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 per cent from around 223,300 in 2018, to about 364,500 in 2036.1

Rochdale Square Neighbourhood Centre Revitalisation

Rochdale Square, Lalor 3075

The Growing Suburbs Fund is partnering with the Whittlesea City Council to redevelop the Rochdale Square Neighbourhood Centre. This revitalisation project involves reconstruction of the streetscape with public furniture, landscaping, playground upgrade, DDA pavement treatments and improved social gathering spaces.

The project will deliver key infrastructure to reactivate the streetscape, stimulating the local economy, improving public safety, social and health outcomes for the locality. The key objective of the project is to revitalise Rochdale Square and the adjacent precinct to become a vibrant neighbourhood centre.

Expected date of commencement: September 2020
Expected date of completion: January 2021
Total Project Cost: $725,000
Growing Suburbs Fund: $362,500
Other contributions:
- Whittlesea City Council $362,500

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

- Mernda Social Support Services Facility ($1,240,000)
- Mill Park Library Public Surrounds Upgrade ($450,000)

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1 Victoria in Future, 2019
- Carrington Children's Centre outdoor learning and playspace upgrade ($150,000)
- Community Energy Efficiency Program ($250,000)