

ITEM 3. GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIP – 2015/16 MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM – SECOND ALLOCATION**FILE NO: S117676****SUMMARY**

The City of Sydney's Grants and Sponsorship Program supports initiatives and projects that build the social, cultural, environmental and economic life of the city. To achieve the objectives of *Sustainable Sydney 2030* requires genuine partnership between government, business and the community.

The provision of grants and sponsorships is a mechanism to further the aims identified in the City's social, economic and environmental policies. Applications are assessed against these policies and against broad City objectives and plans. In this way, the City and the community act collaboratively to bring to life *Sustainable Sydney 2030* and the City of Villages it envisions.

The City has advertised the Matching Grant Program Second Allocation for 2015/16. In total, 62 eligible applications were received. This report recommends 26 grants, which includes a total value of \$152,277 in cash and \$5,323 in revenue forgone.

On 15 September 2014, Council adopted a revised Grants and Sponsorship Policy. All grants in this report were assessed against criteria and guidelines set in this Grants and Sponsorship Policy.

All applications were considered with reference to *Sustainable Sydney 2030*; the City of Sydney Corporate Plan; the Grants and Sponsorship Policy; the Creative City Cultural Policy and Action Plan 2014-2024; the Cultural Diversity Strategy; the Sustainability Master Plan; the OPEN Sydney Strategy and Action Plan 2013-2030; the City of Sydney Safe City Strategy; the Homelessness Strategy and the Inclusion (Disability) Action Plan.

All grant recipients will be required to sign a contract, meet specific performance outcomes, and acquit their grant.

RECOMMENDATION

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the cash grant and revenue forgone (VIK) recommendations for 2015/16 under the Matching Grant Program – Second Allocation as follows:

Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Recommended	VIK Recommended	Conditions
Bake House Independent Theatre	The Open the Door Project	The support of non traditional theatre audiences and local community groups to access theatre performances at the Old Fitz Theatre in Woolloomooloo and the Seymour Centre in Newtown in order to build a fully inclusive audience.	\$800	Nil	Nil
Bridge for Asylum Seekers Foundation (BASF) (auspiced by Uniting Care NSW)	Refugee Rights' Symposium (RRS)	A symposium run by former refugee Saba Vasefi at the Barnet Long Room, Customs House to raise awareness for refugee rights. The symposium will feature performances and a photographic exhibition by other refugees, as well as a panel discussion by industry experts.	\$6,500	Nil	Nil
Christmas in Pymont Inc	Christmas in Pymont 2015	A Christmas fair in John Street, John Street Square and Pymont Community Centre engaging local businesses, performers and charities that contribute to the community.	\$10,000	Nil	Nil

Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Recommended	VIK Recommended	Conditions
Cooperative for Aborigines Ltd (trading as Tranby Aboriginal College)	Tranby in Glebe: the cooperative college and the community	The development of a community focused exhibition for NAIDOC 2016 showcasing the diverse stories of Tranby alumni living or working in Glebe, including workshops on oral history research and exhibition development.	\$7,950	Nil	Nil
Gondwana Choirs	The Redfern Indigenous Children's Choir Hub	The establishment of a choral program at the Alexandria Park Community School in Redfern for Indigenous young people including weekly choir rehearsals and music classes.	\$10,000	Nil	Organisation to submit a revised budget.
Inner City Strays	Community Cat Cages	A community initiative to ensure humane methods are used to rehome and provide medical care for stray cats in the inner city, and to support stray cat population control.	\$292	Nil	Nil
Malaysia Fest	Malaysia Festival: Capturing An Era - A Journey of Rediscovery	A free festival for the community in Pymont exploring Malaysian culture through food and cultural performances.	Nil	Banner pole hire waiver up to the value of \$3,500	Nil
Milk Crate Theatre	First Times	A collaborative arts program in partnership with MetroScreen that enables the Milk Crate Ensemble to work with industry film practitioners to write, direct and perform their stories, culminating in the production of a short film.	\$7,500	Nil	Nil

Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Recommended	VIK Recommended	Conditions
Mission Australia	Camperdown Community Day	A one day community event involving local residents of the Johanna O'Dea, Alexandra Dwellings and Common Ground housing complexes in Camperdown encouraging them to connect through food, crafts and entertainment.	\$6,337	Nil	Nil
Pets In The Park Inc	Pilot Outreach Program	A pilot outreach program in various City of Sydney locations to provide free veterinary care for animal companions of homeless people who may be unaware of or unable to attend regular clinics.	\$8,000	Nil	Nil
Readymade Works Inc	Launch of COMMUNE and Associated Community Projects	The launch of a community initiative which includes a children's workshop series in collaboration with a local childcare centre and 'Dance Diaries', a community participatory film project.	\$5,700	Nil	Nil
Reart Pty Ltd	Reart 2016 – International Upcycling Exhibition	A free upcycling exhibition to be held in Surry Hills, showcasing the work of local artists and designers and collaborating with local and international partners.	\$8,632	Nil	Nil
Redfern Station Community Group (auspiced by Counterpoint Community Services Inc)	Community Consultation of the Restoration of Redfern's 40,000 Years Aboriginal Community Mural	A feasibility study and community consultation project for the restoration of the Aboriginal mural '40,000 Years' at Redfern Station.	\$10,000	Nil	Nil

Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Recommended	VIK Recommended	Conditions
Rotary Club of South Sydney Inc	Paws Day Out	A community event at Joynton Park, Zetland to showcase, educate and celebrate all aspects of pet ownership.	\$3,000	Nil	Nil
Spineless Wonders Publishing Pty Ltd	Little Fictions @ Knox St Bar - On Air	The production of live recordings of Sydney stories held at Knox Street Bar, Chippendale, featuring local actors, for distribution to local community and radio stations.	\$8,650	Nil	Nil
State Emergency Service (NSW)	Community education for safe behaviour in storms and floods and damage prevention readiness	A city wide community education program run by the SES Unit in Erskineville to encourage safe and preventative behaviour during storm or flood events for the local community.	\$4,661	Nil	Organisation to supply quotes.
St Canice's Kitchen (Catholic Parish St Canice Elizabeth Bay As The Operator Of A Pbi)	Nourish Talks	A new quarterly series of presentations to be held at St Canice's Rooftop Garden to inspire social action and increased sustainable behaviour through food, engaging conversations and community building events.	\$1,300	Nil	Nil
Uniting Care NSW	"I am....."	A community exhibition showcasing the artwork produced by Medically Supervised Injecting Centre clients at the Kings Cross Neighbourhood Service Centre in Kings Cross.	\$3,305	Nil	Organisation to work with City of Sydney libraries to promote the event.

Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Recommended	VIK Recommended	Conditions
The Bower Re-use and Repair Centre Co-operative	'Tricks of the Trade' - practical workshops in environmental sustainability	A new series of inclusive, free workshops in Redfern for local adults and children in chair upholstery, basic carpentry and furniture restoration.	\$10,000	Nil	Nil
The Festivalists Ltd	Local Heroes	A monthly event at Erskineville Town Hall celebrating local filmmakers and stories. Each night features a curated screening of a documentary feature made by Sydney filmmakers.	\$5,000	Community venue hire waiver of Erskineville Town up to the value of \$1,823	Nil
The National Centre of Indigenous Excellence Ltd	School Holiday Program	A school holiday program held at the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence for local Redfern young people, including social, educational and recreational activities.	\$5,400	Nil	Nil
The Trustee for Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust	Discovering the secrets of the Powerful Owl	A program working with local residents to track an owl species that is under threat of extinction within the City of Sydney Local Government Area. The data collected in this project will directly inform the City of Sydney Urban Ecology Strategic Action Plan.	\$10,000	Nil	Organisation to share data with the City's Urban Ecology team.
The Wallace Co-Op	Site Specific Seniors Theatre Production	An interactive performance showcasing the stories and skills of senior members of the Kings Cross Acting Class at the Reginald Murphy Centre in Kings Cross.	\$3,750	Nil	Nil

Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Recommended	VIK Recommended	Conditions
The World Bar Pty Ltd	Bordello Theatre	The development of a hireable theatre and performance space for independent theatre groups in Kings Cross.	\$5,000	Nil	Organisation to resubmit a revised budget. Organisation to show Development Application approval.
Uca – The Mustard Seed Faith Community	Live Nativity and Carols and ANZAC Day event	Two annual community events in Ultimo and Pyrmont. The first event is a live nativity scene in Quarry Green, Ultimo during Christmas and the second is an ANZAC celebration in Union Square, Pyrmont.	\$5,500	Nil	Nil
Weave Youth & Community Services Inc	Mad Pride Youth Event	A free cultural event and community development opportunity for young people who access mental health services in Redfern and Waterloo to celebrate their culture and creative talents through drama, music, dance, visual arts, and film.	\$5,000	Nil	No recurrent funding through this program.

- (B) Council note that all grant amounts are exclusive of GST and all value-in-kind offered is subject to availability; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer agreements with any organisation approved for a grant or sponsorship under terms consistent with this resolution and the Grants and Sponsorship Policy.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Recommended 2015/2016 Matching Grant Program – Second Allocation

Attachment B: Not Recommended 2015/2016 Matching Grant Program – Second Allocation

BACKGROUND

1. The City of Sydney's Grants and Sponsorship Program supports residents, businesses and not-for-profit organisations to undertake initiatives and projects that build the social, cultural, environmental and economic life of the city.
2. On 1 May 2015, the second allocation of the Matching Grant Program was announced as being open for applications on the City's website, with grant applications closing on 1 June 2015.
3. Information about this grant program (such as assessment criteria, guidelines, eligibility criteria and sample applications) was made available on the City's website. The City promoted the program on radio, online social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) as well as the City's Green Villages, Creative City, and Cycle Sydney websites.
4. Applications received were assessed against the following Matching Grant Program criteria:
 - (a) demonstrated evidence of the community need or opportunity that will be addressed through the project/activity;
 - (b) demonstrated direct benefit to the community;
 - (c) commitment to build genuine community participation in the project/activity;
 - (d) contribution of the project to greater levels of knowledge, skills and confidence in the community to participate in city life;
 - (e) contribution to strengthened connections within the City's Villages;
 - (f) capacity to match (in cash or in-kind) the City's contribution;
 - (g) inclusion of a clear plan for project development, implementation and managing transition at the end of the funding period; and
 - (h) provision of other required supporting documentation.
5. Applicants are requested to list the project's community partners, confirmed funding sources and the contribution the organisation is making to the project (cash or in-kind) to demonstrate their contribution.
6. To be eligible for funding, applications to the Matching Grant Program must demonstrate a matched cash contribution or value-in-kind (VIK) contribution to the project at least equal to the amount requested from the City.
7. Park hire requests are not listed in the table for recommendations, as not-for-profit organisations are eligible for free park hire. However, these organisations must pay the \$100 application fee and other related fees and charges such as electricity and water. Individuals or unincorporated community groups are required to be auspiced by a not-for-profit organisation to be eligible for free park hire. All park hire is subject to availability.
8. It is expected that all successful applicants will work co-operatively with relevant City staff throughout the project for which they have received funding. Contact details for the relevant City staff are provided to all successful grant recipients.

9. All grants and sponsorships are recommended on the condition that any required approvals, permits and development consents are obtained by the applicant.
10. The City's Grants and Sponsorship Program is highly competitive. Applications that are not recommended have either not scored as highly against the assessment criteria as the recommended applications or have submitted incomplete or insufficient information.
11. The assessment process includes advice and recommendations from the key stakeholders on the assessment panel, depending upon the nature of each submission. The integrity of the proposed budget, project plan, contributions and partnerships are assessed, scored and ranked against defined criteria. Once recommended applications are approved by Council, a contract is developed, which includes conditions that must be adhered to, and acquitted against.
12. City staff consider the contribution from the applicant and other sources in reviewing applications. Applicants are asked to demonstrate a capacity to source other types of funding or contribute their own resources (cash or in-kind).
13. Following adoption of the revised Grants and Sponsorship Policy on 15 September 2014, the Matching Grant Program is open to appropriately incorporated for-profit organisations. Fifteen applications were received this round from for-profit organisations and three for-profit organisations are recommended in this report, comprising of:
 - (a) Reart Pty Ltd;
 - (b) Spineless Wonders Publishing Pty Ltd; and
 - (c) The World Bar Pty Ltd.
14. These applications matched the Matching Grant Program for-profit eligibility criteria, clearly demonstrating that the applicants' requests for funding were for the benefit of the community; were grassroots, local initiatives; and evidenced that the applicants were working in collaboration with community and local business.

World Bar application strategic context

15. The Live Music and Performance Action Plan, unanimously adopted by Council in April 2014 specifically states that the lack of hireable theatre space for the independent theatre sector is a key challenge for Sydney. Recent high profile closures of spaces such as Tap Theatre, highlight the challenges venues and theatre makers face in maintaining appropriate places to rehearse and perform. Proposals to the City which seek to address this issue and have the potential to increase infrastructure for this sector are worthy of consideration for support. The World Bar, a venue best known as a bar and entertainment venue in Kings Cross, applied for a Matching Grant in this round. World Bar has been operating since 2001 and is visited by a broad range of customers including locals, students and international travellers. It currently offers live music, DJ's, comedy and arts based events. It is less well known that for the past eight years, World Bar has been providing free rehearsal space to acting groups to assist in addressing the lack of spaces available for hire in the city.

16. World Bar wish to diversify its offer to the Sydney creative industries by better utilising its space and also adapt to the changing climate of the Kings Cross precinct and requests support from Council for its plans. World Bar intends to convert one of its existing spaces into a hireable performance space in order to allow independent acting groups to stage their own shows in its space. Actors Anonymous (a networking group of actors, writers, directors) will partner with World Bar to help manage bookings and marketing. Funding will go towards the purchase of seating, lighting and drapes to enable the use of the space as a theatre. Hays Theatre is also a named partner in the application.
17. A strong focus of OPEN Sydney is to create a more balanced night-time economy. Despite being a worthy aim, it is difficult to convince existing night-time traders to change their operations. City support for venues that demonstrate willingness to consider broader programs of activity could be advantageous in encouraging more innovative approaches to business activity in this area and sector. City staff felt it important for Council to understand the strong strategic alignment of this application as it considers its decision on this request. World Bar had no outstanding compliance issues with the City when this report was prepared.

Matching Grant Program – Second Allocation for 2015/16 (matched up to \$10,000)

18. The Matching Grant Program provides matched funding of up to \$10,000 for any projects that improve, enhance, or celebrate the City’s Villages. Council approved the development of this program to support identified grassroots community projects by matching with City resources what is contributed in cash or in-kind by the community.
19. The assessment panel for the Matching Grant Program was comprised of the City’s Area Manager West, Associate Producer New Year’s Eve, Business Precincts Coordinator, Community Development Coordinator, Companion Animals Liaison Officer, Cultural Development Coordinator, Cultural Projects Coordinator, Curator, Events Officer, Grants Officer, Manager Homelessness, Public Art Program Manager, Social Policy Officer, Strategy Advisor - Live Music, Streetshare Project Coordinator and Waste Programs Coordinator.
20. Overview of 2015/16 Matching Grant Program:

Total budget for 2015/16 Matching Grant Program	\$490,000
Total budget committed from the First Allocation	\$105,943
Second Allocation:	
Total number of applications	62
Total value requested from applications	\$464,888
Total VIK support requested from applications	\$27,207
Total number of applications recommended for cash and/or VIK support	26
Total amount of funding recommended	\$152,277
Total amount of VIK support recommended	\$5,323

KEY IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030

21. This report complies with the Grants and Sponsorship Policy adopted by Council on 15 September 2014. The provision of grants and sponsorships is a mechanism for the City to further the aims identified in its social, economic, environmental and cultural policies. The City of Sydney's Grants and Sponsorship Program is a key element in the delivery of *Sustainable Sydney 2030*. All applications are considered against the 10 strategic directions and how they can directly deliver, or encourage the further development of the aims and objectives identified in *Sustainable Sydney 2030*.

Organisational Impact

22. The grants and sponsorships contract management process will involve key staff across the City of Sydney. Identified staff set contract conditions and performance measures for each approved project and review project acquittals, which include both narrative and financial reports.

Social / Cultural / Community

23. The City's Grants and Sponsorship Program provides the City with a platform to support cultural, social and environmental initiatives from the communities, and community organisations, within the City of Sydney Local Government Area.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

24. A total of 26 grants are recommended in this report, which includes a total value of \$152,277 in cash and \$5,323 in revenue forgone. This amount is provided for in the 2015/16 Grants and Sponsorship budget as follows:
 - (a) \$152,277 from the \$384,057 available in the Matching Grant Program budget (the remaining \$231,780 is reserved for the subsequent allocations of the Program).

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

25. Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993.

CRITICAL DATES / TIME FRAMES

26. The funding period for the Matching Grant Program is for activity taking place from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016. Contracts will be developed for all successful applications after Council approval to ensure their funding is released in time for projects starting in September.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

27. One drop-in session was held at Town Hall House and one Intensive Writing Grants Seminar was held at the City of Sydney offices located at Pitt Street to assist potential applicants with their applications on the following dates:
 - (a) Tuesday, 12 May 2015 at 12pm; and

(b) Wednesday, 13 May at 5pm.

28. A total of 19 people from 10 organisations attended the drop-in session. 56 people from 56 organisations attended the Intensive Writing Grants Seminar.

ANN HOBAN

Director City Life

Phoebe Arthur, Grants Officer