



KINGLAKE STREETScape CONSULTATION SUMMARY

Overview

65 submissions were received as part of the Kinglake Streetscape Renewal Project consultation. Submissions came from local residents and businesses, providing some great feedback to refine the design.

While a couple of people said we should leave the main street as it is, the vast majority supported the Project.

Overall, there was strong support to improve the amenity of the main street area and to improve safety, including the slowing of traffic, while recognising that it remains an arterial road. There was also strong support for the sealing of Aitken Crescent.

The key issues raised related to ensuring adequate parking, access and convenience to support existing businesses. There was also feedback suggesting the need for a safe crossing point near Bollygum Park, and ensuring the slowing of traffic begins before Bollygum Park. There were a range of other concerns raised, which are outlined in this summary.

Vision

Common words and phrases used to describe the vision for the Kinglake Streetscape included:

- Country feel, forest and farm village
- Small town heritage with modern conveniences
- Practical for locals, access to shops, shelter, easy to use, accessible
- Protect the existing large trees
- Space to gather, space for community
- Prosperous, thriving, vibrant
- Attractive, clean, pretty
- Community centered

- Consistency in the shop fronts
- More trees and clear paths.
- Prettier tourist-friendly village
- Safety, slow down the trucks, children, cyclists to obey rules
- Uniform, exotic autumn beauty
- Accessible for disabled, pedestrian friendly
- Welcoming for visitors and locals, inviting for visitors
- Individuality, connectedness
- Free flowing
- More beautiful trees and plants, reflect the natural environment
- Walkable town that improves the quality of life for residents and is a destination for visitors
- Celebrate heritage
- Consistency in shop appearance including colours

A number of people flagged the importance of ensuring the main street works with or without the new Kinglake Village development.

A small number of people indicated we should effectively leave it as is and that the money should be spent on other things.

Why do you use the main street?

Most respondents identified as local residents, with a number from local businesses. None of the submissions were from people that identified as visitors.

What do you like about the draft plan?

The following words and phrases were used to describe what respondents liked about the draft plan:

- Cohesion
- Overall improved safety for all and slowing the traffic
- Better pathway links between the shops and Bollygum and wider paths
- Paving of Aitken Cres
- Plantings/trees to improve the amenity and soften the impact of the service station
- Improving the public toilets
- Safer crossing from service station to Aitken Cres
- Improved safety
- Retention of old trees
- Median strip – ensure that vegetation does not interfere with traffic or interrupt visibility
- Replacement of the traffic lights with another style of crossing
- Provision for long vehicle parking
- A couple of respondents indicated they liked the wider footpaths (while other opposed this) and use of recycled materials.

Some people indicated they like the cycling infrastructure, including bike parking and street furniture, but others indicated they did not support making the main street more cycle friendly and were concerned about cyclists use of the Heidelberg-Kinglake Road. A few also indicated cycling infrastructure should not result in cluttering areas in front of the shops.

What do you think we need to change about the draft plan?

The key issues identified by respondents were:

1. Parking was the largest single issue raised.
 - * Keep angle parking – parallel parking is difficult and will block the lane while people get in
 - * More parking – do not want to reduce from existing parking and if anything want more
 - * Parking should not be limited to the proposed new development.
 - * Need to ensure parking near key facilities for those that are less mobile
2. Ensure adequate access to the existing shops (including to the rear)
3. Safe crossing point near Bollygum Park
4. Long vehicle parking – we need a place for trucks and vans/trailers etc to stop, however there was not a strong consensus about where this should be. Some suggested Aitken Cres. Others were concerned about the possibility of long vehicle parking in front of the former “Get Fleeced” shop.

5. A proper bus stop at Glenburn Road/Aitken Cres
6. Ensure safe passage for trucks but get them to slow down.
7. More lighting in the main street and surrounding streets – design to match heritage
8. Ensuring the main street works for emergency vehicles
9. Some people suggested a roundabout at the northern end of town – or a place where cars can safely turn around (U-turn)
10. Some people raised concern about the narrowing of the traffic lanes (whether due to bicycle lane or median strip) and whether this would prevent easy use of the main street by large vehicles and trucks.

Other feedback included:

- Parking and landscaping outside “Get Fleeced”
- Using recycled products
- Doing something with the colonial corner carpark – ensure parking in this area is retained but the area needs to be improved
- A dump point for RVs
- Visitor information signage
- Rework area at the front of the old CFA shed to increase parking
- More garden beds near the service station and RAC, while another person wanted to leave the grassed area in front of the service station available for use as part of events
- Add some artwork – to make people smile
- Speed or rumble strips on the entry to the town area to get people to slow down
- Undercover sheltered seating
- Provision for people riding horses
- Parking for motorcycles
- Provisions to slow traffic in Aitken Cres and prevent burnouts
- No need for a dedicated bike lane
- No dutch roundabout
- No need for a median strip as it would make the street feel narrow. Others indicated reduce the width of the median and do not include trees
- No need for wider footpaths given the current pedestrian numbers – especially if it is at the expense of parking
- No need for a 40 km/hr speed limit or raised pedestrian crossing
- The pedestrian lights should be retained for safety
- There is no business case for a vehicle charging station

Some people indicated pedestrian use was minimal and cycling is only on weekends and that we should not be designing with these in mind. Some thought road cycling from Melbourne was not safe and should not be encouraged.

The final design needs to be reviewed to ensure risk is managed.

Most important thing to be achieved with the new streetscape

The following words and phrases provide an overview of those items submitters indicated were most important:

- Cohesive plan
- Parking, including long vehicles, traffic flow
- Safety, including slowing traffic and visibility from a motorists perspective
- Beautification, trees
- Connecting local businesses – paths, pedestrian connections, support the existing businesses
- Improving Glenburn Road intersection
- New, exciting, attraction, a special place to visit
- That it works for locals, convenient, a town centre, encourage visitors to spend money
- Centre median
- Crossing near Bollygum
- Disability friendly, new public toilets
- Sealing Aitken Cres

Deciduous/Native

Overall there was a relatively even split in the preference of submitters for native or exotic deciduous trees, although there was a slight preference for exotic deciduous plantings.

Whatever is used, respondents indicated the importance of managing vegetation to ensure visibility and safety.

Other items raised

Some of the other issues that submitters raised were:

- Overall, more detail is required on what is proposed and in particular how this relates to the proposed budget.
- Some submitters raised the importance of opportunities for local contractors.
- There is a need to ensure access to existing driveways and provide for existing waste services.
- There is a need to review the location of the bus stops.