

TAC LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS PROGRAM

TOWARDS ZERO: ROAD SAFETY IN VICTORIA

Towards Zero is the approach Victoria is taking to achieve a future where no one is killed or seriously injured on the roads. This approach recognises that people will always make mistakes. But when those mistakes happen on our roads, we come off second best because our bodies can only withstand a certain level of physical force before death or serious injury occurs. That's why the focus of Towards Zero is on building a safe road system that protects us from our mistakes - a system that will change road safety for good.

Local road safety issues are often best dealt with at a local level. Local government, working closely with local communities, is well-placed to identify specific problems, especially for walking and cycling, and to devise and implement infrastructure and speed management solutions. Community-based road safety programs that integrate with Victoria's broader strategy are important in reducing road trauma. Local Government is a key contributor to the achievement of road safety targets across the State.

WHAT IS THE TAC LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS PROGRAM?

The TAC and its partners recognise the importance of Local Government in road safety and supports many local road safety programs. The TAC is offering Local Government Authorities (LGAs) in Victoria the opportunity to apply for funding for small scale infrastructure treatments to address pedestrian and cyclist safety under the Local Government Grants Program.

The program aims to:

- Encourage local government involvement in cyclist and pedestrian safety projects that are consistent with the [Victoria's Road Safety Strategy](#).
- Provide opportunities for LGAs to develop and implement low cost, effective infrastructure treatments or the trialling of innovative measures targeting cyclist and pedestrian safety issues.

Note that the infrastructure initiatives for which funding are sought via the Local Government Grants Program may well complement or integrate with other currently funded programs within the municipality that similarly address pedestrian and cyclist safety. In addition, alternative funding sources and grants programs, a number of which are listed above, may provide an opportunity for local government to address the safety of vulnerable road users through an integrated approach that comprises behavioural as well as infrastructure measures.

Who can apply?

Only Local Government Authorities within Victoria are eligible for funding under this program.

Funding

There are two categories of funding under this program:

1. The TAC will fully fund the analysis of pedestrian and cyclist road safety issues and risk factors to a maximum cost of \$30,000.
2. For projects entailing the implementation of infrastructure solutions, or the trialling of innovative new infrastructure solutions, the TAC will fund to a maximum of \$100,000, with contributions on a 1:1 basis with local government.

Funding will be limited to one project per council from each of the categories.

WHAT PROJECTS WILL BE FUNDED?

Projects must be focussed on addressing road safety issues for cyclists and/or pedestrians and can take shape as;

1. Low cost infrastructure treatments, which address cyclist and/or pedestrian road safety issues in your local community, and are based on sound research and/or established road safety principles;
2. The trial of innovative treatments, including evaluation of safety treatments (where practicable, injury-based evaluation should also be considered);
3. Analysis of pedestrian and cyclist road safety issues and risk factors. Outcomes of the analysis will provide the basis for potential road safety measures and design processes.

HOW TO APPLY FOR FUNDING

Online Application

You can apply for funding at www.tac.gov.au/lgagrants. Applications are managed through Smarty Grants, an online grants management platform.

If you have any problems or questions while completing the application, or require a paper application, please email the TAC Local Government Grants team at lgagrants@tac.vic.gov.au.

Dates

Currently there is one annual funding round. Applications will open for four weeks prior to the set closing date, which opens in early August and closes late August/early September. Applications will not be considered outside these times.

Specific closing dates are published online at: www.tac.vic.gov.au/lga.

Applicants will be informed of decisions about eight weeks after the closing date.

ASSESSMENT PROCESS AND FEEDBACK

Applications will be assessed by the TAC and by independent road safety experts using the selection criteria outlined in the next section. The TAC may request applicants to negotiate grant amounts, project plans and conditions.

There are two stages to the assessment process:

1. Individual assessment based on mandatory and assessment criteria
2. External Independent assessment by road safety experts

All applications will be considered against the mandatory criteria below. Applications that meet these basic criteria will then be assessed using the broader assessment criteria.

Mandatory criteria

All applications must meet the following criteria to be considered:

1. The applicant must be a Victorian Local Government Authority (LGA). It is permissible for the LGA to be in partnership with one or more external bodies in the conduct of the project. However, the LGA must be the lead agency in the application.
2. A detailed project plan including budget with projected timelines must be included (where justified, project timelines are not necessarily confined to the year of funding).
3. The application must be primarily focussed on road safety issues relating to cyclists and/or pedestrians
4. The applicant must provide evidence of current public liability and professional indemnity insurance.

Assessment criteria

Applications that meet the mandatory criteria will be assessed against the following criteria;

Assessment theme	Criteria
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<p>Clarity of road safety issue and rationale of need for project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity of information about the local road safety problem and a demonstrated link between the proposed activity and the road safety needs of the target group. • Clear and detailed expected project outcomes. • Any demonstrated links to existing programs targeting pedestrian and/or cyclist safety. • Evidence of community support and building partnerships.
<p>Detailed project plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A statement of objectives, activities and anticipated outputs/outcomes (evaluation) to address the issue. • Demonstrate a sound approach to deliver the project, providing realistic time-frames for delivery, and demonstrate that the project is financially viable and represents value for money. • Demonstrate capacity to implement and/or source expertise to manage the delivery of the project including fulfilling contractual reporting requirements. • Outline the proposed funding contributions for the project including breakdown of costing and value for money. • For infrastructure projects, must include detailed design drawings. Drawings must be in PDF format and no larger than 25mb per attachment. • Demonstrate planning for anticipated risk and proposed mitigation strategies.
<p>Demonstrated evidence of safe system alignment or road safety good practice principles and Towards Zero strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research evidence or 'good practice' principles to support the project. Applications that can refer to relevant supporting data, research, or successful existing programs in another location or related field are more likely to be funded. • Demonstrated alignment with the Victorian Road Safety Strategy. This strategy focuses on some key issues

	<p>and target groups. It is also the basis of many local government road safety strategies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrated alignment with Safe System principles and whether it integrates with or complements other pedestrian or cyclist programs. This may include Councils taking advantage of the new Speed Zone Guidelines that facilitate easier establishment of 40km/h speed limits, which improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists.
Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovative ways to reduce treatment costs through choice of materials, implementation processes or integration with other planned works
Maintenance, sustainability and evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection documentation and project implementation details to allow possible evaluation. • Identified maintenance requirements and sustainability.

SELECTION ADVICE

- All applicants will be informed of the selection panel’s final decisions approximately eight weeks after the closing date.
- Decisions of the TAC are final.
- Feedback on the applicant’s proposal will be available on request.

Agreements with the TAC for successful applicants

If your organisation's application for a Local Government Grant is successful, you will need to sign an agreement with the TAC to confirm your responsibilities and those of the TAC.

Legislation compliance

You will need to consider whether your project will be subject to any legislation. Some important issues to consider are:

- Appropriate insurances, including WorkCover insurance, for your project activities.
- Using personal information that you may collect and implications for privacy. This includes obtaining consent to use names and images of people involved in your project.
- Any occupational, health and safety issues that may be associated with your project.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- For additional ideas and guidance, the current 'Austroads Guide to Traffic Management Part 8: Local Area Traffic Management' may assist grant applicants in developing proposals. The guide can be accessed at: www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AGTM08-08.
- Information about road safety, cycling and walking in Victoria can be found online: TAC www.tac.vic.gov.au
- Towards Zero 2016 - 2020 - www.towardszero.vic.gov.au
- VicRoads - www.vicroads.vic.gov.au
- Municipal Association of Victoria - www.mav.asn.au
- Bicycle Network Victoria - www.bicyclenetwork.com.au
- Amy Gillett Foundation - www.amygillett.org.au
- Victoria Walks - www.victoriawalks.org.au
- VicHealth - www.vichealth.vic.gov.au
- Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources - www.economicdevelopment.vic.gov.au
- Inner Melbourne Action Plan www.imap.vic.gov.