

Newport level crossing removals

Community engagement report

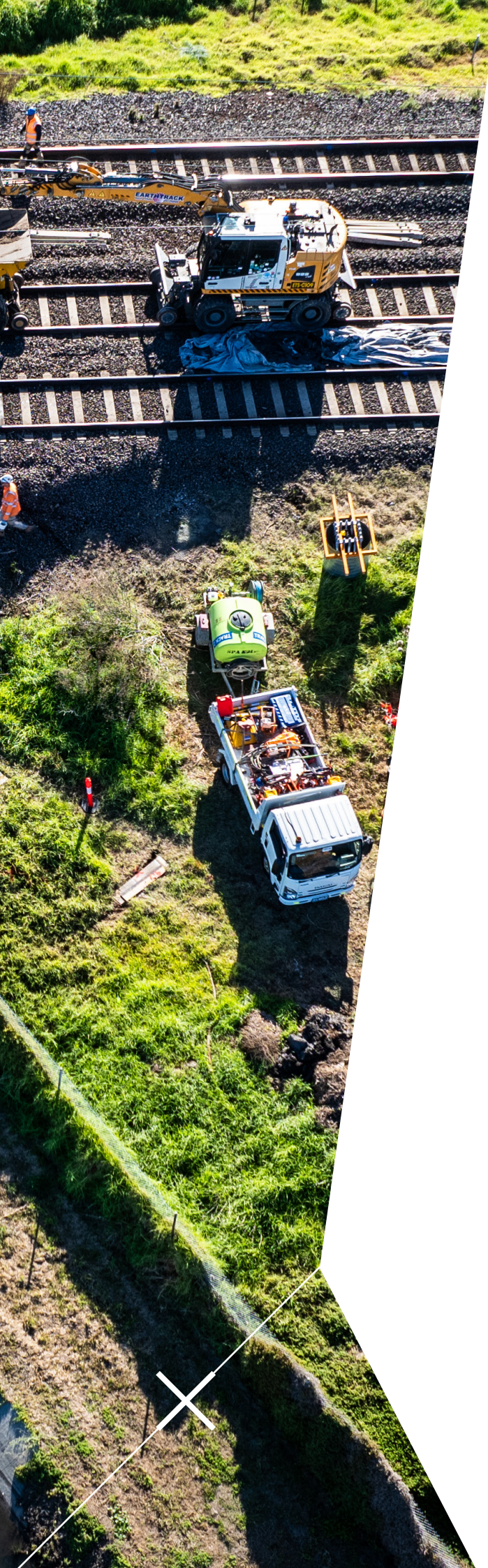
October 2026

Maddox Road is now boom gate free, and open to vehicles.



Track inspection works in Newport.





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Project overview

The Victorian Government is making the Werribee Line level crossing free by 2029. As part of this commitment, we've removed the level crossings at Maddox Road and Champion Road, Newport.

The Metro Tunnel opened in November 2025, which means the Werribee Line will continue to get busier. Additional train services have been added to the Werribee Line during the morning and afternoon peak. If we had not removed the level crossings, the boom gates would be down for longer, making it harder to move around the area.

We've removed the Maddox Road level crossing by building passenger and freight rail bridges over the road.

We also closed Champion Road at the level crossing and built a new link road connecting Maddox Road and Champion Road via Akuna Drive.

To keep the community connected we've also installed a new pedestrian and cycling bridge over the rail line at Champion Road.

Removing the boom gates will improve traffic flow and create more reliable journeys on Maddox Road, maintaining strong local connections in the Newport and Williamstown area.

This is further improved by the upgrades we have made at the intersection of Maddox Road and Kororoit Creek Road.

Major construction is now complete – making Newport level crossing free. Throughout the rest of the year, we'll landscape the project area and complete finishing works.

Why these level crossings had to go



Up to **48 trains** passed through the level crossing during the morning peak



Boom gates were down for around **50 minutes** of the morning peak



Over **10,000 vehicles** travelled through these crossings each day



Improved safety for drivers, bike riders and pedestrians



Previous community consultation reports

Scan the QR code or visit levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/newport-reports to see our previous community consultation reports.

Both passenger and freight trains are now travelling over Maddox Road on the new rail bridges.

Why these locations were chosen

In selecting the locations at Market Street Reserve and AJ Fine Reserve, our priority was to identify a recreational space that is:

- as close as possible to the project area, maintaining convenience and accessibility
- safe for everyone using the space, avoiding locations near busy roads while it still being easy to get to

- functional and suitable for use by steering clear of critical pipelines and rail infrastructure.

We identified these locations for adding recreational amenity where the community can come together and connect, relax and feel a sense of belonging.

Gathering your feedback

In March and April 2025 we asked you what you would like to see in any new recreation spaces delivered by the project.

We asked the community which of the following recreational items you would like to see in Market Street Reserve and AJ Fine Reserve:

- Nature-style play
- Traditional-style play
- Grassed area
- Picnic tables

We shared the proposed locations and features for the recreational amenity enhancements on Thursday 6 March 2025 with community feedback open until Sunday 20 April 2025.

Feedback reflected in this report was collected through an online survey via Engage Victoria. Printed surveys with a reply-paid envelope were available by request.

The community was also able to ask questions on our Engage Victoria project page. The feedback you gave us helps us understand what's important to the community.

Your feedback

142

survey responses received



45

questions asked on Engage Victoria



2,097

visits from 980 users to the project page on Victoria's Big Build website

1,690

people visited our Engage Victoria project page



8,795

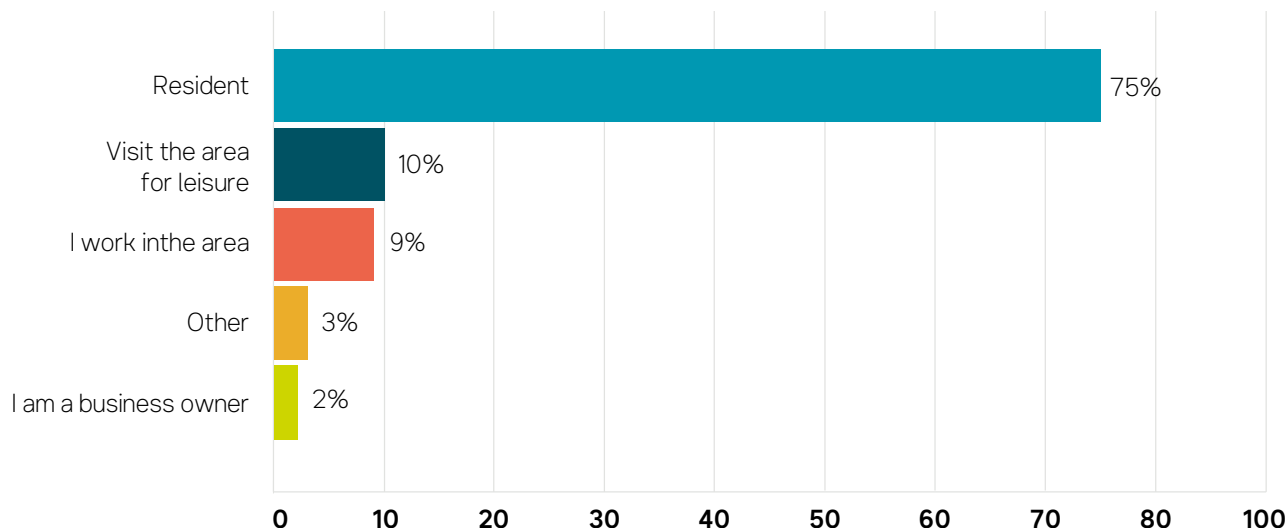
people saw our social media content about the survey



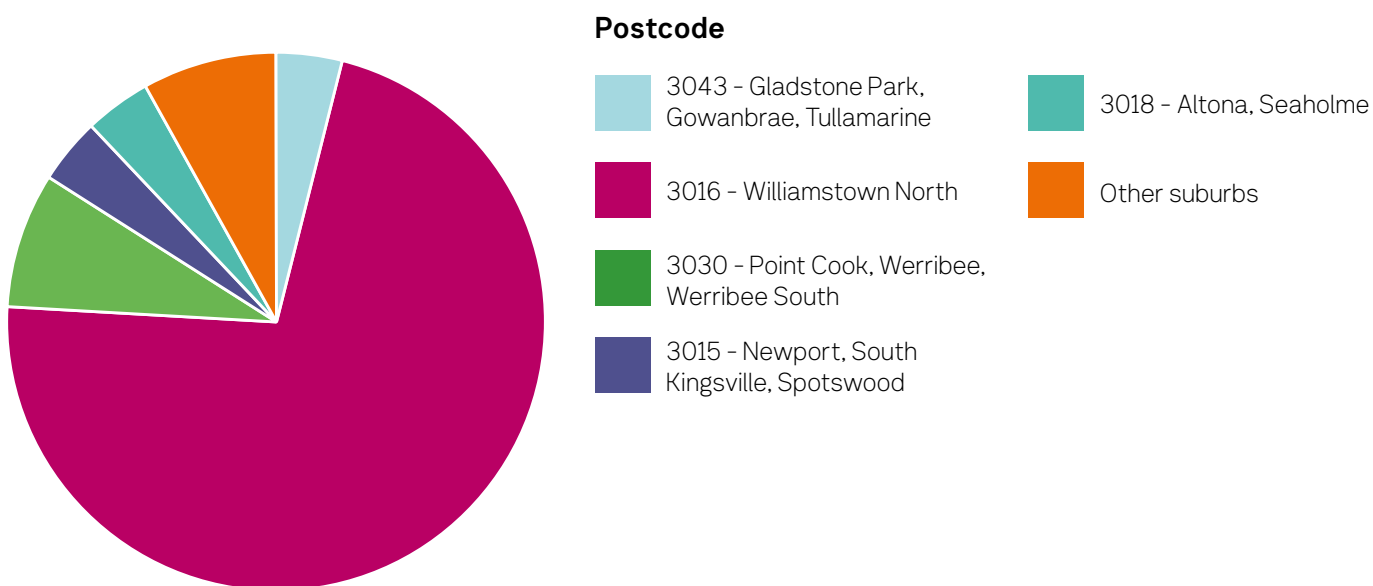
About you

**No questions in the survey were mandatory*

When we asked what your connection to Newport was, you told us:

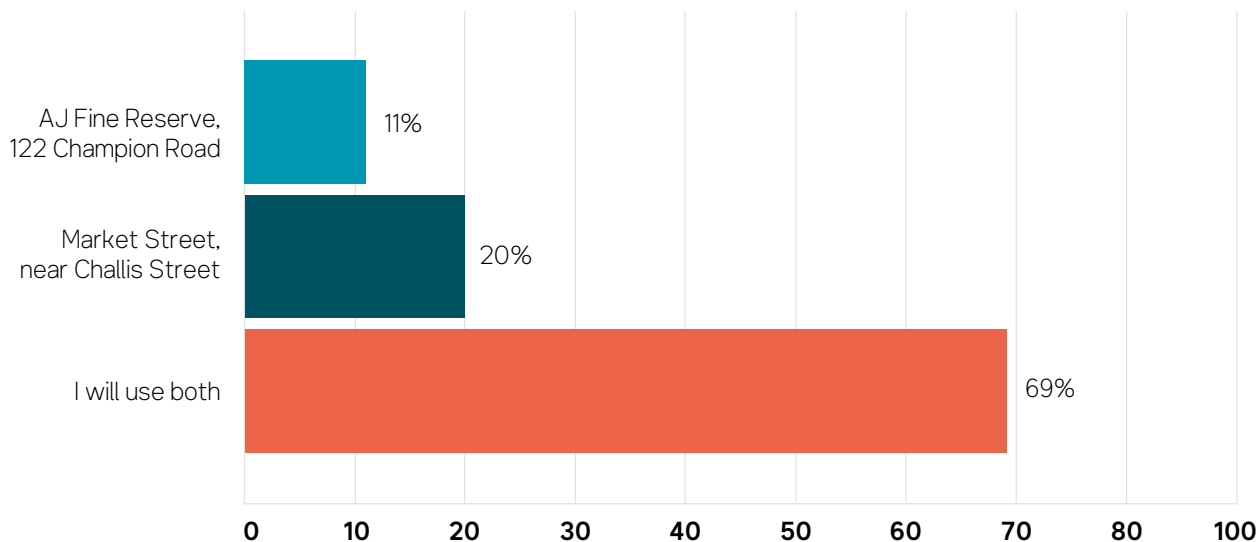


Where you live – by postcode



What we've heard

Which location are you most likely to use for new recreational space in Newport?



A hi-rail excavator operating on the new elevated rail bridges over Maddox Road.

Green space enhancements

We asked you to tell us which features you preferred for the Market Street Reserve green space enhancement.

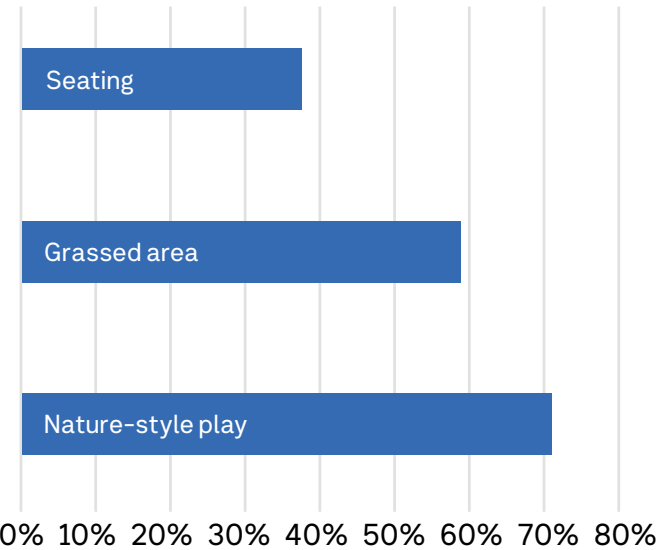
**Multiple responses were allowed for this question*

Out of the three recreational space features provided, **most people preferred the nature-style play area** followed by a grassed area and then seating.

In response, we are re-purposing logs from local trees as seating at Market Street Reserve. We are also planting approx. 60 trees and plants, greening your local area.

Market Street preference

**90 people responded to this question*



We asked you to tell us which features you preferred for the AJ Fine Reserve green space enhancement.

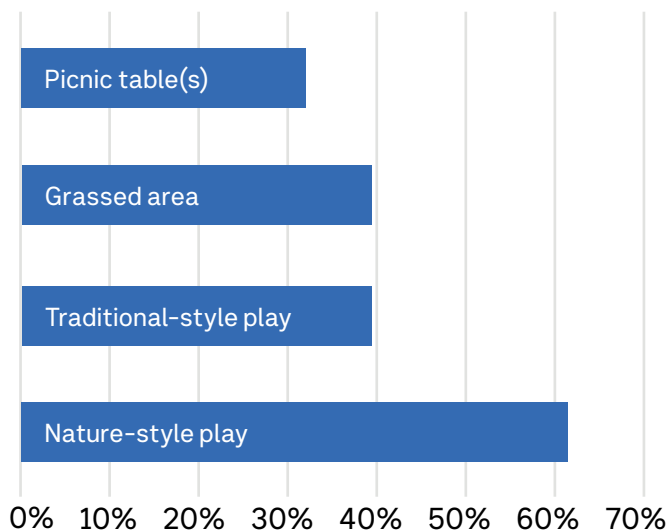
**Multiple responses were allowed for this question*

Out of the four recreational space features provided, **most people preferred the nature-style play area** followed by a traditional-style play area, picnic tables and grassed area.

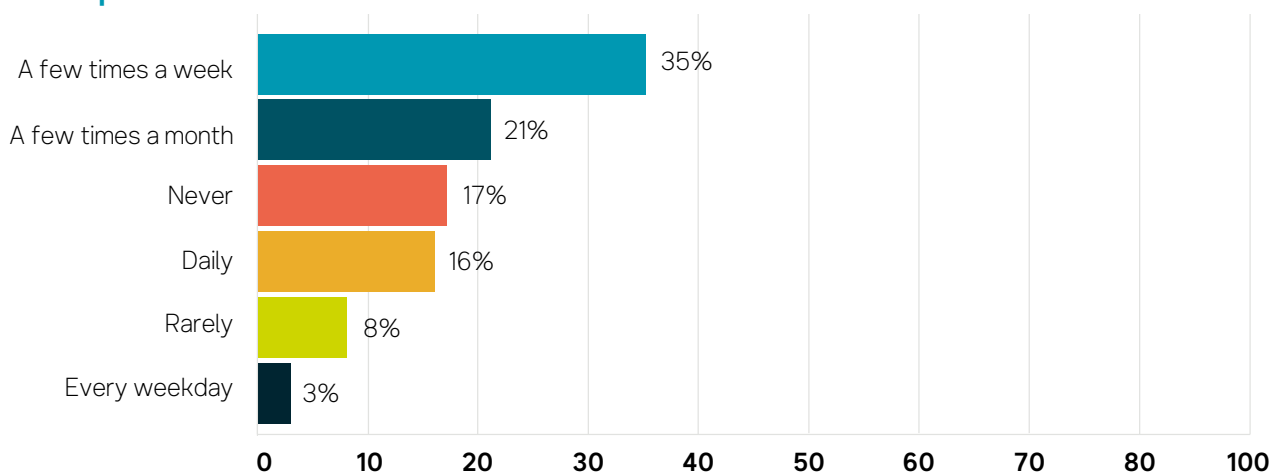
In response, we have included log climbers and stepping stones as part of the play space at AJ Fine Reserve. A landscaped area including mulch and seating will also be incorporated.

AJ Fine preference

**78 people responded to this question*



We asked how often do you anticipate you will use new recreational facility in Newport?



What else you told us

To help us understand what's important to you in more detail, we also invited you to share any additional thoughts or feedback you have about recreational amenity.

“Why do you not consider a recreational space near the Maddox Road bridge, between Maddox Road and Sydney Street for example?”

As part of the project, we are also building a new shared use path connection in the rail corridor between Maddox Road and Ross Road. This new path will provide a safe off-road connection from Newport Station all the way to Altona North.

“I would like some recreational areas put under Maddox Road rail bridge.”

Some respondents questioned why recreational amenity under the rail bridge at Maddox Road was not proposed. Unfortunately, this location was ruled out as it lacked space for any meaningful amenity to be added due to critical pipelines on either side of the rail bridge. Safety concerns were also raised because of being so close to a busy road.

“The footbridge over the Champion Road crossing is a really great development, I hope the recreational space at Market Street integrates well with it to look nice together.”

We'll be landscaping the Market Street Reserve, and including log benches made from re-purposed trees.



New play space at AJ Fine Reserve. Artist's impressions – subject to change.

Next steps

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback.

We appreciate the time it took you to fill out a survey and the consideration you put into your responses. Your feedback has helped to inform designs for the new play space within AJ Fine Reserve. These works will be completed in late 2026.

Keeping in touch



Read more about the project at levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/newport



Call us on **1800 105 105** (anytime) or email us at contact@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au Text **NEWPORT** to **0429 839 892** for SMS updates



Subscribe to receive email updates by visiting levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/subscribe and under Werribee-Williamstown Line, select 'Newport level crossings'



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New play space at AJ Fine Reserve.
Artist's impressions – subject to change.

Project timeline



Late 2022

Project announced



2023

Vision and values engagement

Early site investigations and planning



Early 2024

Planning consultation and community surveys

Stakeholder Liaison Group meetings begin

Continue site investigations and planning



Late 2024

Designs released

Early works begin



Early 2025

Updated design release



Late 2025

Major construction

Final designs released



Early - mid 2026

New link road opens

Champion Road level crossing closed

Champion Road pedestrian and cycling bridge opens



Late 2026

Maddox Road level crossing removed

Newport level crossing free

AJ Fine Reserve and shared use paths complete



Early 2027

Landscaping complete

Project completion

* Timeline subject to change.

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1800 105 105 (call anytime)     

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