

**ITEM 3. GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIP – 2015/16 ANNUAL PROGRAMS
ROUND TWO – REALLOCATION OF CULTURAL AND CREATIVE
GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM**

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, cultural, 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.

On 23 November 2015, Council approved a total of 42 grants under the 2015/16 Round Two Grants and Sponsorship Allocation, which includes a total value of \$624,630 in cash and \$187,330 in revenue forgone for the 2015/16 financial year, and commitments of \$170,000 in cash for future financial years.

A cash grant of \$50,000 (excluding GST) was awarded to The Festivalists for the Night Moves project under Round Two of the Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program. Representatives from The Festivalists have since contacted City staff to advise that they will not be taking up the grant.

This report recommends the reallocation of the \$50,000 in unutilised funds to two applications for a total value of \$35,000 in cash (excluding GST). All grants in this report were assessed against criteria and guidelines set in the Grants and Sponsorship Policy as part of the 2015/16 Annual Programs Round Two.

RECOMMENDATION

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the cash grant recommendations for 2015/16 under the Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program – Round Two as follows:

Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Recommended	Conditions
Queer Screen Limited	Reach Out Sydney	A series of free community events during the Mardi Gras Film Festival.	\$20,000 (excluding GST)	Nil

Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Recommended	Conditions
Youth Off The Streets Limited	Our City, Our Lens	A creative skills training program for at risk young people.	\$15,000 (excluding GST)	Nil

- (B) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer agreements with the applicants approved for a grant or sponsorship in clause (A) on terms consistent with this resolution and in accordance with the Grants and Sponsorship Policy.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

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 3 August 2015, three of the City's grants programs were announced as being open for applications on the City's website, with grant applications closing on 7 September 2015.
3. The three promoted programs in the 2015/16 Round Two Grants and Sponsorship Allocation were:
 - (a) Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program;
 - (b) Festivals and Events Sponsorship Program (Artform or Village and Community); and
 - (c) Matching Grant Program.
4. On 23 November 2015, Council approved a total of 42 grants under the 2015/16 Round Two Grants and Sponsorship Allocation, which included a total value of \$624,630 in cash and \$187,330 in revenue forgone for the 2015/16 financial year, and commitments of \$170,000 in cash for future financial years.
5. The Festivalists applied and were approved for funding under Round Two of the Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program for the project Night Moves. This project was approved for funding of up to \$50,000 in cash (excluding GST). Representatives from The Festivalists have since contacted City staff to advise that they wish to withdraw their current application as they did not secure the funding from other sources required to undertake the project. The Festivalists intend to reapply in 2017.
6. It is recommended that the unutilised funds of \$50,000 be reallocated to the next most competitive applications based on the outcomes of the assessment process. This report recommends supporting Queer Screen up to the value of \$20,000 in cash (excluding GST) for the Reach Out Sydney project, and Youth Off the Streets Limited up to the value of \$15,000 in cash (excluding GST) for the Our City, Our Lens project.
7. 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.
8. All grants and sponsorships are recommended on the condition that any required approvals, permits and development consents are obtained by the applicant.
9. The City's Grants and Sponsorship Program is highly competitive. Applications that were not recommended either did not score as highly against the assessment criteria as the recommended applications or had incomplete or insufficient information.
10. The Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program supports projects and initiatives that provide opportunities for creative participation, enhance creativity in the public domain and strengthen the sustainability and capacity of the city's cultural and creative industries.

11. The Assessment Panel for the Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program was comprised of Manager Creative City, Cultural Projects Coordinator, Cultural Development Coordinator, Business Precinct Coordinator, Oral Historian, Economic Development Coordinator, City Historian, Cultural Projects Manager, Program Manager – Events, Urban Designer, Senior Program Manager and the Community Engagement Coordinator.
12. 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.

KEY IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030

13. 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

14. 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

15. 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

16. A total of two eligible grants are recommended in this report under Round Two of the Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship Program, which includes a total of \$35,000 in cash. This amount is provided for within the existing Grants and Sponsorship budget for 2015/16.
17. Based on the reallocated amount of \$35,000 for Round Two of the Program, the total recommended is now \$389,000 from the \$404,000 available in the Cultural and Creative Grants and Sponsorship budget.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

18. Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (New South Wales)*. Section 356 (3) (a) to (d) is satisfied for the purpose of providing grant funding to for-profit organisations.

CRITICAL DATES / TIME FRAMES

19. The funding period for the 2015/16 Round Two Grants and Sponsorship Allocation is for activity taking place from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016. Contracts will be developed for all successful applications after Council approval to ensure their funding is released in time for projects starting in January.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

20. Two grants and sponsorship drop-in sessions were held in Town Hall House to assist potential applicants with their applications on the following dates:
- (a) Wednesday, 12 August 2015 at 5.00pm; and
 - (b) Wednesday, 19 August 2015 at 5.00pm.
21. 89 people across 70 organisations attended the grants and sponsorship drop in sessions.

ANN HOBAN

Director City Life

Jemma Watson, A/Manager Grants