

COORONG THRIVING TOWNS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT





WHAT WE'VE HEARD
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
SUMMARY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



In July and August 2022, City Collective and Coorong District Council undertook face-to-face and digital engagement through drop-in sessions in Tailem Bend, Coonalpyn and Tintinara.

The face-to-face sessions were supported by an online survey which posed the following questions:

1. What township are you commenting on?
2. How often do you visit the main street of that town?
3. What is your age?
4. Why is the town important to you?
5. What do you think makes the town unique?
6. What are some things you like about the main street?
7. What improvements could be made to the main street?
8. What is your big vision for the town?
9. Are there any important features we should protect?


The online survey received a total of 87 responses, whilst the three face-to-face sessions were attended by approximately 100 people between the three towns.

Printed maps at the face-to-face sessions provided a spatial tool to understand where specific concerns within each town were located, and these comments incorporated into the findings of the engagement summaries where relevant to the project.

Let's talk about...

**The future of the
main streets of Tailem Bend,
Tintinara, and Coonalpyn**



As part of the **Coorong District Council Streetscapes Project**, Council is currently looking at ways to improve the main streets in Tailem Bend, Tintinara, and Coonalpyn, and invite you share your thoughts on what matters to you on these main streets.

The **Streetscapes Project** is a **master plan tool** to guide Council in **future decision-making**, and will identify opportunities for **improving the quality and enjoyment of the main streets**. The project will investigate main street features such as paths, access, lighting, public toilets, playgrounds, car parks, fences, furniture, signage, and more.

You are invited to have your say in one of three ways

Online	By visiting www.coorong.sa.gov.au or scanning the QR code above		
Written	By completing a printed survey (overpage) and returning to Council offices		
In-person	At one of three face-to-face sessions in each township:		
Tintinara	Football Club	5:00pm to 6:00pm,	Thursday 28 July 2022
Coonalpyn	Town Hall	6:30pm to 7:30pm,	Thursday 28 July 2022
Tailem Bend	Town Hall	4:00pm to 5:00pm,	Friday 29 July 2022

Your response must be received by midnight, Sunday 7 August 2022

If you require assistance, or for more information,
visit www.coorong.sa.gov.au, or contact Council on 1300 785 277

RESPONSES BY TOWNSHIP

A total of **87 respondents** provided a formal response to the engagement, through the online survey (which was accompanied by a printed survey for those who were unable to complete a survey online).

The survey ran for 24 days, between 12 July 2022 and 7 August 2022, with the three face-to-face sessions held effectively at the 'half way' point within the survey engagement period.

Of the respondents, 44% made comments about Tailem Bend, followed by 41% for Tintinara, and 15% for Coonalpyn.

This is representative not only of the population who make up the individual townships, but further demonstrates **the high level of engagement of respondents within the Tintinara township.**

44%

TAILEM BEND

41%

TINTINARA

15%

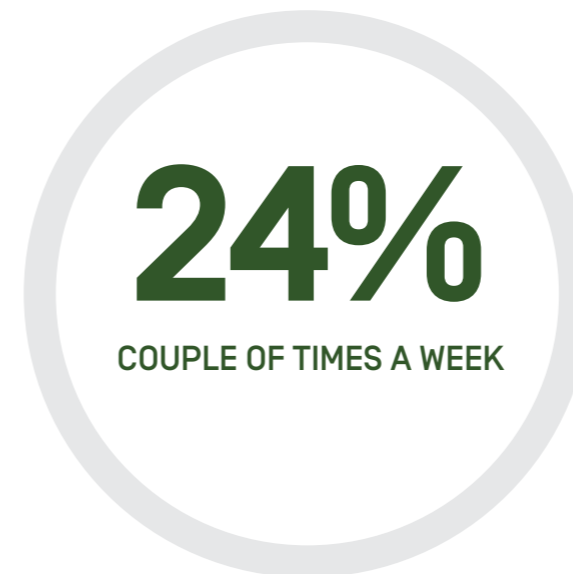
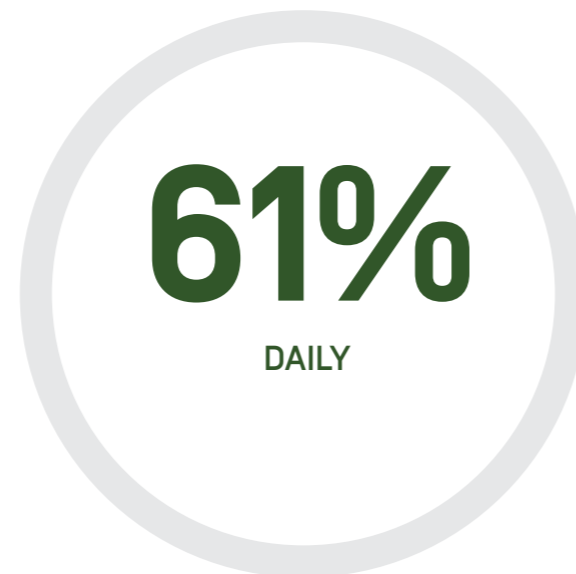
COONALPYN

FREQUENCY OF VISITATION

61 percent of respondents visit the main street of the township they commented on, whilst a quarter of respondents visit a couple of times a week.

Less than 10 percent visit only once a month, with 6 percent visiting once a week.

The visitation statistics show **that well over half of the respondents visit daily**, demonstrating that the main streets are highly utilised by residents, business owners, or visitors.



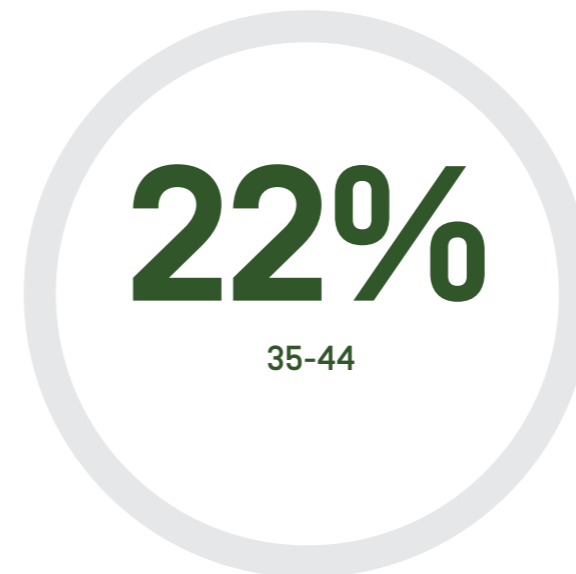
AGE DEMOGRAPHIC

A quarter of all respondents are aged between 24 and 34 years of age, closely followed by the 35 to 44 year old bracket.

1 in 5 respondents are aged 55 to 64.

The age demographic distribution suggests that the townships are **represented well by younger adults, which is equally supported by mature adults.**

As there is no distinct age group gap, and respondents in each age group are generally equally weighted, it is suggested that the townships generally provide services and features that accommodate for all age groups.



WHY IS THE TOWN IMPORTANT TO YOU?

40 percent of respondents feel that the town is important to them as they grew up within that town. **This suggests a strong emotional attachment to that place.**

Other features within the townships that are important to the respondents include the shopping, cafes and town services; the ability to raise a family; and the town pride and tidiness of the town.



WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES THE TOWN UNIQUE?

A third of respondents believe the **'small town' character, culture and community** makes their township unique.

Other aspects which makes the townships unique include the **railway heritage, and trees and natural setting**.

Services for tourists and playgrounds were the least noted unique features, which indicates an opportunity to strengthen these particular elements within the towns.



WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT THE MAIN STREET?

Over a quarter of respondents **enjoy the parks and open spaces** of the towns, closely followed by 26 percent liking the ease of car parking. Whilst these can compete, there is a challenge to retain the park and open space setting whilst retaining the current ease of parking a vehicle.

23 percent of respondents like the quality and variety of shops in the main street, with 20 percent liking the cafes, equal with the number of respondents who like the trees.

Safety and the width of the roadway were the least liked, which indicates the potential for improvement in these areas.

28%

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

26%

EASE OF CAR PARKING

23%

QUALITY AND VARIETY
OF SHOPS

WHAT IMPROVEMENTS COULD BE MADE?

Respondents were asked what improvements could be made to the made streets within the town they provided comments on.

A third of respondents noted that they would like to see **maintenance of median strips and garden beds**, which suggests that these are currently not maintained or have low quality.

Closely followed is the desire for **additional and replacement trees and landscaping**, further suggesting that beautification is a priority for the respondents.

Other respondents proposed improvements which include highway and railway crossing points, improvements to signage for tourists, toilet upgrades, improvements to footpaths and access, and opportunities for younger users including skate park and pump track.

Further comments included shopfront activation, street and footpath lighting, and picnic tables and seating.

33%

MAINTENANCE OF MEDIAN STRIPS AND GARDEN BEDS

32%

ADDITIONAL AND REPLACEMENT TREES AND LANDSCAPING

17%

PLAY GROUND IMPROVEMENTS

WHAT IS YOUR BIG VISION FOR THE TOWN?

Big visions for the townships were mostly around the **beautification of the townships**, whilst respondents were interested in growing the towns however **preserving the 'country feel'**. This suggests that the respondents are welcome to change, but the way in this is done should respect the character of the town.

Other big visions included providing amenity to tourists through having cafes which trade on weekends, and to capitalise on the motorsport opportunity with The Bend Motorsport Park, which relates more specifically to Taillem Bend.

A number of respondents felt that the towns should demonstrate a 'theme' within it, with the railway theme featuring in 8 percent of respondent's big visions.

15%

TOWN BEAUTIFICATION

10%

TO GROW, BUT MAINTAIN
'COUNTRY FEEL'

10%

WEEKEND CAFE FOR
TRAVELLERS

WHAT IMPORTANT FEATURES SHOULD WE PROTECT?

From the respondents, **trees were the greatest asset to be protected.**

This was followed by **preservation of the railway stations and the rail heritage**, then followed by the Heart of the Parks (relating to Tintinara, however in the same theme of railway station preservation).

Heritage buildings were also included as features to protect.

The responses indicate a desire to protect and maintain the overall **beauty and natural amenity** of the towns, and the preservation of the **character** of each of the towns and their **rail history**.

The opportunities, as a response, would include the sensitive upgrades and potential reuse of buildings, and a strategy around greening and other landscaping interventions.

