

CREAMERY ROAD RECONSTRUCTION – CONSULTATION REPORT JULY 2021

Council undertook community consultation online via the Melton Conversation website. Council sent letters to 44 houses in the catchment area advertising the consultation period (24 May - 18 June 2021). It was also advertised on social media and posters were given to be placed at the school and the Toolern Vale General Store.

Council received 34 responses. A summary of the feedback received is below. Council has commented on each issue raised.

In summary, the respondents are glad that the project is being completed however disappointed that all the connecting Toolern Vale roads (Mechanics Rd, Burtons Road, and the rest of Creamery Road) are not being reconstructed at the same time. In addition, there were also some safety concerns raised around some elements of the project.

General feedback on the scope

C	Subject	For	Against	General Comments	PWG Comments
1	Project Overall Satisfaction	13	5	Respondents were asked to rate the project out of 5. 3 or above is considered was considered "For." 2 or below is considered was "Against." The average rating was 3.83	Overall, an average rating of 3.83 is high. This shows the community would like the project to proceed.
2	Other roads should be included	23	0	If only this section of Creamery is sealed, all traffic will only utilise this section which will result in it becoming congested. It will also make the town look unfinished.	This project was funded by the Federal Government and extra budget is not available at this time.
7	Proposed footpath crossing		12	Footpath crossing at Creamery Road near Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road is dangerous at the curve.	This is the only option due to site constraints. Traffic Engineers have reviewed the location and deemed it acceptable.
22	Proposed footpath to General Store		11	Do not want extensive footpaths in area but rather the sealing of the three connecting roads.	Omission of footpath has little effect on the budget for the additional roads.
15	Safety and liveability	4		This is a great project and will help increase liveability and safety in the area a lot.	This is great to hear.
9	Proposed on-street parking reconstruction	3		The parking area is messy and dangerous when raining. This will be a big improvement.	This is great to hear.
12	Proposed roundabout	1	1	Mixed comments: Will improve safety but money should go to seal all roads.	The roundabout will aid in safety and was decided as the most appropriate treatment of the intersection.

8	Proposed speed humps	1		Speed humps needed as lots of people currently speed.	Speed humps will be installed.
5	Proposed landscaping		1	Take out landscaping and put the project budget towards the rest of the roads.	Landscaping will be minimal and has little effect on the budget for the additional roads.

Additional questions and concerns

C	Subject	Number	General Comments	PWG Comments
17	Width of the curve at the east end	11	Question about how the road will be expanded to allow for two-way traffic as it seems too narrow.	Curve design meets the standard for two-way traffic.
18	Proposed landscaping around curves	11	Trees at the east curve may block resident's views while exiting properties.	Sight distance for resident's crossovers will be maintained.
19	Crossover next to the school main entrance	11	Ensure access for fire and emergency vehicles is considered to the ford.	There are no proposed changes to the current access which is deemed suitable.
20	School parking overflow area at CFA	11	A footpath was constructed from the school to lead to the CFA carpark for it to be used as an overflow area. Is this part of the reconstruction works?	Existing footpath will be maintained. The CFA carpark is outside of the scope for this project.
21	Current speed limit on local adjacent roads is too high	11	Creamery, Burtons and Mechanics Road should be changed from 50km/hr to 40km/hr.	The default 50km/h is in line with State Speed Signing Guidelines. Any proposed changes will be reviewed as part of the wider road network speed limit review and should a further reduction be identified it will be communicated to the wider community at that time.
23	Current Maintenance schedule	11	Request for maintenance log for Creamery, Burtons and Mechanics Roads	Maintenance log to be provided to resident.
24	Date of sealing of the adjacent roads	11	Why has the date changed from previous council communication? There are significant health issue concerns.	The construction year for the sealing of the adjacent roads was not given. It was just referred to Council's Capital Works Program which is prioritised annually.
25	Toolern Vale CFA impact	11	Will the proposed roundabout or unsealed roads impact emergency response times? Has the CFA been consulted with?	The roundabout has been designed to allow for service vehicles. CFA have been consulted with.

6	Pedestrians crossing Diggers Rest – Coimadai Road	1	Can pedestrian crossing lights be installed at Diggers Rest – Coimadai Road near the playground and tennis court to improve safety for children?	This is not part of this scope. Diggers Rest – Coimadai Road is a state arterial road. Council will discuss with DoT.
10	Missens Road, Toolern Vale	1	Can Missens Road, Toolern Vale be fixed?	Missens Road is not in the immediate locality. This is a separate project. Unsealed roads are assessed and prioritised by Council as they will require Council to fund the projects to seal those roads. These roads are considered for funding through the annual budget development process.
11	Crossing points for children	1	No school crossing is shown on the plans. Can there be a zebra or school crossing at crossing points for children?	We acknowledge there is no need to install crossing due to low numbers and the proposed arrangements in the plan are suitable and safe.
16	Concern about increased runoff	1	Concern about increased runoff in Toolern Vale resulting from the project.	The project includes drainage improvements in the area that will address stormwater runoff concerns through open channels and will be directed into the creek.
13	Single property issue	1	The plan does not show a crossover for residents' access.	The crossover will be added to the design.
14	Construction impacts	1	Question about construction impacts.	The resident will be contacted to discuss the question. All residents will be notified regarding construction impacts closer to the time via notification letters.
14	Removal of trees	1	Question about which trees are to be removed.	Trees to be removed are shown on the consultation plan. The resident will be contacted to discuss.

Toolern Vale & District Primary School Consultation

Subject	General Comments	Council Comments
Overall Project Satisfaction	Very satisfied with the project overall.	
Speed Humps	Speed humps will help improve safety in the area and slow cars down.	Speed humps will be included in the design.

Key Decision

Subject	Comments	Council Decision
Completion of all the roads	The major concern from the community is not completing the construction of all of the roads in the area.	This is not a Council priority at this time.

Summary

Overall, the majority of local residents and users are supportive of the project. Council will take into consideration key concerns and issues raised above.