



WARRIGAL ROAD, MENTONE
PARKERS ROAD, PARKDALE

CONSULTATION REPORT

January-March 2022



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The Victorian Government is removing 20 dangerous level crossings and building 13 new stations as part of upgrades on the Frankston line that will improve safety, reduce congestion and allow more trains to run more often.

We're removing the dangerous and congested level crossings at Warrigal Road, Mentone and Parkers Road, Parkdale by raising the rail line over the two roads. We will also build a new Parkdale Station.

A new rail bridge will reduce local congestion and allow more trains to run more often, as well as deliver new open space and better local connections for the community.



CONSULTATION SUMMARY

Between November 2021 and March 2022, we asked you to share your ideas and feedback on the new station precinct and open space being created as part of the project.

We received more than 1000 pieces of feedback via online surveys, community information sessions and our contact centre.

190 people attended nine face-to-face community information sessions



556 Vision and Values surveys completed



397 Open Space Design surveys completed



161 enquiries via the contact centre



Parkdale aerial

VISION AND VALUES SURVEY

We invited community members to complete the Parkdale Vision and Values survey between 23 November 2021 and 30 January 2022.

The purpose of this survey was to understand what the local community values about their area, as well as seek ideas and feedback on the new Parkdale Station precinct and open space.

What we heard



The major destinations for the local community are the Parkdale Shopping Village and the beach.



86 per cent of respondents use Parkdale Station and the majority of people walk to the station, while some people drive and park and fewer get dropped off.



The majority of people drive around the southeast, while many people walk around their local area or cycle.



Locals value the beach, the Parkdale shops, the village feel of the local area, trees and greenery and access to local amenities.



People would like to see more trees and greenery, as well as community gathering spaces and improved access in and around the station precinct.



A visually appealing design that fits with the local area and improved station facilities are key priorities for the community. A practical station design, improved safety and access and better connections are also important.



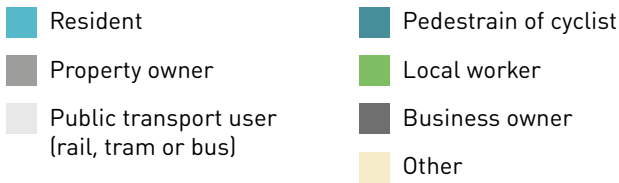
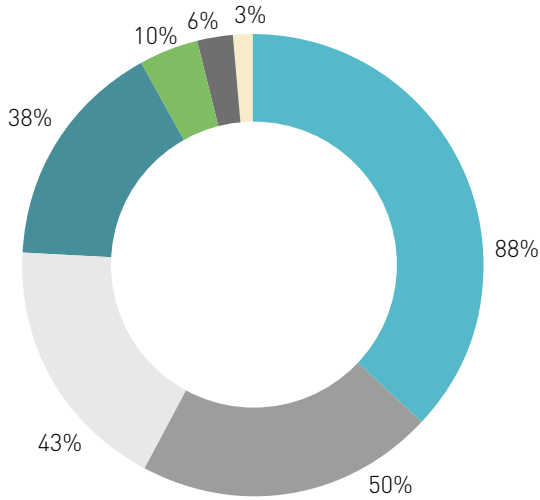
There is a strong preference for new trees, plants and landscaping, walking and cycling paths, open grassed areas and gathering places with tables and seating in the new open space.



About you

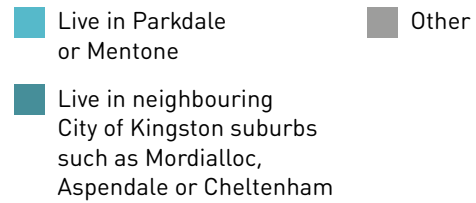
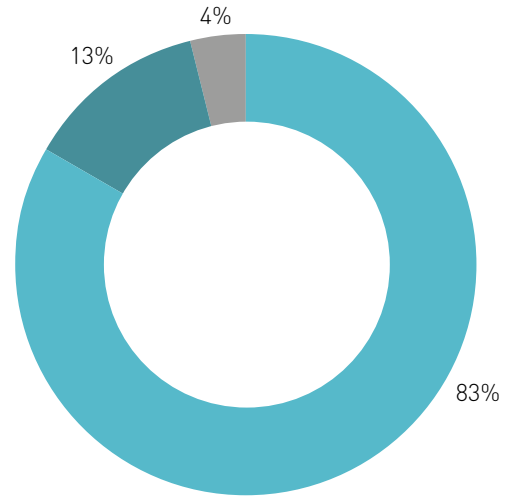
Which best describes you?

The majority of respondents are residents and/or property owners.



What suburb do you live in?

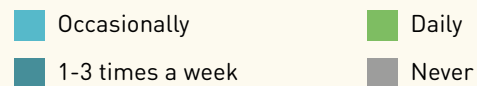
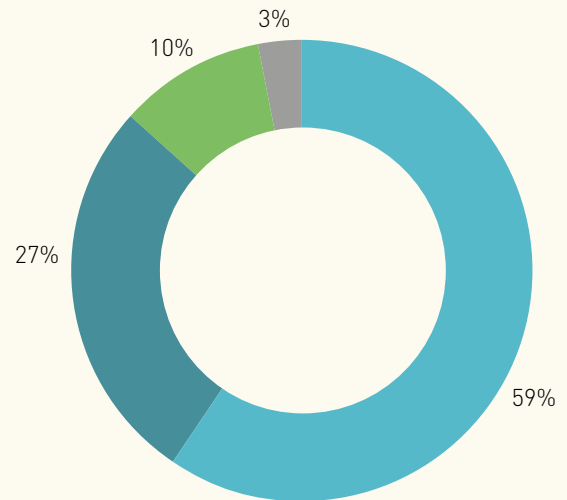
The majority of people live in Parkdale or Mentone (83%).



Travelling around the bayside area

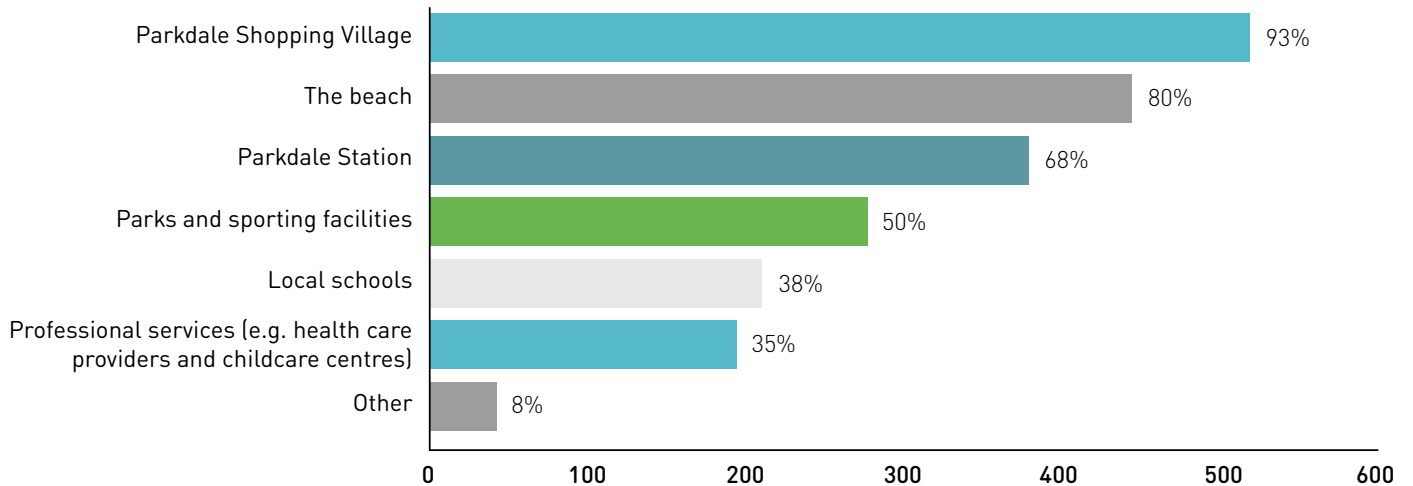
How often do you use Frankston line?

We heard that many people use the Frankston line occasionally (59%), while some people use it 1 to 3 times a week (27%) and a few people use it daily (10%).



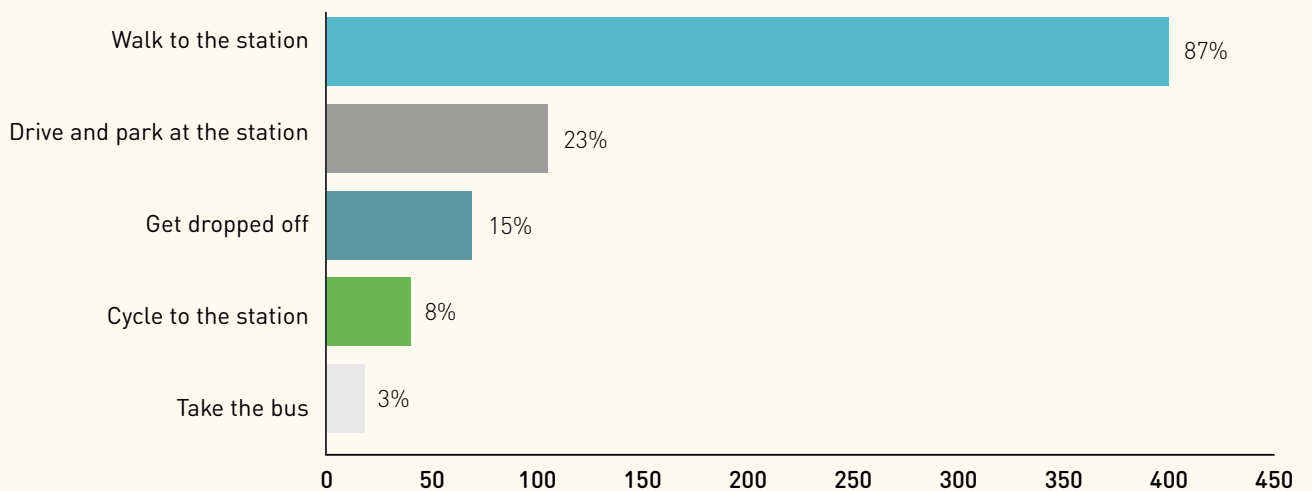
What are your major destinations in the area?

The major destinations for the local community are the Parkdale Shopping Village and the beach. A large part of the community also uses Parkdale Station and surrounding parks and sporting facilities.



Do you use Parkdale Station and how do you get there?

We found that 86 per cent of respondents use Parkdale Station and the majority of people walk to the station, while fewer people drive and park or get dropped off.



Total responses 622 (note that multiple responses could be made)

We also asked what other stations people use, with the most popular stations being Mentone Station (29%) and Mordialloc Station (15%).

Your local area

What do you value about your local area?

As part of our engagement, we asked what you value about your local area, for example, unique characteristics, landmarks or places that make Parkdale special to you.

Many locals love the Parkdale Shopping Village and community services in the area. They also like how easy it is to get to the shops, cafes and restaurants, Parkdale Station and other places.

The beach and coastal feel of this bayside suburb is a key attraction, with people enjoying the walking and cycling paths around the area.

The village feel is what makes Parkdale special. Many people commented Parkdale is a small, quiet suburb that is family-oriented, safe and has a strong sense of community.

People also love the trees, parks and gardens, including Bradshaw Bushland Reserve, and local birdlife.

Key themes we heard include the following:



The beach



Parkdale Shopping Village



Village feel



Trees and greenery



Sense of community



Light and openness of area

Comments from respondents

'Beach, shops and train access. It is rare to have all these close together.'

'I value the easy access of paths, and roads that link up this area.'

'I think we are one of the prettiest shopping strips adjacent to the Frankston line.'

'Low key – a hidden gem.'

'It's not overbuilt and you can walk around and you're never out of place. I love the feeling of living here, it's safe and my favourite place to be.'

'Quiet compared to busy Mentone and Mordialloc.'

'It's like a small village where everyone knows everyone.'

'Parkdale is a very walkable suburb, with better than average walking access towards the local shopping strip and train station – which are real focal points of the local community.'

How do you think this could be reflected in the project?

We asked how we might reflect what you value about your local area in the project, for example materials you would like to see, existing features you would like retained and how the Parkdale Station precinct could integrate with the local area.

We heard that locals would like to see more trees and greenery in the area, including native species, as well as more seating and gathering spaces for the community.

Several people suggested the creation of a space that integrates the precinct or brings the two sides of Parkdale together.

Some people mentioned they would like to see a station design that suits the character of the area and the village feel.

A number of respondents expressed a preference for natural materials such as timber and stone, and sustainable or recycled materials. Others suggested incorporating natural, earthy and beach themed colours such as brown, white or cream into the station precinct design.

We also heard that people want better pedestrian links in and around the station precinct.



What do you think could be improved?

Many respondents provided unique and specific ideas for how the station could be improved, which we have grouped into similar themes.

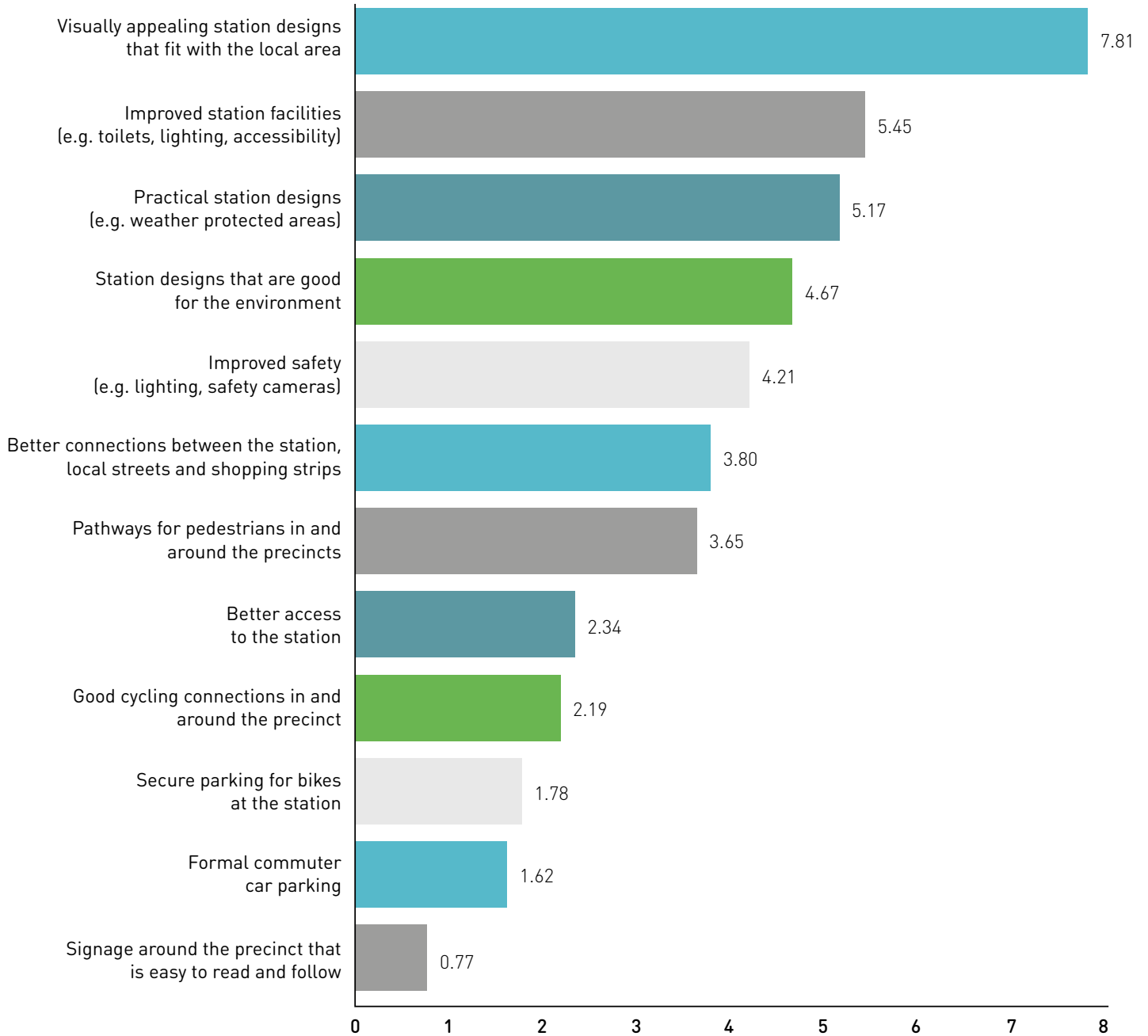
| | |
|---|---|
| <p>The practical and functional station facilities could be improved.</p> | <p>This includes features like shelters, toilets, bike storage and security, waiting areas and seating.</p> |
| <p>Better local station connections and wayfinding for pedestrians is needed.</p> | <p>This includes improved walking and cycling paths, signage and better traffic management.</p> <p>There is also a lot of interest in the northbound platform being accessible from both ends of the station.</p> |
| <p>Improved safety and access for all users.</p> | <p>Some survey respondents are interested in improved lighting for surveillance, security cameras and station lifts. Other comments included resurfacing the bumpy paths and platform and improving safety around the station precinct generally.</p> |
| <p>Reflecting Parkdale's character and identity in the station design.</p> | <p>Suggestions included a village square, indigenous cultural features woven into the design and planting and more space for the community to gather.</p> |

A small number of respondents felt that the current station meets their needs.



If you use Parkdale Station, what are the most important aspects you believe the new station precinct should deliver?

We heard that a visually appealing station design that fits with the local area and improved station facilities are key priorities for the community. A practical station design and improved safety is also important to locals.

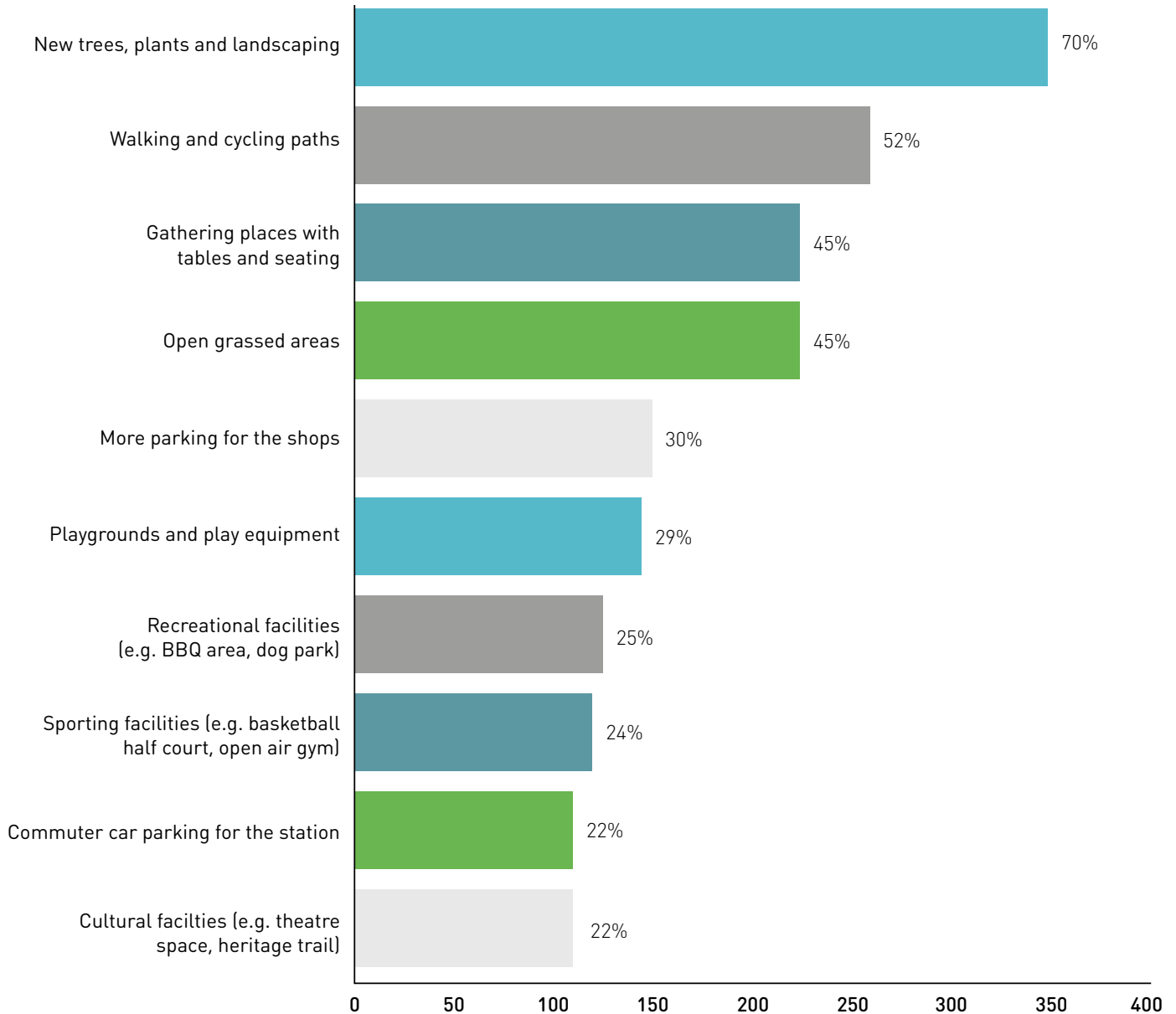


This question was based on preferences and each category has been weighted and given a score

New open space

Which open space features would be of most interest to you?

The community expressed a strong preference for new trees, plants and landscaping (70%), walking and cycling paths (52%), open grassed areas (45%) and gathering places with tables and seating (45%). Other community preferences were split between more parking for the shops, playgrounds and play equipment, recreational and sporting facilities, cultural facilities and more commuter car parking for the station.



Respondents could select multiple options

OPEN SPACE DESIGN SURVEY

Parkdale community members were invited to complete an open space design survey between 21 February 2022 and 21 March 2022. Building on what we learned from the previous Vision and Values survey, we asked you more in-depth questions about what you would like to see in the new open space.

What we heard



Around half of survey respondents want to see new trees, plants and greenery in 'most', 'around two thirds' or 'half' of the new open space.



Locals would like to see open grassed areas, gathering spaces and community facilities comprise around a quarter or a fifth of the new area.



Almost half the respondents would like 'a small amount' or 'minimal' car parking in the new open space.



Nature-based play areas, with a focus on natural design and materials, was the most popular option compared to traditional or sports play spaces.



For sporting facilities, there is a preference for a basketball half court and open air gym in the new open space.



People would like to see a public piazza or village square, followed by community garden and BBQ and picnic area for people to enjoy with friends and family.



For cultural facilities, people expressed a preference for a heritage trail and children's garden to enhance the open space.



Personal reflections and stories

We asked respondents to share any personal reflections or stories about the people and places of Parkdale to help us better understand the local community and area.

Key themes we heard:



People have a deep appreciation for the close sense of community that comes from living in an area with a relaxed culture and distinct village feel.



It is clear that the history of Parkdale and long-standing family ties to the area are important to many locals.



There is a love of having the beach, parks, playgrounds, cafés and shopping all within walking distance.



Parkdale is a hidden gem with a unique identity that locals cherish.



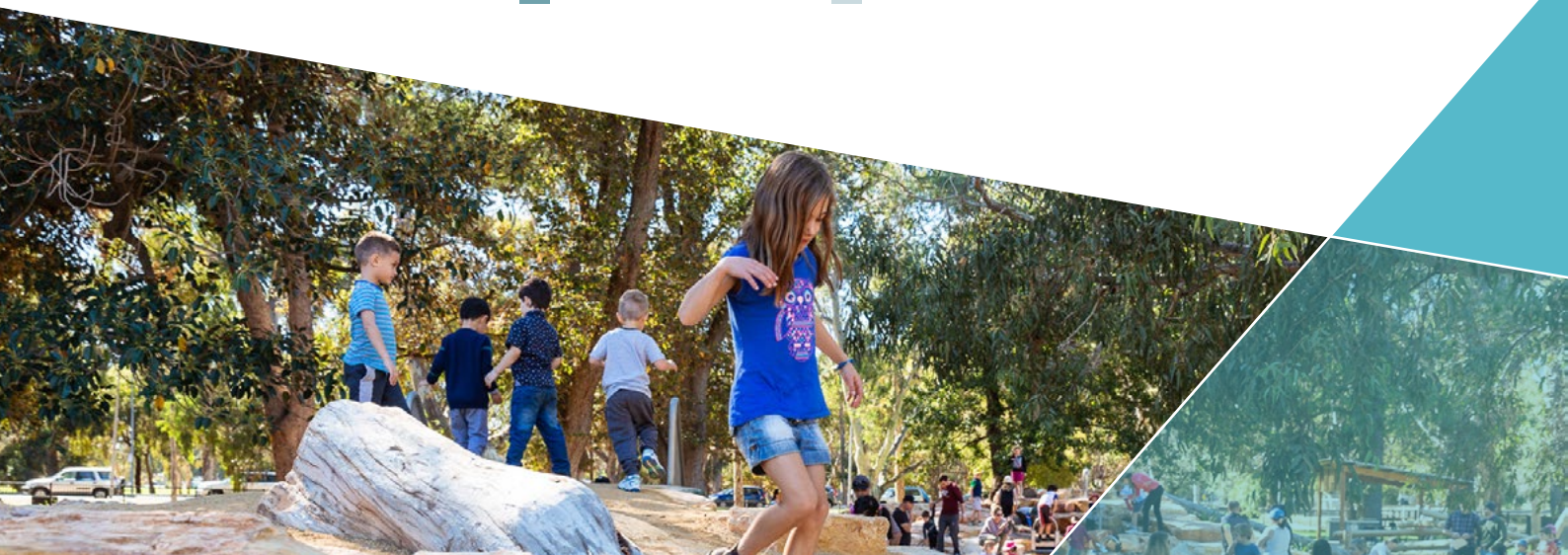
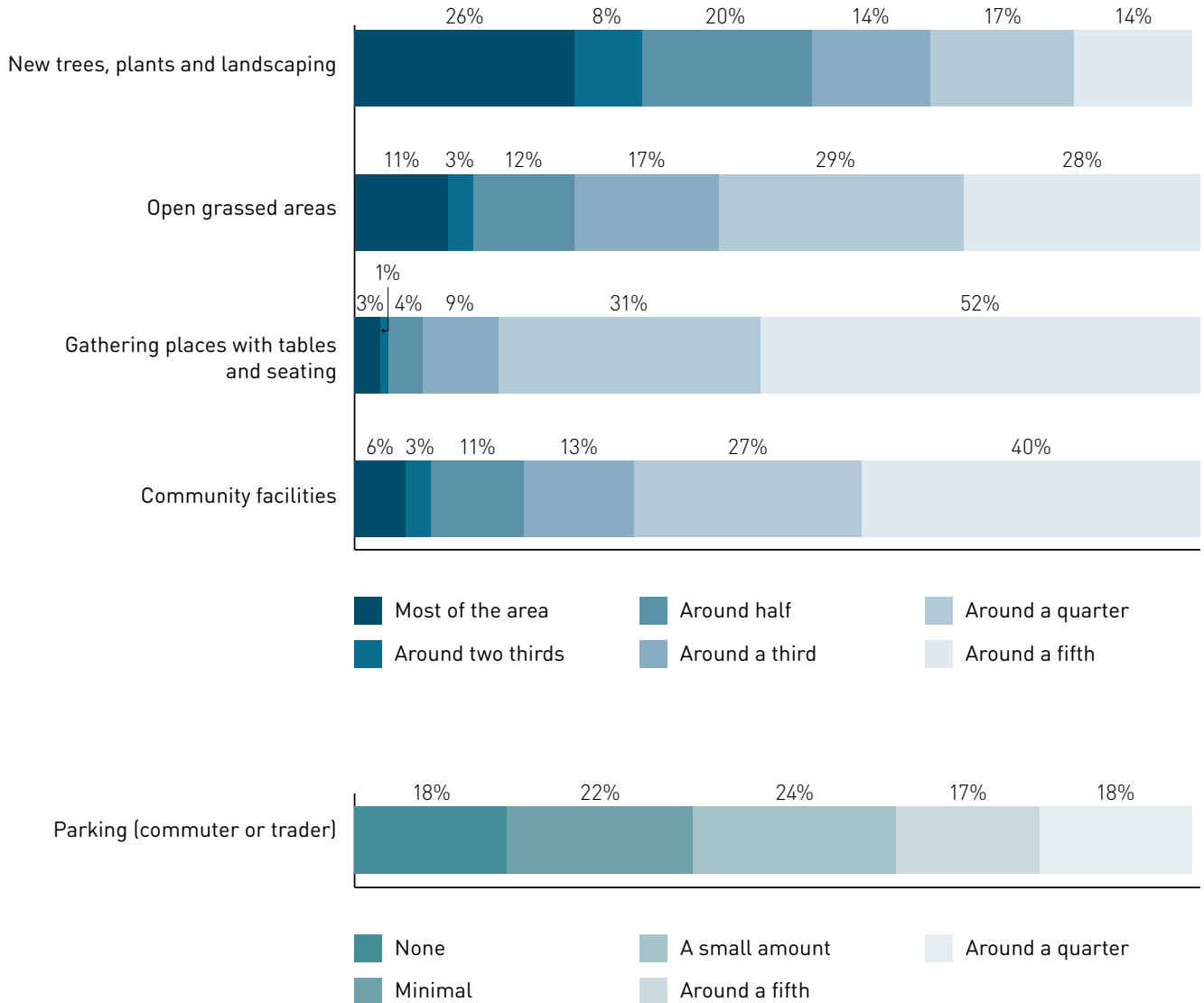
Key elements of the new open space

As part of the survey, we asked you how much of the new open space should be dedicated to new trees, plants and greenery, open grassed areas, gathering places with tables and seating, and community facilities.

Around half of those surveyed indicated they would like to see either 'most, 'two thirds' or 'around half' of the open space dedicated to new trees, plants and landscaping.

More than half of respondents think 'around a quarter' or 'around a fifth' of the new open space should be used for open grassed areas. The majority of people want to see 'around a quarter' or 'around a fifth' of the space used for gathering spaces as well as community facilities.

Respondents would like 'a small amount', 'minimal' or 'none' of the open space used for car parking.



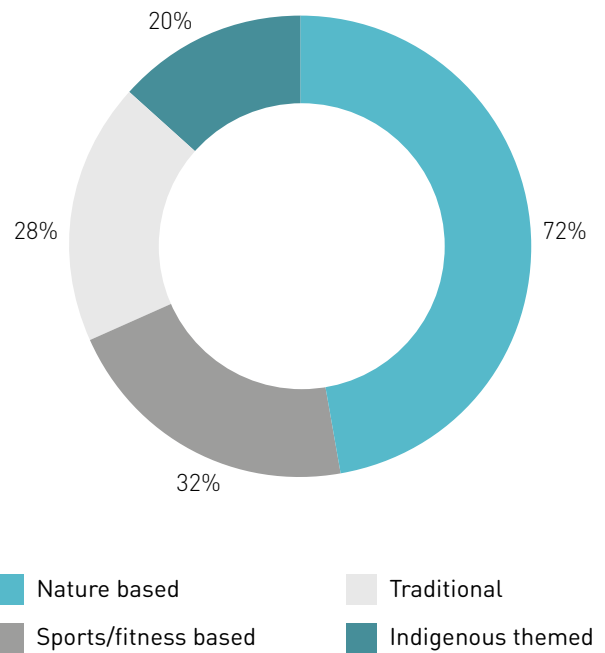
Play space

What style of play would you prefer?

Nature-based play areas, with a focus on natural design and materials is a popular option compared to traditional or sports play spaces. We also heard that the creation of play areas for people of all ages and abilities is a priority for locals.

‘Something good for a range of ages. Mix the seating/tables in with the playground so it is a nice big play/family area.’

‘Safe, enclosed play area with good visibility so parents can easily and safely watch their kids play. Cater for many ages.’



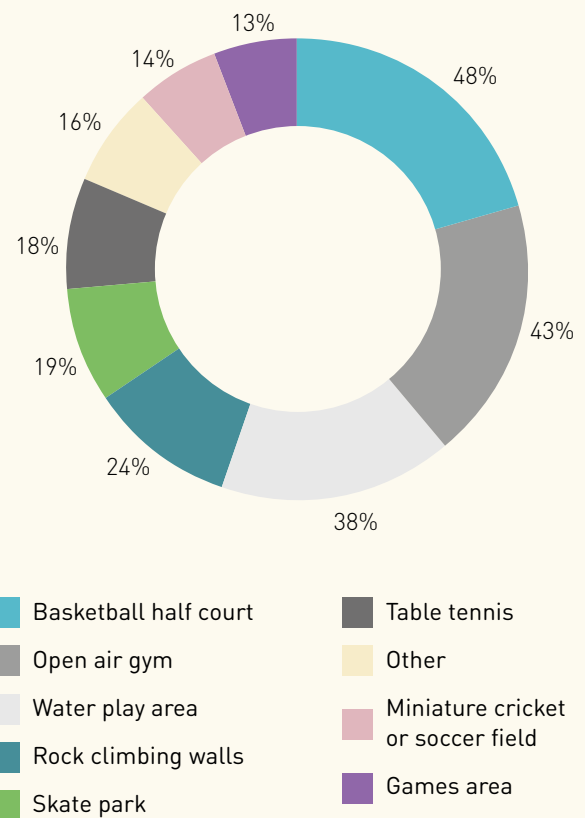
Respondents could select multiple options

Sporting facilities

Which sporting facilities would you prefer?

There is a preference for a basketball half court and open air gym to be delivered in the new open space, and less support for other options. There is also interest in creating multi-purpose spaces for the community to gather and enjoy casual sporting activities together.

‘...prioritise creating versatile, open spaces that serve the community, rather than areas that target specific activities, ages or abilities... an open green lawn/field, for example, can be used for sports, recreation, picnics, or community events. It would have greater versatility, and would serve many demographics in our community.’



Respondents could select multiple options

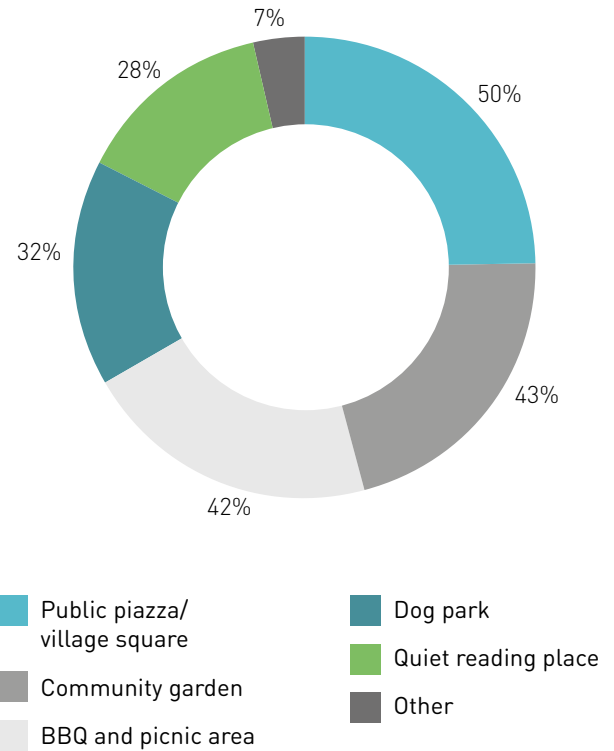
Recreational facilities

Which recreational facilities would you prefer?

Respondents told us that they'd like a public piazza or village square and BBQ and picnic area to enjoy with friends and family. A community garden is also of interest, with less support for other options.

We heard that the creation of spaces that bring the community together is important.

'Create spaces that invite the community in... an inviting, versatile, communal space that could play host to an array of community activities, organised events, and casual meet-ups throughout the year.'

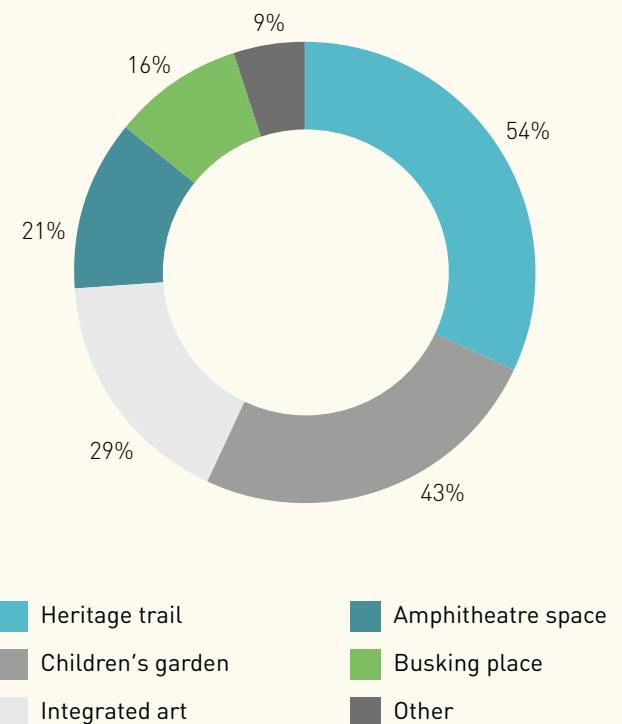


Respondents could select multiple options

Cultural facilities

Which cultural facilities would you prefer?




People expressed a desire for a heritage trail and children's garden to enhance the new open space.



Respondents could select multiple options

How your feedback has influenced the design

In June 2022, we released concept designs for the project. The below table shows how community feedback has influenced the designs to date.

| What we heard | How feedback has influenced the design |
|---|---|
|  <p>People love the trees, parks and gardens in Parkdale, including Bradshaw Bushland Reserve, and local birdlife.</p> | <p>We have focused on maximising available green spaces under the rail bridge at Parkdale.</p> <p>Landscapes will focus on native and indigenous planting, with attention given to creating natural habitats for wildlife.</p> <p>To honour the community groups who have cared for the station gardens, we are also looking at European planting opportunities, including reinstating the existing palm trees in the open space.</p> |
|  <p>Locals told us that the village feel is what makes Parkdale special.</p> | <p>We're creating a new village green that seamlessly links both sides of the rail corridor and provides safer and stronger community connections.</p> <p>This vibrant new part of Parkdale will be leafy, landscaped and interspersed with new gathering places for the community to enjoy.</p> <p>New walking and cycling paths will invite locals to enjoy the new green spaces and make it easier to get to the beach, shops and local surrounds.</p> |
|  <p>Locals have concerns about overshadowing.</p> | <p>We have significantly minimised potential overshadowing by building the rail bridge as low as possible in sensitive areas such as the Parkdale village and selecting a single rail bridge design.</p> |
|  <p>People like the beach side feel of Parkdale.</p> | <p>Landscaping designs focus on natural, warm and earthy colours and materials to evoke the surrounding coastal character of Parkdale.</p> |

THANK YOU AND NEXT STEPS

Thank you to everyone who took the time to share ideas and tell us your thoughts on how you'd like Parkdale's newest open space and station precinct to be developed.

Your feedback will continue to shape our station precinct and open space designs.

We'll be releasing updated designs in late 2022.

Keeping in touch

To stay up to date subscribe to our email updates at levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/subscribe and select **Parkdale**.

If you have any questions or would like more information, call **1800 105 105** or email contact@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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CONTACT US

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