

Coburns and Exford roads, Melton and the new Melton Station

Community consultation report

October 2024

Final designs of the northern forecourt at the new Melton Station. Artist impression only, subject to change.



New Melton Station southern entrance off Staughton Street.
Artist impression only, subject to change.





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Project overview

We're removing four dangerous and congested level crossings at Coburns, Exford and Ferris roads in Melton, and Hopkins Road in Truganina, to make Melton boom gate free.

Removing these level crossings will make communities safer, more connected and reduce congestion in Melbourne's west.

We're building a brand-new Melton Station for one of the fastest growing communities in Australia. The new Melton Station paves the way for future improvements to the line and increased train capacity across the corridor.

The level crossings at Coburns and Exford roads will be removed by building rail bridges over the roads, while road bridges will be built over the rail line at Ferris Road, Melton and Hopkins Road, Truganina.

Construction will start later this year with all four sets of boom gates gone and the new Melton Station open in 2026, two years ahead of schedule.

Project benefits



Four level crossings removed



New modern Melton Station



Melton will be boom gate free in 2026



Paves the way for future improvements to the line and increased train capacity



Eases congestion and unclogs local roads



Improved safety and accessibility for passengers and pedestrians



Future proofed to support population growth



New bus interchange at Melton Station



New walking and cycling connections



New landscaping

Why these level crossings need to go



Approximately **73,000 vehicles** travel through these crossings each day



Boom gates are down for up to **28 minutes** during the morning peak (7am to 9am)



Up to **16 trains** travel through these crossings during the morning peak (7am to 9am)

New rail bridge over Coburns Road. Artist impression only, subject to change.



Consultation summary

Earlier this year we asked the Melton community to share their feedback on the concept designs of the new Melton Station and rail bridges over Coburns and Exford roads. We asked you to share your ideas on the look and feel of the new Melton Station precinct, and aspects of the design including landscaping, connectivity and how you'd like to use the area.

Consultation was open for four weeks from 23 March to 21 April with feedback collected via an online survey on the Engage Victoria online consultation hub. We received more than 320 pieces of feedback. The survey was also available in Vietnamese, Tagalog, Punjabi, and Hindi.

Your responses have helped us understand how you'd like your new Melton Station to look and feel. Your feedback, combined with our technical and engineering requirements, have helped shaped final designs.

3037



Visitors to the Melton page on Engage Victoria

246



Design feedback surveys completed

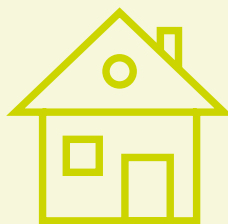
41

Participants joined three information sessions



Community Update sent to

31,482
properties



75

Questions asked via Engage Victoria online consultation hub.

People engaged with our social media content over



19,700
times

1770



Subscribers to e-updates

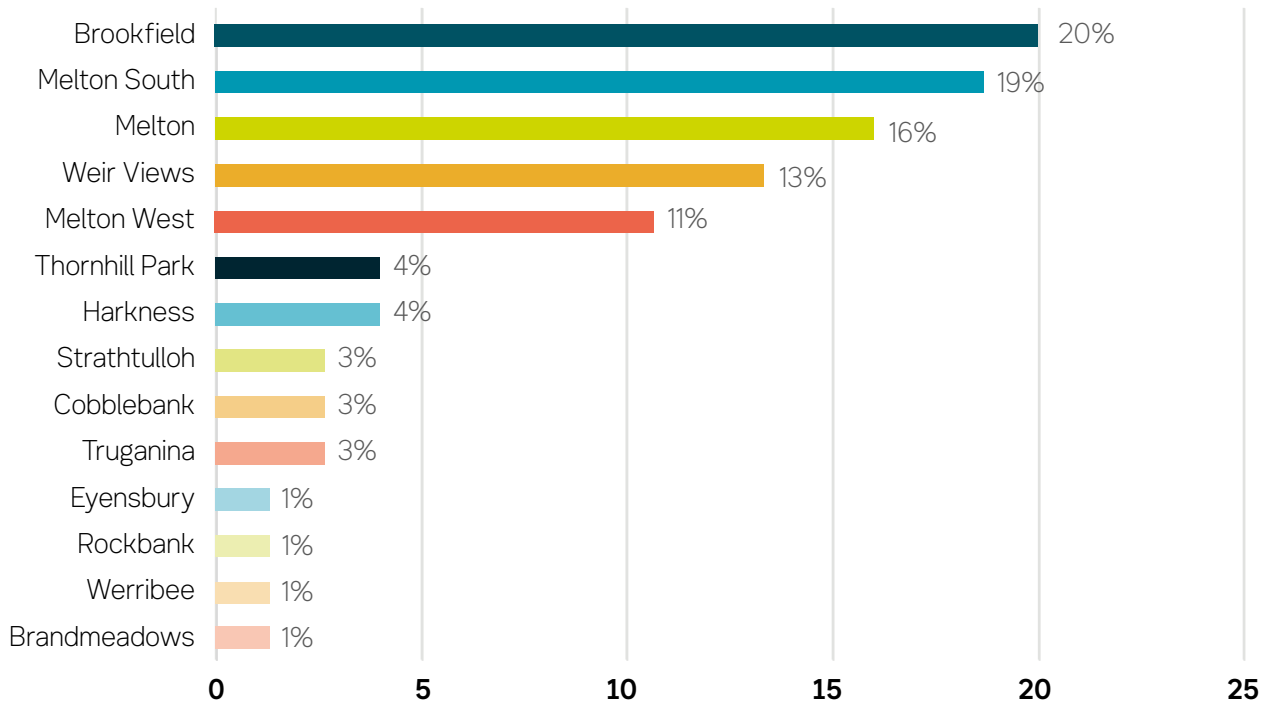


What we've heard

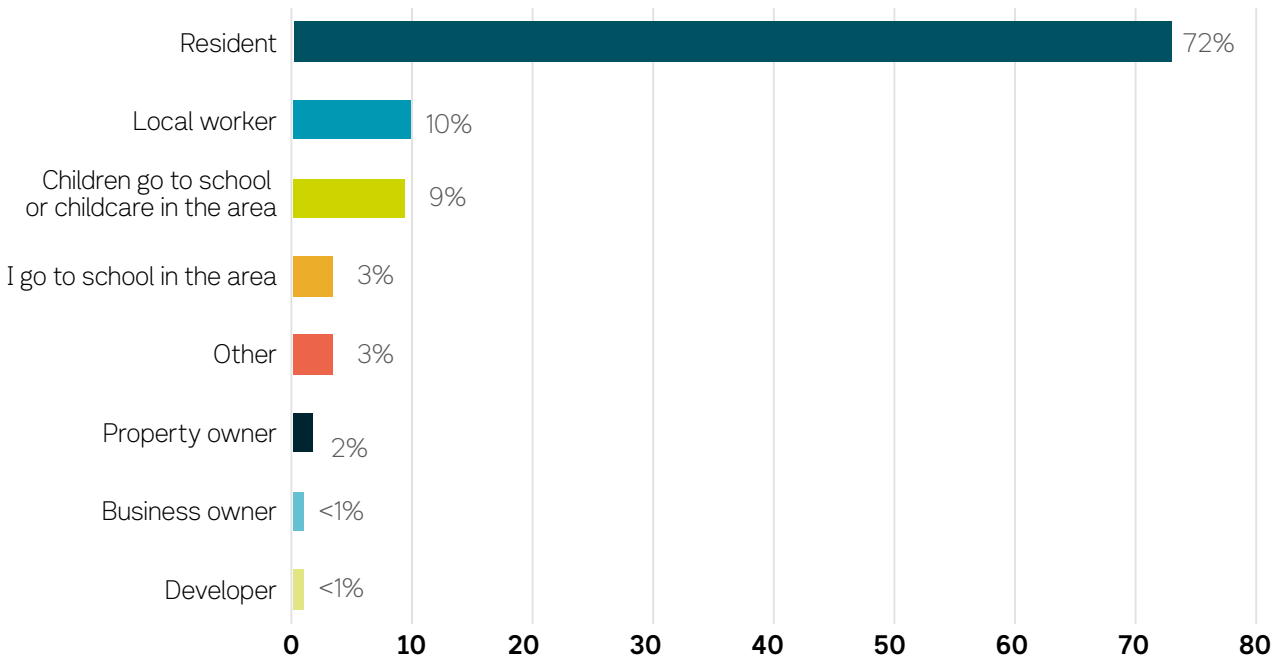
About you

Which suburb do you live in?

The majority of respondents live within 5 kilometres of the level crossings, in Brookfield, Melton South and Melton.



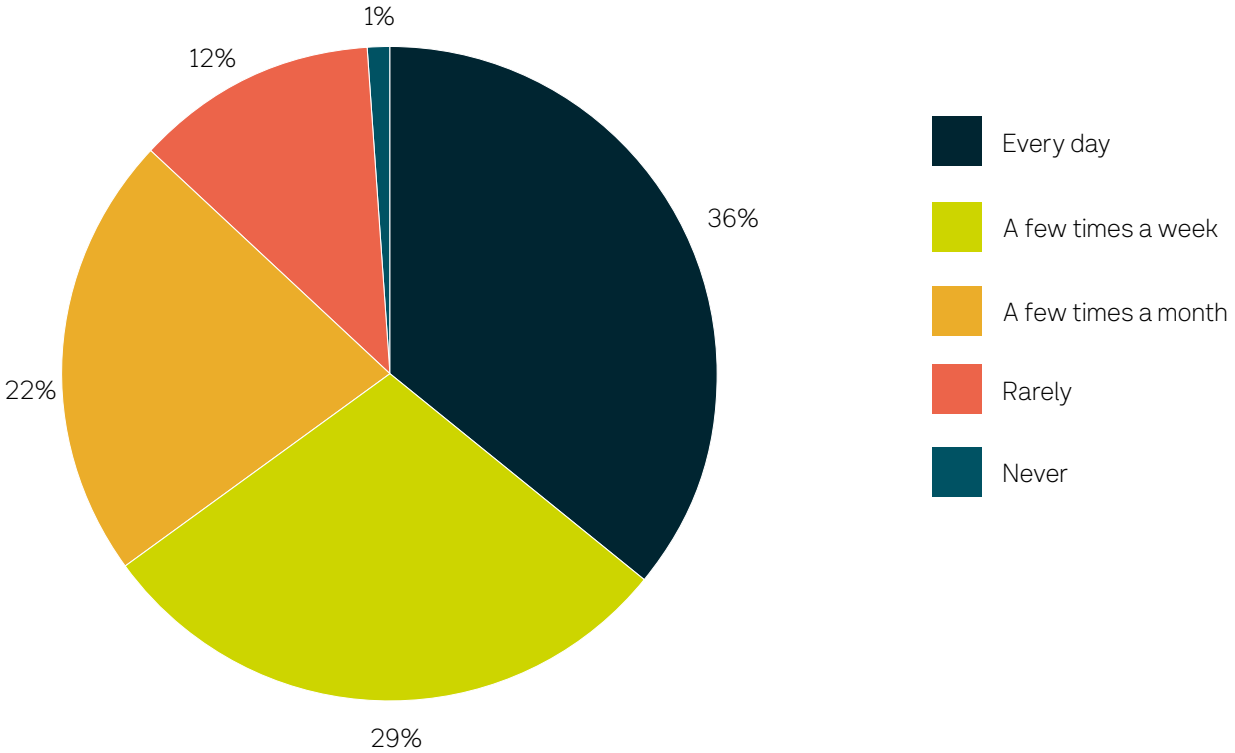
What is your connection to the Melton level crossing removal project?



Catching the train

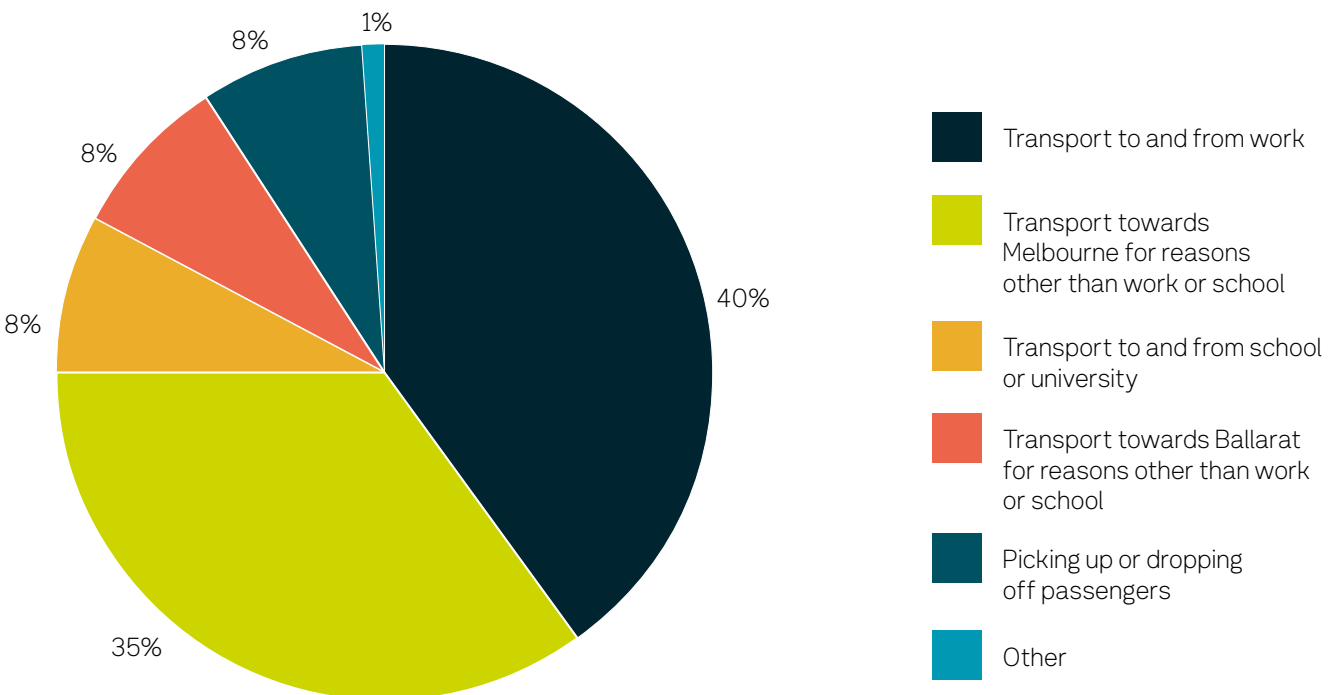
How often do you use the Ballarat Line

We heard that two thirds of people used the Ballarat Line either every day or a few times per week, with Melton Station the most popular station in the area.



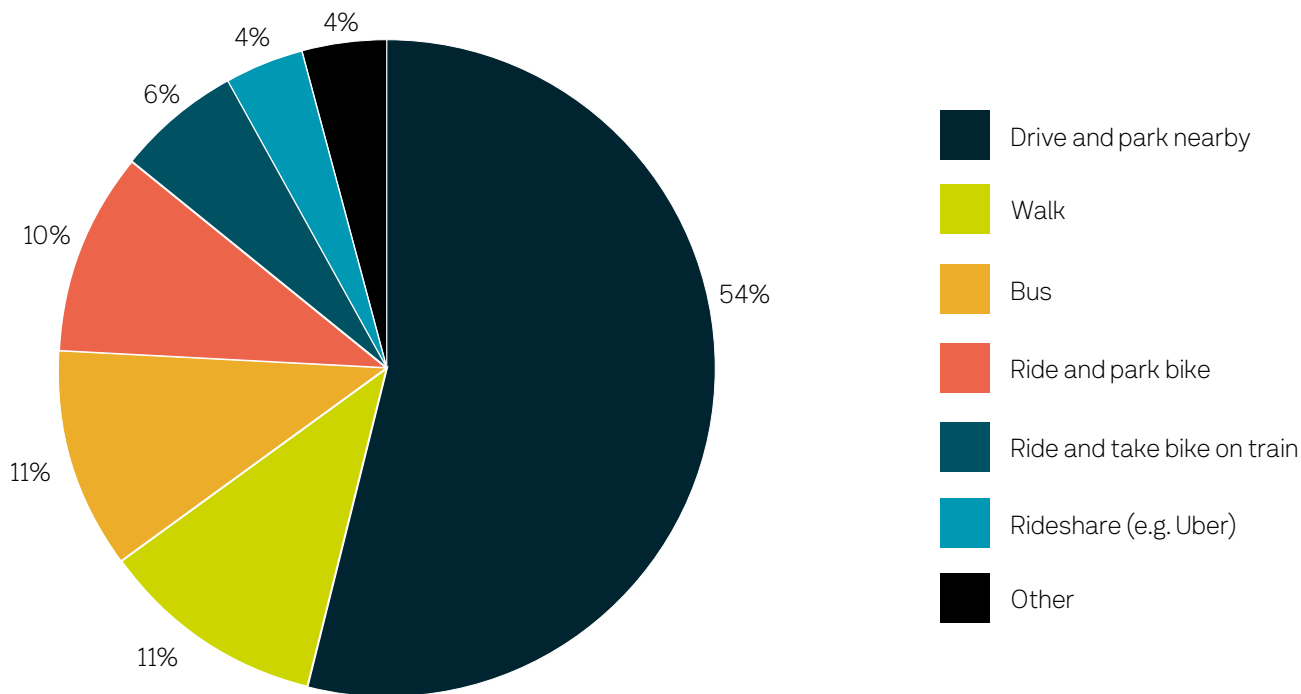
What is your main reason for using the Ballarat Line?

Most respondents used the Ballarat Line to catch the train to and from work, while travelling to and from Melbourne for reasons other than work or school was the second most popular use.



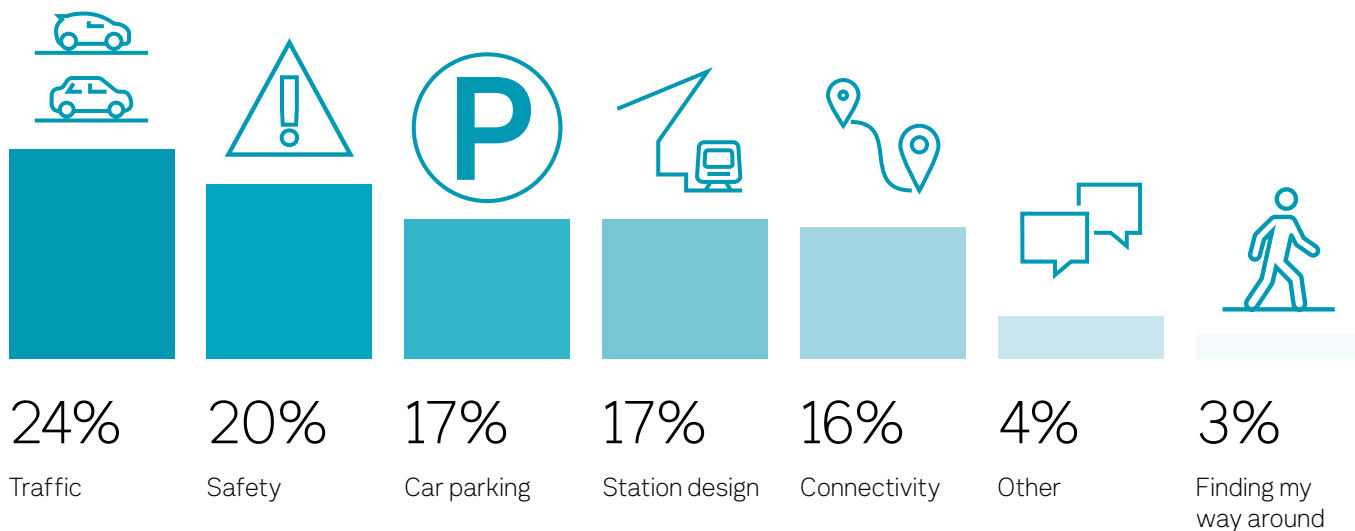
How do you get to and from the station?

The majority of people drive to the station with fewer people walking, catching the bus or riding their bike and parking at the station.



Melton Station

We asked what aspect of the current station is the most important to be improved.



Traffic

More than 24% of respondents shared traffic congestion as the main frustration when travelling through the area and visiting the station.

We also heard people drive and park at the station, which adds to congestion, especially during peak times.

Most respondents agree that removing the level crossings will improve how people access the area.

'Residents of Melton South have no option but to cross the railway to get home, this will improve the traffic flow considerably'
– Survey respondent

Car parking

With most people driving to Melton Station, you told us congestion at the car park entrances and exits, low visibility, and poor pathways make it difficult when moving around the car park and accessing the station entrances.

Incorporating your feedback, we're redesigning the station precinct with most of the car parking accessible from Brooklyn Road, allowing easier and convenient access to the popular Melbourne bound platforms.

'Improve car park access. The current entry points from Brooklyn Road are tight and become congested at peak times.'
– Survey respondent

The new precinct will feature well-lit car parks on both sides of the station with pick-up and drop-off areas and multiple car park entrances and exits to help prevent congestion.



The new northern car park at Melton Station. Artist impression only, subject to change.

Safety

We heard safety at the station and within the precinct is important to you.

Many raised concerns about the layout of the station and car park, sharing you feel unsafe when moving through the area in the morning or at night, travelling to and from work.

You told us you want increased security measures including more CCTV and improved lighting.

We also heard you want safety improvements for pedestrians and bike riders throughout the station precinct.

Improved safety is a key aspect of the final designs, with upgraded lighting and CCTV cameras located throughout the station precinct, at the new station entries and forecourt, on the station platforms and in the car parks.

The station precinct will also include passive surveillance measures and more open areas with clear lines of sight between the new expansive pedestrian through link, staffed ticket area, waiting areas and the station platforms to deter antisocial behaviour.

The new pedestrian through link will be 16 metres wide, reducing overcrowding during busy periods.

“My biggest concern is about safety and the more we can create open, well-lit and populated areas at the station the safer it will become.”
– Survey respondent

52%

Felt safety and security was lacking in the current Melton Station precinct.

85%

Want improved lighting and safety to help people and bike riders navigate the area.

“The pedestrian underpass is very scary when coming home in the evening or at night, it is isolated and dark in places.”
– Survey respondent

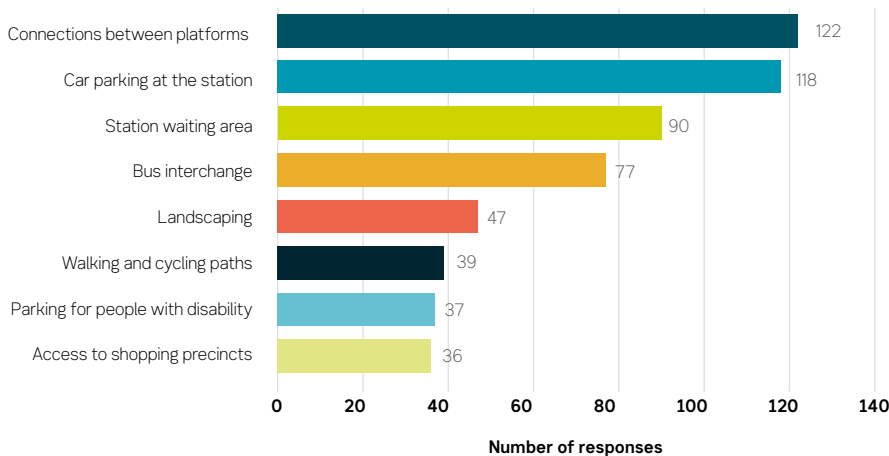


The new 16-metre-wide pedestrian through link at Melton Station. Artist impression only, subject to change.

Station design

We heard you want the new station to improve how people move around the precinct, including accessing the entrances and platforms and other modes of transport.

What facilities do you want to see included in the new Melton Station?



The new through link at Melton Station will provide access to all platforms and improve journeys for train passengers. It will also create a new north/south connection for the local community, making it easier to access key destinations and local shops.

We'll also be building a new multi-bay bus interchange off Brooklyn Road, closer to the station entrance for easier connections between train and bus services.

You told us it was important to include signage to keep passengers informed and up-to-date about arrivals, departures and delays.

The new station and waiting room will feature new passenger information displays helping people get where they need to go on time.

“Interactive displays for all transport modes with next available departure times within precinct would be helpful so people don’t have to rush around.”
– Survey respondent

Passenger facilities

We heard passenger facilities at the existing station are outdated and lacking.

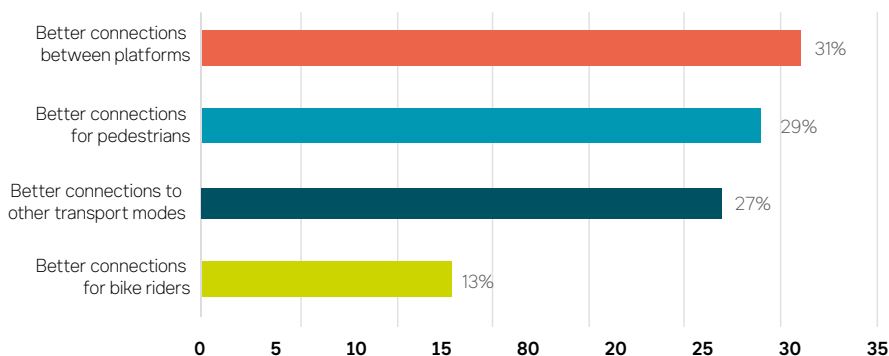
Sheltered areas for passengers on the platforms, along with station waiting areas were the most important features to include in the station design.

“Please provide shelter or other areas for people waiting for the trains, so you’re not standing in the wind and rain.”
– Survey respondent

The new station will include a ground level air-conditioned waiting room at the Brooklyn Road entrance. Each of the four platforms will feature new undercover areas to provide shelter from the weather.

Improved connectivity

What is most important to see changed in the Melton Station precinct?



Station look and feel

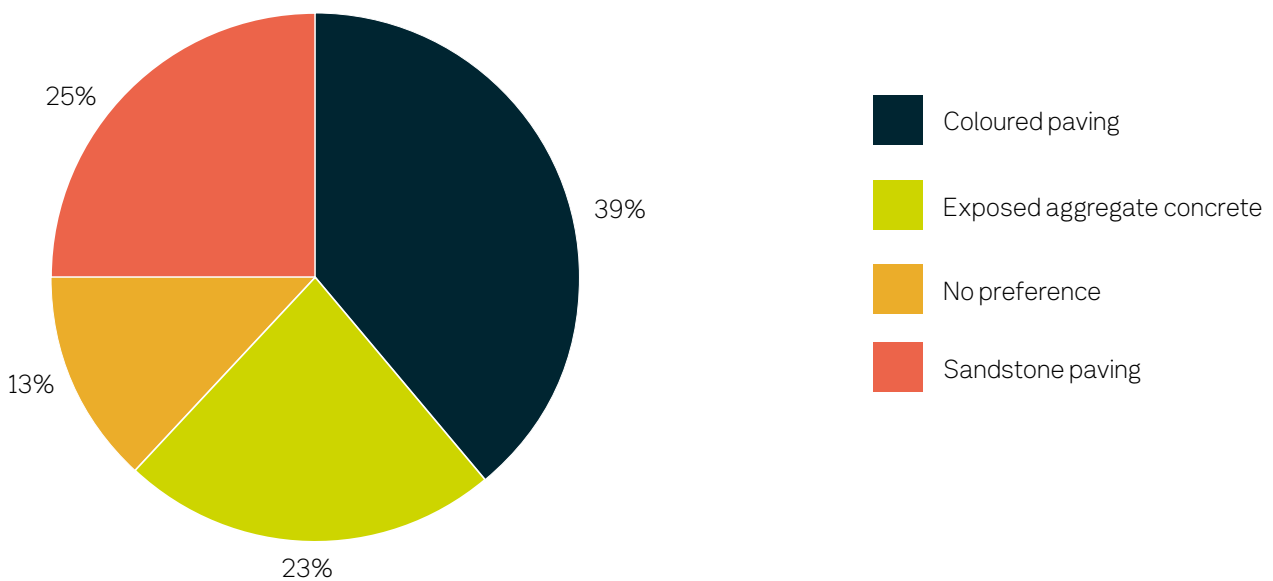
We asked you to select design options to shape the look and feel of the new Melton Station and precinct.

You told us you wanted a modern and vibrant look and feel for the new station design while combining characteristics of the local area, to create a unique and distinctive Melton Station precinct.

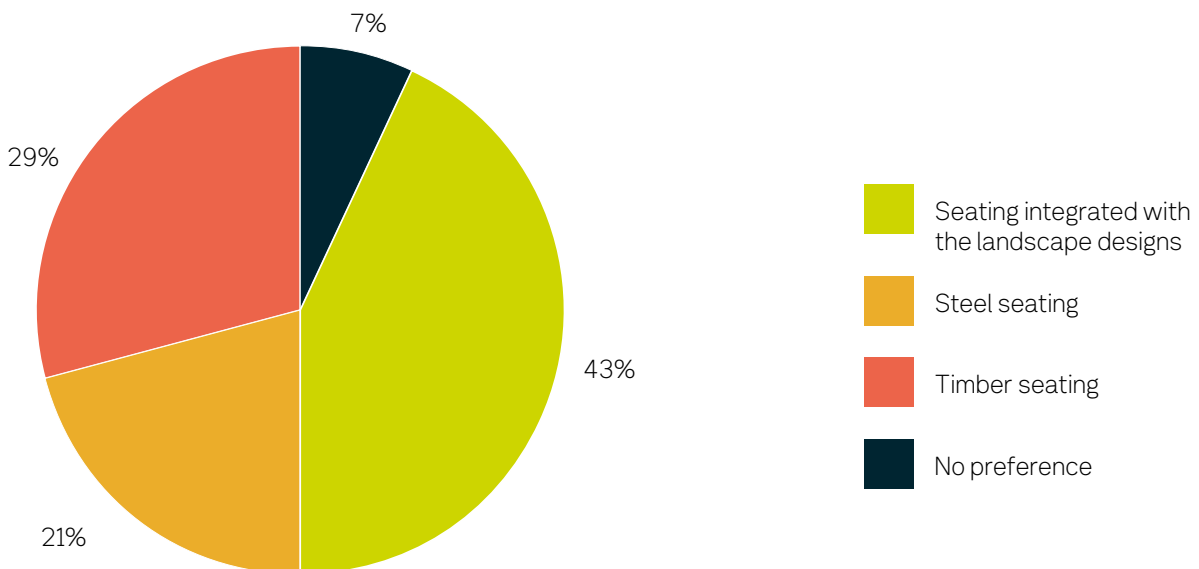
Coloured paving throughout the precinct to bring additional vibrancy was the most preferred paving choice.

Almost half of you selected seating that integrates into the landscape design.

What station material do you prefer?



Which seating example do you prefer?



Landscaping

You let us know you'd like more landscaped and welcoming areas in the station precinct.

We heard you'd like places to sit and visit and a landscaping design that creates a visually appealing precinct.

The new station designs features a spacious landscaped forecourt off Brooklyn Road along with additional landscaped areas around the station precinct.

The new precinct will also feature new walking and bike paths and seating areas making it a welcoming space for locals and visitors to enjoy throughout the year.

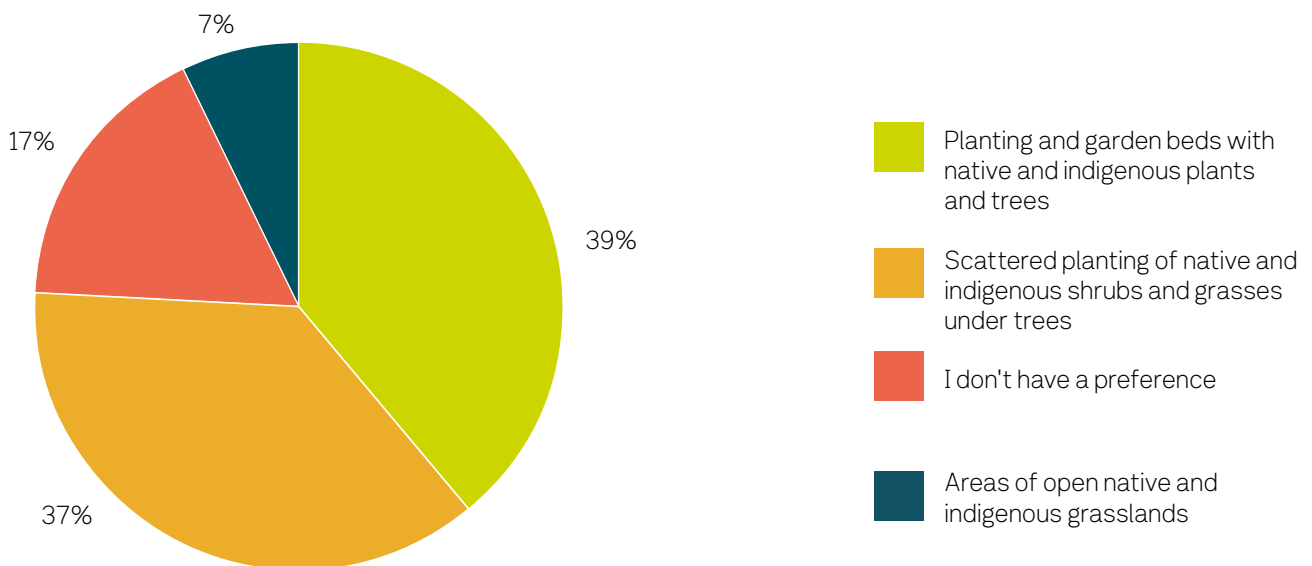
Native and indigenous plants were a clear favourite amongst the community.

We've incorporated this feedback into the landscaping plan, using natives that are suited to the local area and conditions.

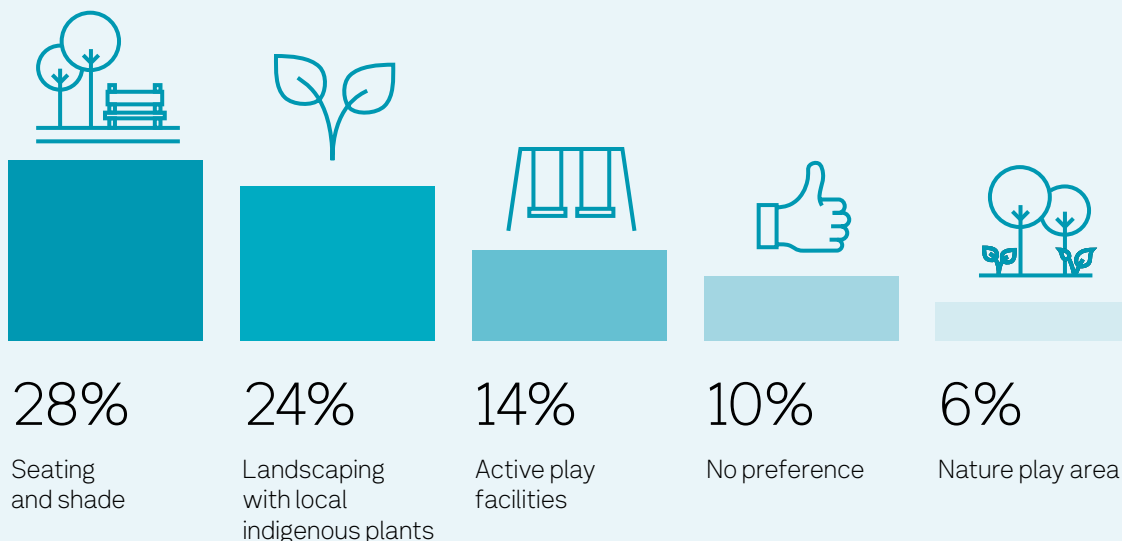
“Please include lots of seating areas.”
– Survey respondent

“Shady plants are required to shelter from the harsh summer and cold winter blasts.”
– Survey respondent

What types of plants would you prefer to see in the area?



As part of the project we'll revamp the area at the corner of Exford and Brooklyn roads. Seating and shade was the most popular option for this space, consistent with what we heard about including more welcoming areas for the community to use and enjoy.





New community space at the corner of Brooklyn and Exford roads. Artist impression only, subject to change.

Thank you and next steps

Thank you to everyone who took the time to share your ideas and thoughts about the concept designs of the new Melton Station and Coburns and Exford roads level crossing removals.

Community feedback is an important part of all level crossing removal projects, and what we heard from Melton locals, along with our technical investigations, helped shape the final designs.

Keeping in touch

To sign up to email updates visit levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/subscribe and under Geelong – Ballarat – Melton Line, select the level crossings that apply to you.

For more information visit levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/melton

Call **1800 105 105** anytime or email contact@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au

Send us a private message on our Level Crossing Removal Project Facebook page.

To sign up for SMS updates text **MELTON** to **0428 581 917**

Project timeline



2023

- Project fast tracked
- Level crossing removal solutions confirmed
- Community consultation



2024

- Concept designs released
- Further community consultation
- Final designs released
- Early works
- Construction begins



2025

- Construction



2026

- Construction
- New Melton Station open
- All four level crossings gone for good

* Timeline subject to change.








New rail bridge over Exford Road.
Artist impression only, subject to change.

levelcrossings.vic.gov.au

contact@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au



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1800 105 105 (call anytime)     

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