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.

Surf Coast Shire Council

Surf Coast Shire is located in south-western Victoria, between 75 and 125 kilometres from the Melbourne CBD, and between 10 and 60 kms south-west of the Geelong CBD. It covers an area of 1,560 kms has traditionally been a place for holiday makers, with its spectacular coastline, scenic rainforests and beaches.

The Surf Coast Shire is among the fastest growing regional municipalities in Victoria averaging around 3.06% each year. Known as one of Victoria’s peri-urban councils, the current population of 33,456 is expected to grow to 45,438 by 2036.¹

Torquay Wayfinding Project

The Growing Suburbs Fund is partnering with Surf Coast Shire to deliver a project that will strengthen the town centre, provide greater precinct connectivity, and enhance the experience for shoppers and community through new wayfinding signage. This signage will reinforce Torquay’s character with key elements including:

- Public consultation
- Brand development
- Signage strategy
- Production & installation of wayfinding signage
- Removal of obsolete signage

A key action of this project is to create a connected and walkable town and town centre that connects significant precincts of Surf City/ Baines Crescent, Bells Street, Torquay North and natural assets being the foreshore, Taylor Park and Surf Coast Walk.

The wayfinding will recognise points of interest including significant Indigenous, environmental sites creating greater awareness for community and visitors. The wayfinding signs will serve as physical activity prompts encouraging people to take alternative routes and promote physical activity. It is expected that they will support active transportation by guiding pedestrians and bicyclists onto safer routes to community destinations. Distance, effort and estimated time markers will also encourage people to walk or ride between precincts and navigate around the town centre to help inspire a healthier community.

Expected date of commencement: December 2020
Expected date of completion: February 2022
Total Project Cost: $525,000
Growing Suburbs Fund: $175,000
Other contributions:

- Surf Coast Shire Council $350,000

¹ Victoria in Future 2019