

VIBRANT PARRAMATTA GRANT PROGRAM 25/26 – Property Owners Guidelines

WHO CAN APPLY

Property owners with buildings located in the City of Parramatta Local Government Area (LGA) such as the CBD, town centres and local centres, are eligible to apply. We encourage you to submit a proposal, if your building has a blank wall or façade that could be enhanced through:

- A vibrant wall-art mural
- Architectural or decorative lighting
- Façade improvements
- Or a heritage façade restoration

BEFORE YOU APPLY

Please make sure to review the following sections of this guide:

- **Eligible Properties** – to check if your location qualifies
- **Scope of Works** – for what's covered under each project stream
- **Scoring & Selection Criteria** – to understand how applications will be assessed
- **Submission Requirements** – so you know what to include in your application

ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES

- All properties must be located within the Parramatta LGA.
- The property must be greater than 2 years old.
- The property is situated within local centres, town centres and high-foot traffic areas such as the CBD.
- The property is currently adherent to all local building codes, zoning regulations and not have unresolved regulatory related matters (such as unauthorised works, unauthorised use, and/or unpaid rates etc).
- The property must be in reasonable physical condition and the structural integrity of the building is sound. Any associated works submitted must not impact the structural integrity of the building.
- It remains the responsibility of the property owner and any contractors or consultants they engage to ensure that all works meet the relevant planning and legislative requirements.

- We strongly recommend that any third-party quotes or works proposed are reviewed by the applicant against the applicable conditions to confirm compliance.

SCOPE OF WORKS

The Vibrant Parramatta program offers support across four project streams. Each stream includes specific types of work that may be eligible for a Council contribution, provided conditions are met.

STREAM 1: WALL-ART MURAL

NOTE: These works are generally considered exempt under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 provided they meet specific criteria. It remains the responsibility of the property owner—and any contractors or consultants they engage—to ensure that all works meet the relevant planning and legislative requirements. We strongly recommend that any third-party quotes or works proposed are reviewed against all applicable conditions to confirm compliance.

Council award contribution up to \$40,000 towards:

- **Medium-Scale blank wall for Wall-Art Mural Canvas** (Wall canvas size between 20m² to 30m²) (e.g. 2-4 parking spaces)
- **Large-Scale blank wall for Wall-Art Mural Canvas** (Wall canvas size between 30m² to 100m²) (e.g. Half tennis court size is approx. 100m²)

STREAM 2: ARCHITECTURAL / DECORATIVE LIGHTING

NOTE: These works are generally considered exempt under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 provided they meet specific criteria. It remains the responsibility of the property owner—and any contractors or consultants they engage—to ensure that all works meet the relevant planning and legislative requirements. We strongly recommend that any third-party quotes or works proposed are reviewed against all applicable conditions to confirm compliance.

Council award contribution up to \$20,000 for works including one or more of the following:

- **Upgrade/Improvement to Existing Architectural / Exterior Lighting of the Façade**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - o The lighting is replacing or upgrading existing fixtures.
 - o It does not require structural changes to the building.
 - o It complies with development standards such as height, projection, and light spill.
 - o It does not affect heritage-listed items or occur in conservation areas without additional approvals.
- **Aesthetic Improvement of External Lighting Fixtures**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - o The changes are cosmetic (e.g., fixture style, colour, casing).

- o No new penetrations or structural supports are added.
 - o The fixtures remain within the original mounting footprint.
- **Exterior Lighting Conversion/Upgrade to LED Featured/Decorative/Architectural Lighting**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - o Lighting is static and programmable.
 - o If the lighting is visible from public areas, it must not cause glare or nuisance.
 - o Featured or decorative lighting that is not considered as advertising, public art, or event infrastructure.

NOTE: Examples of the works above includes lighting features such as up-lights, downlights, wall-washing, linear lighting (i.e. LED strips), accent lighting etc.

STREAM 3: FAÇADE RESTORATIONS (NON-HERITAGE)

NOTE: These works are generally considered exempt under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 provided they meet specific criteria. It remains the responsibility of the property owner—and any contractors or consultants they engage—to ensure that all works meet the relevant planning and legislative requirements. We strongly recommend that any third-party quotes or works proposed are reviewed against all applicable conditions to confirm compliance.

Council award contribution up to \$20,000 for works including one or more of the following:

- **Cleaning of building exterior, windows, and doors.**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - o Provided that it doesn't involve structural work or affect heritage fabric.
- **Painting and coating shopfront / public-facing façade of building**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - o Painting is typically approved but ensure the project doesn't involve lead-based paint or lead-based paint removal.
- **Repair and/or repaint of façade windows and door frames.**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - o Minor repairs and repainting are considered maintenance and are acceptable, unless the building is heritage-listed. (If building is heritage listed or is within a heritage conservation area, please considering applying under the 'Heritage Facade Restorations' Stream)
- **Repair of display windows and main entry door including frames**
(Provided the following conditions are met):

- As long as the repair doesn't alter structural elements or change the use, submissions are acceptable.
- **Repair or refurbishment of existing under-awning.**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - As long as the awning is existing and the work is non-structural (e.g., repainting, replacing sheeting)
 - Submission with structural changes or new awnings will **not** be accepted
- **Minor patching or cosmetic restoration of damaged, outdated or deteriorated façade elements**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - submissions will not be acceptable if project involves structural work, replacement of architectural features, or work on a heritage item
- **Minor patching of exterior walls**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - Only minor patching of exterior walls as part of project scope will be accepted.
(Full re-rendering may trigger a DA assessment, especially in heritage or bushfire-prone areas)

STREAM 4: HERITAGE FAÇADE RESTORATIONS

NOTE: These works are generally considered exempt under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 provided they meet specific criteria. However, a Heritage Minor Works Certificate is likely required to confirm that the proposed works are minor and do not adversely impact the heritage significance. To acquire a Heritage Minor Works Certificate, please go to [Heritage development approvals | City of Parramatta](#)

It remains the responsibility of the property owner—and any contractors or consultants they engage—to ensure that all works meet the relevant planning and legislative requirements. We strongly recommend that any third-party quotes or works proposed are reviewed against all applicable conditions to confirm compliance.

Council award contribution up to \$20,000 for works including one or more of the following:

- **Cleaning of building exterior, windows, and doors**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - Permitted as general maintenance, especially if no abrasive or damaging methods are used
- **Preservation of original materials and features**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - Encouraged and if it involves non-structural maintenance only

- **Paint stripping and re-paint to original coating of façade in accordance with ‘Heritage’ prescribed colour palettes**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - Repainting matches the original or existing scheme and uses heritage-appropriate colours
 - Use of Council’s prescribed colour palettes as per Heritage Minor Works advice
- **Repairs of exterior lighting while maintaining or complementing heritage integrity**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - If replacing existing fixtures without structural changes or new penetrations.
- **Replacement or repair of picket-fence while maintaining or complementing heritage integrity**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - Allowed if it replicates a known original fence and uses appropriate materials
- **Paint stripping and re-paint picket fence in accordance with Council’s prescribed colour palettes**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - If consistent with heritage character and original finishes
 - Use of Council’s prescribed colour palettes as per Heritage Minor Works advice
- **Restoration of damaged or deteriorated none-structural façade elements**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - Submission acceptable if non-structural and like-for-like restoration is demonstrated
- **Restoration of original façade features, such as ornate details or mouldings**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - Restoration using traditional methods is demonstrated
- **Masonry repointing and repair or replacement of damaged timber elements**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - If using traditional materials and techniques is demonstrated
- **Repair or refurbish of façade windows and doors including frames**
(Provided the following conditions are met):
 - If replacing deteriorated elements with matching materials and profiles can be demonstrated

SCORING & SELECTION CRITERIA

All applications whether for murals, lighting, façade upgrades or heritage restorations are assessed using a universal scoring system. This ensures fairness across project types by focusing on shared values which are public impact, quality, feasibility, and Council’s strategic alignment.

CRITERIA	DESCRIPTION	WEIGHT
Public Impact	Visibility, engagement, and contribution to Parramatta’s vibrancy	30%
Design Quality	Aesthetic merit, innovation, and contextual fit	25%
Feasibility	Readiness, cost-effectiveness, and delivery plan	25%
Strategic Alignment	Supports Council’s goals for placemaking, heritage, or activation	20%

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Your submission must align with the stream you’re applying for. Be sure to check the table below for what you’ll need to submit.

Wall-Art Mural	Architectural / Decorative Lighting	Façade Restorations (non- heritage)	Heritage Façade Restorations
Property Details Type of property etc.	Property Details Type of property etc.	Property Details Type of property etc.	Property Details Type of property etc.
Details about the wall - Condition of wall - Measurements of the wall - Details about the location	Details about the site - Description of the area with scope of works - Confirmation of pre-existing electrical / lighting infrastructure	Details about the site - Description of area with scope of works - Description of the façade and local surroundings	Details about the site - Description of area with scope of works - Description of the façade, local surroundings & any historical/cultural value of the heritage property
High Resolution Images Full view of property	High Resolution Images Full view of property	High Resolution Images Full view of property	High Resolution Images Full view of property



• View of surrounding area • Full view of nominated wall	• View of surrounding area • Full view façade area for proposed works	• View of surrounding area • Full view façade area for proposed works	• View of surrounding area • Full view façade area for proposed works
Approval Documents • Proof of ownership • Any relevant permits (if applicable) • Certificate of Currency	Professional Quote(s) • At least x1 professional quote from a contractor or supplier that you have nominated to deliver the proposed project • Please ensure to include in the proposal the 'scope of works', a timeline/delivery schedule, itemised budget/costing, and project delivery plan. <i>(*Else this may impact Councils ability to properly assess your proposal)</i>	Professional Quote(s) • At least x1 professional quote from a contractor or supplier that you have nominated to deliver the proposed project • Please ensure to include in the proposal the 'scope of works', a timeline/delivery schedule, itemised budget/costing, and project delivery plan. <i>(*Else this may impact Councils ability to properly assess your proposal)</i>	Professional Quote(s) • At least x1 professional quote from a contractor or supplier that you have nominated to deliver the proposed project • Please ensure to include in the proposal the 'scope of works', a timeline/delivery schedule, itemised budget/costing, and project delivery plan. <i>(*Else this may impact Councils ability to properly assess your proposal)</i>
	Approval Documents • Proof of ownership	Approval Documents • Proof of ownership	Approval Documents • Heritage Minor Works Certificate



CITY OF PARRAMATTA

	• Any relevant permits (if applicable) • Certificate of Currency	• Any relevant permits (if applicable) • Certificate of Currency	• Proof of ownership • Any relevant permits (if applicable) • Certificate of Currency
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