



Media Release

22 May 2020

G21 welcomes Federal funds for local governments

G21 welcomes today's (22 May) Federal Government announcement delivering \$1.8 billion for community infrastructure projects to local governments across Australia as they battle the economic impacts of COVID-19.

G21 floated the idea with the Government in March when the G21 CEO and the five G21 municipal council CEOs went to Canberra advocating for projects on behalf of the G21 region.

G21 CEO Elaine Carbines said the delegation proposed the idea to the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, Rachel Bacon who undertook to consider it further.

"At that stage we could see the economic impacts of COVID-19 beginning to bight on jobs and knew it would only get worse," Ms Carbines said.

"We floated the idea of infrastructure funding direct to local governments as an effective means of getting a much-needed injection of funds on-the-ground to worthy projects swiftly and effectively.

"The aim was to create or retain jobs within local government and the private sector while benefiting local communities in a very tangible way.

"It's great to see G21's suggestion has been taken up!

"The announcement once again underlines the effectiveness of G21's professional and regionally-coordinated advocacy direct to Canberra."

See the Federal Government's media statement here:

<https://www.pm.gov.au/media/1-8-billion-boost-local-government>

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