



RUSSELL BROADBENT

Federal Member for Monash

MEDIA RELEASE

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STRENGTHENING OUR REGION THROUGH CONTINUED INVESTMENT

Significant funding commitments in the 2022-23 Budget will drive the growth of towns and communities across Monash, creating jobs and driving our economic growth into the future.

The Government is continuing to get the job done for our regions, delivering the projects and infrastructure that make regional towns and cities better places to live, work and visit.

Our continued investment in the regions is what sets us apart from the Labor Party, who don't believe in regional Australia and don't stand behind the people who live outside of capital cities.

Russell Broadbent, Federal Member for Monash said through the 2022-23 Budget, the Coalition Government is continuing to deliver for the people of Monash.

"Our Government's investments are building strong and resilient communities across Monash," Mr Broadbent said.

"Programs like the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program and the Stronger Communities Programme make a significant difference in our region.

"Vital local projects help create more jobs and unlock the economic potential in our region, such as the South Gippsland Highway – Koonwarra realignment, the Cowes Cultural and Community Centre and the GSRT Railway Precincts Development in Leongatha and Korumburra.

"The Coalition believes in regional Australia, which is why we are continuing to fund the services and creating the opportunities that people in capital cities take for granted.

"Our investments will also create local jobs and new economic opportunities for locals, lifting their standard of living and enabling them to pursue their dreams."

This year's Budget includes significant new funding for existing programs that drive the growth and success of regional towns and communities.

LOCAL ROADS AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

We are investing an additional **\$500 million** in the **Local Roads and Community Infrastructure** (LRCI) Program, a major boost to communities across the country.

This funding will support more community infrastructure projects, boosting local jobs and driving the economic growth to make our nation as strong as possible as quickly as possible.

Our additional funding brings the total Commonwealth Government commitment to the LRCI Program to \$3 billion.

Projects already funded through the LRCI program include:

- \$1.85 million for the sealing of Shetland Heights Road in San Remo
- \$750,000 for Upper Commercial Street, Korumburra Reconstruction
- \$200,000 for Municipal Lighting Upgrade Project
- \$300,000 for Recreation Stadiums Allocations – painting and improvements to facilities
- \$550,000 for Electric Vehicles Charging Stations – six locations
- \$400,000 for Mirboo North Pool carpark
- \$200,000 for Leongatha Early Learning Centre carpark
- \$500,000 for Wonga Square Top Slip, Foster North – Rehabilitation
- \$1,019,062 for Simons Lane, Leongatha – Reconstruction
- \$250,000 for Recreation Reserves Oval Lighting Upgrades – Fish Creek and Meeniyah
- \$600,000 for Korumburra Showground Changeroom facilities upgrade

STRONGER COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME

A further **\$22.7 million** has been committed for an additional round of the **Stronger Communities Programme** (SCP), delivering more funding for small capital projects in federal electorates.

Projects funded under the SCP aim to improve local community participation and contribute to vibrant viable communities.

This latest funding injection takes the Government's total investment under the SCP to \$167.8 million.

Projects funded through the Stronger Communities program include:

- Sandy Point Community Power Inc - Purchase of Solar Inverter & Battery Storage
- Foster Swimming Pool Association - Installation of Gas BBQ & Purchase Outdoor Furniture
- Lions Club of Moe - Purchase of Solar Lights & Camera
- Walhalla Goldfields Railway - Installation of Fire Protection System
- Drouin Mens Shed - Installation of Storage Facility
- SCM Rescue Station Arts Inc - Installation of Professional Kitchen
- The National Vietnam Veterans Museum - Purchase of IT Equipment

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