

Budget Requests September 2021

Initiatives	Issue	Proposal	Funding Requested	Impact on 10-Year Financial Plan	Value for Money (Rating: High, Medium, Low)	Deliverability (Rating: High, Medium, Low)
Rent relief - Commercial tenants (Palais, Sky Diving)	<p>Initial relief package for Palais Theatre predicated on 65% rental waiver support for the period Jul to Dec 2021. Current lockdown deeper and more prolonged than original expectations. Originally provided \$296,000 - current estimate suggests support will be required in the order of \$380,000. Extra \$84,000 anticipated. Council has provided \$1.248 million to date in rent relief due to COVID restrictions.</p> <p>Further claim identified in respect of Sky Diving Australia (from Sports & Recreation Portfolio) that satisfies CTRS eligibility - \$68,000. Not originally forecast. A skydiving permit is issued under an Expression of Interest process on a three-year tenure. 2021/22 Permit fee is set at \$180,000 per annum plus a participant fee at \$2.40 per adult and \$1.60 per child</p> <p>No surplus on other Commercial tenant relief as estimate of 16 weeks relief is likely to be close to current lockdown duration.</p>	<p>Increase relief funding to match expected payments required under Council relief package.</p> <p>Palais \$84,000</p> <p>Skydiving \$68,000</p>	\$152,000	nil	High	High
Stokehouse additional Rent and Community Benefit Relief	<p>The Stokegroup has received financial support of \$534,000 inclusive of GST to date in the form of rental and Community Benefit payment waivers through Council's COVID19 support schemes in 2020 and 2021 and will continue to receive proportional rent relief in the form of rent waivers until the end of the Updated Council Scheme on to 15 January 2022.</p> <p>The Stokegroup has requested additional support from Council to assist their economic recovery due to: the scale of the restaurant operation (three restaurants in the one building) and costs of opening and closing for each lockdown; the large number of staff (200); the significant holding costs due to the recent rebuild and ongoing investment for the 5-star green rating; the difficulties in pivoting to takeaway service and the reliance on national and international visitors to maximise their custom in peak periods.</p> <p>Additional financial support for the Stokegroup Pty Ltd to assist in the recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, is proposed to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Proportional rent relief based on reduction in turnover for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 May 2021, estimated at \$45,000 inclusive of GST; and •A full waiver of Community Benefit fees for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 December 2021 to the value of \$41,250 inclusive of GST. 	To grant waiver up to \$78,400 (GST exclusive) for the Stokehouse inclusive of a retrospective claim of \$40,900 for rent relief support for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 May 2021 (they had approximately 24% turnover impact which did not meet the minimum 30% turnover reduction threshold) and a full waiver \$37,500 of Community Benefit fees for periods 1 April 2021 to 31 December 2021.	\$78,400	nil	High	High
Fee waiver support for sporting club fees and recreation license fee.	These amounts do not fall within scope of the Commercial Tenants Relief Scheme (CTRS), and involve groups and individuals who have not had access to facilities, sporting grounds and open space during lockdown.	Provide a 50% fee waiver estimated at a cost of \$24,000 to financial assist with these groups impacted by service access.	\$24,000	nil	High	High
Potential Trial of Dog Restriction changes, Port Melbourne Beaches	On 3 November, Council will consider a Petition from dog owners in Port Melbourne seeking greater summer time access to some Port Melbourne Beaches. Options will be presented for Council to consider.	This is a provisional amount, that will be required in the event that Council resolves to conduct a trial of changed dog restrictions in the Summer of 2021-22. The funds will cover project management, administration, legal expenses and the community consultation and trial evaluation.	\$70,000	TBC after trial	Med	Med
Soap Dispenser at Foreshore Public Toilets Trial	<p>In 2015 Council ceased providing soap and paper towel dispensers in all public toilets due to vandalism, graffiti and theft.</p> <p>Pandemic has heightened hygiene practices and expectations within the community.</p> <p>Motion was passed on 1 September for CEO to provide a proposal to reintroduce handwashing soap to public toilet facilities</p>	<p>Trial runs over 4-month period from 1 December 2021.</p> <p>Report back after trial in April for options for consideration alongside budget 2022/23 development.</p>	\$21,850	TBC after trial	High	High
Continuation of Communal Food Organics Trial (COFO)	<p>The COFO trial, which commenced in April/May 2021 at three reserves (HR Johnson, Lagoon and Rats of Tobruk), is scheduled to end on 30 November 2021, followed by a period of evaluation.</p> <p>There is a demonstrated demand for the service, which started with 2x 240L bins at each site, emptied weekly, which has now increased to 8x 120L bins at each site, emptied twice weekly.</p>	<p>If additional funds can be secured, officers have capacity to continue the trial at the three sites or expand the trial to include three more sites: Walter Reserve, Port Melbourne; Clarke Reserve, Elwood; Hewison Reserve, East St Kilda.</p> <p>These sites have been recommended by officers as they meet the trial objectives of testing this option in areas of high to mid-density housing and SUDs with little or no space to store an additional bin. Further, they consider equitable distribution across the three Council Wards. This aligns with strategic directions in the review of Don't Waste It!</p>	<p>Option a) \$110,000</p> <p>Option b) \$204,000</p>	<p>Option a) \$78,000 in 2022/23</p> <p>Option b) \$140,000 in 2022/23</p>	High	High