## Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program

## Supporting Evidence Guidance for Applicants

December 2025

## About the Program

The Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program (SLRIP) has been created as part of the Australian Government's commitment to strengthen investment to support the delivery of safer and more productive roads across Australia. The program provides funding for projects to address current and emerging priorities in road infrastructure needs.

The Program is an application-based, merit-assessed funding program, open to all state and territory governments and Local Government Authorities (LGAs). The purpose of this document is to outline the types of documentary evidence that applicants may submit to strengthen their funding applications.

Applications must directly address at least one of the Program's focus areas which are:

- road safety
- productivity
- bridge renewal
- road resilience
- road sustainability, and
- heavy vehicle rest areas.

Applicants can apply for a maximum of \$5 million in Australian Government funding under the Program for each eligible project. All projects will require a funding co-contribution which may be sourced from LGAs, state and territory governments, other Australian Government programs (such as Roads to Recovery) and/or private funding sources. More detail about project eligibility and co-contribution requirements can be found in the <a href="Program Guidelines">Program Guidelines</a>.

The Heavy Vehicle Rest Area (HVRA) initiative sits under the SLRIP and supports the construction of new and upgraded heavy vehicle rest areas.

Eligible SLRIP applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- strategic fit
- project impact and benefits
- project deliverability.

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Applications under the HVRA initiative will be assessed against the same 3 criteria, and must also address an additional one:

• improvement to the Heavy Vehicle Rest Area network across Australia.

## Applications overview

All applications must be submitted through the Reporting and Program Management (RPM) online portal. The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts (the department) will review all applications against the program eligibility criteria. If eligible, applications will be assessed against the assessment criteria outlined in the Program Guidelines and against other applications.

Applications must include a fully completed application form, which can be downloaded from the <u>SLRIP Resources</u> web page. All fields in the application form need to be completed correctly to enable the application to be assessed. The application form can change each tranche, so it is important to access the form from the Resources page when submitting applications in a new tranche rather than using a previous form. The assessment of SLRIP applications is a competitive, merit-based process. Applicants are encouraged to provide comprehensive information in their application form about their proposed project. The more detail provided, the easier it will be for the department to determine the merit of the project.

# What supporting documents can I submit with my application?

Applicants must provide mandatory evidence demonstrating that the co-contribution funding has been secured for the project, as outlined in section 3.2 of the Program Guidelines.

Applicants should also attach supporting evidence to:

- demonstrate the project's alignment with the program objectives
- outline how the project addresses assessment criteria, and
- substantiate claims made in the application.

As a guide, all claims made in an application form should be supported by attached evidence. Wherever an attachment is provided the applicant should explain, in the application form, how the attachment supports the claims made. If there is no information in the application form about a given attachment it may be difficult for assessors to determine how the attachment supports any claims made. Applicants should not submit documents that do not relate to claims made in the application form.

Attachments must relate to the specific project, or an explanation of how it relates to the project must be provided in the application.

The number of attachments does not necessarily indicate the likelihood of success in seeking funding. The relevance and quality of information is key when providing evidence.

A list of examples of evidence that could be provided for each criterion is provided below. Please note that not all examples of evidence listed below will apply to all project types. Please also note this list is not exhaustive.

## Assessment Criterion 1: Strategic fit

Related to the project:

- road safety audits, assessments or other similar reports
- state and territory government or council strategic plans or other similar plans
- state and territory government or council resolutions

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- photos
- evidence outlining traffic counts, crash statistics or detour times
- · freight movement data
- maintenance logs of related existing infrastructure
- any formal analysis undertaken by the applicant or an external party that outlines the need for the project and why the proposed project is the best solution
- stakeholder consultation records related to the project
- letters of support for the project from residents, other levels of government, emergency services, local business freight operators, peak bodies or other key stakeholders
- Australian Road Deaths Database (BITRE) data for crash and safety statistics
- National Freight Data Hub for freight volumes and movements
- Geoscience Australia data for flood and bushfire risk information
- <u>National Heavy Vehicle Regulator</u> information for rest areas.

## Assessment Criterion 2: Project impacts and benefits

#### Related to the project:

- economic impact assessments
- · cost-benefit analysis (CBA) or other similar reports
- productivity studies (e.g. reduced travel time, freight efficiency)
- equity and inclusion assessments (benefits to disadvantaged groups)
- employment forecasts or job creation estimates
- any formal analysis undertaken by the applicant or an external party that outlines the expected benefits of the proposed project
- stakeholder consultation records related to the project
- letters of support for the project from residents, other levels of government, emergency services, local business freight operators, peak bodies or other key stakeholders
- environmental management plans (showing mitigation measures).

## Assessment Criterion 3: Project deliverability

#### Related to the project:

- evidence of co-contribution (mandatory)
- design drawings, design reports and/or preliminary investigations
- project management plans
- proposed implementation methodology, Gantt Chart or project timelines showing key milestones
- a summary of staff qualifications to deliver the project
- organisation capacity statements, information about similar projects delivered, letters of engagement or Memoranda of Understanding with delivery partners
- detailed project budgets
- evidence of required approvals in place or being sought
- correspondence/agreements with landowners regarding acquisition (if applicable)
- procurement plans
- project governance framework or governance plans.

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## Assessment Criterion 4: Improvement to the Heavy Vehicle Rest Area network across Australia (HVRA initiative applications only)

#### Related to the project:

- concept designs or concept layouts (number of bays by type, amenities, access for B-doubles/road train or other vehicles)
- statement of compliance with <u>Austroads Guidelines for the Provision of Heavy Vehicle Rest Area</u> Facilities
- statement of compliance with Austroads signage and reflector system guidance (if applicable)
- engineering designs (if applicable)
- site conditions report
- photos
- crash data
- heavy vehicle volume data
- route freight analysis or other similar report
- route survey showing insufficient/unclear rest area signage (if applicable)
- approvals for signage placement (if applicable)
- maintenance plans.

#### **Further Information**

Potential applicants should familiarise themselves with the information in the Program Guidelines and FAQs which can be found on the <u>SLRIP Resources</u> web page.

For further clarification on any information about applying for funding under the program, please contact the SLRIP Assessments Team at <a href="mailto:SLRIP-Applications@infrastructure.gov.au">SLRIP-Applications@infrastructure.gov.au</a>.