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MS22-002221



Australian Government
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Dispatched to MO
19 DEC 2022

To: The Hon Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (for decision)

Subject: Investing in Our Communities Program - Grant Opportunity Guidelines Approval

Critical Date: As soon as practical to allow time for Minister of Finance approval and the publication of program guidelines prior to the anticipated program opening in early January 2023.

Recommendations:

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4. That you **agree** to the updates to the current list of commitments to be invited to submit an application for the Investing in Our Communities Program and those identified for allocation to other portfolios at **Attachment E**.

Agreed / Not Agreed

5. That you **sign** letters to relevant Ministers for commitments identified for allocation to other portfolios at **Attachment F**.

Signed / Not Signed

The Hon Catherine King MP

Date: 29.1.23.

Comments:

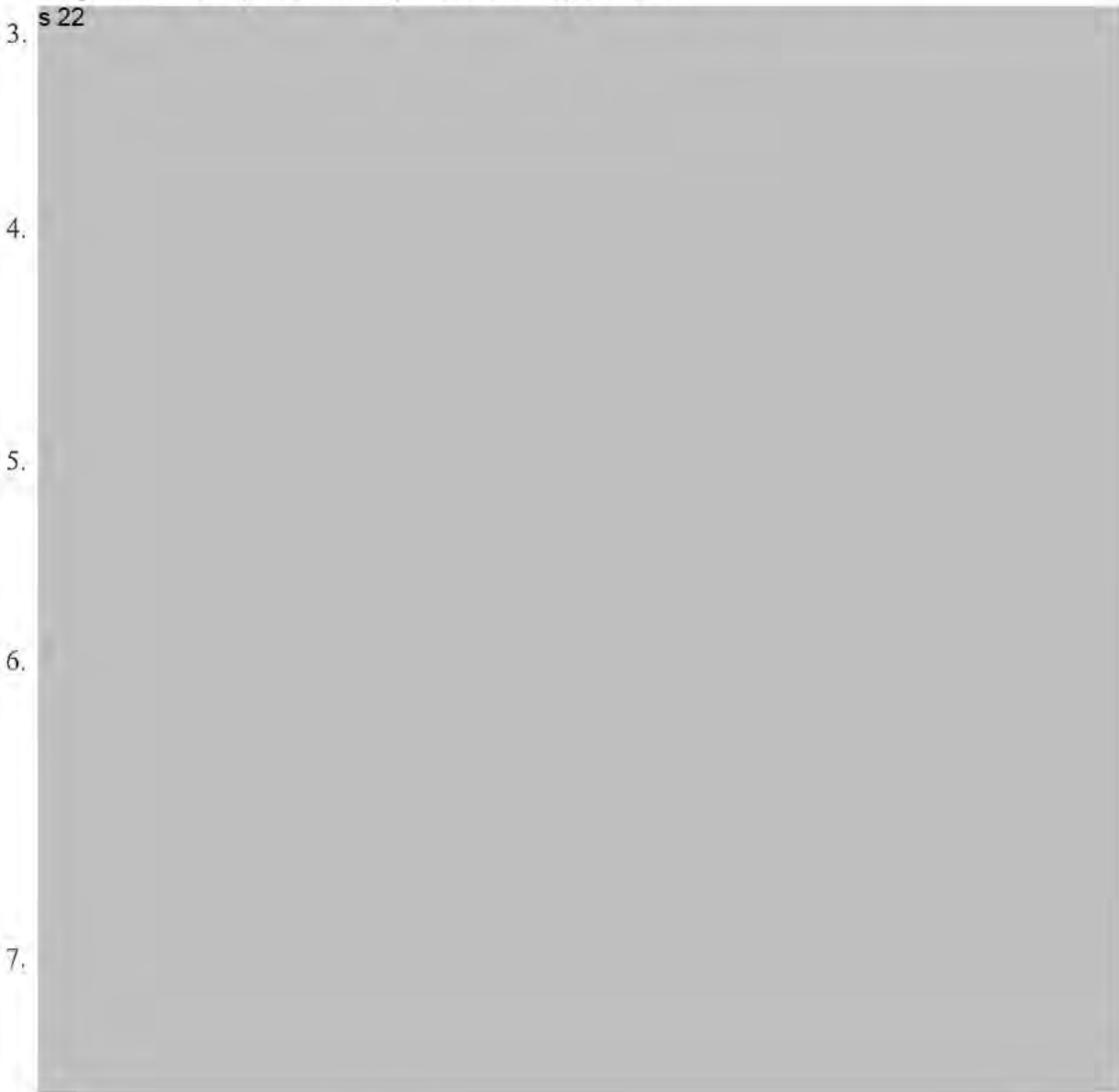
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Key Points:


1. In the 2022-23 October Budget, the Australian Government committed administered funding of up to \$349.9 million for the Investing in Our Communities Program (the program) over five financial years from 2022-23 to 2026-27. The one-off, closed, non-competitive program will deliver the Australian Government's 2022 election commitments and Community Development Grants Programme commitments identified through the 2022 Pre-election Fiscal Outlook (PEFO) of up to \$5 million.
2. The key objective of the program is to build resilient communities and increase community liveability by providing grants for infrastructure projects. The program will deliver on this objective by funding community and sporting infrastructure, open space improvements and other community priority projects that will drive economic opportunity and/or provide improved amenity, accessibility and liveability outcomes.





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8. An indicative list of commitments intended to be funded by the program was agreed as part of the 2022-23 October Budget process. Following further review and consultations with your office, the department has updated the list including proposed transfer of a number of projects where they have been identified as ineligible under grant opportunity guidelines and/or were more suited to delivery by other portfolios. The updated list of commitments, including those identified for allocation to other portfolios, is at **Attachment E**. Letters addressed to relevant Ministers to transfer projects is provided at **Attachment F**. s 22
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9. If you agree to the updated commitments list and s 22 
, we will prepare a letter to the Prime Minister to advise him of the confirmed commitment list for the Investing in Our Communities Program. This will provide policy authority for the invitations to be issued under the program.

Financial impacts: N/A

Legal/Legislative impacts:

10. You wrote to the Minister for Finance on 7 November 2022 on a Schedule 1AB legislative instrument for the program (MS22-002079 refers) under the *Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Regulations 1997*. Following formal agreement from the Minister for Finance on 22 November 2022, the amendments for the program were considered at the Federal Executive Council (ExCo) meeting on 8 December 2022 and are now legislated.

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Attachments:

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Attachment E: Updated IIOC commitments list (current at 15 December 2022)

Attachment F: Letters to Ministers with portfolio responsibilities for transferred projects

Cleared By: Meghan Hibbert
Position: Assistant Secretary
Division: Regional Programs Branch, Regional
Development, Local Government and Regional
Recovery
Ph: 02 6393 s 22
s 22
Cleared Date: 15 December 2022

Contact Officers: s 22
Sections: Program Development / Program
Assessment
s 22

Instructions for MPS: Nil

Responsible Adviser: s 22

PDMS Distribution List: Jim Betts, David Mackay, Janet Quigley, Meghan Hibbert, s 22
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Pages 5 to 24 have been removed under section 22(1)(a)(ii) of the FOI Act

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|----|------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| SA | New childcare facility in Kingston | Kingston District Council | \$1,800,000.00 |
|----|------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|

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Pages 26 to 35 have been removed under section 22(1)(a)(ii) of the FOI Act



The Hon Catherine King MP

**Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
Member for Ballarat**

Ref: MS22-002221

The Hon Jason Clare MP
Minister for Education
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear ~~Minister~~ Jason.

During the 2022-23 October Budget, the Australian Government agreed to the Investing in Our Communities Program (program) to deliver election commitments and eligible commitments committed by the former Government's Community Development Grants Programme during the 2022 Pre-election Economic and Fiscal Outlook of up to \$5 million.

My department has identified that the following commitments are either unable to meet the eligibility requirements of the program and/or your portfolio is better placed to administer the projects.

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|----|------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| SA | New childcare facility in Kingston | Kingston District Council | \$1,800,000.00 |
|----|------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|

Released under the Freedom of Information Act 1982 by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

If you accept this transfer, this can be confirmed via return letter. I will advise the Prime Minister of the reallocation of commitments to alternative portfolios once the transfers are settled.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Catherine King', written in a cursive style.

Catherine King MP

23/1/2023