Community Bank

Victoria Point and Wynnum-Manly

COMMUNITY $2.25 million INVESTMENT

Community grants application guidelines

For community grant applicants

This guideline has been prepared to help you apply for our community grants.



Scan this QR Code to apply

Introduction

This community grants program is administered by Community Bank Victoria Point and Wynnum Manly branches of Bendigo Bank. **Bendigo Bank is committed to developing partnerships that assist in achieving positive community outcomes.**

Your community and not-for-profit organisation can apply for funding to support projects that offer clear community benefit, contributing to social outcomes, community welfare, environmental, health, education, or cultural areas.

You should **read these guidelines before commencing your application.**

Key Impact Areas

Bendigo Bank is committed to its social mission of "feeding into prosperity," which reflects both its offerings and its dedication to promoting positive social change.

Projects should demonstrate impact in one or more of the following Key Impact Areas:

- **Climate, Environment, and Energy**: This area focuses on tackling the pressing issue of climate change by implementing initiatives that reduce carbon footprints and promote renewable energy sources. Projects might include efforts to preserve biodiversity, encouraging community-based recycling programs and protecting natural habitats, ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come.

- **Community Connection and Good Health**: Initiatives in this area aim to improve the overall health and cohesion of communities. This could involve supporting mental health awareness campaigns or creating community gardens to promote healthy eating. By fostering a sense of belonging and inclusivity, these projects help build resilient communities where individuals can thrive socially and economically.

- **People, Capacity, and Resource Building**: This area is about empowering organisations and individuals to reach their full potential. Projects may include offering training programs to enhance skills or facilitating mentorship opportunities. By strengthening the capacity of organisations and individuals, these initiatives help ensure that communities can adapt to changes and continue to grow and prosper in a dynamic world.

- **Reconciliation**: Focused on fostering meaningful and respectful connections between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous communities, this area promotes mutual understanding and collaboration. Projects might include educational workshops or joint community projects that celebrate diversity and shared heritage. These efforts aim to create a more inclusive society where all voices are heard and valued.

Program dates

Program Launch:	Monday 3 August 2026
Applications Open:	Tuesday 1 September 2026
Applications Close:	Saturday 31 October 2026
Results Announced:	Monday 30 November 2026
Acquittal Due:	60 days from the end of project



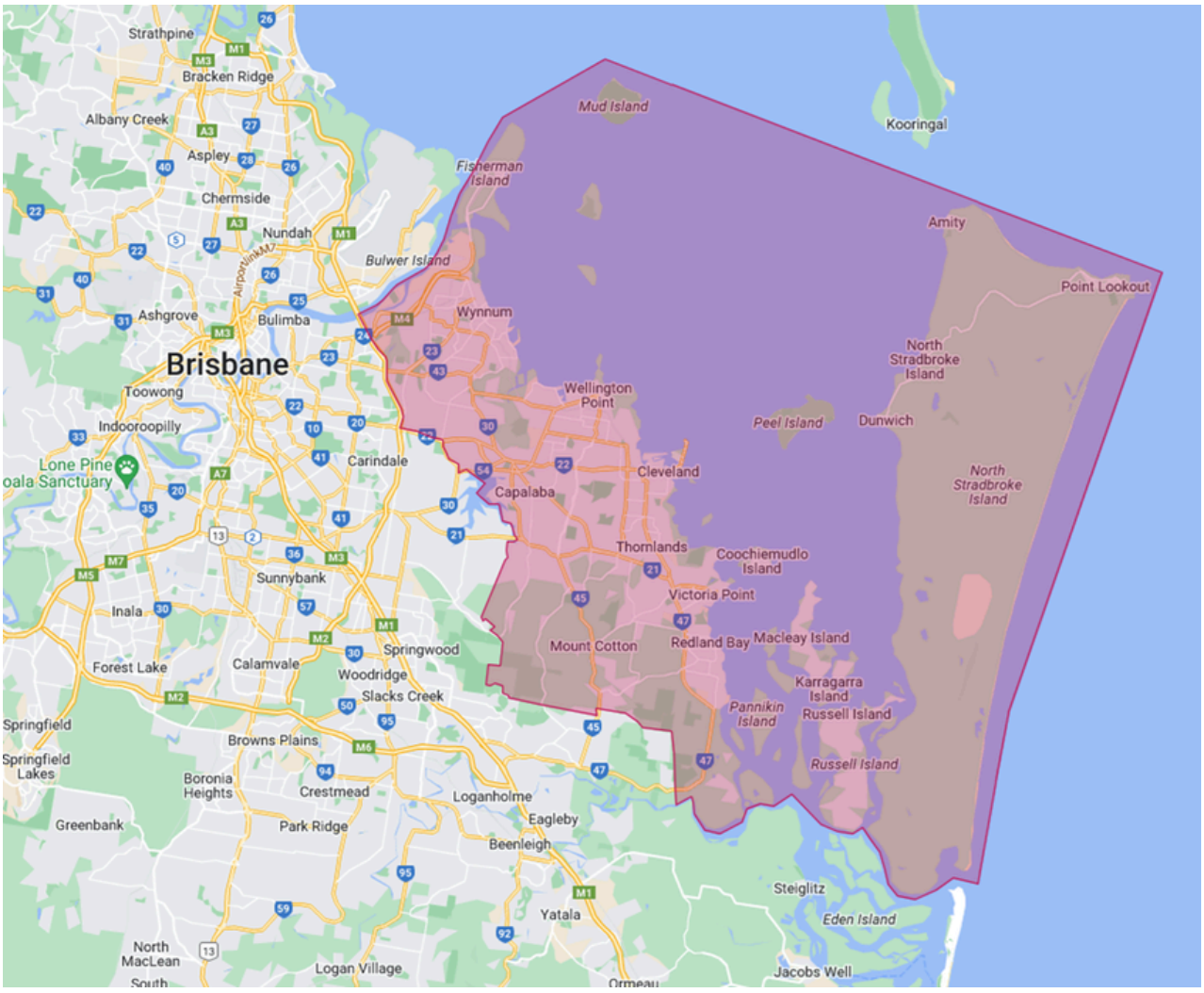
Funding Available

Over $100,000 is available in this grants round. The Community Bank grants are designed to assist programs or projects where up to $5,000 will make a tangible difference, with applications up to a maximum of $10,000 considered. Grant applications between $5,000 - $10,000 must have a considerable impact to the community.

Eligibility

To meet eligibility requirements when applying for a grant with Community Bank Victoria Point and Wynnum Manly, you must:

- Be running a program that directly benefits the community
- Operate in the area outlined in the map below
- Be a current Bendigo Bank customer with accounts held at Community Bank Victoria Point or Wynnum Manly, or be willing to become a Bendigo Bank customer (unless special conditions apply).



Who is ineligible?

- Individuals
- Businesses & companies

Use of grant funds

Grant funds can be used for projects which align with the program outcomes.

Here are some examples of what was funded in our previous grants program:

- **iPads** to assist the Coastguard with navigation and safety aspects.
- **Square terminals** to assist with fundraising at events.
- **Funding** to install raised garden beds in a community garden to assist with inclusion of the elderly and mobility impaired.
- **Dust extraction system** to improve safety and wellbeing of members.
- **Equipment** to encourage new members of the community to return or try out at a sporting club.











We will not provide funding for projects that are illegal, commercial or confer private benefits.

We will also not fund projects which:

- Take place outside the mapped area
- Claim retrospective funding - paying for costs already incurred
- Involve gambling

Assessment Criteria

Your application will be competitively assessed against the following merit criteria:

Criterion 1: Alignment with program outcomes

- How well aligned is your proposed project to the specific program and social purpose outcomes?
- Problem definition and demonstrated benefits for your organisation and the community.
- Need for funding (will your project proceed without our funding).
- The extent to which you demonstrate clear and realistic project goals and objectives,

Criterion 2: Capacity to deliver

- Financial viability (if applicable)
- Proposed project is realistic and achievable.
- Other funding or in-kind support (if applicable).

Criterion 3: Value for money

- Budget is reasonable and reflects good value.
- Proposed outcomes are proportionate to proposed investment.

How to apply

We strongly encourage you to contact JJ Cowley, Community Development Manager, prior to applying for a Community Grant. One application per community group will be accepted. Note: If you are a branch/arm of a larger organisation then one application per arm is permitted (e.g. different Rotary clubs, Lions clubs, Scout groups, Guide units etc. may apply).

We will only accept one application per project.

Use our application hub to complete and submit your application online (or scan the QR code below):

https://communitybankvictoriapointwynnummanly.smartygrants.com.au/

A confirmation email will be sent to your registered email address once your application has been submitted.

To ensure a fair process, we will not accept late applications or provide extensions.

We may contact you during the assessment process to request more information, evidence, or to clarify information provided in your grant application.

Supporting documentation

You must provide the following supporting documentation for small grants (less than $5,000):

- Current bank statement for your organisation.
- Project budget which clearly shows how you will spend the funds.
- Proof of other approved funding or your own funds to put towards the project (including in-kind support).
- Evidence of all necessary licences, permits and insurances which will enable you to run your project (e.g. public liability insurance, local council permits).

You must provide the following additional supporting documentation for large grants ($5,000 - $10,000)

- Current signed audited financial statements for the applicant organisation (where applicable).
- Organisations not required to audit financials must provide a profit and loss statement as a minimum, and a balance sheet if available.
- Quotes for all budget items greater than $5,000 (at least two locally sourced itemised quotes where possible).
- Plans/designs for projects that involve building or refurbishment.

Decisions on applications

Applicants will be notified of the decision of their grant application by Monday 30 November 2026.

Managing your grant

Keeping us informed

You must notify us about anything which is likely to impact your organisation and its ability to deliver your project. This may include, but is not limited to, changes in your organisations name, address, financial situation, senior staffing arrangements, or significant changes to the project budget.

Grant agreement variations

We understand that circumstances change, and things don't always go according to plan. If there has been a change that will impact your project, you can request a variation to your grant agreement by contacting us.

We will consider your request, and if we decide to accept your proposed changes, we will issue a deed of variation.

Reporting requirements

You will be required to complete a Project Completion Report (acquittal) within 60 days of your nominated project end date. The Project Completion Report will be submitted electronically through the application portal. The report includes information about how the grant was spent, the outcomes, achievements of the project, and any lessons learned.

Enquiries

Grant Application Enquiries:
JJ Cowley | Community Development Manager
M: 0401 460 711
E: jj@bankingoncommunity.com.au

Technical support - Smarty Grants Hub:
SmartyGrants-Our Community
P: 03 9320 6888
E: service@smartygrants.com.au

Banking Enquiries:
Community Bank Victoria Point
P: 07 3820 9355
E: victoriapointmailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au

Banking Enquiries:
Community Bank Wynnum Manly
P: 07 3893 0286
E: wynnummanlymailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au

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