

COUNCIL 7. 6. 2012

11. MOBILE LIBRARY VEHICLES FUNDING FOR REPLACEMENT

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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval to accept the donation of funds from Rotary International District 9970 Inc (Rotary) to buy and fit out two new mobile library vans and trailers to replace the large mobile bus currently in use and need of replacement.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The current mobile bus is in need of replacement as it has come to the end of its functional life. It was in the programme for replacement in 2012. As a result of the impact of the 2010 and 2011 Canterbury earthquakes the funding for the replacement of the mobile bus was deferred. The mobile bus replacement cycle recommends replacement every 15 years, the current bus is 20 years old and is off the road frequently for costly repairs.
3. The state of the city's roads and bridges limited the ability of the mobile bus to reach affected communities after the February earthquake. The replacement of the bus with lighter and more manoeuvrable vans will enable a more flexible style of service which is more suitable for the future needs of the community. Serving geographically more isolated communities impacted by the loss of libraries in the earthquakes and supporting the ongoing recovery of Christchurch communities will be a benefit of the new vehicles.
4. Post earthquakes Rotary New Zealand is keen to support isolated or affected communities in the city and has identified the library as an appropriate way to do this. After discussion with the library and gaining an appreciation of the mobile library service, Rotary has sought and received funding from Cotton On Foundation Australia and The Rotary Foundation.
5. Rotary propose to provide funding for the purchase, fit out and signage of two large vans and two custom-made trailers. All purchases and fit out work is to be managed by the Council working with current suppliers and processes. All computers and collection items will be business as usual and provided by the Council.
6. A Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted and includes the following:
 - Ownership, maintenance, insurance and eventual replacement of the vehicles is the responsibility of the Council.
 - Delivery of services and operational activities will continue to be managed by the Council.
 - Logos and taglines of the funding parties will be included on the exterior of the vans to a design agreed by the Council. This is likely to be two small logos on the back doors. Sponsorship signs will remain on the vans until they are replaced at part of the Council's renewal and replacement programme.
 - Publicity for the funding partners will be planned and agreed on through the Council Public Affairs Group. This will include publicity and participation at the launch of the vans.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. The cost of the vans and trailers purchase and fit out will be met by Rotary, an estimated \$283,000. Ongoing maintenance and renewal and replacement will be met by the Council in a business as usual process. There will be no anticipated increase in operational costs, including staffing.

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?

8. Yes.

11 Cont'd

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. Have been addressed in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?

10. Yes, the Legal Team has reviewed the MOU.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

11. Yes. People have equitable access to parks, open spaces, recreation facilities and libraries. By providing walk in and remotely accessed library services, people can visit and use a network of 20 libraries, two shared school/public libraries and mobile library service in ways and at times that suit their lifestyles and ability.

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2009-19 LTCCP?

12. Yes. Provide a mobile library service to residents without access to a local library. The use of two vans rather than a large bus allows for a different approach to mobile library services it will maintain the current level of service.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

13. The replacement of the Mobile library vehicle fits the recommended actions of the Libraries 2025 Facilities Plan. "Continue service as a means of filling network gaps where facility provision is not sustainable. Continue ongoing evaluation of efficiency. Customised service delivery".

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

14. Yes.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

15. Not applicable.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council approve the proposed donation of funds from Rotary New Zealand to fund the replacement of the mobile library bus.