

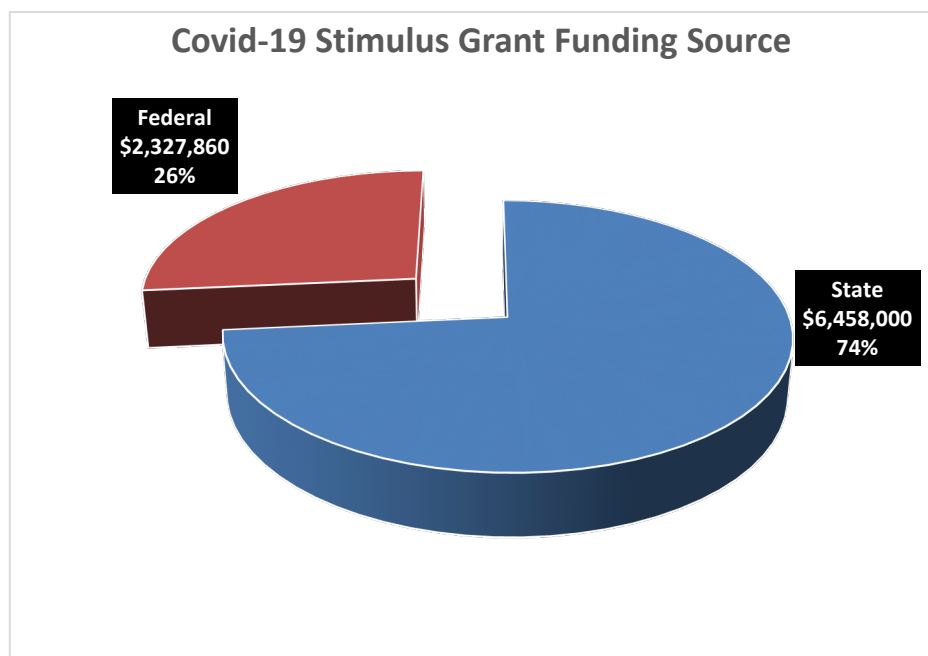


Covid-19 Stimulus Funding Portfolio Status July 2020

Summary

In an effort to minimise the impacts of Covid-19 on the Australian Economy, the State and Federal Governments have released multiple grant funding programs to Council.

To date, Council has received approval, or commitment, of \$8.76 million as shown below:



In addition, Council has submitted proposals under the State Governments 'Growing Tourism Infrastructure Program' for projects aimed at increasing local and regional tourism.

Council Officers are also continuing to work on submissions under the Arts QLD - Arts and Cultural Recovery Package

This report provides a brief overview of the stimulus programs, along with projects being delivered.

Covid Works 4 Queensland (Covid W4Q)

The objective of the Covid W4Q Program is to support all Queensland local governments to undertake job-creating and/or productive infrastructure and maintenance projects relating to assets owned or controlled by local governments which support the economic recovery of Queensland communities.

Ipswich City Council has received a funding commitment of \$4.44 million through this program with projects needing to be completed by 30 June 2021.

Council has submitted the projects, shown below in table 1, for delivery under this program:

Table 1

Covid Works for Queensland						
Project	Suburb	ICC Division	Scope	Expected Start	Expected Completion	Project Delivery Stage
Redbank Plains Recreation Reserve Playground	Redbank Plains	1	New playground construction - Stage 2 works	Feb-21	Mar-21	Design
Orion Lagoon Treatment Plant	Springfield Central	2	Supply and installation of new water treatment plant at the Orion Lagoon, Springfield	Mar-21	May-21	Design
Moodai Reserve Water Quality	Bellbird Park	2	Water quality improvements to existing drainage reserve	Aug-20	Jan-21	Preconstruction
Clancy's Reserve Pathway	Springfield	2	Rehabilitation of existing gravel pathway in Clancy's Reserve	Aug-20	Jan-21	Design
Richardson Park Change Room	Goodna	2	Replacement of floor, ceiling and internals wall to change rooms	Nov-20	Dec-20	Design
Fail Park Water Quality	North Booval	3	Improvements to existing creek filtration system	Aug-20	Jan-21	Preconstruction

Covid Works for Queensland						
Project	Suburb	ICC Division	Scope	Expected Start	Expected Completion	Project Delivery Stage
Queens Park Croquet Club Irrigation	Ipswich	3	Upgrade to existing Croquet green irrigation	Dec-20	Feb-21	Design
SES Depot Amenities Building	Ipswich	3	New amenities building	Sep-20	Nov-20	Design
Ipswich CBD Footpath	Ipswich	3	Reconstruction of existing asphalt pathway to concrete pathway	Aug-20	Sep-20	Design
North Ipswich Corporate Centre Carpet Replacement	North Ipswich	4	Replacement of existing carpet	Aug-20	Sep-20	Design
Sarah Drive Stormwater Quality	Yamanto	4	Water quality improvements to existing drainage reserve	Aug-20	Jan-21	Pre-construction
Walter Zimmerman Park Stormwater Quality	Pine Mountain	4	Improvements to existing creek filtration system	Sep-20	Feb-21	Pre-construction

Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Program

In May 2020 the Australian Government announced a new \$500 million Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI Program).

This program aims to support local councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects across Australia, supporting jobs and the resilience of local economies to help communities bounce back from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Funding allocations for the LRCI Program have been calculated in a similar way to how the Roads to Recovery Program and the road component of the Financial Assistance Grants works.

This formula takes into consideration road length and population and is based on recommendations of Local Government Grants Commissions.

Eligible works under the LRCIP include:

- Road and Transport infrastructure, including
 - Traffic signals, signage and control equipment
 - Street Lighting
 - Bridges & Tunnels
 - Road and footpath maintenance
 -
- Community Infrastructure, including
 - Cycle & walking paths
 - Improvements and maintenance of community facilities
 - improved accessibility of community facilities
 - landscaping improvements, such as tree planting and beautification of roundabouts
 - Playgrounds and skateparks
 - Off-road car parks

Council has submitted the projects, shown below in table 2, for delivery under this program:

Table 2

Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Program						
Project	Suburb	ICC Division	Scope	Expected Start	Expected Completion	Project Delivery Stage
Mclean Street	Redbank Plains	1	Construction of new Kerb & Channel	Sep-20	Dec-20	Pre-construction
Redbank Plains Rec Reserve DOLA	Redbank Plains	1	Construction of small 'Dog Off-Leash Area'	Feb-21	Mar-21	Pre-construction
Highbridge Road Pathway	Springfield	2	Installation of new path as part of iGO ATAP program	Sep-20	Sep-20	Pre-construction
Arborwood Avenue	Springfield	2	Installation of new path as part of iGO ATAP program.	Oct-20	Oct-20	Pre-construction
Queens Park Pathway	Ipswich	3	Construction of new pathway	Feb-21	Apr-21	Design
Waghorn Street	Ipswich	3	Installation of new path as part of iGO ATAP program.	Mar-21	Apr-21	Design

Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Program						
Project	Suburb	ICC Division	Scope	Expected Start	Expected Completion	Project Delivery Stage
Whitehill Road	Eastern Heights	3	Rehabilitation of existing path as part and kerb ramps.	Jan-21	Jan-21	Design
CaledonianPark Landscaping	Thagoona	4	sports club storage shed replacement, pathway rehabilitation and associated works	Feb-21	Mar-21	Design

Unite and Recover Community Stimulus Package

The Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs is responsible for administering the Unite and Recover Community Stimulus Package, which is a grant program available to twelve South East Queensland (SEQ) Local Governments.

The Grant Program provides \$50 million, delivered through a mix of base allocation funding of \$24 million (fixed allocation of \$2 million for each of the 12 eligible SEQ Councils) and \$26 million distributed on a competitive application basis.

There is no mandatory co-contribution required by Councils, however, for the competitive component co-contributions from Councils are encouraged to demonstrate Councils commitment to the project and will be considered against the 'value for money' criterion.

The aim of the Grant Program is to fast-track SEQ Council investment in new infrastructure and community assets that creates jobs and delivers economic stimulus to local communities.

The objective of the Grant Program is to support SEQ Councils to assist Communities to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, including economic investment that:

- supports reductions in unemployment in areas of need (including youth unemployment or a location within a local government area within high unemployment);
- stimulates employment now and has lasting benefits for community assets and economic development; and
- provides for economic investment in outer-urban areas and rural towns of SEQ which are less connected to larger economic hubs.

Eligible projects under the URCSP include:

- an Essential Services Project, including a water supply, sewerage, waste infrastructure, waste management, roads and drainage, energy or communications project;
- an Economic Development Project, including economic development infrastructure or tourism infrastructure project;
- a Community Well-Being Project
 - including an arts and culture; sport and recreation; library/knowledge center; community safety, health or education infrastructure project; or
 - which promotes active transport and community movement enabling social distancing in public spaces;

Council has submitted the projects, shown below in table 3, for delivery under the 'fixed allocation' portion of this program:

Table 3

Unite and Recover Community Stimulus Package 'fixed allocation'						
Project	Suburb	ICC Division	Scope	Expected Start	Expected Completion	Project Delivery Stage
Small Creek Channel Naturalisation	Raceview	3	Creek naturalisation to improve water quality	Sep-20	Jan-21	Pre-construction
Ipswich Civic Centre (Entertainment Centre) Façade Improvements	Ipswich	3	Refurbishment of existing façade at Ipswich Civic Centre to prevent water ingress	Dec-20	Feb-20	Design
Andre Ripoll Park - Drag Strip Rehab	Carole Park	2	Rehabilitation of existing remote control car drag strip	Nov-20	Nov-20	Pre-construction
Queens Park Croquet Club Shelter	Ipswich	3	Refurbishment of existing croquet shelters, concrete slabs and retaining walls.	Dec-20	Feb-21	Design

Council has submitted the projects, shown below in table 4, for delivery under the 'Competitive Application' portion of this program:

Table 4

Unite and Recover Community Stimulus Package 'Competitive Application'						
Project	Suburb	ICC Division	Scope	Expected Start	Expected Completion	Project Delivery Stage
Suttons Park Skate Bowl	Brassall	4	Refurbishment and upgrades to existing skate park at Suttons Park, Brassall.	Sep-20	May-21	Design
Hardings Paddock Community Hut	Goolman	4	Construction of a Council operated community hut at Hardings Paddock.	Sep-20	May-21	Design
Gumleaf Park Playground Refurbishment	Redbank Plains	1	Replacement of existing rubber softfall, portion of playground, landscaping works, shade sails and concrete pathways	Oct-20	Dec-20	Pre-construction
Hardings Paddock Kup Murri	Goolman	4	Construction of Kup Murri and landscaping works	Jan-21	April-21	Design

Growing Tourism Infrastructure Program

This funding boost aims to fast-track the development of new and enhanced tourism infrastructure projects that will strengthen Queensland's tourism industry and deliver economic benefits to Queensland.

The key objectives of the Fund are to:

- create new jobs in both construction and ongoing operational phases
- build sustainable new and improved infrastructure and products that enhance tourism experiences
- increase overnight visitor numbers and expenditure
- deliver regional economic benefits.

Council has lodged funding submissions for the following projects and is awaiting a response:

- **Whiterock / Spring Mountain Mountain Bike & Hiking Trails**

Construction of a sustainable adventure trail network utilising and building on the 26.6 kilometres of established trail network and creating an unmatched nature based adventure destination with over 70 kilometres of multi-use, world-class, visitor-attracting trail experiences in the Whiterock/Spring Mountain Conservation Estate near Ipswich. On the Doorstep to Brisbane and the South East Region

- **Ipswich Nature Centre Extension (Stages 1 & 2)**

The Ipswich Nature Centre is a Council owned and operated facility which has grown to become the city's most popular tourist attraction, averaging 300,000 visitors a year. The 2018 Ipswich Nature Centre and Discovery Hub Masterplan sets a vision and clear staged implementation plan for updating the Nature Centre into a modern zoo. The Nature

Centre will be transformed into a Queensland landmark with greater representation of Ipswich's Natural and Cultural Heritage, creating an exciting and improved visitor experience for the Ipswich community and south-east Queensland visitors.

The implementation of the Ipswich Nature Centre and Discovery Hub Masterplan will deliver

Ipswich's premier tourist experience offering unique, inspiring and educational visitor experiences on Ipswich's cultural and Aboriginal cultural heritage, native flora and fauna and the natural areas of our ecologically diverse City.

Council will continue to work with the Department of State Development, Tourism and Innovation on these submissions.

Arts and Cultural Recovery Package

Ipswich City Council has been successful in securing funding assistance of \$18,000 to assist with the costs of implementing 'Covid Safe' for the reopening of the Ipswich Civic Centre.

Additionally, Council intends to seek funding under the Arts and Cultural Recovery Package, through Arts QLD, for Arts and Cultural activities when funding program details are released.