Growing Suburbs Fund 2022-23

The Growing Suburb Fund (GSF) is a \$425M contribution to support the delivery of high priority community infrastructure projects for Victoria's diverse and fast-growing outer suburbs. Designed to support the existing and future local infrastructure needs of Melbourne's interface and peri-urban communities, the GSF brings forward local infrastructure projects that are essential to the liveability of outer suburban families.



Melton City Council is located approximately 40 kilometres west of central Melbourne and is one of the fastest growing interface councils. Strong residential growth is expected to continue, with a number of new suburbs under development.

Melton City Council is part of the interface council area and recorded a growth rate of 4.6% in 2019-20¹. The population is projected to grow from 172,500 in 2020 to about 332,051 or 92.5% per cent by 2036².

Victoria's population growth slowed during the pandemic period with the impact over this time mainly felt in the inner and middle suburbs of Melbourne; regional areas were less affected due to increased migration from Melbourne. Based on the latest available data, areas across Victoria are now expected to return to normal rates and patterns.

Barwon Street Reserve Playspace

62a Barwon Street, Taylors Hill 3037

The Growing Suburbs Fund will assist Melton City Council to transform Barwon Street Reserve into a space that strengthens connections to nature. This project will provide healthy social and physical outdoor activity opportunities for the Taylors Hill and surrounding communities to enjoy.

The project scope includes:

- Improve play and kick-about spaces
- Improve shared path connections
- Upgrade associated picnic facilities
- Extension of play opportunities through inclusion of tactile play elements; and
- Additional natural shade surrounding playspace

Expected date of commencement: April 2024 Expected date of completion: October 2024

Total Project Cost: \$500,000 Growing Suburbs Fund: \$250,000 Other Contributions:

Melton City Council \$250,000

The other projects in Melton City Council to receive funding from the 2022-23 Growing Suburbs Fund are:

- Aintree Community Centre (\$1,500,000)
- Blackwood Drive Recreation Reserve Upgrade (\$500,000)
- Hillside Recreation Reserve Park and Play Space Upgrade (\$400,000)
- Plumpton Community Centre and Neighbourhood House (\$1,500,000)
- Weir Views Community Centre (\$1,500,000)

¹ ABS Regional Population Growth, March 2022 ² Victoria in Future, 2019







Figure 1 – Concept design

Figure 2 - Landscape concept design

You can find out about other Growing Suburbs Fund projects at <u>https://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/grants/growing-suburbs-fund</u>.

For more information about the Growing Suburbs Fund, please contact <u>gsf@ecodev.vic.gov.au</u>.

Authorised by The Hon. Melissa Horne MP, Minister for Local Government

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