



FACT SHEET

Community Support Grant - *Infrastructure (Environment)*

Ararat Rural City Council's Community Support Grants Program provides funding for projects that build healthy and vibrant communities; sustain and encourages important community groups to work together to share and benefit from community resources.

What is a Community Support Grant - Infrastructure (Environment)

The Community Support Infrastructure grants support small scale community infrastructure projects including buildings, facilities, equipment and environmentally sustainable infrastructure projects.

How much funding is available?

Applicants can apply on a matching dollar for dollar basis (up to \$20,000.00) as is dependent on the individual request (project) and available funding at the time. Matching contributions can be from the community group or from another confirmed grant. It is expected that at least a proportion of the funds will come from the group applying.

In-kind support, as part of the applicant's contribution, should not exceed 25% of the total project cost. In-kind values should be \$20 per hour for labor and \$45 per hour for professional/skilled labor (log book verification is required).

The objective of this particular grant is to help community groups leverage dollar-for-dollar funding with other government and non-government funding programs. Council grant allocations are often conditional on groups receiving funding from other sources. Funding partnerships should be discussed with the Community Development & Client Services Coordinator before submitting applications.

Examples of activities that could be considered for funding include:

- Universal access projects
- Landscaping and general building improvements
- New community facilities
- New furniture or appliances
- Renovations/upgrades or extensions to existing facilities
- Upgrading sporting surfaces and precincts





Examples of applications that are considered ineligible for funding include:

- Requests for retrospective funding (if a project has commenced it is deemed retrospective)
- Recurrent operating costs
- Salary subsidies
- Routine/cyclical maintenance funding
- Applications to purchase alcohol

How will my application be assessed?

Applicants must be 'not-for-profit' organisations or have a sponsoring body and are only available to organisations or groups based within the Ararat Rural City municipality. The applicant must demonstrate that the project:

- Has broad community support
- Revives or establishes essential community assets
- Provides long term community benefit
- Is accessible to people with special needs
- Is supported by the appropriate documentation, example: project management plans and structures, planning and regulatory approvals obtained, budgets and timelines
- Links to Council plans
- Is consistent with Council's Asset Management Plan

Funding will only be considered for initiatives to be conducted within the Ararat Rural City Council boundary, or where the impact will be significant for the Ararat community.

Proposals submitted will be considered by Council's assessment team. The team will determine the viability and subsequent priority ranking of each project against set criteria. Council officers can work with the applicant to develop the proposal.

What is the eligibility criteria for your organisation?

1. To operate within the Ararat Rural City municipality.
2. Be a "not for profit" organisation or have an auspice body prepared to apply on their behalf.
3. Operate for the benefit of the community and include direct benefits to the community.
4. Demonstrate financial viability and competence.
5. For facilities located on Council owned land or Crown land managed by Council the applicant must be a Section 86 Committee of Management.
6. For facilities not owned by Council the Applicant must have written support from the land manager for the project.





7. Relevant and or linked to Council Plan/s.

What if I am a Section 86 Committee?

If applicants are currently a Section 86 Committee of Management any purchases of services, goods and equipment or works to facilities must abide by Council's Procurement Policy as per the Instrument of Delegation/Governance Manual. For further information on your Section 86 requirements please contact Council's Governance Manager on (03) 5355 0200.

Further information contact:

Community Development Officer (03) 5355 0257 or visit www.ararat.vic.gov.au

