the proposed scoreboard projects. As these are 'sports specific' infrastructure, tenant clubs will provide the matching contributions for each of the projects.

Service Performance (s106 Local Government Act 2020)

This report seeks to assist Council with its future planning for active sporting infrastructure to ensure that residents of all ages have access to fit-for-purpose facilities, aligning with the service performance standards.

Risk Assessment

Not applicable to this report.

Communication/Implementation

Communication with a range of community groups has occurred in assessing potential grant applications to RCSIF Round 1.

Human Rights Charter

This report notes that there is a range of active sporting infrastructure including pavilions that are no longer compliant with modern expectations for users. This includes matters relating to disability and gender-equitable access. Future planning for upgrades of this infrastructure will assist Council to provide compliant and fit-for-purpose facilities.

Officer General or Material Interest

Nicole Frampton, Recreation and Open Space Coordinator, declared a general conflict of interest pursuant to section 126 of the *Local Government Act 2020* relating to a proposed scoreboard upgrade at the Warrowie Recreation Reserve, due to being a member of the Irrewarra Beeac Football Netball Club. Whilst Ms Frampton has assisted all clubs with the development of their applications in line with the general expectations of her role, she did not have any role assessing which clubs' scoreboard Expressions of Interest progressed to application.

Options

Option 1 – Provide endorsement to progress applications for RCSIF Round 1 for Donaldson Street Playspace Redevelopment and five scoreboard installations.

This option is recommended as the nominated projects are supported by planning to a sufficient level of detail to be submitted for funding and will deliver a range of benefits to community and user groups.

Option 2 – Consider alternate projects to be submitted to the RCSIF Round 1.

This option is not recommended as there are no other local projects that fit the requirements of RCSIF that have been sufficiently planned and scoped.

Option 3 – Don't proceed with any grant applications to RCSIF Round 1.

This option is not recommended as it would result in a missed opportunity to attract Victorian Government funding for local sports and recreation infrastructure projects.