



REGIONAL COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

14 FEBRUARY 2018



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COUNCIL SUPPLEMENTARY
AGENDA
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10. EXECUTIVE OFFICE REPORTS

10.7 LVRC/TRC Joint Working Group - Olympic Games Bid Opportunities

Date: 12 February 2018
Author: Stephen Hart, Coordinator Council Business
Responsible Officer: Ian Church, Chief Executive Officer

Summary:

Council of Mayors South East Queensland (CoMSEQ) is currently undertaking work to determine the feasibility of a 2032 South East Queensland Olympic Bid. The Mayor of Toowoomba has requested that a Joint Working Group be formed with Lockyer Valley Regional Council to explore opportunities including the potential for a mountain bike venue at Jubilee Park. Support for the Joint Working Group is recommended.

Officer's Recommendation:

THAT Council support the formation of a Joint Working Group with Toowoomba Regional Council to consider opportunities related to the Olympic Bid Feasibility work currently being undertaken by the Council of Mayors South East Queensland (CoMSEQ).

Report

1. Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider a request from Cr Paul Antonio Mayor Toowoomba Regional Council, to form a Joint Working Group (Refer Attachment 1). Councillor Antonio has proposed that the Group be comprised of representatives from both Toowoomba and Lockyer Valley Regions with the intention of exploring opportunities arising from the 2032 Olympic Games Bid feasibility work. This includes the identification of opportunities such as a potential Olympic competition venue for mountain bike riding at Jubilee Park.

2. Background

In March 2015, the eleven Mayors of South East Queensland agreed to undertake a pre-feasibility study into a potential regional bid for the Olympic Games. The COMSEQ Board meeting on 22 July 2016 gave consideration to a draft Pre-Feasibility Analysis of a potential South East Queensland Bid for the Olympic Games.

At Council's ordinary meeting on 24 August 2016, Council resolved to support COMSEQ undertaking a full feasibility assessment of a potential bid for the Olympic Games.

3. Report

Council of Mayors South East Queensland (COMSEQ) have advised that a South East Queensland (SEQ) Olympic bid will only proceed if it demonstrably delivers a better region for our residents, and a stronger economy for Queensland and Australia.

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The pre-feasibility analysis was a preliminary investigation into the region's capability to host an Olympic Games, but further research is needed to assess the requirements, costs, benefits and legacies of doing so.

There are significant costs involved in such a bid relating in particular to infrastructure for venues, accommodation facilities and transport systems. The bringing forward of investment in such infrastructure also has significant benefits for the region. A full feasibility study is to determine the benefits and costs and the likely impacts as well as the legacies SEQ could expect from such a bid.

A key component of this work is a long-term, region-wide study into SEQ's transport needs and the mass movement of people throughout the region. Alongside this will be an audit of SEQ's current sporting and performing arts venues and an assessment of our future demands for quality venues. This work is underway.

Councillor Antonio has advised that Jubilee Park has been identified as a potential Olympic Competition venue for mountain biking. The Jubilee Park area is located within the Toowoomba Region. However, access to the park from the east, at the bottom of the escarpment, is via Amos Road Withcott. Accordingly, Councillor Antonio has requested the formation of a Joint Working Group to consider this and other potential opportunities for our regions.

It is considered there is benefit in working alongside Toowoomba Regional Council on this endeavour. This may have longer term legacy benefits for both regions.

4. Policy and Legal Implications

Policy and legal implications will be addressed in future matters on that arise before Council.

5. Financial and Resource Implications

The Lockyer Valley Regional Council has previously agreed to provide funding to CoMSEQ to assist with the feasibility work. This funding is split over the 16/17 and 17/18 financial years. It is not anticipated that the formation of a Working Group will require funding and it should assist in identifying any further opportunities.

6. Delegations/Authorisations

No further delegations are required to manage the matters raised in this report. The Chief Executive Officer will manage the requirements in line with existing delegations to work with Toowoomba Regional Council to establish and manage the working group.

7. Communication and Engagement

No additional communication arises from this report. The Manager Regional Development has been consulted in drafting this report.

8. Conclusion

The pre-feasibility study for a SEQ Olympic bid has indicated that the region is capable of making such a bid. Feasibility work is underway. To identify and maximize any benefits of such a bid, including a Jubilee Park mountain bike venue, it is recommended that Council work with Toowoomba Regional Council on a Joint Working Group.



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9. Action/s

1. Send correspondence to Councillor Antonio agreeing to his request to form a Joint Working Group.

Attachments

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Office of the Mayor

CR PAUL ANTONIO
MAYOR
Chair - Economic Development Committee



Our ref: DM7825088

3 January 2018

Cr Tanya Milligan
Mayor, Lockyer Valley Regional Council
PO Box 82
Gatton, QLD 4343

Dear Mayor Milligan

LVRC/TRC Joint Working Group – Mountain Biking

As previously discussed, the COMSEQ Olympic Bid Feasibility Task Force presents our broader region with a number of exciting opportunities that warrants our further and greater consideration.

The identification of Jubilee Park as a potential Olympic Competition Venue for Mountain Biking during Stage 1 of the feasibility study is of particular interest to both of our communities.

In recent times several significant mountain biking events, including the 2015 and 2017 Oceania Continental MTB Championships, have been successfully staged in Jubilee Park. There is no doubt these events contribute positively to our economic and social prosperity.

In addition to mountain biking there is also significant potential around the growth in outdoor recreation and adventure tourism.

With such a broad scope of opportunity I would like to suggest the formation of a Joint Working Group to explore not only the 2032 Olympic Games Bid Feasibility but also other opportunities in this area.

Ideally, this Joint Working Group would bring together internal staff and industry experts in addition to key community representatives charged with exploring the opportunities before us.

With this in mind, I would be very pleased if the appropriate contact from Lockyer Valley Regional Council would make contact with Mr Nick Hauser, General Manager Environment and Community Services in order to initiate formation of this Working Group. Nick Hauser can be contacted on 4688 6475 or via Nick.Hauser@tr.qld.gov.au. Further, Toowoomba Regional Council would be pleased to support the Working Group in its formative stages through provision of secretariat service in the form of Sports Tourism Officer, Andrew Allpass.

By working together I am confident we will be able to capitalise on the long term legacies a 2032 Olympic Games Bid Feasibility can provide.

Yours sincerely

Cr Paul Antonio
Mayor, Toowoomba Region

