



Draft Public Space Strategy Summary Engagement Report

October 2020





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Overview

The City of Port Phillip (CoPP) is developing a new Public Space Strategy to respond to the changing role and demand for public space as its population grows, the City densifies, and more people live in apartments. The Strategy outlines the challenges, outcomes and actions required to realise the full potential of Port Phillip's already enviable public space network of parks, gardens, streets, foreshore, and urban plazas.

The Port Phillip community was consulted on the draft Public Space Strategy (the draft Strategy) from 10 August to 6 September 2020, and shared their thoughts. Below are the key insights gained from this public consultation.

Key insights

Importance of City-wide outcomes

One of the aims of the draft Strategy is to achieve a series of city-wide outcomes that have been outlined within the draft Strategy document. These outcomes include: response to the COVID-19 pandemic; places for people; diverse and shared spaces; active spaces; better access to public spaces; sustainable spaces; and cultural spaces.

- All City-wide outcomes were considered important by 68 per cent of respondents or more.
- The three City-wide outcomes which were considered the most important were:
 - **Places for people** – 95 per cent considered important
 - **Sustainable spaces** – 91 per cent considered important
 - **Active spaces** – 89 per cent considered important

Ranking of Strategy projects

Respondents were provided with a list of five partnership and advocacy projects and asked to rank them in order of importance, from one being projects of most importance to five being projects of lesser importance.

- The two highest ranked projects were:
 - **St Kilda Pier and surrounds** – 60 per cent ranked it one or two
 - **Albert Park Reserve** – 55 per cent ranked it one or two.

Assessment of ambition of Strategy actions

Respondents were asked to assess the level of ambition of the draft Strategy actions. They were presented with three options—too ambitious; about right; or not ambitious enough and asked to select the option that they felt best represented the level of ambition of the draft Strategy actions.

- While the majority of respondents considered the Strategy's ambition 'about right', a significant number of respondents indicated the strategy could be more ambitious:
 - 52 per cent considered the Strategy ambitions '**About right**'
 - 45 per cent considered the Strategy ambition '**Not ambitious enough**'



Agreement with actions proposed in respondents' neighbourhoods

The draft Strategy outlined a series of actions proposed for each neighbourhood. Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the actions proposed for their neighbourhood.

- There was strong overall agreement with actions proposed in Port Phillip neighbourhoods, with 69 per cent of respondents agreeing with proposed actions.
- The three individual neighbourhoods that had the strongest agreement were:
 - **St Kilda/ St Kilda West:** 86 per cent agreed
 - **Balaclava/ St Kilda East:** 76 per cent agreed
 - **South Melbourne:** 69 per cent agreed

Findings from comments

Respondents who agreed or disagreed with proposed actions in their neighbourhoods did so because:

Agree

- Excitement about proposed changes such as increasing the amount of greenery and trees
- The focus on sustainability and/or biodiversity
- The dense population of certain areas around Port Phillip and the need for these residents to have access to open space
- The need to provide safe and inviting areas for children and families
- The draft Strategy's inclusive nature
- The need for general rejuvenation of Port Phillip.

Disagree

- Not enough prioritisation of public space
- Concerns about cost
- Concerns about the timeframe
- Lack of dog-off-leash parks proposed in certain areas *or* too many dog-off-leash parks proposed.

Aspects of the draft Strategy that respondents were most excited about included:

- The Shrine to Sea project
- The addition of more dog-off-leash parks around Port Phillip
- The plan to address the lack of public open space in the Balaclava/St Kilda East area
- The Elwood Foreshore upgrade
- Improvements to the St Kilda foreshore (the St Kilda Pier and surrounds, St Kilda Marina and the St Kilda Triangle site)
- Enhancement and improved accessibility of Albert Park
- Having more greenery and open space
- The general beautification of Port Phillip
- The focus on sustainability
- The improvement of play spaces
- The draft Strategy in general and its ambitions for public space in Port Phillip.

Aspects of the draft Strategy that respondents were most concerned about included:

- The lack of pedestrian safety considerations in the draft Strategy
- The need for more planting (particularly of shade trees)
- Access to public spaces including Albert Park and Fishermans Bend
- That the timeframes allowed for the project are too generous
- The cost of the proposed actions and how they would be funded
- How sustainability and biodiversity would be factored into the Public Space Strategy
- General concerns about the draft Strategy, such as the perceived 'lack of vision' or action.

Additional suggestions from respondents included:

- Ensuring dog-off-leash parks are available to residents all over Port Phillip, with suggestions to add more
- Incorporation of community gardens into the Public Space Strategy
- Specific road space improvements aimed at: improving the safety of pedestrians and people on bikes; improving access to public spaces; and generally beautifying areas around Port Phillip
- Improving transport links
- Planting more trees and other vegetation
- Improving sports and recreation facilities in public spaces
- Better engaging the knowledge and culture of indigenous communities.

Recommendations

Based on respondents' comments

- Focus on maximising the amount of green space and trees that can be incorporated into public spaces.
- Ensure that there are adequate numbers of dog-off-leash parks around Port Phillip so that all dog owners in the area are able to access these facilities.
- Ensure also that some spaces are kept free of dogs off-leash, or allocate hours when dogs are required to be on-leash to allow all residents and visitors to Port Phillip to have safe, uninhibited access to public spaces.
- Consider ways to improve access to public space for pedestrians and people on bikes. Respondents wished to have safe and easy access to public space that avoids crossing busy roads, favouring cycle paths and dedicated pedestrian crossings.
- Consider increasing the amount of planting proposed in the draft Strategy. Respondents wanted to see more trees and greenery around Port Phillip, especially shade trees.



Project background

The City of Port Phillip (CoPP) is developing a new Public Space Strategy to respond to the changing role and demand for public space as its population grows, the City densifies, and more people live in apartments.

The benefits of a high quality, accessible and diverse public space network extend beyond the traditional aesthetic, environmental and recreational roles of open space. The social, health and economic benefits of providing places for events and for people to connect and be active are increasingly recognised, particularly now as the global pandemic COVID-19 has raised new challenges for the community and for public spaces.

Initial community engagement was conducted in March 2019, followed by comprehensive engagement from 3 August to 9 September 2019. The engagement program was designed to inform the community, listen to/acknowledge concerns and expectations, and provide feedback on how community input has influenced decision making. Council officers provided balanced and objective information throughout the engagement program to assist the community's understanding of issues around public space, and to obtain feedback on alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions related to increasing the use and value of public space across the City. A range of engagement activities were undertaken to reach different segments of the community to ensure both a broad and targeted reach:

- Neighbourhood pop-ups were designed to reach members of the community going about their daily business.
- The online survey and interactive map were designed to reach out to time-poor members of the community.
- Stakeholder workshops were designed to reach formal sporting and activity groups.
- Stakeholder meetings and interviews targeted groups that were under-represented across various engagement activities.

Based on the feedback received, the draft Public Space Strategy has since been developed to ensure that Council protects what is valued about their existing spaces, and plans to ensure the design, development and programming of spaces will continue to meet the changing needs of the community. The draft Strategy is the vision and blueprint for the future of public spaces in the City of Port Phillip. It adheres to Strategic Direction 4 of the Council Plan 2017-2027 'We are growing and keeping our character' and informs Council's ongoing planning and investment in public spaces.

The draft Strategy outlines the challenges, outcomes and actions required to realise the full potential of Port Phillip's already enviable public space network of parks, gardens, streets, the foreshore, and urban plazas. It is evolutionary, transforming Council's existing space through an integrated action plan that guides the operation, delivery, upgrade and design of public spaces for each neighbourhood across the City.



Introduction

The Port Phillip community was consulted on the draft Public Space Strategy from 10 August – 6 September 2020. Note that this period was during significant City lockdowns due to the COVID-19 pandemic (COVID-19). The consultation was originally planned to occur from early March to early May, however, it was delayed because of the COVID-19 outbreak.

The community were invited to attend two online questions and answer sessions, held on Tuesday 18 August and Thursday 20 August, and were encouraged to provide their feedback on the draft Public Space Strategy (the draft Strategy) via an online survey on Council's Have Your Say page.

The survey was completed by 152 people. The key information that respondents were asked for was: *how important are City-wide outcomes; rank the importance of five partnership and advocacy projects; agreement/disagreement with actions proposed in the Strategy for the respondent's neighbourhood; open-ended written response – what made respondents agree or disagree with actions for respondent's neighbourhood; level of ambition of the Strategy; open-ended written response – what is the respondent most excited about in the Strategy; open-ended written response – what is the respondent most concerned about in the Strategy; open-ended written response – any other suggestions for the Strategy.*

A set of questions were also asked about respondent characteristics, including age gender; connection to City; club respondent is a member of; household description; suburb; and how they heard about the consultation.

Additionally, eight responses were provided to CoPP in respondents' own formats (emails and written documents) and 14 comments provided via social media were also included in the analysis.

Process of engagement overview

The following table provides a summary of the activities and tools used to reach the community and seek input and feedback.

Table 1 Engagement reach

Channel	Reach / Participants
Advertising	
Corflute posters	24, spread across municipality and located in key public spaces
Emails to Have Your Say subscribers / other CoPP newsletters	Approximately 5,300
E-blast sent to interested parties	227 recipients
Social media – Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter	25,099 people reached
Online questions and answer sessions (x2)	Attended by 14 community members
Responses	
Online responses via Have Your Say	152 completed surveys
Independent responses Written emails and social media comments	8 emails and 14 social media comments

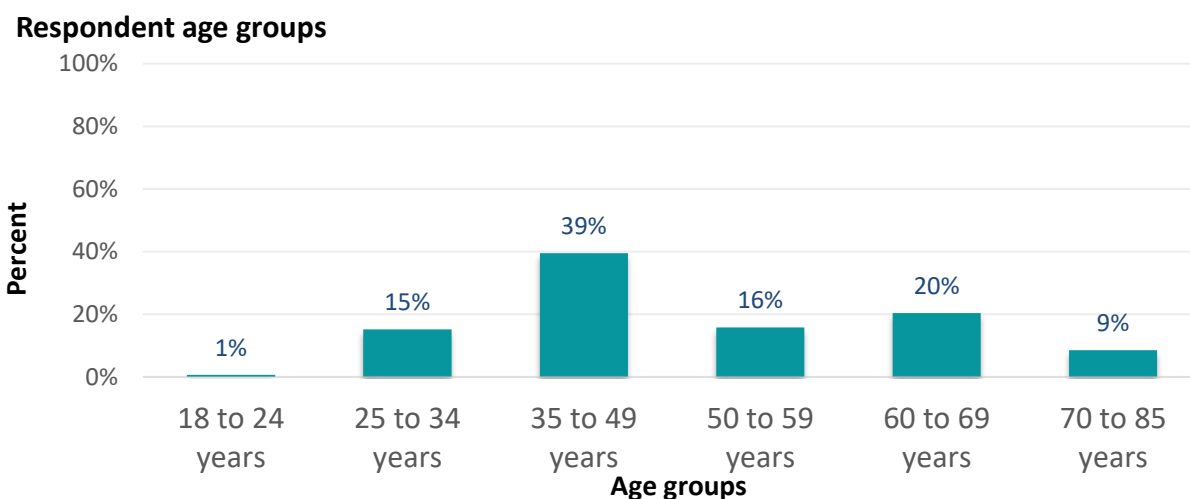
Who we engaged

The summary below presents the results for the demographic and City connection, and respondent characteristic questions, for:

- **Age:** eight age groups from under 18 to over 80 (based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics Census data)
- **Gender:** male, female, other, or prefer not to say
- **Connections to the City:** I am a resident; I am a business owner; I am a ratepayer; I am a worker; I am a student; I am a visitor; I am a member of a community group; I am a member of a sporting club (name could be written)
- **Household description** (multiple options could be selected): Couple with children; Couple without children; One parent family; Group household; Lone household; Visitor only household
- **Suburbs:** Albert Park; Balaclava; Melbourne; Middle Park; Port Melbourne; Ripponlea; South Melbourne; Southbank; St Kilda; St Kilda East; St Kilda West; Windsor; Prefer not to say; and Other
- **How people heard about the consultation:** Have Your Say e-newsletter; Council's website; Council's social media; Other community email/newsletter; Signage; Community social media; and Other (please specify)
- **Membership of Clubs/groups:** Respondents could list the groups/clubs they are members of

Respondent demographic, City connection and characteristics results:

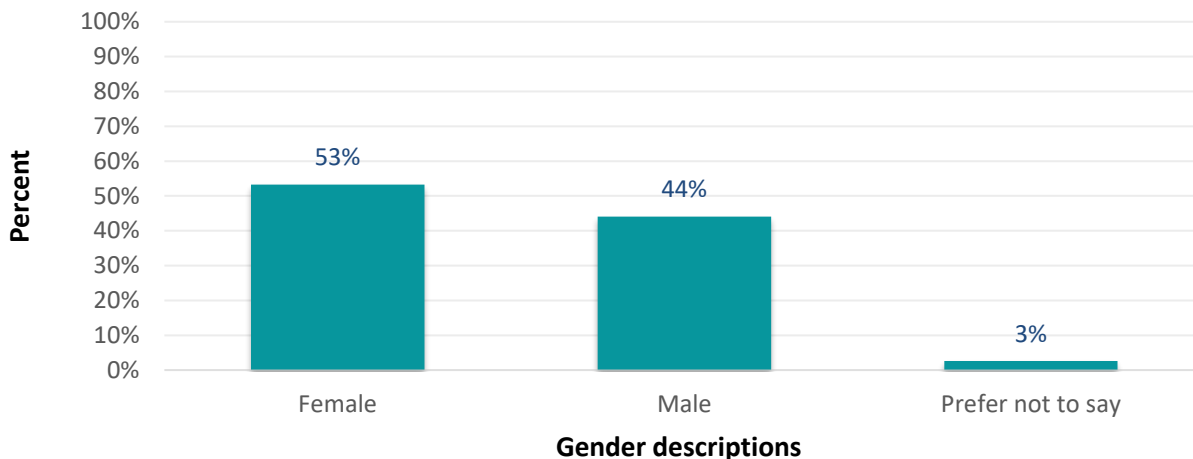
Age



- More than half of the respondents were aged between 35 and 59 years of age (55 per cent), with the 35 to 49 years age group being the largest, comprising 39 per cent of respondents.
- The second largest individual age group was the 60 to 69 years group, which comprised 20 per cent of respondents.
- Very few respondents were aged 18 to 24 years (1 per cent), and other age groups with few respondents were 25 to 34 years (15 per cent) and 70 to 85 years (9 per cent).
- Zero respondent were aged under 18 years or over 85 years of age.

Gender

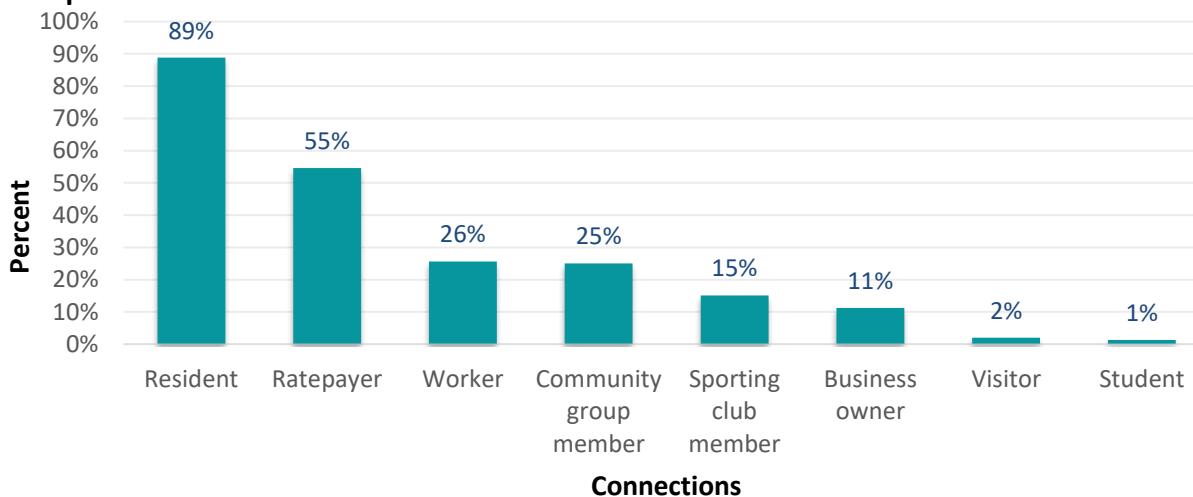
Respondent gender proportions



- More females (53 per cent) than males (44 per cent) participated in the consultation. Three per cent of respondents preferred not to state their gender.
- *Other* was also a response option but this was not selected.

Connection to CoPP

Respondent connections to CoPP

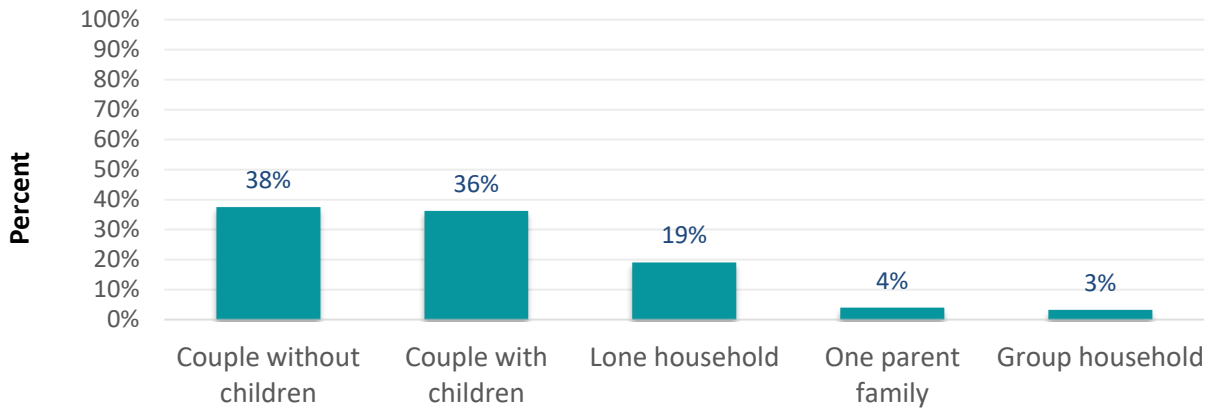


- Note that for this question respondents could select multiple *connections to City* options.
- A high proportion of respondents were residents (89 per cent). The next largest group were rate payers, comprising 55 per cent of respondents.
- A group of four connections were selected by between 26 per cent and 11 per cent of respondents: worker (26 per cent), community group member (25 per cent), sporting club member (15 per cent) and business owner (11 per cent).
- Small proportions of respondents had these connections: visitor (2 per cent) and student (1 per cent).



Household description

Respondent household descriptions



Household types

- Couples were the most common household types, comprising 74 per cent of respondents, with 38 per cent of these couples without children and 36 per cent of respondents couples with children. The next largest group was lone households (19 per cent).
- Two groups were selected by small proportions of respondents: one parent family (4 per cent) and group household (3 per cent).

Engagement findings

Analysis and reporting overview

Quantitative analysis description

There were 152 engagement respondents who assessed and commented on the draft Strategy via the online survey. The draft Strategy consists of seven sections: Introductory topics; Council's role in public space; The challenges we face; City-wide outcomes; City-wide spaces; Inspiring ideas; Our neighbourhoods; and Measuring and reporting.

Respondents were asked a series of quantitative questions to measure public sentiment on various aspects of the draft Strategy, including:

- **The importance of seven draft Strategy outcomes** on a five-point scale from *very important* to *very unimportant*. The outcomes were: Council's response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic; Places for people; Diverse and shared spaces; Active spaces; Better access to public spaces; Sustainable spaces; and Cultural spaces.
- **Ranking of importance of five draft Strategy partnership and advocacy projects**, from one to five. The five projects were: Albert Park Reserve; Waterfront Place; St Kilda Pier and surrounds; St Kilda Triangle; and Shrine to Sea.
- **The distinct neighbourhood that respondents identify with most**. The neighbourhoods included: Albert Park Reserve; Waterfront Place; St Kilda Pier and surrounds; St Kilda Triangle; Shrine to Sea; St Kilda Road; St Kilda/ St Kilda West; Fishermans Bend; and Other.
- **To what extent the respondent agreed or disagreed with the draft actions proposed in the draft Strategy for their neighbourhood**, on a five-point scale from *Strongly agree* to *Strongly disagree*. Particular neighbourhoods were identified in the question above.
- **Assessment of the ambition of the draft actions proposed in the draft Strategy**, based on these response options: *Too ambitious*; *About right*; or *Not ambitious enough*.

Frequency analysis was completed on the questions listed above and results are presented in the charts that follow this section. Brief interpretations of the findings are presented in the text under each chart.

Qualitative analysis description

Four qualitative questions allowed respondents to write in their own words how they felt about the draft Strategy from different perspectives. The four questions were:

- **What makes you say that?** (regarding how they agreed or disagreed with the actions proposed in the draft Strategy for their neighbourhood):
- What are you **most excited about** in this draft Strategy?
- What are you **most concerned about** in this draft Strategy?
- Do you have **any other suggestions** for improving the draft Strategy?

To complete the analysis of the four qualitative response questions, Global Research's analysts read each comment received from the community and coded (organised) them into themes and topics. The responses received in written formats other than the online survey, such as email, were coded to the most appropriate topics that had been created for the survey responses.

For most responses, answers were grouped together in common themes and topics for each question. However, for three of the questions dedicated to what respondents were *excited about*, what their *concerns* were, and *any suggestions* they might have, some respondents made comments that related to a different question. For example, several comments made in response to "what are you most excited about..." contained concerns or suggestions. Where this had obviously occurred, these comments were coded into the most appropriate question section.

Following the coding of comments into themes and topics, a written synthesis of findings was prepared. In these discussions the total number of comments made on each theme is presented in the title (for example 67 comments). For topics, the number of comments made is included in brackets next to the title. These numbers are included so the reader can gauge the relative interest respondents had in particular themes and topics compared to others in the draft Strategy.

Throughout discussion of written comments, the number of points made on particular topics have been consistently represented by the amounts described below:

- A very large number = 150+ comments
- A large number = 100 – 149 comments
- A sizeable number = 75 – 99 comments
- A substantial number = 50 – 74 comments
- A considerable number = 25 – 49 comments
- A moderate number = 15 – 24 comments
- Several comments = 8 – 14 comments
- A small number = 4 – 7 comments
- A few = 3 comments
- A couple = 2 comments

Direct quotes from respondents' comments are indented and italicised within the discussion. In some instances, where obvious grammatical or spelling errors are present in comments, these have been corrected with care taken to not alter the meaning of any comment.

Importance of City-wide outcomes

Respondents were provided with six City-wide outcomes and asked to rate each for their importance, from *very important* to *very unimportant*.

How respondents assessed the importance of each outcome is presented below. All City-wide outcomes were considered important by 68 per cent of respondents or more.

Overall finding for importance of City-wide outcomes

Summary in order of importance:

- 95 per cent of respondents stated **Places for people** were *very important* (82 per cent) or *somewhat important* (13 per cent).
- 91 per cent of respondents stated **Sustainable spaces** were *very important* (72 per cent) or *somewhat important* (19 per cent).
- 89 per cent of respondents stated **Active spaces** were *very important* (66 per cent) or *somewhat important* (23 per cent).
- 87 per cent of respondents stated **Better access to public spaces** were *very important* (64 per cent) or *somewhat important* (23 per cent).
- 86 per cent of respondents stated **Diverse and shared spaces** were *very important* (66 per cent) or *somewhat important* (20 per cent).
- 73 per cent of respondents stated **Cultural spaces** were *very important* (41 per cent) or *somewhat important* (32 per cent).
- 68 per cent of respondents stated **Council's response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic** was *very important* (43 per cent) or *somewhat important* (25 per cent).

Differences between all, female, and male respondents:

- There were only two outcomes where there was a difference greater than 3 per cent between all, female, and male respondents:
 - **Council's response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic** – All (68 per cent agreed); Female (76 per cent agreed); Male (56 per cent agreed)
 - **Cultural spaces** – All (73 per cent agreed); Female (78 per cent agreed); Male (68 per cent agreed).

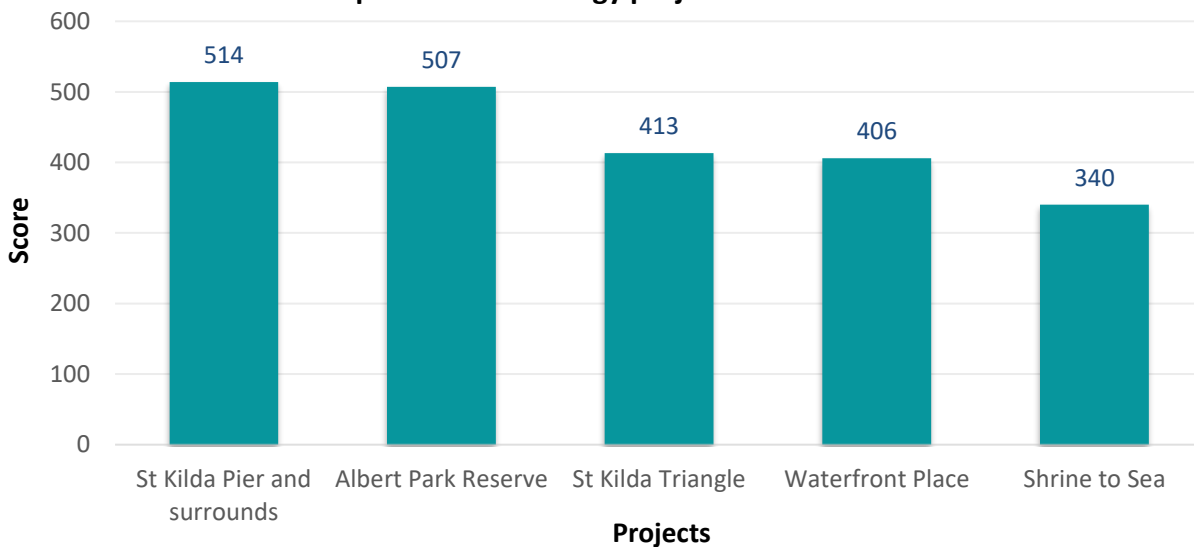
Ranking of draft Strategy projects

Respondents were provided with a list of five partnership and advocacy projects and asked to rank them in order of importance, from one being projects of most importance to five being projects of lesser importance.

To calculate the scores presented in the chart below, 'rank 1' assessments were counted and multiplied by five, 'rank 2' assessments were counted and multiplied by four, through to 'rank 5' assessments which were counted and multiplied by one. The total score for each project was then calculated and these scores are presented in the chart below.

Overall importance

Overall rank scores for importance of strategy projects



St Kilda Pier and surrounds (514) and Albert Park Reserve (507) achieved the highest rank scores. Albert Park Reserve was 'ranked 1' 48 times, which was the highest for any project, while St Kilda Pier and surrounds was 'ranked 2' 55 times which was the greatest number for any project.

Shrine to Sea (340) was overall the lowest scored project and was 'ranked 1' the least number of times, which was 12 times.

St Kilda Triangle (413) and Waterfront Place (406) were the middle two ranked projects. St Kilda Triangle was 'ranked 1' 28 times and Waterfront Place was 'ranked 1' 32 times.

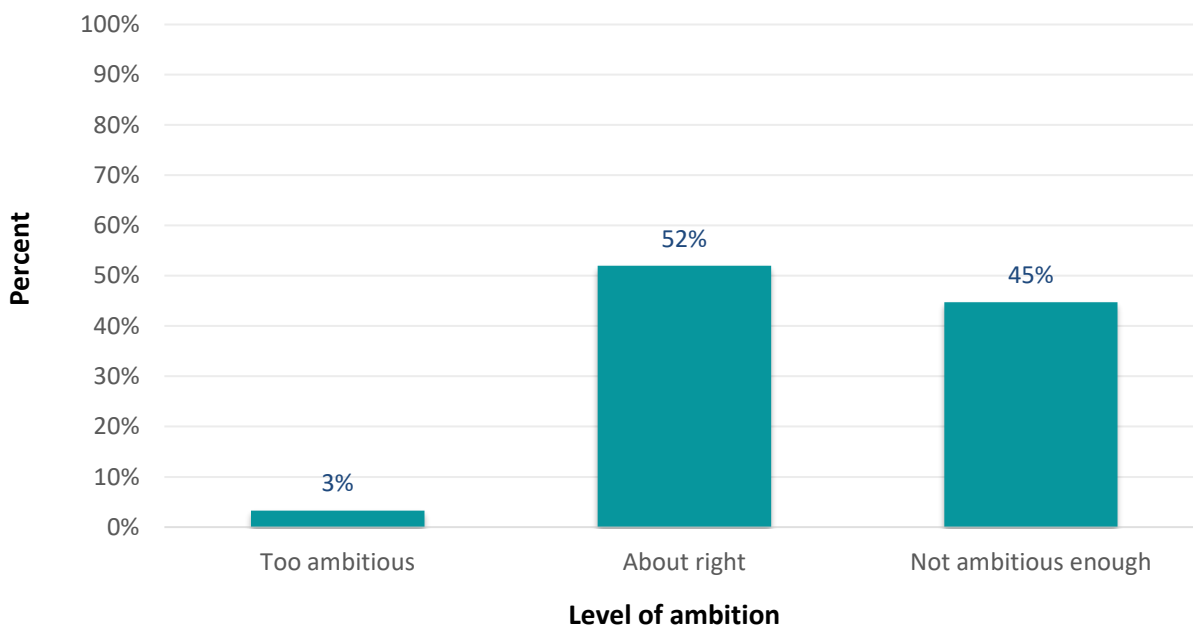
The biggest difference in assessment between female and male respondents were Waterfront Place, and St Kilda Pier and surrounds. Waterfront Place was ranked higher by females, with 37 per cent of them ranking it one or two, while 29 per cent of males ranked it one or two. Sixty-four percent of males ranked St Kilda Pier and surrounds one or two, while 57 per cent of females ranked it one or two.

Assessment of ambition of draft Strategy actions

Respondents were given three options—Too ambitious; About right; or Not ambitious enough— and asked to select the option that represents the level of ambition that they think the draft Strategy actions have.

Overall ambition

Assessment of overall ambition of Strategy

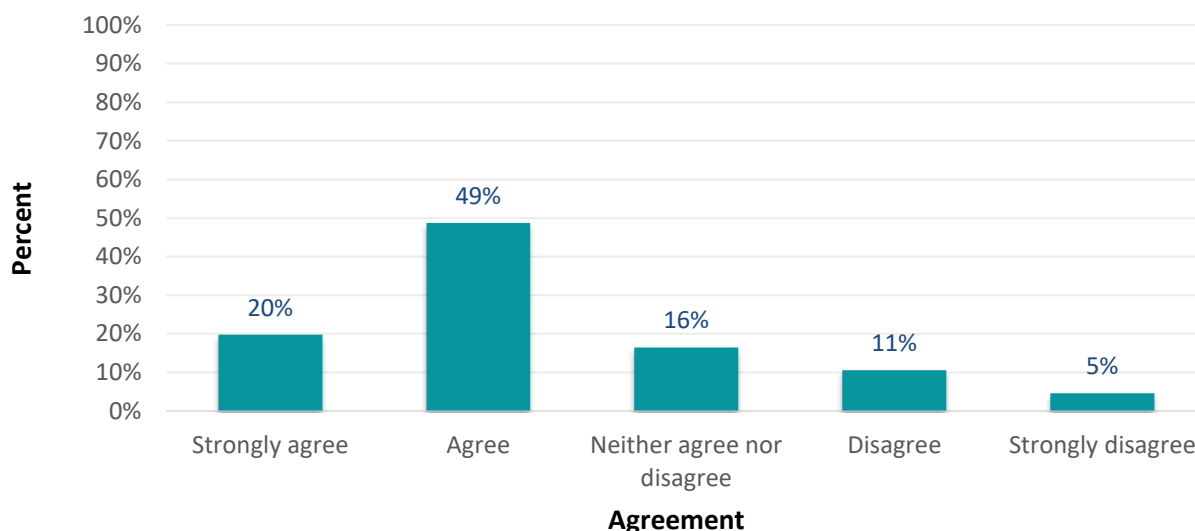


Over half (52 per cent) of respondents thought that the level of ambition of the actions was about right, while 45 per cent thought they were not ambitious enough and 3 per cent thought they were too ambitious.

Agreement with actions proposed in respondents' neighbourhoods

Respondents were informed that the draft Strategy includes a range of actions for each neighbourhood. They were then asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the actions proposed in the draft Strategy for their neighbourhood. The chart below presents the overall results.

Overall agreement - proposed actions



Overall, 69 per cent of all respondents agreed with the actions proposed for their neighbourhood – of these, 20 per cent strongly agreed. Sixteen per cent disagreed with proposed actions – 5 per cent of these strongly disagreed.

Below are the percentages of agreement for the eight neighbourhoods asked about in the survey, with the number of responses from each neighbourhood listed in brackets:

- St Kilda/ St Kilda West (27): 86 per cent agreed
- Balaclava/ St Kilda East (21): 76 per cent agreed
- South Melbourne (13): 69 per cent agreed
- Port Melbourne (31): 68 per cent agreed
- Elwood/ Ripponlea (30): 60 per cent agreed
- Albert Park/ Middle Park (26): 57 per cent agreed
- St Kilda Rd (1): 0 per cent agreed
- Fishermans Bend (0): NA

Three respondents selected 'other' and stated: I work in Port Phillip but do not live in a specific neighbourhood, Queens Road and Other.



Analysis of written comments

Why respondents agree or disagree with neighbourhood actions

Question 4 asks, *The Strategy includes a range of draft actions for each neighbourhood. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the actions proposed in the Strategy for your neighbourhood?*

- Overall, 69 per cent of all respondents agreed with the actions proposed for their neighbourhood.
- Sixteen percent disagreed with the proposed actions.

Below is a summary of key points that respondents made when explaining why they agreed or disagreed with the actions proposed for their neighbourhood.

Albert Park / Middle Park

- A moderate number of respondents were keen to see the draft plans actioned and were excited about the proposed improvements such as the Sea to Shrine project. Increasing the greenery and foliage in the area proved popular, as did the focus on sustainability.

*Love the Shrine to the Sea proposal. A gateway for Victorians to get to the beach.
Pedestrians to stroll safely down the middle of Kerferd Road.*

- A few respondents felt spaces could be better utilised in ways not outlined by the draft Strategy.
- Respondents that disagreed with the draft actions tended to feel that there was not enough open space proposed and attributed this failure to both schools and the prioritisation of the Grand Prix.

Balaclava / St Kilda East

- Respondents noted how densely populated and how heavily frequented the area is, particularly with visitors following the COVID-19 restrictions. Given this, the expansion of public spaces and proposals to make public areas more enjoyable were welcomed.

The development of more green spaces in Balaclava/St Kilda East is a very positive outcome.

- Attention was also paid to pedestrian access and any proposals for more pathways and crossings were encouraged.
- There was some concern about cost, and whether the community consultation efforts would be adequately acknowledged.

Elwood / Ripponlea

- Respondents referring to this area were clearly aware of the need to provide safe, inviting areas for children and young families. People wanted spaces that encouraged play and recreation.
- Respondents also keenly supported the sustainability and biodiversity goals outlined in the draft Strategy.

I would like to see even more emphasis on enhancing biodiversity in Elwood, to support the wildlife corridor of Elwood Canal.

- Most respondents that disagreed with the draft actions for this area felt that there was a lack of dog-off-leash parks proposed.

Port Melbourne

- A moderate number of respondents approved of the draft actions for the Port Melbourne area and liked the draft Strategy's inclusive nature. The desperate need for improvements was noted and respondents felt the draft actions were promising.
- Dog-off-leash parks were again discussed with some respondents feeling there were too few, while others felt there were already enough in the area.

Concerned about too many dog off-leash areas re safety and amenity

South Melbourne

- Only one respondent commented on the draft actions in relation to South Melbourne. They strongly agreed with the proposed actions and submitted that the "greening up" of the area is an essential priority.

St Kilda / St Kilda West

- Respondents felt the area was in great need of rejuvenating. Some felt there could be even more planting than what was proposed but were generally excited.
- Two respondents felt Cummings Reserve, Acland Street and Fitzroy Street had been neglected in the draft Strategy.

Variety of improvements across different geographical areas that raise the function and aesthetics and sustainability of the council area

Note: Written responses to this question are sorted by which neighbourhood the respondent identified with as their neighbourhood in Question 3. Note that, although respondents were asked about why they agree or disagree with proposed actions for *their* neighbourhood, not all of the responses are limited to the respondents' own neighbourhoods.



What are you most excited about in this draft Strategy?

Albert Park / Middle Park

- Respondents were particularly excited about the Shrine to Sea project, as well as proposed advocacy to Parks Victoria for more dog-off-leash parks in Port Phillip.

Shrine to sea project. It's a missing bike link and if designed well will make it a lot easier and safer for a family to ride from the city to the beach.

Balaclava / St Kilda East

- Respondents appreciated acknowledgement of the lack of open public space in the Balaclava / St Kilda area and the plan to address this.

I am excited to see more mixed-use space and the floating of a proposal (rather than a specific action) to increase public space in Balaclava.

Elwood / Ripponlea

- Most of the comments regarding Elwood / Ripponlea offered support for the proposed Elwood Foreshore upgrade.

Improving Ripponlea's only park and Elwood foreshore.

Port Melbourne

- Respondents were excited about the dog-off-leash park (fenced) in Port Melbourne and the improvements proposed for the Port Melbourne area, including the State Government's upgrades to the Station Pier and improvements to Waterfront Place.

Waterfront Place upgrade. It needs to be big, bold and bright to make it a wonderful destination not only for locals to be proud of but importantly to attract people to the area to stimulate the local economy.

South Melbourne

- Respondents were excited about the potential upgrade and expansion of Sol Green Reserve, the development of more park amenity around South Melbourne Market, and road access improvements.

An upgrade and expansion to Sol Green Reserve.

St Kilda Road

- Respondents were excited about the proposed advocacy to Parks Victoria to enhance and improve accessibility to Albert Park.

it's good to enhance Albert Park reserve and make it more accessible for residents who don't usually go there.

St Kilda / St Kilda West

- Respondents were excited about improvements to the St Kilda foreshore, including the St Kilda Pier and surrounds, the St Kilda Marina and the St Kilda Triangle site.

St Kilda will be an amazing space attracting visitors domestically and internationally.

Fishermans Bend

- One respondent commented that they were most excited about the 'grand vision' for Fishermans Bend.

Comments not related to a specific area

- A sizeable number of comments were not related to a specific area.
 - The most commonly mentioned element that respondents in this group were excited about was having more greenery and open space.
 - Respondents were also excited about the draft Strategy and its ambitions in general; the improvement/beautification of Port Phillip; the focus on sustainability; and proposed improvements to play spaces.

Emphasis on improving existing reserves and increasing greening of the suburb with additional tree plantings.

That the council is willing to undertake such ambitious projects. If current times have taught us anything, it's that our immediate surrounds are vital to our physical and mental well-being.



What are you most concerned about in this draft Strategy?

Albert Park / Middle Park

- Respondents felt that the draft Strategy lacked pedestrian safety considerations and were worried that there would be a lack of action around these proposals, meaning that it might not get done.

Lack of a pedestrian and cycling strategy for Albert Park Lake.

Balaclava / St Kilda East

- Respondents called for more planting to help combat the urban heat block and proposed how nature strips would provide welcome respite from the sun. Respondents were also keen to see more dog-off-leash parks established.

The climate emergency requires that CoPP act much more speedily to lower the ambient temperature in streets especially the Balaclava / East St Kilda area which is deficient of open space and large trees.

Elwood / Ripponlea

- Respondents made varied comments about their concerns related to the Elwood/Ripponlea area. These included concerns about how the increase in people using the foreshore during the COVID-19 pandemic will be accommodated for; whether local residents can be more involved in planning park upgrades; more seating on Ormond Road; a pump track for children to use; and more dog-off-leash parks.

The lack of off leash dog areas in Elwood hasn't been addressed properly.

Port Melbourne

- Respondents felt the area was in desperate need of attention and wanted more beach facilities to be provided such as running and bike paths. Respondents also suggested that there is no need for more dog-off-leash space to be provided in Port Melbourne.

Footpaths in Port Melbourne are atrocious and really need improvement. I'd also like better trees planted in the area. There is a monumental difference between the greenscape of Albert Park compared to Port Melbourne.

South Melbourne

- One respondent called simply for Vincent Gardens playground to be fixed, while another respondent expressed concerns about how events held in Albert Park unfairly impact on the residents of South Melbourne.

St Kilda Road

- People were worried about the impact that proposed changes would have on those using the golf course and wanted a plan for better access to Albert Park.

St Kilda / St Kilda West

- Safety in St Kilda was a concern for some respondents and there was a suggestion for better lighting, cameras, and a police presence.

Main concern is AP golf course and driving range - do not want any unfavourable impacts from a player's perspective.

Fishermans Bend

- Comments here were focused on access to the area and called for more green space.

Making sure there is enough green space in the new developments in fishermen's bend to avoid over crowding port Melbourne.

Concerns not specific to an area

- A sizeable number of respondents made comments that were not related to a specific area.
 - A moderate number of respondents shared general concerns about the draft Strategy, such as concern about a lack of 'vision', or action.
 - Several comments expressed concern that the timeframes allowed were too long, while others worried that the proposed work would not be completed within the timeframe.
 - Concerns about funding were raised by respondents who worried about the cost of the proposed actions and how they would be funded.
 - Other areas of concern included sustainability and how biodiversity would be fostered; road space issues such as car parking and safety; and dog-off-leash parks, which respondents made arguments both in support of and opposition to.

Not ambitious enough for time frame

The lack of specific recognition of community gardens in the action items despite an in principle commitment to support them.

The lack of focus on sustainability initiatives in public spaces.

City Road intersections safety concerns especially when cycling.

Do you have any other suggestions?

- A sizeable number of comments offered suggestions for community spaces. Some of these comments were more unique, one-off comments, while other common themes arose.
 - The most common themes within comments about community spaces were discussions about dog-off-leash parks; a desire for community gardens; and public amenities such as seating and public toilets.

Somewhere to have a nice lunch and with a kids' area.

The odd drinking fountain would be great.

*greater collaboration with Parks Victoria to improve facilities within Albert Park Reserve...
more joint projects*

*Please put a proper fence around the albert park reserve / Albert Road 'dog off leash' zone.
It is under-utilised because people don't feel safe with their dogs off lead near such a main
road.*

- A considerable number of respondents had suggestions for specific road space improvements, most of which were aimed at improving the safety of pedestrians and cyclists; improving access to public spaces; and generally beautifying areas around Port Phillip.

*Please also continue to advocate for better bike lanes. A couple of painted lines don't do
anything. Barkly Street, for example, is a bike rider's nightmare.*

- A moderate number of comments offered suggestions about trees and plants, mostly suggesting that more trees should be planted.

*Another thing that could be done is to put planters for canopy trees in the middle of the
street.*

- Sports and recreation facilities such as playgrounds, sailing clubs and golf courses were mentioned in a moderate number of comments. Respondents wanted these facilities improved, or wanted to see new facilities added to Port Phillip's public spaces.
- Several comments suggested ways that CoPP could better engage and acknowledge indigenous groups and support other cultural aspects within Port Phillip's public spaces.

*Introduce monuments of greater historic significance. Give tribute to our past, and our
indigenous past.*