

Local Area Traffic Management Plan – Altona North

Background to this project

Council has been listening to residents' concerns about road safety in the area bordered by Blackshaws Road, Mills Street, Mason Street and Millers Road.

Data from traffic volume studies and the high rate of accidents in the precinct support the concerns raised by residents. This augmented community concerns about 'hooning' and 'rat running' motorist behaviour.

Funding has been received under the Federal Government's Black Spot Funding Program to address safety concerns with a holistic view of the issues in this precinct in order to avoid pushing the problem into nearby streets.

Concept plans were developed with the goal of increasing safety, enabling a more pedestrian friendly environment and reducing the number of accidents. Council asked the surrounding community for feedback on these plans.

This report presents the feedback that Council received from this consultation. Changes to the concept plan will reflect the best outcome for the community, addressing the objective of this project of increasing road safety for all members of the community.

The Engagement Process

We thank everyone who took the time to get involved in this project. Where possible, the information received has informed updates in the amended concept plan. The consultation process for this project was open from 25 August 2020 through to 20 September 2020. During that time, the project was viewed 743 times with 504 individual visitors to the site. The project received 34 contributions through the online engagement process. 65% of these visitors access the site through social media posts while a further 26% access the site directly from letterbox drop material issued to the precinct. A further 6 emails were received as supporting information to the consultation process.

The number of views this project received against the number of actual responses indicates that the majority of people who visited the page felt that the proposal was appropriate and didn't feel the need to contribute their thoughts to the process.

Consultation was also undertaken with the Parents Committee of the Altona North Primary School to gain a better understanding of the issues faced by the school community. Further engagement with the school community will occur at a later date to address issues and Council will monitor issues to determine if additional works are required.

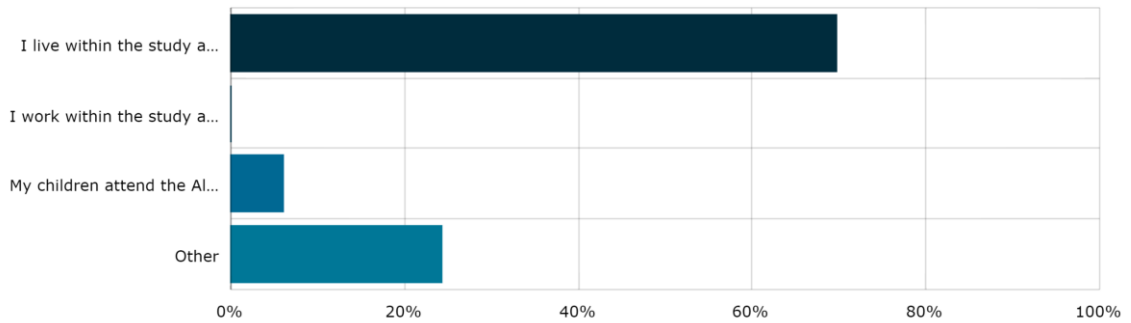
Consultation has also occurred with the Victoria Police in relation to 'hooning' behaviour and Council will continue to work collaboratively with Victoria Police to resolve these issues in this area of Altona North.

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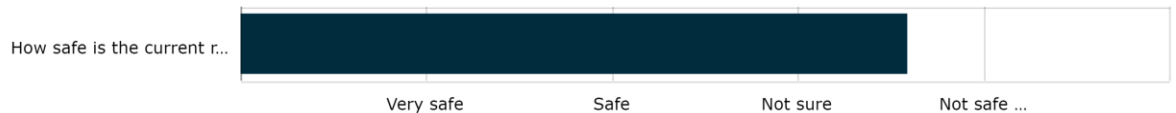
What we heard from the community

Who got involved in this consultation?

69.70% of respondents live within the precinct.

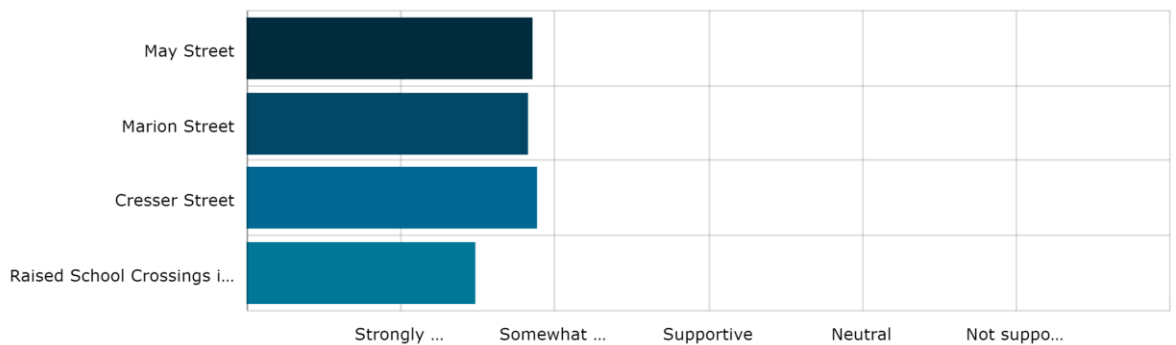


We heard that 75% of respondents thought that the current road environment in this section of Altona North is not safe at all.



The main reasons stated for not feeling safe was the hooning / irresponsible driving behaviour and speeding issues throughout the precinct.

We heard that you are somewhat supportive of the proposed traffic treatments on May Street, Marion Street, Cresser Reserve and the raised school crossing intersections.



We heard that 72.73% of residents support the implementation of a lowered speed limit of 40km/hr throughout the entire precinct.



Reflective of the proposed lowered speed limit there were a number of traffic treatments that were not supported, these include:

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- Concerns that the raised platforms were not enough (2)
- Concerns that cars can get around the speed humps (2)
- More focus of treatments around Langshaws Reserve (1)
- Don't like the pedestrian refuges on Mills Street (1)
- Prefer Wombat Crossings with safe pedestrian access (1)
- Don't like the threshold treatments (1)

We heard that there are a couple of issues that we need to address in this precinct

There is a strong wish for:

- More bike lanes within the precinct (7)
- For Council and Victoria Police to address the hooning issues in the precinct (6)
- Make pedestrians a priority (3)
- Better footpath connections at intersections (2)
- Address vehicles not stopping at zebra crossings (2)
- Parking issues (1)

There were a number of suggestions made to further improved traffic within the precinct. These include:

- Need for more pedestrian friendly / safe infrastructure (1)
- Traffic devices need to go further (1)
- Enforcement required (1)
- Install stop signs at Sixth Avenue and May Street (1)
- Need for protected bike lanes (1)

How your feedback has informed the concept design

Based on your feedback, where possible, Council has amended the concept designs for the Altona North Precinct with a strong focus addressing paths of travel for pedestrians and cyclists to the Altona North Primary School. A number of changes surrounding the school precinct have also been designed to ensure the safety of the most vulnerable members of our community including installing raised treatments at more intersections to address concerns that the speed humps and cushions are not effective.

Updated concept plans detailing the changes to the concept plans based on community feedback are available at www.participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/altonanorthLATM

Next Steps

Given the adjustments to the concept plans based on the community feedback we have received, Council will now proceed through to the implementation stage of these works. We have prioritised the works on Marion Street, which received Federal Government Blackspot funding, to occur first. We anticipate these works to occur in early January 2021. A works notice will be issued to residents on Marion Street two weeks prior to these works occurring. The remaining works will be packaged together for inclusion and implementation over the coming financial years.

There is a strong theme received from the consultation that the proposed traffic treatments do not go far enough. Taking this on board, Council has proceeded with an application to the Department of Transport for a speed limit reduction within the precinct.

Council will also monitor the effects of the traffic calming treatments to ensure the ongoing safety of residents within the precinct.

Council has also increased the traffic calming treatments surrounding the Altona North Primary School including the installation of more raised treatments at intersections to address concerns that speed humps and cushions are not effective. We will continue the conversation with the Altona

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North Primary School community to ensure that the children's safety in this area is a priority. This will also include further conversations with the residents in the streets surrounding the school.

There were a number of traffic issues identified through this consultation that sit outside the scope of this project. This information has been forwarded onto Council's Local Area Movement Plans (LAMPs) Northern Package Project Team. The LAMPs are now out for consultation and we strongly encourage you to get involved and provide your feedback on the current condition of the transport network in the northern section of Hobsons Bay. The information that you have already provided in the consultation process has already been included so there is no need to re-enter this feedback. For more information and to provide feedback, visit www.participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/northernlamps

If you have any queries regarding this process or would like to talk to members of the project team call Council on 1300 179 994 or email projects@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au



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