

Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Package

FAQs  
 4 June 2020

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| **Category** | **Question/s** | **Response** |
| **Packaging projects into one (1) application** | Is it possible to have an oval lighting project that covers more than one (1) sporting facility? | Yes. Packaged up applications will be accepted providing the projects are similar (for example lighting of facilities or courts) or multiple project elements within the one project site. |
| Can we package up multiple projects of a similar nature, or multiple projects at the one location as one project application? (x three applications) |
| Can passive and active lighting projects be packaged?  For example, public use basketball court and sports ground lighting upgrade. |
| Can broader sport facility upgrades be presented as a packaged project? For example, netball courts at multiple locations. |
| Can you cluster like sporting projects? For example, AFL or soccer. |
| **Active Recreation – Tracks & Trails** | Would open space projects like upgrades to tracks and trail be considered for funding? | Yes, applications that will develop or redevelop tracks and trails will be accepted as long as they meet other eligibility criteria. |
| Will new tracks and trails projects be considered for funding? For example, projects identified under Tracks and Trails Strategies. |
| **State Sporting Stimulus** | Will *Return to Play* timelines need to be highlighted in a schedule of use, or can applicants make assumptions of 'full return to play' participation levels? | Full return to play participation levels |
| **Number of applications** | Councils can submit up to three (3) projects for the stimulus round. Do they have to, or can we indicate priorities for funding if submitting more than one? | It is up to Council if they would like to advise which project is a priority. SRV will then assess projects in line with the guidelines. |
| If we are submitting more than one (1) project, do we indicate our project priorities for funding? |
| **Local Jobs First** | Do you want evidence of engaging local contractors/people through our reporting/acquittals etc? | This will form part of the Local Jobs First requirements for applicable projects. There may be further reporting requirements for projects within general project reporting for projects outside Local Jobs First thresholds. |
| **Future LSIF Rounds** | Will there be a 2021/2022 LSIF round later in the year? | The program is subject to a budget outcome which will be announced later in 2020. |
| **Aquatic Facility Applications** | Would upgrades for aquatic facilities be considered as a possible project? | Yes, both indoor and outdoor pools can be developed as well as other wet and dry areas at aquatic facilities. |



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| **Project Construction / Readiness** | So, applicants must be ready to construct by January 2021 at the latest? | Physical works must commence within six months of signing the funding agreement. Physical works would be expected to commence by January/February 2021 depending on when the agreement is executed. Site establishment and demolition will meet the requirements of the program. |
| What's the programs definition of 'shovel ready' and 'commencing construction within six (6) months'? |
| What is the definition of ‘ready for construction’? |
| Do works involving site establishment or demolition constitute the commencement of works? Assuming they commence within the initial six months of announcement? |
| **Application Number and Grant Amounts** | Can a Local Government Authority (LGA) apply for three (3) projects of up to $10 million each OR is the total of all three (3) applications limited to a maximum of $10 million? | An eligible applicant can apply for 3 applicants requesting $10 million for each project. |
| Maximum of three (3) applications per LGA to a maximum grant value in total of $30 million? |
| **Withdrawal of LSIF Applications** | Can we withdraw a project from the Local Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSIF) to enter into this funding round? | Projects that are withdrawn from any open program (Local Sports Infrastructure Fund, World Game Facilities Fund and Community Cricket Program) are not eligible to apply for funding from the Stimulus program. |
| **Application Process** | Given the short time frames, how intensive is the application process? | We've endeavoured to streamline requirements where possible. The application process involves responses to six criteria questions. Responses to criteria questions should be succinct and backed up by evidence by providing supporting documents. This is a highly competitive process and we do enough information to be able to ensure projects satisfy project readiness requirements, but also deliver the desired positive participation and economic benefits. |

  
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| **Projects with additional scope elements** | If we have applied for one (1) component of a project under the LSIF, can we seek stimulus for additional components of the same project? | Yes. Providing there are further participation opportunities present and it constitutes clear/new scope. We are unable to advise outcomes for LSIF prior to the closure of the Stimulus program. Councils need to consider the risk of their LSIF project being unsuccessful in putting forward an application through the Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program. |
| **Detailed Designs** | Can detailed design be included as part of the project scope? | Detailed design can be completed as part of the project but needs to be progressed to ensure that physical project works can commence within six months of signing a Funding Agreement. |
| **Joint LGA/ARB Applications** | Could joint applications be submitted?  For example, several rural LGA's submitting a joint application to floodlight their major AFL- netball precincts? | Joint applications cannot be submitted for this program. |
| **Federally Funded Projects** | Will projects that already have Federal funding be considered? | Yes, applicants can submit projects that are funded by the Federal Government if they meet the 10% matching funding amount. |
| **Minimum Request Amounts** | If an existing project has a current forecast price of $1.5 million, with $500k Federal commitment and $300k Council - would this be eligible? | No, this project would not be eligible as the minimum request amount for a project is $1 million. |
| **3rd Party Financial Constrictions** | Are 3rd party financial contributions considered higher risk? What evidence is required? | No, they are not considered a higher risk. A letter confirming the funding and a bank statement to support the letter is required to be submitted at application stage (for clubs). |
| **Scoreboard Projects** | Would a package of Electronic Scoreboard projects be an option? | Electronic scoreboards will not be a priority for this program given there is an emphasis on construction and participation benefits. |
| **Economic Benefit for Rural Areas** | Will the economic benefit also be considered on a different scale in small rural areas? | Yes, scale will be considered differently, and the impact of relatively smaller projects is acknowledged for rural areas. |
| **Maintenance Projects** | Are large fencing projects that improves safety around sport and community access acceptable? | Fencing projects alone would not be a priority for the program as they do not strongly demonstrate participation outcomes. |

  
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| **Costings and Master planning** | Can a council adopted masterplan with cost estimates be submitted as an application? | It depends on two factors: firstly, is the costing no more than 12 months old and does the costing meet our expectations such as a QS or from an independent qualified expert. If the costing in the Master Plan is an estimate based on previous projects or a square metre rate this would not be sufficient. |
| **Project Completion Timelines** | Confirming projects must be completed within 2 years of funding agreement? | Yes, this is the general expectation. For projects with significant scale and complexity, consideration will be given to projects that can't be completed within this time-frame and they will not be discounted. |
| **‘Design and Construct’ for Active Recreation** | Will you consider 'Design and Construct' for outdoor Active Rec park for an application?  For example, no schematics for application. | For this program we will allow an Area Schedule for a modular/prefab building only. For active recreation projects such as parks we expect schematic plans to be provided. |
| **‘Design and Construct’ Project Eligibility** | It notes projects must be shovel ready and have concept designs already developed. Would design and construct projects be considered? | Design and construct projects may be considered, should a schematic plan already be developed, and the design and construct methodology start with detailed design. Whatever the delivery methodology, a schematic plan is required for projects, other than for modular buildings. |
| **LSIF/WGFF and CCP Funding Agreement Timelines** | Will Local Sports Infrastructure Fund, World Game Facilities Fund or Community Cricket Program funding agreement time frames be adjusted given the impact of COVID-19 & Council elections in October? | This will need to be further considered and discussed with successful applicants. At this stage the expectation is that these projects will enter into funding agreements soon after funding approval. |
| **REMPLAN** | If anyone has REMPLAN ....that's a good source for economic impacts. | Noted |
| **Golf Projects** | What are the directions on golf course projects on public land? What would be eligible, what wouldn't? | Golf projects are eligible for funding. Project ideas need to be considered in line with the guidelines including eligibility requirements and the emphasis on economic and participation benefits. |

  
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| **Desirable Documents** | Will there be a strong emphasis on the desirable documents listed in the grant outcomes? | Yes, there will be. This can vary for different types of projects. In a competitive program these documents are important. For example, while a schedule of use may not be the best way of demonstrating additional participation for every type of project (particularly active recreation projects), it remains an important way of demonstrating additional participation for sports facility projects. Letters of support are an important way of demonstrating support for a project and this is particularly important where there are tenant groups for a new or redeveloped facility. |
| **Council Contributions** | Will a higher contribution then 10% be looked on more favourably? | Projects with a mix of funding, including confirmed and appropriate financial contributions will be highly regarded. We also understand that councils have different ability to contribute. These contributions should be commensurate with the applicant's financial capacity and support for the project. |
| **Project submission sizes** | As it is only a total pool of $68 million across 79 local government, would you suggest only submitting for smaller projects rather than trying for larger $2 million plus projects? | This is a decision for individual councils depending on the projects you have ready to go. |
| **Project Procurement Timelines** | Would a project in procurement in January 2011 be eligible? | Physical works must commence within six months of signing the funding agreement. This time-frame would be expected to be January/February 2021, depending on when the agreement is executed. |
| **Council Resolution Timeframes** | How could we possibly get a Council resolution in this timeframe? | We are aware this may be difficult for many councils given the time-frames which is why a council resolution has not been made mandatory. Given the level of funding a council resolution is preferred where this is possible. |
| **Public Entity Funding** | Will funding from a public entity (not via a grant) be considered as state funding? | Yes, if this is a State government related public entity. This could not then be included towards the 10% co-contribution. |

  
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| **Supporting Documentation File Size** | We have large documents for one (1) project, what are the size limits on documents? Can we upload zip files? | There are 5MB file size limits for individual files and the default is that these are submitted within the online portal within the relevant areas of the application form. Files beyond this limit can be provided to communityinfrastructure@sport.vic.gov.au. The project name and application details will need to be clearly identified in the email. Zip files can be uploaded as per above. |
| **Project with an expanded scope** | If a club has received previous state funding for a project, can their project be considered if they have expanded the scope since the initial funding? | Where there is new and additional scope this can be considered on its merits. |
| **Funding Stage 2 of a Project** | Can following stages of projects that have already been applied for through LSIF and are awaiting outcome, be applied for?  For example, Stage 2. | New and additional scope can be applied for however we are unable to advise outcomes for LSIF prior to the closure of the Community Sports Infrastructure Stimulus Program. Councils need to consider the risk of their LSIF project being unsuccessful in putting forward an application through this program. |
| **Land Assets** | Can this be expanded so DELWP can auspice applications for Crown Land Reserves where Council is not the Committee of Management? Not our assets = hard for LGAs. | No, not for this program. We note the issues but only Councils and Alpine Resort Boards can apply. |
| **Shovel Ready Timelines** | If the project will be shovel ready in four (4) months would this be suitable for application now? | Yes |
| **Small Council staff Capacity** | Why do small councils who often don't have the dedicated recreation staff, have to compete so fiercely with already better equipped, more wealthy councils? | We consider project scale and relative size. We understand that the impact of a smaller project in a rural project can have sizeable economic and participation benefits. |
| **LSIF Applications with additional scope** | Applications under 2020-21 LSIF are not eligible, UNLESS the application is for ADDITIONAL scope NOT included within those projects. I'm still confused… | New and additional scope can be applied for however we are unable to advise outcomes for LSIF prior to the closure of this program. Councils need to consider this in putting forward an application. |

  
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| **LSIF Project Applications** | We have components of a much larger project scope still under consideration by LSIF. Are we still able to include these as outcomes have now been delayed? | Scope included within a LSIF application under consideration cannot be considered under the program. Only new/additional scope items outside of such an application can be considered as part of this program. |
| **Council Funding Contribution** | For large infrastructure projects, that will cross more than one (1) year for construction, which year does the Council funding contribution need to be shown in? | We are not prescriptive on this question. The project needs to be appropriately phased. As per existing programs, it is expected SRV will allocate a minimum of 40% of the grant up front. |
| **LSIF timelines** | The timing of LSIF grants information release related to these stimulus grants is difficult. LSIF was so late and most LGA shovel ready projects have been pitched here. | We acknowledge this timing issue. We would encourage councils to bring forward other projects that can be progressed quickly that otherwise may not be able to proceed. |
| **Definition of ‘Shovel Ready’** | Does 'shovel ready' include the procurement stage? | Projects do not need to currently be at a procurement stage but need to be able to proceed to procurement within the required time-frames and to ensure physical works can commence within six months of an executed funding agreement. |
| **Economic Stimulus Tools** | Can you provide tools to meet the criteria related to economic stimulus? | We will endeavour to provide some further information. We would encourage you to also liaise with economic development areas within council that may be able to assist. |

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| **Project Commencement and Ordering of Light Poles** | Would the ordering of light poles from overseas constitute a project starting? The poles can take up to three months to arrive and ground works might not work until they arrive, potentially Jan/Feb 2021. | No, ordering would not constitute commencement. There needs to be some physical commencement of works which could include site preparation and demolition. |
| **Evidence that project is ready to commence in six months** | A project that is ready to start construction in 6 months - would evidence of this be the awarding of the contract? Therefore, within the PMP the latest a contract could be awarded would be January 2021 assuming a Funding Agreement is executed in July 2020? | As above there needs to be some evidence of physical works commencing but this could include site preparation and demolition. |
| **Packaging of Sports Lighting Projects** | Can the packaging of sports lighting installations be for different sports with different surfaces? For example, Can a tennis court lighting project be packaged with a sports field (soccer or AFL) project? | Yes. This is possible. |
| **Community Consultation** | Is SRV happy to accept community consultation as being a works notification letter sent to local residents under this Program, for lighting projects where there is already existing sports field lighting that currently isn't compliant with the Australian sporting standards? | Yes. This is possible. |
| **Project Management Fees** | A rural LGA has asked if project management fees are additional to the 10% that Council must contribute? | No, project management can be included within the grant request@7.5% of total project cost with a cap of $500,000. Council's 10% contribution must be clear financial one. |
| **Design and Construct Query** | Can you please clarify related to inclusion of design elements and design costs in a project? From earlier responses, its understood that 6months refers to some form of physical works on site. Can some design elements (taking concept to for construction for example), be included if they can be scheduled if it demonstrated it contributes to readiness in the 6-month period? | Reasonable design costs can be included in the 7.5% maximum of total project cost which encompasses project management and non-construction expenses. |

