



Community Grants Program

Environmental Sustainability Grant 2024-2025

Acknowledgement of Country

Frankston City Council acknowledges and pays respect to the Bunurong People, the Traditional Custodians of these lands and waters.

Introduction

The Environmental Sustainability Grant provides one-off funding to support community organisations in environmental and sustainability projects and landowners' environmental works that support the strategic vision for Frankston City's future.

Categories

This grant is divided into two categories:

| Category | Who can apply |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Community Group Projects | Community organisations |
| Landowner Works | Frankston City Landowners |

Funding Objectives

The purpose of the Environmental Sustainability Grants is to support the growth and implementation of initiatives that improve our natural surroundings and foster sustainable practices across Frankston City.

The key objectives of this grant are to collaborate with local community organisations and landowners to:

- Support the [Greening our Future 2014-2024 Strategy](#) and [Climate Change Strategy 2023-2030](#).
- Enhance wildlife corridors to improve biodiversity and contributing to ecosystem restoration.
- Support sustainable land management practices, with a focus on protecting and enhancing native vegetation.

Priorities:

- Community group environmental projects that have a community education and engagement component.
- Revegetation works on private land that contribute to mapped biodiversity corridors connecting native vegetation across the landscape.

Funding Details

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Funding Allocation | For Community Group Projects \$1,000 per recipient For Landowners Works \$1,000 per recipient. Funding will be paid in two stages; 1. 50% on signed agreement; and 2. 50% upon completion of the works and reporting requirements |
| Timing | Applications are open between 9am 9 September and 9pm 21 October 2024 |
| Funding Announcement | Mid-November 2024 |

Eligibility Criteria

For an application to be eligible, the applicant or proposal must be:

For Community Organisation Projects

- A **not-for-profit** community group or organisation
- Either be:
 - **Incorporated** under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 or commenced the process of incorporation (evidence will be required); or
 - **Endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR)** as covered by Item 1 of the table in section 30.15 of the Income Tax Assessment 1997; or
 - **Auspiced** (sponsored or supported) by another incorporated or DGR covered Item 1 organisation that will accept legal and financial responsibility for the activity (evidence will be required).
- **Located**
 - Within the local Government area of Frankston City; or
 - If located outside of Frankston City, servicing a significant number (over 1000) of Frankston City residents;
- **Have complied with all terms and conditions** including the submission of satisfactory acquittal reports for all previous Council grants.

For Landowners Works

- **Located** within the local Government area of Frankston City.
- Rural landowners with a **minimum of 2/3 Acre 2697.9sqm**
- Zoned Low density, Rural conservation or green wedge or located within a recognised Biodiversity corridor or Environmental Significance Overlay.
- Commit to maintaining the vegetation for at least 5 years.

What can be funded

| Examples for Community Organisation Projects |
|---|
| Workshops that encourage waste diversion, composting, worm farming, water recycling, water efficient garden beds or bush food gardens. |
| Small events that connect people and increase their knowledge of the climate emergency and provide skills for effective advocacy and action. |
| Open day community events such as tree planting days or bush regeneration activities. |
| Workshops that provide information to the community around making their homes more energy efficient or to transition to 100% renewable electricity. |
| Community programs that encourage skills to expand sustainable behaviour such as how to access the various rebates available, bicycle maintenance workshops or clothing exchange activities. |
| Examples for Landowner Works |
| Revegetation works which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complement remnant vegetation on private properties • Link or strengthen significant habitat areas or corridors • Are required in a land management plan • Aim to increase canopy cover |
| Works to help control and or manage minor erosion. |
| Environmental weed control in good quality native vegetation, in association with other vegetation protection measures such as revegetation. |

What can't be funded

Community Organisation Projects grant category are not for:

- Individuals, commercial or profit making organisations, political party or hosting a political party.
- Programs, projects or events already funded by Council.
- Prizes, awards or fundraising events.
- Funding that would otherwise be covered by insurance.
- Retrospective funding for activities already completed or purchased.
- Activities that are owned or managed by Council.
- Activities that are the funding responsibility of other levels of government such as school curriculum-based activities.
- Activities that are the responsibility of a group under their incorporation or lease/license agreement (including recurrent expenses, capital works).
- Funding for alcohol licenses, tobacco and gambling related activities.

- Building projects, capital works, large capital expenses and facility maintenance including purchase of lease of real estate or purchase of major equipment or vehicles.
- Activities that contravene State and Commonwealth legislation, Local Laws or Frankston Planning Scheme.
- Organisations currently involved in a tendering or procurement process with the Council.
- Staff, Councillor or contractor to Council (any exemptions in unique circumstances would require approval from the Director Communities, and necessitate all Disclosure of Interest requirements are met).

Landowners Works grant category are not for:

- Waterway revegetation projects: Assistance is available through Melbourne Water's Liveable Communities, Liveable Waterways Program.
- Works that have already been funded by Council.
- Funding that would otherwise be covered by insurance.
- Retrospective funding for works already completed or purchased.
- Works that require additional building permits and/or planning permits.
- Works that contravene State and Commonwealth legislation, Local Laws or Frankston Planning Scheme.
- Activities that are required as a condition of a local law or planning condition.
- Staff, Councillor or contractor to Council (any exemptions in unique circumstances would require approval from the Director Communities, and necessitate all Disclosure of Interest requirements are met).

Assessment Process

Eligible grant applications will be assessed in accordance with the criteria and weighting as outlined in each Council grant's application guidelines and assessed by the responsible person(s) outlined in the Community Grants Policy.

Canvassing or lobbying of councillors, employees of Frankston City Council or assessment panel members in relation to any grant, subsidy and sponsorship applications is prohibited.

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed based on the responses to questions in the criteria below:

| For Community Organisation Projects Criteria | |
|--|------------|
| <p>Council's Environment Strategies Alignment Demonstrates how the project contributes to at least one or more positive environmental outcomes in Frankston City from either the Greening our Future Strategy 2014-2024 or Climate Change Strategy 2023-2030</p> | 35% |
| <p>Community Education and Engagement Showcases how the project will educate and engage with the community, provide significant benefits to Frankston City residents, and is accessible to everyone without discrimination.</p> | 35% |
| <p>Project Management Demonstrates the community group has the resources and experience to manage the project, provides a value-for-money budget, prioritise spending within Frankston City, considers risk management and can deliver measurable outcomes and evaluations at the project's conclusion.</p> | 20% |
| <p>Funding availability Project addresses a need that would otherwise go unfunded</p> | 10% |
| For Landowner Works Criteria | |
| <p>Environmental Impact Project has potential to significantly improve wildlife corridors and biodiversity.</p> | 35% |
| <p>Feasibility Outlines a clear, realistic plan and timeline for project implementation.</p> | 35% |
| <p>Sustainability Demonstrates long-term maintenance plan for the project.</p> | 30% |

Essential Attachments

For Community Group Projects:

- **Either a:**
 - **Certificate of Incorporation, OR**
 - **Evidence of legislative provisions for charitable purposes** (DGR endorsement)
- **Public Liability Insurance** (Current Certificate of Currency)
- **Annual General Meeting Minutes or Annual Report** (Most recent)
- **Annual Financial Statement** (Most recent that includes Income/Expenditure, balance sheet and cash flow)
- **Costs for works / material:** Provide a breakdown and evidence of cost
- Auspiced applicants must also attach a letter of agreement with their auspice organisation and the listed documents above from the auspice organisation

For Landowners Works

- **Site plan:** Provide a map or diagram of the property showing the location of the proposed activities
- **Photographs:** Submit before photographs of the project area
- **Costs for works / material:** Provide a breakdown and evidence of cost

How to make application

To apply, visit Frankston City Council SmartyGrants website on <https://frankston.smartygrants.com.au> and create an account if you don't already have one.

Support Available

| Assistance with | Contact |
|---|--|
| General enquiries and advice regarding Environmental Sustainability Grant | Community Grants & Networks Unit (03) 9783 1035 CommunityGrants@frankston.vic.gov.au |
| Technical issues with SmartyGrants website | SmartyGrants 03) 9320 6888 service@smartygrants.com.au |
| Multilingual support In you need the assistance of an interpreter | Call 131 450 and state 'Frankston City Council as the organisation and quote our number 1300 322 322 |
| Communication Access Support service for people with a hearing, speech or communication impairment and for text telephone or modem callers. | National Relay Service To find the NRS call option that best suits you visit: www.communications.gov.au/accesshub/nrs Most NRS call options are available 24 hours, 7 days a week. |