

A quick guide to the Tiny Towns Fund

ABOUT THE FUND

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

The new 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:

- Upgrades to community facilities such as libraries, community halls and sporting infrastructure
- Improvements to public spaces 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 and playgrounds
- Development or improvement of community gathering spaces, such as community gardens, amphitheatres or barbecues
- Networking and relationship building activities that promote participation in community life such as community days and volunteer projects
- 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 agreement.

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.