

## NSW BOATING NOW

# BOAT TRAILER STORAGE GRANTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES

## BACKGROUND

### NSW Boating Now

On 23 June 2017, the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight announced that applications for funding under Round 2 of the NSW Boating Now Program are now open. Potential delivery partners are invited to apply for funding to help continue to improve boating infrastructure across NSW.

A budget of \$17 million has been allocated to Round 2 of the Program which has increased from \$10 million as a result of savings and funds not used in the first three years of the Program.

### Boat Trailer Storage

Storing boats on trailers is the most common method of boat storage in NSW, with over 204,000 boat trailers currently registered with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS). Growth in boat ownership is forecast to increase by around 2.9% per annum over the next decade. While most boat trailers are parked on private land, a significant number of owners park boat trailers on streets near their home.

In recent years, numerous residents and councils in metropolitan Sydney have called on the Government to take action to better manage the number of boat trailers parked on residential streets and to mitigate the impact of growing trailer numbers on amenity for local communities.

Resident concerns are most prevalent in high density areas near waterways experiencing high general demand for parking coupled with a low number of public parking spaces. As trailer numbers grow, long term street parking will become increasingly difficult in these areas.

In response, the Government approved the following reforms to better manage the two most acute problems – trailers parked on streets for long periods and parking of unregistered boat trailers:

- In September 2015 the NSW Parliament passed the *Impounding Amendment (Unattended Boat Trailers) Act 2015*. These changes to the *Impounding Act 1993*

provide councils with additional powers to address long-term boat trailer parking in areas where it is a concern. Council and other enforcement officers now have a clear power to 'declare' areas where boat trailers cannot be parked in the same place for more than 28 days. If a boat trailer is then not moved within 15 days of the Council directing the trailer to be moved, it can be declared unattended and impounded.

- Amendments to the *Road Transport (General) Regulation 2013* to allow council officers to issue a penalty notice for the offence of standing an unregistered trailer on a road. This amendment took effect from December 2014.
- Amendments to the Roads and Maritime Services (Roads and Maritime) Residential Parking Permit Guidelines to give councils discretion to issue parking permits to boat trailers as part of a local approach to manage parking. Boat trailers with residential parking permits will be exempt from the recent *Impounding Act* amendments.

## GRANTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES

### Objective

NSW Boating Now Round 2 allows the provision of funds to establish alternative storage solutions and facilities for boat trailers.

### Who can apply?

Boat Trailer Storage Projects are open to all interested parties including councils, businesses, community groups, the boating industry and other organisations to submit proposals for the delivery of viable alternative boat trailer storage solutions/ facilities.

Applications will be accepted for proposals where the storage solution / facility involves the participation and/or contribution of more than one party. In these instances, the application is to be made by one lead party.

### Establishing the need

Applications will need to identify that their proposed storage solution or facility is suitably well-located to areas experiencing a high incidence of boat trailer storage on residential streets.

Priority will be given to proposals designed to provide alternative boat trailer parking solutions and facilities in and around areas where the new Impounding laws are declared to apply.

### Types of projects

The Grants Program will make funds available to establish projects designed to deliver alternative boat trailer storage solutions and facilities.

Projects could include the establishment of dedicated boat trailer parking facilities on surplus or unused government-owned land, and/or on privately owned land if the owner consents.

Funding will not be granted for the purchase of privately owned land to operate a boat trailer storage facility, unless the project represents very significant value.

Funding applications will be considered for leasing suitable land to operate temporary or on-going boat trailer storage solutions / facilities.

Solutions could also include viable on-street locations where boat trailers can be reasonably parked for extended periods; such as in industrial areas, or adjacent to parks at locations where parking turnover is not highly valued, is able to be regulated (such as by permit), and is acceptable to the community and boat owners.

Innovative solutions such as chauffeured, mixed use/sharing or technology based systems are also encouraged.

### **Money for lasting boat trailer parking solutions only**

TfNSW / RMS may seek recoupment of grant monies if a project fails to eventuate or does not operate for the period of time specified in the applicant's proposal.

### **Matching Funds**

There is a requirement that proponents contribute financially to the proposal. No matching funding level has been set; each proposal will be considered on its merits.

Applicants must identify how grant funds will be applied and that their proposal represents value for money. Priority may be given to proponents that make a significant financial contribution towards a project.

## BOAT TRAILER STORAGE PROJECTS ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications for Boat Trailer Storage Project funding under NSW Boating Now Round 2 will be assessed against the following criteria:

### 1. Strategic Need

The purpose of Boat Trailer Storage Projects is to establish alternative storage for boat trailers in locations experiencing a high incidence of on-street storage of boats in and around 'declared areas' where the new boat trailer impounding provisions apply. Priority will be given to proposals that provide facilities or solutions to boat owners that live in and around these areas.

Applicants must identify the number of boat trailer parking spaces their proposed storage solution / facility will provide and the current extent of on-street storage in the Local Government Area(s) the proposal will serve. Applicants should identify any guidelines they propose to use to allocate and manage demand for the use of the facility/solution.

### 2. Value for money

Applicants need to identify how grant funds will be applied and that their proposal represents value for money in terms of:

- the total boat trailer storage capacity to be provided by the proposed facility/solution; and
- how this will help reduce the incidence of on-street boat trailer parking in particular affected area(s).

In providing details about project costs, applicants need to identify:

- the level of Government contribution they are seeking and the purpose to which it will be applied; and
- the level of financial and / or in-kind contribution for the proposed storage facility/solution and the purpose(s) to which it will be applied. This may include other supporting measures to be implemented by the applicant or its partner(s) to try and reduce the incidence of on-street boat trailer parking in residential areas.

In addition to the physical number of boat trailer storage spaces provided, the longevity of the solution / facility will be a key consideration in assessing the capacity of the proposal. Applicants must therefore identify the minimum length of time that they will commit to maintaining the solution / facility for dedicated boat trailer storage.

### 3. Service and Price Offering

Where applicable, applicants should demonstrate that their proposal provides an affordable storage facility/solution for boat trailer owners.

The service to be provided by any proposed storage facility/solution should address boat trailer owners' customer service requirements. In developing their proposal, applicants should consider:

- security features of arrangements;
- hours of operation-preferably providing boat owners with unlimited access;
- public accessibility;
- other facilities (i.e. toilet and wash down amenities); and
- price – taken together with the service offering, the price to users should represent an attractive alternative to parking boat trailers on residential streets.

#### **4. Deliverability and project readiness**

The nature of the proposal, the requirements for its establishment (e.g. land, planning approval), and the priority of the proposal for the council mean it is likely the project could commence within 3 months of the grant being awarded and be established within 18 months of the grant being awarded.

Applicants should demonstrate their capacity to deliver the project through robust strategies for procurement, project management, risk management and the availability of necessary resources (including proponent funds or in-kind contributions).

Applications should outline the implementation approach, including key milestones and a project plan / timetable.

The Panel will focus on projects that are well developed, especially those that are well positioned to advance planning and environmental approvals so any construction / establishment can commence to enable establishment of the facility as quickly as possible. Priority will be given to projects which can be delivered quickly.