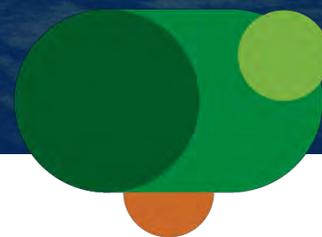


NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program

Advice for detailed public and open space project proposals



Thank you for your participation in the [NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program](#). COVID-19 has shown the extent to which people value their public spaces and this fund is about building on that momentum to create a positive public space legacy for our future.

Your Council has been invited to submit a detailed public and open space project proposal. The detailed project proposal requires an articulation of the project's alignment with the assessment criteria outlined in the [Program Guidelines](#) (the Guidelines). This information sheet is to assist councils in responding to the assessment criteria.

Objectives

The objectives of the NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program in terms of public and open spaces are to:

- support investment in the creation of high-quality public and open spaces to create a lasting community benefit; and
- address critical open space shortfalls and improve the quality of existing public and open spaces.

Projects can achieve these objectives by either **creating new** high-quality public and open spaces through land acquisition or unlocking underutilised land, **connecting the network** through new or improved trails and linkages or significantly **enhancing the quality** of existing public and open spaces. As a legacy program, projects should aim to make a significant and lasting positive impact for future generations.

Please note, where projects are for the upgrade, extension or replacement of existing infrastructure, applications will need to demonstrate how the project provides a significant increase in benefit than is currently provided.

Funding allocations and assessment

The assessment process will take into account your maximum funding allocation.

Some councils were identified in the Guidelines as having an open space shortfall and therefore qualify for the maximum funding allocation. These councils will be expected to demonstrate how they are increasing the amount of open space in their LGA (ie. through land acquisition or expanding existing open spaces in areas of significant open space shortfall).



NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program

Advice for detailed public and open space project proposals



Assessment criteria

Below is a series of questions based on the assessment criteria in the Guidelines that can help you prepare your detailed submission. As a legacy program, projects will need to articulate how they will make a significant and lasting positive impact for future generations. We encourage you to refer to the [Draft NSW Public Spaces Charter](#) for further guidance around how to plan for high quality public and open spaces.

To meet the objectives of the program, successful proposals will be required to address the criteria set out in the Guidelines, including:

Will the project provide a broad range of benefits for the community? This could include social benefits (such as increased opportunity for community gathering, contribution to community identity etc), health benefits (such as increased access to active recreational opportunities), environmental benefits (such as improved visual amenity, reduced urban heat-island effect etc) and/or economic benefits (activation of town centres, creation of destinations etc).

Is the project inclusive? Does it encourage a broad range of community members to use the space? Does it better enable people to 'get there, stay, play and participate'? This could be through its location, flexible design, multifunctional spaces or improved accessibility, amenity and safety.

Does the project fill a gap in the open space network? Does it address identified open space or recreational deficiencies (particularly in areas of greatest need or in vulnerable communities)? Does it increase the diversity of recreational experiences and opportunities for communities? This could be through unlocking underutilised land, creating new public and open spaces or providing new recreational opportunities in line with identified community need.

Does the project benefit the broader district or regional community? This could be through provision of a large new or upgraded public open space, trail or path that serves multiple suburbs, the LGA or broader. Or a project that fills a gap in the network that has flow on positive impacts to the broader community (such as providing a missing link in a strategic trail or path). Or the project is located in a significant location that functions as a key community gathering place for the broader community.

A reminder of what is included

The NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program will support the design and delivery of:

- Open spaces and parklands including regional and district open spaces and linear parklands
- Trails and strategic open space linkages including recreational improvements of riparian corridors and easements that contribute to the delivery of important corridors identified in Regional Plans or endorsed Local Strategic Planning Statements (for example, in Greater Sydney, the Green Grid)
- Foreshore and riverfront precincts, including improvements for waterbased recreation such as launching small watercraft, access to waterways for swimming, trails and picnic areas
- Civic plazas, town squares and main street precincts that improve connections between public space, promote walkability and greater accessibility
- Heritage works associated with any of the above.



NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program

Advice for detailed public and open space project proposals



A reminder of what is excluded

The following projects will not be eligible for funding under the NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program:

- Projects outside of NSW
- Projects that require the public to pay a fee to access the site
- Purchase of land for purposes other than open space creation
- Funding of personnel or staff positions
- Events, marketing, branding, advertising or product promotion
- Projects requiring ongoing funding from the NSW Government
- Retrospective funding to cover any project component that is already complete/underway
- Projects which are considered to be part of council's usual ongoing maintenance and management of a site (including ongoing reserve management, asset maintenance or replacement of existing infrastructure).
- Construction and planning of organised sporting facilities, including club houses and synthetic sports fields.
- Commercial operations and buildings, including club rooms.
- Road works including routine upgrading of footpaths, kerbs and car parks, with the exception of carparks that support the use and access to open space areas.
- Public art pieces as a singular project. Note public art that is integrated in to a wider public and open space project will be considered.

NOTE: Design services will only be funded as part of the delivery of a project. Master planning or design services will not be funded in isolation.

Who to contact with any questions

Please contact publicspaceslegacy@planning.nsw.gov.au.

© State of New South Wales through Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2020. The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (February 2020). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment or the user's independent adviser.

