

# ELSTERNWICK CONSULTATION SNAP-SHOT

## Stage Two: Transforming our neighbourhoods together



### Background

In 2016 Council undertook a major Planning Scheme Review and identified the need for the introduction of structure plans for Bentleigh, Carnegie and Elsternwick Activity Centres. Throughout December 2016-February 2017 Council started the process by asking residents what they love about their shopping strip. The Elsternwick survey was completed by 356 respondents, with responses used to develop a draft vision, objectives and concept project ideas.

### Methodology

Stage two of consultation *transforming our neighbourhoods together* sought to test this vision, objectives and concept project ideas with the community. Consultation ran from 10 March – 9 April 2017. Details of how to provide feedback were mailed to Elsternwick residents, emailed to those who completed the stage one survey and also promoted in various Council publications. Feedback on the ideas was captured through an online survey, at community drop-in sessions, via mail/email submissions, Facebook comments and telephone calls.

The information has been analysed to identify specific patterns and themes in responses. The summaries have been generated from all forms of feedback however percentages only relate to surveys. Note caution should be taken when considering level of support due to the small numbers of respondents. Data should only be used as a general indication.

### Stage two consultation

Surveys: 81

Drop-in sessions: 55

Email/mail submissions: 3

### Concept one 'Create a new community hub and additional car parking'

Strong support – 34.6%  
 Some support - 42%  
 Do not support – 18.5%  
 Not fussed – 4.9%

<u>Northern Car Park</u>	<u>South-Eastern Car Park</u>	<u>South-Western Car Park</u>	<u>Other Sites</u>
Strong support – 39.6%	Strong support – 32.1%	Strong support – 32.1%	Strong support – 28%
Some support – 20.8%	Some support – 35.8%	Some support – 37.5%	Some support -22%
Do not support – 32.1%	Do not support – 24.5%	Do not support – 26.8%	Do not support – 34%
Not fussed – 7.5%	Not fussed – 7.5%	Not fussed – 3.6%	Not fussed – 16%

No change  
 Strong support – 33.3%  
 Some support – 12.5%  
 Do not support – 50%  
 Not fussed – 4.2%

This concept received a mixed response. Most comments were in relation to the car park options. Some felt that more parking was needed; others thought parking was adequate and we should encourage walking, cycling and public transport use instead. Some thought the suggested locations were good with no clear preferred option, so long as it is good quality and blends into its surroundings. Others thought that parking should be spread across the centre not in one centralised spot. Some suggested below ground parking instead.

### Concept two 'Create a vibrant cultural and entertainment precinct'

Strong support – 51.9%  
 Some support – 36.7%  
 Do not support – 10.1%  
 Not fussed – 1.3%

Concept two was the most widely supported concept. Respondents saw this concept as an opportunity to revitalise the precinct, building on the recent improvements including Elsternwick Plaza which have given that end of Glenhuntly Road some added vibrancy. They felt it could become a destination to visit and bring the community together.

Some supported the concept so long as heights were limited and the area remains in character with Elsternwick. Others felt that there was already enough development in the area and were concerned about a possible negative impact on residents and traffic flow.

### Concept three 'Transition Elsternwick to a pedestrian friendly centre'

Strong support – 45%  
 Some support – 23.8%  
 Do not support – 26.3%  
 Not fussed – 5.0%

<u>Beavis Street closure</u>	<u>Downshire Road closure</u>	<u>Other options</u>	<u>No change</u>
Strong support – 30.2%	Strong support – 30.2%	Strong support – 26.1%	Strong support – 36.6%
Some support – 30.2%	Some support – 19.0%	Some support – 30.4%	Some support – 12.2%
Do not support – 30.2%	Do not support – 39.7%	Do not support – 30.4%	Do not support – 43.9%
Not fussed – 9.5%	Not fussed – 11.1%	Not fussed – 13.0%	Not fussed – 7.3%

This concept was supported by around three quarters of respondents. Beavis Street closure was slightly more preferred. A focus on pedestrians, cyclists and public transport over cars was seen by some as very important. Increased safety and encouraging walking were considered the main benefit as well as the opportunity to include more greenery/open space and re-energise that end of Glenhuntly Road.

Key concerns were around increased traffic on surrounding streets and the inconvenience caused to residents and those needing to use those streets. This includes access to local schools for the Beavis Street option. Some couldn't see any benefit or thought it would be a challenge to get it right with not enough pedestrian

traffic to make it work/worthwhile.

## **Development**

There was limited feedback received about feedback in this consultation however comments received echoed the views provided in previous consultations and in other centres across Glen Eira. Development needs to be controlled, residential areas respected and neighbourhood character maintained. It was suggested that any future development should be located near the station, should include parking and shouldn't impact on amenity.

There was seen to be a need for a variety of housing types including for families. It was noted that diversity includes income as well as ethnicity so development should include social housing components where appropriate.