

## 6.1.9 Growing Suburbs Fund 21/22 Program Cardinia Shire applications

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### Recommendation(s)

That Council endorse the following list of applications under the 21/22 Growing Suburb Fund Program in priority order:

- Garfield North Community Centre
- Pakenham Main Street improvements
- Eastern Dandenong Ranges Trail connection

### Attachments

Nil

### Executive Summary

The Victorian Government Growing Suburbs Fund (GSF) 2021/22 is currently open for grant applications. This report presents the projects which are recommended for submission for funding in priority order. Council officers will submit the grant applications in October 2021 with the outcome expected to be known from December 2021.

### Background

The State Government has launched the 2021/22 Growing Suburbs Fund. \$50M is the total available in this round and is open to Melbourne's ten interface and six peri-urban councils, including Cardinia Shire Council.

The funding round for grant applications opens on 1 September 2021 and will close at 2pm on 13 October 2021.

Announcements of successful grants will be made from December 2021 and construction must commence within 18 months of the funding announcement. Projects must be completed within two years of construction commencement.

The 2021-22 GSF will fund new, expanded or upgraded infrastructure projects that have a direct benefit to communities and surrounding catchment areas across the following broad infrastructure categories:

- community health and well-being;
- early education, libraries, learning and training;
- sport, recreation, and leisure facilities that have dedicated community space and support multiuse purposes;
- environmental and climate change resilience; and
- placemaking, civic amenity, and community connecting.

A Council resolution endorsing the GSF applications in order of priority is sought. Council officers have discussed the proposed projects with the Manager of the GSF program to ensure the applications are in accordance with funding criteria included in the guidelines.

To access the full guidelines visit: <https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/grants/growing-suburbs-fund>

The following table includes the projects from high to low priority

PROJECT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BENEFIT	TOTAL PROJECT COST	COUNCIL BUDGET ALLOCATION *	GSF GRANT REQUEST
Garfield North Community Centre	New community centre proposed within Cannibal Creek Reserve which originated as part of the Bunyip Bushfire Recovery. This proposed community centre aims to provide a new space for the community to hold events and activities.	\$2.3M	\$1,250,000	\$1.3M
Pakenham Main Street improvements	Streetscape upgrade for Main Street between John Street and Station Street. This upgrade aims to improve physical access for pedestrians along Main Street and the overall functionality and visual amenity of the area.	\$2M	\$1M	\$1M
Eastern Dandenong Ranges Trail connection	800 metre of shared trail to extend the existing Eastern Dandenong Ranges Trail to link with existing trail network within Yarra Ranges. The completion of this missing trail link will increase recreation opportunities within this part of the Shire.	\$300,000	\$100,000 from Pedestrian cycle path funding	\$200,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>\$2.5M</b>

\*Note : this figure reflects the current allocation for this project in either the 21/22 Financial Year capital budget or Council's future draft capital works program.

### Policy Implications

This proposal is consistent with Council existing policy and the draft Capital Works Program

### Relevance to Council Plan

These projects are all consistent with the Liveable Places priority of the Council Plan.

The proposed new Garfield North Community Centre is part of the implementation of the 'Plan and deliver accessible and inclusive recreation and community facilities' 2021/22 Council Plan initiative.

There is also a specific Council Plan initiative relating to the Pakenham town centre streetscape upgrades. The 2021/22 FY the Council Plan initiative is to design the Pakenham town centre streetscape upgrades. In the 22/23 and 23/24 financial years, there are Council

Plan initiatives to commence and progress the upgrade of the Pakenham town centre streetscape.

The Eastern Dandenong Ranges Trail Connection project is part of the 'Develop and upgrade shared pathways and walking tracks across the shire' 2021/22 Council Plan initiative.

## **2.1 We support the creation of liveable spaces and places**

2.1.1 Advocate, plan for and deliver accessible community infrastructure and services that address community need.

2.1.2 Plan and maintain safe, inclusive and connected open spaces, places and active travel routes.

## **Climate Emergency Consideration**

The projects will all be developed to contribute to Council Climate Emergency and sustainability targets.

## **Consultation/Communication**

Community consultation has been or will be undertaken for each of the project on the above list.

## **Financial and Resource Implications**

Council's 2021/22 Capital Works Program and future draft program has been considered as the basis for the list of projects selected. The cost estimates for each projects are based on current cost estimates. The actual cost of each project will be known when the respective works are tendered. Any project budget adjustments will be made at that time.

## **Conclusion**

The Victorian Government Growing Suburbs Fund (GSF) 2021/22 is open for applications. This report presents the three proposed grant applications for Cardinia Shire in priority order.

The three applications will be submitted by the deadline of 13 October 2021. Council is expected to receive advice regarding if the applications are successful or not from December 2021.