

# BLACKBURN TO MITCHAM TRAIN AND TRAM ZONE ACTIVITY CENTRES

PHASE 1 COMMUNITY  
CONSULTATION SUMMARY



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## TRAIN AND TRAM ZONE ACTIVITY CENTRES PROGRAM

We want to provide all Victorians with the choice of a well-designed home, in a place where they can thrive. That's why we're planning for more homes in and around 60 train and tram zone activity centres across Melbourne, creating capacity for more than 300,000 new homes to be built around train and tram lines, jobs and services by 2051.

By planning for more housing in activity centres, we're supporting more Victorians to live closer to jobs, services, public transport and green, open space.

## STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

In October and November 2025, we connected with local communities, Councils, landowners and industry stakeholders across 23 train and tram zone activity centres. This was the first phase of community consultation for these centres. We wanted to understand what matters most to you about the places you live, work or are otherwise connected to.

We asked:

- What do you love about these places?
- What makes them unique?
- What should be protected or improved?

Your feedback has helped shape draft maps for your train and tram zone activity centre, which will guide new housing development around **Blackburn, Nunawading and Mitcham stations** – while preserving the things that make each of these places special.

This consultation report reflects the feedback from local communities.

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## HOW WE REACHED OUT TO COMMUNITIES

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### Newsletters

mailed to households and businesses approximately 100 to 200m from the edge of each activity centre



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### Social media

geo-targeted posts and videos to encourage participation in the consultation (online sessions, drop ins and online survey)



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### Advertising

posters at stations and digital screens at various retail stores in activity centres



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### Community representatives

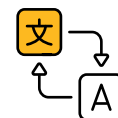
information and consultation materials shared with councils, local leaders and interest groups and multicultural community groups

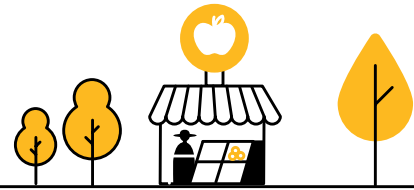


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### Multicultural materials

translated survey, Engage Victoria content and postcards in-language





## HOW WE RECEIVED FEEDBACK

To ensure we had broad participation, we gathered community feedback through a range of digital and face-to-face events, as well as providing translated materials.

Options to participate included:

### Engage Victoria online survey

The survey was on our Engage Victoria page, along with information to help people better understand the program. The survey sought community feedback on what you love and value most about your local area. The survey was available in English and in the top three languages in each centre.

### Online QA sessions

We held online webinars to provide people with an opportunity to hear directly from planners, gain more knowledge about the program and ask questions. These sessions were also recorded and published on our Engage Victoria webpages.

### Community drop-ins

For those who wanted to have in-person discussions, we held two drop-in sessions per train and tram zone activity centre group, where participants could view and take home useful materials and had an opportunity for one-on-one conversations with a planner.

### Walk-by events

Walk-by events were held in busy local areas with program representatives out on the street sharing information about the program and encouraging people to provide feedback either by conversation, attending a drop-in session held nearby, or by completing the survey online.



**102,328**

Engage Victoria  
page views



**45,046**

Engage Victoria  
unique visitors



**3,200+** pieces  
of feedback:

- **427** questions asked at online sessions
- **742** comments from drop ins and walk by sessions
- **2,505** survey responses
- **7** in-language survey responses

**8** online sessions held

**574** online session registrations

**309** online session participants

**14** community drop-in sessions held

**363** community drop-in participants

**14** walk by events

**527** walk by participants

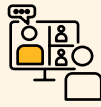
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## BLACKBURN TO MITCHAM ENGAGEMENT INSIGHTS

### Online session

133 participants

Tuesday 28 October  
6:30pm – 7:30pm



### Walk-by events

81 interactions

Saturday 22 November  
Nunawading Station, Nunawading

Thursday 27 November  
South Parade, Blackburn



### Drop-in sessions

133 participants

Saturday 22 November 2025  
Nunawading Community Hub

Thursday 27 November 2025  
Field Naturalists Club of Victoria



## KEY THEMES

### Heritage, vegetation and environmental protection

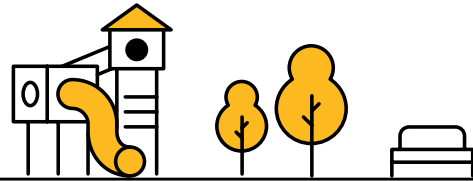
- A desire to maintain heritage protections, significant landscape overlays and national trust listings.
- Participants wanted specific streets preserved, which are considered to have a strong heritage character. There were also calls to preserve qualities that make streets feel like “country lanes”.
- Strong desire to protect and retain existing trees, green spaces, parks, vegetation, wildlife and green corridors linking Blackburn Lake Sanctuary to creeks and reserves.
- Calls to protect wildlife and mature and canopy trees as well as green corridors linking Blackburn Lake Sanctuary to creeks and reserves.

### Building considerations

- Participants wanted assurance that high density development will not impact the character of the area or result in low quality buildings.
- Ensure building heights and increased density does not impact sun access or create wind tunnels.
- Participants expressed strong preference for limiting taller buildings to appropriate corridors and keeping heights lower in residential areas, only allowing 3 to 4 storey developments where suitable.

### Local infrastructure

- Locals are already feeling existing pressures on parking, traffic and road congestion.
- Requests for more community infrastructure such as EV charging stations, recreation facilities and sports facilities before increasing density in the area.
- Requests for improved local parks, roads and community spaces.



### Housing choice

- Requests for more diverse housing options such as cohousing, social and affordable housing, and more 3-bedroom apartments rather than just one-bedroom apartments.
- Residents identified streets they do not want to be developed, particularly near the Blackburn Lake Sanctuary and Blackburn creek lands.

### Transport and parking

- Observations about parking shortages at train stations and spillover parking into residential streets (e.g. Laburnum Street).
- The need for increased public transport capacity and service reliability.
- Strong focus on improving traffic flow and pedestrian access (Blackburn Road, Canterbury Road), managing rat running (Williams Road, Wood Street) and ensuring local streets are designed to safely handle traffic.



HIGH RESOLUTION FILES  
TO BE SUPPLIED FOR ALL  
IMAGES IN REPORT

## ONLINE SURVEY



**877** Survey Responses

**679** Blackburn

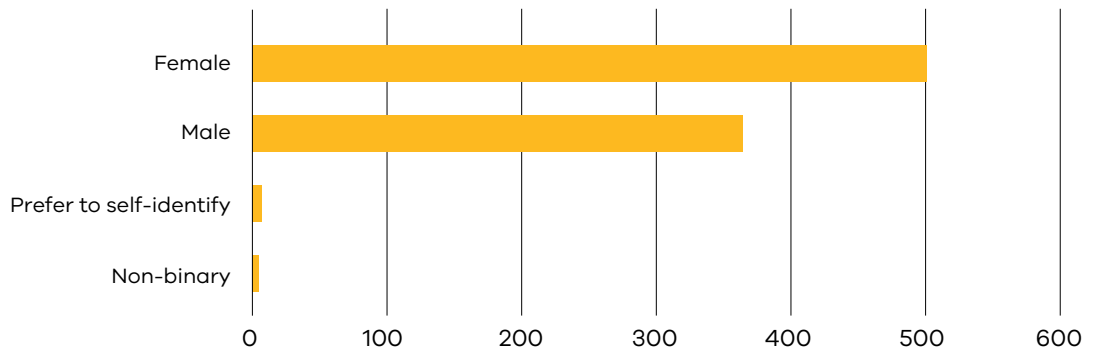
**62** Nunawading

**136** Mitcham

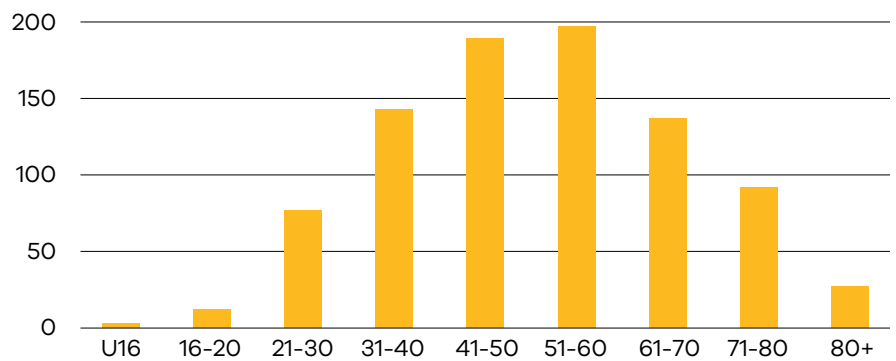
**3,514** website views for this group of centres

## DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

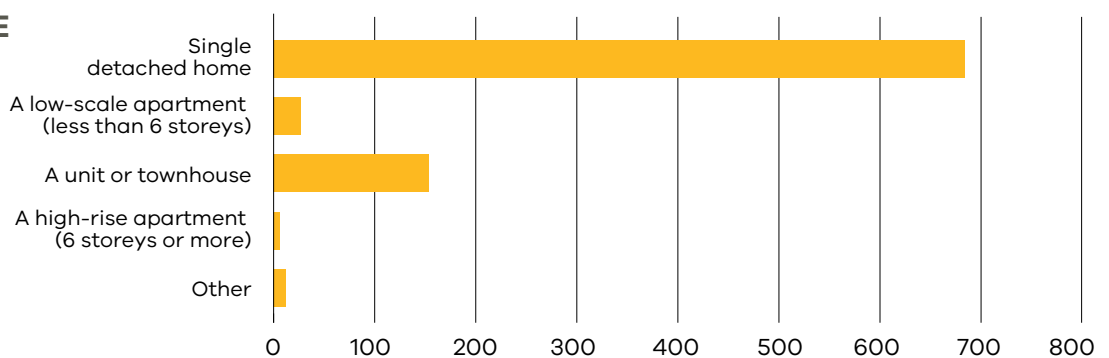
### GENDER

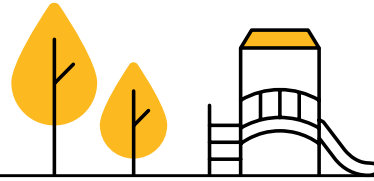


### AGE



### HOME TYPE





## WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT WHEN IT COMES TO SUPPORTING MORE HOMES

1. Protecting parks and open space
2. Space between and around buildings
3. Building considerations, such as overshadowing, wind protection and sun access to the street
4. Protecting built heritage
5. Different types of higher density homes
6. Improvements to support local travel.

## TOP 10 LOCAL AREAS WHERE PEOPLE LIKE TO SPEND TIME

1. Blackburn Lake/Sanctuary
2. Morton Park
3. Blackburn Creeklands
4. Blackburn Road
5. South Parade
6. Furness Park
7. Laurel Grove
8. Kalang Park
9. Laburnum Street
10. Myrtle Grove

## WHAT YOU VALUE MOST ABOUT YOUR LOCAL AREA

- Existing trees and vegetation
- Neighbourhood character and feel, including heritage buildings
- Access to open space
- Access to public transport
- Walking and cycling connections.

## WHAT WOULD MAKE YOUR LOCAL AREA BETTER?

- More trees and vegetation
- Improved parks, gardens and playgrounds
- Local shops, cafes and outdoor dining
- Better walking streets, footpaths and road crossings
- Safe, inclusive and welcoming public areas.



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## PLACE-BASED FEEDBACK

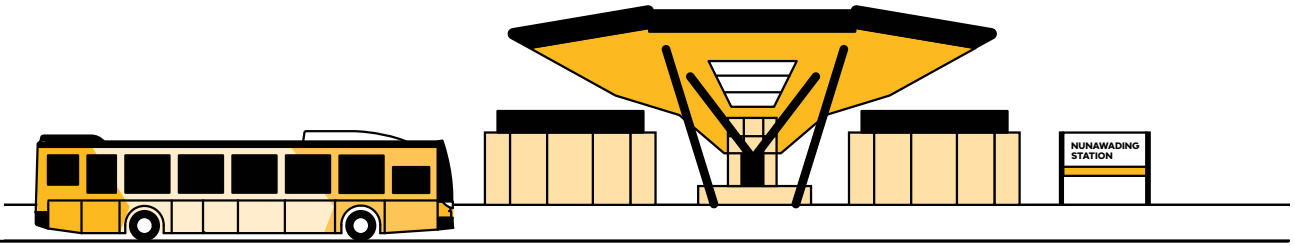
### BLACKBURN STATION

- A call for more infrastructure to support more homes
- A strong desire to maintain Blackburn's green character, quiet streets and suburban charm
- The need to protect of the Significant Landscape Overlays (SLOs).

### NUNAWADING STATION

- Concerns about existing traffic conditions on local roads and how this will be managed with more homes.
- Questions about whether the local area has sufficient capacity to accommodate additional population.
- The need for safe pedestrian links and improved access from one side of Nunawading to the other.





## MITCHAM STATION

- Need to manage existing congestion on local roads, particularly during peak and school collection times.
- Ensuring local schools have capacity to accommodate potential increases in student numbers.
- The need to maintain landscaping and natural areas alongside additional housing.
- A preference for higher density housing close to the train station, and lower density in surrounding areas.

## HOW WE'VE USED YOUR FEEDBACK



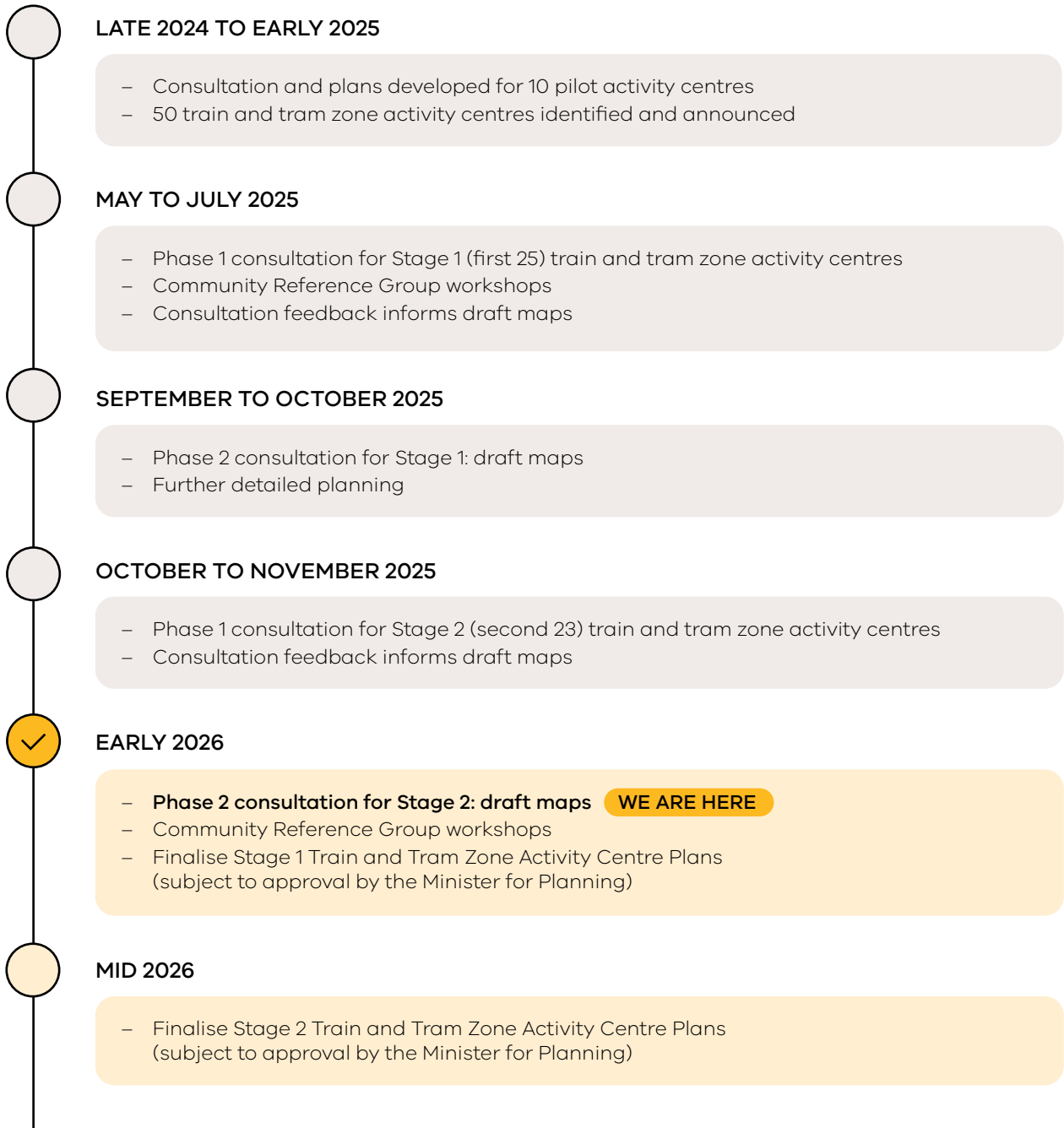
We heard clearly that community values the leafy trees, green spaces and local character of the area. The feedback we have received has helped to inform how we have shaped our draft maps and how we've applied planning controls across different areas.

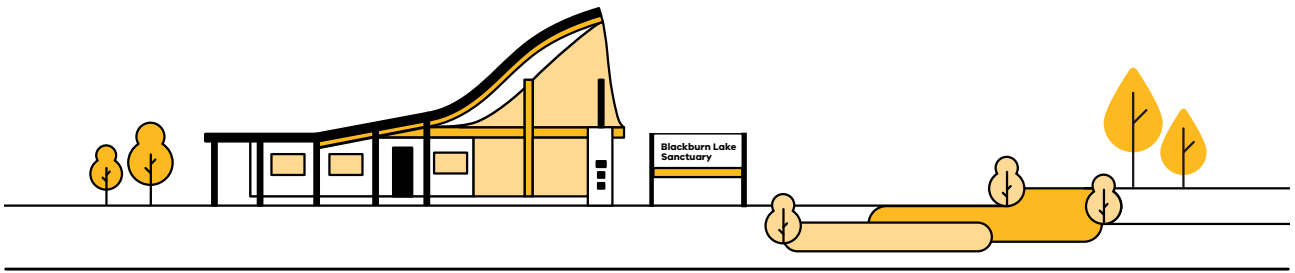
- We've significantly reduced the catchment boundary away from **Blackburn Lake Sanctuary** and the **Bellbird Area** to keep them protected.
- Many areas protected by Significant Landscape Overlays are no longer part of our catchment area around **Blackburn** and **Mitcham**.



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## PROGRAM TIMELINE





## WHAT'S NEXT

We've listened closely to what you have told us about your train and tram zone activity centres, the places you care about and what makes those places special. Your feedback has helped to shape our draft maps by identifying areas you want to protect and enhance. It's also helped us to:

- propose core and catchment boundaries for each train and tram zone activity centre
- identify public spaces, streets and parks that need extra care to protect from overshadowing
- highlight the streets you consider to be vibrant and people friendly that you'd like us to protect.

Now we'd like your feedback on our draft maps including:

- proposed heights
- proposed core and catchment boundaries
- important public spaces and whether we've captured all the places and streets you'd like protected
- what would make your local train and tram zone activity centre better.

To learn more about tram and train zone activity centres and how you can provide feedback, visit our website: [engage.vic.gov.au/activity-centres](https://engage.vic.gov.au/activity-centres)

While considering both the need for more housing in these well-services areas and community feedback, we've created maps showing proposed building heights, core and catchment boundaries and important public spaces.

## CONTACT US

[Activity.centres@transport.vic.gov.au](mailto:Activity.centres@transport.vic.gov.au)

## GET INVOLVED

### HAVE YOUR SAY AND VIEW OUR DRAFT MAPS

Visit [engage.vic.gov.au/activity-centres-program](https://engage.vic.gov.au/activity-centres-program)



### COMPLETE THE SURVEY

Join the mailing list to stay updated.

Your feedback will continue to be considered as part of the planning process.

