QUEENSLAND’S 150TH LEGACY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Introduction

During 2009 Queensland will celebrate its 150 years anniversary since separation as a colony from New South Wales. The State Government will work with local governments, non-government organisations and the broader community to coordinate a year-long calendar of events that will celebrate the State’s people, history, places and future.

The anniversary celebrations will express the vision:

“Reflect on our past, imagine our future”.

This vision will be demonstrated through activities under four themes:

- History;
- People;
- Places; and
- Future.

Queensland 150th Celebrations provide a unique opportunity to celebrate and reflect on what it means to be a Queenslander today.

Objectives of the Program

The objectives of Queensland’s 150th Legacy Infrastructure Program (Q150 LIP) are:

- to create lasting tributes to mark the anniversary of Queensland’s separation as a colony from New South Wales; and
- for projects to reflect the vision of the celebrations and the four associated themes.

The Queensland Government will partner with local governments in the provision of capital works that will leave enduring legacies of Queensland’s 150th anniversary to be enjoyed by current and future generations of Queenslanders.

Program Description
Queensland’s 150th Legacy Infrastructure Program is a capital works program for local governments that will provide up to 50% of eligible costs for projects which meet the objectives of the program. The program has been allocated $100 million that includes $20 million for projects of Statewide significance. Projects to be supported will provide both local and regional benefits although collaboration between local governments to develop projects that deliver a regional benefit will be a priority. This allocation of $100 million may be distributed in a single round of funding, depending on the quantity and quality of applications.

Projects should be available to all members of the community to enjoy and, as appropriate, can incorporate a commercial focus (eg. tourism opportunities).

Projects funded must be completed by 31 December 2008 in order to be included as part of the celebrations of 2009. Therefore it is essential that submissions for funding detail milestones highlighting how this will be achieved. Local governments will be required to promote their projects and liaise with the local community on how Q150 LIP projects will link to other events or celebrations planned in local communities in 2009.

**Eligible Projects**

It is recognised that there are a variety of projects that could be funded under this program. Projects will need to address Queensland’s 150th Celebrations vision and objectives of the program and be able to demonstrate a capacity to enhance local and/or regional infrastructure.

Consideration will also be given to providing funding assistance to projects with significance to the whole State.

While subsidy assistance will be provided to local governments, project proposals may involve collaborative initiatives of, or elements to be provided by, community, non-profit, other public sector and/or private sector organisations. Joint projects by two or more local governments are also encouraged.

A printed marketing kit and guidelines will be provided to support local governments to promote Q150 LIP projects which is a condition of funding.

Eligible projects will be facilities or structures that leave an enduring legacy to commemorate the vision of the overall Queensland 150th Celebrations – “Reflect on our past, imagine our future”.

As a guide, the following activities would generally be considered to be eligible -

- Tourist Infrastructure and Facilities
- Social and Community Facilities
- Cultural and Recreation Facilities
- Foreshore Development (not including beach replenishment)

Ineligible projects include:
- temporary or non-structural projects such as publications or celebratory events or exhibitions/displays.
- Roadworks including construction or replacement of bridges
• Water supply, sewerage and effluent reuse projects

Program Priorities

As this program will assist in the funding of lasting iconic projects that will benefit future generations, it is important that funding submissions include the following:

• Details of how local/regional communities will benefit from the project.
• Demonstration that the project will be accessible to all members of the community.
• Evidence of broad community support, including what impacts (if any) there will be on the community.
• Demonstrated links to any relevant regional and/or local planning frameworks.
• Details of how the project will enhance the potential for jobs growth.
• Details of how the projects addresses crime prevention through environmental design principles, water saving measures and energy efficiency.

Eligible Costs and Level of Assistance

The Q150 LIP is intended to assist capital costs only. Recurrent expenditure is not eligible.

Ongoing operation, maintenance and replacement costs of any facilities funded will be the responsibility of the local government or other operator of the facility. Submissions will need to demonstrate a capacity to manage facilities in the long-term.

Assistance provided to local governments will be on a dollar for dollar basis (i.e. 50% State funds and 50% council funds.)

There is no prescribed upper limit on the amount of Q150 LIP funding for an individual project. While larger projects are not discouraged, a local government considering applying for more than $2.5M in subsidy for a single project is advised to consult the Department prior to preparation of an application to discuss the nature of the project and the appropriate amount of resources to dedicate to the preparation of an application.

Queensland’s 150th Legacy Infrastructure Program funding will, generally, be provided only on the net cost to the local government (i.e. contributions from Commonwealth Government programs or from other sources will be deducted from the total cost to calculate the amount on which funding is determined). The level of funding from other departmental or State programs will be considered in determining the level of Q150 LIP funding – i.e. the level of assistance provided under Q150 LIP could be less than 50% if funding from other State sources are included for that particular component of the project.

Staged Projects

Where the project is a stage of a larger project, this is to be clearly described in the application. The application must also indicate whether future stages are dependent on further government or other assistance and the implications if the further stages do not proceed. Staged projects will only be funded if it is clear that funding will result in a tangible project to be completed by 2009 and provide benefit to the broader community.
Consultation

Applicant local governments are expected to consult with relevant public, private and community organisations in the development of their proposals and applications and clearly indicate in the application(s) what consultation has been undertaken and the level of support by the various organisations for the proposed project.

Local governments are to consult with the relevant sustainable Planning Services Regional Office of the Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation prior to and during preparation of their proposals to ensure compatibility with Government planning intentions for the community and the region. Advice on planning issues will be available from the Department. Depending on the nature and scale of the project Departmental Planning Officers may be available to participate in the project’s management arrangements.

Application Process

There will be a two stage application process with local governments being asked to initially submit a brief outline of the project on the Registration Form and details of how the project meets the objectives of the program. Assessments will be made as to how well the application meets the objectives of the program and applicants with suitable projects will be invited to proceed to a full detailed application.

All assessments of applications will be jointly undertaken between the Department and the Executive Chair, Queensland’s 150th Celebrations.

Ability of local government to deliver the project

Projects will be considered on their individual merits (i.e. on the expected benefits and relative costs). The primary consideration in assessing applications will be the extent to which the proposal achieves the objective of the Program – celebrating Queensland’s 150th – “reflect on our past and imagine our future”, how viable the project is to complete and how the applicants are going to market and communicate the project.

While all applications will need to demonstrate the expected benefits to be gained from the project, the rigour of analysis and justification of assumptions will be expected to increase in line with the size of proposed project.

For projects with eligible costs greater than $1,000,000, the local government will be required to provide a Business Case to demonstrate the financial viability of the project. The Business Case should include:

- Asset Management Strategy;
- A breakdown of various components of the project as verified by a quantity surveyor;
- Interest and Principal Loan Payments; and
- Maintenance Costs

For projects with eligible costs less than $1,000,000, the local government should demonstrate they have taken into account:

- Interest and Principal Loan Payments
• A breakdown of various components of the project; and
• Operation and maintenance costs.

**Lodgement of Expressions of Interest and Applications**

The Registration Form should be faxed or mailed to the address outlined on the Registration Form. Applications together with any attachments should be forwarded to the address on the Application Form.

**Further information**

For further information contact:

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