

WILLIAMSTOWN FORESHORE PRECINCT

WHAT WE HEARD Report (October – December 2023)

The Williamstown Foreshore precinct is a place for living, locals, visitors of all kinds and an ecologically significant coastal environment. In the face of climate change, the precinct is committed to supporting and integrating climate positive design, increasing biodiversity and celebrating cultural heritage and storytelling. This design process will inform planning and projects to meet the needs of the community, the precinct as a tourism destination and protection of the coastal landscape for now and into the future.

The Williamstown Foreshore precinct concept designs highlighted what could be possible in the space, the purpose of community consultation was to find out what people would like to see along the foreshore.



**HOBSONS BAY
LANGUAGE LINE**

9932 1212

INTERPRETER SERVICE FOR ALL LANGUAGES
Your Council in your language

**HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL**



WILLIAMSTOWN FORESHORE PRECINCT

WHAT WE HEARD (October – December 2023)

The community engagement process

Community engagement opportunities are outlined below and were also shared via Council's digital platforms.

- **an online survey** on the project's website on Participate Hobsons Bay
- **two drop-in sessions** at Williamstown Swimming and Life Saving Club and Williamstown Farmers Market
- **hard copy returnable surveys** shared at the drop-in session
- **email feedback received by the project team**

Who got involved?

As part of the consultation, 433 responses were received in total (339 online survey responses and 94 hard copy survey responses). Of the respondents:

- 73.4% were Williamstown residents
- 22.4% were from other Hobsons Bay suburbs
- We also heard from: members of the Williamstown Surf Life Saving Club (6.2%), members of other local groups and organisations (5.5%), visitors to the area (3.9%), local business owners (1.2%) students in the area (0.5%), and other connections (3.0%). Hard-copy survey respondents were able to choose more than one option.

The project's page on the Participate Hobsons Bay website received 2,898 views from 1,944 individual site visitors during the engagement period.

An estimated 60 people came to the drop-in session.

WILLIAMSTOWN FORESHORE PRECINCT

WHAT WE HEARD (October – December 2023)

What we heard

We asked what the community loves or values about the Williamstown foreshore. These are some of the top works and themes that emerged from the responses:



Satisfaction with draft concept plans

We asked how satisfied the respondents were with the draft concept plans for each reserve. Feedback for the reserves were quite similar, with the majority of ratings falling under the 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied'

On average across all reserves:

- **56%** of respondents rated the concept plans positively (blue);
- **27%** rated the plans negatively (yellow), and;
- **17%** were neither satisfied or unsatisfied (grey).



97% of survey respondents answered this question

WILLIAMSTOWN FORESHORE PRECINCT

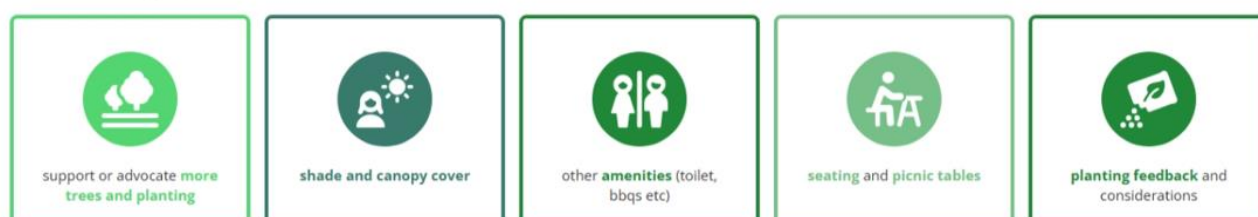
WHAT WE HEARD (October – December 2023)

Feedback and suggestions

We asked for feedback on the concept plans for Williamstown Foreshore. This is what we heard:

Gloucester Reserve

29.8% of online survey respondents provided feedback for Gloucester Reserve.



Williamstown Beach and Sadler Reserve

49.9% of online survey respondents provided feedback for Williamstown Beach and Sadler Reserve



Bathing Pavilion and Rotunda Precinct

18.9% of online survey respondents provided feedback for Bathing Pavilion and Rotunda Precinct



Hatt Reserve

26.3% of online survey respondents provided feedback for Hatt Reserve



**HOBSONS BAY
LANGUAGE LINE**

9932 1212
INTERPRETER SERVICE FOR ALL LANGUAGES
Your Council in your language

**HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL**



WILLIAMSTOWN FORESHORE PRECINCT

WHAT WE HEARD (October – December 2023)

Cyril Curtain Reserve

29.2% of online survey respondents provided feedback for Cyril Curtain Reserve



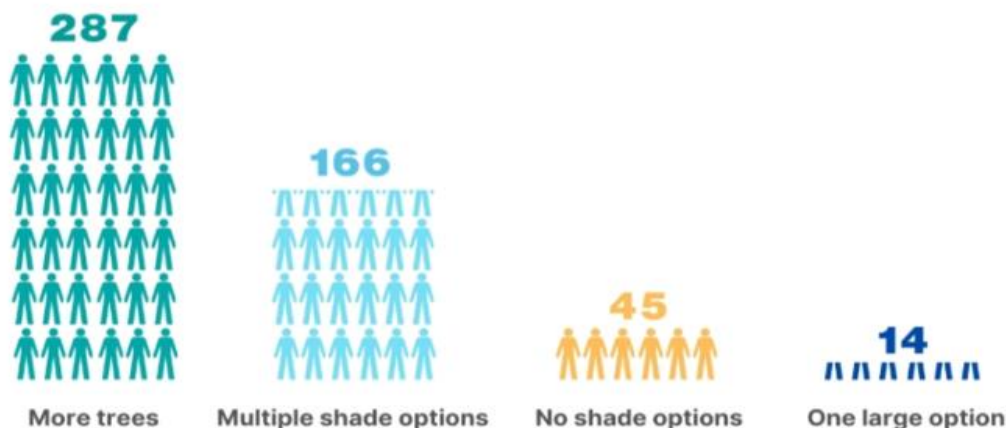
Overall concept plan feedback

81.9% of hard copy survey respondents provided feedback on the overall concept plan



Shade preferences

We asked what type of shade the community would prefer to see along the foreshore area. The majority of respondents wanted to see more trees and multiple shade options.



93.5% of survey respondents answered this question. Respondents were able to choose more than one response.



**HOBSONS BAY
LANGUAGE LINE**

9932 1212

INTERPRETER SERVICE FOR ALL LANGUAGES
Your Council in your language

**HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL**



WILLIAMSTOWN FORESHORE PRECINCT

WHAT WE HEARD (October – December 2023)

Improving accessibility

Suggestions were received on how we can improve accessibility along the Williamstown foreshore:

- Waterproof wheelchair system that enables people to be taken into the water
- Tables and chairs correctly installed so as to make 'driving' on the concrete pad feasible
- Ramp spaces distributed along the foreshore to paths
- Accessible paths and facilities
- Protected shaded areas for people with reduced mobility
- Make sure playgrounds are accessible for all
- Greater separation of walkers and bike riders

Other feedback and ideas

- More plantings of indigenous trees and shrubs, areas where wildlife can exist away from human contact
- Add water play park, ocean pool, lagoon pool; something that increases the interest and value of the foreshore
- To try and keep a sense of the natural world about it, and not make it too manicured and developed – try to preserve a sense of 'real place'
- An exercise or fitness station somewhere in the precinct would be great to support a healthy lifestyle
- Better weed control of grassed areas and extension of watering would greatly improve the foreshore area
- Signage showing natural and indigenous history of the area
- Easily accessible outdoor showers and/or taps to clean feet
- Although tree planting and shade options were largely supported, there were some strong opinions from local residents to engage further before any tree planting is completed, to ensure property views are not impacted.

Next Steps

Further community engagement will take place for foreshore projects as funding is allocated through Council's Capital Works Program.



**HOBSONS BAY
LANGUAGE LINE**

9932 1212

INTERPRETER SERVICE FOR ALL LANGUAGES
Your Council in your language

**HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL**





**HOBSONS BAY
LANGUAGE LINE**

9932 1212

INTERPRETER SERVICE FOR ALL LANGUAGES
Your Council in your language

**HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL**

