

Growing Suburbs Fund 2020-21

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.



Whittlesea City Council

Whittlesea City Council is located about 20 km north of the Melbourne Central Business District. The southern parts of the city are established urban areas and current residential developments are extending towards the north of the municipality.

Whittlesea City Council is home to an ethnically diverse community, with more than half of the residents from non-English speaking backgrounds. In 2018, the population of Whittlesea City Council grew 3.5 per cent compared with the national average of 1.6 per cent. The population is projected to grow by 63.2 percent from around 223,300 in 2018, to about 364,500 in 2036.¹

Mernda Social Support Services Facility 70 Mernda Village Drive, Mernda Victoria 3754

The Growing Suburbs Fund is partnering with the Whittlesea City Council to design and construct a Social Support Services facility at Mernda Villages Community Activity Centre that is purpose built, physically accessible by all, and provides a comfortable, warm and stimulating environment for participants.

The purpose-fit facility in the Mernda/ Doreen urban growth area will provide social support programs and day respite for older residents. There are no existing community facilities that are suitable in the area that can accommodate the delivery of a social support service. The location of the facility is next to the Mernda Villages Community Activity Centre, two schools, a kindergarten and a shopping activity centre.

The Mernda Social Services Support Facility will comprise approximately 320m² of internal space and 200m² of external space (i.e. covered area and courtyard) and will include:

- Three Social Support Services activity rooms
- Innovation Learning Space
- Kitchen
- Consulting room
- Quiet room
- Staff office
- Storage space
- Toilets
- Changing Places toilet facility
- Outside activity space.

¹ Victoria in the Future, 2019

Expected date of commencement:

September 2020

Expected date of completion: February 2022

Total Project Cost: \$2,480,000

Growing Suburbs Fund: \$1,240,000

Other contributions:

- Whittlesea City Council \$1,240,000

The other project in Whittlesea City Council to receive funding from the Growing Suburbs Fund 2020-21 is:

- Rochdale Square Neighbourhood Centre Revitalisation (\$362,500)
- Carrington Children's Centre outdoor learning and playspace (\$150,000)
- Mill Park Library Public Surrounds Upgrade (\$450,000)
- Community Energy Efficiency Program (\$250,000)

Authorised by the Hon Shaun Leane MP, Minister for Local Government and Suburban Development

Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

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