

Wallace Square Pop Up Park & Outdoor Dining – Consultation Summary

Consultation on the Wallace Square Pop Up Park & Outdoor Dining Project was carried out in October and November 2022.

Feedback was sought via the Conversations page, emails to traders and in-person visits to traders. Ninety-six responses were received through the feedback period.

Issues raised during the consultation included:

- **Parking is a prevalent issue in Wallace Square and High Street** - Options for additional parking have been identified. Enforcement is undertaken to encourage turnover and prevent overstay. The removal of car parks was of high concern to businesses, the new proposal will focus on opportunities that do not require car parks to be used.
- **Road Closure** - Concerns were raised in relation to access to businesses and closing of the road. A new proposal will take this into consideration, ensuring that accessibility remains at the forefront.
- **Appropriateness of the design** - positive support for a project was received, however feedback questioned the appropriateness of the design and location. As the new proposal is developed, these feedback items will be incorporated regarding appropriateness of design and location.
- **Security & Safety** - concerns were raised about a potential increase in anti-social behaviour in Wallace Square. Council will work to ensure that designs follow best practise Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles. Victoria Police would be notified of the development's timeline and activation. Evidence supports that positive activation of spaces creates a better environment for drawing people to places, increasing footfall, social connections and economic uplift.
- **Activation of Space** - once constructed, Council's Economic Development team would work to deliver activations in the park, as well as promoting use to the community. These activations could include live music (busker style), outdoor movies and school holiday entertainment.

Council has heard the concerns and suggestions raised, along with the limited support for the proposed idea and as such, is exploring alternate options. We are close to be able to come back to you with an updated proposal.

Next steps

Funding has been allocated as part of the Suburban Revitalisation program to deliver a temporary pop up park, so council continues to work on designs and proposals to meet the project deliverables. A new concept is in development and will be communicated to traders and the community as the project progresses.