

The Flexible Local Transport Solutions Program



Department
of Transport
and Planning

About the program

The Flexible Local Transport Solutions Program (FLTSP) provides Victorian Government funding to local government and community organisations for small-scale transport projects, particularly in regional Victoria.

Funding is available for organisations to collaborate with the Victorian Government in response to a local transport need, particularly where other local transport solutions do not exist.

FLTSP aims to support projects in regional and remote parts of Victoria that address transport disadvantage, demonstrate feasibility and value for money, contribute to an integrated transport network and which also:

- > drive reform and innovation in the transport sector; or
- > promote active transport and/or transport safety; or
- > promote inclusion to help address transport disadvantage and improve connectivity; or
- > progress transport planning at a local level.

The program is delivered by the Department of Transport and Planning, which works with regional stakeholders, local councils and community organisations to identify and deliver local transport opportunities.

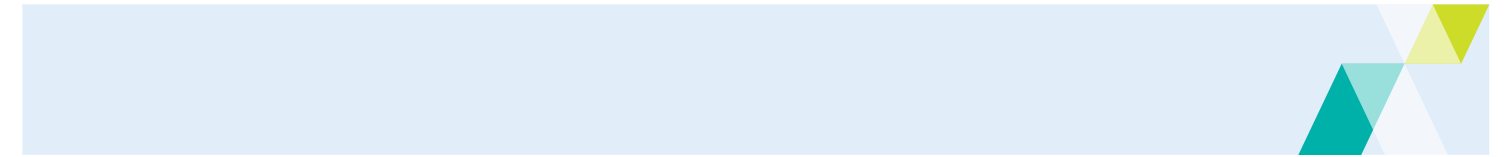
How funding can be used

FLTSP funds projects generally across five categories to:

- > drive reform and innovation in the delivery of transport services (e.g., using technology and the trial of different delivery models, such as demand responsive services or by investigating opportunities to generate a revenue stream via provisions of the *Commercial Passenger Vehicles Industry Act 2017*)
- > deliver small capital projects that contribute to an integrated transport network by improving safety, access and connectivity – including for active transport
- > promote inclusion in remote, disadvantaged and Indigenous communities by facilitating transport options that connect them to local businesses, employment, amenities, essential services and education
- > recognise, respect and celebrate Aboriginal cultural heritage through local transport projects developed in partnership with Victorian Traditional Owners
- > support transport planning at a local level to help inform future needs, deliver innovative transport solutions and facilitate investment, particularly through appropriately qualified expertise (e.g., evidence-based transport and freight studies).

Program objectives

1. To foster innovation to deliver more efficient or sustainable transport outcomes or greater levels of service through technology, trials or collaboration.
2. To improve transport access, such as to local businesses, employment, amenities, essential services, education and transport interchanges for remote, disadvantaged and Indigenous communities.
3. To promote active transport, transport safety or an integrated transport network outcome.

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4. To collaborate with organisations on well-developed initiatives that demonstrate benefits in the context of total project cost and FLTSP co-contribution, including the ability for the project to deliver improved transport investment decisions to drive efficiency or sustainability.
 5. To promote environmental sustainability, including low and zero emission vehicle take up.

How to apply/contact

If you have an idea for improving transport in your local area, you first need to contact our Regional Integrated Planning teams at LocalTransportProgram@transport.vic.gov.au.

A member of the Department's regional planning teams will contact you to discuss the initiative, and if the proposal is suitable to the program, the Department will work with you to develop the initiative for submission and assessment. Final funding approval is decided by the relevant Minister, as applicable to the type of project proposed.



Transport definitions

Community Transport

Community transport can be viewed as a service for eligible seniors, pensioners, those with accessibility needs or those who have limited access to public transport. Community transport provides services, either direct transport or support to access public transport, for people who are transport disadvantaged. Community Transport is typically delivered by community organisations or government agencies including local government.

Integrated Transport

Integrated transport involves the combining of different modes of transport (e.g. bus, train, walking, cycling, car) to maximise ease and efficiency for the user in terms of time, cost, comfort, safety, accessibility and convenience.

Transport Disadvantage

Transport disadvantage is viewed as the difficulty of accessing transport or the transport network, particularly public transport, due to cost, availability, or accessibility of services. Impacts may include challenges to access health, education, employment, amenities or participation in social or sporting activities.

Zero emissions policy

The Victorian Government's Climate Change Strategy sets a long-term target of net zero emissions by 2050 and provides a roadmap to achieve this target along with a climate resilient Victoria. Underpinning this Strategy is a focus for Victoria to become the leader in zero emissions vehicle (ZEV) uptake with the State Government setting a target for 50 per cent of all light vehicle sales to be ZEVs by 2030.

Commercial Passenger Vehicles Industry Act 2017

The Victorian Government has made changes to the taxi and hire car industry (now known as the commercial passenger vehicle industry) to improve passenger choice and safety and make it cheaper and easier for companies to provide these services.

The reforms provide opportunities for community transport providers to deliver commercial passenger vehicle services in addition to charitable services.

Community and local transport providers may consider entering the commercial passenger vehicle industry to provide an income stream to support their charitable transport services.

However, you will need to consider registration and accreditation requirements.

Community transport providers considering expanding their scope of services to include commercial services can contact Commercial Passenger Vehicles Victoria on 1800 638 802 or contact@taxi.vic.gov.au to find out more.

Councils and community transport providers thinking about delivering commercial passenger vehicle services should also seek independent legal and financial advice for their organisation.