



An Australian Government Initiative



Regional Development Australia Gippsland Submission

July 2026

National Regional Roads Australia Mobile Program Guidelines Consultation

Context Setting

Reason for the Consultation

The Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts is providing \$30 million (GST exclusive) for the National Regional Roads Australia Mobile Program (National RRAMP) to improve multi-carrier mobile coverage on highways and major roads in regional and remote Australia. Multi-carrier coverage is mobile coverage from two or more network operators.

The program is funded under the *Better Connectivity Plan for Regional and Rural Australia*. It complements the RRAMP Pilot Programs being delivered by state and territory governments, with a \$50 million contribution from the Australian Government.

Outcomes from the National RRAMP include increased mobile coverage, improved safety on our roads, stronger economic growth and regional development, and improved social connectivity in regional and remote Australia.

The draft guidelines set out who can apply for grant funding, eligible roads and locations of projects, and arrangements for assessing proposed projects.

The National RRAMP will use a non-competitive, open grants process, with registered applicants able to submit 'shovel-ready' projects for funding at any time during the 12-month application period. Projects that meet eligibility requirements, are meritorious, and deliver value-for-money can expect to be funded.

Scope of the Consultation

Review of the National RRAMP draft [Grant Opportunity Guidelines](#) for feedback into the final published guidelines.

Regional Development Australia Gippsland (RDA Gippsland) Submission

RDA Gippsland welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft grant opportunity guidelines prepared for the National RRAMP.

About RDA Gippsland

Regional Development Australia Gippsland is one of over 50 RDAs established by the Australian Government. RDA has a ministerially appointed membership who share a commitment to improving regional economic development, capability and growth. RDA's advance economic development, attract investment and create jobs across Australia. They identify economic opportunities and leverage private and public sector investment into regions; they engage across government, business and community organisations to develop confident regional economies that harness their competitive advantages. In Victoria, RDAs are also supported by the Victorian Government.

Feedback on the Consultation

- Logical and thorough guidelines; with clear glossary and explanation of the funding program.
- We are reassured that eligible projects can 'expect to be funded' – this non-competitive process is vital for telecommunications improvements for our most vulnerable locations and communities in Gippsland.
- We welcome the opportunity for additional roads to be added to the Eligible Roads Database throughout the program life cycle.
- We strongly support prioritisation in thin or failed market conditions.
- We welcome the flexibility of the program to provide updates to registered applicants' funding allocations quarterly.
 - o For planning purposes, we would appreciate if the guidelines outlined the individual state and territory allocations of funding which are agreed before the guidelines are released. I.e. Will funding be evenly allocated across all states and territories?
- We welcome the opportunity for the more remote areas of Gippsland which do not currently have existing coverage from two or more national Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) or Mobile Network Infrastructure Providers (MNIPs) to be eligible for project funding support.
 - o We would appreciate advice on whether MNOs and MNIPs will be notified or have already been notified of this upcoming grant opportunity. It is important that they are aware of the program guidelines being imminently released so they can act upon registering within the first four weeks to ensure they are eligible to access the funding.

Any questions in regard to this submission can be directed to [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]. We welcome opportunities to discuss or engage on these points further.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Kellie O'Callaghan
Chair
Regional Development Australia
Gippsland