



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

11th October 2005

DSS2 FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FILE: FM500 APV

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the grant offer for Kempsey's Floodplain Management Program under the 2:1 subsidy component for 2005/2006.

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Council at its meeting on 9th August 2005 resolved to accept the offer of financial assistance under the 1:1 maintenance component of the Floodplain Management Program for 2005/2006.

Council has now received advice from Hon. Ian McDonald, MLC, Minister for Natural Resources, Minister for Mineral Resources, Minister for Primary Industries of financial assistance in the amount of \$330,000 for its Floodplain Management Program for 2005/2006 under the 2:1 subsidy component.

Details of the offer of assistance are shown in the following table:

DESCRIPTION	PROGRAM	COUNCIL BUDGET	GRANT OFFERED	COUNCIL FUNDS REQUIRED FOR GRANT	TOTAL PROJECT FUNDS
Bank Protection	2:1	60,000	40,000	20,000	60,000
Floodgate Structure Replacement	2:1	225,000	150,000	75,000	225,000
Water Quality Monitoring	2:1	60,000	50,000	25,000	75,000
Floodgate Adjustments	2:1	85,000	50,000	25,000	75,000
Macleay River Management Study	2:1	45,000	20,000	10,000	30,000
Smithtown Gladstone Levee Concept Study	2:1		20,000	10,000	30,000

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Floodway Clearance	2:1	100,000	-	-	-
TOTAL		575,000	330,000	165,000	495,000

As can be seen from the above table, the offers for 2005/2006 are generally in line with Council's budget and the proposals as submitted to DIPNR.

Council will recall that there was a reduction in the grant offer for the 2004/2005 program as a result of the State Government's April 2004 mini-budget. The reduced funding in 2004/2005 is offset by an increase in offers for the 2005/2006 program.

No advice has yet been received regarding the Floodway Voluntary Purchase Project under the Regional Flood Mitigation Program. The full amount of the budget allocated for this project is unlikely to be required, as funding offers from previous years have not yet been expended.

Under the Macleay River Management Study project, it is proposed that, in 2005/2006, the Kempsey Flood Study would be completed and work would commence on the Management Study and Plan for the Kempsey Urban Area.

The Lower Macleay Floodplain Management Plan identified the need to provide greater flood protection to the villages on the floodplain. The villages of Smithtown and Gladstone have approximately 125 and 100 dwellings respectively that are flooded above the floor in a 1% flood and the current levees only offer protection up to approximately the 1 in 5 year flood level. The Lower Macleay Floodplain Study carried out a preliminary analysis of levees for these villages and recommended that Council proceed with a concept design for ring levees. When the concept design is completed, Council would then decide whether to proceed to detailed design and construction or to adopt alternative methods. The grant offer provides funding for this levee concept study.

Should Council wish to take up the offer, acceptance in accordance with the Conditions for Financial Assistance under the Floodplain Management Program needs to be confirmed within 45 days.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Social/Environmental Implications***

All items in the proposed program are considered important in achieving the aims of the Lower Macleay Floodplain Management Plan.

The maintenance of the Flood Mitigation infrastructure will ensure that the flood mitigation system is operational at all times. The operation of the Flood Mitigation infrastructure in accordance with the Floodplain Management Plan will

minimise the effect of flooding on development – an objective of Council's Management Plan for 2005/2006.

- *Economic (Financial)*

The financial implication of the following recommendation would be a contribution from Council of \$165,000. Funding is provided within Council's 2005/2006 budget to match the grant offer.

- *Policy or Statutory*

There are no Policy or Statutory Implications from this report.

- *Director's Review*

Council is urged to support the recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the offer of financial assistance in the amount of \$330,000 for the 2:1 component of the Floodplain Management Program for 2005/2006 be accepted in accordance with the Conditions for Financial Assistance under the Floodplain Management Program.

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K J Finnie
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES