

# Western Downs (COVID-19) Recovery Package Fact Sheet

SECURING & CREATING JOBS

Western Downs Regional Council has unveiled a major recovery package valued at \$50 million to secure and create jobs, energize the economy and support the region through the COVID-19 health crisis.

**\$33.5 MILLION\***

**ACCELERATED  
11 MAJOR  
PROJECTS  
IN PROMINENT  
REGIONAL LOCATIONS**

including Waterloo Plains Park  
\*Co-funded



**\$1.3 MILLION**

**COMMUNITY GROUPS  
INFRASTRUCTURE**



**PROGRAM  
COMMUNITY ORGANISATION HARDSHIP  
ASSISTANCE GRANTS PROGRAM**

**\$14.8 MILLION**

**ACCELERATED  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
PROGRAM**



**TARGETED**

**RATES, FEES AND  
CHARGES RELIEF**



**BUSINESS  
SUPPORT INITIATIVES  
PROGRAM**



For more information  
[wdrc.qld.gov.au/recovery](http://wdrc.qld.gov.au/recovery)

## Accelerated Infrastructure Program

- \$14.8m to accelerate a range of infrastructure projects to secure and create jobs
- Projects include road and footpath upgrades
- Community building upgrades and activation projects
- All works to be undertaken by local contractors and suppliers wherever possible
- Immediate start to all works and be completed within 12 months

## Accelerated Major Projects Program

- \$33.5m to accelerate the design and delivery of 11 major projects across the Western Downs
- \$2m to complete detailed design of the 11 major projects for new or improved recreational spaces to ensure they are 'shovel ready'
- Projects designed to generate economic growth and enhance tourism opportunities for the region

## Community Group Hardship Assistance Grants & Infrastructure Programs

- \$300,000 **Community Hardship & Assistance Grants Program** to provide 'quick response' financial assistance to eligible community organisations
- \$1m **Community Infrastructure Grants Program** to fund infrastructure or capital works projects for not-for-profit community and sporting organisations. Applications for up to \$200,000 under a 50/50 funding arrangement with Council

## Business Support Initiatives Program

- **Business Recovery Planning Program** to help businesses build resilience by providing relief and recovery advice, implementing a risk management plan and business continuity plan
- **E-Commerce Support Program** to include webinars and consultations to help businesses build their online presence, social media and website
- **Regional 'Buy Local' Campaign** to encourage the community to support local businesses and offer a platform for businesses to share their goods and services

## Rates, Fees and Charges Relief

- 50% rebate on all Retail/Commercial and Shopping Centre general rates under the March issued levy
- Waived fees on building, plumbing and development applications and food licensing until 30 June 2021
- Extension of discount period on all rates and charges to 30 June 2020
- Waived fees on desexed dog registrations until 30 June 2021