

WATTLE AVENUE LOCAL TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT STUDY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS REPORT



PROJECT BACKGROUND:

An increasing number of residents have contacted Council to raise concern over changed traffic patterns in the Wattle Avenue neighbourhood.

Following Council's Notice of Motion for the inner Werribee precinct, and anticipation that a proactive approach was required in case traffic patterns changed in response to the State Government 'big build' projects, Council commenced a Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) Study for the Wattle Avenue precinct.

The LATM is a complex study that requires significant data collection, analysis and development of concepts and actions to address issues identified. The LATM has now progressed beyond the data collection stage, with officers currently developing potential actions which may include traffic calming measures. The study, along with proposed actions, were shared with the community through community engagement forums from early November till early December last year (2021).

METHODOLOGY:

The below table outlines the various methods and techniques used to engage with the community.

Community engagement activities / tools	
Method / technique	Stakeholders engaged
Project page on The Loop	730 total visitors to the page 1,331 page views
Online survey	38 surveys completed
Social mapping tool	102 pins dropped on the map

Communications / marketing activities	
Method / technique	Stakeholders engaged
Online promotion (Facebook, 1 post)	Reached: 17,936 Engagement: 1,239 Comments: 98

SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK:

The following feedback will help to inform changes to the Wattle Avenue neighbourhood.

We Asked	You Said	We did
Do you have any traffic and transport concerns or suggestions?	<p>Increase in traffic in the Wattle Av precinct is a concern.</p> <p>Duncans Rd/Edwards Rd intersection needs to be signalised.</p> <p>The arterial network needs improvements to attract traffic away from travelling through the Wattle Avenue precinct.</p> <p>GPS systems recommends Wattle Avenue as a preferred route when travelling.</p>	<p>Proposal to install kerb outstands and introduce a 40km/hr speed zone to support local amenity and improve road safety</p> <p>Requests to signalise the Duncans Rd/Edwards Rd intersection will be forwarded to Department of Transport (DOT) for investigation and consideration. We has liaised with DOT to install a 'keep clear' at the intersection (already installed).</p> <p>Request to improve the arterial network will be provided to DOT for investigation and consideration.</p> <p>Proposal to install kerb outstands and 40km/hr speed zone aims to make Wattle Avenue a less attractive route for through traffic.</p>



We Asked	You Said	We did
Do you have any traffic and transport concerns or suggestions?	<p>Don't install speed humps.</p> <p>Trucks should not be going through Wattle Avenue precinct.</p> <p>Install 'local traffic only' signs.</p>	<p>Our proposal doesn't include the installation of speed humps. At this stage, kerb outstands are being proposed as traffic calming devices for Wattle Avenue.</p> <p>A Truck ban won't stop all large vehicles from travelling through Wattle Avenue as it only applies for trucks over certain configuration and dimension. Also, it is noted that enforcement (which is not done by Council) must take place for truck ban to be effective. As such, our aim is to ensure Wattle Avenue isn't an attractive through traffic route for trucks and divert them back to the arterial network.</p> <p>We are happy to consider this noting that 'local traffic only' signs do not have an enforcement authority.</p>
Any other comments?	<p>Respondents made a number of suggestions regarding alternative transport modes.</p> <p>A number of locations were listed that community members think would be improved by new traffic and transport measures. These included measures on both State and Council managed roads.</p>	<p>Our officers will look into the suggestions to see whether we can incorporate these works to our Capital Works Program.</p> <p>These locations will be reviewed and considered to see whether we can incorporate these works to our Capital Works Program.</p>

NEXT STEPS:

- Council to submit a request to Department of Transport to approve the introduction of a 40km/hr speed zone for Wattle Ave precinct.
- Council to further develop designs to install kerb outstands at/along Wattle Av precinct.
- Council to discuss further with Department of Transport regarding the Duncans Rd/Edwards Rd intersection and the surrounding arterial network.

HOW CAN PARTICIPANTS STAY INVOLVED/INFORMED?

Participants can stay informed by visiting the Loop page and selecting to “Follow” the project. Updates will be posted on The Loop and the project timeline will be updated to reflect project status.

Contact Peter Fung on (03) 9742 0779 or peter.fung@wyndham.vic.gov.au for more information.