



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

## Fact Sheet – Thriving Suburbs Program

- The Government has **committed \$200 million** towards the **Thriving Suburbs Program** to provide access to **capital works for community and economic infrastructure** in **urban, suburban and peri-urban communities across Australia**.
- The Thriving Suburbs Program is an **open and competitive** program with funding awarded on a **merit basis**.
- The program has a **two-stage application process: Stage one - Expressions of Interest** and **Stage 2 - full application**.
- The **Forecast Funding Opportunity** for the Thriving Suburbs Program was **published on 16 May 2024** to forecast the program and allow **potential** applicants time to start developing their projects ahead of the program opening in 2024.
- Funding between **\$500,000 and \$15 million** will be awarded to **eligible local governments and incorporated not-for-profit incorporated organisations** to deliver **priority** community and economic infrastructure projects.
- **Joint (consortia) applications** are accepted under the program guidelines.
- Eligible projects **must be located in the Greater Capital City Statistical Areas (GCCSAs)** as defined by Australian Bureau of Statistics.
- The Government also opened the **\$600 million Growing Regions Program** on 5 July 2023 and this program will cover all communities outside the GCCSAs. We expect **all local government areas in Australia to be eligible for funding opportunities under one of these two programs**.
- The Government has redesigned regional investments to ensure best **practice transparency and consistency** of process, as well as **fairer distribution of funds** to ensure people can have confidence in the new programs.
- **Fairness and transparency** in program administration will be demonstrated in the **Thriving Suburbs Program** through the introduction of a **multi-party Parliamentary panel**. The panel will recommend only projects that are aligned with local or state based and Australian Government priorities.
- An **external probity advisor** will also provide advice to a **multi-party Parliamentary panel**.
- Community **stakeholders were consulted** on the **design principles** of the **Thriving Suburbs Program** to ensure the program is best positioned to achieve its intent and outcomes.
- The **Forecast Funding Opportunity** is **available** on the department's **website**.

### The objectives of the program are:

- constructing or upgrading community infrastructure, for example, sporting or cultural facilities
- contributing to achieving productivity and liveability outcomes
- projects that are strategically aligned with government priorities.

### The intended outcomes of the program are:

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- delivery of community infrastructure which contributes to local and state place-based priorities

- provision of infrastructure which benefits the community by improving equity and supports diverse social inclusion
- to grow local economies and enhance amenity and liveability particularly in suburban and peri-urban areas (new and outer suburbs)
- to contribute to the achievement of broader Government priorities such as net zero emissions, gender equality and/or First Nations priorities
- delivery of funding across a broad geographic spread of urban, suburban and peri-urban areas in Australia
- delivering a diversity of project types and a balance of large and small projects
- support and encourage projects from lesser-resourced applicants and low rate based councils

### Further information

- This fact sheet is intended to complement our Forecast Funding Opportunity for this program. The Forecast Funding Opportunity and our program webpage is your primary source of program information until the approved Program Guidelines are released and the Thriving Suburbs Program is opened.
- Forecast Funding Opportunities are subject to revision, withdrawal or cancellation. Information in forecasted opportunities is provided for planning purposes only and does not represent a commitment by the Australian Government.
- This Forecast Funding Opportunity does **not** constitute approved program guidelines and does **not** provide confirmation that the program is formally open. Applications **cannot** be submitted at this time.
- For further information on the geographic eligibility of project locations please refer to the Forecast Funding Opportunity and use the mapping tool available on our program webpage. When using the mapping tool we strongly encourage you to input the exact project location as this will return the most accurate eligibility result for your application.
- The Forecast Funding Opportunity and mapping tool are available at [Thriving Suburbs Program | Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts](#)