



**Highways
and Byways**

HEALING THE LAND.
HEALING OURSELVES.
TOGETHER.

HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM 2024

Valuing Community Connections in an Ancient Land

PROGRAM GUIDELINES



Applications close 5.00pm AEDT Friday 15 March 2024

In 2024, the Highways and Byways Small Grants Program 'Valuing Community Connections in an Ancient Land' recognises that Australia is a vast and ancient land, home to the longest continuing culture on earth.

It is a land that in recent years has been challenged by drought, floods and bushfires: natural disasters which have led to a loss of life, property, significant impacts on species and the destruction of vast tracts of land and habitat. The COVID-19 pandemic has also left its mark, with communities still healing from the effects of long periods of isolation and restrictions on movement, education and trade. This has affected vulnerable community members the most, and with a cost-of-living crisis now creating additional pressures, many communities across Australia are struggling.

As we embark on the fourth year of the United Nations Decade of Ecosystem Restoration, Highways and Byways is dedicated to partnering with communities, particularly those facing social and ecological challenges, to foster sustainable and regenerative ecological solutions for the responsible management and protection of our ancient land.

Through our program, we also seek to provide opportunities for communities to forge social bonds and collaborate to address social issues, such as isolation and loneliness, which are often heightened during challenging times, and to contribute to overall community well-being through collective efforts.

We also recognise that the innate wisdom and unique cultural identity of our First Nation's peoples is uniquely linked to the land, and we seek to provide opportunities to honour, understand, safeguard and celebrate Indigenous communities, that have been an integral part of our land for 65,000 years.

We therefore invite community organisations to come forward and to work together towards a future where ecological balance, vibrant communities and cultural richness coexist and create a thriving planet for current and future generations.

IMAGE: Friends of the Forest Inc volunteers regenerating Greenhide Reserve in Linville Queensland. 2022 Highways and Byways Small Grant recipient.

2024 SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

In 2024, Highways and Byways welcomes applications for funding for projects that support people and communities in addressing social and ecological disadvantage and inequality, particularly in rural, regional and remote Australia.

Grants of up to \$4,000 are available for projects that:

- Foster Indigenous identity and cultural connections by sharing knowledge, skills, or stories; and/or
- Support the intergenerational exchange of knowledge and skills for the sustainable or regenerative management of the land; and/or
- Alleviate isolation and loneliness while promoting connectivity within the local community; and/or
- Encourage partnerships amongst individuals, groups, and/or organisations; and/or
- Contribute to building strong and resilient communities; and/or
- Provide opportunities for program participants to develop leadership or other personal and community-building skills.

INCLUSIONS - WHAT WILL BE FUNDED

Projects that align with our program theme and objectives will be considered as grant recipients. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Environmental and ecological rehabilitation and restoration initiatives.
- Programs for vulnerable communities.
- Wellbeing programs.
- Community events.
- Training programs.
- Workshops.

Expense items eligible for funding include, but are not limited to:

- Contractors and consultant costs, including speaker fees.
- Purchase of tools and equipment.
- Garden materials, including plants and seeds.
- Travel and accommodation costs.
- Resource materials.
- Marketing and communication activities.
- Meeting costs, including venue hire and catering costs.

EXCLUSIONS - WHAT WILL NOT BE FUNDED

Funding is not available for:

- Projects that do not align with the program objectives.
- Expos.
- Salaries and wages.
- Costs not directly associated with the project.
- Retrospective costs.

Please get in touch with Highways and Byways if you are unsure if your project and/or cost/s meet these requirements.

ELIGIBILITY

Funding is available to community groups or organisations which can demonstrate that they are, at minimum, an Incorporated Association or similarly constituted entity. Organisations that do not meet this criteria may be auspiced by a legal entity.

Funding is not available to individuals, trusts, or schools (except Parents/Friends associations that meet minimum incorporation requirements).

CONDITIONS

- Applicants need to demonstrate that the project addresses the relief of social or environmental disadvantage or inequality through locally-led action.
- Projects are to be completed within 12 months unless otherwise negotiated.
- Grants allocated will be up to \$4,000. Grants do not comprise a GST component.
- Successful applicants will be required to submit a final report and evidence of funding acquittal. We may also request a mid-year update.
- Grant recipients may be visited by a representative/s of Highways and Byways at a mutually agreed time.
- Preference will be given to applicants who have not previously received funding from Highways and Byways.
- Previous grant recipients must have met all grant acquittal requirements.
- Successful applicants will be notified in writing by May 2024.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants must complete an application form and submit it to Highways and Byways by:

5.00 pm AEDT Friday 15 March 2024.

Applications can be submitted in one of the following ways:

• Online

Click on the 'Apply Now' link via our website at www.hb.org.au/grants/

• Email

Download an application form via our website, complete and email to: grants@hb.org.au.

• Hard copy

Download an application form via our website, complete and mail to:

Highways and Byways,
90 Albion Road, Box Hill, Victoria, 3128.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact Highways and Byways:

Phone: (03) 9087 8606

Email: grants@hb.org.au

Or visit our website: www.hb.org.au/grants/



90 Albion Road, Box Hill, VIC 3128



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grants@hb.org.au



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Highways and Byways is a national charity established by the Missionary Sisters of Service to support people and communities experiencing disadvantage and inequality across Australia. We do this through our annual small grants and longer-term programs, which are designed to strengthen community relationships and networks, develop local leadership, and empower people to meet the challenges confronting them.

Highways and Byways is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission.

ABN: 87 622 436 551

