Your Street, Your Say

Reservoir West

Project Report

City of Darebin

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Prepared by

Anthony Aisenberg (CrowdSpot)

CrowdSpot Pty Ltd

ABN 36 160 702 296

212/122 Roseneath Street, Clifton Hill, Melbourne, Australia VIC 3068

E: info@crowdspot.com.au

www.crowdspot.com.au

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1. Introduction

The *Your Street, Your Say* project provides an opportunity for the broad Darebin community to tell Council how they can improve local streets for people who live, work, study or travel through Darebin.

The City of Darebin launched Group A engagement activities on 11 October 2021. The interactive map was open for 2 months until 7 December 2021 and collected community feedback on transport mode experiences and general amenity. The study area included Group A suburbs comprising Reservoir West, Preston West and Thornbury West.

This map-based engagement is the first stage of community consultation. The data collected as part of this stage will be used to inform the potential priority improvements and subsequently, the communities feedback on those.



Figure 1. Reservoir West, Group A

This report focuses on the feedback collected within Reservoir West. It is a record of community submissions and is not necessarily reflective of Council priorities.

2. The Project Map

The digital interactive map was accessed via the City of Darebin website or directly via the CrowdSpot map URL (https://yourstreetyoursaygroupa.crowdspot.com.au/). The map (Figure 2) allowed users to share their experiences relating to different transport modes or general amenities.

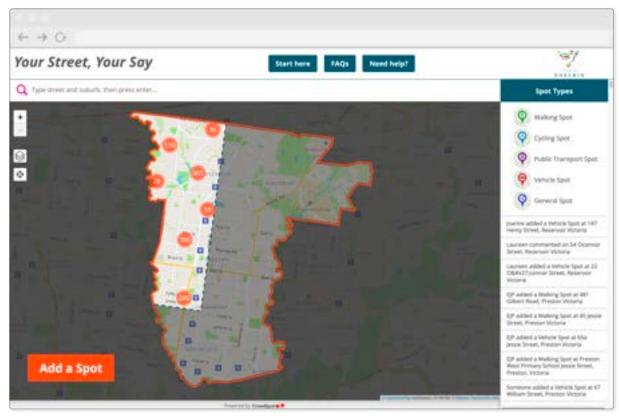


Figure 2. Project map

Contributing to the map

The survey form contained a combination of location specific questions (type of spot, etc.) in addition to demographic questions of the participant (eg. participant connection to City of Darebin). There were three ways people were able to actively contribute their input to the map. This includes:

- Adding a Spot to the map via the survey form (five Spot types).
- 2. Commenting on existing spots already on the map (see Figure 4).
- Voting on existing spots already on the map by clicking the 'Support' button.

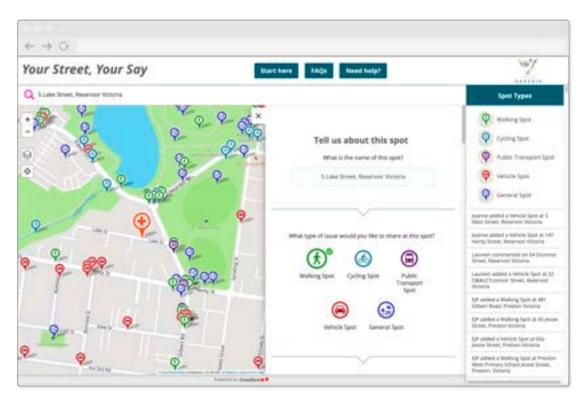


Figure 3. Survey form

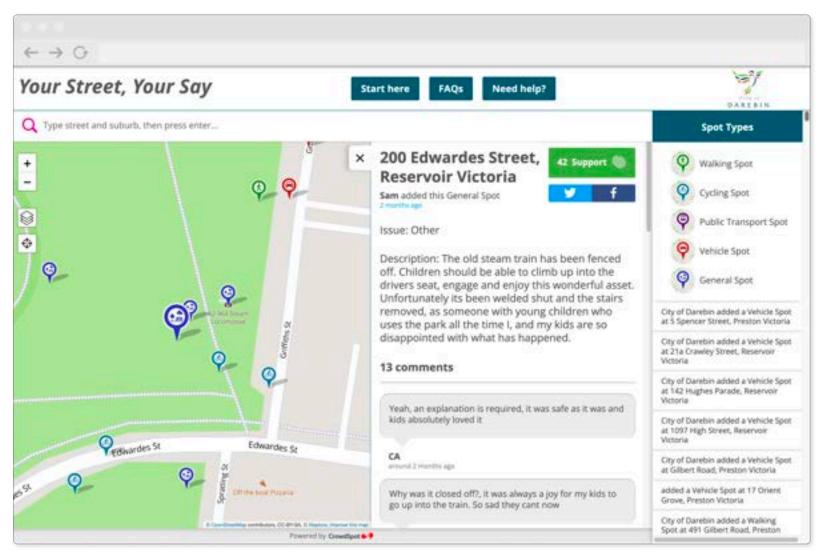


Figure 4. Example Spot

3. Participation Data

In total, there were 1,248 participants who made submissions across the entire study area (all suburbs) whilst there was a total of 4,732 total pageviews across the data collection period. Figure 6 on the following page outlines the total number of views per day over the engagement period. There were 53 average daily page views and the peak occurred on 20 October with 275 page views.



Figure 5. Participation data

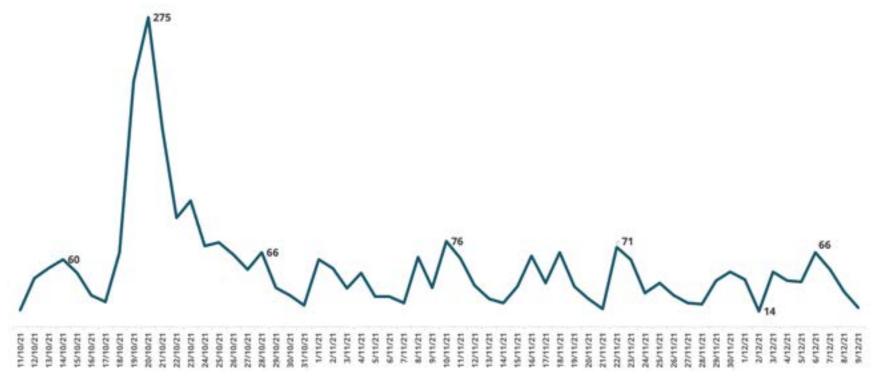


Figure 6. Unique pageviews over time

Age

The majority of Reservoir West participants were in the 35-44 age range, representing 35% of all those who submitted a spot on the map. Together with the 45-54 age range, these two age groups made up 61.7% of all participants. There was little participation amongst those aged below 25 and above 55.

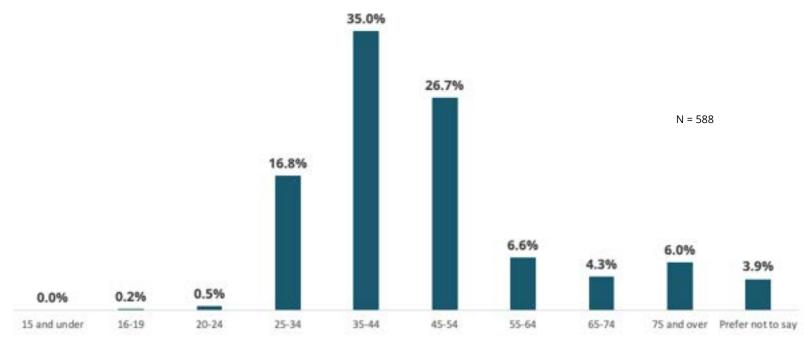


Figure 7. Age

Gender

The majority of spot submissions were made by participants who identified themselves as Female (52%), whilst the remaining gender identities included Male (42.3%), Prefer not to say (4.8%) and Prefer to describe (0.9%).

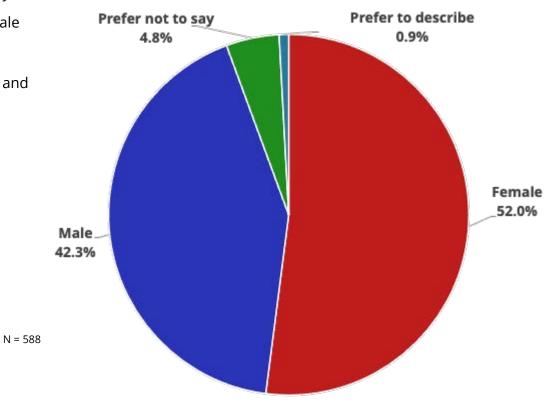


Figure 8. Gender

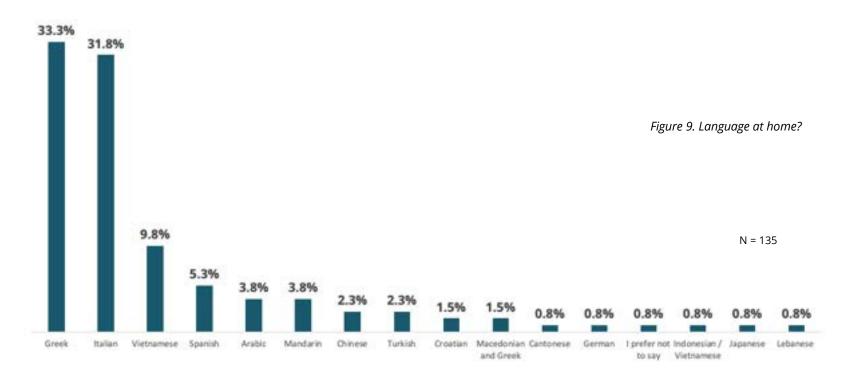
See APPENDIX A for ABS (2016) census suburb data.

Language

In response to 'Do you speak a language other than English at home?', 77.5% of participants selected 'No' with the remaining 22.5% selecting 'Yes' and asked to specify the language.

73.3% of inputs were made up of Greek (32.6%), Italian (31.1%) and Vietnamese (9.6%). Languages spoken at home (other than english) are in Figure 11 on the next page.





See APPENDIX A for a comparison with ABS (2016) census language data.

Figure 10. Languages at home

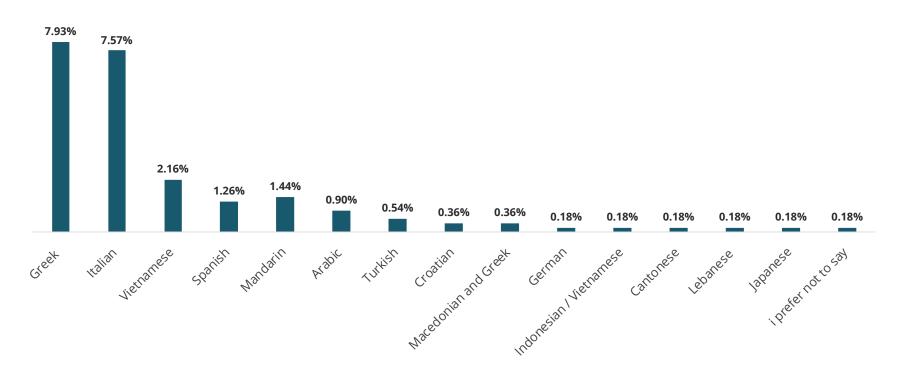


Figure 11 - Language - % of all participants

Connection to Darebin

People who 'Live' within the City of Darebin represent 98.9% of people who submitted a spot on the map. Participants also indicated that they 'Work' (29.8%), 'Visit' (7%), 'Own a business' (3%) and 'Study' (2.7%).

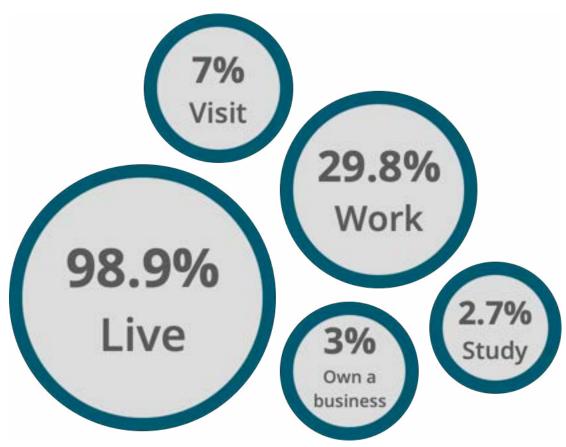


Figure 12. Connection to Darebin

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

When asked 'Do you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?', 0.7% of respondents selected 'Yes', 96% of respondents selected 'No' and 3.3% 'Prefer not to say'.



Figure 13. % Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

Disability

When asked 'Do you identify as having a disability?', 6.3% of respondents selected 'Yes', 88.3% of respondents selected 'No' and

5.4% 'Prefer not to say'.



Household Vehicles

N = 573

Participants were asked 'How many motor vehicles does your household own?', with the vast majority (84.8%) indicating that they own one or two vehicles in their household (Figure 14). 7.7% of respondents own three or more vehicles whilst 7.5% indicated that there are no household vehicles at their residence.

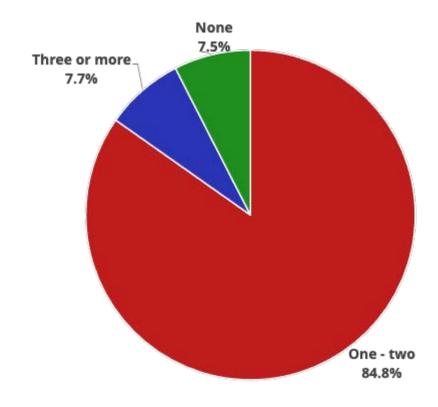


Figure 15. No. of household vehicles

Residential Postcode

Participants who submitted spots within Reservoir West were made up mostly (92.9%) from people who reside within the 3073 postcode.

Postcode 3072, directly to the south of 3073 accounting for 2.9% of spot submissions.

Surrounding postcodes then made up the remaining participants' residential postcodes.

0.2% 0.3% 3061 3074 0.5% 0.5% 3060 ADVICED 3083 3073 0.2% 2.9% 0.5% Reservoir West Group A 3081 3058 3072 Darebin LGA 0.3% 307 EAGLEM 0.5% 3070

Map 1. Participant postcodes

N = 588

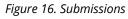
4. Submissions

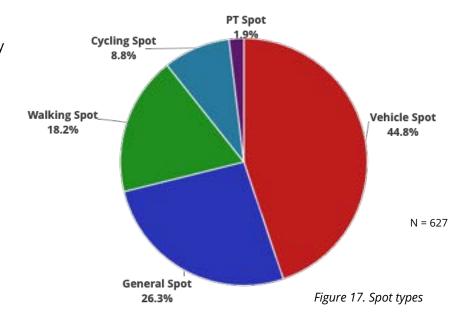
There was a total of 3,394 submissions made up of Spots, Comments and Supports within Reservoir West.



Spot types

Vehicle Spots represent 44.8% of spots added within Reservoir West, followed by General Spots (26.3%), Walking Spots (18.2%), Cycling Spots (8.8%) and PT Spots (1.9%).





5. Spatial distribution of Spots

Map 2 represents all 627 spots added to the map within the Reservoir West suburb.

There is good coverage across the area with clusters at:

- High St (near Edwardes St),
- Edwardes Lake Park area
- Crispe Park
- Radford Rd corridor
- Broadhurst Ave / Massey Ave intersection

These clusters are also identifiable on the heatmap (Figure 15) on the following page.





Map 4 represents all spots in Reservoir West colour coded by Spot type. Map 4. Spot types in Reservoir West Vehicle Spot General Spot

> Walking Spot Cycling Spot

6. Vehicle Spots

Vehicle Spots were the most significant spot type with 281 spots or 44.8% of all spots added within Reservoir West. All Vehicle Spots are presented on the Map 5. Concentrations can be seen at the following locations:

- Radford Rd corridor
- Broadhurst Ave / Massey Ave intersection
- High St near Reservoir and Ruthven train stations
- Henty St



Vehicle Spot Categories

Participants were asked to associate their Vehicle Spot with a category that best describes the issue at that location. Almost half of Vehicle Spot were related to 'Speeding traffic' (46.5%), followed by Parking issues (16.6%) and 'Too much traffic' (11.8%). The spots indicated as relating to speeding issues are represented in Map 6 on the following page.

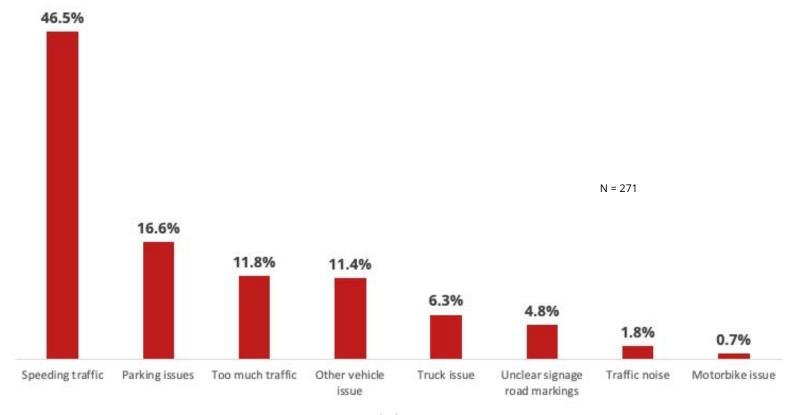
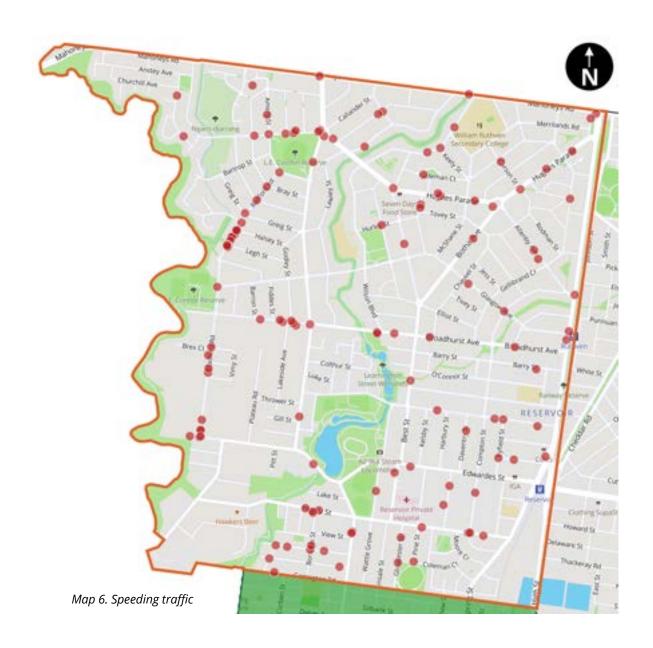


Figure 18. Vehicle Spot categories



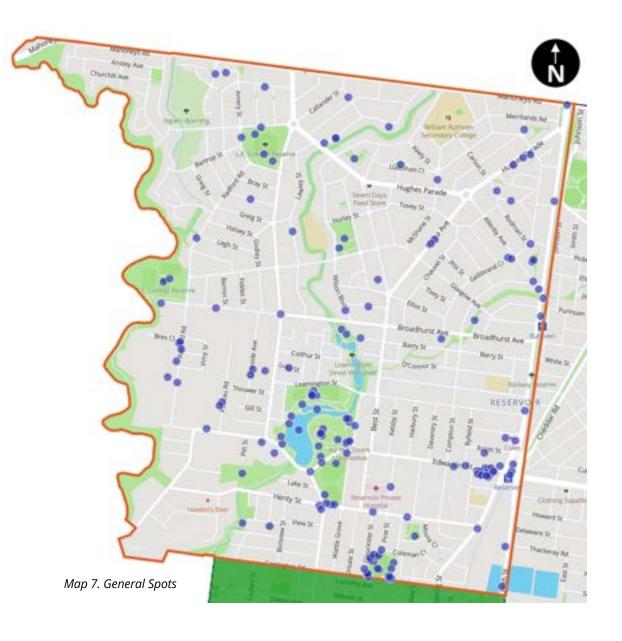
7. General Spots

General Spots represent 165 or 26.3% of data points on the map within Reservoir West.

All General Spots are presented on Map 7. Concentrations can be seen at the following locations:

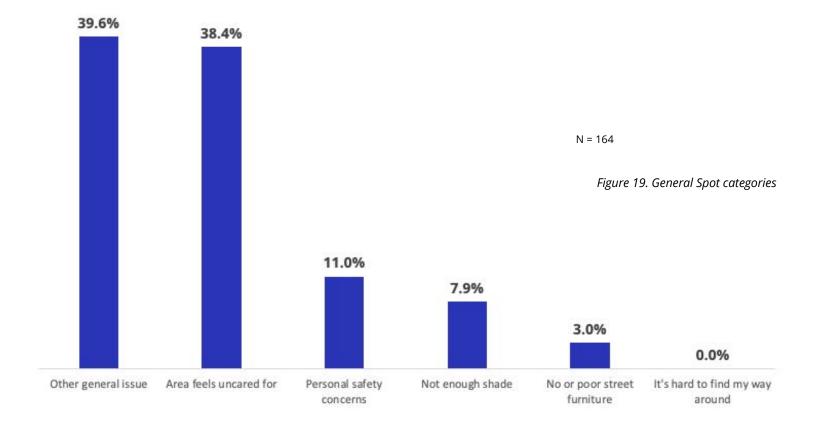
- Radford Rd
- **Edwardes Park Lake**
- Crispe Park

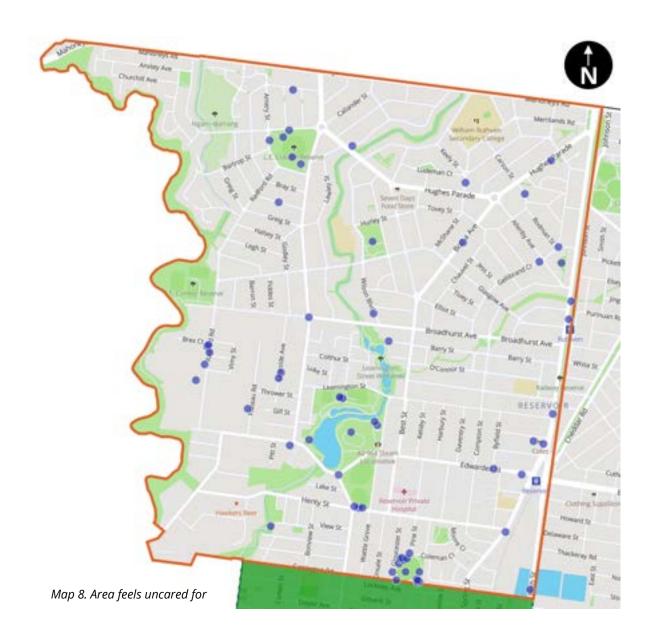
Many of the General Spots on Edwardes St near the Reservoir Community & Learning Centre were submitted by City of Darebin staff on behalf of community members. The vast majority indicated they had 'No issues'.



General Spot Categories

The most selected General Spot categories include 'Other general issue' (39.6%) and 'Area feels uncared for' (38.4%). These two categories made up 77.8% of all General Spots. Many of the 'Other general issues' and 'Area feels uncared for' relate to better utilisation of spaces, rubbish dumping, air/odour pollution and overgrown vegetation. Locations categorised as 'Area feels uncared for' are mapped in Figure 22 on the following page.



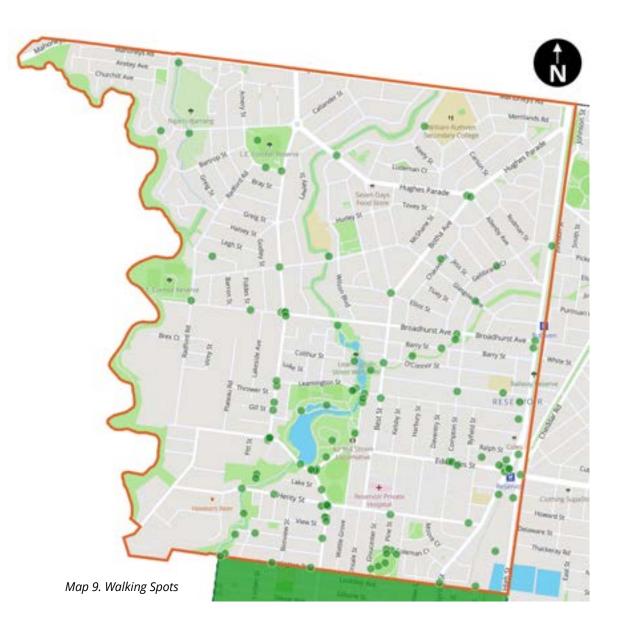


8. Walking Spots

Walking Spots represent 114 or 18.2% of all data points submitted within Reservoir West. The majority of these appear to be located south of Broadhurst Ave. Clusters can be seen multiple intersections including:

- Broadhurst Ave & Massey
 Ave/Banbury Rd
- Banbury Rd & Edwards St
- Edwardes St & Gilbert Rd
- Henty St & Gilbert Rd

There are also Walking Spot clusters located in off-road areas including Crispe Park and along Edgars Creek.



Walking Spot Categories

Representing just over one-third (34.5%) of all Walking Spots, 'No pedestrian crossing' was clearly the most significant walking issue in Reservoir West. This was followed by 'No footpath' (18.6%) and 'Other walking issue' (16.8%). The majority of the 'other walking issues' are associated with accessibility and footpath maintenance issues. The locations categorised as 'No pedestrian crossing' are represented in Map 10 on the following page. They show that the intersections listed on Pg.28 are significant to the community and require further investigation.

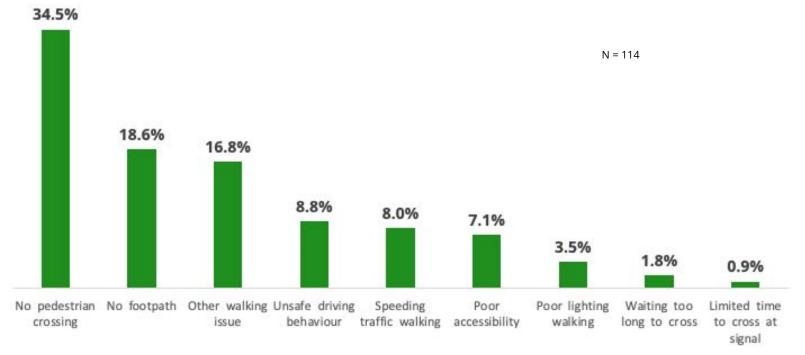


Figure 20. Walking Spot categories



9. Cycling Spots

Cycling Spots are fairly scattered throughout Reservoir West. In total, 55 were within the suburb, representing a relatively minor 8.8% of all spots.

Cycling Spots can be seen:

- Edgars Creek (both south and north of Edwardes Lake Park)
- Edwardes St corridor
- High St (close to Reservoir Station)



Cycling Spot Categories

'No bicycle lanes' was the most significant cycling issue identified in Reservoir West with 34.8% of all Cycling Spots. 'Dangerous Intersection' and 'Too narrow' were the next top categorised issue with 15.2% each. 'Other bike issues' are mainly associated with no bike parking and overgrown vegetation. 'No bicycle lanes' locations are presented in Map 10 on the following page.

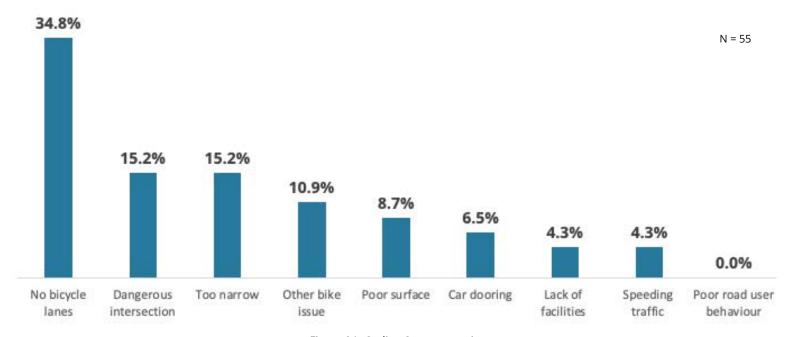
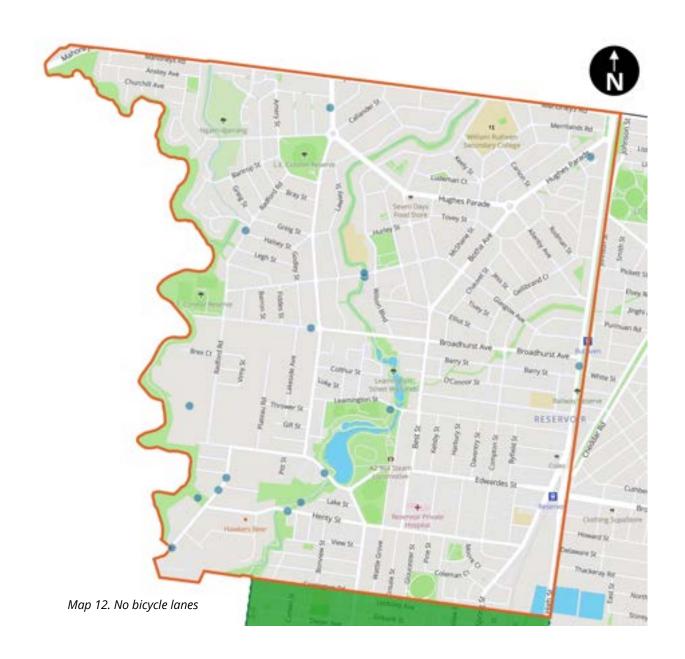


Figure 21. Cycling Spot categories

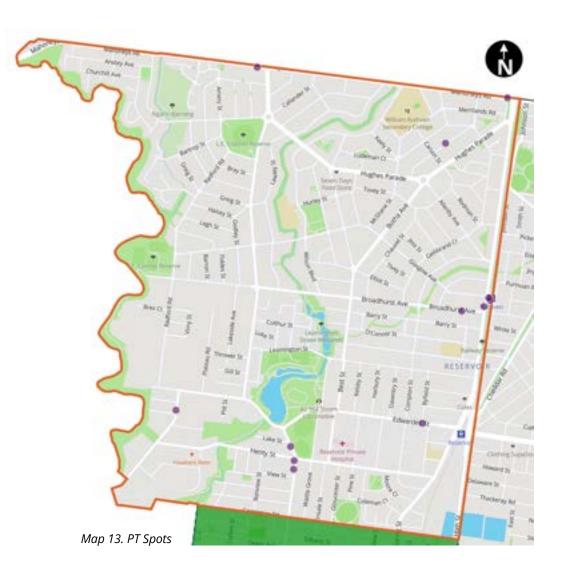


10. Public Transport Spots

Submissions relating to public transport were relatively limited with only 13 Public Transport spots added to the map within Reservoir West. This represents only 1.9% of data points within the area. The lack of public transport related submissions may be a result of limited public transport use due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The three Public Transport Spots on Gilbert Rd south of Edwardes Lake are advocating for an extension to Tram Route 11. The extension of Tram Route 11 extension is a Council endorsed advocacy position.

There is a small cluster of Public Transport Spots at Ruthven Train Station. These all share similar sentiments regarding poor waiting facilities or lack of safety.



11. Top 10 Spots

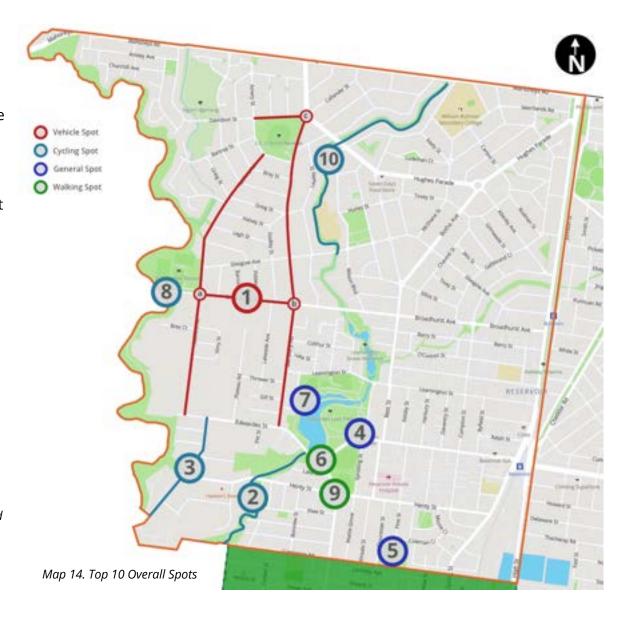
Map 14 to the right visualises the top 10 spots overall added to the map. The top spots are determined by the amount of 'activity' ('comments' + 'supports') a location received. Spots at the same location or area that share the same sentiment have been merged.

1. Road corridors - Speeding, truck, hooning and noise issues.

Broadhurst Ave

'Ridiculously fast drivers flying down this Straight stretch of road. Kids and young families or the elderly frequent the footpaths or ride on road and it has become so dangerous.'

- Adam



Radford Rd

Too many cars, motorbikes & big trucks speeding through residential part of Radford Road. Coming out of driveway is dangerous as cars speed up so quick and have had near misses. Too dangerous to even cross the road at times. Speeding cars start from 5am until 2am. I would say some are doing more than 100km in a 50km zone. Also very loud.' - Lucy

Banbury Rd/Massey Ave

There are signs saying that large trucks should not come through and a concrete island but it doesn't stop the trucks. You can see the damage on the nature strip of trucks driving on it. I feel more needs to be done to stop them.'
- Emma

Davidson St

'This is a drag strip with people doing in excess of 100kmh down this stretch.'
- Resident X

Intersections

a. Radford Rd & Broadhurst Ave roundabout

'Trucks turn right into Broadhurst Avenue to cut onto Massey. They are too large to take the turn and speed down Broadhurst day and night and mount the footpath when turning onto Massey. A no right turn for trucks is needed. They should not be using residential streets for shortcuts.' - EG

'All traffic from the industrial area needs to go back onto Edwards Street and use the main roads to get to Mahoneys/Hume or wherever they are going.

This intersection needs to be CLOSED to northbound traffic and eastbound traffic to protect the safety and peace of residents on Radford Rd and Broadhurst Avenue.' - Someone

b. Banbury Rd/Massey Ave & Broadhurst Ave roundabout

'There is way too much traffic on this street. Cars and trucks use it as a rat run and there are too many trucks making it feel unsafe. I visit my children who live here and hate driving through the roundabout (have almost been hit by a truck not giving way) and am nervous to cross the road with my grandchild.' - S

c. Massey Ave/Hughes Pde roundabout

'This roundabout is very dangerous for the local residents (consisting of a lot of families with kids and also more senior residents). This should not be a two lane roundabout. The footpaths on the corners of this roundabout are extremely narrow making it impossible for the many many pedestrians that use these paths impossible.' - Someone

2. Edgars Creek Path - No established trail along Edgars Creek south of Edwardes Lake

'Please connect Edwardes Lake with the creek. It would be amazing to walk or cycle along the creek all the way to the lake. There is a walking path most of the way, it would be great for this to be widened and extended.' - MJ

3. Newlands Rd - No bike lane

'Newlands Road is dominated by industrial vehicles so has very large trucks on it at all hours. A clear and wide bike path along Newlands Road and better lighting would do wonders for trips down to Coburg. Probably even better would be a bridge that got you to the other side of Merri Creek where there is a good bike path.' - Fionatea

4. Steam locomotive at Edwardes Lake Park - Open for the public

The old steam train has been fenced off. Children should be able to climb up into the drivers seat, engage and enjoy this wonderful asset. Unfortunately its been welded shut and the stairs removed, as someone with young children who uses the park all the time I, and my kids are so disappointed with what has happened.' – Sam

5. Crispe Park - Lack of amenities (picnic tables, a basketball court or even a community garden).

'As more young families start visiting this spot (usually with their dogs), it would be amazing so see some more ammenities in the area, especially given there is so much vacant green space. Thinking picnic tables, a basketball court or even a community garden.' - Molly

'We've met so many wonderful locals exercising our dog at this fantastic spot during lockdown. All the dogs are so well behaved, it's great to get dogs to socialise and learn how to behave around other dogs, and children too. This was my 'happy place' in lockdown with my kids and dog, chatting to newly met locals.' - Kate

6. Edwardes St & Gilbert Rd roundabout - dangerous intersection

'As more young families start visiting this spot (usually with their dogs), it would be amazing so see some more ammenities in the area, especially given there is so much vacant green space. Thinking picnic tables, a basketball court or even a community garden.' - Molly

7. Edwardes Park Lake Old boat shed - Utilise old boat shed for hospitality venue

'The boat shed has been used as a storage facility for the 12years I've lived in Rez. I'd love to see it transformed into a training cafe, gallery or community hub. The lake gets so much foot traffic, and the transformation of this space would be a boon for Reservoir West'

- Greenthestreet

8. Broadhurst Ave (western end) - No kerb entrance to Merri Creek

'The end of Broadhurst Ave meets the Merri Creek bike trail but there is a kerb all the way along & no sloped entrance to ride up onto the path.'

- CD

9. Henty St & Gilbert Rd roundabout - Dangerous intersection

'It can be dangerous crossing here, cars speeding and not letting pedestrians walk. There is a lot of traffic here, a lot of people coming to use the businesses and no safe place to cross.'

- GiGi

10. Edgars Creek Trail (north of Glasgow Ave) - No bike lane/shared trail

'I've walked the grassy path north of where the path ends (west side of creek behind St Joseph the Worker School) up to Hughes Parade - there is definitely room to extend the bike path along this section, and it would be great if it went all the way to the Ring Rd'

- Someone

12. Neighbourhood opportunities

In the process of adding a spot on the map participants were asked 'Thinking more generally about this neighbourhood, what do you love and/or what changes do you want to make it better?'. Below is a selection of responses that help capture the essence of Reservoir West.

'I love being near Edgars Creek and the bird life around the creek! I also love the rewilding project around Edwards Lake wetlands. Would love to see more of the creek rewilded/restored to a more natural state (ie, the concrete removed, and native habitat planting done).'

'I love the basketball courts and skatepark in the area and any further investment in these would be beneficial. When will the council turn the old boathouse into a cafe and/or community centre?! It seems like a wasted opportunity.'

'I love the diversity of my neighbourhood and the access to green spaces, especially the creek and lake. Also am happy that it is becoming more of a thriving hub for shopping and eating out, but there now needs to be attention to balance the needs of pedestrians, drivers and bike riders.'

'I love the people, environment and location. Changes would be to reduce the amount of industrial properties, reduce cut through traffic and trucks.'

'I love this area. So many parks & playgrounds. As I have a 7 year old child, we try to ride our bikes as often as we can so some extra clearly marked bike lanes would be appreciated. We are also waiting eagerly for the development of the old Ruthven primary site - I would love to see extra toilets in the area & exersice equipment.'

'It is a great neighbourhood with a number of families with young children. Speeding cars and motorists ignoring traffic control signs is a major safety issue. Narrowing the exit and/or speed bumps in the connecting streets should deter vehicles entering.'

'Safer channelling of traffic, more care taken by council on road appearance and waste being dumped on roads/pathways. Removal or vehicles left in front of business premises for months/years. Make Reservoir look clean as the West section in parts looks like a dumping ground.'

13. Summary and Recommendations

The *Your Street, Your Say* Group A map was open for public submissions for a period of 8 weeks, from 11 October to 7 December 2021. Group A is made up of Reservoir West, Preston West and Thornbury West. This report focuses on the data collected within Reservoir West, where the map received 3,394 individual submissions made up of 624 individual spots and the comments (844) and 'supports' (1,874) within those spots. These submissions were made from 1,247 unique participants. There was a range of location specific feedback added within the different spot types. Based on all the information collected and their relative priorities, below is a set of broad recommendations based purely on community feedback.

Vehicle movement:

- Explore ways to reduce driving speed and hoon behaviour in Broadhurst Ave, Radford Rd, Banbury Rd/Massey Ave and Davidson Ave
- Restrict truck movement to key road arterials (avoid residential streets)
- Improve safety at key intersections (safety barriers, signalised intersections, raised crossings, etc.)

General amenity:

- Greater maintenance on Radford Rd reducing dumped cars, smashed bottles and other rubbish
- Enhance amenity in recreational areas:
 - Utilise old Edwardes Lake Park boathouse

- Re-open old steam train for kids to play
- o Repair Edwardes Lake Park skate park surface and provide shade
- Improve facilities at Crispe Park

Walking:

- Improve pedestrian safety at identified intersections:
 - Radford Rd & Broadhurst Ave roundabout
 - o Banbury Rd/Massey Ave & Broadhurst Ave roundabout
 - Massey Ave/Hughes Pde roundabout
 - Edwardes St & Gilbert Rd roundabout
 - Henty St & Gilbert Rd roundabout
- Establish off-road trail along Edgars Creek

Cycling:

- Establish off-road trail along Edgars Creek
- Explore installing bike lanes (preferably physically separated) along Newlands Rd
- Introduce kerb ramp at the western end of Broadhurst Ave

Public Transport:

- Advocate for the extension of the Route 11 tram line
- Advocate for improved facilities at Ruthven Train Station

Next steps:

- Collect traffic data and consider community feedback to deliver a plan of proposed treatments.
- Conduct some special interest focus groups on the issues raised (prior to design).
- The 2nd round of community consultation planned towards the middle of 2022.
- Share park-related recommendations with the City of Darebin Open Space team.
- Your Street, Your Say initiatives will focus on road-related treatments.

14. APPENDIX

Demographic Analysis

Your Street, Your Say – Group A

Characteristic	Overall	Reservoir West	Preston West	Thornbury West
Population	51,000	26,000	15,000	10,000
Households (Average household size)	18,800 (2.8)	9,200 (2.8)	6,300 (2.4)	3,300 (3.0)
Persons with limited English fluency ¹	3,150 (6%)	1,875 (7%)	975 (7%)	300 (3%)
Households with no motor vehicles	2,090 (11%)	920 (10%)	720 (11%)	450 (14%)
Need for assistance (due to disability)	2,990 (6%)	1,820 (7%)	770 (5%)	400 (5%)
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	296 (0.6%)	175 (0.7%)	61 (0.4%)	60 (0.6%)
SEIFA Index Score (percentile) ²	-	960 (26th percentile)	1,024 (60th percentile)	1,055 (80th percentile)
Elderly (over 80)	2,330 (5%)	1,400 (5%)	600 (4%)	330 (4%)
Youth (10-19)	4,250 (8%)	2,200 (8%)	1,400 (9%)	650 (9%)

Source: https://profile.id.com.au/darebin

- 1. This does not include all people who speak a language other than English at home. Rather, it is those who speak another language at home <u>AND</u> have limited English fluency. This is based off a tool created by officers at City of Greater Dandenong that crosstabulates data on 'English fluency by language spoken at home' with ABS census data (2016).
- 2. SEIFA: Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage

A higher score on the index means a *lower* level of disadvantage. A lower score on the index means a *higher* level of disadvantage or, in the case of IRSAD, a higher level of advantage.

The percentile column indicates the approximate position of this small area in a ranked list of Australia's suburbs and localities. It's meant to give an indication of where the area sits within the whole nation. A higher number indicates a higher socio-economic status. For instance, a percentile of 72 indicates that approximately 72% of Australia's suburbs have a SEIFA index lower than this area (more disadvantaged), while 28% are higher.

Number of persons speaking a language other than English at home

Language	Reservoir West	Preston West	Thornbury West	Overall
Italian	3272	1162	399	4833
Greek	1121	853	414	2388
Arabic	1537	551	149	2237

Mandarin	813	592	90	1495
Vietnamese	340	289	63	692
Hindi	413	165	45	623
Macedonian	345	173	44	562
Punjabi	446	59	17	522
Cantonese	277	183	57	517
Nepali	214	135	73	422
Spanish	140	187	89	416
Urdu	194	154	0	348
Filipino/Tagalog	138	63	0	201
Croatian	110	53	17	180
Bengali	65	98	10	173
Persian/Dari/Hazaraghi	128	43	0	171
Gujarati	63	40	58	161
Telugu	84	48	11	143
Maltese	126	16	0	142
Tamil	61	64	14	139
Turkish	84	40	11	135
French	58	37	40	135
Albanian	42	67	19	128
German	26	69	28	123
Japanese	38	66	13	117
Total population in area	26,000	15,000	10,000	51,000

Fluency in the Use of Spoken English (2016)

Language	Limited Fluency	Limited fluency rate (%)
Greek	2,121	23
Italian	1,947	20
Mandarin	1,822	34
Arabic	913	21
Vietnamese	875	26
Cantonese	588	33
Macedonian	425	20
Non-verbal, so described	224	93
Spanish	122	10
Punjabi	117	9
Persian	112	23
Somali	90	16
Thai	89	25
Chinese, nfd	85	38
Hindi	78	5
Serbian	73	22
Croatian	69	14
Urdu	65	9
Nepali	57	6
Kurdish	50	40
Korean	43	24
Japanese	42	10
Gujarati	39	10
Turkish	39	11
Bengali	35	8
Albanian	33	13
Telugu	31	8
Portuguese	28	11
Maltese	28	11

Age

Age Group	Population	YSYS Participants	Representation
15 and under	16%	0%	Under
16-19	4%	0%	Under
20-24	7%	1%	Under
25-34	21%	17%	Under
35-44	16%	36%	Over
44-54	13%	28%	Over
55-65	9%	7%	Ok
65-74	5%	4%	Ok
75 and over	7%	6%	Ok

Aboriginal and /or Torres Strait Islander

Our indigenous community make up 0.6% of the Group A population.

0.7% of posts on the YSYS platform were made by people who identified as aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander. This is a huge success.

Disability

6% of Group A residents need assistance due to a disability. 6.3% of YSYS respondents identified as having a disability.

Language spoken at home

Language	% of Population	% of Respondents
Italian	9.5%	7.5%
Greek	4.7%	7.2%
Arabic	4.4%	0.9%
Mandarin	2.9%	1.4%
Vietnamese	1.4%	2.2%
Hindi	1.2%	(50
Macedonian	1.1%	0.3%
Punjabi	1.0%	040
2	- 222	

Motor vehicle ownership

11% of households in the Group A area do not own a motor vehicle 7.5% of YSYS respondents reported that they did not own a car.

This the strongest indicator of transport disadvantage for those living in the Group A areas and should be considered a priority group for future engagements.