Stuart Ayres Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney



Matt Kean

Treasurer Minister for Energy

MEDIA RELEASE

Sunday, 24 April 2022

HUNDREDS OF PROJECTS IN THE RACE FOR CITY-CHANGING WESTINVEST FUNDING

New sporting grounds, educational hubs and performance spaces are among more than 1,000 local bids for a share of \$1.6 billion in funding under the WestInvest Community Project Grants program.

West and South-West Sydney organisations stepped up in numbers to apply for the funding ahead of yesterday's deadline for registrations of interest.

WestInvest funding was available to community, sports, multicultural, faith-based groups, non-government organisations, local Aboriginal land councils, local councils, registered charities and others to deliver transformation infrastructure projects.

Treasurer Matt Kean said the WestInvest program would deliver noticeable improvements in the lives of more than a million people who live in Western Sydney.

"WestInvest will fund infrastructure projects that will secure the best quality of life for families and make communities in West and South-West Sydney even better places to live," Mr Kean said.

"We've received proposals worth billions of dollars - proof that the community is keen to partner with the government to improve community infrastructure to benefit communities."

Registrations of Interest included bids for:

- New parks and open spaces;
- Cycleways and walkways;
- Restoration of creeks and riverbanks;
- Upgrades to cultural and community facilities;
- Facilities to celebrate diversity across western Sydney;
- New sporting grounds and club facilities;
- Spaces to celebrate art and performance;
- Educational hubs:
- High street activation.

Minister for Enterprise and Trade, and Western Sydney Stuart Ayres welcomed the community interest and said he was looking forward to seeing some projects and plans come to life.

"From our WestInvest Have Your Say survey, we know that the local community wants more green and open space, walking and cycling paths, pools and sports centres, multicultural centers, museums celebrating food and culture and footbridges over cleaner rivers," Mr Ayres said.

Eligible projects must be based in one or more of the 15 eligible Western Sydney Local Government Areas and deliver infrastructure that addresses one of the six focus areas:

- 1. Parks, urban spaces, and green space;
- 2. Enhancing community infrastructure such as local sporting grounds;
- 3. Modernising local schools;
- 4. Creating and enhancing arts and cultural facilities;
- 5. Revitalising high streets;
- 6. Clearing local traffic.

Applicants will be advised of the outcomes of the ROI process before grants open for eight weeks from 2 May, 2022 until 27 June, 2022.

The \$5 billion WestInvest program is designed to fund transformational infrastructure projects that will enhance communities.

A further \$3 billion is set aside to deliver transformational projects that will benefit local communities, led by NSW Government agencies.

To find out more about WestInvest and how your organisation can apply and to access application support, visit www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/westinvest

MEDIA: Sophie Hull | Minister Ayres | 0447 583 756 Lucy Hughes Jones | Treasurer | 0400 436 797