

**Report to the Future Melbourne (Finance and Governance)
Committee**

Agenda item 6.7

Allocation of the Discretionary Fund: Third Quarter 2014–15

12 May 2015

Presenter: Martin Cutter, Director City Business

Purpose and background

1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Future Melbourne Committee of the projects supported through the allocation of discretionary funding for the third quarter of the 2014–15 financial year in accordance with Future Melbourne Committee requirements.

Key issues

2. Total discretionary funding allocated during the third quarter of the 2014–15 financial year was \$25,729. The individual items funded are listed in Attachment 2.
3. This funding has been met within an existing 2014–15 budget allocation of \$300,000 held within the City Business Division comprising:
 - 3.1. \$200,000 for Council support for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, via cash sponsorships (year to date allocation \$213,432, unexpended funds \$NIL). It is noted that the overrun in this particular budget line is offset within the overall discretionary funds budget.
 - 3.2. \$70,000 for Council support of the same via use of the Melbourne Town Hall venue (year to date allocation \$37,629, unexpended funds \$32,371).
 - 3.3. \$30,000 for Council support of the same via purchase of table sponsorships (year to date allocation \$35,616, unexpended funds \$NIL). It is noted that the overrun in this particular budget line is offset within the overall discretionary funds budget.
4. As at the end of the third quarter, the net unexpended funds in the total \$300,000 budget for 2014–15 were \$13,323.
5. The total value of discretionary in-kind waivers approved for the third quarter was \$6000. Details are listed in Attachment 2.

Recommendation from management

6. That the Future Melbourne Committee receives the report on the allocation of discretionary funds for the third quarter of the 2014–15 financial year.

Attachments:

1. Supporting Attachment
2. List of Distributed Funds

Supporting Attachment

Legal

1. There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendation from management.

Finance

2. The financial implications are contained in the body of the report.

Conflict of interest

3. No member of Council staff, or other person engaged under a contract, involved in advising on or preparing this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to the matter of the report.

Stakeholder consultation

4. Stakeholder consultation has not been undertaken in the formulation of this report.

Relation to Council policy

5. A number of formal funding programs that have been established to meet Council policy objectives within the Council Plan. Current grants programs include support for arts and culture, events, small business and export, sport and recreation and community services.
6. Discretionary funds are allocated from time to time to requests made outside of the normal funding program planning and funding cycles, subject to meeting the criteria established via Future Melbourne Committee resolution on 9 July 2013. This criteria states that requests for discretionary funding will only be considered if:
 - 6.1. They are received with a lead time of greater than 90 days to the date of the event (with the exception of table sponsorships).
 - 6.2. They would be ineligible for funding from existing programs.

Environmental sustainability

7. There is no significant impact on environmental sustainability arising from or related to the recommendation in this report.

List Of Distributed Funds

Table 1: Council support for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, via cash sponsorships

Nature of request	Organisation requesting funding	Date of activity or event	Total value contributed (ex-GST)	Method of approval
ALGWA Centenary Celebration - photographer hire	Australian Local Government Womens' Association	15 May 2015	\$600	Approved by Council, 31 March 2015

Sub-total:

Adjustments: (1) +\$20,000: Funding previously awarded by Council on 30 September 2014 for use of Melbourne Town Hall by the "White Night" event (see Table 2 Adjustments, below) was reallocated to meet costs of road closures, and following cancellation of proposed Town Hall event, as per Briefing Note to Councillors on 27 January 2015.

TOTAL FOR THIS QUARTER:**Year to Date Cumulative Total:**

Opening Balance at 1 January 2015
Closing Balance at 31 March 2015

\$600**\$20,000****\$20,600**

\$192,832

\$213,432

Table 2: Council support for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, via use of the Melbourne Town Hall venue

Nature of request	Organisation requesting funding	Date of activity or event	Total value contributed (ex-GST)	Method of approval
The Royal Humane Society of Australia's presentation of the 2014 Clarke Silver Medal	Royal Humane Society of Australiasia	18 February 2015	\$1,091	Approved by Future Melbourne Committee, 3 February 2015
ALGWA Centenary Celebration	Australian Local Government Womens' Association	15 May 2015	\$4,155	Approved by Council, 31 March 2015
Donation of a dinner for 10 as an auction item for the 2015 Think Pink Masquerade Ball	Think Pink Foundation	To be confirmed (NB: Masquerade Ball is on 23 May 2015)	\$1,500	Approved by Council, 31 March 2015
Salvation Army memorial service for General Eva Burrows	Salvation Army	31 March 2015	\$3,166	Approved by Council, 31 March 2015

Sub-total:

Adjustments: (1) -\$57: Presentation of the 2014 Clarke Silver Medal (estimated costs did not eventuate); (2) -\$20,000: Previously awarded funding for use of Melbourne Town Hall by the "White Night" event was reallocated to cash sponsorships (see Table 1 Adjustments, above);

TOTAL FOR THIS QUARTER:**Year to Date Cumulative Total:**

Opening Balance at 1 January 2015
Closing Balance at 31 March 2015

\$9,912**-\$20,057****-\$10,145**

\$47,774

\$37,629

Table 3: Council support for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, via purchase of table sponsorships

Nature of request	Organisation requesting funding	Date of activity or event	Total value contributed (ex-GST)	Method of approval
Table sponsorship: Melbourne Press Club Quill Awards	Melbourne Press Club	20 March 2015	\$1,700	Approved by Future Melbourne Committee, 3 February 2015
Table sponsorship: Creative Innovation Gala Dinner 2015	Creative Universe Pty Ltd	24 March 2015	\$2,500	Approved by Future Melbourne Committee, 3 February 2015
Table sponsorship: Premier's Gala Dinner - Cultural Diversity Week	Victorian Multicultural Commission	14 March 2015	\$5,000	Approved by Future Melbourne Committee, 3 February 2015
Table sponsorship: Australian Ballet School special fundraising evening	Australian Ballet School	11 February 2015	\$2,000	Approved by Future Melbourne Committee, 3 February 2015
Table sponsorship: Committee for Melbourne 2015 Annual Dinner	Committee for Melbourne	16 April 2015	\$5,000	Approved by Council, 31 March 2015
Table sponsorship: Africa Day Gala Dinner	Africa Day Australia Inc	23 May 2015	\$1,390	Approved by Council, 31 March 2015
Table sponsorship: Hong Kong Australia Business Association Annual Business Awards Gala Dinner	Hong Kong Australia Business Association	21 August 2015	\$3,000	Approved by Council, 31 March 2015
Sub-total:			\$20,590	
Adjustments: Minor amendments required to ensure correct tax treatment: (1) -\$30: Quill Awards; (2) -\$114: Creative Innovation Dinner; (3) -\$173: Museum of Chinese Australian History dinner. Other adjustments: (1) -\$5,000 Victorian Multicultural Commission: proposed table sponsorship was cancelled.			-\$5,316	
TOTAL FOR THIS QUARTER:			\$15,274	
	Year to Date Cumulative Total:			
	Opening Balance at 1 January 2015		\$20,342	
	Closing Balance at 31 March 2015		\$35,616	
GRAND TOTAL FOR THIS QUARTER:			\$25,729	
	Year to Date Cumulative Grand Total:			
	Opening Balance at 1 January 2015		\$260,948	
	Closing Balance at 31 March 2015		\$286,677	

Table 4: Council support under this program for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, via waived fees

Nature of request	Organisation requesting funding	Date of activity or event	Total value contributed (ex-GST)	Method of approval
Waiving of site fees associated with filming of a proposed television series	Channel 7 (Seven Network)	9 June to 8 September 2015	\$35,000	Approved by Future Melbourne Committee, 3 February 2015
Waiving of hire fees for banners promoting the "WW1 Centenary Exhibition"	ACMN Pty Ltd	From 18 April 2015	\$6,000	Approved by Council, 24 February 2015
Sub-total:			\$41,000	
Adjustments: Minor amendments: (1) -\$35,000: Channel Seven proposed request was subsequently withdrawn by them.			-\$35,000	
TOTAL WAIVED FEES:			\$6,000	
<i>Year to Date Cumulative Total:</i>				
Total value of fees waived this financial year as at 1 January 2015			\$213,227	
Total value of fees waived this financial year as at 31 March 2015			\$219,227	