

A quick guide to Round 2 of the Tiny Towns Fund

ABOUT THE FUND

Right across rural and regional Victoria, our tiny towns are great places to live and visit.

The Tiny Towns Fund will support locals to deliver quality community projects, such as splash parks and bike trails, playgrounds, community hall and library upgrades, public art and more.

Towns with a population of up to 5,000 people in the 48 local government areas of regional Victoria are eligible to apply, as well as Alpine Resorts and Melbourne's 10 interface outer metropolitan local government areas.

What the fund will achieve

From barbecues to community centres, the Tiny Towns Fund will back community-driven projects that enhance our smallest towns, strengthen community connections and encourage more visitors to all corners of Victoria.

The fund aims to:

- Create better community infrastructure and facilities
- Support community connection
- Offer even more reasons to live, work, stay and play in rural and regional Victoria
- Enable all residents to participate in their community, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Victorians, people living with disability, LGBTQIA+ communities and people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds.



Who is eligible

This fund is open to incorporated not-for-profit community organisations and local governments based in Victoria.

Communities with a population of up to 5,000 people are encouraged to apply from:

- Victoria's 48 rural and regional local government areas, as well as Alpine Resorts
- The 10 interface local government areas of Casey City Council, Cardinia Shire Council, Hume City Council, Melton City Council, Mitchell Shire Council, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, Nillumbik Shire Council, Whittlesea City Council, Wyndham City Council and the Yarra Ranges Shire Council.

For further details about eligibility please refer to the Tiny Towns Fund program guidelines.



Grant funding

Applicants can seek grants between \$5,000 and \$50,000 for each project (exclusive of GST).

Co-contribution requirements

All applicants are required to provide a co-contribution towards the proposed project budget.

The co-contribution may come from the applicant organisation or from other sources but must not be from other Victorian Government programs or sources.

A co-contribution may include:

- Grants from the Australian Government
- Grants/contributions from local government and Alpine Resorts
- Contributions from utility/service providers
- Contributions from community groups, businesses, or philanthropic organisations.

For further details on co-contributions please see the Tiny Towns Fund program guidelines.

What could be funded

The fund will support projects that provide a direct benefit to the town and its entire community.

Some examples include:

- refurbishment and upgrades to community facilities and buildings including halls, libraries, community centres and sporting infrastructure and facilities, and hubs that will support local people and groups to connect better
- improvements of public spaces, activity centres and street beautification that encourage use including public art, street furniture, drinking fountains and greenery, the creation of community gardens, park upgrades and dog parks
- updates to local tourism attractions such as splash parks, hiking trails, paths and playgrounds to encourage visitation
- the improvement or creation of space to support community art, creativity and cultural spaces
- development or improvement of community gathering spaces, such as community gardens, amphitheatres or BBQ facilities
- enhancements to safety, accessibility and connections into and within shopping strips and activity centres to enable access for all including accessible paths and lighting
- refurbishment and upgrades to community facilities and/or public spaces that encourage inclusion of groups such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Victorians, people living with disability, LGBTQIA+ communities, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds
- planning projects, including community infrastructure feasibility plans leading to activation of community projects
- recovery projects to help communities recover from economic shocks such as bushfire, storms or industry closures and job losses.

- networking and relationship building activities and projects that promote participation in community life such as community arts projects, community building days and community volunteer projects
- activities and projects that support community building and inclusion through celebrating culture, embracing diversity and building community cohesion and connection
- projects that support Traditional Owner communities and groups to enhance and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, community and economic development, participation and leadership.

Project timeline

Projects must be completed within 18 months from the execution of the grant approval.

How to apply

Applicants are encouraged to read over the Tiny Towns Fund program guidelines in full, taking note of application deadlines.

Guidelines and the application portal can be found on the Tiny Towns Fund website located at rdv.vic.gov.au/tiny-towns-fund.