



## **Wingham CBD masterplan**

**February 2021**

# **Engagement Outcomes Report**



## Introduction

This report provides a summary of community and stakeholder consultation that was undertaken between Monday 7 December 2020 and Friday 5 February 2021 to gain community feedback on the proposed upgrades to Wingham's CBD Masterplan.

This report is presented in six sections:

1. Introduction and background
2. What were people engaged on?
3. Who did we engage with?
4. How did people have their say?
5. Summary
6. What people said?
7. Next steps?
8. Appendices

## Project background

Beautification of the Wingham CBD has been on the wishlist of the Wingham community for a number of years.

Following Community Conversations held in 2019 when the community again identified the CBD as an area they would like to see improved, we set about delivering a CBD masterplan project to address this concern and improve the central business district of Wingham.

The announcement of Federal funding of \$1 million, from the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program and Financial Assistance Grant program has boosted the program's budget to around \$3 million to assist it to become a reality sooner rather than later for the Wingham community.

Council engaged a landscape architect to prepare a concept plan, which outlined a three year plan for proposed works to beautify and revitalise the CBD area and improve traffic flows and pedestrian accessibility within the zone.

The concept plan has been placed on public exhibition for an extended period, from 7 December 2020 until 5 February 2021, to ensure community members and stakeholders can be widely consulted.

## What were people engaged on?

### Purpose of engagement

The overall purpose of this engagement with the community was to gain feedback on:

- Options for redesign of the Bent and Farquhar Streets intersection. With a similar cost to construct for both options, the pros and cons of both a peanut and an offset T style intersection need to be assessed by the community;

- recognising that Central Park is a focal point of the town, considering options for the wall along Isabella Street – a stepped wall could connect the Park to the CBD and provide more street seating and activate the space. The wall's elements and materials are being considered which will inform the rest of the project design;
- footpath materials, style and design.

and to inform the community about:

- the overall vision that's been developed by the community and interpreted by the landscape architect for the Wingham CBD, with a view to ensuring that the feedback received on the above items would be in keeping with the overall masterplan;
- street tree plantings.

## Objectives of engagement

To achieve this the engagement had the following objectives:

- To gain feedback from key stakeholders and community on key elements within the overall Wingham CBD Masterplan, ensuring that all CBD improvements are consistent with the Plan.
- Provide key stakeholders with the opportunity to provide comment on the details of the proposed works and understand the potential impacts of the new design prior to the finalisation of the proposed works.
- Provide key stakeholders and community with detailed information on the proposed works, to help support participants to provide considered feedback.
- Ensure participants in the engagement feel their feedback is valued during this process and are informed of the how their feedback has influenced the final decision.
- To continue to build trust with our community and ensure that new and upgraded facilities and infrastructure deliver benefits by meeting the current and future needs of the community.
- Ensure engagement is completed on time and within budget.

## Project scope

Council was seeking general community input into the draft concept plan developed by the landscape architect, and specific feedback as outlined above.

The project scope is to beautify the CBD area and Central Park and not areas elsewhere in Wingham.

A non-negotiable element of the consultation is the work on the car park on McCullagh Lane, which had already been identified for improvements within Council's work plan and got underway during the consultation period. Works include the installation of a new cantilevered shade structure, rehabilitation of the car park surface, resurfacing of the road pavements in McCullagh and Maitland Lanes, replacing kerb and gutter, and improvements to roadside drainage.

## Who did we engage with?

### Community members

Over 140 people attended the pop-up shop during the consultation and there were 212 responses to the online survey.

### Key stakeholders

Key stakeholders for this project included residents of Wingham and surrounding region, and Wingham CBD business owners. Two workshops for key stakeholders were held prior to the consultation, and an evening stakeholder meeting was held on Monday 11 January.

## How did people have their say?

The range of engagement activities undertaken provided a variety of ways for the community to share their opinion and ideas and generate community conversations. By providing a range of face-to-face and online engagement opportunities we were able to get input from a broad cross section of the community, including key interest groups, stakeholders and hard to reach groups.

Face-to-face engagement	Online and electronic engagement	Communications
Pop-up shop in Wingham from mid-December to 5 February.	212 participated in online survey	Numerous flyers distributed to CBD businesses
9 staffed pop-ups on site with 140 drop-ins	300 visits to Have your say page on Council's website	2 stories covered in Print, radio and television
2 workshops with key stakeholders and 1 key stakeholder meeting	17,967 people reached Wingham CBD Facebook posts	<b>Submissions</b> 2 submissions received

### Engagement activities

The following activities were used to seek input and build awareness of the community consultation on the proposed Wingham CBD masterplan and improvements between 7 December 2020 and 5 February 2021.

#### Have your say page

The *Have Your Say* page provided an online hub to both share information, encourage participation in engagement activities and direct linkage to the online survey. Information



included a presentation video, draft concept plans, sample images for materials selection for the streetscape and pavements, draft design options for peanut and offset T intersections, and pop-up dates.

Over the period of the engagement, there were 300 visits to this page.

### Survey

A survey was the primary tool for gathering feedback and aimed to seek comments on both the overall concept and individual features. The survey was available on the Have Your Say webpage, as well as in hard copy by request. Staff provided and assisted people at the pop-up shops to complete the survey via iPads.

212 people completed the survey

**Appendix One** provides a copy of survey data.

### Pop up Shop

A pop-up shop was operated on Wingham's Isabella Street to educate community on the proposed project, gather feedback on the project and inform and assist people to have their say. The pop-up shop included a video display for the CBD masterplan concept, copies of the concept plans and options, samples of the timber and bricks. iPads were available for drop-ins to complete the online survey. Staff was on hand to assist people on request.

Approximately 140 people attended the pop up shop, over these dates:

- Tuesday 15 December, 10am - 2pm
- Monday 21 December, 9am - 4pm
- Wednesday 7 January, 8am - 12pm
- Friday 15 January, 10am - 2pm
- Saturday 16 January, 9am - 1pm
- Wednesday 20 January, 1pm - 4pm
- Wednesday 27 January, 9am - 12pm
- Tuesday 2 February, 8am - 12pm
- Friday 5 February 9am - 4pm.





### One on one meetings with key stakeholders

Two workshops with key stakeholders, including Wingham business owners, were held just prior to the consultation period. In addition, a stakeholder meeting was held on Monday 11 January to further discuss the project.

A summary of these conversations is provided in the common themes in the **What People Said** section (see pages 7-8).

### Business walk-around

On Wednesday 6 January, a walk-around was conducted, visiting every Wingham CBD business and leaving a flyer to invite involvement in the consultation. A copy of the flyer is provided in Appendix Two.

### Submissions

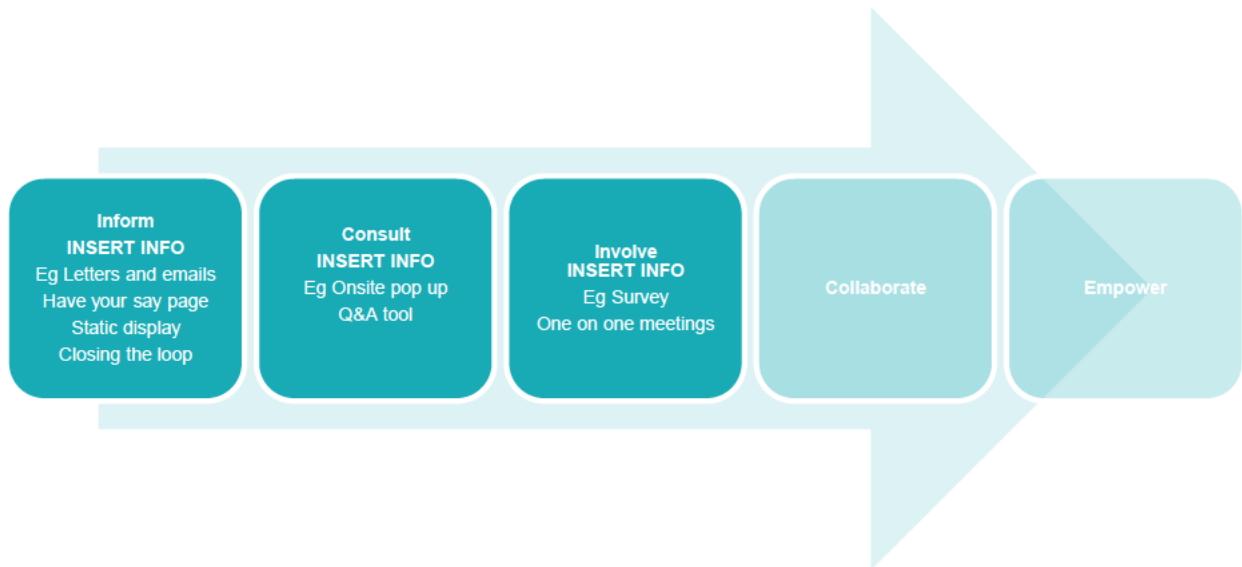
There were two submissions received. This is included in Appendix Three.

## Level of engagement

As outlined in MidCoast Council's Community Engagement Policy we utilise the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) five-point framework for measuring the level of community engagement for each project.

Within this scale, this project achieved an Inform /Consult /Involve level of engagement. At this level our commitment to the community was to listen to and acknowledge the benefits and limitations of the proposed design and consider these in the development of the final design.

The diagram below shows the levels of engagement and the activities undertaken within each level.



## What people said

Participants in the engagement were asked to provide feedback on the various design elements of the project.

The following provides a summary of feedback provided through the various engagement methods.

### Community common themes

Common themes for the discussions at the pop up shop included:

- support for trees in Bent and Isabella Streets, specifically the Weeping Lilli Pilli (*waterhousea floribunda*)
- concern over loss of parking. It's noted that around 38 parking spots will be lost - some from the tree planting; some from the addition of the "blister" to cater for outside dining in Isabella street, and some from the request to widen the centre parks by 100mm per place.
- requests to review the taxi rank and loading zones. The taxi rank could be reduced and perhaps one more car park added. The loading zone in front of the newsagent should be removed. A further review of both requests is to be conducted.
- requests to implement timed parking with suggested 30 minute parking near chemist and two – four hour times in the remainder of the street.
- positive feedback for the upgrade of the McCullagh Lane carpark – this is underway and will provide covered all day parking with the entrance and exits being resurfaced. The unsurfaced laneway above the newsagency is privately owned however Council is progressing an agreement with the owner to improve the surface - probably concrete.
- support for the proposed blister in front of Garden Grub Coffee on Isabella and Bent on Food. However there were questions over what is being done for the top end of Isabella and Bent and whether the mobile structures are still being considered for these areas.



- support for putting the electricity underground for the lower section of Isabella Street.
- support for the use of exposed aggregate concrete with Lincoln brick surrounds for footpaths.
- support for the use of Lincoln bricks around Central Park.
- requests for CCTV - this was raised by both shopkeepers and locals – cameras could be added by using multifunction light poles which would provide a flexible approach to improve lighting, CCTV, Wifi, banners, signage and visual effects lighting.

## Stakeholder common themes

Common themes from the discussions held with key stakeholders included:

- supportive of the improvements and in favour of the project
- concerns about loss of parking in main street
- suggested use of land to the north of Isabella Street (between Combined Street) as a carpark with securing public access through private property from the laneway to Isabella Street
- better signage required for McCullagh Lane parking – need to upgrade the carpark and encourage use with upgrade of the walkway beside the newsagent
- possible need for timed parking to reduce people parking in main street and out the front of businesses who are not customers or visitors and encourage businesses to park out the back
- suggestion to try to improve parking availability prior to removing any car parking spaces, with options including the two points above
- suggestion that the removal of car parking spaces be staged and assessed for the impact. Don't remove all the car parks at once.
- caravan parking signage needs to be improved in Primrose Street
- would like to see fewer trees or fewer parks taken up by trees
- not supportive of the proposed seating in the centre crossing (in the middle of the road)
- would like banner poles

## Survey response common themes

In summary, the survey results were:

- Over half (52%) of respondents prefer the peanut intersection option for the intersection treatment, with 31% preferring the offset T option and 17% having no preference.
- There was widespread support for the stepped wall concept design to replace the Central park retaining wall, with 86% in favour. There were many comments however concerning refining the plans for the steps, including that plantings should be retained where possible and greenery included to break up the design.
- 69% of respondents preferred the wall to be constructed of brick with timber.
- Aggregate and brick was the preferred surface for footpaths.



- In Central Park, respondents want to retain the tiled mosaic, the corner pergola entrances to the Park and as much greenery as possible.
- Overall, 74% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the concept plans.

The most common themes to emerge in the survey responses include:

- concern not to reduce parking spaces in CBD
- support for 'greening' of CBD, especially shady trees that will help cool streets during hot weather
- concern to maintain a heritage look and feel to Wingham's CBD and Central Park and maintain the historic and charming elements of the town
- incorporating more play facilities for children
- concern with safety in the CBD and request for CCTV cameras
- discussion is required with businesses on loading zone outside their premises

## Summary

This information is provided to assist in making an informed decision when considering the final design. When considering the feedback, comments and suggestions received during this community engagement project, the following should also be considered.

During the consultation there was a clear consensus of approval for the initial concept plans, with many constructive suggestions for amendments, inclusions and extra elements received. When these are considered, the final plans should result in a vibrant hub for the Wingham community that reflects their energy, passion for the history of their town and incorporates the elements that make their CBD an inviting space to stay.

### **Peanut or Offset T?**

While a peanut style intersection was the preferred option, consideration should be given to improving pedestrian safety around the intersection. Consideration of pedestrian and bicycle movements around the CBD should be undertaken when developing detailed plans.

### **Central Park Wall**

Overwhelmingly 86% of survey respondents were in favour of the stepped wall concept. However, there was a large number of comments and suggestions for modifying the concept plan design, and a very clear message that greenery and or existing vegetation should be maintained when developing detailed plans, to soften the appearance of the wall, and to provide shade and help cool the surface. Some respondents commented that the part of the wall that faces west will be very hot in the afternoon.

Feedback was received that access ramps should be included to improve accessibility.

In line with comments about the CBD masterplan in general, there was a strong response that some of the heritage items should be kept, including the pergola entrances at the corners to the park, and the tiled mosaic. Respondents want to see those incorporated into the design of the stepped wall.

## **Materials**

The preferred materials selected by participants in this engagement were for the stepped wall to be constructed of brick with timber.

Aggregate and brick was the preferred surface for footpaths.

## **Parking vs street trees**

There was very strong feedback received across all engagement activities and the online survey that the community is very concerned with two aspects of the masterplan. The reduction in car parking spaces was of great concern, with many indicating that parking in the CBD is already hard to find. Almost of equal concern, is that parking spaces should not prevent the planting of street trees, which many believe will not only make the CBD more inviting and cooler, but help to boost businesses as people stay longer in the more welcoming environment.

The current concept plan shows that around 38 parking spots will be lost - some from the tree planting; some from the addition of the parklet to cater for outside dining in Isabella street, and some from the request to widen the centre parks by 100mm per place. There was good support for the parklet, and request for more to be placed in the CBD surrounds.

Exploration of how to provide enough greenery or street plantings to soften the urban landscape, provide cooling shade, and provide equivalent / more parking in Wingham's CBD is underway. An exploration of creative options to improve availability of car parking spaces is recommended.

## **Early responses to feedback received during this consultation**

A heritage report is being prepared by HeritageNow which will focus on the impact on the proposed changes. Any concerns will be included in the heritage management plan.

Discussions have occurred with "Trees Impact" regarding the suitability and availability of the weeping Lilli Pilli, with advice received that they are commonly used for street planting and four metre advanced trees are currently available. Discussions with local nurseries have also advised that the weeping Lilli Pilli would be suitable.

Lincoln Bricks have provided samples of bricks that could be used on the wall. The wall will need to be designed for water flow or consideration be given to using the brick steps as a façade front of the current wall.

As a result of the key stakeholder feedback, Council is already preparing to gather traffic flow and parking observations, especially of the north lane of Isabella Street. Council is also undertaking a study into parking utilisation in and around the CBD.

Council staff is also investigating the option of developing the carpark to the north of the CBD with a formal link through.

Some very good ideas have been received from the community concerning street design, improving visual elements, accessibility and practical elements to include, including a request for cycleways and bike racks. By carefully assessing the additional comments in the survey (see Appendix 1) and incorporating these elements requested by the community where possible, the detailed plans should meet with approval from Wingham residents.

## What's next?

The engagement data contained in this report will be used to inform key staff, management and Councillors on the outcomes of the consultation for the proposed Wingham CBD masterplan improvements. This feedback will be considered, along with other factors including time frames, budget, funding agreements and intended purpose of the space to develop a final design. A copy of this report will be made publicly available on Council's website, as well as distributed to those participants who expressed an interest in being kept informed on the project.

## Appendices

### Appendix 1: Survey data

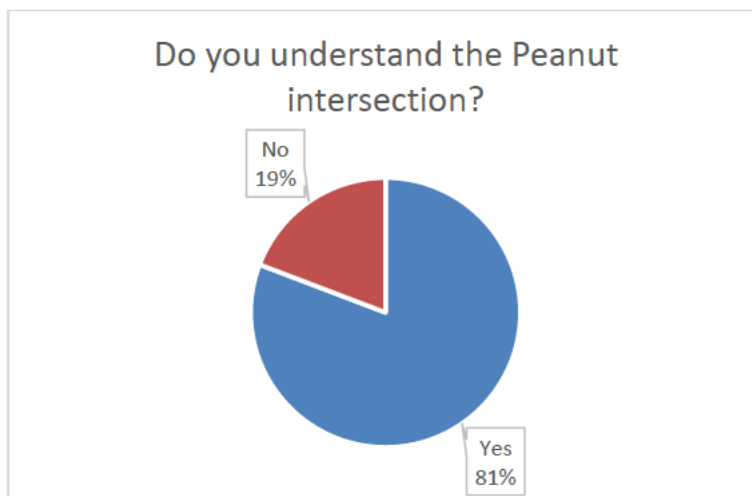
#### Wingham CBD Survey Results

Total survey responses – 212

##### Do you understand how to use and manoeuvre on the 'Peanut' intersection?

Yes – 164

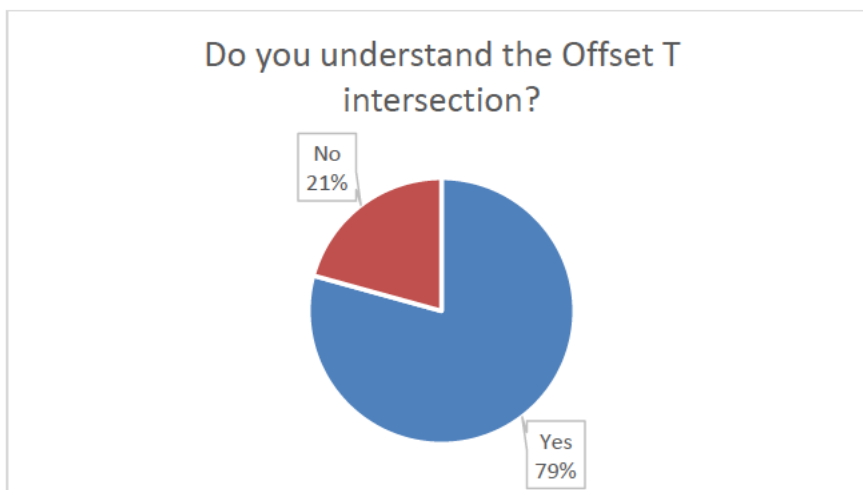
No - 39



##### Do you understand how to use and manoeuvre on the 'Offset T' intersection?

Yes – 157

No – 41



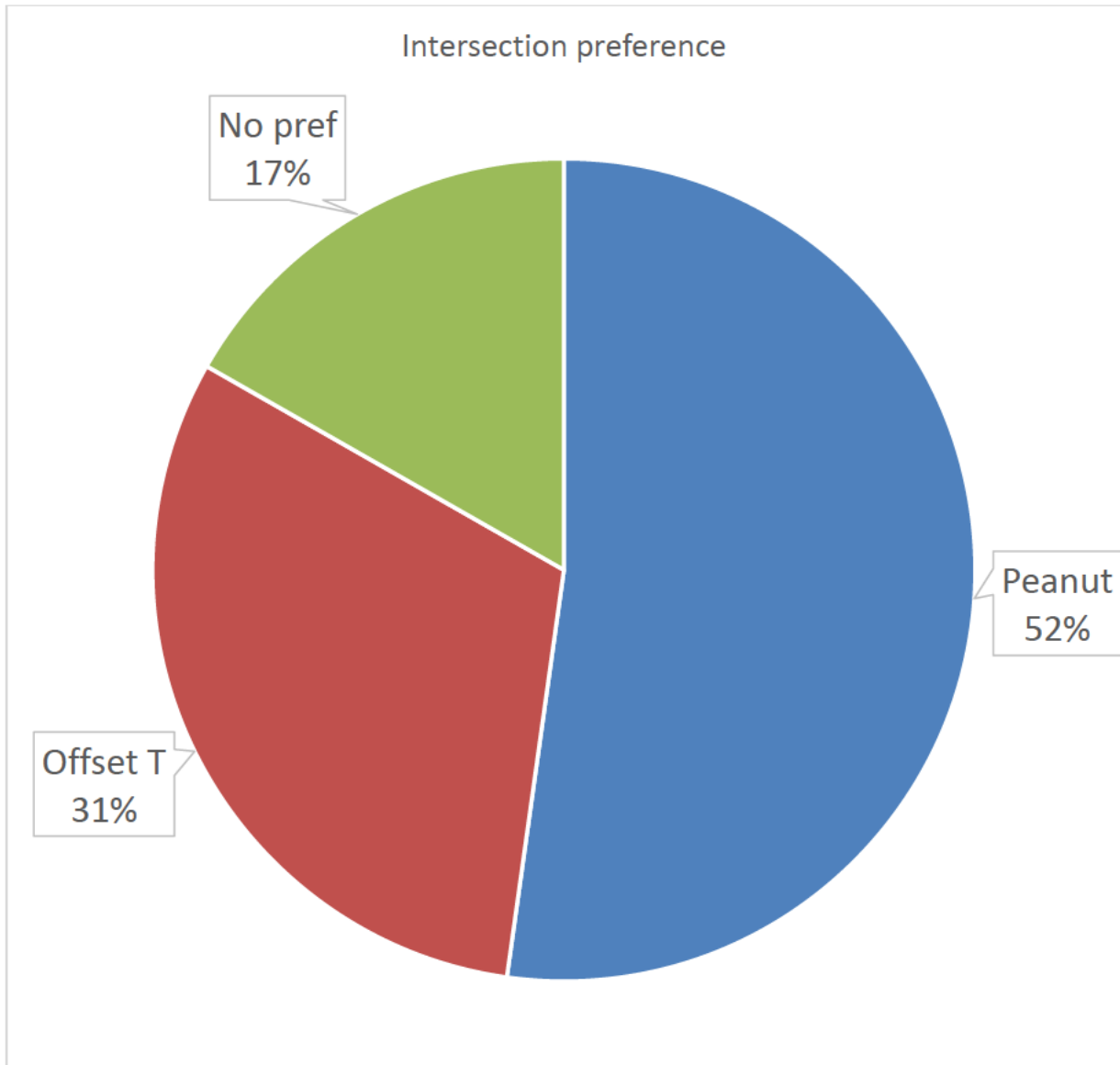


**Which is your preferred option?**

Peanut – 106

Offset T – 63

No preference – 34



**If applicable, tell us why you prefer this type of intersection.**

Of the 212 respondents, 9 (%) provided a comment to this question.  
All comments are included here, however to summarise the comments

Peanut intersection preferred	36
Offset T intersection preferred	16
No preference	5

**Peanut preference comments**

Better flow

Novel and functional. I like the soft lines.

More like a roundabout

Better traffic flow through intersection, Less confusion.

Easier to use.

Looks like a nicer option, thinking it's kind of like a roundabout

The peanut look like it would be safer, easier for drivers to understand and less accidents

Although the new change look good, keep the streets looking as original as possible

Consultant says Bent St <--> Bent St is the main thoroughfare at that intersection. Wrong. Which begs the question, how much else have they got wrong? Parking for starters lol I'm pretty sure locals are just going to treat those trees with Roundup when they get fed up of being unable to find a park every time they go down town. Congratulations on picking a consultant who obviously has never worked with country people before.

Looks much safer because too many people get confused there

More like a roundabout which most people know how to navigate.

Yum peanuts

It will navigate the two busy streets with the least hazard in my opinion and keep traffic flow.

This part of the CBD is already dead, don't waste money on it. Most important is that it moves traffic as efficiently as possible. Don't need more places for drunks to piss and shoot up heroin thank you.

Easier flow of traffic and seems to look like a better fit for that particular intersection.

Keeps traffic flowing

A lot easier to navigate and I like the ascetics of this option better

Less slowing of traffic and would not confuse like the T

Simpler traffic flow

Easier to understand how to use - t intersection confusing

Because it seems easier to navigate than the offset t intersection

Simplified traffic flow for cars, however need to consider pedestrian access as well to attract people to the area

Currently i don't believe their is a high pedestrian need at that intersection so leaning towards the peanut for traffic flow

Due to "good" driving habits in the past there have been no seroius accidents at this intersection, the peanut is the best solution for this intersection

Safer option if centre is blocked off so all cars go around the peanut.

People can enjoy the greenery of the design more

This intersection has always been a chalenge in regards to limited view of oncoming traffic due to different road heights and central parking (blocking view). A Peanut arrangement tackles those issue as it essentially would become a roundabout.

A clearer logic when driving through the intersection.

Peanut looks nicer and better traffic flow

Simpler to use and understand. More traffic than pedestrians at this intersection

Flow of traffic

Traffic may flow easier and there is more opportunities for plants

It looks like it is less confusing.

Slows down traffic, Offset T is more complicated/dangerous for older drivers

Both safer and visually looks better

It's definitely Not the spot for offset T

### Offset T preference comments

Because I'm familiar with it.

Seems easier to understand, and I like the potential for electric vehicle charging stations.

Probably a better option for access to the main road in Wingham. better for pedestrians also.

Safer pedestrian crossing.

We need good pedestrian access that encourages people to head to the museum

Offset T will allow Fire services that is a couple of houses away greater freedom to attend to emergencies

More pedestrian friendly and like the idea of bookending the Main Street area

I prefer the look of the peanut option but i dont understand the double roundabout situation. I feel it would be confusing when people choose to do a u turn and it would not be so smooth. There are 2 schools close by and this is a dangerous spot to get through if you arent coming from Bent Street. I think the 'Offset T is great option as it is the same system having a clear direction and will slow people down also coming through. I would love to see a pedestrian crossing from the pool or near there as i cant even get bus pass for my children as we live in Marlee Street but it is too dangerous for my children to walk o school as there is nowhere safe to cross along combined street.

Better traffic calming, better pedestrian access/use. This is a reasonably high pedestrian traffic area between the school and park/cbd/bus stop

Improved pedestrian access. And car traffic is geberally light in and around Wingham, so the Offset T will not have a significant impact on traffic congestion

It looks more user friendly

Will slow traffic and encourage trucks to take primrose street instead..... less noise around schools and park

I drive through that intersection twice daily. I rarely walk it. The peanut is suitable for pedestrians as very few cross direct from pub to museum and the aged population rarely walk that part of town so a peanut would be suitable for pedestrians who are likely to use it.

Makes Farquhar the the flow and will reduce the use of vent as a thoroughfare

I think it is a safer and less-confusing method of traffic control.



Like the idea of focus on foot traffic to encourage locals and visitors to stop and look around with attendant benefits to local businesses.

**No preference – comments**

Because neither is any good without better road surfaces. Fix the roads first, then worry about everything else there erase out of the office and actually have a look to see what will work

Neither options are a good idea it would be better to just have a single roundabout then there could be zebra crossings put in place for safe crossings it may have well been designed by a child they need to get off.

Because both offered won't work

Clearly the person who came up with these proposals didn't speak with anyone actually living in Wingham

Are these the only options? I have to go through this intersection to get to and from work every day, so whatever is fastest is best. Maybe get rid of all pedestrian crossings too. Maybe move the museum if you have to. No where to park around there anyway.

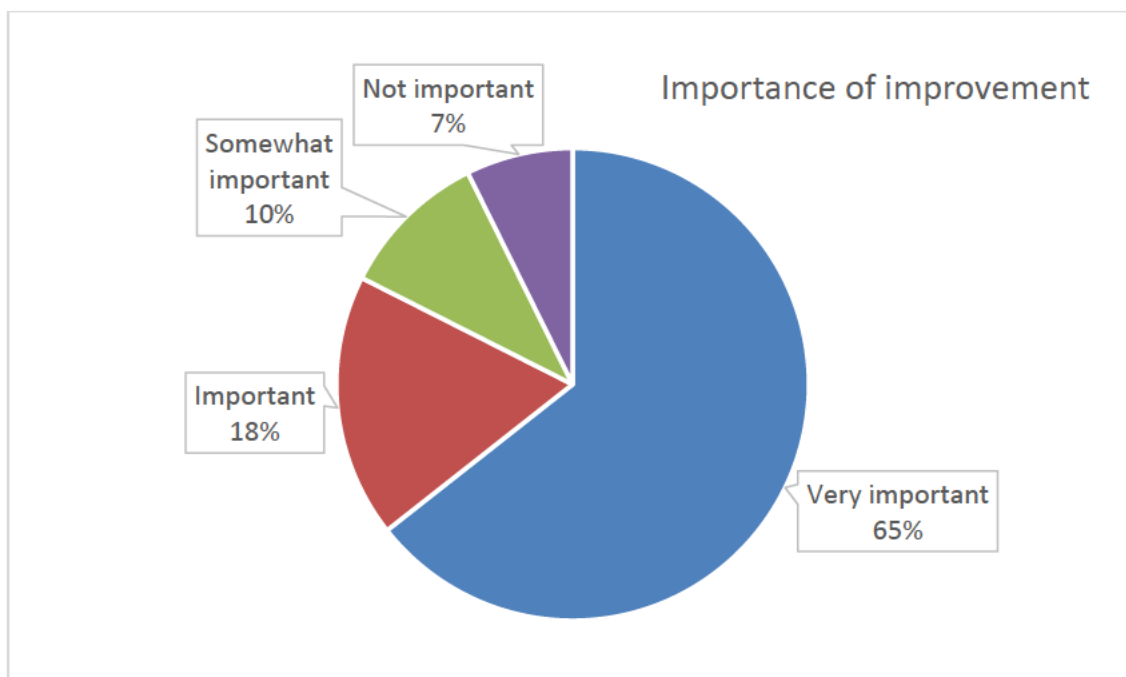
**How important is improving the streetscape and entry to Wingham CBD to you?**

Very important – 132

Important – 37

Somewhat important – 21

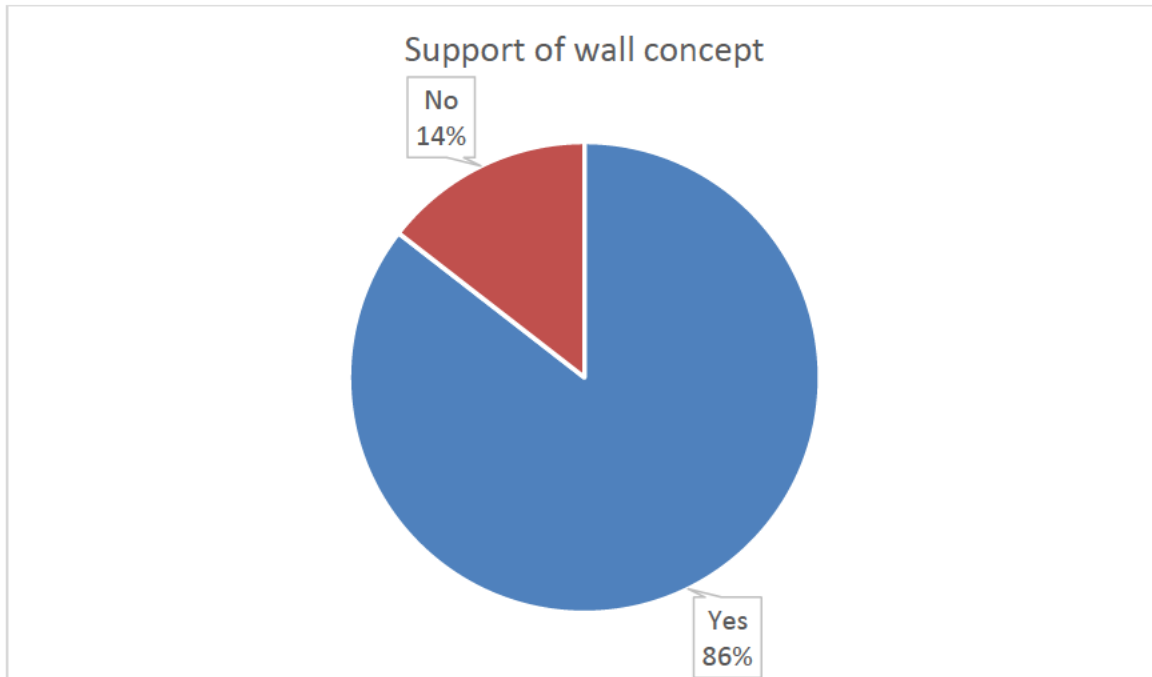
Not important – 15



## Do you support the concept of connecting the street with the park through the construction of a stepped wall?

Yes – 177

No – 30



## Do you have any comments about the stepped wall option?

Of the 212 respondents, 65 (30.6%) provided a comment to this question.

All comments are included here, however to summarise the 65 comments\*:

<b>Approving of the proposed wall concept</b>	9 comments
<b>The wall improves access to the Park</b>	4 comments
<b>Gardens or existing vegetation should be kept / retained or form part of the wall design</b>	10 comments
<b>Children's park / play area should be fenced or other barriers in place to prevent children on roads</b>	1 comment
<b>Tips to improve accessibility</b>	4 comments
<b>Suggestions to improve design</b>	22 comments
<b>Provide litter bins / concerned about generation of litter</b>	3 comments

<b>Retain some existing features</b>	1 comment
<b>Not committed to any option</b>	2 comments
<b>The wall is not needed at all</b>	6 comments
<b>Other Comments</b>	5 comments

\*Total is more than 65, as single comments included multiple items

**Comments:**

**Approving of the proposed wall concept**

Would love a stepped wall, there is a high amount of activity at that park for all school children parties, school events also could be used and it would allow more access to viewing any children walking off. as now if a child passes that wall they cant be seen.

I think this is a lovely way to open up the park and make it the centrepiece of our town. The extra seating provided will be well utilised i would think.

Your only good idea

I think it would be a very good aesthetic yet functional addition that invites people to enter into the park.

Will stop the water running off and look much better

Yes better access to the park is a great option for locals & visitors.

Great Idea

Places to sit makes it a more user friendly and better place to be.

Good idea

**The wall improves access to the Park**

Easier access

Easy access and convenient resting point.

Easier multipoint access.

great mural space. easier for children to get to the road from the playground

**Gardens or existing vegetation should be kept / retained or form part of the wall design**

Keep some gardens in amongst it. A stepped wall for the entirety of either Isabella or bent would be too much hardscape, keep some gardens please.

This is a great option, however I would suggest that gardens are retained and perhaps spotted within the steps.

Add a few gardens in we're possible to retain some colour along the street scape. And use the chance to build the wall up and level the park out.. could then use the park more for sporting ventures, events etc...

The concept is good but I would recommend that stepped wall be in sections with gardens similar to the current gardens to create a better visual image rather than continuous stepped wall. The Bent Street wall faces west and some shading would be needed to make this more user friendly. Again sections of gardens would be recommended.

The stepped wall is a good access option however I think it could be improved aesthetically and practically by either including more trees on the step- to make the seated area shady and usable. Or have it dotted with attractive annual flower beds that could be planted as an attractive seasonal feature for the town

I love wingham brick, but it will be hot. Can we get more smaller trees along this side to keep it cooler and make the step/seats usable?

Incorporate gardens throughout it so it's not just a wall

For decades, the hard surface of the concrete wall round Central Park was not only an eyesore but also impractical. In summer especially, Wingham experiences hot weather and hard surfaces further exacerbate the heat through radiation. It was good to have this part of the streetscape more recently softened with garden beds and plantings. So I don't like the concept of removing plantings and replacing with more hard hot surfaces. The graphics suggest the proposed stepped wall sections are heavily used by pedestrians. Currently this is not the case, especially in Isabella Street. I believe other options need to be considered.

I like the vegetation

Whilst I am in favour of a makeover of the Central Park wall there a couple of things that concern me . We currently have plants on the wall, replacing plants with stone steps doesnt add to the "green" shade tree makeover of Wingham. It creates a hard hot surface. IF water could trickle over the concrete steps in some places this would be nice , but it seems like a hard hot surface is not going to add beauty.

### **Children's park / play area should be fenced or other barriers in place to prevent children on roads**

If the stepped wall option runs the length of Isabella St, are there plans to include a barrier from the kids park to the road?



### **Tips to improve accessibility**

Need a small stairwell to use with handrails for disability ramp access

As long as the steps are wide and low enough to serve a purpose and easy for elderly people to use

Maybe also include a ramp for disabled people to get up to the park

Non slip surface

### **Suggestions to improve design**

The stepped wall needs shade structures near the 'seating' as it faces NNE and will be impossible to use after 10am spring to autumn otherwise.

Would love to see lots of hardwood seating to maintain the heritage.

In keeping with area make wall a stoned wall not brick

The corner of Isabella and Bent should be a grand entrance to park

just need to make sure NO SEATS or else we'll have (redacted content) selling drugs here all day.

Make it with features not a plain step wall. Ramps and stairs

It's a shame there can't be a pedestrian area included as part of the stepped wall option

Bent street seating will be facing direct west , maybe too hot for seating in summer

Use local products

The bed pan water feature should be replaced before a wall that is already serviceable

Drainage of the seating, and some shaded areas.

Would suit landscaped areas

Any materials like bricks should be manufactured in Wingham or locally

Not a good option for sports played in the park. Could be dangerous to players with a stepped wall. It is much safer now because people have to stop before jumping down to retrieve a ball.

As long as there are still plants and greenery, bring indigenous into the design

I support it only if its the lincoln brick option. The sandstone wall would look terrible with the wingham heritage aesthetic.

Brick wall will require very extensive foundations to prevent movement. Sandstone blocks can accommodate movement without affecting visual appearance

Local bricks would be great

Good idea, but should tie in to the selection of the footpath

Three tiers recommended

Prefer use of local material

Use materials that aren't going to rot and have to be replaced all the time

**Provide litter bins / concerned about generation of litter**

if you increase public seating, make sure to increase litter bins. Thanks

I'm not ceratin the seating option is required as this often leads to rubbish being left behind and ongoing maintenance issues.

I' m sure on my morning walks I would come across broken bottles from the ones that congregate in that area drinking & mucking about.

**Retain some existing features**

Also there is a mosaic created for the community that is each side of the steps , can the work be done without destroying the mosaic ? Can the mosaic be moved elsewhere ? This was created when a member of the community died suddenly as a way to bring support to the family , it would be sad to have it discarded.

**Not committed to any option**

It's okay. Not hugely exciting.

do whatever you want. That end of town is the dead end of town and a stepped wall isn't going to change things.

**The wall is not needed**

Just leave it as it is.

More imagination is required. Sack the council and their staff and get a real solution

Unessessary expense

Not needed at this time

Not needed

Don't touch it. Leave it alone as you will ruin it. Don't touch the plants

**Other comments**

There are a few ugly retaining walls around wingham cb maybe you could do something about these too

The only time I can see it being used is if there is something like the street carnival on. Otherwise in the Isabella st section you'd just be looking at cars & crappy looking empty shops. Unfortunately I can also see it getting damage by scooters & pushbikes.

I think adding more steps to the existing wall would be fine. I would rather see money spent on a splash park or natural play space.

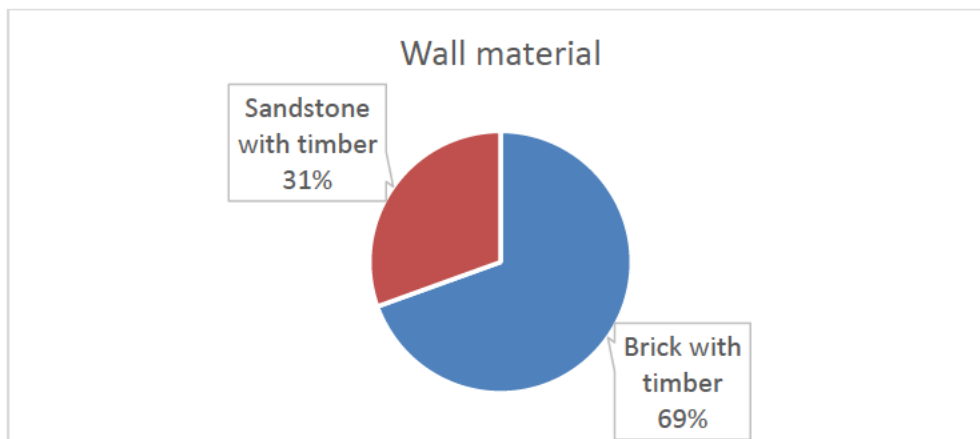
More places for violent people to hide.

Current wall is ugly

**What material should a stepped wall be constructed from?**

Lincoln brick wall with timber inserts – 123

sandstone wall with timber seat inserts – 54



**Are there any elements of the current Central Park wall along Isabella Street that you would like to retain?**

Of the 212 respondents, 69 (32.5%) provided a comment to this question.  
All comments are included here, however to summarise the 69 comments\*:

<b>Don't retain anything</b>	12 comments
<b>Gardens / greenery</b>	33 comments
<b>Pergola entrances</b>	8 comments
<b>Mosaics</b>	14 comments
<b>Vampire Jet</b>	1 comment
<b>Water feature</b>	1 comment
<b>Wall</b>	2 comments
<b>Retain everything / no change</b>	6 comments
<b>Other Comments</b>	9 comments

\*Total is more than 69, as single comments included multiple items

### **Don't retain anything**

No (9 responses)

No. A complete fresh new look warrented

No. I would however make the stepped wall a more usable and practical place. While it will be seating, it will not necessarily be very inviting unless it incorporates either trees or small gardens as well to increase ambience.

Not really, the wall is very ugly; too much concrete.

### **Gardens / greenery**

The gardens as mentioned previously. Please consider Cricket balls needing a barrier to avoid hitting parked cars.

As much greenery as possible either retained or added. Wingham is so hot and desperately needs cooling via shade trees and the like.

Shame for all the plants to be removed as wingham doesn't have a lot.

There are lovely gardens there that attract birds and bees etc...please retain beautiful garden plantings.

Maintain greenery in between the seating with lots of shade trees

Retain some of the planting the starkness of the long bench seats.



Plants

garden beds

Bird attracting grevillias

Retain greenery in Bent street

The gardens and greenery.

Gardens

The grevilleas and gardenias have struggled to grow for many years. Could some of them be maintained.

The vegetation.

Garden

Council has done an excellent job with landscaping and the current shrubs should be retained

The greenery

Existing trees and shrubs

Existing trees

As indicated above the current garden and trees are essential for 'softening' Central Park wall and providing cooling and shade near the footpath. I would add further low shrubs and ground covers too. I note that a number of community groups planted the water gum trees in the gardens and watered them during the drought to keep them alive.

The gardens Important to retain (or replace) trees/greenery/shade

I would prefer the garden beds were retained rather than reverting to hard hot surfaces but other options could be considered too.

Ensure all trees are

As stated above sections of garden should be included to enhance the overall appearance of the stepped wall.

Maybe retaining/relocating some of the vegetation along the wall.

as much greenery as possible

some planting to soften the wall structure

Vegetation

Plants

The plants

The gardens have finally reached the stage of looking established and I see no need to rip them out and redevelop the walls around the park. The gardens provide a definite visible boarder to the edge of the wall.

Plants and trees

The surrounding garden

### **Pergola entrances**

The pergola entrances at each end

The corner entry points

The pergola covered entrance steps

The steps on the corner should stay.

The existing Steps.

steps

Main entrance

The access areas to the park

### **Mosaics**

The mosaics should be kept

Would like the mosaic to be kept somehow.

The tile mural

The mosaic by Gwen Ford

Mosaic walls, additional mosaic features or painted art on walls

Mosaic wall to be incorporated

Mosaic

Mosaic

tiled art

mural.

mosaic  
tiled wall near steps.

The mosaic corner

Certainly the mosaics at the entrance to the park at corner of Isabella and Bent Streets should be retained.

### **Vampire Jet**

The vampire plane obviously

### **Water feature**

Water feture

### **Wall**

The wall near the playground also helps stop young children from easily running into the road.

The entire wall

### **Retain everything / no change**

All of it.

The Park is beautiful as it is.

All of it

All of it. The gardens that have been put there are only now starting to look reasonable & I think it would be a shame to remove those.

All

Yes, all of it for the reasons given.

**Other comments**

Remove brick wall replace with natural river stone for a more natural landscape with current stone water feature. The brick paving is great and showcase the local Lincoln bricks

For people not cars; need somewhere for kids

Move the toilets to a more accessible location for the town centre

This is all much less important than parking. Someone was saying 41 spaces were being removed. If that's the case then is there really any point talking about any of this other stuff because the project won't get off the ground.

Bricks crack down mortar joints, move, come loose

Possible removal of ugly sculpture

Just lincoln brick without timber seats good as well.

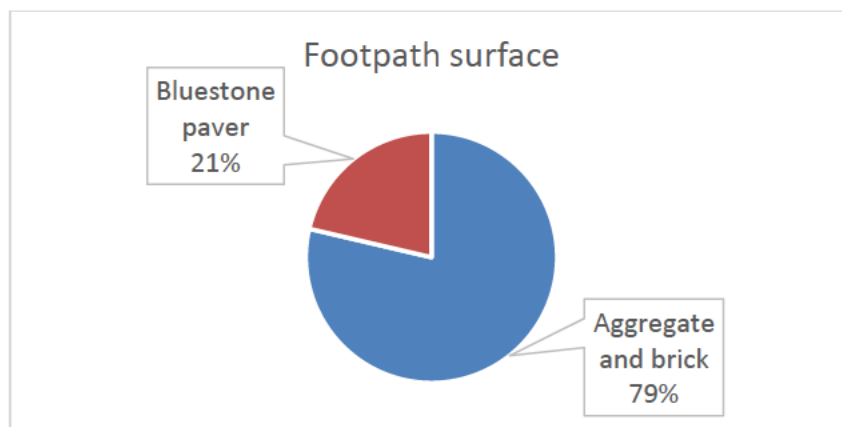
Gym

Old world charm lights and clock

**What is your footpath surface preference?**

Exposed aggregate with Lincoln brick paver border – 140

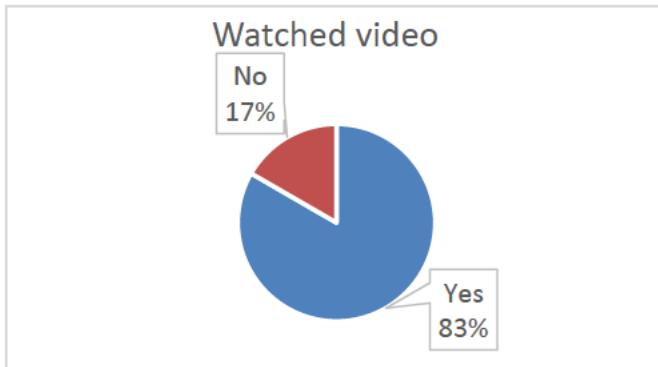
Bluestone paving – 38





### Have you watched the presentation video?

Yes – 170 No – 34



### How satisfied are you with the overall concept of the plans?

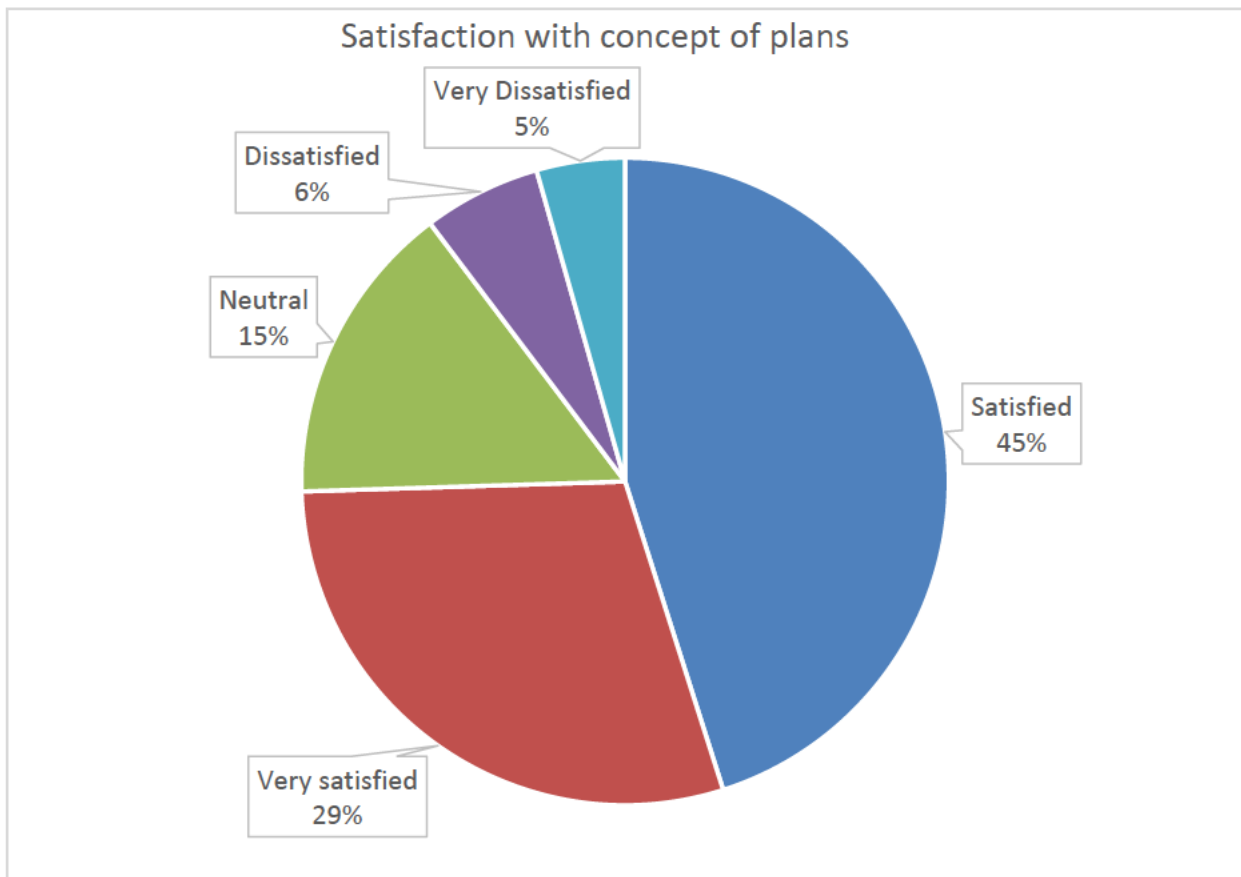
Satisfied – 92

Very satisfied – 60

Neutral – 31

Dissatisfied – 12

Very Dissatisfied – 9



**What did you most like about the concept plans? (Tick your favourite 3 features)**



**Do you have any additional comments about the plans?**

Of the 212 respondents, 114 (53.7%) provided a comment to this question.

One comment received online was also sent in as a written submission, so has been omitted from this count.

All comments are included here, however to summarise the 114 comments\*:

<b>More parking needed / don't cut spaces</b>	31 comments
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<b>More trees / greenery needed</b>	23 comments
<b>Children's facilities / playground</b>	8 comments
<b>Toilets for CBD area</b>	4 comments
<b>Suggestions for the park</b>	5 comments
<b>Suggestions for streetscapes / town entries</b>	14 comments
<b>Retain a heritage feel to the town</b>	5 comments
<b>Positive comments</b>	18 comments
<b>CCTV and crime concerns</b>	7 comments
<b>Other Comments</b>	21 comments
<b>Comments about the consultation</b>	5 comments
<b>Don't change anything</b>	1 comment

\*Total is more than 114, as single comments included multiple items

### **More parking needed / don't cut spaces**

+2 (comments included other issues and were categorised elsewhere)

Do not reduce car parking spaces. More car parking is required. Reduce council rates to Wingham businesses as many are going broke paying the same rates as other larger business centres such as Taree and Forster.

We can not afford to lose carparks

You need more parking. You have underestimated how many cars are parked up the main street.

We need more car spaces lived in wingham for 30 years we need more car parks not more trees some days it take 20/30 mins to find a car spot

Need more car parking

Tree planting looks nice and wider parks are good too but that will give us fewer parking opportunities and this is already difficult at times

Please be mindful of reducing parking. Mid week it can be very difficult to find a park.

All well and good to update, but there's Not enough car spots now. Where? Are people meant to park? The tree idea is nice, but you can't even get the ones there now to grow... How about fix the roads, fix the cemetery and work on parking before trying to look fancy. All this work is useless unless every building in the area is also refreshed in the same style. Do it right or don't bother...

Please don't take away any more parking spots. Some days it is impossible to park in Isabella or Bent Streets,

Speed limits lowered and improved footpaths on laneways to carparks behind Main Street. More designated disabled, senior and baby carparks. Not against trees but if we have to choose between trees and parking I don't think I will choose trees. Someone suggested trialling getting rid of the parking spaces first which is a good idea. Just rope them off for a bit.

Concerned about lack of available parking with the number of spaces that are being removed. I am concerned about the loss of parking spaces, and the poor access to the alternative behind the CBD. Is it possible for some parking spaces to be expanded to accommodate the elderly and parents with prams, and leave the remaining car parks the current width to prevent the loss of the 41 spaces. Is it also possible to have 1/2hr or 1/4hr express parks in the busier areas of the CBD to ensure the through fare of traffic continues, rather than people parking for 4+ hours or all day in the most sought after spots. Would it be possible to develop the vacant block across from the pool into an overflow car park for use during busier times

We need more car parking, not less.... Wingham is getting busier....less spots is no good.

I hope there is enough parking space with all the additions to the main st as it is hard to get a park already.

Don't like losing so many car parks. Don't really have 3 favourites, but can not submit without choosing 3, my response is improved pedestrian access and traffic management, the others are not favourites.

The back parking area is there but it could be used for staffing for the businesses rather than the street parking for them. But I feel the street parking is most easiest access for all to get in and out quickly. Wingham isn't known as the place people stay for long at down the main street other than for a cuppa or meeting. For residents we always do a grab and go. we tend to go to Taree for other shopping.

More concerning than brick colours is the fact that someone thought it a good idea to get rid of parking spaces. Do the people making these decisions actually have any customers who use main street parking? Trees sound great but not if it is going to make it harder to find a park.

While the improvement pedestrian access is a plus and the mid block crossing and seated area is an improvement it is a shame more cannot be done to move parking out of the centre to behind the shops to make even better pedestrian walkability along Isabella street. I understand that would be more expensive.

So as a business owner & rate payer in Isabella street Wingham I have huge concerns about the CBD upgrades as none of the towns actual issues are being addressed! Speak to the people please because everyone I am hearing from seeing this as another one of councils money wasting ideas. If your looking for a good response from the public then please address the areas of issues or please come and spend some time in my business & see the towns issues for yourself. Parking is the biggest complaint I hear daily not enough! No loading zone so I have multiple trucks vans & council vehicles parking in front of the postal box (in a no stopping zone) or over the pedestrian crossing! There's no disability parking on the top side of the pedestrian crossing I have constant complaints from seniors about this. The current street lighting is appalling I am one of only a couple of business that stay open late & do not feel safe doing so. With the crime rapidly increasing & poor lighting I do not understand why security isn't on the top of your list to upgrade???

Parking is going to trip you up. Wingham residents won't like being unable to find a park whenever they come down town. Easier to just go to Taree. We also need to pander less to RVs. Seriously everyone who stays at the Brush in an RV writes about how terrible it is. We already waste way too much money on this loss-leader. The assumption you need to work with is that it is the unemployed who are going to be loitering at all these green spaces. If this is the look you are going for then congratulations! You've just designed a hobo wonderland. Well done.

For decades any new development on the main street has required additional parking spaces to be built and the developer's expense. And now you're going to go and REDUCE the number of council parking spaces? Who came up with this? Please just quit your job right now, return your salary to the rate



payers of Wingham and then move away from the area. Don't even bother apologising, although I doubt someone with autistic-level lack of awareness and empathy even knows what an apology is. Disgraceful.

I do not agree with a loading zone across from or near the Mid-block crossing, or in the vicinity of outdoor eating areas. The Butcher, Grantys & Newsagency are also a busy pedestrian area and meeting place under the awning where many community groups hold raffles and fundraisers. The noise and fumes from trucks/vehicles with motors running and unloading etc, would not, and currently does not, make for a pleasant experience in any of these areas. The zone should be in a less busy place away from where people will congregate. Smaller delivery vehicles will still use the car spaces anyway. I am also the owner of the Newsagency, and do not want this outside my shop door anyway

I say I am neutral with the plans because as much as it would be nice to see the area updated I feel the loss of parking will be the biggest issue. I hear comments everyday about people not being able to get a park. I experience it myself & might do a couple of laps then give up & end up parking a long way from where I want to go or just go home. Our more elderly residents struggle with walking the distances to get to where they want to go. I do think the wider parking spots will be a good improvement especially as there are a lot of bigger suvs & utes that struggle to fit in the current spaces. This will also help those more elderly residents to be able to get in & out of their vehicles easier & perhaps not hit other people's cars with their doors. So with this happening & other spots being lost I don't think the parklet things are a good idea at all. I also hope that any plantings won't interfere with vision & that they are suitable for the situation, eg .. roots not interfering over time with the road surfaces.

I don't like that we're losing car parks when there already isn't much place to park especially with shop owners parking on the street as well.

It's hard enough to find a car park at the best of times. Don't know why you want to take away carparks .? Only someone who doesn't live in the area would think that's a great idea. Maybe bring back police in wingham would be better. Your going to do all this work just for it to get damaged and vandalised because there are no active police in wingham. Maybe employing police in wingham would be a better use of money.

My concern is that 120metre high trees will cause problems, visibility and branches breaking in storms. We cannot afford to loose parking spaces, as wingham has become very busy and finding parking spaces has already become problematic.

Looking at the plan I see the detrimental effect the loss of existing car parks and the negative effect it will have on businesses such as the butchers, fruit shop and newsagency (arguably the hub of the street) with a majority elderly cliental wanting quick and easy access. Taking up the precious car parks out the front of these 3 shops for a "loading zone" and a garden/tree and curb side dining (opposite) is unnecessary as these business have rear access for stock and deliveries etc. This is a major oversight and will definitely loose customers that are wanting easy access to these shops and already find it difficult to park close enough now. A rethink of the location of the loading dock and maximising car parks in this section of the street is a must. From looking at the proposed plan approximately 16 car spaces will lost in this already popular and busy section of the street. We should be looking at maximising customers at our shops and spaces for them to park, not losing them in a effort to "look pretty".

Limiting time people can park cars near chemist and doctors to allow easier access for these services. All day parking only allowed in McCullough carpark.

Take the least amount of on street parking as you can. It is vital to have ample on street parking in the CBD of Wingham.

The presentation and follow up sessions have not adequately addressed the issue of parking at the main end of town. Of the 41 car parking spaces that are going to be lost (16% reduction), 10 will be lost in the most high-traffic area of Isabella St. That area needs more, not less, car parking spaces, and it's not uncommon to see cars circling around and around trying to find a park. Plenty of options but this needs to be fixed before we go taking away spaces.

Parking in Wingham CBD is a problem now- reducing the number of car spaces is only going to cause more problems!

### **More trees / greenery needed**

Trees, trees and more trees! Wingham needs cooling features. In Summer it is very unpleasant. Try also to incorporate structural art by local artisans or historic pieces.

Please don't let the community whingeing about car parks prevent the tree planting from proceeding . Shade in the main street is essential, is long overdue, and will transform the hot streets. We have been waiting for this for far too long, please ignore the car space hype !

I think tree planting is absolutely essential to the project and the lack of trees in the main street has been the single biggest thing affecting the attractiveness of Wingham. We have lovely wide streets that really lend themselves to lots of mature, large trees - without them the street appears barren and in Summer the heat is terrible. I am a business owner in Wingham and feel that if some car parking needs to be sacrificed to make the main street more attractive and improves pedestrian access, that is the right way to go.

I love the idea of adding some trees but maybe not too many as at times its already hard to find a carparking spot so wouldn't like to lose too many

Trees are beautiful but the trees that flower red would be absolutely beautiful on the roundabout areas

We recently travelled to Honfleur in France and they had wonderfully large arbours and trellises to allow vines to grow and create a green tunnel - this would look amazing in Wingham and something we could become renound for - <https://goo.gl/maps/rampck73cCkKg4sw8> Restore the Character to the building facades in Isabella would be great too.

Other than wider car spaces and trees, nothing else is needed. I had to make three choices but if people want to sit down, use the seats in the park.

Trees won't last a month, the old ones were mainly pulled out by unwanted elements in the town.

I have searched through the web for advanced trees and there is a limited selection. If we are looking for "native" shade trees we are searching for Primary Rainforest Species. Logan River Tree Farm has *Syzygium francisii* and *Ficus macrophylla* and *rubiginosa*. I would think *Ficus macrophylla* would be a good entrance tree in view of the Wingham Brush. I would have recommended *Argyrodendron actinophyllum* for the street trees as it doesn't have fleshy fruits, has a dense and spreading crown in the open, is fast growing and very, very tough. It would have been better to have something that is particularly distinctive for Wingham and not something that "was available" from large commercial growers. However, looking through what is available, I would have included *Waterhouse floribunda* which will provide a lot more shade than the secondary species, *Brachychiton acerifolium*, already overused in Taree. The retaining wall had been there a long time when I arrived in 1975. The plantings on the edge have successfully softened and blended it into the streetscape.

Will need many more trees down centre of road to provide the village feel. Go with London plane trees that can handle the 45degree days. Lots of them! Lose some car spaces to achieve it if need be. Wingham desperately needs more shade trees in the main street. Parking is not the issue. At the moment it is a hot, alienating environment. Compare it to Sawtell?

I had to tick three but the only one I like is the tree planting. Please use the local cedar as much as possible due to its significance to the towns origins and local wildlife. The car spaces are wide enough. Keep as many as possible as there is a shortage. I think it is important to improve the shade areas within the area as it is ridiculously hot during the hotter months.



Mature trees are needed through Wingham. If you look at Sawtell and Bellingen for example, the trees make all the difference. And outdoor dining and shop displays. There is too much tar in Wingham and not enough shade!

I am tree lover and I COULD have ticked "tree planting" but I am not sure whether this would mean trees or large shrubs on the roundabouts and median strips which plantings I do not support for safety/visibility reasons

Please, trees, trees and more trees Wingham wide ESPECIALLY the main street (2 comments)

I'd like to be more positive about the plans but having seen the demise of the previous tree plantings & how unsuitable they were I don't have much faith in how any new plantings will go especially very expensive mature trees unless very thorough research has been done to give them best chance of survival.

good to know trees will be watered and the addition is electricity is a great idea for the future. Solar panels on the carpark for lighting?

Needs more trees on either side of the road

Please put in the trees!

More trees.

Personally I like the idea of specimen trees with more beauty. Eg ornamental pears are glorious in autumn. But the main thing is that there are mature trees, and it seems that natives are preferred. The choices made in the video seem reasonable. I don't like flame trees. Except when they are flowering, they are not an attractive tree the rest of the year. Thanks for

Don't spend huge amounts of money on fully grown trees-surely they could be decent size without using all the budget. Perhaps large ones either end of each street,without blocking drivers vision,and smaller ones mid street. A bit of colour ie.flowers, would also be nice. Use local materials and tradesmen where able. Leave the parking alone.

Love the use of trees and alfresco areas. It would be great to have fig trees planted down the main street.

### **Children's facilities / playground**

We need an upgraded park for kids of all ages

Would like to see a play ground for kids more like the one in Tamworth

Also there is no mention of more for kids in central park. What about a bike track down near skate park and adding a water park at central park

Additional changes would be an upgraded park in Central Park and fence it off for younger kids to prevent running near the road

An another idea is a water fun park and bicycle track at the skate park with new landscape. There is plenty of room.

And haven't seen anything about improvement for children. The play park needs updating and improvement and it needs a FENCE on the sides adjoining the roads. So dangerous when you have children there!!!

It also be great to see a splash water park for inclusive play for people of all ages and abilities!! Could also be very beautiful!!

A splash park, skate park or natural play space would be a nice addition to Central Park.

Some more amenities in the park would be great too in order to attract more people to come into Wingham with their children - e.g. the play equipment is quite old and tired. Some new, more modern play equipment and more landscaping and gardens in the park would be fantastic.

### **Toilets for Main Street**

Oh and some toilets in main street somewhere as there is no where to take kids to toilet unless u walk all the way to top park

Would love to see a public toilet at the bottom of Isabella st opposite Body n Shape Fitness in Primrose st.

Add a toilet block for every food business cries out for trade but don't you dare go to the toilet for there isn't one.

Yes we need toilets in car park area as most people coming to do shopping drive a distance and need toilet relief before heading home

### **Suggestions for the Park**

I'd like to see a Rotunda in Central Park that suits the heritage of the town. (Berry Apex Park)

Try adding additional war merabilia to the airplane area like ground cannons or Taree's war memorial solders with guns either side of airplane standing sentinel.

Certain events are held there which benefit from a directed access and this retaining wall has been well constructed. Also, the town square is not surrounded by apartment complexes where people come out and mill around in whatever bit of green space they can find. Our town doesn't work that way. I think plans to establish a stepped wall could well destroy the quaint, historic character of the square in the way that Bedpan Waterfall and the seldom utilized Exercise Station have already done. We should definitely replace Bedpan Waterfall with something with heritage features as it is supremely hideous and there was not a formal consultation process for it.

And will there be adequate council staff to maintain & keep the area looking good on a regular basis. Even Lilly pillys make a mess with their fine flowers & the dropping of berries.

It would be lovely to see some large sculptures that represent the area placed in the park and entrance to Wingham plus couple of small ones on the footpath. A few more murals would also add a nice feel, bringing in more tourists. The current water feature in central park needs a major overhaul

### **Suggestions for streetscapes design / town entries**

Plant an avenue of trees from Cedar Party Creek bridge and gardens to entice people to the park and main business centre of town. Also please encourage the owners or agents of the vacant shops to keep the frontages clean and footpaths tidy . When last i walked down the street i felt ashamed of the state they were in , they would discourage any visitor.

Mid colour charcoal exposed

I think it is great that the plans have moved away from dull concrete footpaths - I was really pleased to see pavers being discussed. We believe the plans should also involve beautification of Wynter street

(footpaths, tree planting) given that this is the first thing people see upon entering Wingham.

The roof for the car park is a much better proposal than what was there & I look forward to that are being made more user friendly & as long as pedestrian access is upgraded to a high standard for traversing between there & Isabella st. Would love to see nicer seating structures around the park itself that invite you to sit there rather than down near the traffic in the street. A good footpath down to the brush would also make that area more accessible for visitors from the Main Street & visa versa..I think the mid block crossing and seating area (mid street) can be improved. Mid street is not an ambient place to sit however I understand elderly people might like a rest. Adding more greenery to the Main Street is necessary to mitigate heat absorption and increase the length of time people spend down those streets.

Those seats in the middle of the road will lack ambience and also will be too hot to sit on in summer- regardless of the material used. I suggest more greenery can be added to this crossing and ONE seat would be adequate, for elderly crossers. Social seating can be added to places that are nicer and more ambient to sit.

I would like to see very well thought out practical usable spaces that are inclusive and ambient and make people feel like using them. I have a sustainable development and environment science degree and i have lived all around the world. I am from a 4th generation Wingham family and as I have moved back to settle here I would really like to engage more with you about these ideas. I am also happy to volunteer and run some consultation sessions with stake holders who may not have access to these online feedback systems such as elderly and school groups so we can have a wider range of input from a wider group of people and therefore build a space that benefits generations of people... and does not just serve those with the loudest voices on committees.

Is there provision for a covered taxi rank (wet weather - extreme temperature - should be priority in all towns)

2. Considering the number of empty shops perhaps a re-zoning of parts of the CBD to allow terrace or unique residential development to bring life back to the CBD there is no way current vacant shops will be leased more shops will become vacant

3. The current shops need attention - a mix and match disaster - pick colours and paint and repair all the facades of all buildings

4. I feel strip shopping has had its day Once a shopping centre is allowed into a town all the money goes into that centre and then the money goes out of town goes out of the town

The approach at the intersection of winter and combined needs a serious beautification. It might be the ugliest retaining wall in the world. No amount of Main Street lipstick will help if this isn't addressed. That corner could do with shrubs to hide the ugly building on the ugly corner.

Paving - work with the utilities, so it won't dug up 6 months after it is laid.  
Signage - Way-finding, Entry signage and Noticeboard, etc. should have uniform style/materials etc.

Retain ambience and friendly town that is unique

Roads obviously need attention and repairs to go along with the beautification work. Hope work is carried out by local people and business as much as possible.

Some good ideas here, strongly against the exposed aggregate path and the look of the path. Concerned the entrance to the town might look tacky depending on how it's done. Wingham is a historical town and the project should add to the appeal of the town i.e. quality finishes). Also concerned about the removal of established plants. That seems pointless.

The entry to wingham (driving up wynter st towards isabella) looks like a real improvement and an important part of the plans. Important to create a great impression on entry to wingham along wynter st. Trees along there, and improved footpath on the left hand side as you drive up wynter st into town, were both shown on the video. These wpuld make a big difference! The footpath along there now is currently in a bad state of repair and needs to be made safer and more beautiful, to encourage further pedestrian activity.



There also needs to be a considerable facelift to the premises along the beautification areas or they run the risk of looking out of place and negatively impact on the projects success.

Would love to see the works continued up to the Skate Park and add new play equipment and turn the old train masters house into a coffee shop!

**Retain a heritage feel to the town**

Don't change the old feel of this beautiful old town too much. Modernising buildings and adding awnings will take away from what makes this town beautiful.

It's good that Wingham is to have long overdue urban improvements. But overall, the plan looks like it has taken little account of Wingham's rich history as a river trading and settler town. Much of it looks bland, off-the-shelf "anywhere town" design. The so-called "town squares" of the intersections (Wynter and Isabella Sts, Bent and Isabella Sts, Bent and Farquhar Sts) should be abandoned, or at least re-thought. The pink coloured paving at these cross streets cheapens the look of the streets. The street surface should be uniform, with a distinctive look. The park: a unique feature that must reflect Wingham's heritage, sitting across from the School of Arts and the Post Office buildings. The park's entry design should NOT be "modernised". New seats: should be the best heritage design. Kingsgrove. Entry signage: Definitely bespoke timber, NOT bland "Detailed street way finding signage". The proposed outdoor dining hub: A good idea, but use umbrellas for its covering, which can be opened and closed, NOT permanent metal fixtures. Please remember that Wingham has lost so much of its built heritage. The Wingham Hotel, which my family owned for three generations, and where I spent my childhood, has gone. So have all other timber buildings along that end of Isabella St that once comprised Wingham's commercial hub. The proposed work in Wingham's CBD should be more a restoration project, less a "beautification" project. It's a unique chance to restore Wingham's distinctive urban character that comes from its unique design. Please remember that Wingham will have to live with the changes for almost another century. The people who built the Wingham Town Hall in 1924 knew that. This magnificent building has stood the test of time. So should the changes in the 2020s.

Wingham has beautiful old world charm. I would hate to see a modern look for this town. Please keep the old lights, clock and old world charm using local products.

**Clean the shops and improve shop front in a heritage**

If making the town aesthetically pleasing, functional and a prime spot for tourism is a priority then I think we should always be very conscious of putting consideration and emphasis on the heritage aesthetic that is so prevalent here when making decisions. Unique towns like ours can go to shit very quickly when people invested in keeping up with the clinical/sterile modern look and/or no idea about the importance of maintaining a heritage aesthetic make unthought out decisions. A couple of poor decisions which have affected the appearance of the town, not improved upon anything and wasted money have already been made. With this plan Im happy with these specific improvements but I would not be happy if other little "improvements" that appeared to modern and in contradiction to the wingham heritage aesthetic started being implemented alongside it. Things like:  
 - modern shade sales and flags in the mainstreet or central park.  
 - modern decorative fencing around footpath cafe seating (must be a more traditional look).  
 - more clinical grey painted buildings in the main street.  
 - excessively modern street signage.  
 We have an exceptionally unique town with a lot of promise if we make wise decisions moving into the future with improvements.

**Positive comments**

Happy to see improvements

Love them

Thanks for all the great works and look forward to seeing all the additions to this cute country town.

I liked the whole plan. Congrats to the team who put it together. I'm glad that something is finally being done re McCulloch carpark. It has been a long over looked resource for the town.

Our family is very excited for these plans to come to fruition. Wingham is a beautiful town, and these improvements will not only allow locals to enjoy them, but encourage even more tourists to our area, which will support our businesses locally.

Thank you so much for giving our town this facelift

The proposed improvements will enhance the CBD and will hopefully encourage people to visit Wingham.

I'm really excited for the projects to commence and hopefully revitalise the outdated town centre and improve functionality for all.

Seen the plans in the Wingham office - display centre

Thanks for bringing it to the community

I think this is a wonderful initiative to improve Wingham's beautification & upgrade the footpaths, road, carpark & tree planting.

But also very pleased to see work and planning undertaken to improve wingham as it is looking very shabby these days!

About time (2 comments)

All looking good. Perhaps local artists could be involved in the seating areas-either similar to the one at Wingham River near the Brush, with local mosaic, or some other local subject-canoe shaped (?).

The plans look great and will make a big impact to the CBD businesses.

An excellent presentation which will give Isabella St a much needed face lift. IT will also provide shade and encourage community interaction.

It's very exciting to see these plans, I think these works will be a huge boost to Wingham. Thanks to everyone who's been involved!

### **CCTV and crime concerns**

The incorporation of 24 hour CCTV cameras around the town will go along way in making every one feel safe and protect this beautiful investment from increasing vandalism and crime.

Do people know we are getting CCTV instead of a policeman?

The addition of CCTV is also something that could improve my concerns about a sense of security in Wingham cbd

Give us a permanent Police Member and stop the vandals and thieves first, this would be a more beneficial outcome and would allow us to feel more safe.

I would like CCTV to be considered.

CCTV cameras in McCullough carpark necessary to deter vandalism.

Extensive cctv in all areas especially McCullough carpark

### Other comments

You need to update the connection between wingham and wingham sport complex. Add in a pump track at the sporting complex and allow for a footpath between both the sport complex and wingham town.. there is zero pedestrian connection... I'm sure everyone has forgotten about that area

Some of the plans are not practical to the location the designer needs to get out and have a look at the site then plan

Go away you are disturbing nothing good ever happens.

Would be very disappointing if the local businesses weren't involved. Machins Mill, Lincoln Brickworks Wingham Nursery etc. Also can I ask why Primrose & Combine St intersection isn't included?. Also no mention of traffic lights especially at that intersection. Keep the rank at Coles but as a shared space for unloading aswell. No delivery vans or trucks should go into Coles car park.

Another idea a big welcome to Wingham sign erected before cedar party bridge. Our town is very well known for sporting identity's. Corey Brown comes to mind. This presentation is pretty close to the mark but the Wingham community need to own it and stamp it with our twist..

Where are the cycleways and cycle racks . Improve the pedestrian access to build up the pedestrian friendly community centre not just improve for car parking spaces !! Utilise and improve the current parking spaces in and around behind shops of the Isabella shopping precinct and improve walking access to these with good lighting and good surfacing. Improve pedestrian access around shops not car parking. Use back shop parking lots to invite pedestrian use which in turn often means wandering around other shops not just drive park go to one shop and leave. Wingham has a big elderly population all my neighbors love walking down to the coffee shops for a catch up but increased traffic worries them. Would rather see the Isabella coffee shop area be pedestrian access only !! Sadly the elderly of the area and those that would love to see the historic buildings of the area be recognised and showcased instead of making the area all new and shiny !! The real locals that love the real Wingham and love the history of the area more than merely the progressive improvements won't get their say as won't go on line to comment . Please make changes in keeping with the heritage of the area !!

The problem with planting trees in a street is that they very rarely survive long enough to give shade

Include the dangerous intersection near the pool

Bus shelters need to be renewed to make them visually attractive as well as providing a comfortable waiting place for passengers. All business building owners should be encouraged to come on board with the plans and improve the presentation and appearance of their buildings.

don't see the point of seats in the middle of the road with the pedestrian crossing what about the impression of Wingham you get when coming in from Taree off the cedar party creek bridge - it is poor. What's being done about that???

Roads need fixing as well not just the shopping area.

Sort the holes in the roads out

From watching the video presentation it's very exiting living in bent street I am very much in favour of slowing traffic down hence my choice of peanut round about 😊

Someone said the decision was made 20 years ago, based on 20 year old data. Is this true? Other people are calling for a trial removal of car parking spaces, which sounds like a good idea. Let's make this happen!



Every thing old is new again, trees used to line each towns road centre then ripped out for parking, now being put back and each time at great costs. So do it now and leave alone for good, Council must give a commitment to that. Plus once trees are planted which is a good thing, Council will have to turn a deaf ear to complaints of Bats and Starlings in the trees defecating/ noise all the usual complaints. None of the money for this Beatification can come from the road budget 100 million and special rate variation for that was for roads not a brain snap to revitalize street scape. Council must give a commitment that no road money is to be used except on roads surfaces only.

A lot more needs to be put into the community as a whole is putrid and disappointing

Yes I believe it would also be beneficial to replace the rusted handrails at the front of 20 Wynter St as it is a hazard

Roadside at 20 Wynter St near proposed roundabout could also incorporate extra planter boxes to manage risk of pedestrians falling from footpath to road due to the steep incline and perhaps street lighting also to aid this cause.

Fix the pavements.  
Better street hangouts.  
The beautification of shop fronts and awnings. Some are appalling to look at and are often in disrepair.  
The sts of Wingham are so ugly at the moment.

Public art and sculptural elements other than trees would be a great asset

Yes plenty. Will submit in writing to the engineer manager for the project.

### **Comments about the consultation**

Hopeless . And yet this survey response will not submit unless I pick 3 things among all and I detest all. What a joke of a survey

The pop up info stall days/times are not conducive to those who work full time with only one Saturday morning included.

Video is near impossible to see because of overall light levels and small type in the comment/detail boxes

I think the submission date is way too soon and its during holidays when people are away and/or busy. I think the submission date should be extended beyond feb 5th to allow for the whole community to be clear on whats happening and more submissions to be made.

And please extend the deadline for comments beyond 5 February. It's not long enough when people are on holidays for most of January!

### **Don't change anything**

Leave the town untouched

## Appendix 2: Communications materials and social media reports

Flyer:



**MIDCOAST**  
council

# WINGHAM CBD BEAUTIFICATION

### What will Wingham's CBD look like in the future?



A CBD beautification masterplan has been developed to roll out over coming years, and right now we're asking for your help to choose materials, themes and designs to kick off the initial stages. Your input now will influence the overall look and feel of the CBD in the future.

### Footpaths and pavers



A range of different options are being considered for footpaths including bluestone paving (left), special finishes such as exposed aggregate (middle), and pressed clay paving (right).

### Central Park wall and streetscaping



Local bricks are one option that could be used in terraced seating walls along the edge of Central Park.

### Have your say

Key design elements currently being considered will roll out across future beautification projects to deliver a consistent and appealing outcome.

Drop in and chat with our project team to learn more about the masterplan, the initial stages of work to be undertaken in 2021, and to complete the survey:

At: 53 Isabella Street

On: Monday 21 December, 9am-4pm  
 Wednesday 6 January, 8am-12pm  
 Friday 15 January, 10am-2pm  
 Saturday 16 January, 9am-1pm  
 Tuesday 2 February, 8am-12pm  
 Friday 5 February, 9am-4pm

Can't make it?  
 Visit our website or scan the QR code to learn more and complete the survey



[www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/HYS](http://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/HYS)

### Farquhar / Bent Street intersection

Taking a holistic approach to the CBD beautification project, we are also revisiting options for intersections and roundabouts, starting with the Farquhar and Bent Street intersection.

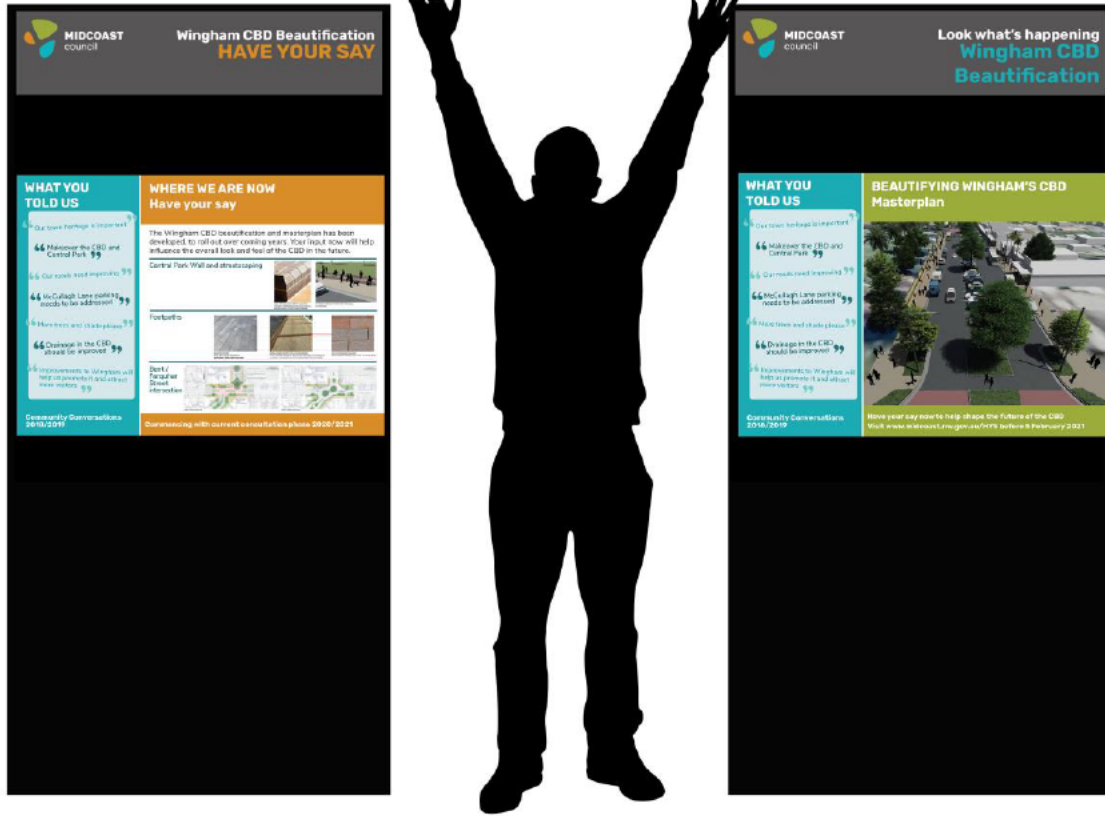


Find out more and get involved.

Consultation closes  
5 February 2021



Display for pop-up shop:



**Facebook posts results:**

**MidCoast Council**  
Published by Meagan Cooper · January 18 at 6:21 PM ·

Hey #Wingham, thanks to everyone who's already dropped in to find out about our plans for your CBD... with such a strong level of interest we've added 2 more pop-up sessions in Isabella Street, the first being this Wednesday, 1 - 4pm.

During this feedback phase we're looking for your input on key design elements that will influence the look and feel of the CBD in the future. Find out more about the project, view remaining pop-up dates, and have your say at <https://bit.ly/2L...> **See More**



MIDCOAST.NSW.GOV.AU  
**Wingham CBD beautification project**  
Have Your Say on key elements of the overall Wingham CBD beauti...

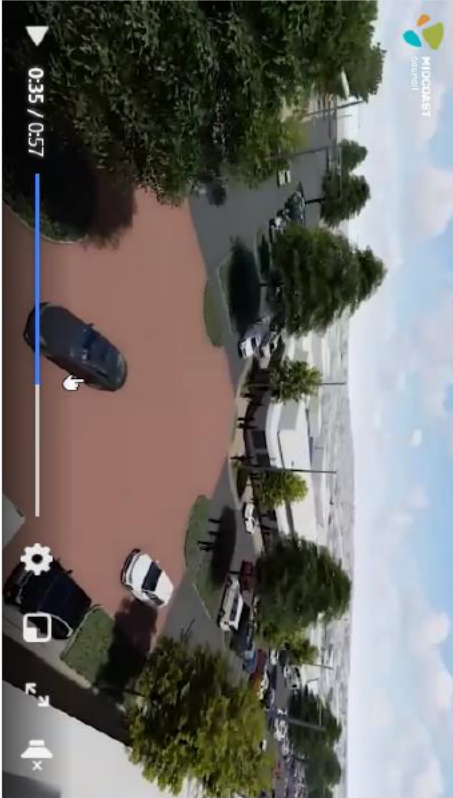
3,776 People Reached      815 Engagements

**Boost Post**

14 Comments 17 Shares

**MidCoast Council**  
Published by Hayley Sansom · December 8, 2020 ·

Hey #Wingham, we've got big plans for your CBD and we'd love you to be involved. Right now we're asking for your feedback to help us with some design and materials choices that will influence the overall look, feel and navigation of the area. From plans for the wall at Central Park, what kind of footpaths you'd like and an updated option for the Bent and Farquhar Street intersection. View the video and then head to the HYS page on our website to find out more and share your t... **See More**



035 / 057

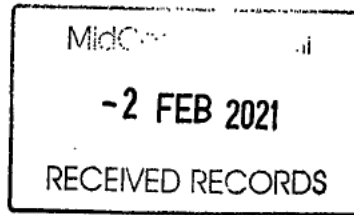
14,191 People Reached      6,722 Engagements

**Boost Post**

158 Comments 113 Shares

## Appendix 3: Submissions

Two submissions were received and are attached on following pages.



Midcoast Council  
PO Box 482  
TAREE NSW 2430

Dear Sir/Madam

**Wingham Beautification Project**

I attach copy of my submission together with photos. The submission has already been lodged electronically. However the photos were not lodged electronically, so could you please link them up with my electronic submission.

Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully



28 January 2021

1

## Context

Wingham was established by reason of it being the highest navigable point on the Manning River. An additional attraction for a new settlement was the availability of fresh water from Cedar Party Creek (initially the northern perimeter of the town). With its busy river traffic (the railway arrived in 1913) serving as a springboard, the town quickly established itself as a regional focus for the timber and beef industries. This timber heritage should be reflected in quality timber signage, rather than "modern" signage.

## Background

\*\*\*Council has engaged a landscape architect. Query whether that person should work in conjunction with a recognised heritage architect. Perhaps all that is needed at this stage is for the heritage architect to review Council's proposals and all submissions, then provide a review with comments on the matters raised in the submissions. To maintain the momentum of community involvement in the project, it is important that the submissions, the comments of the heritage architect (if engaged) and Council's response (with reasons) all be made publicly accessible on Council's website.

\*\*\**The Greater Taree Local Environment Plan 1995* list of "Heritage Items" for Isabella Street includes on the northern side the National Bank Building and nos. 89, 91 (Baby Health Centre and CWA Rooms), 95, 97 and 99 and on the southern side no. 16 (former Liberty Cinema).

\*\*\*This is not a restoration project. Any idea of Wingham having a streetscape like Bangalow, Bellingen or Beechworth VIC is not achievable. This is mainly due to Council's directive (about 1960) to shop owners to remove all stanchions supporting balconies above footpaths. However steps can still be taken to capture a heritage feel, perhaps slightly laid-back.

## Footpath

It might be worth considering the materials used in other heritage locations (eg Bathurst, Daylesford VIC, The Rocks and the places mentioned in the preceding point). Uniformity is most important. I presently favour bluestone (assuming that, once installed, it is reasonably low maintenance). Otherwise, retain existing concrete. Definitely no pink paving – an unwelcome visual intrusion.

## Bent and Farquhar Street intersection

I favour the offset-T intersection. (A "peanut" configuration of roundabout isn't practicable for Wingham's scale. It would be most unusual to have a peanut arrangement so close to the centre of any town.)

## Raised road at Bent and Farquhar Street intersection

The proposed speed humps (described in Council's proposal as "good traffic calming through utilising a raised road surface" seems odd, given that speed humps are normally associated with long straight stretches of road where cars pick up speed. This proposal should not proceed.

## Central Park and wall proposals

Central Park is the jewel in the crown and great care must be taken to protect its integrity. Like Wingham Town Hall (the only coastal town hall between Newcastle and the Queensland border), locals tend to take this wonderful central feature for granted. I favour the stepped wall proposal. Otherwise, there should be minimal "modernising".

## Street lamps

\*\*\*The video includes a modern multifunction lamp which is most unattractive and inconsistent with the town's heritage and feel.

\*\*\*Consideration should be given to the colonial style lamps like those used in Bathurst, Beechworth, Daylesford and those formerly outside Sydney's GPO (photos of all of which are easily accessible on the internet). Perhaps three identical colonial style lamps could be obtained and be placed along Isabella Street – one at Wynter Street, the next at



Bent Street and the third at the roundabout (or maybe at the end of the central parking to the east of the roundabout). Maybe the one in Bent Street would be more effective if located just before the intersection with Farquhar Street. \*\*\*Although Wingham never had street lamps in this style, they provide strong visual reinforcement of colonial and heritage themes. For a prominent feature like this, quality is paramount.

#### **Another decorative possibility**

Another decorative possibility might be the use of one or more large metal wharf bollards, perhaps in Bent or Isabella Streets. This left field idea, if adopted, would be an authentic reminder of the pivotal role which shipping had in Wingham's development over many, many decades. It would also sharply distinguish Wingham from other heritage towns.

#### **Seating**

Again, quality is the key. Ideally, wrought iron with timber slats. (May have to be sourced out of Australia.)

#### **Trees and flowers**

Inclusion of some date palms would echo the beautiful row of date palms in the centre of the southern arm of Bent Street. Apart from that, some measure of uniformity is desirable.

The central strips in Farquhar Street (including the two where refuge crossings might be located) should contain flower beds or low rise shrubs.

#### **Signage**

Where possible (and certainly at the Cedar Party Creek entrance to the town), signage should be quality timber. Additional pedestrian crossings (three are proposed for the Bent/Farquhar Street intersection and at least one more for Isabella Street) will presumably generate signage in both directions warning approaching traffic. The impact of this visual pollution needs to be considered.

#### **Shade**

One inevitable consequence of Council's 1960 directive to remove stanchions was the loss of shade – something rather important, given the heat of Wingham's summers. As Council progresses the beautification plans, it should regularly align the likely end point with the overall provision of shade.

#### **Electric vehicle charging station on perimeter of Central Park**

This would be totally unacceptable. If such a facility is on Council's agenda, then suitable locations might be near the skateboard park (Dennes Street), Chrissie Gollan Park (immediately north of Cedar Party Creek) or the Brush.

#### **Future steps**

\*\*Shop doors and entrances – these can contribute significantly to the tone of the street. Query Council should make grants to shop owners for the installation of sympathetic doorways and door fittings to enhance appearances.

\*\*Steps should be taken to improve unattractive shop buildings in Isabella Street. About three years ago a non-resident (Sydney) architect proposed in relation to a then current improvement plan for Wingham to paint/restore the more run-down shopfronts, with owners/tenants bearing half the cost and Council the other half. Implementation of this (or any other plan to improve the more run down shops) would give an immediate boost to the quality of Isabella Street's appearance.

\*\*\*Railway station – this is outside the present project and beyond Council's control. However Taree has one of the most attractive stations in the State, but Wingham has one of the least attractive. Council might ask the relevant State authority to tweak the appearance of the station (even colonial style paint colouring would be an improvement) in a low cost way.

#### **Summary**

Modernisation is not needed. The goal should be reiteration of the traditional concepts which over the years have defined Wingham's character.

# ABC NEWS



## Lamp post in Bathurst with traffic, 2017

Updated Tue 17 Jul 2018, 3:18pm

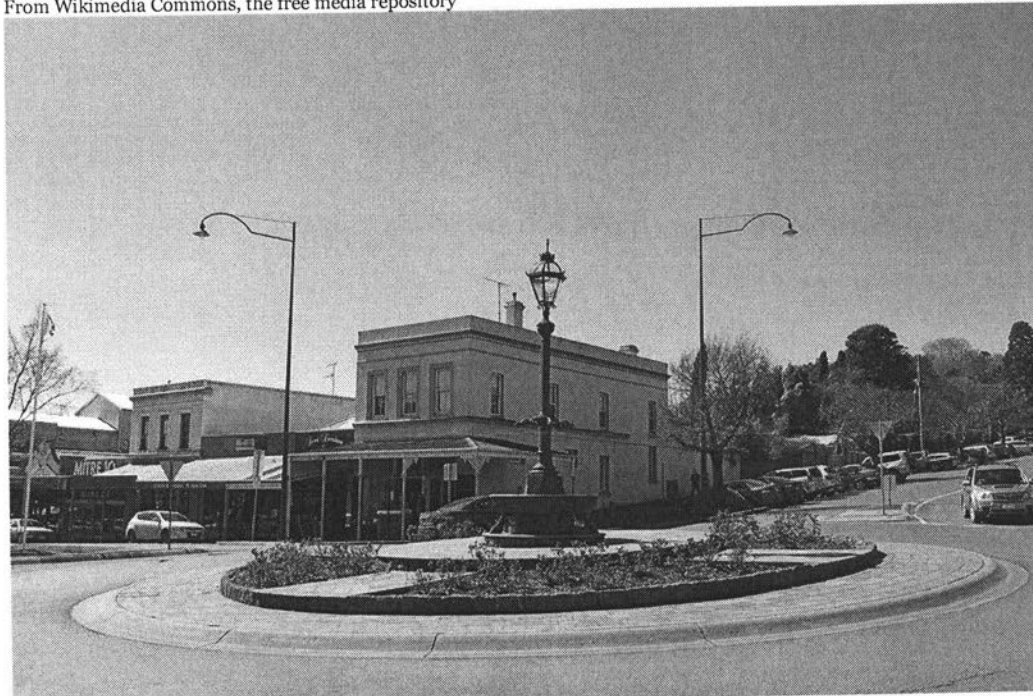
Traffic navigating around one of Bathurst's historic lamp posts.

ABC Central West: Melanie Pearce

Topics: road-transport

# File:Daylesford Roundabout and Lamp 001.JPG

From Wikimedia Commons, the free media repository



Size of this preview: 800 × 532 pixels.

Original file (6,016 × 4,000 pixels, file size: 7.81 MB, MIME type: image/jpeg); ZoomViewer: [flash/no flash](#)

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## Captions

[Edit](#) ^

English  

## Summary

<b>Description</b>	English: Roundabout and a decorative lamp post at <a href="#">Daylesford, Victoria</a>
<b>Date</b>	31 August 2013, 12:01:23
<b>Source</b>	Own work
<b>Author</b>	<a href="#">Mattinbgn</a> (talk · contribs)

**Camera location** [37° 20′ 37.2″ S, 144° 08′ 31.87″ E \(https://geohack.toolforge.org/geohack.php?pagename=File:Daylesford\\_Roundabout\\_and\\_Lamp\\_001.JPG&params=-37.343667\\_N\\_0144.142185\\_E\\_globe:Earth\\_type:camera\)](https://geohack.toolforge.org/geohack.php?pagename=File:Daylesford_Roundabout_and_Lamp_001.JPG&params=-37.343667_N_0144.142185_E_globe:Earth_type:camera)

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You are here: Home / Travel / Destinations / Destination Beechworth Australia; Mayberry in the Land Down Under



# Destination Beechworth Australia; Mayberry In The Land Down Under

BY GLENN HARRIS ON 13TH NOVEMBER 2018

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Many of us remember Mayberry as Smalltown USA where everyone knows each other, it's safe and friendly, and where there is a cast of characters that make the small town as interesting as any big city. There's a place down under like that that's become a sought after tourism destination where although you won't find Sheriff Andy, Barney Fife or Aunt Bea, you will find colorful small town people who are just as warm and friendly and who couldn't be more welcoming.

The town of Beechworth is a well preserved town and, other than the paved roads and fancy cars, looks just like it did back in the early 1900s. The town is well preserved with signage and architecture and buildings that look just as they did when this was the most affluent town in Australia as a result of the gold rush of the 1850's. This town is also renowned for some not-so-nice characters such as their version of Billy the Kid, Ned Kelly, who was a marauder and famous tenant of their jail for a number of years.



alamy

rope around a bollard on the quay of the harbour - Image ID: M936YN



rope around a bollard on the quay of the harbour

**Contributor:** JADA photography / Alamy Stock Photo

**Image ID:** M936YN

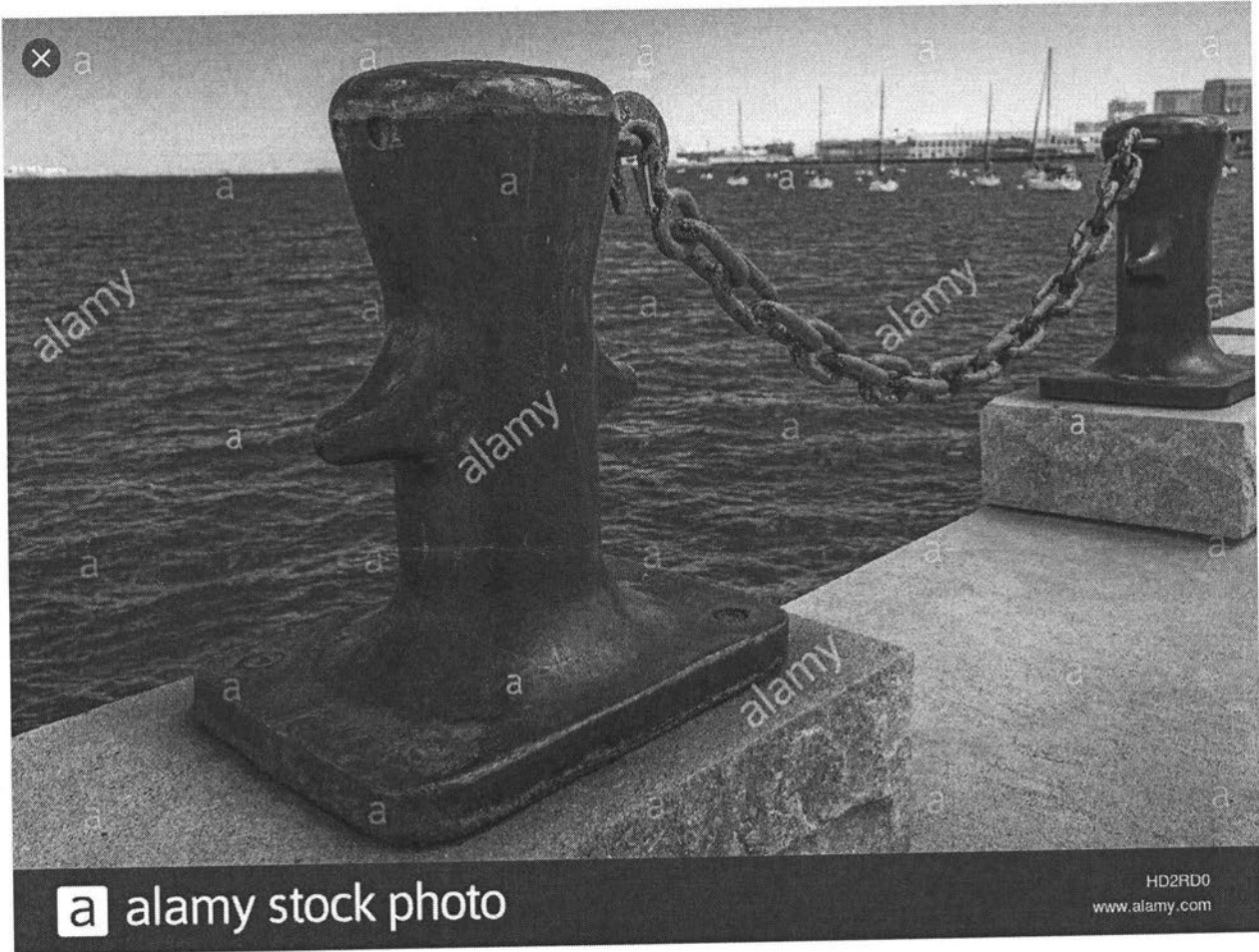
**File size:** 34.9 MB (2 MB Compressed download)

**Dimensions:** 4288 x 2848 px | 36.3 x 24.1 cm | 14.3 x 9.5 inches | 300dpi

**Releases:** Model - no | Property - no | Do I need a release?

**Date taken:** 8 June 2014

**Location:** IJmuiden, Nederland



## Wharf Bollards High Resolution Stock Photography and Images - Alamy

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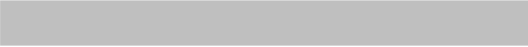
**From:** OpenForms  
**Sent:** Tue, 2 Feb 2021 12:29:21 +1100  
**To:** MidCoast Council  
**Subject:** Report & Request Form Submission



## Report & Request Form Submission

MCCR&R5233

When to use this form	
Your details	
Title	Mr
Surname	
Firstname	
Your postal Address	
Contact telephone number(s)	
Email address	
How should we contact	Telephone

you if we need to?	
How can we help you today?	
What is the problem / service request about?	Other: Proposed plan for Wingham CBD
Which Council region are you located in?	Manning region
Where is the problem / or service request located ? (exact location or address) Location of problem or required service? ( Please provide a full	



address).	
Please provide a short summary of the problem / service request:	<p>Looking at the plan I see the detrimental effect the loss of existing car parks and the negative effect it will have on businesses such as the butchers, fruit shop and newsagency (arguably the hub of the street) with a majority elderly cliental wanting quick and easy access. Taking up the precious car parks out the front of these 3 shops for a "loading zone" and a garden/tree and curb side dining (opposite) is unnecessary as these business have rear access for stock and deliveries etc. This is a major oversight and will definitely loose customers that are wanting easy access to these shops and already find it difficult to park close enough now. A rethink of the location of the loading dock and maximising car parks in this section of the street is a must. From looking at the proposed plan approximately 16 car spaces will lost in thi s already popular and busy section of the street. We should be looking at maximising customers at our shops and spaces for them to park, not losing them in a effort to "look pretty".</p>
Additional information that may help us resolve the request:	<p>Issues have been raised numerous times in person (primarily the loading zone location) with staff at the council pop up shop in Wingham.</p>
Upload a picture(s) or document(s) that may help us if	

you wish:	
Privacy	

Email secured by Check Point