

# Domain Precinct Design Response

Community Engagement Report

June 2019

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## **Executive summary**

The Domain Precinct is experiencing rapid change due to several large public and private developments, including the construction of Anzac Station as part of the Victorian Government's Metro Tunnel Project (MTP).

To capitalise on these opportunities and protect and enhance what the community values about Domain, Council is developing a Public Realm Masterplan for the precinct.

The City of Port Phillip engaged with locals, businesses and visitors in May 2019 to seek feedback on the Domain Precinct Design Response, a document that introduces potential public realm projects that could be constructed in the precinct (subject to delivery and funding commitments).

The community had an opportunity to provide feedback on the Design Response in May 2019 by completing an online survey and / or attending an independently facilitated workshop.

The online survey was hosted on <a href="https://harveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au">harveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au</a> from Wednesday 1 May to Wednesday 29 May 2019. A total of 74 survey responses were received during the consultation period. The community workshop was held on Saturday 25 May 2019 at Seasons Botanic Gardens, Melbourne from 11 am to 2 pm. 35 people attended the workshop.

This engagement explored the community's feedback on the Design Response projects in detail, including:

- the draft vision
- the Design Response projects:
  - Park Street Link
  - Kings Way Reserve Upgrade
  - o Kings Place Plaza / Millers Lane
  - Streetscape upgrades
  - o Pedestrian connections
  - o draft tree planting palette.

The core themes and feedback arising from the online survey and workshop were:

#### **Draft vision**

• The community was supportive the precinct's draft vision, with some discussion on current references to heritage and a need to consider future movement and growth in the precinct.

#### Park Street Link

- Survey respondents and workshop participants were generally supportive of closing
  Eastern Road at Park Street to increase open space for public use. Greening the area was
  a priority for the community.
- There was general level of support for the bike and tram link, provided consistent tree
  planting and better management of traffic flow on Park Street was prioritised through design
  of the public realm.
- There was agreement that safety issues along Park Street and at the intersection of Wells Street would need to be addressed in the Masterplan.
- The community felt that some form of short-term parking should still be available to service locals and visitors.

#### **Kings Way Reserve**

- There was consensus that Kings Way Reserve needs to be refreshed, with more green spaces, upgraded toilet and recreation facilities and improved interface with Kings Way.
- While creating more open space by closing a portion of Queens Road was generally welcomed, the community indicated that traffic impacts should be detailed.
- It was suggested to close Queens Road at Bowen Crescent rather than at the Kings Way end.

#### Kings Place Plaza

 The community was somewhat supportive of creating a public plaza in Kings Place, but had views about maintaining some parking, how the shared space would be designed and a need for greening.

#### **Streetscape improvements**

- The community had strong views about how the Domain Precinct streetscape could be improved, which can be grouped into several themes:
  - Safety and maintenance improved footpaths and lighting, cleaner streets and the potential for CCTV.
  - o Conflicts better separation between vehicles, pedestrians and bike riders.
  - Materials smooth, consistent and high-quality surfaces.
  - Greening and trees planting and re-planting trees is a priority, more greenery on local streets and opportunities for residents to be involved in planting.
  - Movement and connection improved wayfinding and road signage, better connections to other precincts.
  - Infrastructure consider other connections across Kings Way, remove overhead powerlines and more street amenities (such as water fountains, rubbish bins, seating).
  - Heritage retain walls and older lighting, include historical information at points of interest and genuinely consider Indigenous heritage.
  - Design streets should cater to everyone, incorporate art into the streetscape, take design cues from other established areas.

#### **Pedestrian connections**

- The community was supportive of through-block links, but it was questioned how these would be realistically achieved if on privately owned land.
- It was noted that the connections should be of a human scale, DDA-compliant, well-lit with street furniture, art and opportunities to pause and rest.

#### **Draft tree planting palette**

- The community felt it was important mature trees were planted where possible.
- It was strongly acknowledged that new planting needs to be accompanied by a better maintenance and care regime.

## **Purpose of engagement**

The purpose of this engagement process was to seek feedback on the Domain Precinct Design Response to inform the preparation of a Draft Public Realm Masterplan for the precinct.

### Introduction

The Domain Precinct, located 1.5 km south of the Melbourne CBD, is experiencing unprecedented change due to activities led by both the Victorian Government and the commercial sector. To respond to the opportunities and challenges that these changes present, Council is preparing a Public Realm Masterplan to improve public spaces in the precinct.

Council will achieve this in three stages and build on feedback received through the first stage of engagement on Domain's Place Identity in July / August 2018 and this engagement.



The Design Response is a document informed by community feedback on Domain's Place Identity in late-2018 and other technical studies. It includes a site and context analysis, design principles, draft street hierarchy and draft tree planting palette, and introduces public realm projects that could be constructed in the Domain Precinct (subject to a delivery and funding commitment).

A total of 74 survey responses were received during the online consultation period Wednesday 1 May to Wednesday 29 May 2019. These comprised 43 residents with the postcode 3004 (Melbourne) or 3205 (South Melbourne), 29 City of Port Phillip residents and two from outside the municipality. A total of 28 people registered to receive ongoing updates about the project.

An independently facilitated workshop was held on Saturday 25 May 2019 at Seasons Botanic Gardens, Melbourne to explore the Design Response with the community in more detail. A total of 50 people registered for the workshop, with 35 attending on the day.

To gain an understanding of the geographic composition of the workshop, participants were asked to place a dot on a map indicating where they came from when signing in. Approximately 88 per cent of attendees were from the Domain Precinct, with 12 per cent from elsewhere in the City.

### **Communications tools**

A range of communications tools were used to encourage the community to participate in the Design Response engagement.

#### These included:

- postcards distributed to businesses (such as cafes and restaurants), letterboxes and Council buildings
- posters displayed in Council buildings
- electronic direct mail (EDMs) to ratepayers in the Domain Precinct (ratepayers who have provided Council with email addresses) and interested persons
- · social media posts via Facebook and Twitter
- Council website
- Have Your Say website
- a presentation to the Metro Tunnel Project Domain Community Reference Group (CRG) on Wednesday 1 May 2019.

## **Engagement methodology**

Engagement on the Design Response was conducted during May 2019. It provided two avenues for the community to have its say on the proposed public realm projects. A summary of the engagement activities undertaken is provided in the table below.

Method	Description
Online survey	The online survey was open on Council's Have Your Say website <a href="haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au">haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au</a> from Wednesday 1 May to Wednesday 29 May 2019. The project page received 685 visits, 983 views and 74 survey responses during the consultation period.
Community workshop	An independently facilitated workshop was held on Saturday 25 May 2019 at Seasons Botanic Gardens, Melbourne from 11 am to 2 pm.
	Registration for the workshop via Council's website was open to anyone who lives, works in or visits the City of Port Phillip. Thirty-five out of 50 people who registered attended the workshop.

## Online survey

The online survey was used as the primary engagement tool for this project. It provided a forum for the community to share their thoughts on each component of the Design Response, including:

- the draft vision
- the Design Response projects:
  - o Park Street Link
  - Kings Way Reserve Upgrade
  - o Kings Place Plaza / Millers Lane
  - Streetscape Upgrades
  - o Pedestrian Connections
  - draft tree planting palette.

A copy of the survey questions can be found in Appendix 1.

## Community workshop

A community workshop was held on Saturday 25 May 2019 from 11 am to 2 pm at Seasons Botanic Gardens, Melbourne. The agenda was designed to inform participants about the project and engagement undertaken to date, and enable focused, in-depth discussions on each of the Design Response projects.

Facilitated by independent consultant Steven Weir, the session was structured as follows:

- Welcome and introduction
- Icebreaker exercise
- Presentation: Project overview and community engagement to date
- Feedback exercise: Domain Precinct draft vision
- Presentation: Journey to the Public Realm Masterplan
- Lunch break
- Feedback exercise: Café Domain
- Next steps and close.

Discussions not directly related to the Design Response projects were captured in a parking lot for Council to consider and respond to following the workshop.

## Feedback and findings

## Survey responses

A total of 74 survey responses were received during the online consultation period Wednesday 1 May to Wednesday 29 May 2019.

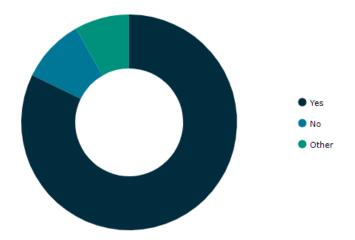
These comprised 43 residents with the postcode 3004 (Melbourne) or 3205 (South Melbourne), 29 City of Port Phillip residents and 2 from outside the municipality. A total of 28 people registered to receive ongoing updates about the project.

It should be noted that not all questions were compulsory. A summary of the findings is below.

#### **Question 1**

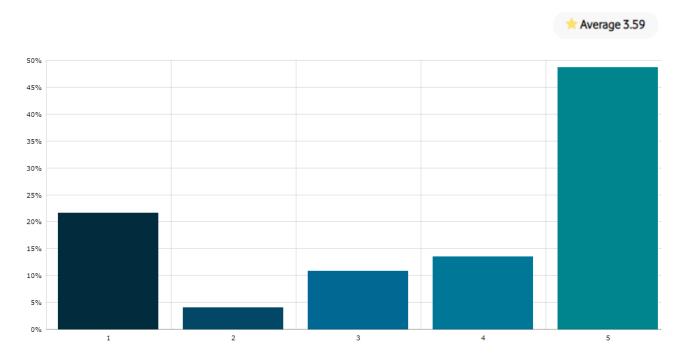
Through Place Identity, the community explored what Domain should be known for in 10 years' time. This feedback has informed a draft vision. Do you agree with the proposed vision for Domain Precinct that was created with the community?

The Domain Precinct will be a diverse neighbourhood celebrated for its open space, tree-lined streets and heritage elements. This vibrant precinct will provide safe spaces for pedestrians and bike riders, facilitate new social connections and be a great place to live, work and visit.



Answer choices	Count	Per cent
Yes	61	82
No	7	10
Other	6	8
Total	74	100

What do you think about increasing the amount of open space for public use by closing Eastern Road at Park Street?



Answer choices	Count	Per cent
1 (do not support)	16	22
2	3	4
3	8	11
4	10	13
5 (strongly support)	37	50
Total	74	100

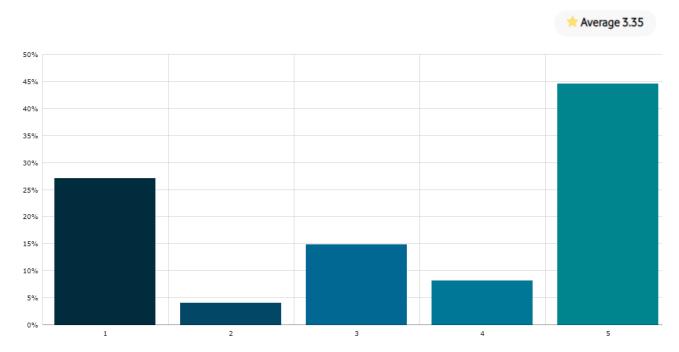
#### **Question 3**

If you have any other suggested streetscape improvements on Park Street, let us know below.

	Count	Per cent
People who answered question	30	40.5
People who skipped question	44	59.5

The feedback received for this question is summarised in the Park Street section of the table on page 13 and 14.

What do you think about increasing the amount of open space for public use by closing Queens Road at Kings Way?



Answer choices	Count	Per cent
1 (do not support)	20	27
2	3	4
3	11	15
4	6	8
5 (strongly support)	33	46
Total	74	100

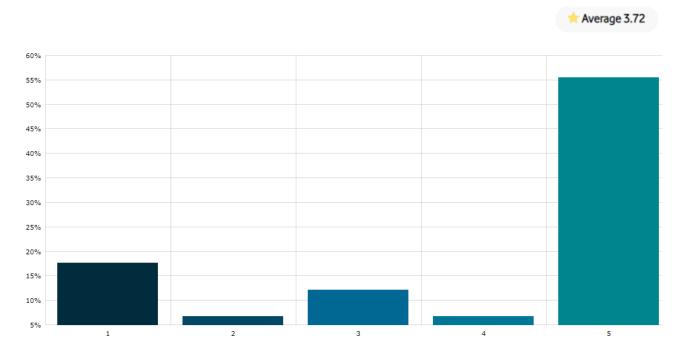
#### **Question 5**

If you have any other suggested improvements at Kings Way Reserve, let us know below.

	Count	Per cent
People who answered question	27	37
People who skipped question	47	63

The feedback received for this question is summarised in the Kings Way Reserve section of the table on page 13 and 14.

What do you think about creating a new public space by reducing the road width of Kings Place?



Answer choices	Count	Per cent
1 (do not support)	13	18
2	5	7
3	9	12
4	5	7
5 (strongly support)	41	56
Total	74	100

#### **Question 7**

What types of uses could this new public space provide for residents, workers and visitors?

	Count	Per cent
People who answered question	22	30
People who skipped question	52	70

The feedback received for this question is summarised in the Kings Place Plaza / Millers Lane section of the table on page 13 and 14.

If you have any other suggestions for streetscape improvements in the Domain Precinct, let us know below.

	Count	Per cent
People who answered question	33	45
People who skipped question	41	55

The feedback received for this question is summarised in the Streetscape Improvements section of the table on page 13 and 14.

#### **Question 9**

We've identified a series of connections to make it easier for people to move around the Domain Precinct. What ideas do you have for creating a more positive experience along these pedestrian links?

	Count	Per cent
People who answered question	39	53
People who skipped question	35	47

The feedback received for this question is summarised in the Pedestrian Connections section of the table on page 13 and 14.

#### **Question 10**

We've proposed a draft tree species palette to increase the tree canopy and provide a more consistent landscape character in Domain. Do you have any feedback on the draft tree species palette?

	Count	Per cent
People who answered question	31	42
People who skipped question	43	58

The feedback received for this question is summarised in the Draft Tree Planting Palette section of the table on page 13 and 14.

#### **Question 11**

Do you have any other comments?

	Count	Per cent
People who answered question	29	39
People who skipped question	45	61

The feedback received for this question is summarised throughout the table on page 13 and 14.

## Survey themes

The table below captures feedback received via the survey on various elements of the Design Response. The numbers in brackets indicate the number of people who expressed the same or a similar view.

Theme	Summary of community feedback
Park Street Link	<ul> <li>Closing sections of roads will increase congestion in this area and neighbouring streets (2).</li> <li>Provide facilities to make the space more useable i.e. seats, drinking fountains, tilting dog bowls (2).</li> <li>Bigger dog park (2).</li> <li>Fix, widen and clean footpaths (2).</li> <li>A bike lane between Kings Way and St Kilda Road would improve safety and connectivity for all users.</li> <li>Nice paving, tree-lined streets and public lighting to enhance the area.</li> <li>Include a green pedestrian area at Domain Interchange and Albert Road.</li> <li>Include community garden facilities.</li> <li>Include water sensitive urban design (WSUD) in your design to ensure good drainage from heavy rains and mitigate storm flooding.</li> <li>Acquire the empty car park in Bank Street behind the ANZ Bank building to use as a public car park.</li> <li>Do not create further danger by inappropriate bike paths.</li> <li>Resolve intersection with Wells Street.</li> <li>Create tram link to South Melbourne as soon as possible.</li> <li>Fix traffic signal timing along Park Street to stop Wells Street traffic congestion at peak times.</li> <li>Change the traffic light at the intersection of Park Street and Kings Way so that it's possible for a pedestrian to cross Kings Way in one go without running.</li> <li>Maintain existing parking.</li> <li>Include more greenery and public art.</li> </ul>
Kings Way Reserve	<ul> <li>More trees, shade, grass and greenery (5).</li> <li>No road narrowing / closing more roads (5).</li> <li>Include community recreation facilities, such as playground, futsal, BBQ (4).</li> <li>This will cause more congestion on roads (3).</li> <li>There is plenty of other open space located nearby (2).</li> <li>Include fenced dog play areas.</li> <li>Refurbish bridge across Kings Way.</li> <li>Acoustic and pollution barrier to Kings Way.</li> </ul>
Kings Place Plaza / Millers Lane	Too close to Kings Way to be enjoyable.  Suggested uses:  small shops green quiet place relaxed seating raised garden beds dining / entertainment precinct big park rest stop ample amenities art, markets artistic showplace relaxation space parking.

Theme	Summary of community feedback
Streetscape improvements	<ul> <li>More trees / replant lost trees / ensure adequate maintenance of trees (7).</li> <li>Install more lighting, street furniture (3).</li> <li>Fix footpaths (2).</li> <li>The Masterplan should address pedestrian access over Kings Way.</li> <li>How will bike riders / scooters / skateboarders on footpaths be managed.</li> <li>Place power lines and cables underground.</li> </ul>
Pedestrian connections	<ul> <li>More opportunities to cross Kings Way (7).</li> <li>More street lighting (4).</li> <li>Protected bike lanes (2).</li> <li>Shade trees along paths.</li> <li>Street art, 3D sculptures and solar lit art for nighttime enjoyment.</li> <li>Self-contained public toilets.</li> <li>Wind and noise shielding.</li> <li>Green connections, including green walls.</li> <li>Planters and seats.</li> </ul>
Draft tree planting palette	<ul> <li>More evergreen trees (5).</li> <li>Trees that don't drop berries or nuts (3).</li> <li>Maintain the existing boulevard of St Kilda Road (3).</li> <li>Use more native trees (3).</li> <li>Increase cover to compensate for MTP tree loss (2).</li> </ul>

### Community workshop

The community workshop, held on Saturday 25 May 2019, was designed to provide a contextual update on the overall Masterplan process and enable a facilitated discussion to gather feedback on the Design Response.

Facilitated by independent consultant Steven Weir, the workshop included a presentation on the project by Council, followed by activities based on the world cafe engagement methodology.

#### World cafe

A world cafe is a simple and flexible format for collaborative discussions in large groups. The exercise involves participants discussing a specified topic at several tables, with individuals switching tables periodically and being introduced to the previous discussion at their new table by a 'table host'. The intention is that the exercise brings together individual ideas into messages representative of the wider group.

In this instance, the five design response projects and draft tree planting palette were topics at each table. Participants moved from table to table every 15 minutes, with a total of six rotations. A designated table host helped guide discussions, with each round building on the previous. The world café culminated in consolidated feedback presented by table hosts to the wider group at the end of the workshop.

Discussions not directly related to the content were captured in a parking lot for Council to consider and respond to after the workshop.

The agenda for the workshop can be found in Appendix 2.

## Summary of workshop feedback

#### **Draft vision**

The workshop included a brief group discussion to test the draft vision for the precinct. The feedback included:

- The use of the term 'diverse' may need to be adjusted to clarify that it refers to community rather than (or as well as) the physical environment.
- A concern was raised about referring to heritage in the vision, particularly when many of the Victorian mansions on St Kilda Road no longer exist. However, others suggested that the significant trees and other retained buildings / features means Domain still has a strong connection to its heritage. Ideas were also raised around using future design and infrastructure to reference the history of Domain.
- The concept of connections may need to consider both the physical and social types. Some were concerned that road as busy as Kings Way and Park Street will always mean there is a sense of broken connection in Domain.
- A comment was made that the vision felt static and that it doesn't capture what will be a future place full of people, flow and movement.
- The vision may need to subtly acknowledge the continued growth of residents and employees in the precinct.
- One suggestion was that the vision could reference cars and public transport links.

#### **Park Street Link**

To meet demand for future population growth and connect the precinct to the rest of Melbourne, this project proposes to deliver a safe bike connection, improved pedestrian streetscape and missing tram link along Park Street.

Our attend	D
Question	Responses
What do you think about increasing the amount of open space for public use by closing Eastern Road at Park Street?	<ul> <li>Love the idea of the closure at Eastern Road</li> <li>Can we include a children's playground in the new open space?</li> <li>Ensure there are good connections for residents to the new park.</li> <li>Natural grass in the new open space – not artificial surfaces.</li> <li>Always in favour of more parks, especially in this area.</li> <li>Okay with closing Eastern Road – all in favour!</li> <li>Greening is good and a priority.</li> </ul>
If you have any other suggested streetscape improvements on Park Street, let us know.	<ul> <li>Prioritisation</li> <li>More trees are a priority for Park Street, followed by good vehicle movement, bike infrastructure and then on-street parking.</li> <li>Traffic flow is a priority for the street, followed by a separated bike lane, more trees and finally on-street parking.</li> <li>There are currently too many competing priorities on Park Street.</li> <li>There should be some limited parking locally.</li> <li>What can be done through the Masterplan to reduce through traffic in Park Street?</li> </ul>
	Design
	<ul> <li>Want to see a continuous landscape treatment. The streetscape design needs to blend both sections of Park Street (for example, there are currently old trees on the western end of Park Street).</li> </ul>

- Ensure any footpath designs are safe.
- Surface of Law Street is rough make it smooth for better pedestrian access.

#### Movement and access

- Very hard to turn right from Park Street to Kings Way heading east. Currently not enough cars get through at each traffic light cycle.
- Disagree with the idea to reduce through traffic down Park Street.
- Could the lane at the back of Officeworks be used for north-bound traffic, especially for 88 Park Street residents?
- Albert Road residents can't turn into their street we don't want to use Park Street.
- The intersection of Park Street, Wells Streets and Palmerston Crescent is very frustrating it's stuffed up local traffic movements.
- The Wells Street and Park Street intersection is very difficult.
- Consider a drop-off zone on Park Street.

#### **Bikes**

- Park Street to St Kilda Road is a critical connection for bike riders and needs to be closely considered.
- Big supporter of the separated bike path following similar models like the ones used in the Netherlands.
- Separated bike path to help improve safety.

#### **Tram connection**

- Agree with the connection for trams through Park Street.
- Engage with Park Street residents across Kings Way to gain an understanding of their view on the possible tram extension.

#### **Kings Way Reserve**

This project proposes opportunities to enhance Kings Way Reserve while retaining features that have endured since its construction in the 19th century.

Question	Responses
What do you think about increasing the amount of open space for public use by closing Queens Road at Kings Way?	<ul> <li>Tentative support this but there is a need to review on-street parking and consider any constraints for loading and other access.</li> <li>Concerns raised about traffic access to Kings Way but acknowledgement that there are other routes.</li> <li>Support greening where possible. More open space generally seen as a good idea.</li> <li>A participant raised the idea of closing the top of Queens Road at Bowen Crescent to maximise the amount of public space and in effect maybe helping create a better pedestrian connection to the new station.</li> <li>We would need to be clear on how much traffic is coming in and out of Queens Road's commercial car park. What will the impacts of these changes be on these movements?</li> </ul>

Do you have any other suggested improvements at Kings Way Reserve?

#### **General comments**

- Consider renaming to something more meaningful to the local area and / or heritage.
- Make it more visually appealing it's currently a bit scruffy.
- · A design that is light and airy.
- Don't see an upgrade of this space as a top priority.
- It needs a bit of maintenance it feels a bit rough.

#### Design, materials and features

- Consider a more dynamic surface.
- More permeable spaces.
- Design that help mitigate heat island effects.
- The space needs a new, modern public toilet.
- · More greenery and trees.
- · Better lighting along the reserve.
- Need clearer traffic signage.

#### Uses

- Could this include a playground?
- Explore opportunities for temporary activation like food trucks (may need to consider installing power points to support temporary traders).
- Make motorcycles park on-street and ban from the footpaths around the reserve.
- Greater pedestrian priority over the surrounding side streets.
- Passive recreation opportunities, for example skateboarding, basketball hoops, table tennis. Would need to consider way to minimise any additional noise.
- Could it be a dog friendly space?

#### Kings Way interface

- Need better general protection from Kings Way traffic.
- Concern raised that trees along Kings Way would not be appropriate.
- Greening and screening help to muffle noise, fumes and ugly visual of the vehicle movement on Kings Way.

#### Major infrastructure

- Could there be a new public car park underneath this space?
- Needs safer crossings DDA-compliant to access this space.
- Can this be considered alongside an upgrade to the pedestrian overpass.

#### Safety

- Improved lighting, rubbish bins, butt bins and general maintenance.
- · Consider CCTV.
- · Space is currently creepy and a bit foreboding.

#### Kings Place Plaza / Millers Lane

The areas of Millers Lane and Kings Place present an opportunity to provide a new public plaza for locals and visitors to enjoy. This project could provide a pedestrian link between Park Street and Albert Road to the new Anzac Station.

#### Question Responses What do you think Generally supportive of more greening. about creating a new Established trees please. public space by Concerns raised that the design will mean a loss of parking. reducing the road Question raised around if it is worth all this work for a small piece of open width of Kings Place? space? • Must be designed so that pedestrians are the priority – walking links generally very well supported. May be difficult for some older people to navigate through laneways. • Park Street access may cause a bottleneck. Concerns about bikes rushing through on footpaths/shared spaces. How will the design manage these sorts of conflicts? Concern around managing shared spaces. Concerns that development proposed may make the new space a wind tunnel. Need to make sure designs combat this. Concerned that the design is a little disconnected from the planning reality – several new buildings been approved. How will their access points work alongside these proposals? · Does Council have money to deliver this? Does the design need to be concerned too much with cars? The existing car parking isn't well known. What types of uses Design, materials and features could this new public · Consider a water feature for the space. space provide for High-quality paving. residents, workers Make the designs interesting. and visitors? High quality street and park furniture (including seating and bins). Orientate activity and furniture around trees. More flower beds. Multiple calls for lots of (well maintained) trees and to keep the established and healthy trees. A place that truly feels green, with real grass – not artificial stuff. Uses

- Make it a place for pedestrians and walkers and traders.
- An all-ages place.
- Multiple requests for a space to walk dogs.
- A space for activities, for example a table tennis table or basketball hoops.
- Multiple calls for a playground.
- Needs to be considered in the context of any proposed new local buildings.

#### Kings Way interface

Block out Kings Way through planting.

#### Streetscape improvements

Several areas have been identified in the precinct where improvements could be made to the pedestrian experience. These could include tree planting, kerb outstands, high-quality paving, street furniture and lighting.

#### Question

#### Responses

What other suggestions do you have for streetscape improvements in the Domain Precinct?

#### Safety and maintenance

- Calls to address issues with tree roots, for example pavement damage, trip hazards, etc.
- Lighting is very important.
- Pedestrian safety is most important.
- Street lighting is currently not adequate.
- There is a need for more street security cameras, especially around St Kilda Road.
- Rubbish is an issue.
- Concerns around leaf drop in autumn. This needs to be better managed.
- Things like free Wi-Fi and more seats brings congregations and more rubbish.
- Park Street particularly has issues with litter and its pavements are dirty.

#### **Conflicts**

- Several calls for better separation between cars, pedestrians and bike riders.
- What can be done to address the issues of motorcycles parking on pavements?
- Better education and management of bike riders locally.
- Food delivery drivers and their vehicles / bikes have become an issue.

#### **Materials**

- Smooth surfaces.
- Use more high-quality tactile pavers.
- · Landscape softening with new flower beds.
- Consistent pathways not undulating.

#### **Greening and trees**

- Resident planting opportunities.
- A strong love of local trees including the autumnal colours and evergreens.
- More greenery on local streets it's relaxing.
- Consider ways to potentially green around the base of streets.
- Love having shade in the summer and the colour changes during the different seasons it makes you want to stop and enjoy the place.
- Ensure that tree management issues are addressed.
- Trees in the wide central medians.
- We want St Kilda Road's trees back!

#### Movement and connection

- Consider wayfinding signage including when there are major events such as the Grand Prix.
- Highlighting connections to the Arts Precinct is worth considering.
- · Improved wayfinding.
- There needs to be more building numbers to help with orientation.
- Road signage isn't adequate.

#### Infrastructure

- Existing pedestrian bridge is in a bad state of disrepair (but is better than nothing).
- Kings Way consider new overpasses and underpasses.
- Not too much infrastructure. Please avoid clutter and consider grouping services
- Remove overhead powerlines.
- · Water drinking fountains are important.
- Would like to see more street seating.

#### Heritage

- High quality streets, with meaningful historic context considered for example retain walls and older lighting.
- Love St Kilda Road and would love more markers to explain how it used to be
- Any consideration around Aboriginal cultural heritage must not be tokenistic and must be undertaken through engagement with Traditional Owners.
- Consider 'old fashioned' lighting.

#### Design

- Streets designed for all ages including school kids, tourists and workers
- Better interface between streets and driveways.
- Provide heritage information through design and signage.
- How can we incorporate art into the streetscape?
- Design needs to consider issues with local traffic especially around Toorak Road intersection.
- Ensure any design respects the existing St Kilda Boulevard it is world famous.
- How can a new design help to make Park Street unique?
- Take design cues from the Shrine side of St Kilda Road it's nicely done.

#### General

- Consider uses depending on the time of day.
- St Kilda Road and Park Street are the most popular.
- How can we make our streets more pet friendly? Consider more disposable bag dispensers and maybe a dedicated pet path!

#### **Pedestrian connections**

The Design Response identified important potential future mid-block pedestrian links in the precinct that could be delivered in future as sites redevelop.

#### Question

# We've identified a series of connections to make it easier for people to move around the Domain Precinct. What ideas do you have for creating a more positive experience along these pedestrian links?

#### Responses

#### General

- Generally, all very supportive of more pedestrians through-block links.
- Queries raised about how will these be done both on public land and private – and the timing or prioritisation.
- They must be of a human scale look to European examples that work well.
- It was suggested that the base map used is out of date. It needs new developments to be shown.

#### Comments on suggested links

- Dorcas Street to Bank Street link:
  - Existing pedestrian link already shared with cars accessing private buildings.
  - o Four car parks.
  - o Currently a big conflict with pedestrians.
  - Comment that it is unsafe for car users, followed by a request to remove pedestrians.
  - Consider how to change human behaviour and get people 'unplugged and off the phones?'
- Bank Street to Park Street:
  - o Very poor conditions, smelly, used as a dumping ground, needs lighting.
  - Wide and highly used but needs much improvement.
  - No capacity on Little Bank Street lots of rat running through the blocks.
  - These sites should be developed.
- Park Street through Millers Lane to Palmerston Crescent and Albert Road
  - Strong support for Millers Lane shared path removal of small ridiculous footpaths, linking through to Albert Road.
  - o Staging of these developments is important as its across two buildings.
  - What is happening to car parks in this area and direction of traffic flow?
- Albert Road to Bowen Crescent
  - Support this will help connect these two smaller neighbourhoods need to improve and make more visible.
- Bank Street to Park Street on Law Street
  - Cars currently use this strip as a shortcut and travel at high speeds, meaning it is currently unsafe for pedestrians and those with impaired hearing.
  - o Supported electronic bollards to keep cars away.
  - o Traffic should be one way in the other direction.
  - Not much comment on the last link, Park Street to Napier Street link, as not many people know of it or use it.

A new link was requested to be explored between St Kilda Road and Wells Street – which would assist Bank Street residents getting through to St Kilda Road. There was concern this was between private properties and unlikely to succeed with a significant height difference with stairs, so not accessible for all.

#### **Access and movement**

- Must be flush or have accessible ramps for shopping and shopping trolleys, mobility scooters, wheelchairs and prams but deter skateboarders.
- · Kings Way is a huge noisy barrier.
- Restrict traffic flow perhaps through installing electronic bollards.
- Access to Albert Road isn't great following the RPV interventions.

#### **Design and materials**

- Good lighting, street paving (bluestone or concrete paving) and landscaping (low level when canopy not appropriate).
- Support public art if it aligned with the overall palette of the precinct.
- Provide seating and pause/resting points where possible within the links or as a destination.
- Bluestone not bitumen.
- Street furniture, pause points for pedestrians.
- Increase waste bins, perhaps post boxes.

#### Safety and maintenance

- Consensus that these links must be safe both the day and night.
- Many made calls for CCTV to be installed.
- Current issue of motorbike and scooters parking on footpath and concern that this will follow through to these links.
- Council would have to maintain these links and keep them clean.
- Bank Street pedestrian connections cars currently through at high speeds.
- Speed humps on Law Street are currently a tripping hazard.
- Local examples with one way access appears to have created some conflicts.
- May need to have good lighting from doorways of flats.
- These would have to be well lit at night particularly important behind the towers on St Kilda.
- The area around Officeworks was singled out for comment and improvements – more lights needed and acknowledgment that the site seems to be a bit of a dumping area – consider upgraded CCTV. This area needs better consideration around DDA compliance, including ramps for prams and wheelchairs.
- Flat surfaces, without steps to avoid access issues (perhaps avoid cobblestones, promote the uses of ramps).
- Any new connections should be clean and well maintained (with no graffiti).

#### Conflicts

- Avoid conflicts between pedestrians, bike riders and cars.
- Any new connections would need to consider the interface between bike riders and pedestrians to avoid conflicts.
- Create better separation between cars and pedestrian.
- There are currently some conflicts existing between pedestrian areas and car parks perhaps better signage would help with this?
- Current roadways and car parks are being taken over by pedestrians who are damaging cars.
- · How would motorbikes rat running be managed?

#### Draft tree planting palette

We've proposed a draft tree species palette to increase the tree canopy and provide a more consistent landscape character in Domain.

#### Question

# We've proposed a draft tree species palette to increase the tree canopy and provide a more consistent landscape character in Domain. Do you have any feedback on the draft tree species palette?

#### Responses

#### General

- Would like wherever possible for optimally mature trees to be planted.
- Suggestion that it may be better to remove some trees early that are past their best.
- Any consideration for new planting needs to be accompanied by a better maintenance and care regime.
- Ensure the collection and use of water through Water Sensitive Urban Design.
- Consider tree species selection that might help to reduce issues with asthma due to pollens, etc.
- When choosing species please consider the need to manage leaf (and flower, gum nut, etc.) litter (i.e. the need for increased street sweeping).
   Select trees that cause the least litter.
- Need to place lights and trees to make sure that illumination of footpaths is not compromised.
- Species placement could be artistic, creative and consider local heritage.
- Consider trees that attract more native birds and bees.
- For smaller parks, lemon trees beautiful scent, visually softening and provides fruit for community.
- Very happy to see an increase in tree numbers.
- Consider opportunities to incorporate green walls locally.
- Consider trees that improve air quality especially on bike paths.
- Keep mature and growing healthy trees (e.g. Palmerston Crescent).
- Consistent planting is less important that preserving healthy trees.
- Acceptance for replacing existing species with more robust ones when individual species need replacing.
- · Avoid trees that lift footpaths.

#### Species to consider

- · Jacaranda or something that flowers.
- No gum trees because of the nuts they also can look scrappy.
- Buckthorne, Ivory Curl, Cape Chestnut, Flame trees, Gingko trees were suggested.
- Acacia tree (if long lived) because of their small leaves.
- Elm trees for new plantings to help with consistency.
- More native trees.
- Some issues raised around palm trees, which was felt not to represent the area (except Albert Park Lake). This species drops large fronds on paths and roads.
- Consider deciduous trees provides shade in summer, allows in sun in winter for a short time and provides colour in autumn.
- Consult with Rail Projects Victoria (RPV) on their tree choices.
- Regarding the selection of Golden Elms if these are being considered this
  needs to be consistent with that is to be planted by RPV (Metro Tunnel
  Project works).

## **Participation**

A reasonable response rate was received for the online surveys (74 responses). Participation in the community workshop was also good, with 35 people attending out of 50 registered (70 per cent).

## **Demographics**

Basic demographic data was anonymously collected through the online survey. A summary is below.

Residential postcode	Count	Per cent of total
3004	20	27.4
3006	0	0
3205	22	30.14
3206	7	9.59
3207	2	2.74
3181	3	4.11
3182	6	8.22
3183	3	4.11
3184	1	1.37
3185	1	1.37
Prefer not to say	3	4.11
Other	5	6.85
Total (one people skipped this question)	73	100

Age	Count	Per cent of total
Under 18	1	1.37
18 to 24	1	1.37
25 to 34	13	17.81
35 to 49	23	31.51
50 to 59	10	13.7
60 to 69	16	21.92
70 to 84	6	8.22
Over 85	0	0
Prefer not to say	3	4.11
Total (one people skipped this question)	73	100

Gender	Count	Per cent of total
Male	35	48.61
Female	34	47.22
Other	0	0
Prefer not to say	3	4.17
Total (two people skipped this question)	72	100

Household composition	Count	Per cent of total
Couple with children at home	15	20.83
Single parent with children at home	2	2.78
Couple with no children at home	35	48.61
Single household	14	19.44
Group household	4	5.56
Other	2	2.78
Total (two people skipped this question)	72	100

Dwelling type	Count	Per cent of total
House	21	28.77
Flat, unit or apartment	50	68.49
House or flat attached to a commercial building (e.g. shop, office)	2	2.74
Other	0	0
Total (two people skipped this question)	73	100

Connection to City of Port Phillip	Count	Per cent	
Resident	59	81.94	
Business owner	8	11.11	
Ratepayer	21	29.17	
Worker	13	18.06	
Student	1	1.39	
Visitor	2	2.78	
Other	1	1.39	

## **Next steps**

Following community engagement on the Domain Precinct Design Response, officers will collate and incorporate your feedback into a Draft Domain Precinct Public Realm Masterplan.

There will be another opportunity to get involved and contribute your feedback to the project during a formal exhibition process later this year.

Following formal exhibition of the Draft Domain Precinct Public Realm Masterplan and incorporation of the community's feedback, Council will consider a final Domain Precinct Public Realm Masterplan for adoption at an Ordinary Meeting in late-2019.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – survey questions

Appendix 2 – Community Workshop agenda

## Take the survey

Help us shape the future of Domain by having your say on the Design Response.

This survey is now closed. Consultation was open from Wednesday 1 May to Wednesday 29 May 2019.

#### Vision

Through Place Identity, the community explored what Domain should be known for in 10 years' time. This feedback
has informed a draft vision (see below). Do you agree with the proposed vision for Domain Precinct that was
created with the community? Required

created with the community: Required
The Domain Precinct will be a diverse neighbourhood celebrated for its open space, tree-lined streets and heritage elements. This vibrant precinct will provide safe spaces for pedestrians and bike riders, facilitate new social connections and be a great place to live, work and visit.
○ Yes ○ No
Other (please specify)
Park Street Link
What do you think about increasing the amount of open space for public use by closing Eastern Road at Park Street? Required
Rate your level of support from 1-5 on the scale, with 5 being 'Strongly support' and 1 being 'Do not support'.
Not Rated
If you have any other suggested streetscape improvements on Park Street, let us know below.
You have <b>400</b> characters left.
Kings Way Reserve
What do you think about increasing the amount of open space for public use by closing Queens Road at Kings Way? Required
Rate your level of support from 1-5 on the scale, with 5 being 'Strongly support' and 1 being 'Do not support'.
O CO CO CO Not Rated
If you have any other suggested improvements at Kings Way Reserve, let us know below.

You have 400 characters left.

# Millers Lane / Kings Place Plaza What do you think about creating a new public space by reducing the road width of Kings Place? Required

Rate your level of support from 1-5 on the scale, with 5 being 'Strongly support' and 1 being 'Do not support'.	
Not Rated	
What types of uses could this new public space provide for residents, workers and visitors?	•
Streetscape improvements	You have <b>400</b> characters left.
If you have any other suggestions for streetscape improvements in the Domain Precinct, let	us know below.
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
	You have <b>400</b> characters left.
Pedestrian connections	
We've identified a series of connections to make it easier for people to move around the Doi ideas do you have for creating a more positive experience along these pedestrian links?	main Precinct. What
General	You have <b>400</b> characters left.
We've proposed a draft tree species palette to increase the tree canopy and provide a more character in Domain. Do you have any feedback on the draft tree species palette?	consistent landscape
Do you have any other comments?	You have <b>400</b> characters left.

You have 400 characters left.

#### A little bit about you

We'd like to understand who we're talking to, and appreciate it if you could complete the following demographic questions.

The personal information provided in this section is being collected by Council for the purpose of providing a demographic snapshot of contributions to this project. Demographic data allows Council to assess whether it is providing all areas of the community with an opportunity to become involved and be heard. Your personal information will be used solely by Council for this primary purpose or directly related purposes. Demographic data may be published and used as part of a Council report. It is optional to provide us with your demographic data and contact details. Your details will be used to provide you with project updates and will be kept confidential. For more information contact Council's Privacy Officer via ASSIST on 9209 6777.

What is your residential postcode?		
3004		
3006		
3205		
3206		
3207		
3181		
3182		
3183		
3184		
3185		
Prefer not to say		
Other (please specify)		
What is your gender?		
Male Male		
○ Female		
Other Other		
Prefer not to say		
What is your age group?		
Under 18 years		
18 – 24 years		
25 – 34 years		
35- 49 years		
○ 50 – 59 years		
○ 60 – 69 years		
70 - 84 years		
Over 95 years		

Which of the following best describes your current household?
Couple with children at home
Single parent with children at home
Couple with no children at home
Single household
Group household
Other (please specify)
Which of the following best describes your current household?
Couple with children at home
Single parent with children at home
Couple with no children at home
Single household
Group household
Other (please specify)
Which of the following best describes your dwelling type?
○ House
Flat, unit or apartment
House or flat attached to a commercial building (e.g. shop, office)
Other (please specify)
Which of the following describes your connection to the City of Port Phillip? (select all that apply)
Resident
Business owner
Ratepayer
Worker
Student
Visitor
Other (please specify)
Let us know your email address if you want to be kept informed about this and other related projects.

You have 255 characters left.



# Domain Precinct Design Response

# Agenda

## Community workshop

Saturday 25 May 2019, Seasons Botanic Gardens, Melbourne

11 am	Welcome and introduction
11.15 am	Icebreaker exercise
11.25 am	Presentation: Project overview and community engagement to date
11.35 am	Feedback exercise: Domain Precinct draft vision
11.45 am	Presentation: Journey to the Public Realm Masterplan
12.10 pm	Lunch break
12.20 pm	Feedback exercise: Café Domain
1.50 pm	Next steps
2 pm	Close