

# COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING GRANTS



# Overview

- New Program
- Applying for a Grant
- Steps to planning a project

# New Program

- Community Strengthening Grants
  - Up to \$10,000
  - Matched funding (In Kind or \$ for \$)
  - Streams
  - Twice per year – April and September

# Streams

- Healthy Active Living
- Creative Community
- Community Safety
- Environment and Sustainability

# Small Grants

- Up to \$1,000
- No matched funding
- Available all year (from July 1 2020)
- Youth projects or Events

# Community Strengthening Grant Guidelines

- Will be available by 27 March 2020
- Grant guidelines will provide vital information on the types of applications which will be successful for each of the streams
- Ask the question should we apply for *this* grant?

# Creative community

- Opportunities for residents connect with community
- Opportunities for residents to participate in arts/creative activities
- Support local artistic community
- Revitalise local spaces

# Environment and Sustainability

- Environmental Sustainability
- Community capacity and resilience
- Healthy environment where we live and work
- Biodiversity
- Community connection to nature
- Water security



# Healthy Active Living

- Healthy Eating
- Active Living
- Activating Spaces
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Unstructured and structured opportunities for exercise
- Social connection

# Community Safety

- Community Capacity
- Community Resilience
- Community Connection
- Fire
- Other Natural Disaster
- Crime Prevention
- Animal Management
- Land Management

# What is an in-kind contribution?

- An in-kind contribution means support, other than money, provided by your organisation towards your project. This can include voluntary labour or donated goods and services
- Your in-kind contribution must be undertaken as part of the project itself after 1 July 2020 i.e. your organisation cannot include writing the grant application as an in-kind contribution

# Organisation eligibility

All organisations must meet the below criteria to be eligible to apply:

- Not-for-profit organisation or equivalent
- Incorporated or managed as a Council or Crown Committee (otherwise auspice must be provided)
- Organisations must be based within the Shire (unless they can show that the project directly benefits Golden Plains Shire residents)
- Have an ABN or willing to provide a Statement by Supplier form
- Have no outstanding projects or evaluations with Council

# Project Eligibility

1. The project must meet one or more of the funding categories:

There will now be separate project eligibility relevant to each stream.  
This will be in the Guidelines

# Project Eligibility

2. The project/activity will benefit Golden Plains Shire residents
3. The grant amount requested can be matched by the organisation with in-kind labour, services and/or cash (\$ for \$)
4. The project will commence after 1 July 2020 and be completed prior to 1 June 2020
5. The project is authorised by the land owner

# Project Eligibility

6. The project does not include recurrent funding or operational costs
7. The responsibility for funding this project does not rest with another level of government or body

# How will your project be assessed?

1. Clear and achievable objectives and outcomes
2. Achieves outcomes specific to the goals of particular stream
3. Meets identified community need
4. Demonstrates community involvement in its planning and implementation

*\*Where applicable, projects included in your town's community plan will be given a higher priority within that town/district.*



# How will your project be assessed?

5. The organisation can demonstrate the need for Council financial support
6. Clear benefit to the community
7. It is inclusive for people of all abilities
8. Accurately costed including written quotes
9. The organisation has the capacity to implement the project

# Why is quality grant writing so important?

A good grant application distinctly states:

- Who will benefit?
- What is going to happen?
- Where is it going to happen?
- Why does it need to happen?
- How is it going to happen?
- How much will it cost?



# The importance of planning

Step 1: WHY are we doing it?

Step 2: WHAT are we going to do?

Step 3: Who will be involved?

Step 4: HOW will the project happen?

Step 5: WHEN will the project happen?

Step 6: WHERE will the project happen?



# Step 1: WHY are we doing it?

It is important to gather information or evidence about the community need when designing a project. Some key questions to ask are:

- What is the need in the community?
- How do you know there is a need?
- Can you prove that there is a need?
- Why is it important in the context of the area/town?
- What is the aim of your project?

# Step 1: continued...WHY?

Gathering information or evidence about the community need is essential. This may come from a number of sources including:

<b>Your own research</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Questionnaires / surveys</li><li>• Focus groups</li><li>• Evaluations forms</li><li>• Suggestion boxes</li></ul>
<b>Experience and knowledge of people in your group</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use real life examples to demonstrate a need</li></ul>
<b>Research or strategic plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Results from other research</li><li>• Council Plans</li><li>• Community Plans</li></ul>
<b>Statistics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Census data</li><li>• Membership numbers</li></ul>

# Step 2: WHAT are we going to do?

It is important to understand your project, some key questions to ask:

- What is the scope of the project? What is going to happen?
- What will the project produce? What will the project contribute to our community?
- What are the risks associated with the project?
- Is there anything that may impact on the project being completed?
- What are some strategies for managing or overcoming any identified risks?

# Step 3: WHO will be involved?

Having a strong project team is vital in the set up and planning of the project. Some key questions to ask:

- Who will be the key drivers?
- Who will manage the project?
- Who is the project for and who will benefit?
- Who are the major stakeholders?
- Is something similar being done in the community or elsewhere?
- Who are your volunteers? Do they have relevant skills and experience?

# Step 4: HOW will the project happen?

It is important to develop your knowledge and understanding of what resources are required. Some key questions to ask:

- Is this a one off project or do you require ongoing funding?
- How will it be implemented?
- Are there any specialised skills required?
- Who is responsible for the project?
- How much will it cost?
- Is the project good value for money for the funding body?



# Step 5: WHEN will the project happen?

Developing a project timeframe supports realistic planning and effective implementation. Some key questions to ask:

- When will the project start and finish?
- Does the project require approvals or permits? Can these be obtained during the proposed project timeframe?
- How much time can volunteers provide to the project?
- Are specialist skills required? Is there availability during the proposed project timeframe?

# Step 6: WHERE will the project happen?

The project will take place at a particular location. Some key questions:

- Where will the project take place?
- Who owns the land or building?
- What approvals are required?
- Will the project outcomes extend beyond its locality?
- Who is responsible for the project after its completion?

# Importance of Supporting Documents

Many grant programs require supporting documents to accompany the application, these include:

- Evidence of support from the community or project partners
- Strategic documents to reinforce the need of the project
- Plans and permits if required
- Written quotes
- Written confirmation of financial commitments
- Evidence of land owner approval

# Complex gobbledygook

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<b>Objective / Goals</b>	Issue or problem you want to overcome / what you wish the project to achieve.
<b>Output</b>	What the money will be spent on.
<b>Outcome</b>	The result, impact or benefits of the project (specific, measureable, realistic).
<b>Sustainability</b>	The ability to be maintained into the future.
<b>Auspice</b>	Incorporated body who accesses funding on behalf of a group.
<b>Capacity building</b>	Developing and strengthening skills, abilities and resources that communities need to adapt and thrive in the changing world.
<b>In kind support</b>	Donation of goods, services and resources.

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# Questions



# Dates to remember

Date	Milestone
1 April 2019	Applications open
30 April 2019	Applications close
Early July 2019	Letter of notification – outcome of the application
July 2019	Presentation ceremony
1 June 2020	Latest date the project must be completed
30 June 2020	Latest date the project evaluation must be submitted

# Submission

- [Community Grants 2019/20 Portal](#)
- Can be found via Councils website under the grant section  
<https://www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au/residents/my-community/grants/community-grants-program-201920>

# Correspondence

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