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 communities by bringing forward local infrastructure projects that will make a big difference in the day-to-day lives of outer suburban families.

The Mornington Peninsula Shire is situated on a promontory located more than 40 km to the south east of Melbourne, with more than 190 km of coastal boundaries. It is characterised by a mix of urban areas, resort towns, tourist developments and rural land.

The Peninsula is one of the major holiday and retirement destinations for Melbournians. The northern areas of the Shire have experienced significant residential development with improved road access in recent years. In 2017, the Shire had an annual population growth rate of 1.4 per cent and its population is forecasted to grow from about 163,200 in 2017 to 182,000, representing an 11 per increase by 2031.

Project Description: The Growing Suburbs Fund will help Mornington Peninsula Shire expand the current footprint of the Dromana kindergarten. The expansion will integrate the kindergarten with the neighbouring Maternal and Child Health suite and the redevelopment will increase the kindergarten’s capacity from 64 to 88 enrolments. The additional refurbishment works will provide a safe and nurturing environment for children and families of the Dromana community.

Works at the Dromana Preschool will include:
- An undercover entrance foyer
- Extension of existing kindergarten space
- Toilet upgrades
- Upgrade to the arts area
- Staff office and meeting room
- Storage space.

Expected completion: April 2019

Total Project Cost: $445,000

Growing Suburbs Fund: $200,000

Other Contribution:
- Mornington Peninsula Shire $220,000
- Department of Education and Training – Minor Capital Improvement Grant $25,000

Other projects in Mornington Peninsula Shire to receive funding from the 2017-18 Growing Suburbs Fund:
- Balnarring Civic Court Reserve Masterplan Implementation (290,000)
- Hastings Streetscape Renewal Project ($1,991,000)

Growing Suburbs Fund contributes to a mix of infrastructure projects that have a direct benefit to communities living in the outer suburbs.

Figure 1: Dromana Preschool
(Source: Mornington Peninsula Shire)

You can find out about other Growing Suburbs Fund Projects at localgovernment.vic.gov.au/gsf

For more information regarding these projects contact Local Infrastructure, DELWP.
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