

ALTONA MEADOWS TRAFFIC TREATMENTS

WHAT WE HEARD

Background

Based on feedback received from the Altona Meadows community surrounding the Altona Meadows Primary School, Council developed a draft concept plan detailing a range of proposed traffic treatments within Altona Meadows to provide a safer and more pedestrian friendly environment.

The proposed traffic improvement works were limited to Queen Street, Alma Avenue, Hall Avenue, Orville Street, Nicholson Street and Victoria Street, Altona Meadows and included:

- **change to traffic direction** from two way to one way along Orville Street and Nicholson Street, designed to improve the safety of children around the Altona Meadows Primary School
- **kerb outstands** to reduce the width and provide a more pedestrian friendly intersection at both Orville Street and Nicholson Street and Hall Street and Alma Avenue
- **raised platforms** including two **raised pedestrian crossings** at multiple locations to slow traffic and improve pedestrian safety and accessibility
- **pram crossings**, providing a safe connection from the footpath to the road at crossing points and improve north south pedestrian connectivity along Alma Avenue
- **raised intersections** to encourage drivers to slow as they enter the intersections onto Hall Street and Alma Street
- **flat top humps** at multiple locations to lower vehicle speeds
- **pedestrian refuge islands** to protect pedestrians as they cross the larger and busier roads
- **reduced speed limit** along a section of Victoria Street to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety

The community engagement process

At the time of this project, face-to-face consultations were unable to proceed due to COVID-19 restrictions. As an alternative, online engagement tools were used including:

- **Online Survey:** review the draft concept plan before providing feedback on the traffic improvement works via the feedback survey on Participate Hobsons Bay
- **Email:** share your feedback to the Project Team by emailing projects@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

Who got involved

The project's webpage on Participate Hobsons Bay received 677 site visits during the engagement period between 13 August and 4 September 2020.

The community engagement process received 246 specific items of feedback on the draft concept plan including 60 responses to the online survey, eight email submissions and five submissions over the phone.

Almost all respondents were from Altona Meadows (87%). Other respondents were from Seabrook, Altona and Point Cook. There was significant interest by those aged 25-44 years, this age demographic making up over 50% of all responses.

Facebook posts delivered a combined reach to over 9,500 people and 800 post clicks, whilst Twitter reached more than 5,700 people.



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What we heard from the community

Existing conditions

Feedback was divided as to the safety of the current road environment in this section of Altona Meadows. Around 58% deemed the road environment very safe or fairly safe, with 35% considering it very unsafe or fairly unsafe. 7% of respondents were unsure either way.

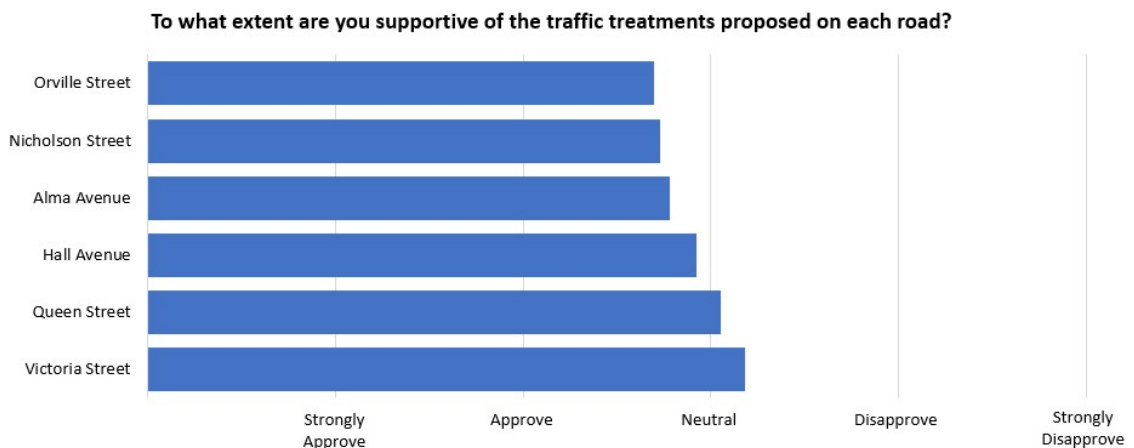
There were concerns of speeding vehicles in the area and specifically in Victoria Street. Concerns were also raised of pedestrian and cyclist safety along Queen Street.

Support for recommendations made

Survey respondents were asked to what extent did they agree with the traffic treatments and safety actions proposed within this area of Altona Meadows.

The proposed traffic treatments for Orville Street and Nicholson Street were most supported, while those for Victoria Street and Queen Street were least supported. Alma Avenue and Hall Avenue received support in between the 'approve' and 'neutral' level.

A summary of these results is presented below.



Suggested improvements to proposed plans

Respondents were given the opportunity to provide comments on areas of the proposed traffic treatments that they disagreed with or that they would like to see changed or included within the plans. The top five overall comments that were received included:

- unresponsive of additional speed humps in area, in particular along Victoria Street
- unresponsive of raised platforms along Queen Street
- unresponsive of raised intersections along Alma Avenue and Hall Avenue, and raised platforms along Alma Avenue
- request for improved pedestrian connectivity along Queen Street
- the road environment in this area is currently safe

There were requests to review of the amount of speed humps required along Victoria Street to deter excessive vehicle speeds and if a fixed speed camera could be installed. Requests were also received to include a raised pedestrian crossing in Queen Street to address pedestrian connectivity. Some comments were made requesting for dedicated turning lanes in Queen Street.

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Other comments received related to bicycle lanes, council services, signage and public transport. These will all be taken into consideration within the overall feedback received.

Additional areas outside the project area

Council asked if there were any additional traffic treatments required in the area or if there were any other road safety issues nearby this area of Altona Meadows. These will be passed onto Council's Infrastructure and City Services Department to review.

Next steps

We would like to thank everyone for their contributions and interest in improving safety for pedestrians and residents in this area of Altona Meadows.

Council received overwhelming support for the two proposed refuge islands in Queen Street which will improve pedestrian safety and connectivity.

Council has an opportunity to bring forward these refuge islands works, commencing in late November 2020. Residents directly impacted by these works will receive a works notification in advance of any construction with more information.

Council will evaluate all other contributions made, with this valuable information informing any further changes to proposed traffic treatments and safety actions before these plans are finalised.

Other feedback received identified other road safety danger spots nearby. Council officers will review these identified areas in due course.

To keep informed on this project, visit [Participate Hobsons Bay](#).

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact 1300 179 944 or email projects@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au and ask to speak with a member of the Project Team.