

Open Space Grant Program

Laneways, Main Streets, Civic Plazas and Reimagined Public Spaces

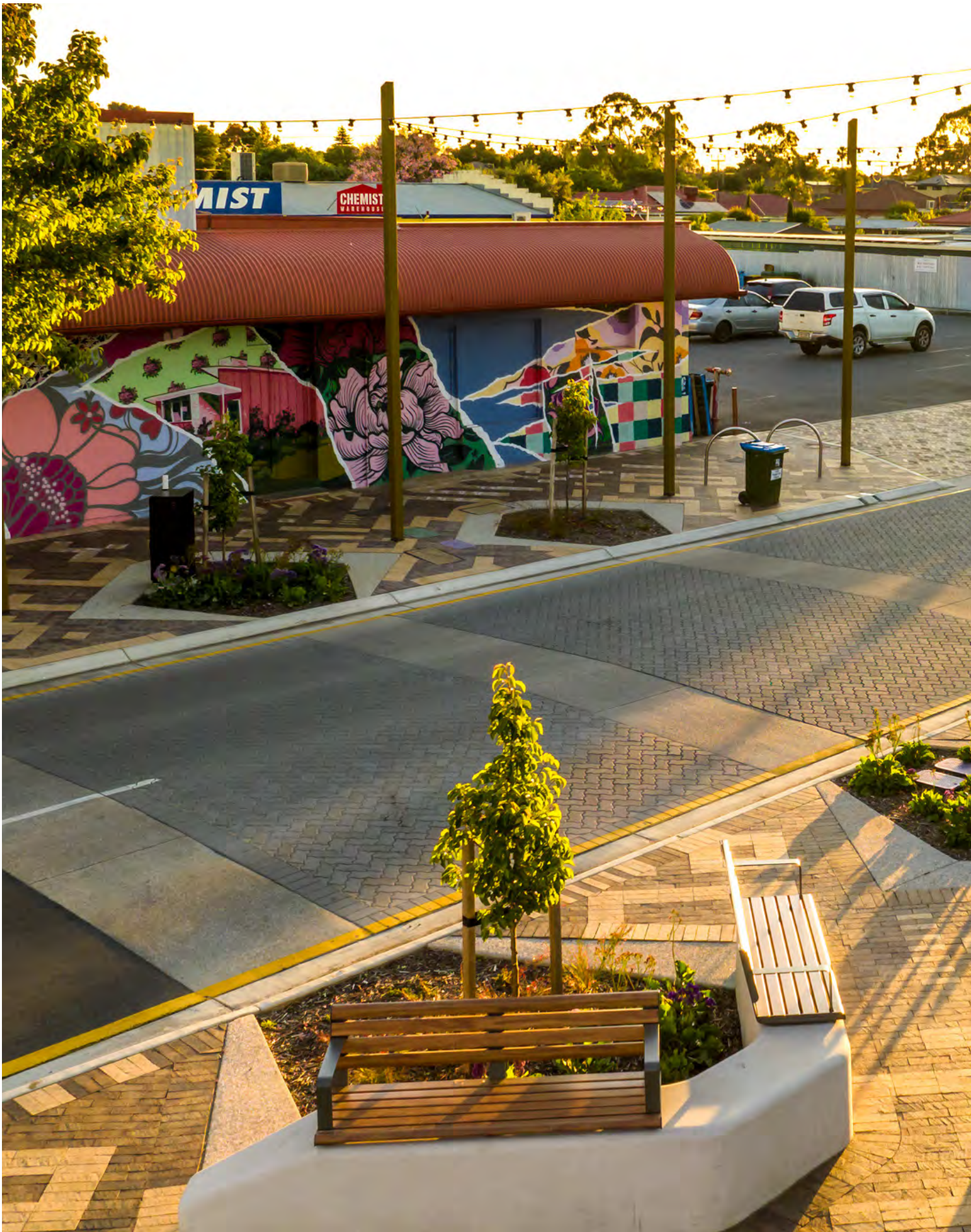
Guidelines | Published December 2023

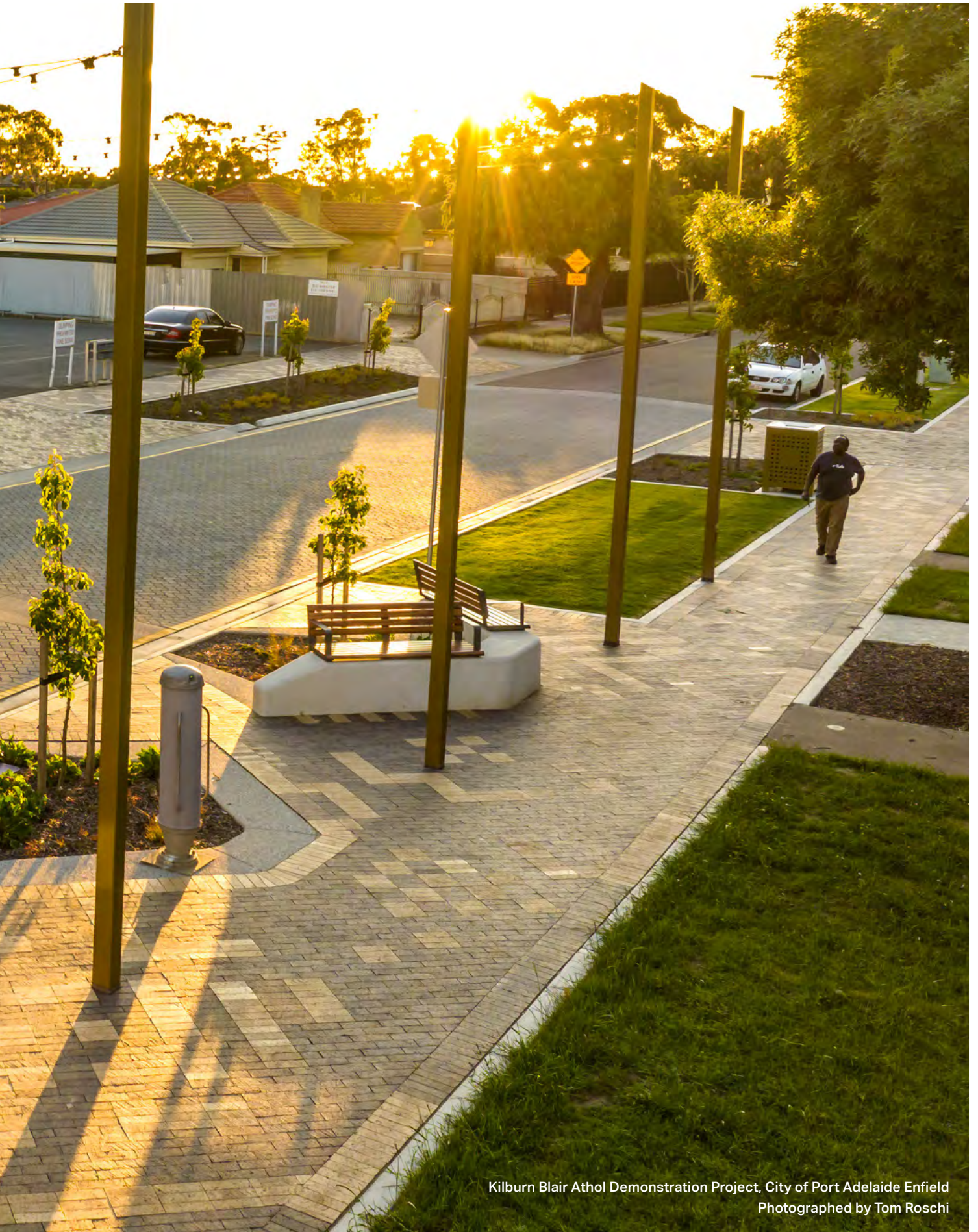
**OFFICE FOR
DESIGN+
ARCHITECTURE SA**



Government of South Australia
Department for Trade
and Investment







Kilburn Blair Athol Demonstration Project, City of Port Adelaide Enfield
Photographed by Tom Roschi





Acknowledgement of Country

The Office for Design and Architecture SA would like to acknowledge Kurna Miyurna as the Traditional Custodians of the Adelaide Plains region where our office is located.

We pay our respect to Kurna Elders - past, present and emerging.

We would also like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters across South Australia and recognise their ongoing spiritual connection to Country.





Open Space Grant Program - Laneways, Main Streets, Civic Plazas and Reimagined Public Spaces

© Government of South Australia. Published December 2023. All rights reserved.

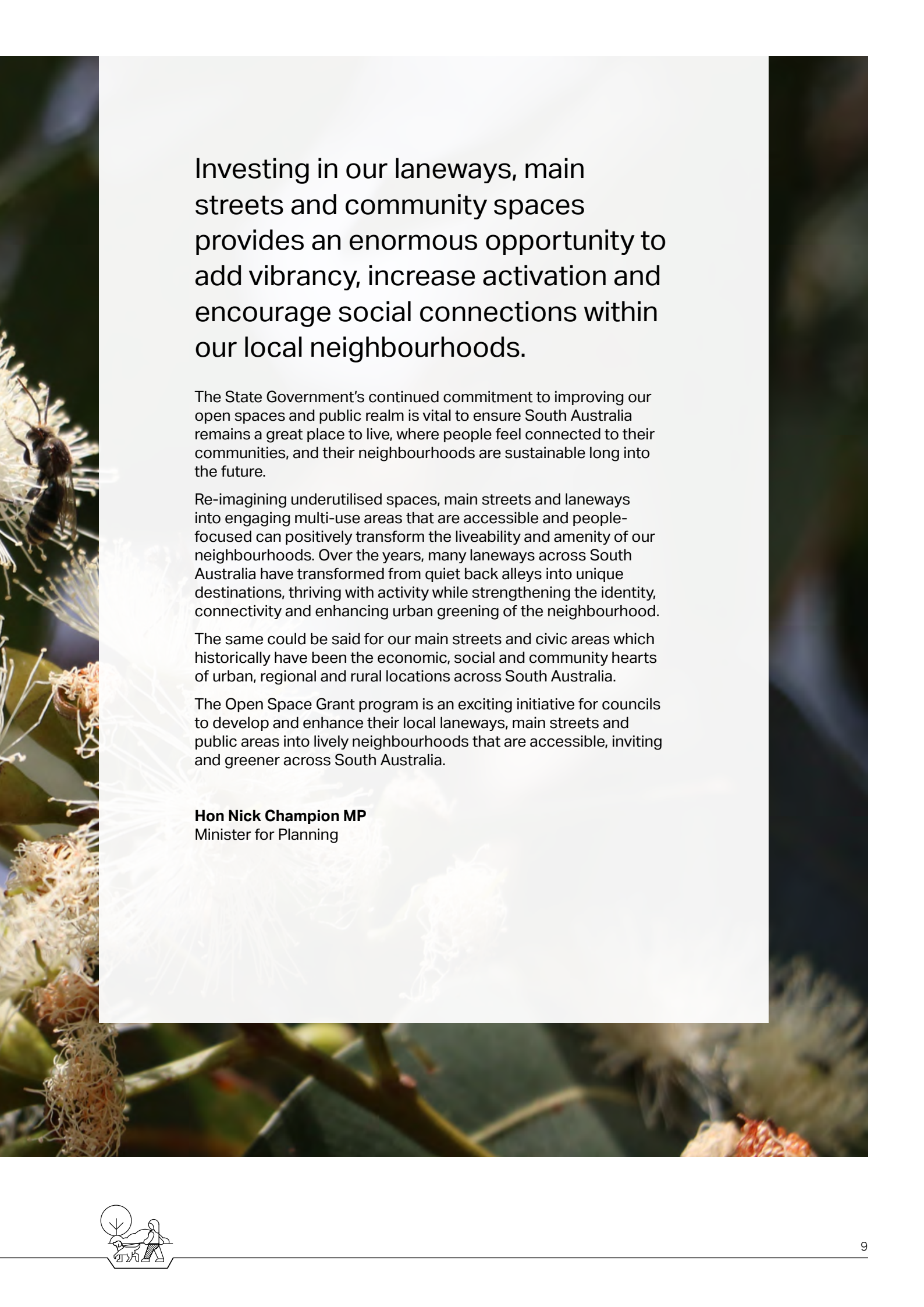
While every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that this document is correct at the time of publication, the Minister for Planning, the State of South Australia, its agencies, instrumentalities, employees and contractors disclaim any and all liability to any person in respect to anything or the consequence of anything done or omitted to be done in reliance upon the whole or any part of this document.

Contents

9	Minister's Foreword
11	Planning and Development Fund
12	Open Space Grant Program
13	Objectives of the Grant Program
17	Eligibility Criteria
19	Assessment Criteria
21	Principles of Good Design
22	Preparing your Application
23	Project Contributions
24	Project Target Table and Lodgement
25	Grant Program Timeline
27	Contact Us







Investing in our laneways, main streets and community spaces provides an enormous opportunity to add vibrancy, increase activation and encourage social connections within our local neighbourhoods.

The State Government's continued commitment to improving our open spaces and public realm is vital to ensure South Australia remains a great place to live, where people feel connected to their communities, and their neighbourhoods are sustainable long into the future.

Re-imagining underutilised spaces, main streets and laneways into engaging multi-use areas that are accessible and people-focused can positively transform the liveability and amenity of our neighbourhoods. Over the years, many laneways across South Australia have transformed from quiet back alleys into unique destinations, thriving with activity while strengthening the identity, connectivity and enhancing urban greening of the neighbourhood.

The same could be said for our main streets and civic areas which historically have been the economic, social and community hearts of urban, regional and rural locations across South Australia.

The Open Space Grant program is an exciting initiative for councils to develop and enhance their local laneways, main streets and public areas into lively neighbourhoods that are accessible, inviting and greener across South Australia.

Hon Nick Champion MP
Minister for Planning





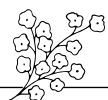
Syd Jones Reserve, City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters
Photograph by Sweet Lime Photo

Planning and Development Fund

What is it?

The Planning and Development Fund operates under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* and enables the strategic planning, design and delivery of quality public space that is essential to healthy, liveable communities across South Australia.

The Fund allows the South Australian Government to adopt a state-wide approach to strategically implement open space and public realm projects, while supporting the Minister for Planning to acquire, manage and develop land for open space. The Fund provides grant funding opportunities for local government through the Open Space Grant Program.



Open Space Grant Program

Access to quality open space and public areas is becoming increasingly important to ensure South Australia remains liveable, healthy and sustainable.

Councils are encouraged to apply for a grant under the Open Space Grant Program in 2023-24 to assist with the revitalisation and development of laneways, main streets, civic plazas and reimagined public spaces.

Project Types

Through the Grant Program, councils may apply for funding for the revitalisation and activation of:

- ✓ Laneways
- ✓ Main Streets
- ✓ Civic Plazas
- ✓ Reimagined Public Spaces

Funding Availability

The maximum grant amount that can be requested through the Grant Program is \$500,000.

All councils must contribute a minimum of 50 per cent in funding towards the project.

Co-contributions are limited to cash contributions and in-kind materials and labour.

Where a council has received State Government funding, that funding cannot be used as part of the co-contribution requirement.

Objectives of the Grant Program



Strengthen local precinct and neighbourhood identity by enhancing and celebrating its distinctive environment and local culture



Promote urban greening, climate change resilience and reduce the urban heat island effect



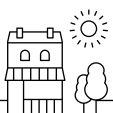
Establish connected, convenient, safe and accessible public spaces

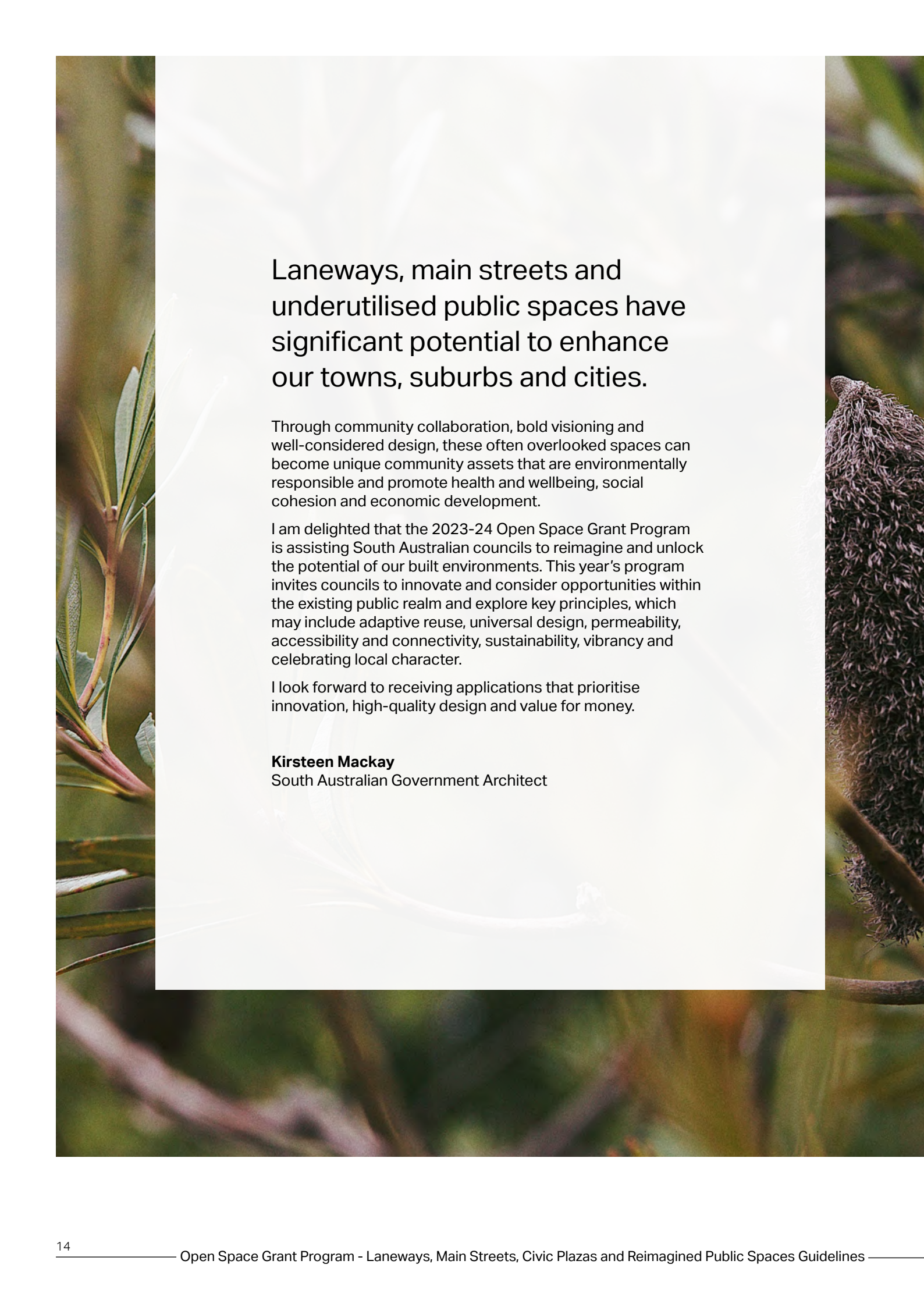


Support innovative and creative design outcomes to create unique, well-designed and sustainable public spaces and destinations



Create spaces that support social connection, health and wellbeing, and local economic activity as part of a living locally lifestyle





Laneways, main streets and underutilised public spaces have significant potential to enhance our towns, suburbs and cities.

Through community collaboration, bold visioning and well-considered design, these often overlooked spaces can become unique community assets that are environmentally responsible and promote health and wellbeing, social cohesion and economic development.

I am delighted that the 2023-24 Open Space Grant Program is assisting South Australian councils to reimagine and unlock the potential of our built environments. This year's program invites councils to innovate and consider opportunities within the existing public realm and explore key principles, which may include adaptive reuse, universal design, permeability, accessibility and connectivity, sustainability, vibrancy and celebrating local character.

I look forward to receiving applications that prioritise innovation, high-quality design and value for money.

Kirsteen Mackay
South Australian Government Architect





Military Road and Main Street Upgrade and Public Plaza Project by the City of Charles Sturt

Eligibility Criteria

Who is eligible?

To be eligible for grant funding, organisations must be within South Australia and be a local government or an organisation representing out of council areas.

Eligible Grant Projects

Councils will need to ensure that their projects meet the following eligibility criteria prior to submitting an application:

- Revitalisation or activation of a laneway, main street, civic plaza or reimagined public space.
- Projects must be undertaken on public land with free access for the community with no ongoing exclusive use by particular groups
- The council must not have any overdue reports associated with a previous funding agreement

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- Creation of multi-functional spaces (i.e. space capable of hosting community events or activities)
- Significant upgrades to ground treatments of laneways and footpaths to improve accessibility, amenity and function
- Increased greening
- Increased safety

Ineligible Grant Elements

The following types of works are not eligible for funding and requests for the following will not be considered:

- Design and construction of buildings, shopfronts or facade enhancements
- Concept design
- Detailed design where not associated with construction works
- Public art as a standalone project
- Retrospective works that commenced or were completed prior to grant funding approval
- Funding towards events, marketing, branding, advertising, or promotion
- Works associated with underground infrastructure networks, unless it can be demonstrated the works directly benefit the project
- Projects which are considered to be part of council's ongoing maintenance and management of a site
- Insurance
- Any costs associated with preparing and submitting the funding application
- Any costs or fees associated with land purchase
- Project management fees where a council is managing the project





Walker Place, Town of Gawler, Constructed by Blu Built Constructions
Photograph by Sweet Lime Photo

Assessment Criteria

Applications will need to respond to the following assessment criteria.

- ✓ Demonstrates objectives of the grant program (20%)
- ✓ Demonstrates community benefit (20%):
 - Improves connectivity, access and safety
 - Increases useability and functionality
 - Creates a destination
- ✓ Demonstrates strong levels of engagement with the community and Traditional Owners (20%)
- ✓ Demonstrates innovative, creative and sustainable design elements (20%)
- ✓ Demonstrates alignment with local government policy and/or strategy (10%)
- ✓ Demonstrates alignment with State Planning Policies (10%)

All applications will be evaluated by a multi-disciplinary and independent Evaluation Panel appointed by the Chief Executive of the Department for Trade and Investment, comprising officers from across the department.

All applications will be provided to the Minister for a final decision.





Kilburn Blair Athol Demonstration Project, City of Port Adelaide Enfield
Photographed by Tom Roschi

Principles of Good Design

The Principles of Good Design promotes the role design plays in making our buildings and places better for people, the environment and economy.

These best-practice principles demonstrate the South Australian Government's commitment to achieving design excellence in South Australia's built environment.

Applications should identify how good design outcomes are supported through these principles.

Context

Good design is contextual because it responds to the surrounding environment, and contributes to the existing quality and future character of a place.

Inclusive

Good design is inclusive and universal because it creates places for everyone to use and enjoy, by optimising social opportunity and equitable access.

Durable

Good design is durable because it creates buildings and places that are fit-for-purpose, adaptable and long-lasting.

Value

Good design adds value by creating desirable places that promote community and local investment, as well as enhancing social and cultural value.

Performance

Good design performs well because it realises the project potential for the benefit of all users and the broader community.

Sustainable

Good design is sustainable because it is environmentally responsible and supports long-term economic productivity, health and wellbeing.



Preparing your Application

Things to Consider Before Applying

- Applications can only be made by local government or from organisations representing out of council areas
- Council will be requested to enter into a Grant Deed with the Minister (a copy of the Draft Grant Deed can be reviewed upon request)
- Council's contribution must match their request for grant funding (see Project Contributions for further information)
- Progress reports will be required bimonthly until the project is complete
- Upon completion of the project council will be requested to complete an acquittal
- Projects must commence within six months and be completed within 24 months of receiving grant funding
- Grant contribution must be acknowledged in any publications or publicity regarding the project
- Any variance to agreed timeframes or project deliverables must be requested in writing, no fewer than six weeks before the specified funding period expiry date

Common Application Material

An online application form must be completed using the SmartyGrants online portal. All sections and supporting materials must be completed prior to submission. A list of relevant application material has been provided below.

- ✓ Location map, clearly identifying the project site and labeling surroundings
- ✓ Photographs and appropriate evidence of the project area
- ✓ Project brief
- ✓ Concept plan or detailed design
- ✓ Visualisations
- ✓ Project target table
- ✓ Landowners consent if the site is not council-owned
- ✓ Evidence of community engagement and support for the project
- ✓ Relevant council reports/plans/strategic documents that support the project
- ✓ Any other relevant information to support your application

Project Contributions

Grant Contribution

Councils may request a maximum of \$500,000 in grant funding, with matched contribution as a minimum.

Council may submit applications for multiple projects, however councils should consider their ability to match requested funding for all projects.

While an application may meet the [Assessment Criteria](#), a grant is not guaranteed, and successful projects may not receive funding to the full amount requested in the application.

Council Contribution

Council's contribution is the direct investment towards the project, allocated from their budget. If the council contribution includes in-kind works, a monetary amount equivalent will need to be identified in the Project Target Table and clearly recorded under the council's column.

Road works, where delivering a like-for-like outcome cannot be funded from the grant contribution, however, this type of work may form part of councils contribution towards the project but must be clearly indicated in the the Project Target Table.

Other Contributions

Councils are encouraged to investigate other external funding opportunities through organisations sharing the same objectives to supplement the total project cost.

Other contributions may be sought from community groups, other state and federal government funding programs, or joint funding opportunities with local government.

Support from other organisations should not form part of council's contribution.



Project Target Table and Lodgement

Project Target Table

The Project Target Table must be submitted as part of the online SmartyGrants application. The Project Target Table will be split into the following sections for completion:

- Target Outcomes – description of the activity (i.e. landscaping)
- Grant Contribution – the requested funding amount from the Open Space Grant
- Council Contribution – the Council's co-contribution, including financial and in-kind
- Other Contributions – other funding received towards the project (i.e. community funding, donations, other grants)

When preparing your Project Target Table, make reference to the Eligibility Criteria and Project Contributions in this document, to ensure your application is eligible for consideration.

For development projects, where a cost estimate has been completed by a quantity surveyor, you may wish to include this as an additional attachment to support your application.

Things to Remember:

- ✓ All figures are exclusive of GST
- ✓ Careful consideration should be given to the Eligibility Criteria and Project Contributions sections within this document when preparing a Project Target Table
- ✓ The Open Space Team may request changes to your Project Target Table should further information be required

Lodgement of Applications

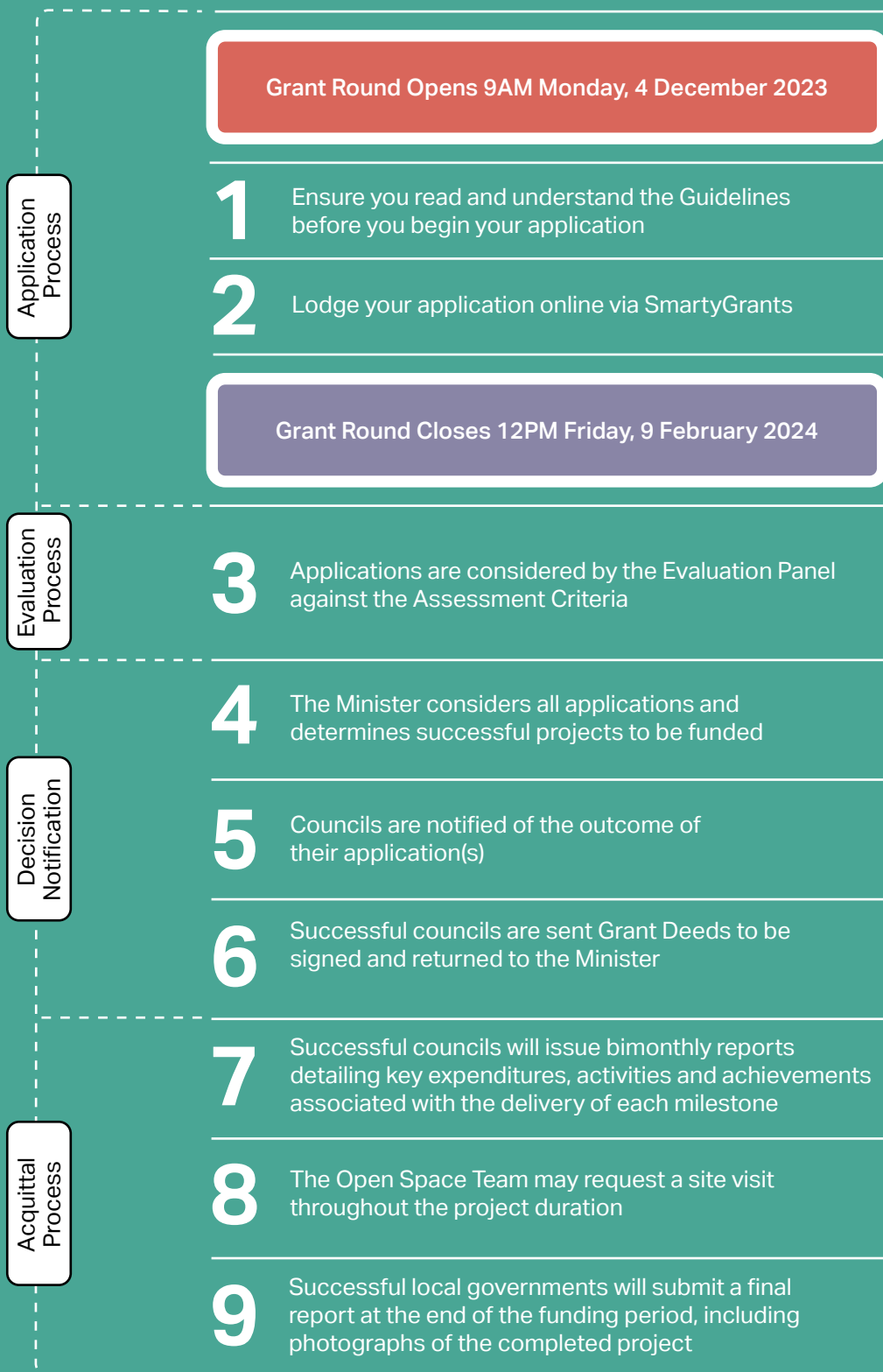
Applications open **9AM Monday 4 December 2023** and close **12PM Friday 9 February 2024**.

All applications and supporting documents must be received prior to the closing time within the online application form.

Please note, successful grants are also managed through the SmartyGrants website, which is free for council to use. At any time throughout the grant round, council can access the application form and view the status of any submissions.

Councils will be notified of the outcome of their application after the Minister has considered all proposals.

Grant Program Timeline





Contact Us

To discuss your proposal or for further information, please contact the Open Space Team at the Office for Design and Architecture SA.



Call us
(08) 7133 3225



Write to us
OpenSpace@sa.gov.au

