

**Management report to Council**

**Agenda item 6.5**

**Funding support requests March 2019**

**Council**

**Presenter:** Katrina McKenzie, Director City Economy and Activation

**26 March 2019**

**Purpose and background**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek direction from Council as to whether recent requests for funding should be funded from the discretionary fund.
2. In July 2013, the Future Melbourne Committee considered the process for funding items of a discretionary nature and resolved that, from 31 July 2013, only the following items would be considered:
  - 2.1. Those items that are received with a lead time of greater than 90 days to the date of the event (except for table sponsorships).
  - 2.2. Those items ineligible for funding from existing programs.
3. The recent requests for funding (refer Attachment 2) are outside the normal Event Partnership Program, Business Events, Community Grants and Art Grants funding cycle. In summary, these are:
  - 3.1. Purchase a table of 10 to the Committee for Melbourne annual dinner (\$5909).
  - 3.2. The fee waiver request for the Banner Program for PHOTO 2020 (\$6000).

**Key issues**

4. Management's comments of the merits or otherwise, of the funding requests have been included in Attachment 3.

**Recommendation from management**

5. That Council approves:
  - 5.1. The purchase of a table of 10 to the Committee for Melbourne annual dinner to the value of \$5909 (excluding GST).
  - 5.2. The fee waiver request for the Banner Program for PHOTO 2020 up to the value of \$6000 (excluding GST).

**Attachments:**

1. Supporting Attachment (Page 2 of 4)
2. Requests for funding (Page 3 of 4)
3. Outline of Funding/Support Requests (Page 4 of 4)

**Supporting Attachment****Legal**

1. No direct legal issues arise from the recommendation from management.

**Finance**

2. The funding requests would, if approved, be paid from Council's 2018–19 Budget, which includes discretionary funding of \$250,000 with a breakdown as follows:
  - 2.1. \$150,000 for Council support for various charitable, community and other eligible organisations and activities, via cash sponsorships.
  - 2.2. \$70,000 for Council support of same via use of the Melbourne Town Hall venue.
  - 2.3. \$30,000 for Council support of same via purchase of table sponsorships.
3. If Council approves the recommendations as listed in this report, the effect on the 2018–19 discretionary budget would be as follows:

Type	2018–19 Annual Budget	Year to Date Committed Expenditure	Recommended funding in this report	Remaining funds if recommendations approved
Sponsorships	\$ 150,000	\$ 61,273	\$ -	\$ 88,727
Town Hall usage	\$ 70,000	\$ 4,477	\$ -	\$ 65,523
Table sponsorships	\$ 30,000	\$ 19,907	\$ 5,909	\$ 4,184
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 250,000</b>	<b>\$ 85,657</b>	<b>\$ 5,909</b>	<b>\$ 158,433</b>

4. The attendance at events by Councillors or officers will attract Fringe Benefits Tax.
5. Waiving of banner hire fees as per the recommendation would not involve incurring direct expenditure but does result in less income. In determining the budget for banner fees a level of expected fee waivers and underutilised capacity is determined over the year. It is expected that the level of fees related to this support request would not impact on the achievement of overall budget for these items in 2018-19.

**Conflict of interest**

6. No other 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.

**Occupational Health and Safety**

7. In developing this proposal, no Occupational Health and Safety issues or opportunities have been identified.

**Stakeholder consultation**

8. No external consultation has been undertaken as this is an internal matter.

**Relation to Council policy**

9. The report is consistent with overall strategies contained in the Council Plan.

**Environmental sustainability**

10. There is no significant impact on environmental sustainability.

**Table 1: FUNDING / SUPPORT REQUESTS**

Criteria	The purchase of a table of 10 to the Committee for Melbourne annual dinner	The fee waiver request for the Banner Program for PHOTO 2020
<i>Date Funding Support Request received</i>	11 March 2019	6 March 2019
<i>Could applicant have submitted their request as part of a grant application process or is it eligible under a grant process?</i>	No	No
<i>Is Management supportive of request for funding?</i>	Yes	Yes
<i>Is there significant support from one or more of the Councillors, in particular if it relates to their portfolio or if it supports a Council goal?</i>	Yes	Yes
<i>Amount of Fee waiver or Funding requested</i>	\$5909 exc GST	\$6000 exc GST
<i>Amount of Fee Waiver or Funding recommended</i>	\$5909 exc GST	\$6000 exc GST
<i>Council/Committee Date</i>	26 March 2019	26 March 2019

**Outline of Funding / Support Requests**

**1. Purchase a table of 10 to the Committee for Melbourne annual dinner (\$5909)**

A request has been received for City of Melbourne to purchase a table of 10 to the Committee for Melbourne annual dinner. The event is being held on Wednesday 22 May 2019 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Committee for Melbourne is an apolitical, not-for-profit, member-based organisation that brings together over 150 organisations from Greater Melbourne's business, academic and community sectors who have a passion for shaping Melbourne as a leading global city in the world's fastest-growing region, the Asia-Pacific.

The Committee's Annual Dinner is a black tie business networking event. The Committee hosts more than 500 members, guests, and dignitaries for an evening to celebrate their achievements and our great city.

This year's theme is 'Think Big' and is a celebration of those whose bold ideas and visions for Melbourne laid the foundations for the wonderful city we have today.

*Management Recommendation*

Management is supportive of purchasing a table of 10 people to the value of (\$5909 excluding GST).

**2. Fee waiver request for the Banner Program for PHOTO 2020 (\$6000)**

A request has been received for a waiver of banner daily hire fees from PHOTO 2020.

The inaugural festival, PHOTO 2020, runs from 23 April to 10 May 2020. It is an international festival of photography delivered in partnership with cultural institutions, universities, commercial galleries and artist-run initiatives including the NGV, State Library Victoria, Melbourne Museum, RMIT and VCA amongst others.

Taking place every two years, the festival will focus on major issues of our time. PHOTO 2020 will explore the relationship between photography and truth in the post-internet age in a program of free exhibitions, outdoor displays and artist commissions across the city, as well as talks, film screenings, masterclasses, education programs and awards. Presenting ideas critical to contemporary photographic discourse, PHOTO 2020 will encourage the public to engage with and think about photography and visual culture in new and inspiring ways.

*Support has been received from Arts Melbourne that will allow commissioning artists to create new outdoor work in the City of Melbourne for PHOTO 2020.*

Installation of banners and signage hub posters throughout the city will be one of PHOTO 2020's promotional channels for the event. Requests for a fee waiver for the Banner Program applies to daily hire fees only (either in full or in part) and not hard costs such as design, production and install/removal costs.

*Management Recommendation*

Management is supportive of a fee waiver of up to \$6000 excluding GST of daily hire fees for this booking.