City of Bayswater

Better Bayswater Grant Guidelines and FAQ's

1. About the Better Bayswater Grant

The Better Bayswater Grant provides funding to support eligible applicants to deliver projects and programs that respond to identified community needs and align with the City of Bayswater Council Plan 2025–2035.

Projects must demonstrate a clear community benefit and contribute to one or more of the following priority areas:

A Connected and Inclusive Community

Fostering belonging, social connection, inclusion and participation.

A Safe and Resilient Community

Improving safety, supporting vulnerable community members and building community resilience.

An Active and Healthy Community

Promoting physical, mental and social wellbeing through active and healthy lifestyles.

Projects may benefit the broader community or focus on specific groups who experience barriers to participation or inequitable outcomes.
These groups may include:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- Children and young people
- Families and carers
- Older adults
- People with disability
- People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- LGBTQIA+ communities
- People experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity
- People experiencing social isolation, disadvantage or other forms of vulnerability

The City encourages initiatives that are inclusive, accessible and responsive to local community needs and that create opportunities for people to connect, participate and thrive.

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2. Funding Available

The Better Bayswater Grant has two funding rounds each financial year, generally opening in August and February.

The exact opening and closing dates will be advertised on the City of Bayswater website and social media channels.

The City has allocated $20,000 in the 2026/2027 annual budget, to be distributed across the two funding rounds.

Applicants may apply for up to $5,000 per project or program.

Applicants must contribute a minimum of 50% of the total project cost. The contribution may be provided as:

- Cash
- In-kind support
- A combination of cash and in-kind support

3. Who Can Apply?

Eligible applicants include:

Incorporated not-for-profit organisations or associations

Incorporated not-for-profit organisations and associations may apply directly.

Individuals and unincorporated groups

Individuals, unincorporated groups and unincorporated organisations may apply through an eligible auspice organisation.

An auspice organisation is an incorporated entity that submits and manages a grant application on behalf of an individual, unincorporated group or organisation.

The auspice organisation is responsible for:

- Entering into the funding agreement with the City
- Receiving and managing the grant funds
- Ensuring appropriate financial management, governance and insurance requirements are met
- Supporting delivery and acquittal of the funded project

Applicants seeking an auspice arrangement are responsible for securing the agreement of an eligible auspice organisation before submitting their application.

Small businesses and sole traders

Small businesses and sole traders may be eligible where:

- Their principal place of trading is within the City of Bayswater Local Government Area
- The project, program or activity provides a broad community benefit
- No participation fee is charged
- The activity is beyond the applicant's core business

Applicants are encouraged to discuss their project or program idea with the City prior to application to determine eligibility.

4. Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for a Better Bayswater Grant, the applicant and proposed project or program must meet all relevant requirements.

The project or program must:

- Be delivered within the City of Bayswater Local Government Area
- Provide a clear benefit to the City of Bayswater community
- Align with one or more Better Bayswater Grant priority areas
- Be covered by adequate public liability insurance, with a minimum cover of $20 million
- Disclose any funding received from outside the grants program, including funding that has been applied for but is not yet confirmed
- Be deliverable by applicants with the necessary resources and experience
- Appropriately acknowledge the City of Bayswater's support
- Meet all terms and conditions for any previous City grants, including project delivery and acquittal requirements
- Not commence before the applicant has been notified of the grant outcome

Applicants, including auspicing organisations, may only receive funding from one of the City's grants and funding programs per financial year. This includes Community Events; Better Bayswater Grants; Community Capital Works; Donations and Placemaking Grants.

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5. Grant Priority Areas

Projects and programs must align with at least one of the following priority areas:

5.1 A Connected and Inclusive Community

Purpose: Projects and programs that strengthen social connection, inclusion and participation for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.

Examples include:

- Programs that reduce social isolation and loneliness
- Neighbourhood connection initiatives
- Community welcome programs for new residents
- Intergenerational activities connecting seniors and young people
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural activities, storytelling and cultural learning
- Local history and heritage projects
- Programs that improve access to information, services and community participation
- Digital inclusion and technology skills workshops
- Community activities that acknowledge significant weeks and days, such as:
    - Harmony Week
    - National Reconciliation Week
    - NAIDOC Week
    - Refugee Week
    - International Day of People with Disability
    - Volunteer Week
    - International Women's Day
    - International Men's Day

5.2 A Safe and Resilient Community

Purpose: Projects and programs that improve community safety, strengthen resilience and support vulnerable members of the community.

Examples include:

- Neighbourhood safety awareness programs
- Programs responding to homelessness or housing insecurity

- Initiatives supporting people experiencing disadvantage or social vulnerability
- Mental health promotion
- Suicide prevention initiatives
- Recovery support programs
- Trauma-informed community programs
- Child safety awareness initiatives
- Elder abuse prevention programs
- Respectful relationships education projects
- Community awareness activities that acknowledge significant weeks and days, such as:
    - Mental Health Week
    - R U OK? Day
    - 16 Days in WA
    - Domestic Violence Prevention Month

5.3 An Active and Healthy Community

Purpose: Projects and programs that improve physical, mental and social wellbeing by encouraging healthy lifestyles and access to recreation.

Examples include:

- Inclusive fitness activities
- Seniors' exercise programs
- Children's active play programs
- Healthy eating and nutrition education
- Community gardens and food-growing initiatives
- Preventive health education
- Stress management workshops
- Mindfulness and resilience programs
- Social wellbeing initiatives
- Alcohol and other drug harm minimisation initiatives
- Healthy ageing programs
- Disability-inclusive recreation initiatives
- Community health expos

6. What Will Not Be Funded

The Better Bayswater Grant is intended to support projects and programs that deliver a direct community benefit and align with the grant priorities.

The following will not be considered for funding:

- Projects or activities previously funded by a City of Bayswater Community Grant within the same financial year
- Retrospective projects or activities that have commenced or been completed before funding is approved
- General fundraising activities where the primary purpose is to raise money for an organisation or cause
- Ongoing organisational or business operating costs, including wages, salaries, rent, utilities, insurance and day-to-day administration
- Core business or routine operational activities that are not additional community benefit initiatives
- Facility maintenance, repairs or asset renewal
- Purchase of capital works, buildings, infrastructure or major equipment, unless specifically identified as an eligible expense within the grant category
- Projects or activities that duplicate an existing service, program or initiative available within the City of Bayswater without demonstrating an unmet community need or added value
- Projects, programs or workshops that are primarily commercial in nature or designed to generate private profit without a demonstrated public benefit
- Political campaigns, lobbying activities or projects that promote a political party or candidate
- Travel, accommodation or representation costs associated with conferences, competitions, performances or events, including local, interstate or overseas travel
- Activities that are primarily the responsibility of another level of government or government agency
- Projects or programs that charge a participation fee

7. Request for Fee Waivers

The City may consider requests for a fee waiver for the hire of City-owned venues or parks where the venue is required to deliver a project or program as part of a grant application.
Fee waiver requests are considered on a case-by-case basis.
If approved:

- The fee waiver will be treated as an in-kind contribution from the City towards the total project budget
- Fee waivers are capped at $2,000
- An applicant may request a fee waiver once per year
- Applicants must make a venue booking

To check venue availability or make a booking, contact the Recreation Administration Officer on 9208 2409.

8. Building a Strong Application

A strong application demonstrates that the applicant has carefully considered the project and has the capacity to deliver it successfully.
Applicants should clearly explain:
What will the project deliver? Describe the project or program, what will happen and what the community will experience.
Why is it needed? Explain the local community need and provide relevant statistics, evidence, research or other information where available.
How does it align with the City's priorities? Identify the Better Bayswater Grant priority area or areas the project will contribute to and explain the alignment.
How will it be delivered? Explain the activities, timeframes, people involved, partnerships and resources required.
How will success be measured? Identify the expected outcomes and explain how the applicant will evaluate whether the project has been successful.
What are the ongoing benefits? Describe the benefits that will remain after the funded project has finished.
How will the project be sustained? Explain how the project or program could continue after the grant funding ends, including any future funding or partnership opportunities.

Evidence of community support, partnerships and other funding sources can strengthen an application.

9. Application Assessment

Eligible applications will be assessed against the criteria below. Grants are awarded on merit.

Assessment area	Weighting	What will be considered
Project and Outcomes	**40%**	What is the project and how will it be delivered? What are the expected outcomes? How will success be measured? Are the aims and outcomes clearly identified and aligned with at least one Better Bayswater Grant priority?
Community Need and Benefit	**30%**	Why is the project important? What local community need has been identified? How will the project respond to this need? How many City of Bayswater participants will benefit? Is there anything similar already available in Bayswater? Is there evidence of community support or partnerships?
Capacity, Budget and Sustainability	**30%**	What are the potential risks? Is the budget clear and realistic? What contribution will the applicant make? How will the budget be managed? Does the applicant have the experience and resources to deliver the project? Is the project achievable within the proposed timeframe? Does it demonstrate value for money and financial and/or in-kind contribution? Will the outcomes continue beyond the funding period?

Applicants should also consider how the project or program will be promoted to the intended community.

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10. Budget and In-Kind Contributions

Applicants must contribute a minimum of 50% of the total project cost. The contribution may be cash, in-kind support or a combination of both.

What is an in-kind contribution?

In-kind support refers to goods, services, venue hire, equipment or voluntary work provided to support a project without a direct financial payment.

Examples include:

- Volunteer time
- A graphic designer donating their time to create marketing materials
- Waived venue hire fees
- Donated goods or services

How to calculate in-kind contributions

Volunteer labour	Volunteer labour is calculated at $48 per hour.
Donated goods and services	Value donated goods and services at their current market rate or the price that would normally be paid to hire or purchase them.
Venue and equipment hire	Value venue or equipment contributions at the estimated hire rate, based on the prevailing market rate.

11. If Your Application Is Successful

Funding agreement

Successful applicants will enter into a funding agreement with the City before grant funding is paid.

The agreement will outline the expectations for:

- Project delivery
- Use and expenditure of grant funds
- Project outcomes
- Reporting and acquittal requirements

Payment

The City will pay the grant once both parties have signed the funding agreement at the start of the project.

Project delivery

Projects must be delivered by the end of the financial year in which the grant is received. Requests for an extension beyond this timeframe will be considered and negotiated on an individual basis.

Acknowledgement

Successful applicants must appropriately acknowledge the City of Bayswater's support in accordance with the funding agreement.

Acquittal

All funded projects and programs must submit an acquittal through SmartyGrants within 30 days of project completion, unless otherwise specified in the funding agreement.

12. Previous Funding and Recurring Projects

Receiving Better Bayswater Grant funding in a previous year does not guarantee future funding.

The City is committed to ensuring the assessment process is fair and equitable. All applications are assessed on their current merit, community benefit and alignment with the grant objectives.

Applicants delivering annual or recurring projects and programs are encouraged to:

- Seek funding from additional sources
- Develop financial sustainability beyond the grant period
- Build partnerships
- Demonstrate ongoing community need
- Demonstrate how the project will become financially sustainable over time

Having multiple funding partners can strengthen an application and demonstrate broader community support.

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13. Application and Decision Timeframes

Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application within 30 days of the grant round closing date.

Applications are submitted through the SmartyGrants portal, via the link provided on the City of Bayswater Grants and Funding Programs webpage.

Applicants are encouraged to contact the Community Strategy and Programs team on 9272 0622 to discuss their proposal before submitting an application.

14. Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing

The Privacy and Responsible Information Sharing Act 2024 (WA) (PRIS) aims to better protect the personal information of the public and improve the responsible sharing of government data for the public benefit.

The City collects personal information when necessary to carry out its functions and statutory obligations and will do so in a fair, reasonable and non-intrusive manner.

The City will only use and disclose personal information for the primary purpose for which it was originally obtained.

Further information is available in the City of Bayswater Privacy and Information Sharing Policy.

15. Further Information

For further information or to discuss a proposed project before applying, contact:

Community Strategy and Programs Team

Phone: 9272 0622

Email: community.services@bayswater.wa.gov.au

Applications are submitted through the City's SmartyGrants portal.

Applicants are encouraged to review the relevant City of Bayswater strategic documents when developing their application.