

## Imagine Monash in 2040

What do you want Monash to be in 2040?



# Imagine Monash in 2040: Integrated Planning Project Advisory Committee Consultation Report

22 June 2021

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## Executive Summary

Monash's [Advisory Committees](#) confirmed the emerging themes from the general community consultation whilst providing greater depth and nuance to what those themes practically meant.

Inclusion was a common theme across the Committees, adding to the emerging themes through drawing out how what's valued and what we aspire to is made accessible to all in the community. Council needs to be mindful that services and infrastructure are suitable to everyone who wants to use them, that they are not designed just for an assumed 'typical' user.

## Advisory Committees

Council's Advisory Committees offer an opportunity to engage with a range of people representing Monash's diversity. The Advisory Committees were engaged twice: first made aware of the Imagine Monash project and invited to complete the online survey, and second through a discussion at a regular Committee meeting. The dates of the Committee meetings is shown below:

Committee	Date
Environmental Advisory Committee	3 May
LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee	24 May
Gender Equity Advisory Committee	7 June
Youth Committee	9 June
Multicultural Advisory Committee	10 June
Disability Advisory Committee	17 June
Positive Ageing Reference Group	18 June

Each Committee (except for the Environmental Advisory Committee) were presented with a summary of the emerging themes from the Imagine Monash survey. The same five questions were asked through an online website survey (245 respondents) as well as through the Annual Community Satisfaction Survey (800 respondents). Each Committee was asked whether the themes reflected what they valued about Monash, the issues impacting liveability and what they wanted Monash to be like in 20 years.

These Committees all generally agreed that the themes were resonated for them:

- valued – open / green space; access to service & places; and, the sense of community.
- issues – traffic & congestion; biodiversity & green space; and waste, pollution & greenhouse gases.
- difference – less development & more open space; and more / improved transport.

The Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) met before the survey results were analysed, so instead directly answered the questions on what they valued about Monash, what they wanted Monash to be like in 20 years, and what Council or the community could do to achieve this.

## Feedback

Given the general agreement of Committee Members with the emerging themes, the feedback below highlights additional points the Committees raised.

## Environmental Advisory Committee

The EAC shared the same broad views as the survey results, including the value of open space and impact of development, connection and access, as well as the sense of community. The Committee talked in more depth and breadth about the importance of the natural environment including bushland, low carbon transport, local production of food, increasing waste reduction and recycling, and leading the sustainability and climate change conversation with the community.

## LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee

A key focus for the LGBTIQA+ Committee members could be grouped around 'inclusivity'. A sense of safety was important, as well as broadening the local services, activities and events available for the LGBTIQA+ community. A lack of this 'inclusivity' was seen as attracting some people to move away from Monash.

## Gender Equity Advisory Committee

Transport was seen as a particular priority for University students and that traffic congestion had become worse since the pandemic started. On a contrasting note, the sense of community, and importance of open space to this, was apparent and appreciated during the pandemic.

## Youth Committee

Monash was seen as a family friendly place to live, though perhaps there was less entertainment and activities for younger adults. Monash's libraries were valued as 'a neutral place for all' and there was interest in more services and facilities for younger people.

## Multicultural Advisory Committee

Members of the Committee raised the need for better street lighting to improve the sense of safety and enable people to walk at night (especially in winter). Public transport reliability & frequency was another issue that impacted on people's ability to confidently access services

## Disability Advisory Committee

Ability to access open spaces was a concern including well-lit paths, safe public toilets, paths clear of overhanging branches. Separate paths for bicycles was important as it did not feel safe sharing paths with cyclists travelling at speed.

Improved disabled parking spaces needed – more and a size adequate to get in and out of car and get on to footpath. In encouraging alternatives to travelling by cars, need to be mindful that for some people this is the only way they can get around.

## Positive Ageing Reference Group

PARG undertook a survey in 2013 and the emerging themes resonated well with this survey's results. A new survey has been completed and will be analysed shortly.

Inclusion was a strong theme for members including age-friendly seats in public places, safe footpaths (trees impact on these), access to information (threat of a digital divide).