

Moreland City Council

Stage One engagement findings for Imagine Moreland

Nat McGlone Coordinator Community Engagement & Public Participation

April 2021

Presentation overview



- Introducing the Public Participation Team.
- About the Imagine Moreland engagement program and rates of participation.
- 3. Overview of feedback by area and topic.



Introducing the Public Participation Team

We build Moreland Council's capacity to involve our community in our decision making. We provide specialist advice, tools, training, programs and projects in public participation.



Nat McGlone,

Coordinator Public Participation



Lucie Groen-O'Connor

Community Engagement Partner



Maddy Wald

Community Engagement Partner



Nancy Nunez

Community Engagement Partner



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Jaymes Brown

Digital Engagement Partner

Target to reach the top 25 % of Councils for community engagement practice



1. Engagement skills training

Outputs: 30 Council officers trained in IAP2 Certificate of Engagement. Status: Delivered December 2020

Next steps: Investigate concept of **Engagement Lab**





ransport Strategy (MITS)

Our strategy to keep Moreland



the next 5 years and beyond to be zero carbon community by 2040

Open for commen

Park Close to H Zero Carbon Moreland is our plan fo

2. New Conversations Moreland website launched

Outputs: New website delivered in November 2019 **Status: Ongoing**

Next steps: Role out Digital **Engagement Framework**



3. New Community **Engagement Policy, tools and** resources

Delivered December 2020

Next steps: Embed policy and increase advice and support to Council officers.

Reviewing Council's Advisory Committees



Engagement Program overview



STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3	STAGE 4
January – March	Late March – May	May – June	August - October
Wide engagement	Deliberative engagement	Deliberative engagement	Community ownership
 Digital engagement. Pop-up program Stakeholder interviews Postcard drawing competition. Targeted focus group with CALD groups. Surveys in other languages 	Community panel process (part 1) – Short form deliberation to develop the Community Vision.	Community panel process (part 2) – Targeted dilemma conversations to inform the Council Plan, 10-year Asset Plan and 10-year Financial Plan.	 Public exhibition of documents (10 business days minimum) Mayoral event to launch the Vision and plans.
All engagement includes a focus on involving non-English speaking communities and CALD groups in conversations.			Note that the long-term asset plan will go on public exhibition in 2022.

Imagine Moreland engagement program is guided by Moreland's Community Engagement Policy 2020

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- Commitment to collaborating with the community as a partner.
- Development of Community Vision and other corporate plans will include broad community engagement, complemented by a deliberative engagement process.
- We will also exhibit the Community Vision and other corporate plans in draft form for public feedback for a minimum of ten business days.
- Council to adopt the Community Vision by October 2021.





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Rates of participation

Rates of participation

Overview

- We received a total of 3227 contributions in stage one across all methods
- High attendance at pop ups held in 10 locations across all 3 Moreland Council wards
- 78 youth engaged in targeted activities
- 350+ postcards submitted
- 50 online surveys via QR code including responses in other languages
- 264 participants posted on the Conversations Moreland platform (gather tool and Q&A tool)
- 89 Stakeholder targeted interviews
- 9 participants in CALD women's focus group.







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Topics of interest by area

Topics of interest in Pascoe Vale, Glenroy, Oak Park



- Safe walking and cycling routes for children to travel to school.
- Active transport routes that connect destination like shops and parks.
- More green open space for the community
- More outdoor community festivals and events
- Residential development that preserves open space
- Glenroy residents feel like they could be left behind.



Topics of interest in Fawkner and Coburg



- Value Fawkner's quiet streets (free of rat runs)
- Preserving existing neighbourhood density and character.
- More local youth mental health services and public spaces for young people.
- Reducing litter and dumped rubbish around neighbourhoods & Merri Creek
- More community gatherings, street parties and Council run events to improve social connections as we move out of lock down.
- Supporting an aging population through community services, social groups and accessible affordable housing and other provisions.



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Topics of interest in Brunswick West, Brunswick, and Brunswick East



Including data from Brunswick South West PS, Fleming Park and Brunswick Town Hall

- Higher density development should be high quality and incorporate open and green spaces.
- Continued improvements to cycling infrastructure including East-West cycling routes.
- Developing Moreland's reputation as a creative capital by leveraging the abundance of highly skilled and professional musicians and other artists living and working in the area.
- Green nature strips and mature trees to provide shade for pedestrians.
- Vacancy rates along Sydney Road and 'greyness of the street'.
- Conflicting views on fixing Sydney Road (pedestrianise, or make arterial).





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Detailed feedback on the Imagine Moreland topics

Topics



- Equity and Health
- Climate and Nature
- Neighbourhoods
- Getting Around
- Economy and the Arts
- Democracy and Governance
- Pandemic recovery



Health and equity

Community Aspirations

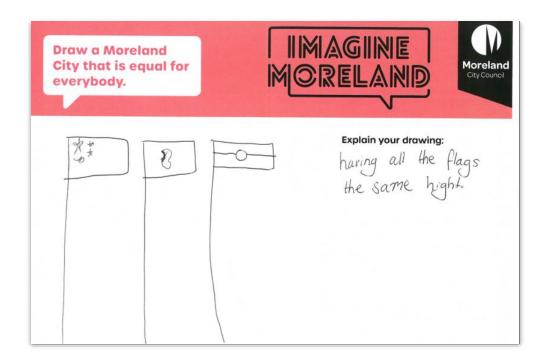
Address racism, affordable housing, public health, places to exercise, activities for all ages, natural spaces, LGBTQIA support & affordable healthcare.

Community Priorities

- Preserve and provide green outdoor spaces for passive and active recreation (development is encroaching on green spaces).
- Accessible and locality of health services including mental health
- Coordinated emergency relief (food, services referrals)
- 123 comments about skateparks! (not just from youth engagement).

Gaps in community understanding

 Some participants perceived local government as playing a major role in COVID testing operations.





Climate and nature

Community Aspirations

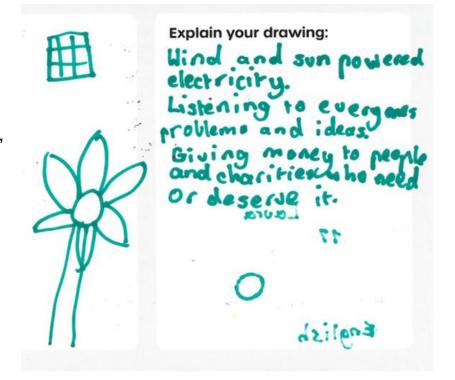
- A greener Moreland with mature tree cover to provide shade
- Clean streets, free from litter and dumped items
- Stewardship of natural spaces especially Merri Creek
- For Moreland to be a leader in sustainable neighborhoods 'climate emergency'

Community Priorities

- "Greening" Moreland and more planting
- More green and open spaces
- More sustainable practices e.g. recycling facilities
- Improving waste management e.g. addressing dumping and littering
- Cleaning/improving creeks
- Strong desire for solar and electric vehicles.

Gaps in community understanding

- Some participants presumed that the level of enforcement was directly correlated with the amount of litter and dumped rubbish (seen as Council's role rather than individual behaviour).





Neighbourhoods

Community Aspirations

- Appropriate development that reflects the "feel of Moreland"
- Increased accessibility
- Well connected and safe locations
- Infrastructure available for different age groups

Community Priorities

- Facilities that are fit for purpose
- Improving planning outcomes (e.g. designs of new buildings, density)
- Managing population growth (associated concerns traffic, massing on land)
- Community art and minimising graffiti

Gaps in community understanding

Council's role in enforcing building codes (including design, sustainability).



Getting around

Community Aspirations

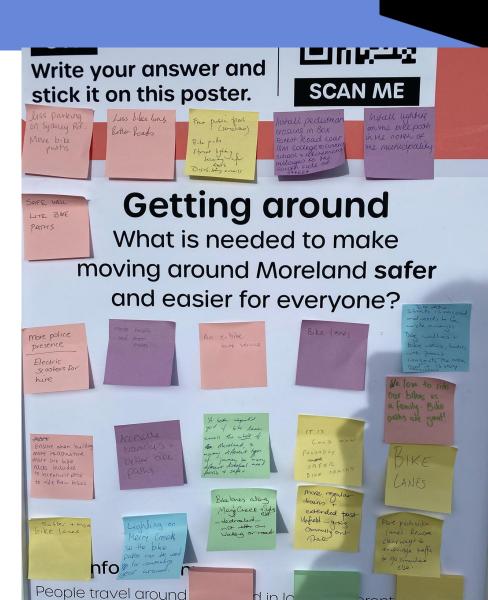
- An easy and enjoyable walk or ride to your destination
- Well connected public transport
- Respecting those that need to drive

Community Priorities

- 402 responses re: public and active transport
- Encourage active transport
- Parking around public transport
- Parking around private residence (e.g. permits, developments with parking)
- Improved bicycle and walking infrastructure (e.g. paths/lanes)
- Planting and art along paths

Gaps in understanding

- Council's role in road crossing removal
- Council's role in providing public transport and its associated infrastructure





Economy and the arts

Community Aspirations

- Increase local employment
- Support the arts culture of Moreland and build on its reputation

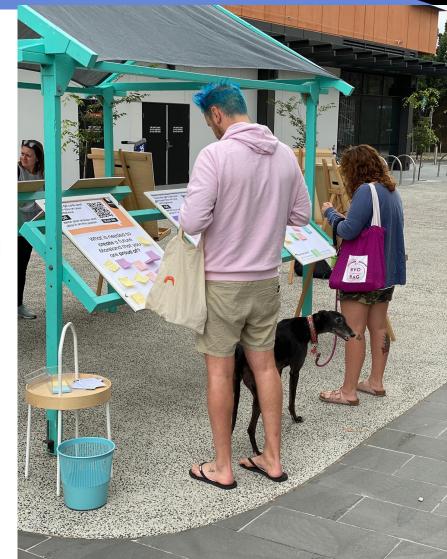
Community Priorities

- Venues for artists to work in
- Activation of public spaces with events such as festivals and live music
- Ensuring artists are paid fairly for their work
- Supporting local businesses (infrastructure, grants)
- Employment opportunities- particularly for youth

Gaps in community understanding

- Community needs vs grant funding available





Democracy and Governance

Community Aspirations

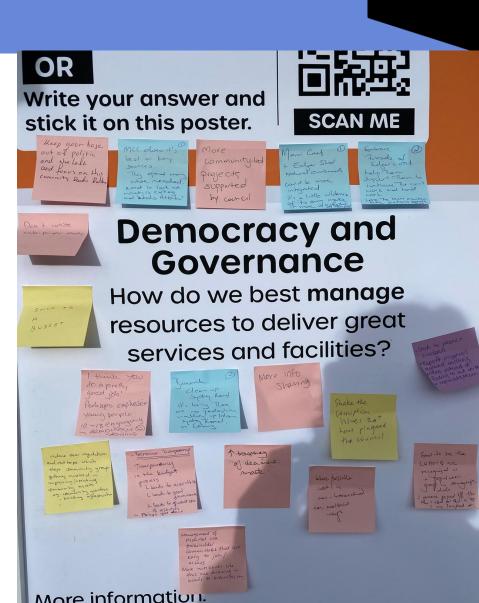
- A transparent and trusted Council
- Rapport and positive relationships with Council staff

Community Priorities

- Building a trusted relationship with Council through increased communication and engagement
- Fast and helpful responses when contacting the council
- Visible improvements in neighbourhoods
- Continued support for libraries and increased support for community groups and services
- Mixed communication methods. Printed and digital.

Gaps in community understanding

- What to expect from Council
- What else to seek support, funding





Pandemic Recovery

Community Aspirations

- To reconnect with neighbours and social groups
- Prioritising support for the most vulnerable people in their communities
- Importance of working together and helping one another

Community Priorities

- Mental health support
- Community events and social groups to re-connect
- Support for businesses
- Employment & job opportunities
- Continued safe infection control practices
- Provision of free masks and PPE

Gaps in understanding

- A need for increased communication about COVID
- Clarity around who provides testing and vaccinations in the local community

