

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

---

# Community Consultation Report

## Coogee Bay Road Shared Village Survey

02 February 2021

---

# Contents

<b>1. Executive summary</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Community engagement strategy</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1. Background and objectives	4
2.2. Consultation period	4
2.3. Consultation activities	4
<b>3. Consultation outcomes</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1. Your Say Randwick website	5
3.2. Survey Results	5
3.2.1. What suburb do you live in?	5
3.2.2. What best describes you?	6
3.2.3. How would you rate the overall success of the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village project?	6
3.2.4. Do you think the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village Project should be extended past February 2021?	7
3.2.5. How long do you think it should be extended for?	8
3.2.6. How effective has the project been at achieving the following	9
3.2.7. What have you liked most about the project?	9
3.2.8. What have you liked least about the project?	10
3.2.9. Do you have any comments to make on the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village project?	12
3.3. Submissions	14
3.4. Facebook	20
<b>4. Next Steps</b>	<b>34</b>

---

## 1. Executive summary

Between 15 and 29 January 2021, Randwick City Council consulted with the local community to obtain feedback on the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village project and to determine community attitudes to extending the program.

An online survey was created and a letter sent to all 7,800 households in Coogee with a link and QR code encouraging residents to share their views.

Council received 3,029 completed surveys.

95% of respondents identify as local residents and 66% or 1,988 are from Coogee.

Key survey results:

- 79% of respondents rate the overall success of the project as good or excellent.
- 78% of respondents think the project should be extended.
- Of those who support extending it, 86% want it permanently extended, 6% for three months and 5% for six months.
- When asked to name three things they like most about the project, the top responses are:
  - Outdoor dining (1,585 responses)
  - Enhanced town vibrancy (1,363 responses)
  - More space (1,175 responses)
  - Support for local businesses (839 responses)
  - Calmer traffic (765 responses)
- When asked what respondents like least about the project:
  - Negative impact on traffic congestion on the street and surrounding areas (535 responses);
  - Poor quality of the street furniture and general look of the area (335 responses);
  - Pedestrian crowding / too many people (189 responses)

---

## 2. Community engagement strategy

### 2.1. Background and objectives

In November 2020, Randwick City Council changed Coogee Bay Road to one-way between Arden and Brook Streets and created more footpath space to support businesses and the local community navigate COVID-19 safely. Council maintained parking on both sides, and used the extra space for more tables, chairs, and spaces for people. The three-month activation is due to end in February 2021.

The consultation program aimed to:

- Seek community feedback on project
- Determine community views on extending project
- Determine community views on making the project permanent

### 2.2. Consultation period

The consultation was open for 14 days from 9am 15 January to 9am 29 January 2021.

The project was assessed as having a higher-level local area impact.

IAP2 consultation level: Consult.

### 2.3. Consultation activities

To determine the success of the project and whether it should be extended past February, Council sought community feedback via an online survey.

The consultation was promoted using digital and social media, a letter to Coogee residents, and posters and flyers around local businesses.

The Your Say Randwick webpage had more than 4,881 unique visits and 3,029 surveys were completed. 15 submissions were sent directly to Council and Council's Facebook post had more than 116 comments.

Community engagement activities undertaken:

- Dedicated consultation website to complete an online survey
- Letter to all households in Coogee with a link and QR code to complete survey. Residents without internet access could phone Council to complete the survey. (7,812 letters were via Australia Post to every household in Coogee)
- Poster and flyers distributed to businesses on Coogee Bay Road
- Email to Your Say subscribers (5,898 subscribers): 15 January 2020
- Randwick News (weekly email 50,000+ subscribers): 20 and 27 January 2021
- Facebook post: 15 January 2021 (8,272 people reached & 2,583 engagements)
- Listing on Randwick City Council's *Current Consultations* webpage
- Email to all precincts
- Councillor notification

## 3. Consultation outcomes

### 3.1. Your Say Randwick website

A dedicated Your Say Randwick website was launched on 15 January 2021. The survey was open for 14 days, closing 9am on 29 January 2021.

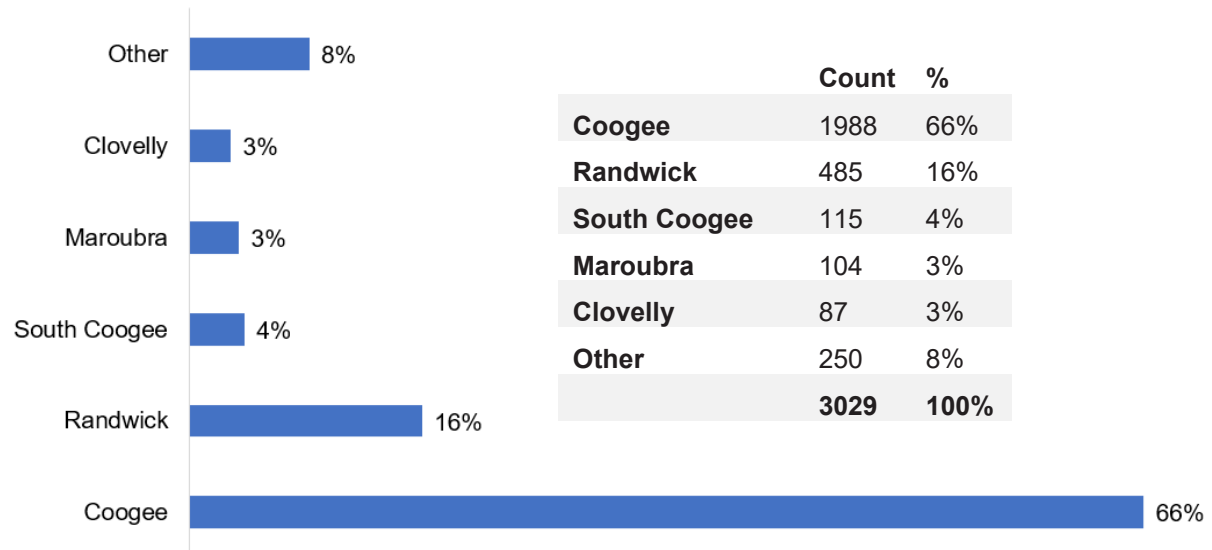
[www.yoursay.randwick.nsw.gov.au/coogeesharedvillage](http://www.yoursay.randwick.nsw.gov.au/coogeesharedvillage)

During this time, the site experienced the following:

- 4,881 unique visits to the Your Say Randwick webpage
- 3,029 surveys completed
- 1,988 responses were from Coogee residents. This represents a sample size of 16% of the adult Coogee population or 27% of Coogee households (assuming each response is from a different household). This provides a good level of confidence in the statistical reliability of the results. A minimum sample size with a confidence level of 95% and error margin of +/- 5% would require 375 responses. The survey resulted in a response more than five times greater than that.
- Approximately 25 surveys were completed via telephone with residents who did not have internet access.

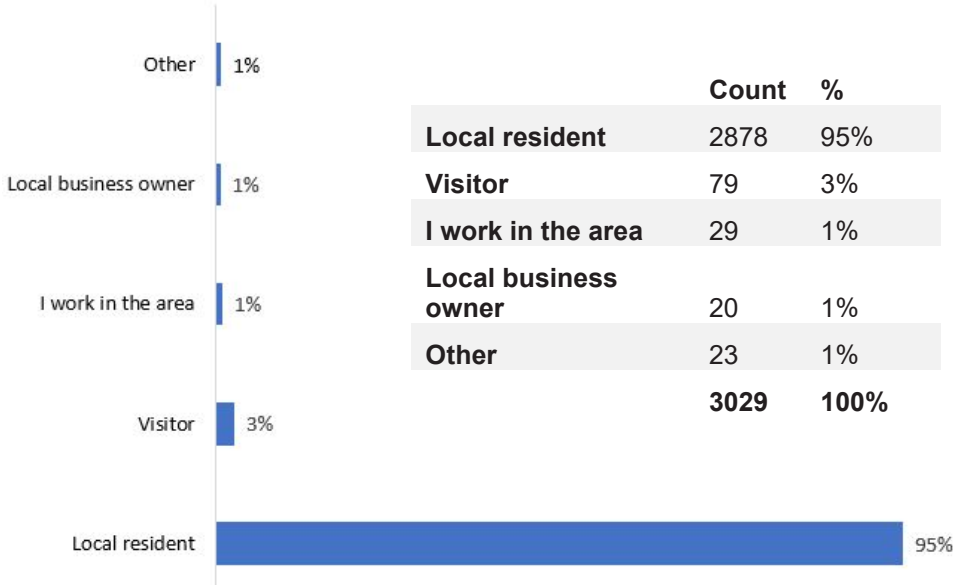
### 3.2. Survey Results

#### 3.2.1. What suburb do you live in?



**Graph 1:** What suburb to you live in? (n=3029)

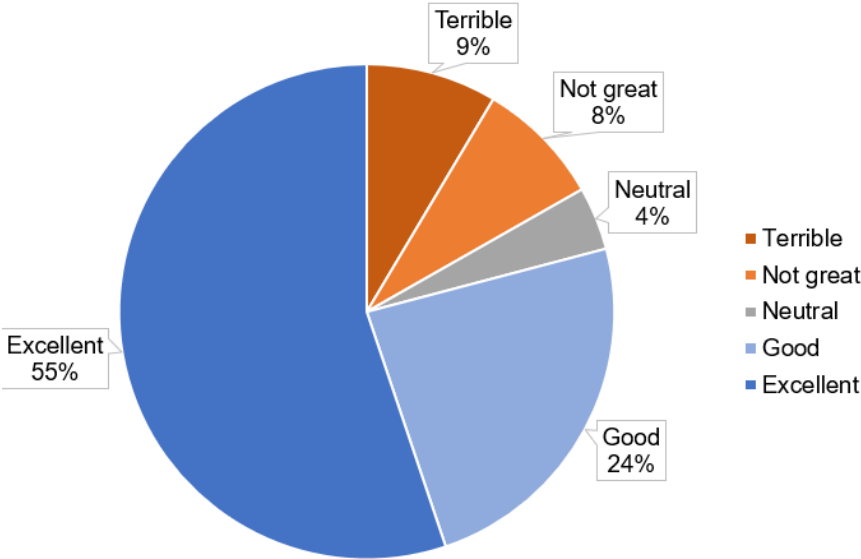
**3.2.2. What best describes you?**



**Graph 2:** What best describes you? (n=3029)

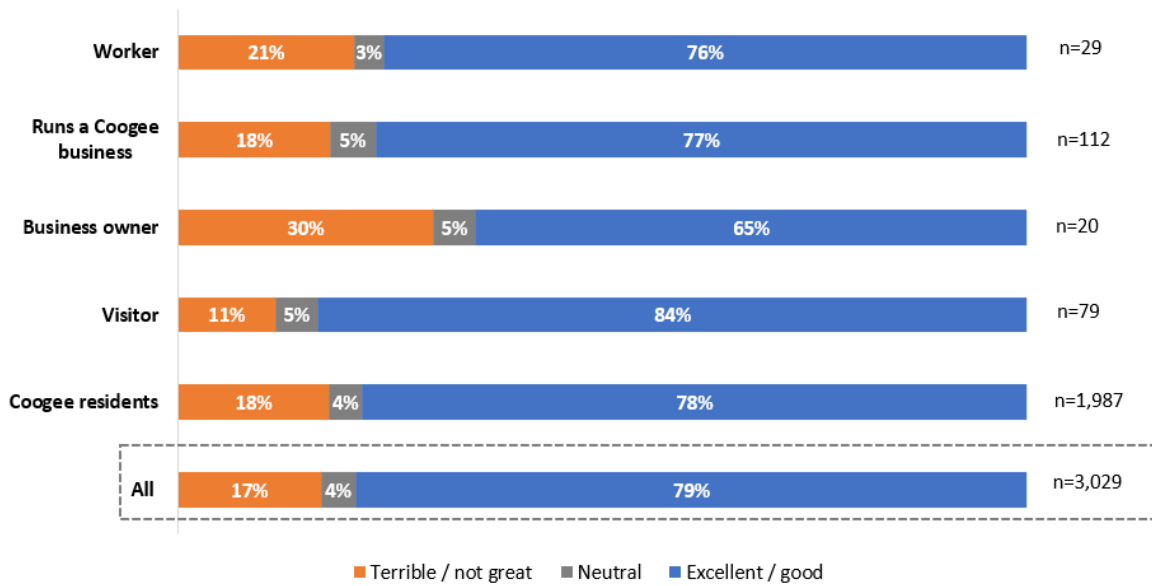
Note that 20 respondents identified as being a ‘local business owner’. In a subsequent question in the survey respondents were asked “do you run a business in Coogee?” to which 112 respondents said yes. Of those 112 respondents who run a business in Coogee, 97 provided the name of the business. For transparency, future graphs in this report include data results for both “local business owners” and “do you run a business in Coogee” categories.

**3.2.3. How would you rate the overall success of the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village project?**



**Graph 3:** Overall success rating. (n=3029)

The project was generally well received by the public with 79% of respondents rating the overall success of the project as either excellent or good with 17% rating it not great or terrible.



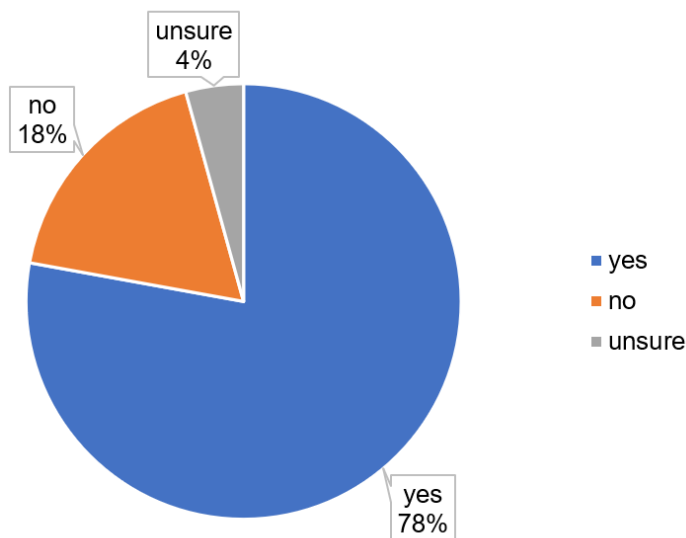
**Graph 3a:** Overall success rating by type. (n=3029)

The above graph breaks down all responses further to show how those who identified as Coogee residents, visitors, business owners, those who run a Coogee business and workers rated the success of the project.

Generally there was no statistical difference in the attitudes of Coogee residents compared with all respondents with Coogee residents also generally supportive of the project.

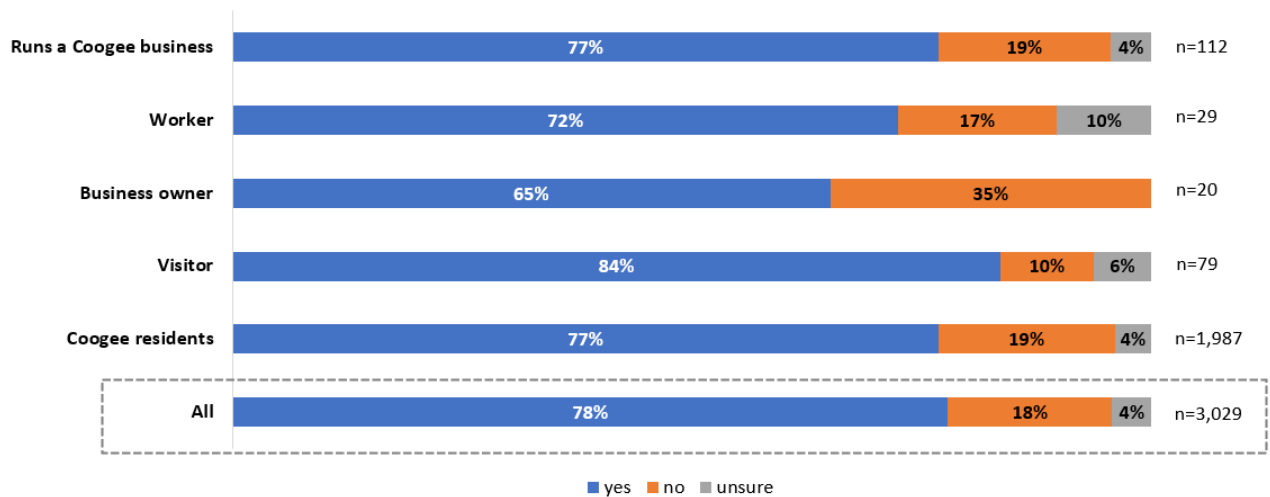
Visitors to the area typically rated the success of the project slightly higher than the average respondent (84% compared with 79%).

### 3.2.4. Do you think the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village Project should be extended past February 2021?



**Graph 4:** Should the project be extended? (n=3029)

Generally, respondents are supportive of extending the Shared Village project past February 2021 with 78% responding 'yes'.

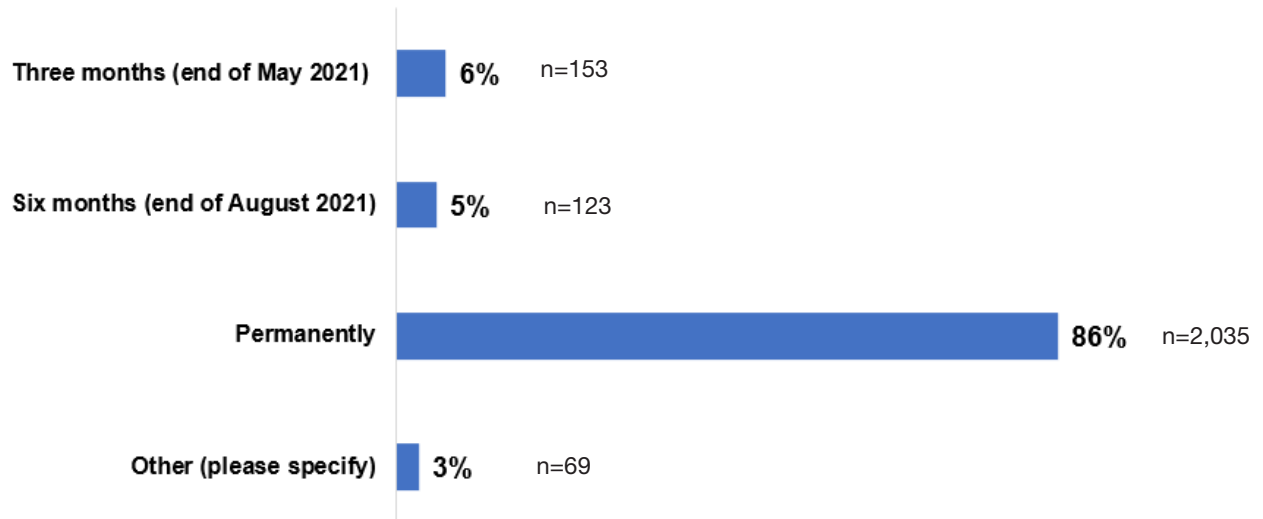


**Graph 4a:** Should the project be extended by type. (n=3029)

Graph 4a breaks down all responses further to show how those who identified as Coogee residents, visitors, business owners or workers rated the success of the project.

Generally, there is no statistical difference between the overall attitudes of respondents from Coogee compared with all respondents. Visitors are slightly more supportive of extending the trial (84% support compared to 77% support by Coogee residents).

### 3.2.5. How long do you think it should be extended for?



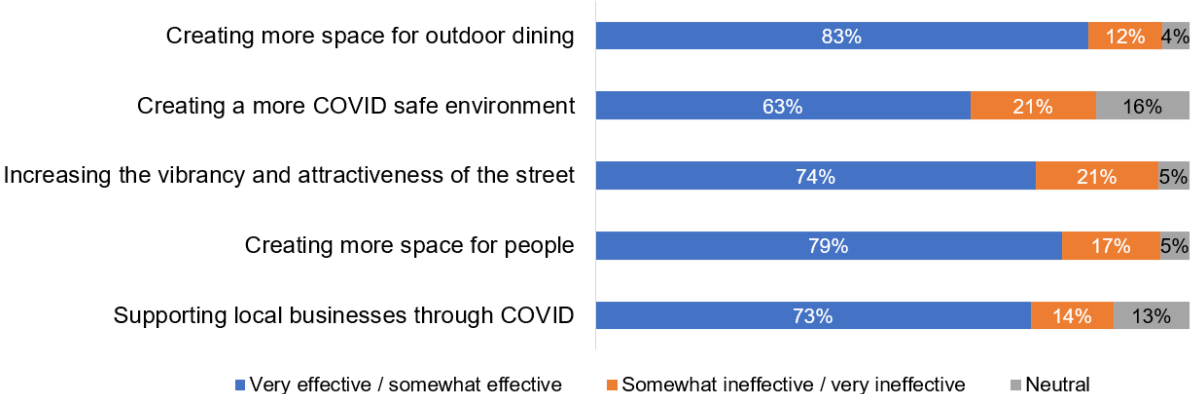
**Graph 5:** How long should the project be extended? (n=2,380) Note respondents could choose more than one option.

Those who responded ‘yes’ to the question should the project be extended, were then asked a follow-up question as to how long they think it should be extended. Of the 2,358 respondents who believe the project should be extended, 86% said the project should be extended permanently.

See Appendix A for a full list of ‘other’ suggestions.



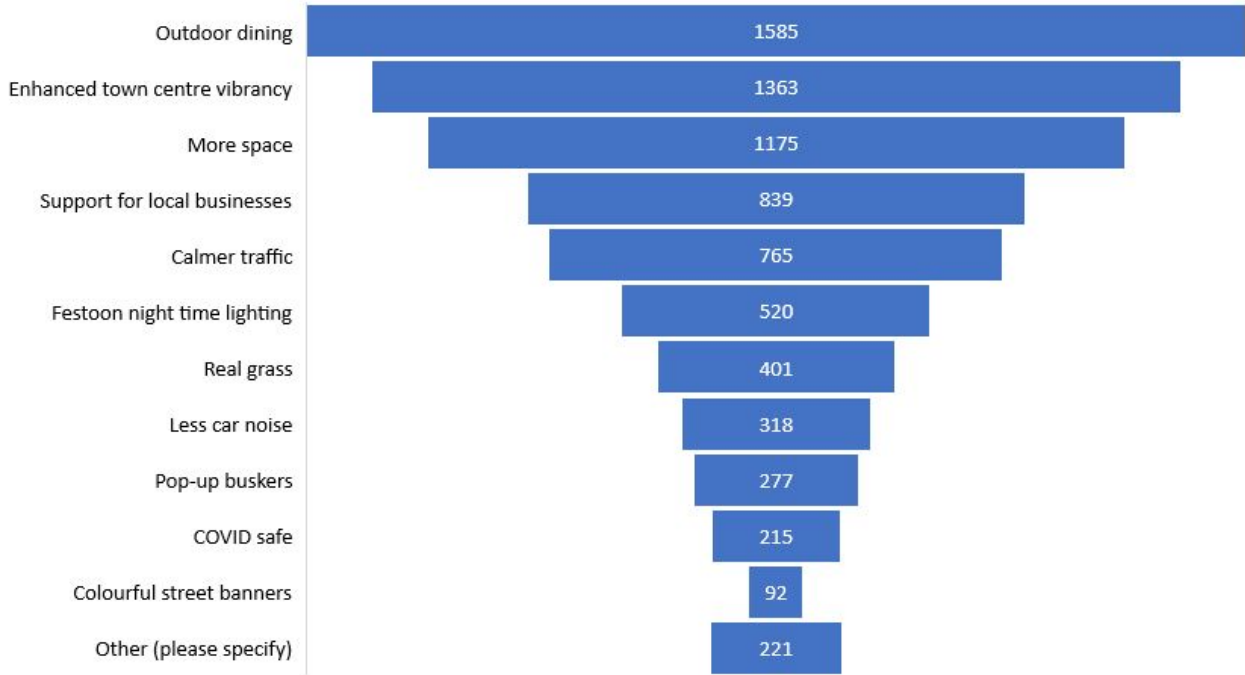
**3.2.6. How effective has the project been at achieving the following**



**Graph 6:** Perceived effectiveness of project elements. (n=3029)

Generally people thought the project was effective at achieving most of its objectives in particular with the project most effective at creating more space for outdoor dining (83%), creating more space for people (79%) and increasing the vibrancy of the street (74%).

**3.2.7. What have you liked most about the project?**



**Graph 7:** Most liked elements of the project (n=7,771) (respondents could choose up to three options)

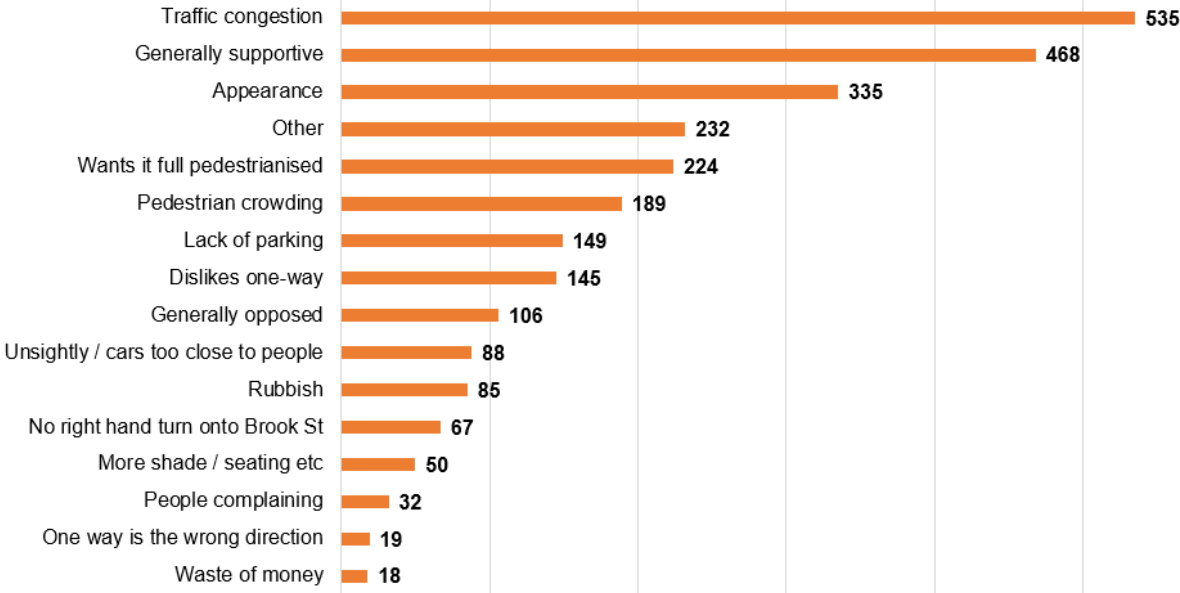
Outdoor dining, enhanced vibrancy, space and support for local businesses were the most chosen responses.

One out of every two respondents (1585 mentions) chose ‘outdoor dining’ as one of their top three things they liked most about the project.

45% of respondents (1363 mentions) said they liked the enhanced town centre vibrance while 1175 respondents mentioned the benefits of creating more space for pedestrians, shoppers, diners and businesses as a benefit.

See Appendix B for a verbatim transcript of the 221 ‘other’ comments.

**3.2.8. What have you liked least about the project?**



**Graph 8:** Least liked elements of the project. Responses were free text. (n=2,742) (Some respondents nominated more than one area)

Respondents were given the opportunity to nominate what they ‘liked least about the project’ through a free text field.

An analysis of the responses shows that general concern about traffic impact, appearance of the activation, crowding, difficulties parking and concern about the one-way were the main concerns cited.

The most cited area of concern with 535 mentions from 24% of respondents was traffic congestion:

- “Traffic banking up for long periods while drivers competed for parks.”*
- “Lots of cars in a smaller space.”*
- “Traffic gets backed up on to Arden Street.”*
- “Traffic flow seems worse but in my opinion it is worth the trade-off.”*
- “Additional traffic, cars, trucks and buses diverted to Brook Street, the increase in noise in a residential area has been enormous.”*

Some responses cited specific traffic challenges:

- “Extra traffic in Carr Street and the noise of the bus going up the hill.”*
- “Traffic build-up that cascades into Arden St. No more 374 bus from Arden Sr stop #203471 this has reduced frequency to the city.”*

A common assumption seemed to be that cars reversing into parking spots on both the left and right hand side of the road contributed to reduced traffic flow and congestion.

Other traffic related matters specifically mentioned by respondents was the negative impact of the no right hand turn from Coogee Bay Road into Brook Street (mentioned 67 times) and some thought traffic should flow eastbound rather than westbound (19 mentions).

The appearance of the street furniture was also mentioned by 15% of respondents (335).

*"Looks half done."*

*"The grass hasn't been maintained."*

*"The temporary nature of the orange traffic material."*

*"Inconsistency of outdoor dining areas, such as some with real grass and some with fake grass."*

*"The real grass becomes quickly trampled."*

*"The project can only be made better by extending it to a full and permanent pedestrian zone. It's nice to have the outdoor dining but sitting next to parked cars isn't the best ambience. hire a new designer - the fluoro chairs are terrible!"*

Despite the question asking what people liked 'least' about the project, the second most frequent response from respondents (mentioned 468 times from 21% of respondents) was to indicate support for the project.

*"Honestly nothing. I felt it was a great idea, made me feel like I was holidaying in Europe!"*

*"Nothing, I think it has worked well"*

*"Nothing. It's awesome - great idea and should become a permanent fixture."*

A further 224 respondents or 10% went further saying all parking should be removed and the section of Coogee Bay Road should be full pedestrianised.

*"Nothing. It's all been excellent. If anything you should make the whole street pedestrianised and get rid of cars altogether."*

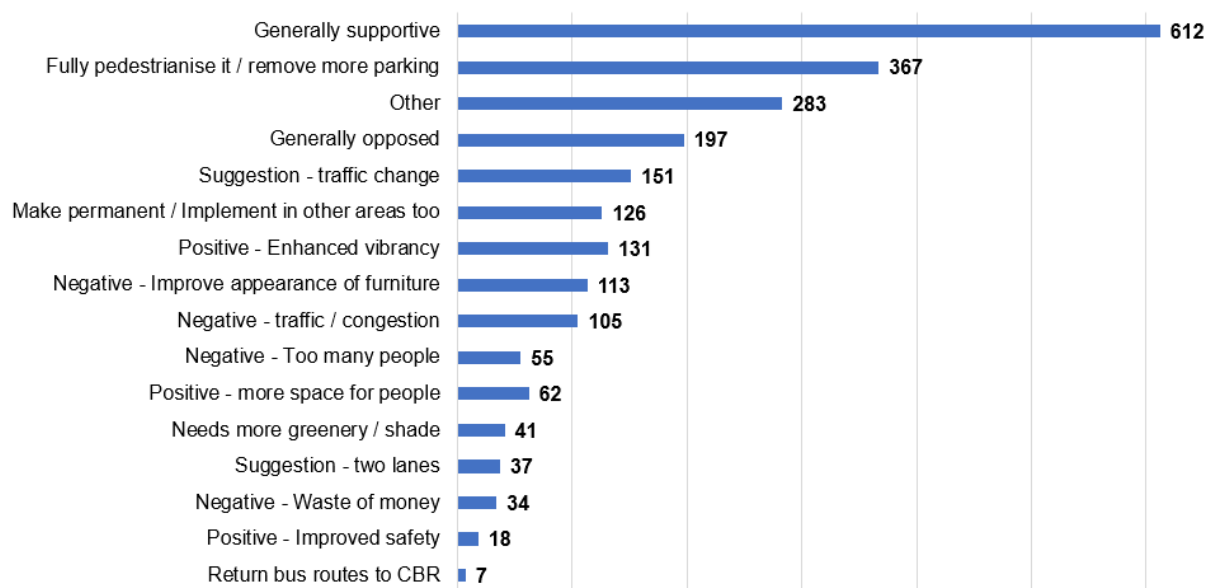
*"Still too much traffic. Divert cars along Arden street and close off that section of Coogee bay road to parking, so one lane of traffic only."*

*"Would love that whole section to be made pedestrian only with grass, dining, more walking space."*

*"It had a temporary feel and would almost benefit from being a shared pedestrian precinct with the only vehicles being emergency vehicles or supply vehicles at restricted times."*

A full list of verbatim comments received is available in Appendix C of this report.

### 3.2.9. Do you have any comments to make on the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village project?



**Graph 9: Other comments.** Responses were free text. (n=2,339) (Some respondents nominated more than one area)

When asked if respondents wanted to make any additional comments about the project, the most frequent response was to offer general support for the project. One in three respondents (33%) expressed some sort of general positive sentiment.

*“It is a great way to help out local businesses in these terrible Covid times.”*

*“It has made such a lovely vibe for Coogee*

*“Lovely projects Allow more space among people. You can enjoy the shops and neighbourhood. Cars can use other streets around. Great idea.”*

*“Having a one way street increases safety for foot traffic also, so an added benefit.”*

The next most mentioned response, mentioned 367 times or by 20% of respondents was that the area should be fully closed to cars or that another lane of parking should be removed.

*“I love it, it would be so nice as a permanent pedestrianised area across the entire street... we better rubbish disposal facilities of course.”*

*“Make it more cafe culture outdoor seating. More permanent set up i.e. extending the footpath, not temporary.”*

*“I think it is excellent, it has completely transformed Coogee for the better. Please don’t stop, let’s keep improving our suburb!”*

Opposition to the project was also commented on, mentioned 197 times by 11% of respondents.

*“Put it back the way it was and build more car parks e.g. opposite Wylies Baths. Put a 4 story car park there.”*

*“It has done absolutely nothing for Coogee and couldn't have been pleasant for cafe patrons, forced to breath in fumes while cars queued up beside them.”*

*“Council should not attempt a creeping approval of this. It was put forward as a Covid assistance project - now Council is talking of an extension to the delight of the restaurants. It changes the village feeling of Coogee that is the attraction for residents. Extending the program would only benefit the non-Coogee blow ins and restaurants who would love to increase their floor space.”*

*“You've made traffic horrible you've ruined Coogee for the locals by taking parking away as well - what's next!???”*

The fourth most cited area of additional comment was to offer some sort of suggestion around improving traffic management in some way.

Comments in this area varied but including things like making motorcycle and scooter parking free, easier access to the Post Office, review traffic light signal timings, permitting a right hand turn onto Brook St from Coogee Bay Road, review bus routes, review access for cyclists and food delivery and consider providing disability parking areas at the Post Office.

Some suggested weekend full road closures to allow for a farmers market while others suggesting building a car park.

There were 126 mentions of support for making the proposal permanent and/or doing something similar in other town centres in Randwick City.

Many noted the positive impact on the vibrancy (131 mentions) of the town centre and village atmosphere as well as providing more space for people (62 mentions).

Some of the negative feedback included concerns the project attracted too many people to the area which created an unsafe COVID environment, concern about traffic congestion (105 mentions) and comments about the temporary and poor quality/appearance of the street furniture (113 mentions)

For a full list of all verbatim comments to the question “Do you have any comments to make on the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village project?” see Appendix D.

### 3.3. Submissions

A total of 15 submissions were emailed directly to Council. Ten of the submissions are supportive of the project and five raise concerns or are against the continuation of the project. Verbatim text from the is in the table below.

	Submission
1	<p>Absolutely the trial should be extended. With one way access and opportunity for outdoor cafe seating it is likely to attract more people not less. Travel home by walk, Uber, bike, or bus. As a professional in the field of urban mobility I see that your trial represents a positive evolution to inner city dwellers and I would be happy to debate this point of view as need be.</p>
2	<p>Keep the space please. Reminds me of Italy, Spain, Even Paris! And a short walk up the hill takes you to Wylie's Baths where you can take take a photo of my sculpture of Mina Wylie, have a coffee and even have a swim. Thanks Randwick Council!</p>
3	<p>Great Success please make permanent.</p>
4	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback to the above project.</p> <p>I wished for years that the council closes Coogee Bay Road to all traffic between Arden and Brooke Streets and tile the street resembling The Corso at Manly and Oxford Street at Bondi Junction for the comfort of thousands of residences and visitors as the area became a favourite tourist attraction.</p>
5	<p>Dear Councillors</p> <p>The changes to Coogee Bay Rd have created great upheaval for very little return. The traffic chaos has spread to the wider area and at night making the shopping strip more difficult to access - it is also making Coogee more unsafe not safer at night. The benefits seem to be for a couple of the venues not for all businesses.</p> <p>The CBD should be the drinking entertainment area while suburbs left as safe family friendly places both day and night- Coogee Bay Rd looks terrible with cars choking the parking and lane.</p> <p>I urge you to reject making the changes to Coogee Bay Rd permanent as it is affecting traffic, creating an unsafe night atmosphere and undoing the work of police, council and residents to create a safe and welcoming area.</p>

## Submission

6 Dear mayor and councillors,

Coogee has long been dominated by the liquor industry, grog, drunken backpackers and drunks of all kinds. The residents have had to share our suburb for many years and expected to tolerate the rubbish, public urination and exceta on our paths and doorsteps. Please don't tell me I should have known when I moved to Coogee. I learned to swim at Coogee. I lived in Coogee and I bought a flat in Brook Street in the 1980s. I was a beach user before the commercialization of everything, including the beach.

It's not enough to have the state's biggest beer garden at the Coogee Bay Hotel, the Dan Murphy's in a heritage residential precinct and the Palace Hotel taking over the public plazas. Now, as well as drinkers gawping at us from the open windows when we walk past the Sports Bar, we also have drinkers on the footpath outside a "small" bar in Coogee Bay Road thanks to Council's sharing but no caring.

Traffic moving east on Coogee bay Road now turns into Brook Street (where I live) and turning left the traffic meets vehicles reverse parking and Dan Murphy's customers. The increased traffic has without doubt further reduced our residential amenity.

I travel by bus. I can no longer get on a 374 and a 372 at the main bus stop. I have to walk a block to the 374 bus stop, now I have to make a choice of one or the other. The bus stop in Brook Street has gone.

Perhaps the customers on Coogee Bay Road and the business owners of the Coogee Chamber of Commerce should share with the residents and put up with our buses. Now I avoid the Sharing Uncaring village and walk down Alfreda Street which is a rubbish depot for the business on Coogee bay Road, or I walk up to Kidman Street. I'll do anything not to have to share in the commercialisation of everything and the only road we can see now is out of Coogee.

## Submission

7

Dear Mr Mayor

As you may recall, I spoke at council's meeting on 8 December to put my perspective on the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village Project as a local resident.

Whilst I have completed Council's on-line survey, I have now attached a report that I have compiled on a range of issues resulting from implementation of the project, and its significant impact on local residents.

In particular, this report highlights:

- Whilst the Report to Council's meeting of 8 December stated that 41 businesses would benefit, only 21 actually potentially benefit
- The very low level of patronage, compared to the predictions in the Report to Council
- Significant congestion of other local streets, particularly Brook, Alfreda and Carr Streets
- Loss of 6 parking spaces when the Report to Council said there were none!
- Impact on local bus services, namely the rerouting of the 370, 374 and X74
- Concerns with erection of festoon lighting, when Council had just spent \$2m on a project to remove the overhead wiring
- Cost of the project to date, and the considerable cost involved in either extending the project or making it permanent.

In summary, and despite what appear to be exaggerated claims contained in the Report to Council's meeting on 8 December, I believe that the project has had few if any benefits to any local businesses, as evidenced by the very low level of additional patronage. Implementation has come at a considerable cost to local residents, with loss of parking spaces, loss of bus services, increased traffic congestion and unnecessary expenditure of precious ratepayer funds. As such it should not be allowed to continue.

I am happy to discuss any aspect of this report with you at any time.



Submission	
<b>8</b>	<p>Dear Mayor,</p> <p>My concern about any proposal to permanently remove two-way traffic from CBR is the impact on emergency vehicles and buses. I have witnessed how critical minutes can be in a life threatening situation. With only one way west east vehicular access, ambulances &amp; emergency response police cannot use CBR to get to the beach.</p> <p>Furthermore on busy days this one lane is at a standstill and ambulances cannot negotiate the traffic to get patients to the hospital. This happened two weekends ago. Emergency vehicles are diverting particularly to Carr St. But we witnessed an ambulance trying to get to the beach via our street (Beach St). That day Coogee was crowded - CBR was closed and Carr St was clogged as was the Carr/Arden intersection. We don't know if it ever got to the beach. The same applies to the police (incl. riot squad) and the fire brigade.</p> <p>Fortunately due to the weather it has been a quiet summer in Coogee thus far for the Police and there have not been any fires in CBR or surrounds. Outgoing bus services are also being delayed by having to divert along less direct routes. All this to benefit a few premises and only in fine weather. On very hot days, rainy days of which we have had a few, and overcast days, the grassed open access areas are empty - see photos taken today at lunch time. The two premises that appear to have benefited most are La Spiaggia and its neighbour Temple Bay, which it should be noted did not open until after the lockdown.</p> <p>If this Shared Precinct continues, I suggest that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. a second traffic lane be made available limited to emergency vehicles and buses west/east and as an overtaking lane for emergency vehicles only east/west</li> <li>2. the half dozen businesses that currently use the outdoor space be provided a park-let, such as outside the Coogee Wine Room. These take just one parking space each. This way parking would be retained and emergency vehicles and buses could move more efficiently and effectively.</li> </ol>
<b>9</b>	<p>I have lived in the Randwick Council area for the last ten years. I walk most places and also run quite a bit as well as cycle. I would like to commend Randwick on the progress so far on the shared use of Coogee Bay road eastern end over Summer.</p>
<b>10</b>	<p>I am writing to you as the option to submit my proposal on the council website online was unavailable as screenshot below.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Coogee Bay Road Village open space changes and pilot initiative.</p> <p>I would like to congratulate the Council staff for this great initiative on this trial of less parking to provide more space for table and chairs for business and hopefully is helping local businesses and also some public space also that can create an more effective usage of area for people and it potentially assist creating community connections and outdoor entertainment opportunities.</p> <p>I would like to share some feedback and request for consideration on some ideas for improvement on community needs for the first block of the Coogee Bay Road border with Arden St as following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 - the urban renewal improved the visual aesthetic of the area but would be great if there was more green, we need more permeability and mature trees to help with the urban heat and also visually would be so much nicer instead of dull pavement as it is now. Opportunities to have more nature and positive benefits to people can not be missed. Mature trees and pot plants would improve considered the area.</li> </ol>

## Submission

2 - the area should be close for cars totally and transformed in an exemplar open space area for community and visitors.

3- opportunity for some business have outdoor tables is important but should not be predominant as council must plan the area for high number of pedestrians and also for people who not necessarily want or can be consuming from the local business. We must promote a share, fair and inclusive open area for all.

4- if we close the street permanently would be very beneficial to have street art and performances on this space too, would be a fantastic opportunity for community members and visitors to connect and have some safe outdoors and inclusive entertainment. Important initiative to help also with mental health especially in a new era of pandemic and its restrictions and negative effects on mental health.

5- lastly we have a valuable and amazing Aboriginal culture that connect us to the Country. I would like to see it throughout build and landscaping design, arts, cultural interpretation, usage of Aboriginal language and knowledge on spaces that is planned and managed by council in special open spaces.

I have a number of friends who share similar ideas for our wonderful suburb and I am happy to ask them to write to council or endorse this email to assist this feedback and ideas to be considered.

11

BIKEast are sending this letter to provide additional feedback to the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village Survey. We are in general very supportive of the effort to provide additional public space in Coogee – this is an important regional destination and has very high economic and social value to Randwick and the Eastern Suburbs. We support Council's efforts to make more efficient use of street space.

However, the configuration of the Shared Village has a negative impact on bicycle access and safety in the area. The narrowing of Coogee Bay Road has made bicycling to and from the beach more difficult. Eastbound bicycle riders must divert away from Coogee Bay Road (the safest and most comfortable route for most cyclists) onto streets that have higher speed vehicle traffic, fewer safe intersections for cyclists, and poorer bicycle parking facilities. Westbound bicycle riders on Coogee Bay Road must negotiate between car drivers and dangerous door zones on both sides of the lane. The intersection of Coogee Bay Road and Brook Street is also challenging since there is no safe place for cyclists to wait out of the way of vehicles coming from behind.

Convenient, direct and safe bicycle access, in keeping with Randwick's planning frameworks, should be integral to this forward looking project. We support the extension of the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village if improvements to cycling facilities are made. Specifically, we would propose:

1. A portion of the expanded public space of the Shared Village be used for improved and expanded bicycle parking, and
2. A 30-km/h speed limit area is established throughout the project area, and
3. The design of the Shared Village be modified to allow bicycle riders to continue eastbound from Brook Street to Arden Street, or
4. Two-way pop-up or permanent cycleways are created on an alternate route (for instance, on Brook and Alfreda Streets, and along the eastern edge of Coogee Oval).

This summer, with the continued concerns over COVID and public transportation use, Randwick beaches have suffered from increased traffic which caused issues for local residents and visitors alike. Improved cycling access to beaches would help reduce these issues. Unfortunately, the current configuration of the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village has made bicycling to Coogee less convenient, less direct and less safe. We ask that Council rethink the bicycle movement to and through the Shared Village so that the social and economic benefits of the project can be enhanced. Thank you for considering our feedback.

Submission	
<b>12</b>	<p>I am a resident of Coogee and it looks like I just missed the cut off for the survey responses about the Shared Village project. Hopefully you can still take on board my feedback which is that I love it and hope that you will extend it into the future please.</p>
<b>13</b>	<p>We are the owners of Flavour of North India, 234 Coogee Bay Road Coogee NSW 2034</p> <p>Since the change of traffic flows and garden beds along Coogee Bay road our business has been drastically impacted negatively by 15-20% in top line sales, customers rely in the ability to park and pickup foods and drinks along the strip, with no parking now and no card coming through people are simply not coming to Coogee</p> <p>We urge you to put it back the way it was where cars could drive through and park, with impacts of COV19 and now this, we are having extreme issues with our mental anxiety along with other shops next to us</p> <p>I'm happy to discuss this further.</p>
<b>14</b>	<p>I missed the survey. But as a local I would like to express how nice it has been to have an extended space to mingle. Traffic lights should be adjusted and a right turn on brook st should be allowed.</p> <p>How do we keep so many outsiders from coming is the big question - it's nice to have them but safety issues is a concern for our little minor residents.</p>
<b>15</b>	<p>I'm a huge fan of what you're doing and would really like to record my positive feedback.</p>

### 3.4. Facebook



**Randwick City Council**

January 15 at 3:04 PM · 🌐



👤 What do you think of the Coogee Bay Road Shared Village? Should the trial be extended?

In November 2020, Randwick City Council changed the road to one-way and reconfigured the roadway to create more space for people to dine, shop and walk. We installed grass, tables, chairs and umbrellas, and brightened the space with festoon lighting and colourful banners as part of a three-month project.

The project is due to end in February 2021 and we want to hear your thoughts. Head ... [See More](#)



👍❤️👤 108

112 Comments 6 Shares

Image: Facebook post 15 January 2021

-  **Gavin Fields**  
It's great, parking remains in tact and is a good vibe. Traffic seems to be flowing free enough. When tourists come back in to the area after covid it will be double or triple the people so well worth it. ...
- Like · Reply · 1w  5
-  **Pugsley Anderson**  
**Gavin Fields** the bloody traffic is bad ...
- Like · Reply · 1w
-  Write a reply...    
-  **Amy Mennie**  
Can you also ask the restaurants not to put their bins right next to the outdoor settings until closing? Not very sightly when consuming food/drink. ...
- Like · Reply · 1w   3
-  **Stephanie Keenihan**  
Keep it, it improves the atmosphere and makes the space come alive. Few tweaks could improve #1 having traffic flow towards the beach, not away, miss that perspective when returning to the hood by car. ...
- Like · Reply · 1w
-  **Sarah Kos**  
Please make it a Mall up untill brook st to the beach crossing. No cars, markets and outdoor dining. The trial was excellent biw for next steps 😊 ...
- Like · Reply · 1w   4
-  **Errol Goldberg**  
**Sarah Kos** I think that it is working perfectly as it is - worth trialing a mall for a month or two but I would leave it as a one way - then again, I am not an expert on this, it is just an opinion ...
- Like · Reply · 1w



**Rune Woldsnes**

Keep it. We had pizza at Spiaggia, and we kept talking about how much better it is when the space is used by people out and about, instead of cars. We should see CBR as an extension of the beach boardwalk, as those who go to the beach also are likely to wander up cbr for dinner, ice cream and shopping. Good work Randwick!

...



Like · Reply · 1w



**Amy Thompson**

It's great and given business an opportunity for more outdoor seating which is great in summer and during covid

...

Like · Reply · 1w



**Alexis Brajtman Aruch**

Love it. Would love to see more initiatives like this throughout Sydney

...

Like · Reply · 1w



**Natalie Eastwood**

I truly thought the traffic part would suck I've never seen cars backed up (& I always look for it), I'm so surprised.

...

Like · Reply · 1w





**Kate Garvey**

Think it's really badly executed.  
Works for less than half the businesses in the street.  
Mostly only the night trade. So the rest of the businesses in the street suffer with day time trade.  
Dogs poo on the AstroTurf.  
The real grass has to get swapped out every few weeks.  
The couriers can't easily stop and do their deliveries.  
And cars all day long are backed up the street as they wait for parking spots.  
Feedback coming from a Coogee business owner that is on the street for the majority days.

...

9

Like · Reply · 1w



**Amanda Moore**

Sort the bins out. Get rid of the Astro turf. Pave the streets ... add a light bulb COOGEE Venice Beach Style ... agree that the surrounding streets have been adversely affected although that could have been the Sydney water / dolphin street sewerage works ... is there anyway to do really great urban landscaping ? Add foliage and softness through succulents and natives

...

4

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



**Kristen Bowie**

No didnt add much space hardly used and better to keep tge traffic moving and have parking peoplr can take their takeaway and sit near the beach with plenty of beautiful seating and space

...

Like · Reply · 1w



**Natalie Eastwood**

Seems like a no-brainer but EVERYONE seems to walk across the entire path more than ever... or to the RIGHT side... Couple holding hands strolling with a kid on one side & dog on a leash on other side - fun 🐶👏 (zero peripheral)... Not sure if people for... [See More](#)

...

3

Like · Reply · 1w



Kai Czarnyan

Def keep it with small adjustments, great addition to the area.

But the survey answers are done in a weird way with the positive being at the bottom. Might confuse people who rush over it and tick (unknowingly) 'inefficient' (wrongly).

...

Creating a more COVID safe environment

- Very ineffective
- Somewhat ineffective
- Neutral
- Somewhat effective
- Very effective

Like · Reply · 1w



Liesbet Spanjaard

It has been good for summer but don't make it all pedestrian - limits access to any part of the community with limited mobility, no access to post office, and an increase in litter (already looks pretty bad first thing in the morning)

...

Like · Reply · 1w



Michael Wright

Make it pedestrian from Brook St to Arden. Permanently. Less space 4 cars more 4 people please.

...

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



Katie McBurney

Keep it but allow traffic to turn right onto brook street again from Coogee bay road.

...

Like · Reply · 1w



7


















Olivia Woods


Katie I agree 🍌🍌



...





-  **Amanda Molyneux**  
Great time to trial this 😊 during a pandemic 😊 ...  
Like · Reply · 1w   2
- ^ Hide 19 Replies
-  **Erich Violet** Top Fan  
**Amanda Molyneux** yes... they should of delayed the pandemic for the trial and bring the pandemic in later this year. ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  3
-  **Amanda Molyneux**  
**Erich Violet** yes let's make more spaces that bring people in closer proximity to each other. 👍 ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  **Errol Goldberg**  
**Amanda Molyneux** and exactly how many cases of COVID have been confirmed because of this????!! ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  1
-  **Amanda Molyneux**  
**Errol Goldberg** it's called prevention. Coogee is the first place English travellers go to and only takes one. ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  **Julie Zaletel**  
**Amanda Molyneux** no english travellers are arriving at the moment? ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  **Amanda Molyneux**  
**Julie Zaletel** yes they are. If you are a resident you can return 😊 ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  **Erich Violet** Top Fan  
**Amanda Molyneux** and go into quarantine.... you're right they should of delayed the virus for the sake of this trial. No changes in crowds at coogee but the businesses are doing better than otherwise. ...






 **Amanda Molyneux**  
Erich Violet delay the trial ...business will do well in summer regardless. Simply buy your product and move on but don't create small spaces for people to gather. Not rocket science. ...  
Like · Reply · 1w   2


 **Jason Bates**  
Erich Violet its about the testing numbers. The actual cases is always a fake positive. The more people tested the numbers would reflect. Hence your comments on actual cases in the area is a clear cherrypicker moment. I will take my advice and direction form the state government not a local council that is wasting rate payers money on creating an environment that is fake and not in keeping with social distancing. The council likes to build these areas as its a great distraction from the real issues in the area. ...  
Like · Reply · 1w

 **Errol Goldberg**  
**Amanda Molyneux** I thought you said travellers. Now you are saying residents. Admit it, you have a very very hollow argument ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  2


 **Errol Goldberg**  
An argument nobody will win. You have your doomsdayers (Amanda) and those who are concerned and follow proper protocols. ...  
Like · Reply · 1w

 **Julie Zaletel**  
**Amanda Molyneux** you said English travellers not returning residents ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  2

-  **Erich Violet** Top Fan  
**Amanda Molyneux** you say 'buy your product and move on' like that ever happens. Move on to large groups at the beach or grass? Yes they should of delayed the virus... call George Soros or Bill Gates or whoever you think started the virus and tell them they should of waited until the coogee trial was done. Council has done very well working with the restrictions. ...  
 Like · Reply · 1w  1
-  **Amanda Molyneux**  
**Erich Violet** missing the point totally 😊 simply not a smart idea to create a small gathering space during this time when there are social distancing rules in place. How has council worked well with restrictions? ...  
 Like · Reply · 1w
-  **Amanda Molyneux**  
**Errol Goldberg** I'm afraid just old school and of the belief "Prevention is better than cure". ...  
 Like · Reply · 1w
-  **Errol Goldberg**  
**Amanda Molyneux** absolutely agree that prevention is better then cure. Knowing an owner of one of the restaurants on that strip, he has told me that in fact one of the big ( main) reasons for the council doing what they did was that all eating establishments are doing less inside dining business because of the social distancing laws and so what Randwick Council is trying to do is help them stimulate more business by changing the road/parking configuration so that they can have outside dining to try bring their total numbers back up. After all prevention is better then the cure and outside dinners are at less risk then inside diners and if you can do that and stimulate businesses ( the economy) it is a win win. Look forward to your argument against this logic!!! ...  
 Like · Reply · 1w

 **Jason Bates**  
**Erich Violet** we all know Borat shared the virus.  
Havent you seen the documentary? ...

Like · Reply · 1w

 **Jason Bates**  
**Errol Goldberg** interesting indeed. However the logic is space orientated. In my observations to date the rule of 4sqm is applied both indoors and outdoors. Whilst business needs a boost and the economy also, where is the equilibrium? The economy is a false one currently as the government is pushing for small to medium business to operate as no country or government can afford the welfare. ...

If the government had its processes and procedures better managed then life would be normal. We are an island and blessed to be girt by sea. It's been proven a plethora of times we are bringing the virus into the country. Too many tiers of government in this country. Randwick Council is dysfunctional and becoming more and more reactive. Poor management and leadership.














Like · Reply · 1w

 **Amanda Molyneux**  
**Errol Goldberg** well these restaurants and your friend are very privileged to have Randwick council shut a street for them. In summer and at peak season the businesses will do well regardless. ...

Maybe council could help Resturant's not in such a privileged, highly visited location. Adding more socialising space to a already congested area is just ridiculous during this time. Prevention is better than cure.













Not an argument just my view and respect your opinion. Enjoy this beautiful day and stay safe.

Like · Reply · 1w

-  **Brad Miles**  
 Make it a properly landscaped pedestrian mall fro Arden to Brook St with vehicle access for goods delivery only . That would improve the existing temporary, limited amenity significantly ! ...  
 Like · Reply · 1w 
-  **Mark Percy**  
 Coogee Bay Road should be for 2 way traffic. Why wasn't the lights at Arden St adjusted during the trail? They still operate as if Coogee Bay Rd was operating as a 2 way road. ...  
 Like · Reply · 1w 
-  **Russell Newmarch**  
 It is brilliant. Make the whole road pedestrian. ...  
 Like · Reply · 1w 
-  **Jenny Newmarch**  
 Russell Newmarch looks fab Russell can't wait to see it ❤️ ...  
 Like · Reply · 1w
-  Write a reply... 
-  **Peter Bishop**  
 No consideration had been given to the adverse impact on traffic in surrounding residential streets, why not eliminate half the parking reduce the time limits and allow traffic in both directions. The local business like it visitors to Coogee like it but no consideration has been given to adversely effected residents in Carr St, Brook St, Alfreda Street and Dolphin St. ...  
 Like · Reply · 1w   
 ↪ 4 Replies
-  **Nick Velo**  
 As a resident and a patron to lots of shops there i think its fantastic! External dining at nights is great. Lots of people whinging about car spots? Really?? How many spots do you think have gone???
- Like · Reply · 1w 

- Renay Jones**  
Keep it but change the direction of the one way because having to go around to come up coogee Bay road causes so much back up  
...  
Like · Reply · 1w · Edited  1
- Joanne Dalton**  
Yes keep it. With a few tweaks. Great outcome for locals.  
...  
Like · Reply · 1w
- Wild Hoop**  
There is a lot to like but it needs a bit of a rethink in places. Nice if you visit and good if you run a business but it only takes one garbage truck, or delivery van, takeaway double parked or someone parking to block the whole Coogee Bay Road (somet... [See More](#)  
...  
Like · Reply · 1w
- Jacqui Coughlan**  
Looks artificial. Coogee Bay Road no longer leads to Coogee Bay.  
...  
Like · Reply · 1w  1
- Roisin Murphy**  
Former resident, we have been back twice wanting to go for lunch when we were in the area. There was no parking anywhere... it's not great for local business if visitors can't visit  
...  
Like · Reply · 1w  2
- Darren Green**  
Get rid off it through winter,keep the one way running east to west with two lanes so people can park,shops can be serviced and the traffic doesn't come to a stand still.  
...  
Like · Reply · 1w  2
- Errol Goldberg**  
**Darren Green** Still as many parking spots now as there was before\  
...  
Like · Reply · 1w



-  **Doug Hawkins**  
Keep it... its great - a good vibe 🙌 ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  4
-  **Caroline Windsor** Top Fan  
Keep it, but can we please have the tragic lights at the CBR and Brook Street intersection reconfigured? Right turn arrow etc. 🙌 ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  8
-  **John Woods**  
Caroline Windsor definitely ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  1
-  **Camelia Tiplea**  
Caroline Windsor they are tragic, indeed! 😞 ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  **Erich Violet** Top Fan  
Caroline Windsor same at the Arden St end ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  **Tim Stratford**  
Caroline Windsor I perceive the challenge with that will be if everyone behind you is waiting for the green arrow, then the traffic will back up even further. ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  **Tracy Lee**  
Tim Stratford what if there were no cars at all? Do you think that could work? ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  1
-  **Amandine Thevenot Gimaret**  
Tim Stratford no cars between Arden and Brook Streets on CBR would be great i think. ...  
Like · Reply · 1w

-  Sarah Owen Hytner  
More greenery and trees to create shade. Otherwise I think it's good. ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  Linda Haines  
I have just come from there and it's awesome so agree keep it ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  2
-  Tini van Gelder  
What a lovely idea! ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  1
-  Annette Moran  
Great - at least keep it as a part of the Coogee summer ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  Geoff James  
I think 2 way will be more functional overall ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  Jason Michaels  
CRAP,wanky,and traffic congestion. ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  1
-  Monica Cullen  
I liked it. Had a good vibe ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  Christine Miles  
Great summer idea. ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  Denis Anasco  
It looks tacky and cheap. ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  4
-  Richard Petty-Ralston  
Needs litter control ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  1
-  Dan Morley  
Keep it going... Coogee feels alive tonight for the first time in a long while. ...  

-  Alice Vanweert  
Nice 😊 ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  Alesandro Mendez  
Yes, awesome 🍌🍌🍌 ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  1
-  Mel Kealy  
Love it, keep it ✅ ...  
Like · Reply · 1w  1
-  Yuxiao Zhang  
Keep it. We really like. ...  
Like · Reply · 1w
-  Sarah Palmer  
Sort true bins out!! The parking is exactly the same so not bothered with that. It's a good idea until the weekends hit, people sit here after a night out and eat kebabs and drink and there is rubbish, food, broken bottles all over the grass and footpath which is still there at 7:30 in the morning. The rubbish remains throughout the day. When lining up for coffee there's bits of old kebabs and drinks strewn all over the place. There has to be more cleaning If we want to keep it as much as I think those leaving the rubbish should be accountable with bins right in front of them! ...  
Like · Reply · 23m





**Simone Dagnino**

Keep it. Traffic can be improved in different ways. Make a calendar of street events to attract people which will help business and the community. It's not just about cars, traffic and lights. People don't need to park right opposite the shops. We can walk as long as there is parking space within 5/10 minutes from Coogee bay road or the beach. Leave the parking bays only for people with disabilities. We are in 2021, don't think as if it was 1985.

...

Like · Reply · 1w 3



**Haude de Raucourt-Salama**

**Simone Dagnino** couldn't agree more

...

Like · Reply · 1w 1



**Simone Dagnino**

Thanks. It should be easy to figure out but you know... people need to have the right to complain and complicate everything.

...

Like · Reply · 1w



**Sara Kennedy**

**Simone Dagnino** as a resident in Mount street, it's not that simple. Parking is dire. We can't afford to lose all those spaces on Coogee Bay Rd and then have all those cars trying to park on surrounding streets where parking is already at capacity.

...

Like · Reply · 1w




**Simone Dagnino**


**Sara Kennedy** I'm local too and I feel your pain. But parking can't justify the decision to remove the outdoor seats on Coogee bay road. They can create more parking spots somewhere else. That part of Coogee bay road should be closed to traffic and more activities should be organized.

...






Like · Reply · 1w

 Simone Dagnino  
Sara Kennedy I'm local too and I feel your pain. But parking can't justify the decision to remove the outdoor seats on Coogee bay road. They can create more parking spots somewhere else. That part of Coogee bay road should be closed to traffic and more activities should be organized. ...

Like · Reply · 1w


 Sara Kennedy  
Simone Dagnino I don't think we should loose the outdoor seating. I just don't agree with closing the street completely, even though I agree the congestion isn't great. We never gain parking spots in the area although single dwellings are being razzed to create apartments. The Parking topic is boring but crucial. Nobody wants to see green areas lost to become car parks. ...

Like · Reply · 1w

 Write a reply...    

 James Takis  
Yes, keep it. It's awesome !!! ...  2


Like · Reply · 1w

 Renay Furlong  
Enough gentrification already  
If you dont like it the way it is dont move here ...



Like · Reply · 1w

 Sherry Lee  
Stop dogs crapping everywhere ...

Like · Reply · 1w

 Amelia Alrighyroo Pryde  
Lily Hines ...

Like · Reply · 1w

 Louise Kelly  
Great - keep it!  1 ...

Like · Reply · 1w

---

## 4. Next Steps

As per Council's resolution on 8 December 2020, a group of Councillors from the East and North Wards along with the Mayor will meet in early February 2021 to decide on whether to extend the Coogee Bay Road Shred Village project beyond the three-month timeframe.

