

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

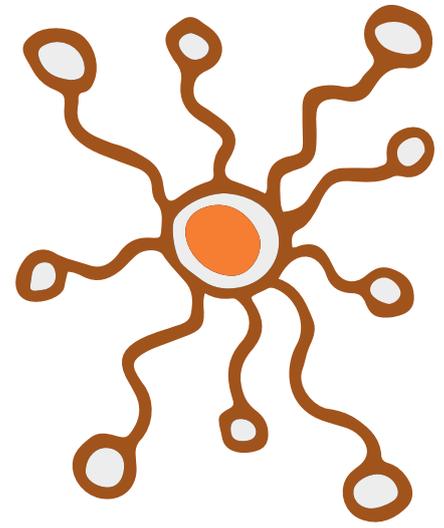
Streets as Shared Spaces Fund

Guidelines

May 2020

Acknowledgement of Country

The NSW Government acknowledges and pays tribute to the unique cultural and spiritual relationship that Aboriginal communities have to the land and water known as New South Wales.



Find out more:

www.dpie.nsw.gov.au

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Contents

Acknowledgement of Country	ii
.....	
Introduction	4
.....	
Purpose of funding	4
.....	
Overview	5
.....	
Program objectives	5
Funding	5
Eligibility	5
How to apply	5
Eligible projects	5
Timeframes	7
Assessment Criteria	8
Assessment Process	9
Advice and guidance	9
Approvals	9
Other funding	10
Program management	10
Reporting and monitoring	10
Project launch and promotion	10
Project completion	10
Payment of grants	10
Privacy policy	11
Disclaimer	11
Appendix A – Policy Context	12
.....	
NSW Government	12
Local Government	14

Introduction

Quality public space is an essential asset for both liveable neighbourhoods and bringing economic, environmental, social and cultural benefits to places and citizens. The United Nations definition of public spaces, used by NSW, is 'all places publicly owned or of public use, accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without a profit motive'. This includes streets, as well as other open spaces such as bushland, parks

and plazas, and public facilities such as libraries and community centres. In recent times, public space has never been more important for people to get around safely, as well as stay healthy and exercise. The NSW Government wants to continue to increase the amount of public space to allow pedestrians to maintain physical distancing requirements safely as well as to support jobs and boost business confidence.

Purpose of funding

The Streets as Shared Spaces program provides one-off grant funding to support local councils to test and pilot new and innovative ideas for streets as safe, shared public spaces. The program will provide funding to quick response demonstration projects and strategic pilots that temporarily adapt streets to support healthier, safe and resilient communities. These temporary measures

should support immediate community needs and also test and build the case for more permanent changes. The Streets as Shared Program supports the NSW Premier's Priority to increase walkable access to quality open, green and public space in urban areas. It is also aligned with various NSW Government and local government strategic frameworks.



Photography:
Place Management NSW Department of Planning,
Industry and Environment

Overview

Program objectives

The objectives are to:

- build on the local character and improve the attractiveness of centres and public spaces through innovative and creative approaches (temporary greening/ planting or public art)
- increase space for safe walking and cycling (such as footpath widening)
- improve access on foot or bike to key destinations including local centres and public open space (such as a new cycleway)
- reconfigure streets to support physical health, local business and key workers (such as new parklets or reducing speed)
- activate high streets to create better quality public space
- enable long-term changes supported by strategies, the community and stakeholders (such as bringing forward a new public pathway or road closure)
- establish and commence delivery of projects as early as possible in 2020; and/or
- ensure the safety of the travelling public, including under the NSW Government's Road Safety Plan 2021.

Funding

\$15 million in funding has been allocated for the Streets as Shared Spaces program. This funding will be available to eligible councils via a competitive grant process.

Eligibility

Funding is available to all NSW local councils.

How to apply

1. Visit the website www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/streets
2. Complete and submit your application. Follow instructions at: www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/streets

Eligible projects

Applications may comprise a single project or a group of projects as part of one program.

Category 1: Quick Response Demonstration Projects

Short-term, quick response projects or programs that test, pilot or incubate changes to streets in line with the objectives of the program

This grant category is valued at up to \$100,000 per project and projects must be delivered and evaluated within three months of funding approval.

Category 2: Pilot Projects

Medium-term pilot projects that improve or activate streets as shared public spaces

This grant category is valued at up to \$1 million per project and can be delivered within a year of funding approval.



Photography:
Heart of the City Auckland

Eligible project examples

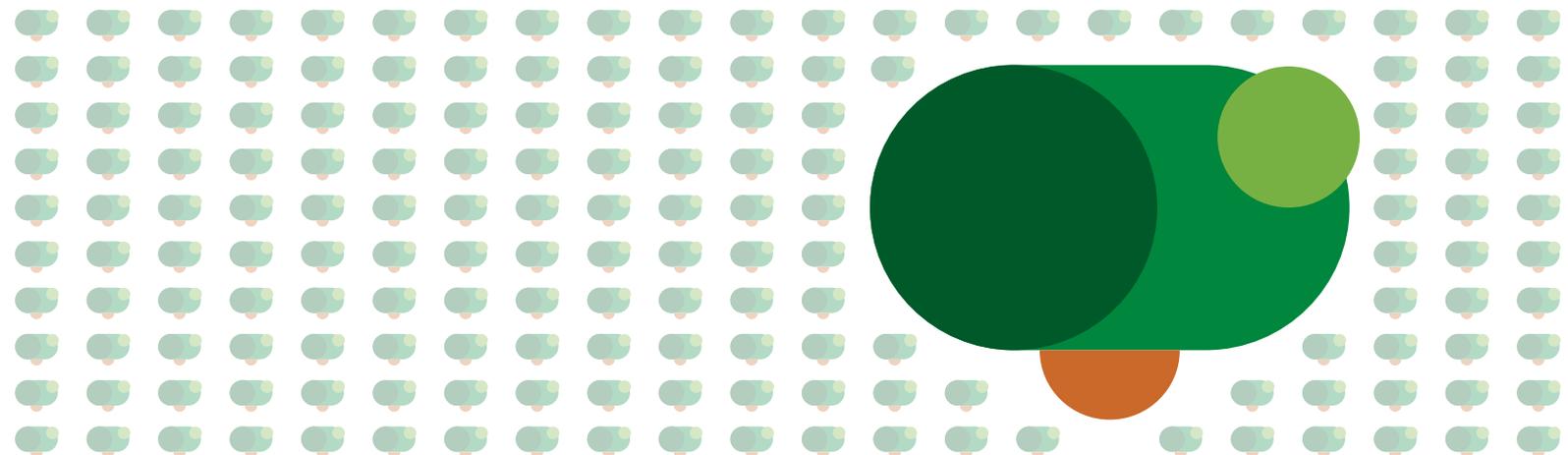
Table 1. Examples of eligible projects by category

Category 1	Category 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporarily widen footpaths, repurpose parking spaces or lots, narrow carriageways or temporarily close streets using available or low-cost materials like paint, spare street furniture and/or planters Improvement to pedestrian comfort and safety including additional crossing points, traffic islands, reducing crossing distances Additional temporary pedestrian paths or local cycling links by using surface treatments like bollards, paint or planter boxes to reallocate vehicle space and widen or extend paths for pedestrians or bike riders Temporary expansion of council-owned parks and gardens to include surrounding streets Walkability improvements by cooling and beautifying streets with landscaping (such as potted trees or flowers) and other temporary place infrastructure Temporary measures to support business such as parklets, wider footways, public or community art, seating, wayfinding signage, bike racks and other street furniture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semi-permanent (but easily removed and not fixed) improvements such as kerb buildouts, barrier elements, narrowing a carriageway to slow traffic, rephased traffic lights, setting lower speeds or trialling neighbourhoods with low-traffic volumes Delivery of major, permanent public art and place infrastructure that engage the cultural sector and creative industries

Ineligible projects

The following works are not eligible for funding under this program:

- Projects outside of NSW
- Planning projects (feasibility studies, masterplans)
- Purchase or lease of land
- Funding of personnel or staff positions
- Product branding, advertising or promotion
- Projects requiring ongoing funding from the NSW Government
- Retrospective funding to cover any project component that is already complete/underway



Timeframes

Category 1—Quick Response Demonstration Projects

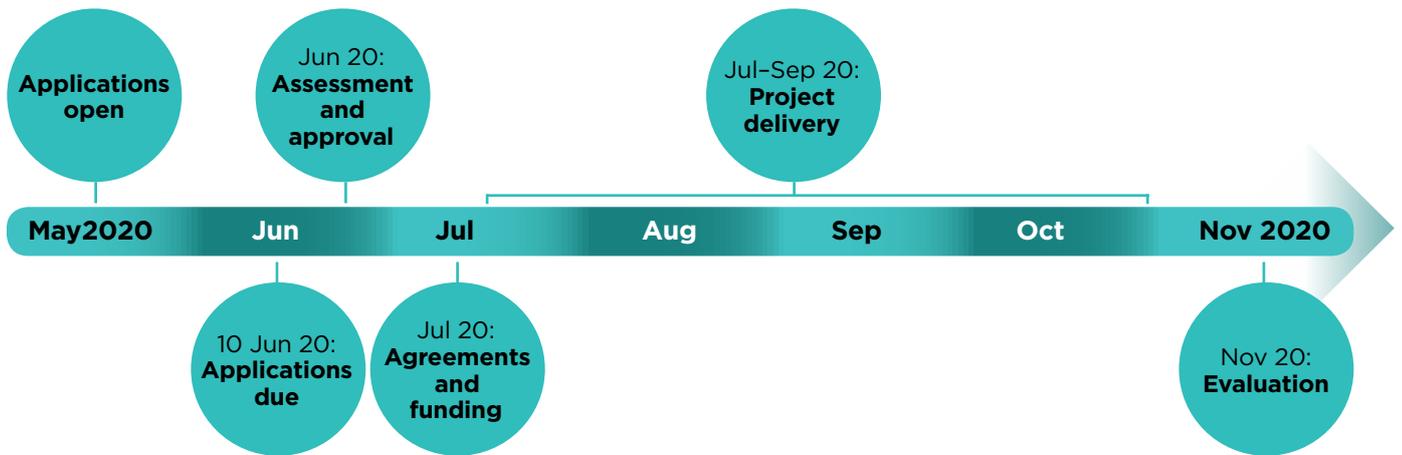


Figure 1. Timeframes for Category 1—quick response

Category 2—Pilot Projects

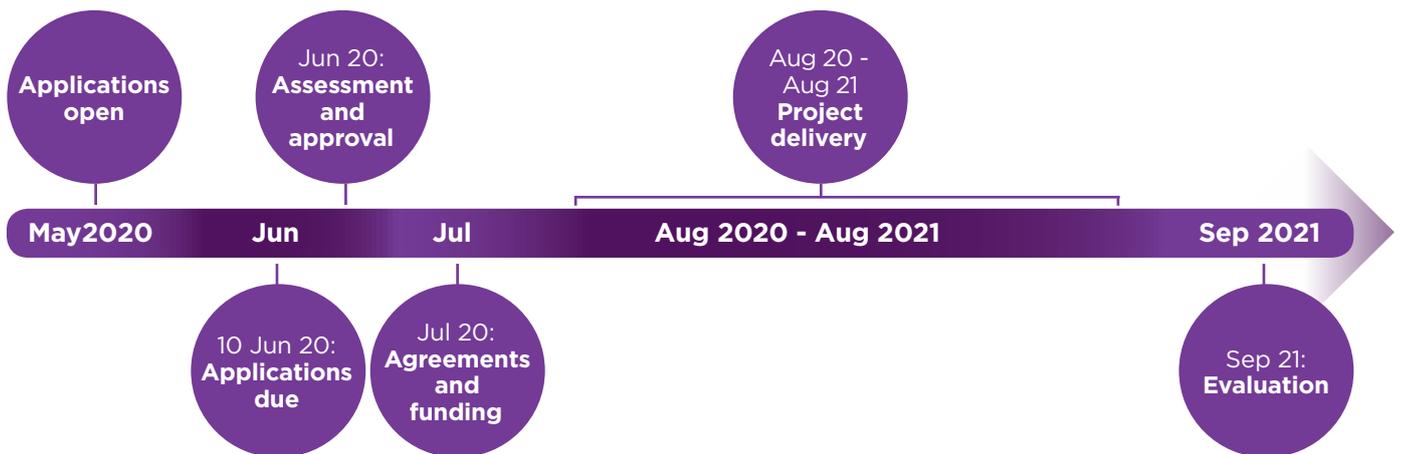


Figure 2. Timeframes for Category 2—pilot projects



Assessment Criteria

Project Merit 40%

- Achieve some or all of the program objectives
- Strategic alignment to a NSW Government strategy or government commitment. This can include:
 - a strategic priority of the NSW Government (as described in Appendix A—Policy Context);
 - alignment with objectives of NSW Government funding programs or funding, such as:
 - Transport for NSW Walking and Cycling Program investment guidelines; or
 - Create NSW Arts and Cultural Development funding
 - council strategies, such as Local Strategic Planning Statements or other strategic documents such as social or cultural strategies, urban design plans, town centres or economic strategies, active travel and transport plans.

Project Deliverability 40%

- Financial viability of the project or program including a project budget, project plan and risk assessment
- Technical ability and resources to effectively deliver the project or program
- Identification and/or receipt of necessary approvals (that is, traffic committee approvals, environmental assessment checklist)
- Strategic alignment to long term change in the future
- Ability to demonstrate how the impact— if any—on local businesses on the route alignment of the project will be minimised and/or mitigated to the maximum extent possible
- Ability to roll out the project or program as quickly as possible
- Ability to ensure the safety of the travelling public, including under the NSW Government’s Road Safety Plan 2021.

Value for Money 20%

- Value for money
- Project budget impact on overall program budget



Assessment Process

Eligible applications will be assessed by an expert assessment panel of NSW Government representatives that may include:

- Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- NSW Health
- Transport for NSW
- Office of Local Government
- Government Architect NSW
- Create NSW
- NSW Office of Sport
- An independent expert assessor

Submission of applications

Applications are due by 5:00 pm Wednesday 10 June 2020

Acknowledgement of receipt of application will be via return email.

Advice and guidance

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is available to provide information to potential applicants on interpretation of these guidelines, including types of projects eligible for funding.

For inquiries or more information email:

PublicSpace@planning.nsw.gov.au

Applicants are encouraged to engage early with all relevant NSW Government agencies, including Transport for NSW.

Where a project proposal is on an identified Tier 1 or Tier 2 route of the Greater Sydney Co-Designed Bicycle Network Blueprint map, the applicant is encouraged to engage with Transport for NSW to ensure strategic alignment and coordination.

Photography:

Transport for NSW

Approvals

Endorsement/provision of a grant under this program does not negate the need for council or the proponent to obtain all necessary/required approvals such as road changes and/or traffic facilities under the *Roads Act*, *Transport Administration Act*, and *Local Government Act*.

Proposed projects are not required to have received approvals prior to applying (for example, traffic committee approval). However, proposals with prior approvals will be ranked higher for Project Deliverability.

Councils may apply for funding of activities that occur on roads or land that they do not own or manage. An in principle written agreement of the land owner must be provided as part of the application, with formal land owners consent provided prior to funding release.



Other funding

The department encourages councils to bring forward accumulated S7.12 revenue funding where possible to assist in the delivery of these projects.

Applicants must disclose whether any aspect of the proposal for this funding program has either:

- a. received funding through another NSW Government funding program, or
- b. applied for funding through another NSW Government funding program that may currently be in consideration, such as the Transport for NSW 2020–21 Walking and Cycling Program.

Where there is potential overlap of funding, applicants are to demonstrate how the Streets as Shared Spaces program will either accelerate rapid roll-out of temporary works prior to permanent work being completed; and/or expand on the scope being funded through the other funding program; and demonstrate strategic alignment.

Where a proponent has applied for funding under Transport for NSW's 2020–21 Walking and Cycling Program, and the substance of that application is the same or substantively similar to the substance of an application under this funding program, the proponent will not be eligible for funding under Transport for NSW's 2020–21 Walking and Cycling Program.

Program management

Councils are asked to nominate a project manager for each project and to notify the department of any changes to the role. Councils are responsible for project management and budgetary control.

Reporting and monitoring

As part of the Funding Agreement, the successful applicants are required to submit project progress reports.

Progress reports may include photographs and evidence of progress.

Project launch and promotion

It is a condition of grant funding that the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, NSW Government and the Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment be:

- invited to attend any formal launch event (including commencement and completion ceremonies)
- advised four weeks prior to any formal event
- acknowledged for their contribution on all communications and media for the project.

Project completion

A final report is required at the completion of projects and is to be included with the submission of final payment claims. This report should be accompanied by photographs and any other evidence of project completion. Councils will be required to collect data to help evaluate the fund, individual funded projects and community satisfaction. Data requirements will be detailed in funding agreements and a reporting template provided.

Payment of grants

An invoice for the total amount of the grant must be uploaded to claim the grant.

A financial acquittal and project report will be required within three months of completion of the project. The project report will report against the outputs and outcomes information provided by the applicant.

Projects must be completed within 3 months for Category 1 projects and within 12 months for Category 2 projects from the date of accepting the funding Terms and Conditions.

Privacy policy

The department is required to comply with the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1988*. The department collects the minimum personal information you voluntarily provide to enable it to contact an organisation and to assess the merits of an application.

Any information provided by you will be stored on a database that will only be accessed by authorised personnel and is subject to privacy restrictions. The information will only be used for the purpose for which it was collected.

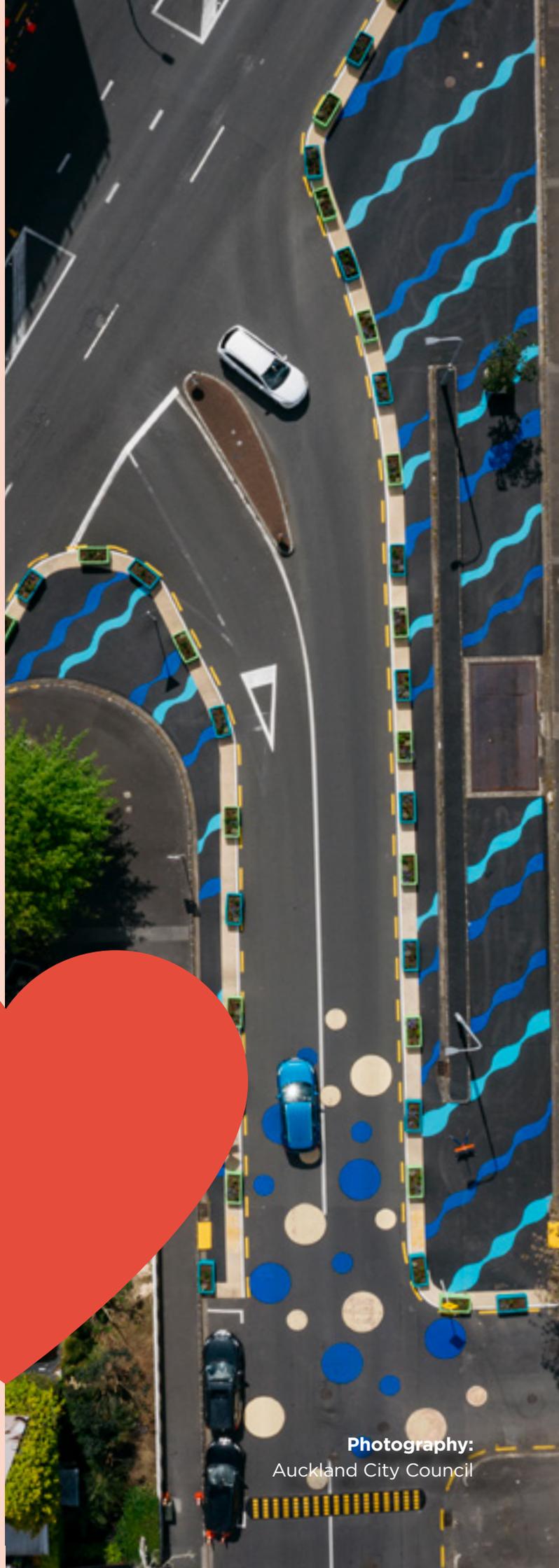
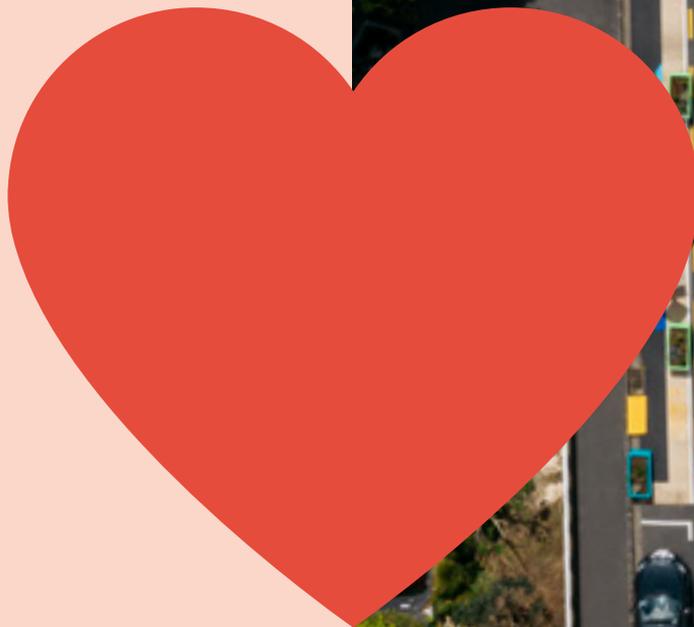
Applicants must ensure that people whose personal details are supplied with applications are aware that the department is being supplied with this information

Disclaimer

Submission of an application does not guarantee funding.

The costs of preparing an application are borne by the applicant.

Successful funding does not indicate support for future applications to the NSW Government.



Photography:
Auckland City Council

Appendix A – Policy Context

NSW Government

Table 2. NSW Government policy context

Policy Area	Agency	Goals, Strategies and Plans	Description
Premier's Priorities	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment	Premier's Priority 11: Greener Public Spaces	Premier's Priority 11 is a commitment to increase the proportion of homes in urban areas within 10 minutes' walk of quality green, open and public space by 10 percent by 2023.
		Premiers Priority 12: Greening Our City	Premier's Priority 12 aims to increase the tree canopy and green cover across Greater Sydney by planting one million trees by 2022.
Planning	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment	Greater Sydney Metropolitan Plan	The Greater Sydney Region Plan: <i>A Metropolis of Three Cities</i> sets out the spatial planning framework for Sydney.
		District Plans	District Plans are a guide for implementing the Greater Sydney Region Plan at a district level and are a bridge between regional and local planning. They inform local environmental plans, community strategic plans and the assessment of planning proposals. The District Plans also help councils to plan and deliver for growth and change, and to align their local planning strategies to place-based outcomes.
		Regional Plans	NSW Regional Plans set the framework, vision and direction for strategic planning and land use across NSW's regions, as well as planning for the future housing, environmental, infrastructure and community needs.
Design		<p>Better Placed: An integrated design policy for NSW</p> <p>Greener Places</p> <p>Guides relating to streets, incl:</p> <p>Aligning Movement and Place</p> <p>Urban Design for Regional NSW</p>	<p>Government Architect NSW has produced policies and a range of guidance, manuals and advisory notes—some relevant guides are listed here.</p> <p>Better Placed sets out the five characteristics of a well-designed built environment - <i>Healthy, Responsive, Integrated, Equitable and Resilient</i> and 7 objectives for assessing good design including <i>Better Fit, Better Performance, Better for People, Better for Community, Better Working, Better Value and Better Look and Feel.</i></p>

NSW Government

Table 2. NSW Government policy context

Policy Area	Agency	Goals, Strategies and Plans	Description
School Infrastructure	School Infrastructure NSW	School Assets Strategic Plan	<p>The School Assets Strategic Plan provides the principles and key actions to guide the delivery of this investment up until 2031, and it includes an action to facilitate shared-use arrangements between schools and with community organisations.</p> <p>Shared use relates to when a school allows community use of school facilities during out-of-school hours and this arrangement provides a range of benefits to schools and the broader community.</p>
Cultural Infrastructure	Create NSW	Cultural Infrastructure Plan	The Cultural Infrastructure Plan is the NSW Government’s strategic framework to support the delivery of cultural infrastructure, including public spaces such as libraries, community centres and museums that facilitate community access to participate in culture.
Transport	Transport for NSW	Future Transport NSW	Future Transport is the long-term strategy for planning transport in NSW until 2056. The strategy recognises the critical role that transport plays in enabling—or inhibiting—successful places. The strategy places high importance on walking and cycling and has generated a significant program of work designed to increase active transport around NSW.
Aboriginal Communities	Aboriginal Affairs	OCHRE Plan	OCHRE aims to support strong Aboriginal communities in which Aboriginal people actively influence and participate fully in social, economic and cultural life.

Local Government

Table 3. Local government policy context

Policy Area	Goals, Strategies and Plans	Description
Planning	Community Strategic Plans	NSW Community Strategic Plans identify the main priorities and aspirations of the community and provide a clear set of strategies to achieve this vision of the future. A Community Strategic Plan represents the highest level of strategic planning undertaken by a local council in NSW.
	Local Strategic Planning Statements	Every council in NSW will be required to prepare a Local Strategic Planning Statement which sets out the 20-year vision for land use in the local area, the special character and values that are to be preserved and how change will be managed into the future.
Sector Plans	Cultural plans Social plans Sustainability strategies Economic development	Councils may have developed sector-specific plans designed to support specific policy areas.





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