

Damien Tudehope Acting Treasurer

MEDIA RELEASE

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MY COMMUNITY PROJECT WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The votes have been cast and the people of NSW have spoken with hundreds of projects to receive funding from the NSW Government's My Community Project program.

Acting Treasurer Damien Tudehope today congratulated the applicants and sponsors of the 248 successful projects and thanked the more than 61,400 people across the State's 93 electorates who voted for projects that will deliver benefits in their local community.

"People in local communities right across NSW have embraced the program and have taken the time to consider what projects would provide the most benefit to their community and cast a vote for those they wanted to see," Mr Tudehope said.

"This innovative program, in its first year, has attracted a tremendous response, with 61,437 individual votes cast within a period of around four weeks via the Service NSW website.

"Every vote cast and project chosen reflects the wishes of the NSW communities who nominated or voted for them which is exactly what this program was designed to do."

Mr Tudehope said that projects were required to improve communities by making them more liveable, cultural, accessible, safe, revitalised or healthy with between \$20,000 and \$200,000 in funding available for each successful project.

"Communities put forward a wide variety of worthy project ideas including 114 playground upgrades, more than 317 local sporting club facilities and programs, 556 projects to promote healthy communities and 348 local amenities such as community halls or accessibility ramps," Mr Tudehope said.

"Projects designed to improve physical or mental health were the most popular, along with family friendly projects such as a horse yard in Western NSW which will allow parents and children to participate in local horse sports events.

"A fitness trail was one of the top selections from voters in South East NSW, while on the North Coast voters chose a project to introduce music performances into hospitals and in Western Sydney, voters chose a community playground with a tea garden."

Mr Tudehope said that unsuccessful projects could be eligible to apply for other NSW Government programs such as the Community Building Partnership fund.

"We asked people to come up with ideas to benefit their local area and the response was impressive and inspiring, which is why I am strongly encouraging unsuccessful applicants to apply to other NSW Government funding programs," Mr Tudehope said.

My Community Project is made possible by the NSW Generations Fund.

Successful projects can be viewed online at <u>www.nsw.gov.au/mycommunityproject.</u>

MEDIA: Kylie Adoranti | Acting Treasurer | 0439 085 013

My Community Project Examples

	Project	Description	Grant amount
1.	The Stanwell Park CWA Community Hall Renewal	Revitalise and expand the community hall by adding basic facilities and create more usable and flexible space.	\$198,000
2.	Creating a new Cultural Space for our Community at the Shopfront Theatre for Young People in Carlton	Creating a new enclosed outdoor cultural space for our community, at the Shopfront Theatre for Young people.	\$140,729
3.	Eden Fitness Trail	The project will provide the Eden community and visitors with free outdoor gym equipment. The trail will be accessible and inclusive promoting community connections across diverse socio-economic groups to reduce barriers to exercise.	\$120,000
4.	New Kids Outdoor Gym and Park for Everyone in Tweed Heads	Revitalise the park to be inclusive of everyone including an outdoor gym, landscaping, seating and pathways to build a healthy community.	\$106,408
5.	Build a new Hawkesbury Men's Shed in Richmond	Funding to build a larger Men's Shed allowing us to help with community assistance projects.	\$81,000
6.	Integrated PlayScape to build fitness, brains and bodies in Lismore	Construct a play environment from largely sustainable materials that stimulates a child's imagination, creativity, social skills and healthy mind.	\$75,000
7.	Wylie Coastal Community Gardens upgrades in Coogee	Build a kitchen garden, a sheltered outdoor coastal amphitheater and carry out restoration of native only coastal gardens.	\$72,741
8.	Shelter access and refurbishment, Whitton Park in Glenbrook	Construct all-abilities parking and pathway along with accessible picnic furniture.	\$55,000
9.	Cancer Patients Assistance Society Griffith Branch	Funding for a van to transport equipment to assist fundraising efforts to raise money to support cancer patients with travel, accommodation and specialist treatment.	\$46,000
10.	Women Matter Too project in Byron Bay	Supporting vulnerable and homeless women in Byron Bay by providing access to essential amenities and services for health and well-being.	\$33,530