

Local Parks Program Guidelines



New Pocket Parks – Round 2

The \$35 million New Pocket Parks Program is part of the Victorian Government's commitment to create more than 6,500 hectares of parklands and trails across Melbourne. Good quality and well-maintained suburban parks are important for local communities. This Program will establish 25 new pocket parks in built-up urban areas across metropolitan Melbourne.

It is part of a broader \$154 million Suburban Parks Program investment in new and upgraded parks and trails. The Suburban Parks Program also includes a \$50 million Local Parks Program, which will create 16 new dog off-leash parks and upgrade and improve existing parks in Melbourne's built-up urban areas.

The Program aims to:

- create new green spaces to improve the health and wellbeing of communities in built-up urban areas;
- help prepare Melbourne for the effects of increasingly hotter summers, establishing Melbourne as the parks capital of Australia;
- provide local opportunities for Melburnians to connect with green open space and exercise.

Funding has already been allocated for 15 projects via Round 1. Funding is now available for 10 more pocket parks via Round 2.

Eligibility

The following Local Government Areas (LGAs) are eligible for Round 2:

- Melbourne
- Moreland
- Brimbank
- Frankston
- Moonee Valley
- Maribyrnong
- Bayside
- Monash

- Greater Dandenong
- Banyule (within Eltham electorate only)
- Nillumbik (within Eltham electorate only)
- Stonnington (within Prahran electorate only)
- Port Phillip (within Prahran electorate only)

The eligible LGAs were selected based on greatest need. This includes metropolitan areas with a comparable lack of open space, of poor quality or vulnerable to urban heat.

Eligible councils may nominate up to two (2) projects per LGA.

Ideally the project site will be publicly owned (either by local government and/or another public land manager). If council does not own the land, evidence of a legally binding land use, community access agreement or lease is required.

Available funding

To ensure fairness and equity across the Program, the indicative maximum funding available for individual projects is \$1.3 million per pocket park.

Co-investment from council and/or other contributors is preferred. Part (but not all) of the funding may be used for costs associated with land purchase, if required.

**Projects must be completed by 30 June 2022.
Applications open at 9am Monday 1 June and close at 5pm Monday 10 August 2020.**

Applications are submitted online.

Guidelines

The following Guidelines will be used to assess project nominations within the eligible LGAs:

- the project site is up to 0.2 hectares/2,000 square metres in size;
- the park is located in an area of underutilised open space or suitable for repurposing;
- the park is located in a built-up area with a growing population;
- the project will provide recreation and socialising opportunities in a green space;
- the project will not significantly impact wildlife or existing vegetation if developed;
- the project site is identified in an approved open space plan, structure plan or recreation plan that has undergone community engagement;

Example: Hopkins Street Bridge Plaza, Footscray

Located under the Hopkins Street Bridge next to the Maribyrnong River, this innovative new pocket park features the longest and highest bouldering wall in the city. The 600 square metre space offers freely accessible public climbing for people of different climbing abilities, exercise equipment and seating plaza. The design employs CPTED

- the area has high community need (e.g. lack of open space, of poor quality or vulnerable to urban heat);
- the project site is safe for users (e.g. good visibility across the site and proximity to other users, visitors, activity centres);
- the project site is easily accessible via road, public transport or well-linked to bike or walking trails.
- the project site is already supported by or in proximity to services/amenities.

Contaminated land

An assessment of the project area for contaminated or potentially contaminated land is required. For the nominated project site, councils will be required to demonstrate:

- Site is not contaminated – evidence of the site history.
- Site is contaminated or potentially contaminated – how this will be assessed, addressed and managed to ensure the site is suitable for inclusion in the program, and will not pose a risk to human health or the environment.

More information

Applicants are encouraged to contact the Local Parks Program team to discuss project proposals at Local.Parks@delwp.vic.gov.au



(Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles by opening the space to provide clear sight lines, fencing the hidden area behind the wall, and is lit until 10pm. The park's contemporary design with striking coloured wall patterns, fall zone and exercise equipment makes it popular among users. It was completed in late 2018.