The Growing Suburbs Fund is a contribution towards meeting critical local infrastructure needs for communities in Melbourne’s diverse and fast-growing outer suburbs. It is positioned to quickly respond to the pressures being experienced by interface and peri-urban communities by bringing forward local infrastructure projects that will make a big difference in the day-to-day lives of outer suburban families.

Nillumbik Shire Council

Nillumbik Shire Council is located 25 km north-east of the Melbourne Central Business District, and the southern boundary is the Yarra River. It is predominantly urban to the South while the north of the municipality includes significant features like the Kinglake National Park and Sugarloaf Reservoir.

In 2018, Nillumbik Shire recorded an annual resident population growth rate of 0.5 per cent, to 64,900 residents. The population is projected to grow to 70,300, or 8.3 per cent, by 2036.¹

Eltham Leisure Centre Solar Panels and Associated Infrastructure

This project will deliver the installation of the following at the Eltham Leisure Centre:

- 267kWp rooftop solar PV
- battery back-up systems for change rooms, toilets/showers and reception area
- 4 electric vehicle charging stations
- public monitoring displays and interpretation signage (both on site and online accessible); and
- integration of systems with existing building management systems.

It will reduce grid sourced electricity by 16% while espousing the benefits of renewable energy systems, climate change mitigation and adaptation opportunities.

Expected date of commencement: September 2020
Expected date of completion: July 2021

Total Project Cost: $540,000
Growing Suburbs Fund: $270,000
Other contributions:
- Nillumbik Shire Council $270,000

The other project in Nillumbik Shire to receive funding from the Growing Suburbs Fund 2020-21 is:
- Hurstbridge Community Multi Use Facility Upgrade ($705,000)

¹ Victoria in the Future, 2019