MALING ROAD PLACEMAKING ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

STAGE 2 – IMAGINING PLACE





ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

PLACEMAKING

Placemaking is a holistic, hands-on approach to creating people-centred places for the health and wellbeing of our community. It involves listening to the people who live, work, visit, study and play in a place to discover their needs and aspirations.

This report summarises the initial stage of community engagement in late 2019 for the Maling Road Placemaking Project.

These results have informed the development of the Place Vision, which will be presented to the community in the next stage of engagement in May 2020.

WHAT WE ASKED

Community members were asked four questions to understand how they currently use Maling Road:

- 1. How often do you usually visit Maling Road?
- 2. Why do you usually visit Maling Road?
- 3. How do you usually travel to Maling Road?
- How strong is your sense of connection to Maling Road? (On a scale of 'Very strong' to 'No connection at all'.)

People were then asked three key questions to contribute their ideas to the placemaking vision for Maling Road:

- 1. What is unique about Maling Road?
- **2.** What improvements would make you want to spend more time in Maling Road?
- **3.** In an ideal world, how would you like Maling Road to look and feel in 5-10 years?

HOW YOU RESPONDED

In total, over 1,200 people shared their aspirations for the future of the Maling Road precinct.

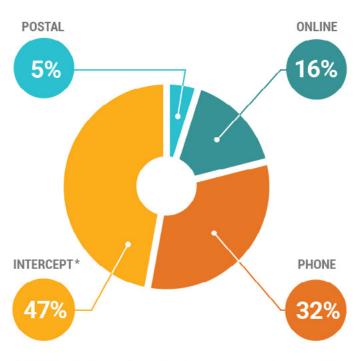
Forty-five people including business owners, residents, community group representatives and commercial property owners, participated in two co-design workshops.

More than 100 children shared their ideas through text and drawings.

A representative sample of 378 Canterbury residents were surveyed by telephone.

An additional 797 people contributed their ideas by completing a survey via mail, online or in person through intercept surveying on the street.

The findings from the surveys are detailed on following pages.



*Note: On-street surveying captured responses from shoppers, visitors and business owners.

WHO PARTICIPATED?

A broad spectrum of people participated in the surveys. The majority were women (58%), and the most represented age groups were 50-64 (22%), 65+ (23%) and 35-49 (25%). The majority of participants were Canterbury residents. The remainder were visitors to the Maling Road precinct.

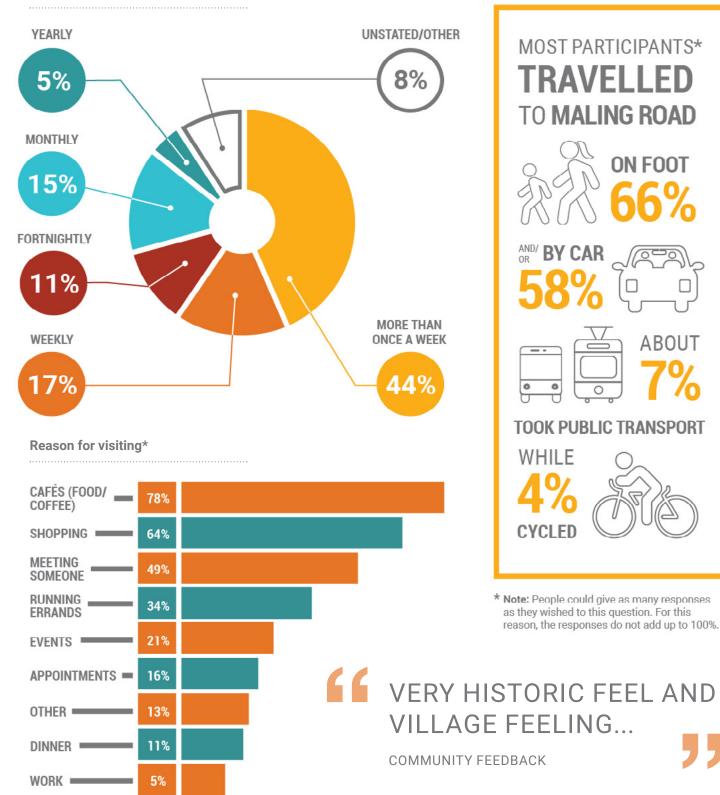
The widespread appeal of Maling Road is evident in the fact that visitors who completed intercept surveys on the street came from more than 60 suburbs across Melbourne. The views of a small number of regional, interstate and overseas visitors were also captured. 66% OF PEOPLE WHO COMPLETED THE SURVEYS LIVED IN CANTERBURY.



CURRENT USE

VISITING PATTERNS







QUESTION: 'HOW STRONG IS YOUR SENSE OF ATTACHMENT TO MALING ROAD?'

IT'S LOCAL, WELCOMING. THERE'S A SENSE OF COMMUNITY.





CURRENT IDENTITY

QUESTION: 'WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT MALING ROAD?'



All survey responses were analysed and some key themes emerged about what makes Maling Road unique.

These themes are displayed in the left hand column of the table below, while the columns to the right describe each theme's components.

People could give as many responses as they wished to this question. For this reason, the responses do not add up to 100%.

| character 60% | UNIQUE HERITAGE | PLEASANT VILLAGE ATMOSPHERE | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 00 ⁄o | | | |
| SHOPS AND SERVICES | GOOD MIX | PLEASANTLY SMALL SCALE | VACANCIES ARE AN ISSUE |
| 52% | However, some people commented that there were too many cafés. | | |
| COMMUNITY | STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY | MALING ROAD IS CLOSE BY | GOOD RAPPORT WITH TRADERS |
| 28% | | | |
| MOVEMENT AND ACCESS | TRAFFIC IS WELL MANAGED | THE STREET IS WALKABLE | THE STATION IS CLOSE BY |
| 13% | However, some people thought it was difficult to drive through. | | |

PROBABLY IF THEY HAD RESTAURANTS INSTEAD OF JUST CAFÉS – A BIT OF DIVERSITY...

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

IMPROVEMENTS

QUESTION: 'WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU WANT TO SPEND MORE TIME IN MALING ROAD?'

Some strong themes emerged about what improvements would make participants want to spend more time in Maling Road.

These themes are displayed in the left hand column of the table below, while the columns to the right describe each theme's components. People could give as many responses as they wished to this question. For this reason, the responses do not add up to 100%.

| revitalise retail 57% | IMPROVE WINING AND DINING | BETTER RETAIL MIX | EVENING/NIGHT ECONOMY | REDUCE NUMBER OF EMPTY SHOP FRONTS | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| | | | | | |
| UPGRADE AMENITIES | MORE/BETTER AMENITIES | TECHNOLOGY* | UPKEEP BUILDINGS | | |
| 28% | | | | | |
| REIMAGINE THE Roads | IMPROVE PARKING | IMPROVE ROAD DESIGN | MANAGE TRAFFIC FLOW | | |
| 26% | | | | | |
| HOST EVENTS | ARTS EVENTS AND FESTIVALS | SPECIAL INTEREST | SEASONAL | NIGHT-TIME | LIFE-STAGE SPECIFIC |
| 22% | | | | | |
| IMPROVE Aesthetics | INSTALL ART | PRESERVE HERITAGE | ENHANCE LIGHTING | IMPROVE STREET APPEAL | |
| 19% | | | | | |
| CATER TO ALL LIFE STAGES | CHILDREN | YOUNG ADULTS | FAMILIES | MIDDLE-AGE AND OLDER ADULTS | |
| 15% | | | | | |
| GREEN OUR STREET | DEDICATED GREEN SPACE | MORE GREENERY | | | |
| 12% | | | | | |

*Note: This category mainly contained responses that referred to a prompt in the telephone survey script, which included 'enhance with technology' to encourage people to 'think big'.



QUESTION: 'HOW WOULD YOU LIKE MALING ROAD TO LOOK AND FEEL IN 5 - 10 YEARS?'

Survey responses to this question were analysed according to two urban design principles: the way places look and the way places feel.

These themes are displayed in the left hand column of the table below, while the columns to the right describe each theme's components. People could give as many responses as they wished to this question. For this reason, the responses do not add up to 100%.

| THE WAY MALING ROAD 'LOOKS' 50% | HERITAGE RETAINED | LOOK VERY SIMILAR | GREENING UNDERTAKEN | MAINTENANCE UNDERTAKEN |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| THE WAY MALING ROAD 'FEELS' 44% | FEEL VERY SIMILAR | HISTORIC FEEL RETAINED | IS VIBRANT AND ENERGISED | VILLAGE FEEL RETAINED |





TIMELINE

The implementation timeline below provides an overview of the key stages involved in the Maling Road Placemaking Project.

As mentioned earlier, the results of the community engagement outlined in this report informed the development of the Place Vision for Maling Road.

The Place Vision will be available for review in May 2020, in the next phase of community engagement for Stage 3 – Vision and Priorities.

Your feedback is integral to this process, and we want to hear what you have to say.

To get in touch and to learn more about the project, visit: www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/maling-road-placemaking.







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