Local Governments: Understanding “In-Principle Support” for community applicants

This guide provides clarity for Local Governments on how to respond to requests for written in-principle support from community applicants under the Streets Alive grant program.

What is Streets Alive?

Town Team Movement, in partnership with the State Government through Main Roads WA and the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA), are proud to be working together to deliver the Streets Alive program.

This program is funded from the State Funds for Local Government Roads and consists of $5 million over 5 years for capacity building and support for eligible community organisations and local governments to deliver projects designed to calm traffic on local roads across WA.

Objective 1~ Build local capability and capacity:

Empower local communities to conceptualise, plan and deliver street improvement and road safety initiatives in their neighbourhoods.

Objective 2~Change attitudes and behaviours through citizen-led actions:

Foster positive changes in attitudes and behaviours regarding safe speeds and increase awareness of local streets as inclusive spaces for all people to walk, wheel, ride, play or drive.

Objective 3~Enhance the street environment:

Improve the safety of local streets and neighbourhoods in WA by making them more vibrant and people friendly.

Objective 4~Trial a collaborative model:

Implement and evaluate a new collaborative model for planning and delivering street improvements and road safety initiatives between local governments, community groups and residents.

Why is “In-Principle Support” Requested?

- The Streets Alive program empowers communities to deliver high-impact improvements to their local streets to calm traffic and increase road safety for shared users. Many of these projects take place on local government-managed roads or reserves, so early local government engagement is essential.
- To ensure feasibility and alignment with local processes, **applicants are required to seek written in-principle support** from the relevant local government before submitting their application and before final approval can be issued.

What Does “In-Principle Support” Mean?:

“In-principle support” **is not a formal approval**. It simply confirms that:

- The local government is **aware** of the proposed project.
- The local government **sees no major barriers to the project** proceeding, in principle.
- The local government is **open to considering a formal approval**, pending submission of further detailed information.

In other words, it indicates that the local government has the capacity to realistically assess and process any required future approvals if the project proceeds.



The how and what of In-principle support..

What Constitutes Acceptable Written In-Principle Support?

Local Governments can provide in-principle support via:

- A short email from an **authorised representative** (e.g. Place Manager, Asset Manager, Community Development Officer, etc.). You must print this email and attach it to your application.
- A **signed letter** on council letterhead.

This communication should indicate that the local government understands the project proposal and is **willing to continue engagement as the project progresses.**

What Happens After Support is Provided?

1. The applicant **satisfies this condition** of the application/funding.
2. If application is approved, a formal grant **agreement is issued.**
3. The project moves into delivery, with the applicant continuing to collaborate closely and positively with the local government **to meet any regulatory, safety or design requirements.**

What if Local Government Does Not Support the Proposal?

If the local government **declines to provide in-principle support**, the application cannot proceed in its current form and will be withdrawn.

However, this doesn't need to be the end. Community groups and the local government can work together to **develop a revised concept** that meets shared expectations, and submit a project variation for reconsideration.



In-principle support, why it matters...

Benefits for Local Government

Providing in-principle support is a low-barrier way to:

- **Encourage early and proactive engagement** with community-led initiatives
- **Build trust** and shared ownership of local public space improvements
- Support innovative, place-based outcomes **aligned with your strategic goals**

Your Role Matters

By offering timely in-principle support, local governments play a critical role in helping communities deliver meaningful, grassroots change—while **ensuring public assets are cared for** and community safety is upheld.

For questions or further clarification, please contact the Streets Alive team.
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