20.1 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM: Naracoorte Aerodrome Lighting

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<tr>
<th>Responsible Officer:</th>
<th>Steve Bourne Director Operations</th>
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| Strategic Outcome:   | A safe and integrated transport network  
A healthy and resilient community  
• Support emergency preparedness and disaster response planning |
| Financial Implication: | 2019/20 Budget $132,000 including grant of $66,000  
2020/21 Draft budget $60,000 |
| Statutory Implication: | Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998 |
| Policy Implication: | Nil |
| Consultative and Community Implication: | Naracoorte Aero Club  
Mount Gambier Airport Manager |

Report

A project to replace the lighting system on runway 08/26 at the Naracoorte Aerodrome was included in the 2019/20 budget with an allocation of $50,000 to seek matching funds through the Supporting Regional Aviation Fund of the South Australian Government. Changes in legislated requirements increased the scope of the project and a grant of $66,000 was received for a $132,000 project. A budget adjustment was made to allow for this.

The system is aged and suffers breakdowns, and in the 2019 CASA audit, failed with lighting inconsistent colours and intensity. The lighting placement also does not meet new Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) standards.

CASA has updated the MOS (Manual of Standards) under Part 139 of the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998. This has been some period of time in its implementation with different interpretations of what is required. Two of the key changes that impact Naracoorte Aerodrome are the removal of the category registered aerodrome and combining this with the certified category. To be a certified aerodrome, Council must produce an operational manual in accordance to MOS 139. The LGA through is expert contractor Aero Design are developing a template to assist aerodrome operators with producing this manual, as clearly there is a different level of requirements for a small regional aerodrome compared to a capital city airport.

The second key change for Council and this project is the “grandfathering” rule. That is, infrastructure that is in place is regarded as compliant with legislation (MOS139) but once upgraded, it must meet MOS139. The interpretation was originally that light fittings could be upgraded and not require meeting other elements of the standards, however our advice is that upgrading the light fittings triggers a requirement to meet all aspects of MOS139. This is relevant for Council as the current light spacings are 90m and the new standard is 60m.

A project design was submitted to CASA to check it met with their requirements, which they confirmed it did. Peter Francis of Aero Design reviewed and assessed that it did not and recommended that Phil Robinson of Airport Lighting Services also review the design. Phil also visited Naracoorte.
A local electrician, who installed the current system, was approached to undertake the project. The requirements to commission the works, and flight test would require external contractors.

The CEO sought advice from the Mount Gambier Airport Manager, Ian Fritsch who attended the aerodrome to discuss our project and challenges. The Mount Gambier lighting was installed by Phil Robinson and he comes highly recommended. Phil provided a price of $159,000 inclusive of design, purchase of all materials and installation, but not for trenching for cables. Given this exceeded the project budget, five options were considered for this project;

1. Ask the DPTI Program Sponsor for additional funding, and matching amount from Council.
2. Cancel this year’s project and re-apply with correct amount next FY (not sure yet if program will be continued and no guarantee that the project will be successful next year)
3. Find additional funding elsewhere
4. Implement part of the project this financial year and budget for additional works next year.
5. Cancel the project

The lights do not meet standards and we have regular failures. We are aware the cabling is not in conduit and is 40 years old, so although it tests okay in its most recent test, the probability of failure increases over time. Loss of lighting would impact emergency services – RFDS flights and commercial flights. The program did not have surplus funds left and with no security of the program continuing, it is recommended the $66,000 funding is utilised this financial year. Carryovers are unlikely.

On the advice of the Mount Gambier Airport Manager, the project has been split. This year with have all the lighting installed, and could be linked to the old PALC (control system) if required. It is planned to hold this part of the process over until the new financial year to avoid rework. A price of $126,000 has been received for this, with $6,000 for trenching, bringing the project to its budget of $132,000.

This would leave the installation of the PALC and commissioning for 2020/21. An allowance of $60,000 has been included in the draft budget for 2020/21 to complete the works. This includes a cost estimate of $54,000 from Airport Lighting Services and a small contingency.

Airport Lighting Services is the only aerodrome lighting specialist in South Australia and has installed lighting at many facilities including Prominent Hill Oz Minerals, Brisbane International, Adelaide Airport, Pt Lincoln, Mt Gambier, Newcastle, Mc Arthur River Mine, RAAF Base Williamtown, Olympic Dam, Sunshine Coast Airport.

A quote was sought for supply of the light fittings and Airport Lighting Services can supply at a better rate. The level of detail required with this installation requires specialist expertise and it is recommended Airport Lighting Services is engaged to undertake the installation of the lighting upgrade at Naracoorte Aerodrome. As there is only a single quote for works over $100,000, this falls outside Council’s Procurement Policy and requires Council approval.

MOVED CR MCLACHLAN
SECONDED CR SCHULTZ
That:
1. A Contract for the Naracoorte Aerodrome Lighting Upgrade is awarded to Airport Lighting Services for a contract price of $126,000 (plus GST).
2. The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer are authorised to sign and affix the Council seal to the contract documents between Naracoorte Lucindale Council and Airport Lighting Services.

CARRIED 541/20