

2026-27 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

Information session

Wednesday 8 July 2026

We Acknowledge the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

We Acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.



Agenda

- Housekeeping
- Introductions
- **Part A – 30 minutes**
 - Community Infrastructure Grants Overview
 - General Questions
- **Part B – 45 minutes**
 - Questions
 - Meet with an officer



2026-27 Key dates

Grants open	27 June 2026
Co-contribution exemption open	27 June 2026
Co-contribution exemption close	3 August 2026 (5:00 pm)
Grants close	31 August 2026 (5:00 pm)
Notification of outcome	January 2027
Project delivery	Anticipate completing project within 12 months of signing a funding agreement



Who is eligible to apply?

- Incorporated not-for-profit organisation
- Unincorporated group with an auspice
- Registered charitable organisation
- School or learning institution (non-curriculum-based only)

and your project is for:

- Community infrastructure on City owned or managed land
- Community infrastructure on Crown land
- Community infrastructure on land your organisation owns



Co-contribution

Total project cost	City funding (2/3 total project cost)	Your contribution (\$1 for every \$2)	Your additional contribution
\$45,000	\$30,000	\$15,000	nil
\$240,000	\$160,000	\$80,000	nil
\$450,000	\$300,000	\$150,000	nil
\$475,000	\$300,000	\$150,000	\$25,000



Applying for an exemption

APPLICATIONS

- Open now
- Additional to grant application
- Estimate total project cost
- Financial statements previous **three** years

ASSESSMENT

- Financial capacity
- Maturity of organisation
- Location and disadvantage
- Funding from electronic gaming machines
- Other relevant factors (tell us)

OUTCOME

- Full or partial exemption
- Include notification in grant application



Exemption example

Total project cost	Contribution without exemption (\$1 for every \$2)	Contribution with exemption (partial or full)	City grant funding (with exemption)
\$45,000	\$15,000	\$5,000 (partial exemption)	\$40,000
\$45,000	\$15,000	\$0 (full exemption)	\$45,000
\$240,000	\$80,000	\$0 (full exemption)	\$240,000
\$450,000	\$150,000	\$150,000*	\$300,000 (maximum grant)



How we assess



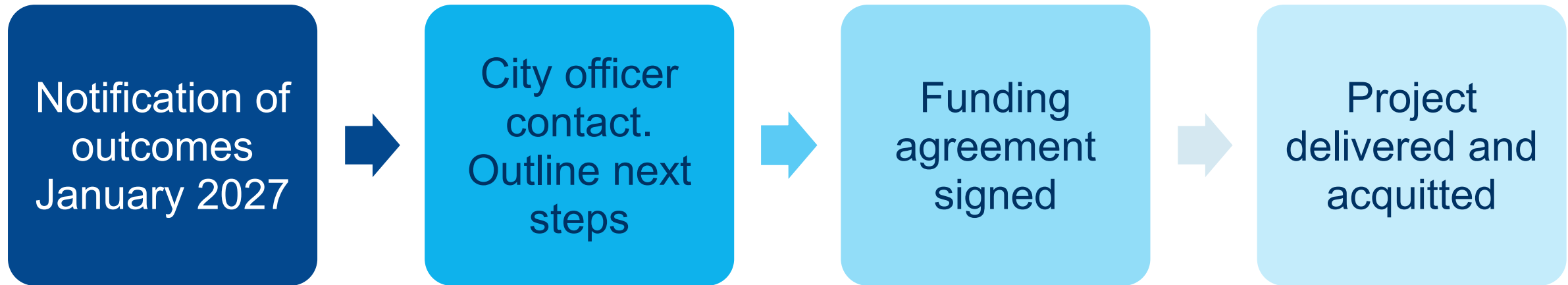
- Eligibility checks
- Individual assessment
- Combined ranking
- Recommend funding to Community assessors

- Review officer recommendations
- Combined ranking
- Recommend funding to Council.

- Review and endorse recommendations



What happens next?





Category - Planning projects

Funding for **strategic planning** or **design** for future developments.

Maximum grant amount \$50,000

Project Examples

- Strategic Infrastructure Planning – Facility Development Plans
- Infrastructure Design – Concept through to detailed design for future infrastructure projects
- Detailed designs (tender documentation) for projects under \$500k
- Common examples: Buildings, sporting facilities, toilets, accessibility projects, kitchens.



Category - Capital works grants

Assist with the cost of shovel ready community infrastructure projects.

Projects must be openly accessible, strong community benefits for residents of Geelong.

Align with the key priority areas of this program.

Renewal, Upgrades and Build New

Design and construction accepted together where limited scope or proprietary products e.g. Solar panels, scoreboards, safety netting.

Maximum grant amount per applicant - \$300,000



What will be funded?

PLANNING

- Planning for multi-purpose facility
- Pavillion concept design
- Planning for building extension

RENEWAL

- Kitchen
- Accessibility upgrades – ramps, toilets
- Change room
- Pavilion
- Synthetic court playing surfaces

UPGRADE

- Replacing turf pitches
- Digital scoreboards
- Environmental initiatives – solar panels
- Toilets

BUILD NEW

- Community Gardens
- Cricket nets
- Behind/safety goal netting
- Multipurpose training facilities



What won't be funded?

- ✗ Projects outside the City of Greater Geelong
- ✗ Private applicants who do not own their infrastructure and land
- ✗ Business cases, feasibility assessments, master plans on City land
- ✗ Capital works for project costs > \$2.5 million
- ✗ Facilities for gaming, gambling, bars
- ✗ Furniture, fittings, unfixed equipment and domestic appliances
- ✗ Maintenance, insurance claims
- ✗ Planning for detailed design of projects > \$500,000
- ✗ Projects/activities previously funded by the City
- ✗ Projects that do not meet Australian standards
- ✗ Projects where other funding partners have not confirmed in writing
- ✗ Public art installations
- ✗ Purchase of land
- ✗ Sports lighting on Council managed facilities



Assessment criteria

**Community
Benefit
55%**

Assessed by:

- Need or gap in community infrastructure
- Enable current programs or more services
- Support healthy, inclusive and equitable outcomes

**Well-
planned
45%**

Assessed by:

- Project scope
- Applicant capacity to deliver
- Design and drawings
- Support letters
- Budget



2026-27 Priority Funding Themes

**Access For
All Abilities**
10%

How will your project empower people with a disability to be active contributors and participants in our community?

Fair Access
10%

How will your project improve the access to, and use of, community infrastructure for women and girls?



Ready to apply?

Read the Community Infrastructure Grant Guidelines.

Speak to the City to about the scope of your project. Site visits available.

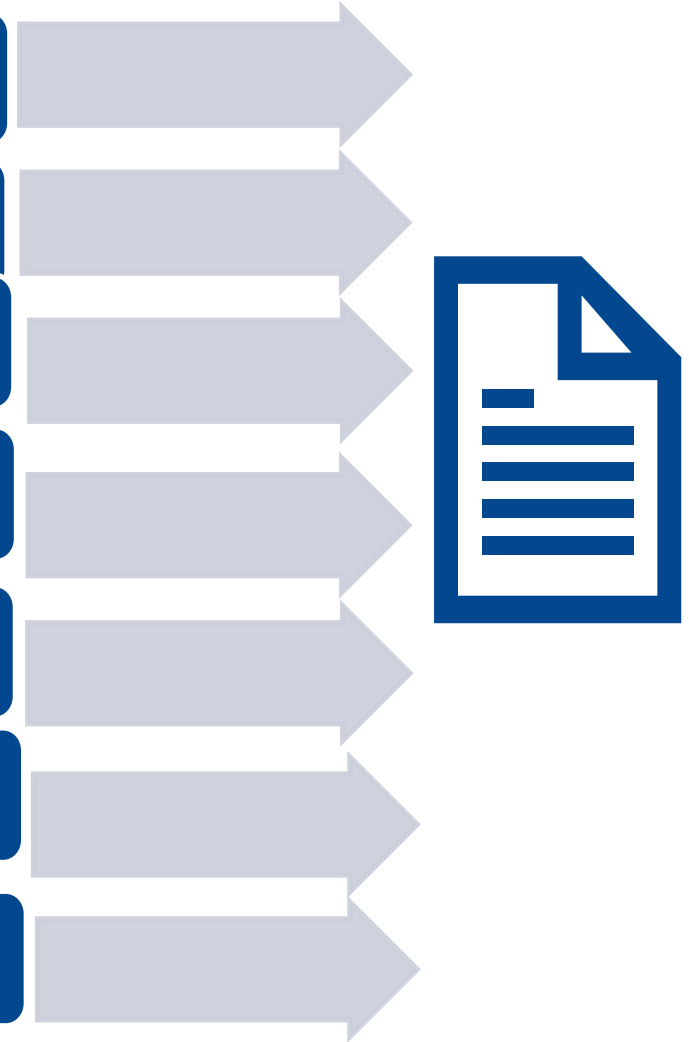
Consider applying for co-contribution exemption - closes 3 August.

Seek a letter of land manager consent to apply: comrec@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

Gather required documents for your project as per the guidelines (pages 9 & 10).

Download the application form. Copy into a word document to draft application.

Complete the application form and submit.



Resources - geelong.link/Grants

- Grant guidelines
- Co-contribution exemption guidelines
- On-line grant writing workshop link 22 July 6:00pm
- Budget template in application form
- Are you grant ready? – help sheet
- The Funding Centre – online search tool
- Grant Writing for Success – online course



Questions?

Meet with an officer

Site visit request form

