

Community Consultation Report

MOONEE PONDS CREEK TRAIL

SHARED PATH UPGRADE:

Strathmore

FEBRUARY 2025



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1. Summary

1.1 Background

Moonee Valley City Council is committed to creating a connected city of accessible, active and sustainable transport choices, as outlined in our long-term strategy, MV2040. Between 25 November 2024 and 5 January 2025, Council consulted with community about plans to increase safety of the shared use path along the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail, in the vicinity of Strathmore Secondary College.

The project sought community feedback on the following design improvements:

- Reconstruction and widening of the existing shared path approaching the railway underpass
- A raised and widened boardwalk structure at the railway underpass
- Earthworks and retaining walls to improve sightlines for cyclists
- Bicycle safety barrier fencing adjacent to the steep drop-off to Moonee Ponds Creek
- New signage and line-marking for enhanced cyclist safety
- Landscaping and re-vegetation of affected areas

Feedback received during this consultation will inform the detailed design work for this project and guide future shared use path initiatives.

1.2 Engagement strategies

Community members could contribute to the consultation via:

1. A dedicated [Your Say page](#) (Appendix 6.1) which linked people to the online survey (Appendix 6.2), the Design Concept Plans and artists' impressions of the proposed design concept.
2. A QR code included on an onsite poster (Appendix 6.3) which linked people to the online survey (and associated information) via the Your Say page.

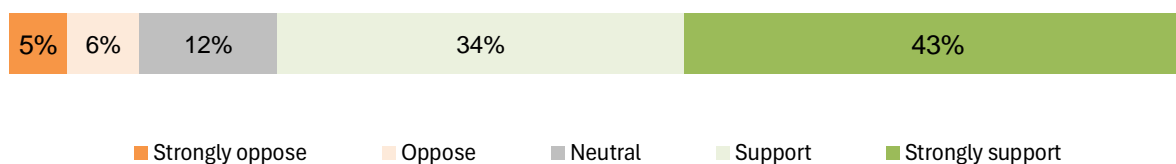
A total of 200 people participated in the consultation.

1.3 Key findings

- When asked if they use the Moonee Ponds Creek trail path, most (98%) respondents to this question said yes.

- When participants were asked how they typically use the path, nearly half (49%) the respondents said they use the path for cycling, 32% said they use it for walking and 17% for running. 45% stated they use the path for more than one of these purposes.
- When asked what their main concerns were when using the path:
 - Nearly half of the 300 separately themed comments (49%, n=146) were directly relevant to the proposed changes.
 - The majority (n=137) of these comments were supportive of the proposed changes; to address five themed safety concerns about the path's sharp and blind corners, narrow width, steep gradients and drop offs, lack of safety barriers, and generally unsafe design.
 - A small number (n=9) of comments expressed negative sentiment about the proposed changes, due to perceived impacts on the natural environment and unwarranted expense.
 - More than half (51%, n=154) of the themed comments in response to this question were beyond the direct scope of the current proposal. This included five themed concerns about:
 - Safety issues in relation to shared use/user behaviour
 - Poor cleanliness and maintenance of the path and creek
 - Poor lighting and personal safety
 - Inadequate landscaping and vegetation
 - Other broader suggestions and concerns relevant to the path, creek and wider active transport infrastructure.
- Overall, most respondents either strongly supported (43%) or supported (34%) the proposed upgrade of the path:

Figure 1. Level of support for the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail shared use path upgrade



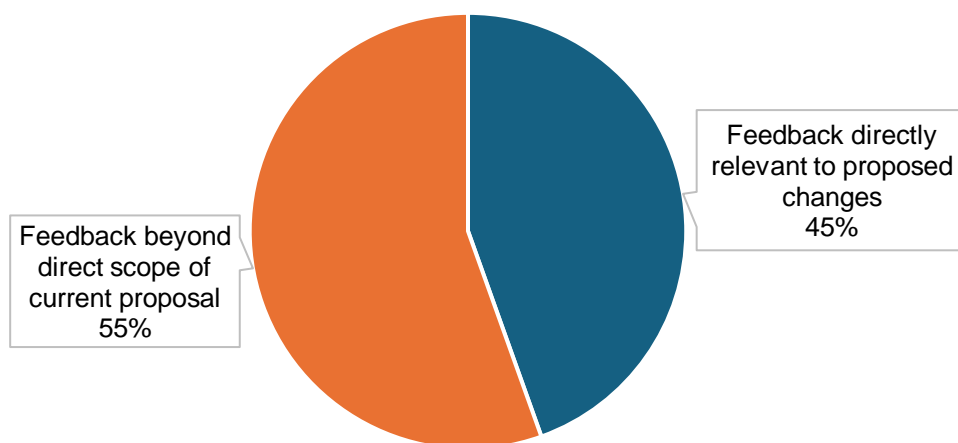
- When asked if there is anything else that is important for Council to understand about the shared use path:
 - 37% (n=62) of responses were directly relevant to the proposed changes.

- The majority (58%, n=36) of these comments were supportive of the proposed changes; to address the same themed safety concerns identified via the previous question.
- The remaining 42% (n=26) of comments expressed negative sentiment about the proposed changes, due to perceived negative impacts on the natural environment and unwarranted expense.
- More than half (63%, n=105) of the responses to this question were beyond the direct scope of the current proposal. This included the same five themed concerns identified via the previous question.

Similar concerns and suggestions were raised via email submissions to Council and comments on social media.

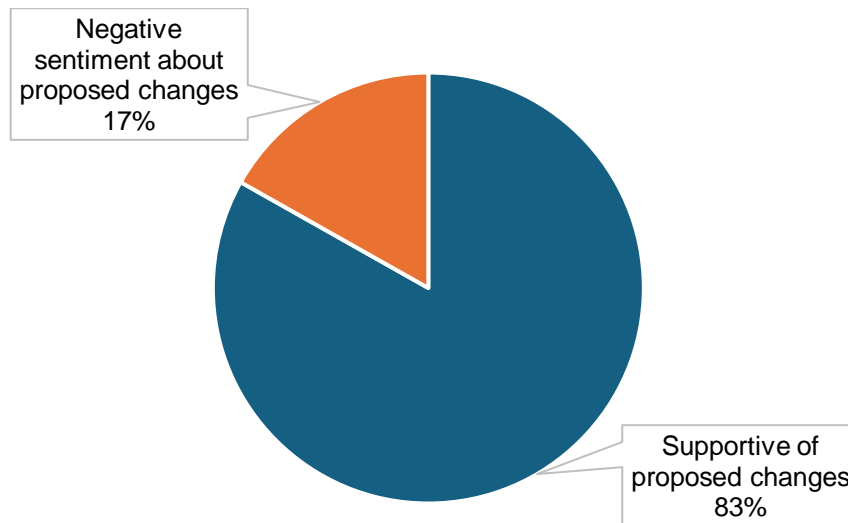
Overall, when feedback from the two questions about concerns and considerations regarding the shared use path were combined, most (55%) was beyond the direct scope of the current proposal:

Figure 2. Overall direct relevance of feedback to the proposed changes



Of the combined feedback which was directly relevant to the proposed changes, most (83%) was supportive:

Figure 3. Overall supportive versus negative sentiment about the proposed changes



2. Introduction

Participants were invited to provide feedback about their level and nature of use of the shared path, main concerns when using the path, level of support for the proposed improvements and any other important considerations.

2.1 Key engagement questions

The survey asked respondents:

- Do you use the shared use path on the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail?
- How do you typically use the shared use path on the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail?
- What are your main concerns when using the shared use path on the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail?
- To what extent do you oppose or support the proposed improvements to the shared use path on the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail?
- Is there anything else that is important for Council to understand when thinking about this shared use path?

Survey respondents were also asked questions about their demographic characteristics, as outlined in Section 2.3 below.

3. Methodology

3.1 Communication

Participants were informed about the proposed upgrade via the onsite posters, Your Say page (including the Design Concept Plans and artists' impressions of the proposed design concept), social media posts (Appendix 6.4) and internal and community newsletters.

3.2 Participation

The table below provides information about consultation participation.

Table 1. Consultation participation

Consultation	Engagement Type	Participation
Your Say website	Page views	1437
	Page visits	1063
	Unique page visitors	967
	Project followers	13
Online survey	Survey responses	159 complete 28 partial
Email submissions	Emails sent to Council	3
Facebook	Social media comments	10
Total respondents: 200		

3.3 Theming framework

Based on a sample of 100 free text responses to the two qualitative engagement questions about the proposed shared path upgrade, a framework was developed to code community feedback against key themes. Some comments were assigned more than one code to reflect multiple themes identified within the one comment. The framework was refined throughout the coding process, with seven themes and five subthemes identified, as summarised below.

A. Feedback directly relevant to proposed changes		
1. Supportive of proposed changes Supportive of the need for various elements of the proposed path upgrade to address five main safety concerns reflected in the sub-themes below.		
1.1	Path width	The path is too narrow for shared path users to safely pass each other and needs to be widened, both at the proposed upgrade location, and other areas of the path, particularly corners.
1.2	Sharp and blind corners	Risk of cyclists or scooters colliding with other users or overshooting the path due to difficulty navigating tight corners, poor line of sight and the absence of safety barriers.
1.3	Steep gradients and drop-offs	Risk of cyclists falling down the path embankment at high speed due to increased speed on steep descents and the absence of barriers. Accessibility concerns regarding young children and wheelchair users due to steep inclines.
1.4	Safety barriers	Specific calls for safety barriers at the proposed upgrade location, and other areas of the path.
1.5	General safety	Unspecified/overall safety concerns about the path design and use.
2. Negative sentiment about proposed changes Concerns about the design of the proposed upgrade due to negative impacts on the natural environment and unwarranted expense.		
B. Feedback beyond direct scope of current proposal		
3	Shared use/user behaviour concerns	Safety concerns in relation to behaviour of shared path users and suggestions to separate pedestrians from cyclists.
4	Cleanliness and maintenance	Concerns about rubbish, graffiti, and maintenance of trees, weeds and the surface of the path.

5	Poor lighting and personal safety	Personal safety concerns due to poor lighting, crime, rough sleepers, isolated sections of the path and an absence of surveillance cameras.
6	Landscaping and vegetation	Concerns about limited greenery/vegetation and shade in the proposed upgrade.
7	Broader suggestions and concerns	A variety of broader concerns including the poor visual appeal of the path and creek (due to the amount of concrete), flooding, connectivity of the path and broader active transport infrastructure, disruption caused by the works, and calls for increased activation, beautification and amenity of the path and continued community engagement about proposed upgrades.

3.4 Survey respondent demographics

3.4.1 Connection to Moonee Valley

Survey respondents were asked to identify their connection to Moonee Valley, with the ability to select multiple of the following options:

- I live here
- I work here
- I own property
- I own a business
- I am associated with a business or community group/organisation.

Of those who responded to this question (n=156), 100 indicated they live in Moonee Valley. There were also numerous visitors to the area (n=56), along with local property owners (n=40), workers (n=23), and several with other local connections, as illustrated in the graph below.

Figure 4. Connection to Moonee Valley



3.4.2 Type of business, community group or organisation association

Respondents (n=10) who were associated with a business or community group /organisation were asked to identify the name of the business or community group /organisation. 10 respondents answered this question and identified 7 unique associations as listed in the table below.

Table 2. Type of business, community group/organisation association

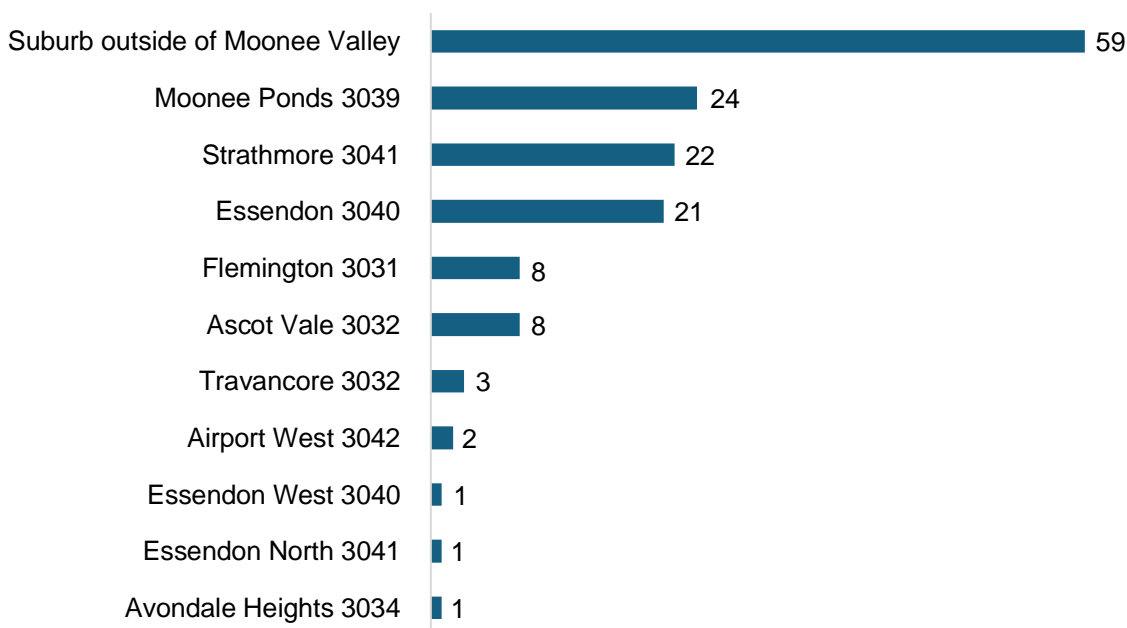
Name of business, community group or organisation	No. of respondents
Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek	2
Moonee Valley Bicycle User Group (BUG)	2
Multiple sporting clubs (e.g. football, cycling)	2
Northern dog obedience club	1
Repair Cafe	1
JP and MVCC Disability Advisory Group (DAC)	1
Moonee Valley Sustainability	1

3.4.3 Suburb of residence

Respondents were asked to identify the suburb they live in. Of those who responded to this question (n=150), 59 were from suburbs outside of Moonee Valley. Of the local

residents (n=91), most were from Moonee Ponds (n=24), Strathmore (n=22) and Essendon (n=21), with smaller numbers from other suburbs in Moonee Valley, as illustrated in the graph below.

Figure 5. Suburb of residence



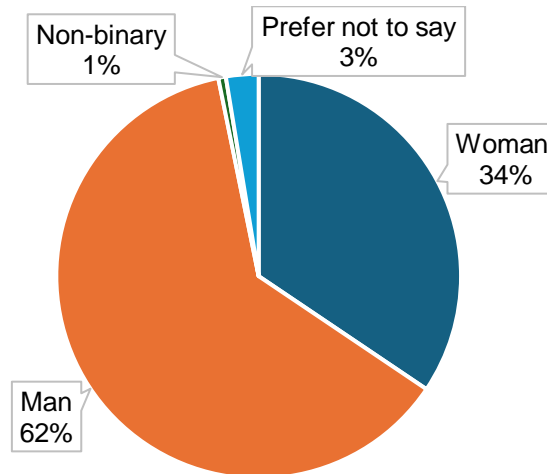
Of those who identified that they lived in a suburb outside of Moonee Valley, the following suburbs were listed:

- Pascoe Vale (n=13)
- Glenroy (n=6)
- Brunswick West (n=5)
- Coburg and Pascoe Vale South (n=4 each)
- Oak Park (n=3)
- Altona Meadows, Belgrave, Bentleigh, Brunswick East, Docklands, Fairfield, Ferntree Gully, Footscray, Glen Iris, Greensborough, Hampton, Jacana, Parkville, Thomastown (n=1 each)
- Brunswick, Carlton, Kensington, West Footscray (n=2 each)

3.4.4 Gender identity

Respondents were asked their gender identity. 84% of respondents answered this question (n=154). A greater percentage of respondents identified as a man (62%) compared with those who identified as a woman (34%)

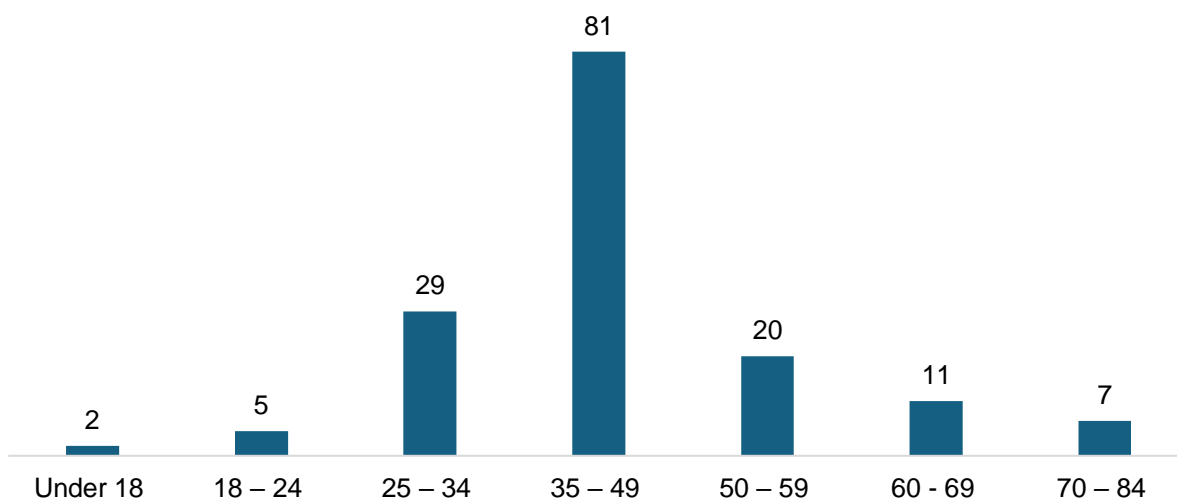
Figure 6. Gender identity



3.4.5 Age

Respondents were asked to identify which age group they belong to. 83% of respondents answered this question (n=155), with representation across 7 age brackets. Most respondents were between 35-49 years old (n=81).

Figure 7. Age group



3.4.6 Language

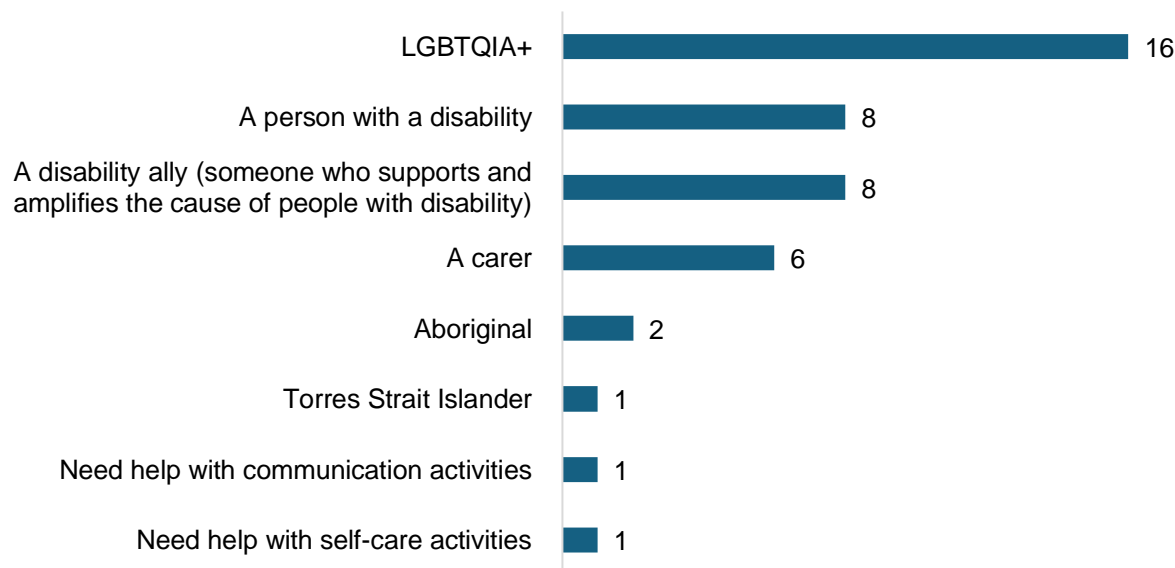
Respondents were asked if they usually speak a language other than English at home. 82% of respondents answered this question (n=153), with the majority (n=141, 92%) indicating they only speak English at home.

Respondents (n=12) who identified that they usually speak a language other than English at home were asked to specify the main language they speak at home, with responses including Banuba, Cantonese, German, Greek and Indonesian (n=1 each).

3.4.7 Additional identifiers

Respondents were asked whether they identify with a range of different options including Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, LGBTQIA+, a person with a disability, a carer, a disability ally, or a person needing assistance with self-care activities/movement and communication. Respondents could select multiple options. As depicted in the graph below, a number of people identified as LGBTQIA+ (n=16), a person with a disability (n=8), a disability ally (n=8), a carer (n=6), Aboriginal (n=2), Torres Strait Islander (n=1) or a person needing assistance with communication activities/self-care (n=1 each).

Figure 8. Additional identifiers

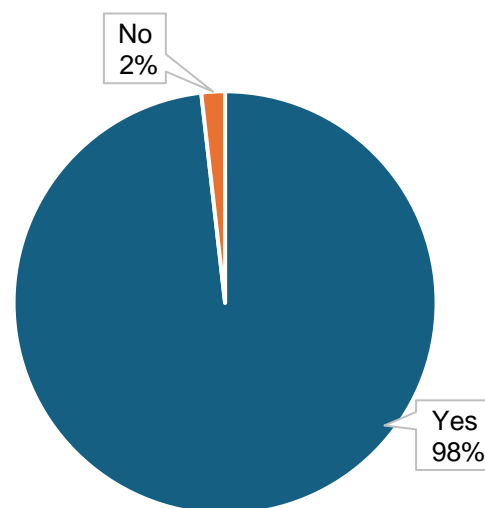


4. Findings

4.1 Level of use of the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail shared use path

Participants were asked if they use the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail shared use path. As illustrated in the chart below, of the 167 (89%) participants who responded to this question, the vast majority (98%, n=164), said yes.

Figure 9. Level of use of the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail shared use path



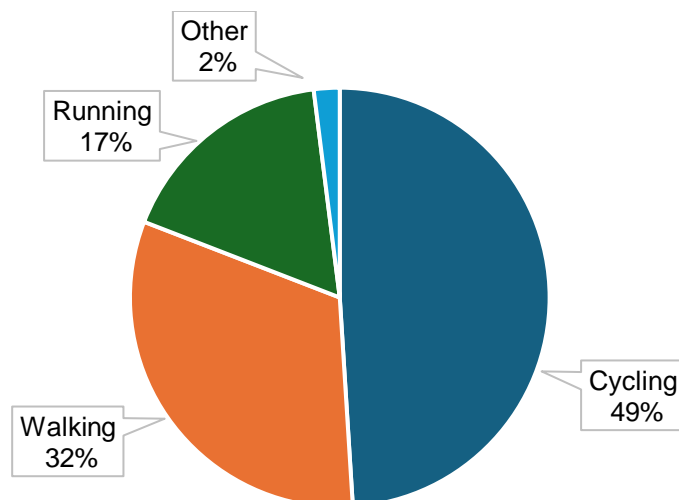
4.2 Nature of use of the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail shared use path

Participants were asked how they typically use the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail shared use path, with the option to choose one or more of the following responses:

- Walking
- Running
- Cycling
- Other

As illustrated in the chart below, among the 164 (88%) participants who responded to this question, nearly half said they typically use the path for cycling (49%, n=123), nearly a third said they use it for walking (32%, n=80), and nearly a fifth said they use it for running (17%, n=43), with 2% (n=5) indicating they use it for 'other' purposes. Note, around 45% (n=73) of the respondents said they use the path for more than one of these purposes.

Figure 10. Nature of use of the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail shared use path



Among the participants (n=5) who indicated they use the path for 'other' purposes, the following purposes were specified: dog walking, skateboarding, e-scooter and [accompanying] kids on scooters/bikes.

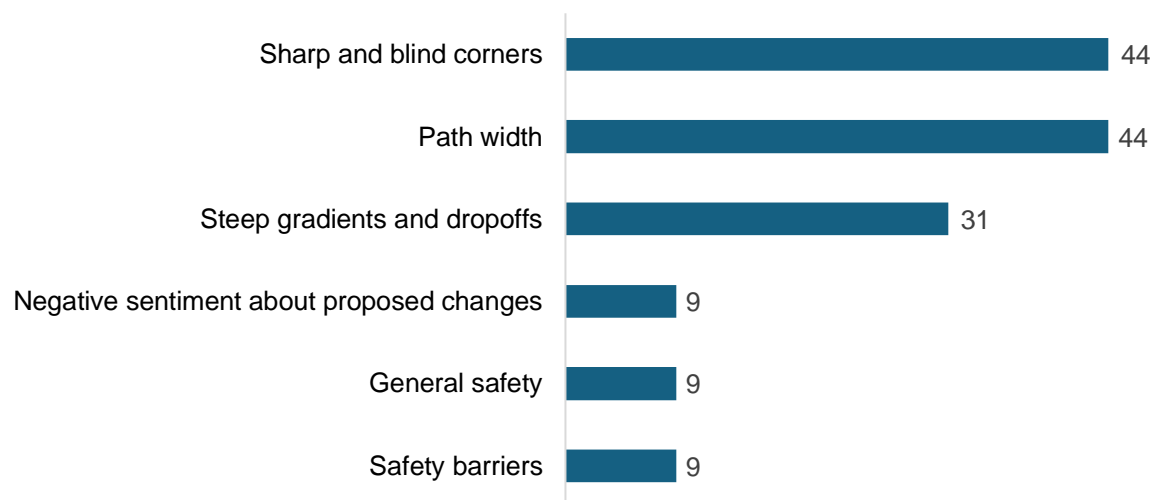
4.3 Main concerns when using the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail shared use path

When asked what their main concerns were when using the shared use path on the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail 150 respondents provided free text comments.

Respondents' comments were thematically analysed and coded, which identified eleven common themes and 300 separate mentions.

As illustrated in the graph below, six of these themes comprised comments directly relevant to the proposed changes to the shared use path. Most of these comments were supportive of the need for the key elements of the proposed changes, to address safety concerns regarding 'sharp and blind corners' and the narrow 'path width' (n=44 each), 'steep gradients and drop offs' (n=31), the absence of 'safety barriers' and 'general safety' of the path (n=9 each). A small number of respondents expressed 'negative sentiment about the proposed changes' (n=9), due to perceived negative impacts on the natural environment and unwarranted expense.

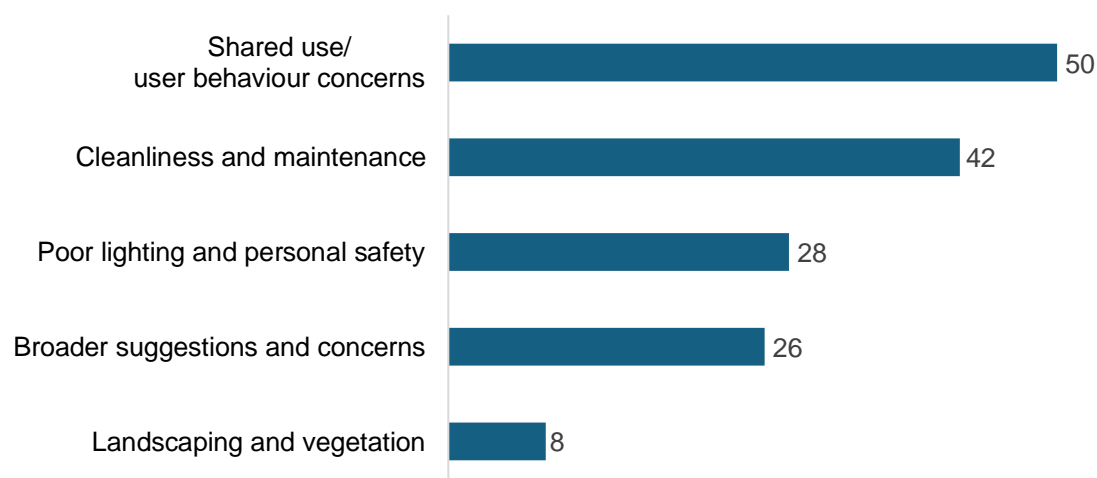
Figure 11. Main concerns: feedback directly relevant to proposed changes



As illustrated in the graph below, the remaining five themes identified in relation to concerns about the proposed shared use path upgrade were beyond the direct scope of the current proposal. Most comments related to 'shared use/user behaviour concerns' (n=50), followed by 'cleanliness and maintenance' (n=42), 'poor lighting and personal safety' (n=28) and 'broader suggestions and concerns' (n=26), with a small number of comments focusing on 'landscaping and vegetation' (n=8).

Further information about the above themes is summarised in Section 4.6 below.

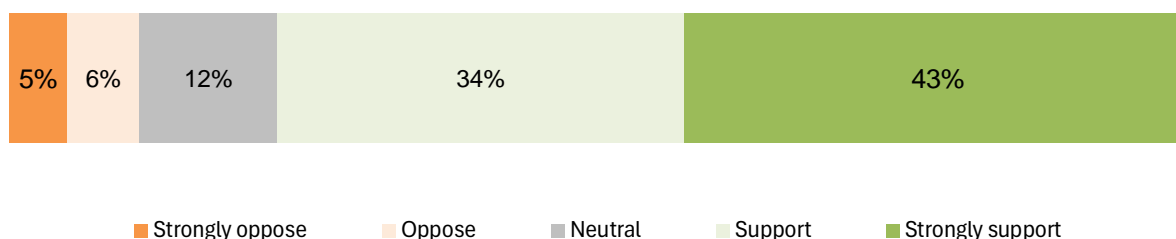
Figure 12. Main concerns: feedback beyond direct scope of current proposal



4.4 Level of support for the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail shared use path upgrade

When asked to what extent they oppose or support the proposed improvements to the shared use path on the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail, 163 participants responded to this question. As illustrated in the graph below, the majority of respondents either strongly supported (43%, n=70) or supported (34%, n=56) the proposed upgrade, with 11% expressing opposition (n=18).

Figure 13. Level of support for the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail shared use path upgrade

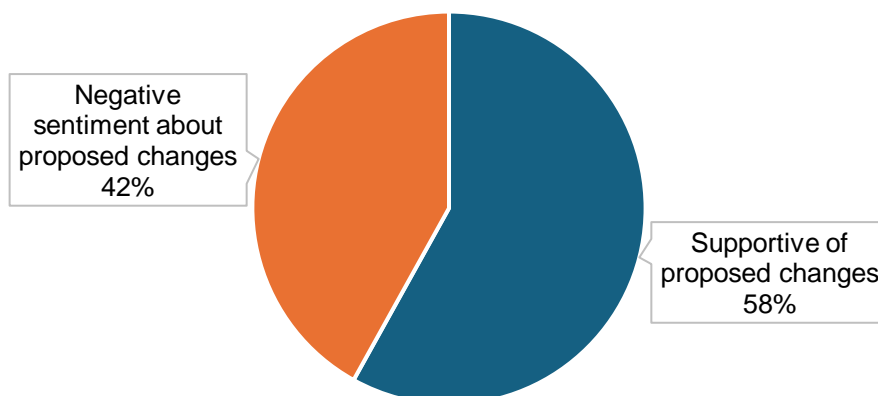


4.5 Other important considerations regarding the shared use path

When asked if there is anything else that is important for Council to understand when thinking about the shared use path, 122 respondents provided free text comments. Respondents' comments were thematically analysed and coded, which identified seven common themes and 167 separate mentions.

As illustrated in the graph below, two of these themes comprised comments directly relevant to the proposed changes to the shared use path. Most of these comments (58%, n=36) were 'supportive of the proposed changes', to address various safety concerns (e.g. regarding sharp and blind corners, the narrow path width, steep gradients and drop offs, the absence of safety barriers and general safety of the path. The remaining 42% (n=26) of comments expressed 'negative sentiment about the proposed changes', due to perceived negative impacts on the natural environment and unwarranted expense.

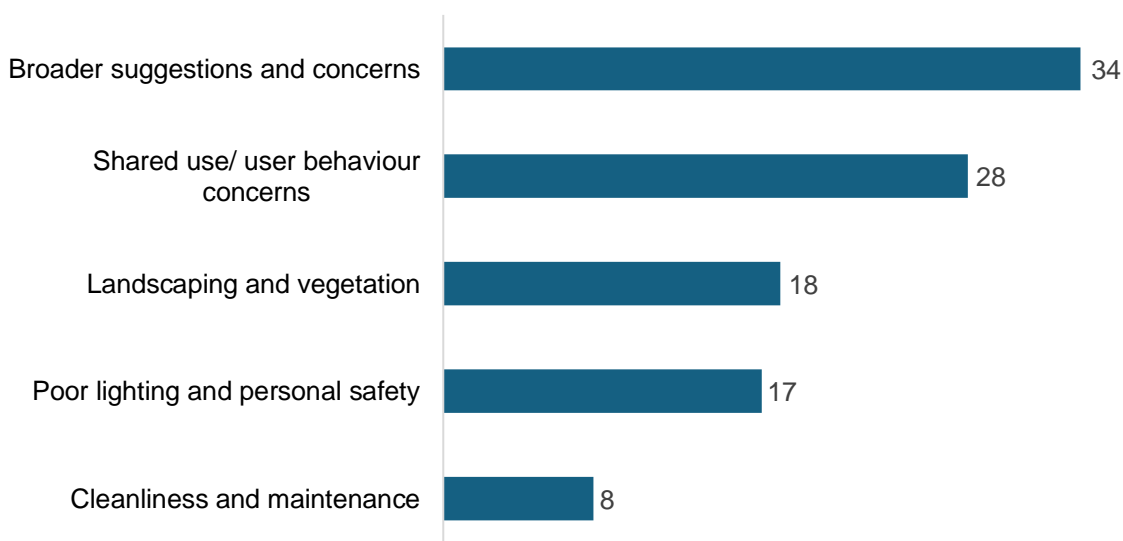
Figure 14. Other important considerations: feedback directly relevant to proposed changes



As illustrated in the graph below, the remaining five themes identified in relation to other important considerations regarding the shared use path upgrade were beyond the direct scope of the current proposal. Most comments related to 'broader suggestions and concerns' (n=34) and 'shared use/user behaviour concerns' (n=28), followed by 'landscaping and vegetation' (n=18) and 'poor lighting and personal safety' (n=17), with a small number of comments focusing on 'cleanliness and maintenance' (n=8).

Further information about the above themes is summarised in Section 4.6 below.

Figure 15. Other important considerations - feedback beyond scope of current proposal



4.6 Additional information about combined themes

Further details are provided in the table below about respondents' comments within the combined identified themes regarding the shared use path.

Table 2. Additional information about combined themes

A. Feedback directly relevant to proposed changes (n=208)	
1. Supportive of proposed changes (n=173) Supportive of the need for various elements of the proposed path upgrade to address five main safety concerns reflected in the sub-themes below.	
1.1 Path width 1.2 Sharp and blind corners 1.3 Steep gradients and drop-offs 1.4 Safety barriers 1.5 General safety	<p>Several respondents supported the need to address multiple aspects of these safety concerns and some made specific suggestions to assist this – both at the proposed upgrade location, and at other points of the path. For example:</p> <p><i>“Safety is a critical concern. Improved lighting, clear signage, and visible markings will enhance user safety, especially at blind corners and narrow sections”.</i></p> <p><i>“Reduce the number of 'blind corners'. Widening lanes and reflective mirrors will help. Reduce the amount of climbing, slowing down and speeding up requires so that the path can be used by younger riders”.</i></p> <p><i>“The shared paths present several issues that require attention. They are too narrow, offer poor visibility, and are located dangerously close to the creek's edge without safety barriers”.</i></p>
2. Negative sentiment about proposed changes (n=35) Concerns about the design of the proposed upgrade due to negative impacts on the natural environment and unwarranted expense.	
Most negative sentiment about the proposed path upgrade related to concerns about the impacts on the natural environment due to the amount of concrete and metal in the design and the sense this is 'over-engineered'. Respondents expressed a desire to enjoy the natural surroundings along the path, unimpeded by opaque metal fencing which attracts graffiti and 'ugly' concrete. Some	

participants queried the need for the upgrade on the grounds of expense. For example:

“Over engineering in terms of width and installation of fencing. The Council are building support to get the sections south of Brosnan crescent to also be renaturalised which would include this section. So why do all this work to make it into a concrete and metal jungle to then rip it up years later to renaturalise and relandscape it? It’s a waste of money”.

“That a large unsightly fence will be installed that disconnects people from vegetation and views”.

B. Feedback beyond direct scope of current proposal (n=259)

3. Shared use/user behaviour concerns (n=78)

Safety concerns in relation to behaviour of shared path users and suggestions to separate pedestrians from cyclists.

The majority of shared use safety concerns focused on path users’ behaviour, as opposed to upgrades to the path. Most of these concerns were about cyclists, for example riding too fast or dangerously, or failing to use their bells, give way to pedestrians or adhere to signs to dismount. Other respondents raised concerns about:

- Pedestrians; walking in the middle of the path/meandering, wearing headphones.
- Off lead dogs, and dog poo, with no enforcement.
- The need to improve safety for all path users by accommodating their diverse needs and mixed speed of path traffic (including fitness, recreational and dog walkers, joggers, young families, students, elderly walkers, recreational and commuter cyclists, high speed e-bikes, e-scooters/skateboards, wheelchairs and dirt bikes).

Some respondents suggested education campaigns and etiquette signs to enhance mutually safe and respectful behaviour of all path users. Several called for separate walking and cycling zones or completely separate paths for cyclists and pedestrians. Example comments include:

“Shared paths are never equally shared. Cyclists dominate me and, as someone elderly I never feel comfortable but find myself squashed to the edge of the track for fear of speeding cyclists”.

“Bikes come up behind you fast and scare you. With a dog, it worries me that his lead will get tangled with a bike zooming past. If widening, is it wide enough to have a bike lane and walking lane? Or bikes on one side of the creek, walkers on the other?”

“Very scary for pedestrians as bikes surge down and for bike riders scared of both walkers and oncoming bikes. It would be better to have a walkway and a separate bike path”.

4. Broader suggestions and concerns (n=60)

A variety of broader concerns including the poor visual appeal of the path and creek (due to the amount of concrete), flooding, connectivity of the path and broader active transport infrastructure, disruption caused by the works, and calls for increased activation, beautification and amenity of the path and continued community engagement about proposed upgrades.

Specific feedback within this theme included the following concerns and suggestions:

- Remove concrete from the creek, to return it to its natural state.
- Flooding and the poor condition of the creek.
- Need clear and safe detours, way finding signs and connections.
- Need to improve active transport infrastructure and connections as a whole, including more direct routes and protected bike lanes.
- Forward planning to accommodate growth and expansion.
- More drinking taps, seats, dog poo bags, bike pump stations.
- Public promotion of the path, install public art.
- More creek crossings, smoother gutter transitions.
- Aggressive magpies, rodents.
- Poor notice about works, disruption for regular users.
- Upgrade the gravel section on other side of the creek.
- Relocate the path away from the steep embankment to avoid the need for fencing.
- Set up a community advisory committee regarding ongoing upgrades.
- Undertake an environmental impact assessment.
- Illegal music/dance events along the trail.

Example comments:

<p><i>"It's tendency to flood - ideally this would be mitigated by improved design but it's also a pain when you don't know when sections are flooded until you get there!"</i></p> <p><i>"Connectivity Gaps: There are significant breaks in the trail where users are directed onto streets, disrupting the continuity and safety of the path".</i></p> <p>5. ...this connection is the most promising for maximum benefit to work, education, leisure and community connections of any active transport route in Melbourne ... the focus needs to shift to providing real improved active transport infrastructure links and not just incremental improvements to existing safe paths".</p>
<p>6. Cleanliness and maintenance (n=50)</p> <p>Concerns about rubbish, graffiti, and maintenance of trees, weeds and the surface of the path.</p>
<p>Specific feedback within this theme included concerns about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rough, uneven path surface and potholes, due to tree roots and erosion. • Rubbish dumping and litter along the path and in the creek. • Overhanging trees in need of pruning. • Unsightly, prolific graffiti, with one respondent calling for one of the graffiti walls to be preserved. <p>Example comments:</p> <p><i>"Overgrown vegetation can obscure sightlines, and uneven surfaces or debris on the path present tripping hazards. ... Inconsistent path surfaces can be problematic for wheelchair users and those with mobility aids".</i></p> <p><i>"Maintaining a clean and litter-free trail is essential to preserving the area's natural beauty and protecting local wildlife. Regular clean-up efforts and waste management solutions should be implemented".</i></p>
<p>7. Poor lighting and personal safety (n=45)</p> <p>Personal safety concerns due to poor lighting, crime, rough sleepers, isolated sections of the path and an absence of surveillance cameras.</p>
<p>Many respondents raised concerns about inadequate lighting along the path, due to concerns about colliding with other path users due to poor visibility, and personal safety concerns, particularly during early mornings, evenings and winter. For example:</p>

<p><i>“With no fixed lighting, visibility relies entirely on individual users having their own lights, which is insufficient and increases the risk of accidents and unsafe interactions ... I would recommend exploring we-ef lighting solutions that have habitat sensitive lighting solutions ...”</i></p> <p><i>“It's great when they're lighting up under the bridges, but it's really inconsistent. Sometimes they're on at night, but most often they're not working.”</i></p> <p><i>“Various points ... under the road bridges can be really dark and disorientating when coming out of the darkness and you can easily crash onto each other.”</i></p>
<p>8. Landscaping and vegetation (n=26) Concerns about limited greenery/vegetation and shade in the proposed upgrade.</p>
<p>Example comments within this theme include:</p> <p><i>“Please keep up the revegetation - the connection with nature is a key reason for using the path”</i></p> <p><i>“Cyclist safety improvements could be achieved by plantings that improve the environment, instead of more concrete and steel”.</i></p> <p><i>“Rich biodiversity of any landscaping would be great to see. 'Insect hotels' and mixture of low, medium and high-level plants will allow for a self-sustaining ecosystem to establish more effectively, reducing maintenance and enhancing amenity”.</i></p>

4.7 Email submissions

Three respondents provided feedback about the proposed path upgrade via email to Council, as summarised below:

- Opposed to the new fence due to the visual impact of the opaque design and long length, with no openings; obscuring the view of ground level plants and the creek and encouraging higher cyclist speeds. Considers the fence unnecessary due to questionable risk of cyclists riding over the edge of the path. Suggested a more open, shorter handrail, immediately adjacent to the concrete creek wall only.
- Preference to widen the path and install barriers along the whole trail, to enhance safety and encourage more people to use the path for active transport.
- Request to add a pedestrian footbridge between Holbrook Reserve and Ormond Park, to enhance access to Holbrook Reserve from the Moonee Ponds side of the

creek. This would also enable dogs off leash access at Holbrook Reserve, which is not allowed at Ormond Park.

4.8 Social media comments

Ten people provided comments in response to Council's social media posts about the proposed upgrade. These comments raised concerns about:

- The amount of graffiti on the concrete walls along the trail.
- Lack of barriers in sections with open corners and steep dropoffs, yet barriers have been installed in safer areas. Feels unsafe to ride these sections at speed and distracted children can ride over the edge of the path.
- The proposed barrier considered 'over the top' and dangerous to crash into.
- Lack of bridges and crossings across the creek, compared with Merri Creek trail.
- Broken/unimproved areas of the path (e.g. north and south of Moreland Road).
- Safety concerns about the fence trapping a potential victim from fleeing from attack.
- Concerns about the consultation process (late notice and difficulty accessing the online survey link).

Comments also included the following suggestions:

- Add speed humps along the path (which another respondent opposed).
- Establish a "Safe & Responsible Use of Shared Footpaths" education programme and an annual or 5 yearly registration pass – to address unsafe riding, or walkers/runners wearing ear buds.
- Fix the path in Avondale Heights along the river and "pontoon canning st reserve".

5. Conclusion

This consultation achieved direct engagement with 200 respondents who use the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail shared path, for a variety of active transport and recreational purposes. Overall, of the feedback directly relevant to the proposed upgrade to the path, most (83%) was supportive. There was clear consensus among most respondents of the need to implement the proposed changes to address a range of safety concerns about the current design of the path, including:

- Sharp and blind corners
- Narrow width
- Steep gradients and drop offs
- Lack of safety barriers
- Generally unsafe design.

Among the negative comments (17%) about the proposed upgrade, respondents expressed concern about undue impacts of the proposed upgrade on the natural environment, and unwarranted expense. In particular, these respondents were concerned about the amount of concrete and metal in the proposed design and the sense this is 'ugly' and 'over-engineered'.

More than half (55%) of the feedback regarding respondents concerns and considerations about the path were beyond the direct scope of the current proposal. There is a clear desire among these respondents for a range of initiatives and developments beyond the current proposal, to address the safety and adequacy of the Moonee Ponds Creek trail as a whole, and broader active transport infrastructure.

This included concerns about:

- Safety issues in relation to shared use/user behaviour
- Poor cleanliness and maintenance of the path and creek
- Poor lighting and personal safety
- Inadequate landscaping and vegetation
- Other broader suggestions and concerns relevant to the path, creek and wider active transport infrastructure.

Overall, most respondents either strongly supported (43%) or supported (34%) the proposed upgrade of the path.

6. Appendices

6.1 Your Say page



[Home](#)
[Projects](#)
[My profile](#)

Moonee Ponds Creek Shared Path Upgrade

We're committed to creating a connected city of accessible, active and sustainable transport choices. Have your say on a path upgrade design for Moonee Ponds Creek.

[+ Follow](#)


[Home / Moonee Ponds Creek Shared Path Upgrade](#)

Moonee Valley City Council is committed to creating a connected city of accessible, active and sustainable transport choices, as outlined in our long-term strategy, MV2040. Council is consulting with community about plans to increase safety of the shared path along the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail, in the vicinity of Strathmore Secondary College.

The project seeks community feedback on the following design improvements:

- Reconstruction and widening of the existing shared path approaching the railway underpass
- A raised and widened boardwalk structure at the railway underpass
- Earthworks and retaining walls to improve sightlines for cyclists
- Bicycle safety barrier fencing adjacent to the steep drop-off to Moonee Ponds Creek
- New signage and line-marking for enhanced cyclist safety
- Landscaping and re-vegetation of affected areas

See also the attached artist's impressions and detailed [design concept plans](#), for further insight into the design.

We're keen to hear from community members who use the path, or who have a general interest in safety improvements to shared use paths. **Have your say today!**

Check out our plans!

[Click for artist impression 1](#)
[Click for artist impression 2](#)

Have your say!

[Click here for the survey](#)

Timeline

- Consultation open for feedback**
25 November 2024
- Consultation closes**
24 December 2024
- Feedback provided to community**
31 January 2025

[See less](#)

Contact Us

Have questions or want to learn more about a project, contact us below:

Name Community Engagement Team
 Phone 9243 8888
 Email yoursay@mvcc.vic.gov.au
 In writing 9 Kellaway Avenue
Moonee Ponds, Vic, 3039

Moonee Valley City Council respectfully acknowledges the traditional custodians of this land - the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung People of the Kulin Nation, their spirits, ancestors, elders and community members past and present.



Contact Us

Have questions or want to learn more about a project, contact us below.

Phone 03 9243 8888
 Email yoursay@mvcc.vic.gov.au

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6.2 Online Survey

Moonee Ponds Creek Shared Path Upgrade

Moonee Valley City Council is committed to creating a connected city of accessible, active and sustainable transport choices, as outlined in our long-term strategy, MV2040. Council is consulting with community about plans to increase safety of the shared path along the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail, in the vicinity of Strathmore Secondary College.

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- New signage and line-marking for enhanced cyclist safety
- Landscaping and re-vegetation of affected areas

We're keen to hear from community members who use the path, or who have a general interest in safety improvements to shared use paths. Have your say today!

This consultation will close on 24 December 2024.

Further information about this project, including the design concept plans and artist's impressions of the proposed design improvements are available on our [Your Say page](#).

1) Do you use the shared use path on the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail?*

☐ Yes

☐ No

2) How do you typically use the shared use path on the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail? *

☐ Walking

- ☐ Running
- ☐ Cycling
- ☐ Other - Write In (Required):

3) What are your main concerns when using the shared use path on the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail?

4) To what extent do you oppose or support the proposed improvements to the shared use path on the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail?

- ☐ Strongly oppose
- ☐ Oppose
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Support
- ☐ Strongly support

5) Is there anything else that is important for Council to understand when thinking about this shared use path?

We are committed to collecting demographic data so that we can understand the reach of our consultations. **Please note that these questions are all optional.**

6) What is your connection to Moonee Valley?

- ☐ I live here
- ☐ I work here
- ☐ I study here
- ☐ I visit here
- ☐ I own property
- ☐ I own a business
- ☐ I am associated with a business or community group / organisation. Please name::

*

- ☐ I am a Moonee Valley City Council staff member

7) Suburb you live in

- ☐ Aberfeldie 3040
- ☐ Airport West 3042
- ☐ Ascot Vale 3032
- ☐ Avondale Heights 3034
- ☐ Essendon 3040
- ☐ Essendon Fields 3041
- ☐ Essendon North 3041
- ☐ Essendon West 3040
- ☐ Flemington 3031
- ☐ Keilor East 3033
- ☐ Moonee Ponds 3039
- ☐ Niddrie 3042
- ☐ Strathmore 3041
- ☐ Strathmore Heights 3041
- ☐ Travancore 3032
- ☐ Suburb outside of Moonee Valley*

8) *Which suburb do you live in?

9) To which of the following age groups do you belong?

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18 – 24
- ☐ 25 – 34
- ☐ 35 – 49
- ☐ 50 – 59
- ☐ 60 - 69
- ☐ 70 – 84
- ☐ 85+

10) Do you identify as:

- ☐ Woman

- ☐ Man
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ Prefer to self-describe: _____
- ☐ Prefer not to say

11) Do you usually speak a language other than English at home?

- ☐ No. I speak English only at home.
- ☐ Yes. I usually speak another language at home.

12) The main language I speak at home is:

(Participants could choose from a list of 435 languages)

13) Please indicate if you identify as any of the following (select all that apply):

- ☐ Aboriginal
 - ☐ Torres Strait Islander
 - ☐ LGBTQIA+
 - ☐ A person with a disability
 - ☐ A carer
 - ☐ A disability ally (someone who supports and amplifies the cause of people with disability)
 - ☐ Need help with self-care activities
 - ☐ Need help with body movement activities
 - ☐ Need help with communication activities
-

Thank you for taking our survey. Your response is very important to us.

6.3 Onsite poster



Moonee Ponds Creek Shared Path Upgrade

Council is keen to hear community feedback on ways we can increase safety of the shared path along the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail.

The project seeks community feedback on the following:

- reconstruction and widening of the existing shared path approaching the railway underpass
- a raised and widened boardwalk structure at the railway underpass
- earthworks and retaining walls
- bicycle safety barrier fencing adjacent to the steep drop-off to Moonee Ponds Creek
- new signage and line-marking
- landscaping and re-vegetation of affected areas.

For more information and to have your say:





- ☎ 03 9243 888
- ✉ council@mvcc.vic.gov.au
- 📍 yoursay.mvcc.vic.gov.au/MPC-shared-path-upgrade

**Survey closes Tuesday,
24 December 2024**



6.4 Social media posts

Date	Channel	Photo	Reach	Clicks	Comments
30 Nov 2024	Facebook		6,988	196	5
4 Jan 2025	Facebook	 <p> <small>YOURSAY.MVCC.VIC.GOV.AU</small> Moonee Ponds Creek Shared Path Upgrade <small>We're committed to creating a connected city of accessible, active and sustainable transport cho...</small> </p>	2,871	13	5