

# Growing Suburbs Fund 2021-22

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.

## Mitchell Shire Council



Mitchell Shire Council is located approximately 60 km north of the Melbourne Central Business District and is bounded by Hume and Whittlesea councils to the south.

The southern tip has experienced significant residential growth in recent years due to affordable new housing and infrastructure to support an easy commute to Melbourne.

Mitchell Shire Council is part of the interface council area and recorded a growth rate of 3.4% in 2019-20.<sup>1</sup> The population is projected to grow from 47,647 in 2020 to about 97,688 or 105% per cent by 2036.<sup>2</sup>

Victoria's population has witnessed a considerable slow-down in growth due to COVID and a pause in overseas migration. This is mostly felt in the inner/middle suburbs of Melbourne but is still evident in outer suburbs.

<sup>1</sup> ABS Regional Population Growth, March 2022

<sup>2</sup> Victoria in Future, 2019

## Wallan Central Cycle and Nature Trail

104 Watson Street, Wallan 3756

The Growing Suburbs Fund will assist Mitchell Shire Council to deliver the Wallan Central Cycle and Nature Trail project.

This project will transform an underutilised grassy site with surveillance and safety concerns, into a key natural playspace and thoroughfare to support Wallan's current and future well-being and resilience. The works will highlight Wallan Creek's natural values and cultural heritage, improve perceptions of safety and encourage active lifestyles.

The project will deliver:

- Network of circuit paths and bridges
- Nature play
- Educational and interpretive signage

**Expected date of commencement:** June 2023

**Expected date of completion:** November 2023

**Total Project Cost:** \$1,000,000

**Growing Suburbs Fund:** \$800,000

**Other contributions:**

- Mitchell Shire Council: \$200,000

**Mitchell Shire Council will also receive funding for the following projects from the Growing Suburbs Fund 2021-22:**

- Greenhill Reserve Playspace Project (\$110,000)
- Chittick Park Accessible Playspace Project (\$750,000)
- Ryans Creek Reserve Activation Stage Two (\$900,000)



Figure 1: Concept design Jeavons Landscape Architects

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

For more information regarding these projects contact the GSF team at [gsf@ecodev.vic.gov.au](mailto:gsf@ecodev.vic.gov.au)

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

Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions  
1 Spring Street Melbourne Victoria 3000  
Telephone (03) 9651 9999  
© Copyright State of Victoria,  
Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions 2022

Except for any logos, emblems, trademarks, artwork and photography this document is made available under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia license.

This document is also available in an accessible format at [djpr.vic.gov.au](http://djpr.vic.gov.au)