Hume City Council is a growing, urban fringe municipality about 20 km from the Melbourne Central Business District. The southern parts of the city are well-established urban areas while the north remains rural in character. It has a young population, with 31 per cent of residents under 18 years of age.

Hume City Council is experiencing significant growth at a rate of 4.3 per cent in 2018 - outstripping the national average growth rate of 1.6 per cent. The resident population in Hume City Council estimated at 224,400 in June 2018 is projected to grow by 53 per cent, to about 344,000 by 2036.\(^1\)

Melba Avenue Streetscape Upgrade
Melba Avenue, Sunbury 3429

The Growing Suburbs Fund will assist Hume City Council to upgrade the streetscape at Melba Avenue in Sunbury to improve the amenity and accessibility of the area, connecting the local community with the shopping strip.

It is expected that the project will encourage the community to shop in their local neighbourhood stimulating business and employment.

The project will also make the area more inviting, safe, interesting and can connect residential and commercial areas. The works will include streetscape and street furniture upgrade works, footpath resurfacing, bin surrounds, custom-made seating and planting. Works will occur in the council owned road reserve, footpath and car parking areas surrounding the shops.

**Expected date of commencement:** September 2020
**Expected date of completion:** November 2021
**Total Project Cost:** $210,000
**Growing Suburbs Fund:** $105,000
**Other contributions:**
- Hume City Council $105,000

The other projects in the City of Hume to receive funding from the Growing Suburbs Fund 2020-21 are:
- DS Aitken Reserve Skate Park Upgrade ($210,000)
- Coopers Hill Drive Reserve Upgrade ($142,500)
- Kirwan Park Upgrade ($117,500)

\(^1\) Victoria in the Future, 2019