



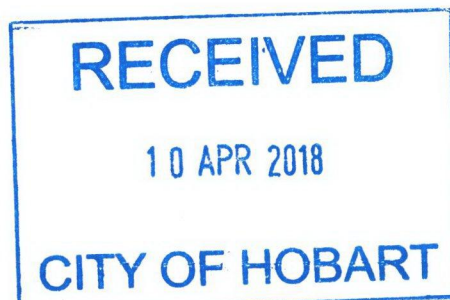
AUSTRALIAN LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



Local Government Association Tasmania

5 April 2018

City of Hobart
GPO Box 503
HOBART TAS 7001



Dear Lord Mayor Hickey

Community Infrastructure Ideas Register – Opportunity to include your projects

Do you have a list of potential community infrastructure projects that need funding?

We are writing to you to encourage your council to submit up to three potential projects by Friday 27 April 2018 for the Australian Local Government Association's (ALGA's) Community Infrastructure Ideas Register https://alga.asn.au/tecms/forms/community_infrastructure_ideas/registration.aspx.

In the upcoming Federal Election, ALGA will be advocating for the establishment of a Community Infrastructure Program by the Federal Government with funding of \$300 million per annum for four years.

ALGA has consistently called for establishment of such a program through Budget Submissions and election documents since 2007 to help communities address the substantial backlog in community infrastructure investment.

The Community Infrastructure Program would be particularly targeted at the renewal and replacement of ageing community infrastructure including, among other things:

- Community halls
- Swimming pools
- Ovals and playgrounds
- Libraries
- Walking and cycling trails
- Boat ramps
- Seawalls

Such a program would deliver substantial benefits including:

- Addressing the growing backlog in replacing ageing community infrastructure;
- Allowing communities to gain more value and use from existing infrastructure;
- Enhancing social interaction, community networks and local activity levels;
- Enhancing and assisting local and regional economic development;
- Strengthening community pride and vibrancy; and
- Emulating the extraordinary success of the Roads to Recovery program.

The call for the program in 2007 was supported by a Community Infrastructure Ideas Register of more than 1,000 possible projects which ALGA had compiled from council responses to a call for potential projects.

In response, and as part of its efforts to address the Global Financial Crisis in 2008, the Federal Government of the day acknowledged the community infrastructure backlog as per ALGA's PwC report and established the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP) which provided \$1.12b in funding to Local Government in 2009-2010 for more than 6,000 projects.

Unfortunately, this was a short-lived program and the substantial infrastructure backlog for councils remains. The most recent State of the Assets report commissioned by ALGA has identified that up to \$45 billion of local government's community infrastructure by value remains in poor or very poor condition.

ALGA has established a new Ideas Register for Community Infrastructure and called for councils to forward their ideas. Nearly 100 councils across the nation have submitted more than 320 ideas so far but it is vital that as many councils as possible provide their potential projects to the Register and a review of the Register indicates that your council has yet to input to the Register.

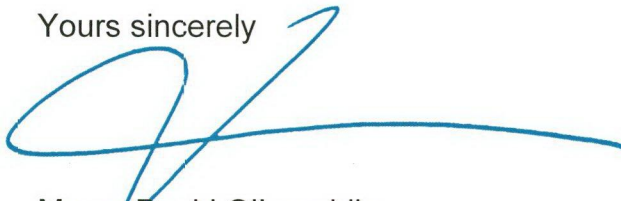
As we approach the next Federal Election ALGA will be asking all councils to engage with their local Federal Members and Senators and candidates in advancing local government's Federal Election agenda. The identification of local project ideas for a Community Infrastructure Program will provide Mayors and Presidents with concrete local examples of what can be delivered on the ground in order to seek support for the program from local candidates.

We are confident that your community has a long list of potential community infrastructure projects and would not want to miss out on this initiative.

We look forward to your response, and your three potential projects at your earliest convenience and no later than Friday 27 April 2018. Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact Ms Abby Carey of ALGA at Abby.Carey@alga.asn.au or telephone 6122 9400.

As the National General Assembly of Local Government approaches in June and the date of the next Federal Election edges closer, we look forward to engaging with you more in the coming months.

Yours sincerely



Mayor David O'Loughlin
President
Australian Local Government Association



Mayor Doug Chipman
President
Local Government Association
of Tasmania