

Rockingham: *Our City, Our Future*
Community Survey

Prepared for
City of Rockingham

Report
March 2013



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Rockingham has resolved to prepare a new Town Planning Scheme that is intended to replace the existing Town Planning Scheme No.2. To assist this work, a Local Planning Strategy is being developed that will guide the direction of the new Town Planning Scheme. In this regard, the City has undertaken a program of engagement to understand community values and attitudes to key planning issues including: housing, community health and wellbeing, employment and economic development, heritage and environment, and transport.

The community engagement program consisted of workshops, online surveys, social media and public displays. A total of 467 residents and ratepayers of the City of Rockingham took the opportunity to participate in the survey to help plan the future of the City.

Survey questions were framed based on a theme “live, work, and play” in order to elicit the community’s views and aspirations on how the City should grow in the next 20 years and beyond. To the theme ‘where we live’, the community has responded by saying that a combination of strategies would be the best way to address the State Government’s housing density target and support the redevelopment of areas that have small older style homes on big blocks. With the exception of eight-storey apartments the majority of survey respondents supported the adoption of all the housing types in the future development of Rockingham.

Aiming to the creation of employment and thereby ensuring the future prosperity of the City, survey questions related to a ‘where we work’ theme revealed the community’s passion for working in Rockingham and their willingness to walk or cycle or use public transport to go for work both within and outside the City.

Under the theme ‘where we shop’, survey questions were aimed at identifying the shopping preferences of the community. Responses established that people prefer to shop at the major shopping centre in Rockingham or other large centres within Rockingham and felt that there was an adequate supply of large centres (54.8 per cent), suburban centres (65.6 per cent) and local shops (64.6 per cent); however the availability of corner shops was thought to be poor (50.6 per cent). Almost 86 per cent of the respondents prefer to access shopping centres by car, however several people commented that they would be likely to use public transport if it was available or if it was more reliable.

An overwhelming number of respondents felt that the development of Rockingham must coincide with the protection of the natural environment and would like to see public open space that combines parks with natural areas and bushland.

More than 70 per cent of the respondents revealed that they socialise in venues or places around Rockingham. A number of suggestions have also been made in regards to planning for future social and cultural venues.

The importance of public transport to access places within the City and outside was highlighted in the survey when planning for the future.

Fifty per cent of the respondents mentioned the natural beauty of the beach and/or the foreshore as part of what they loved about Rockingham. As distinct from the physical

aspects of the beach a further 16 people said it was the beach character of the area and 26 people said it was the relaxed, casual holiday atmosphere of Rockingham that they valued and wanted to see retained.

When asked what they didn't like or what should be addressed with planning, the major theme was that of antisocial behaviour, including issues such as crime, littering, and graffiti. People suggested that there was a need for a stronger police presence including more police stations. Respondents generated an extensive list of amenities, services and venues that the City should include in its planning for the future.

INTRODUCTION

The City of Rockingham has resolved to prepare a new Town Planning Scheme (TPS) that is intended to replace the existing Town Planning Scheme No.2. It is preparing a Local Planning Strategy that will guide the direction of the new TPS.

The purpose of the Local Planning Strategy (LPS) is to provide strategic direction to the long-term land use planning and development within the City. In this regard, the LPS is intended to incorporate short, medium and long-term recommendations to 2031 and beyond. It will set out the long-term strategic direction for land use within the City and consider a wide range of economic, social and environmental issues. It will also provide the basis for zonings and other requirements in a TPS.

Community input is a vital component in the development of the Local Planning Strategy. The City has undertaken a program of engagement to understand community values and attitudes to key planning issues including: housing, community health and wellbeing, employment and economic development, heritage and environment, and transport. In addition, existing Council, community, State and regional plans and strategies and census data will provide focus and direction for the development of the Strategy.

The Local Planning Strategy engagement process builds upon existing community input via the 10-Year *Strategic Community Plan* adopted by Council in March 2011 and creates a further understanding of community needs and aspirations.

A *Community Engagement Strategy* was developed to promote and build community awareness of the LPS process and guide the ways the City will engage with the community.

Extensive consultation has been undertaken to inform the preparation of the LPS. Bodhi Alliance was part of the consultation team contracted by the City of Rockingham to undertake the community engagement, which consisted of workshops, online surveys, social media and public displays. This report is the presentation of the survey results, which was conducted via online and paper and pencil questionnaires as part of the larger consultation process.

PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY

As part of the larger community consultation process, the survey sought to inform the residents of the City of Rockingham about the process and purpose of the Local Planning Strategy and Town Planning Scheme review and elicit feedback from residents on their desires and aspirations for the future development of Rockingham. The main areas of interest for the survey were:

1. How the City will determine the housing density and types for its community in order to meet the residential and lifestyle needs of the community and cater for population growth.
2. Where the City will allocate the Industrial/Commercial/Business zones to support the creation of local employment and foster development to ensure the future prosperity of the City and the community.
3. How the new planning scheme will respond to the current and future needs of our growing community, providing community facilities and structures that will support the health and wellbeing of our community.
4. How the City will meet its obligations to protect the environment and heritage.
5. How to plan for the transport, traffic, and travel requirements of the community now and in the future in the context of various, competing land uses.

METHODOLOGY

SURVEY INSTRUMENT

The survey contained quantitative and qualitative questions on the following topics:

- Where we live – Types of housing supported for the future development of Rockingham;
- Where we work – Planning for employment in Rockingham;
- Where we shop – Planning for shopping;
- Our environment – Key environmental considerations;
- Where we play – Parks and social opportunities; and
- Getting around – Planning for public transport;

In addition, respondents were asked three qualitative questions on their vision for Rockingham.

Supporting fact sheets to survey questionnaire were provided as background information to community members, and focused on the following key topics:

- LPS process;
- Where we live;
- Where we work and shop; and
- Where we play and how we move around.

A copy of the Survey is attached as **Appendix B** and **Fact Sheets as Appendices C1, C2, C3, and C4**.

SURVEY METHODS

The survey questionnaire was made available online through Survey Monkey on the City's dedicated webpage and Facebook page along with the fact sheets.

The printed copies of the survey questionnaire and fact sheets were made available to the community at the Council Administration Building, Libraries, Mike Barnett Sports Complex, Challenger Institute (TAFE) and the Aqua Jetty Complex. Printed copies of the Surveys were also distributed to workshop participants and at the City's stall at the Rockingham Community Fair.

DATA ANALYSIS

All survey responses were coded and analysed. Frequency analysis was conducted so that the results would demonstrate the number and percentage of people responding to each question. The qualitative information is evidence in its own right. Where appropriate, this information is used to provide supporting documentation.

For each item on the survey, the following information is presented:

- **Frequency analysis:** (the number of times a response is given) was undertaken of people who had responded to the question and graphed as a percentage of those who commented; and
- **Qualitative Analysis:** Comments of respondents.

COLLECTION OF POPULATION SAMPLES

Survey collection was conducted in November 2012. A total of 467 people took part in the survey.

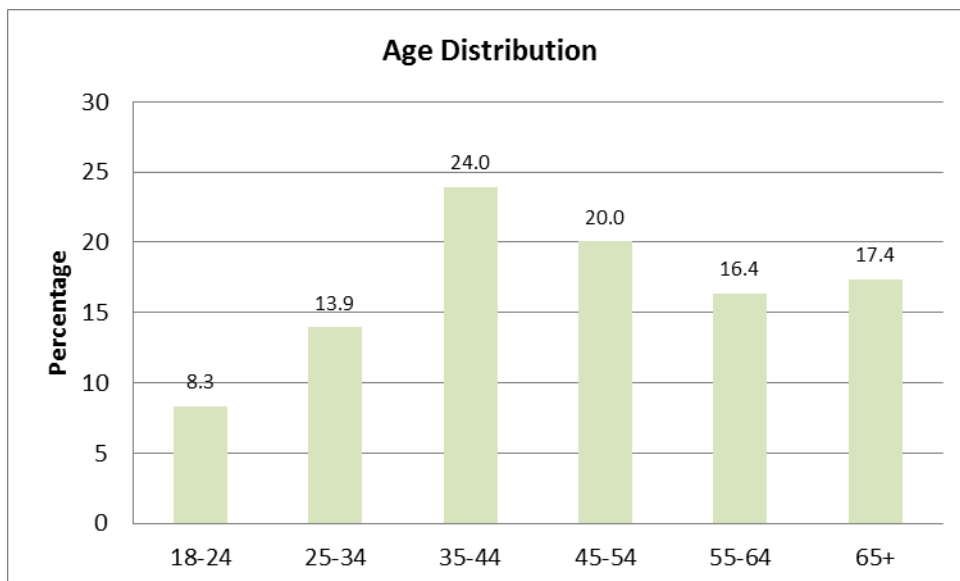
The web link to the Survey Monkey was extensively advertised through the course of the consultation process and 304 persons took the opportunity to participate in the online survey. The rest of the respondents used printed copies of the survey questionnaire.

Gender

Fifty four per cent of respondents did not specify their gender. Of those who did 38 per cent were male and 62 per cent were female.

Age

As can be seen in the graph below, all age groups were represented in the sample population, however 12.5 per cent of respondents did not specify their age.

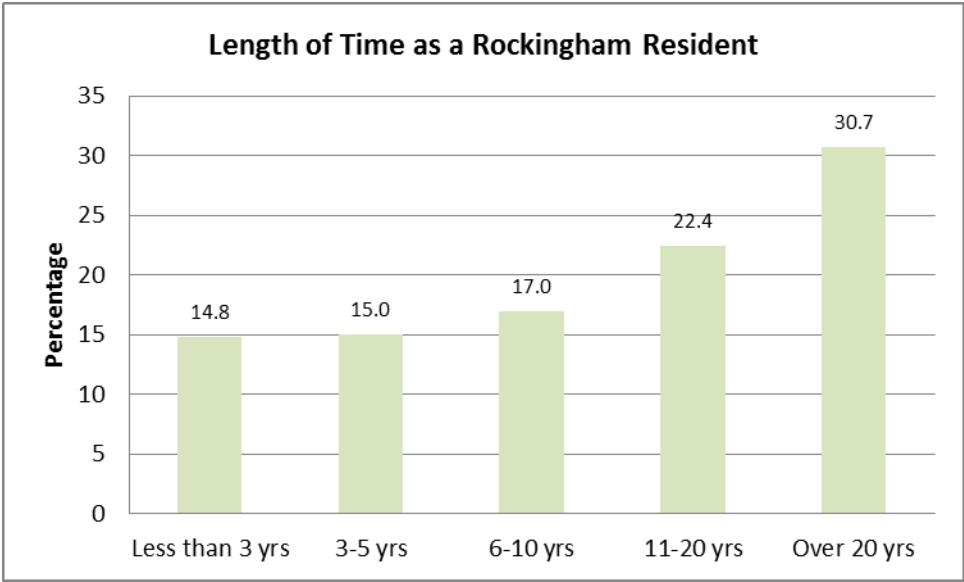


Live in Rockingham

Of those responded to this question, 90.7 per cent live in Rockingham and 9.3 per cent live outside. Approximately, 2.8 per cent did not respond to this question.

Approximately 11.3 per cent of respondents did not respond to the question of owning a property in Rockingham. Of those that did, 80.9 per cent said they owned a property in Rockingham. It should be noted that all those who responded to the survey either lived in Rockingham or had a rental property in Rockingham or intended to buy a property in Rockingham.

Approximately 1.7 per cent of respondents did not specify the length of time they had lived in Rockingham. Of those who did respond, the majority had lived in Rockingham in excess of 10 years.



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

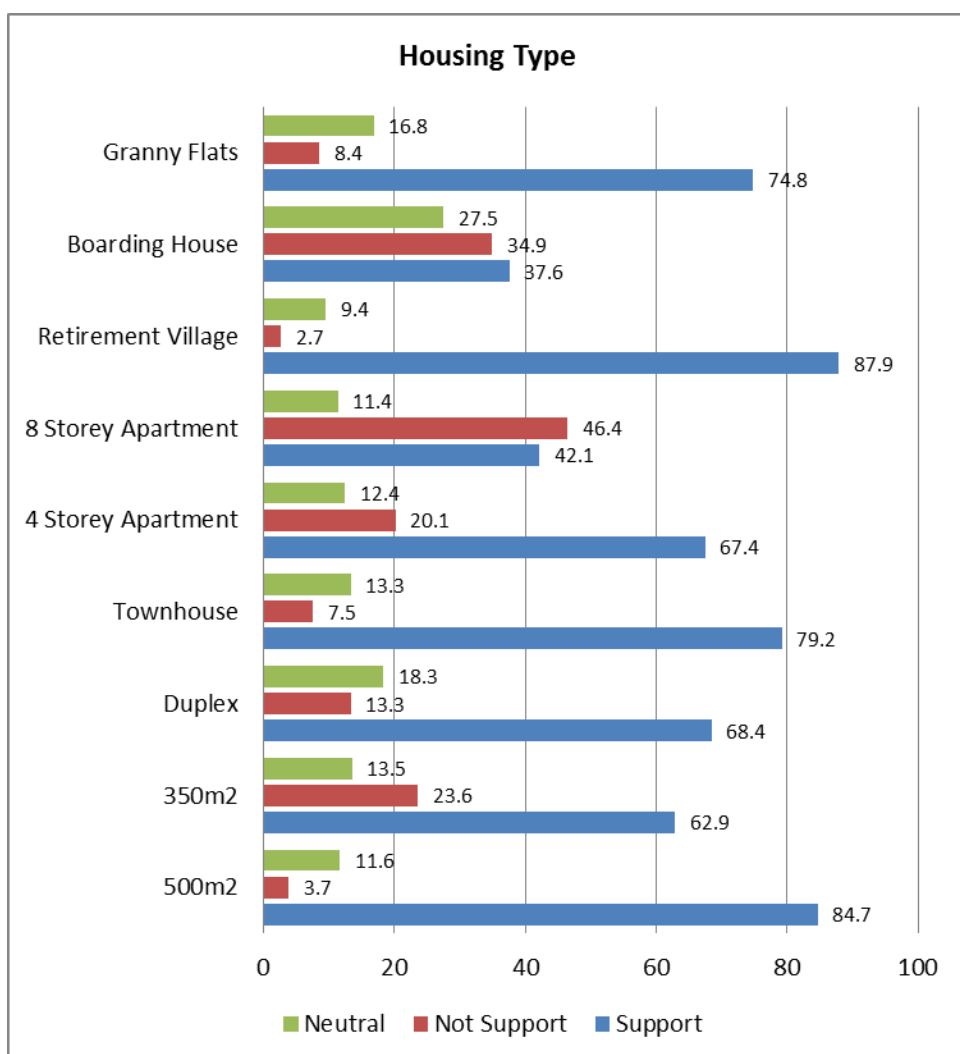
WHERE WE LIVE

WHAT TYPE OF HOUSING DO YOU SUPPORT FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF ROCKINGHAM?

With the exception of eight-storey apartments the majority of respondents support the adoption of all the housing types in the future development of Rockingham.

Eight-storey apartments were supported by 42.1 per cent of respondents; however 46.4 per cent of respondents did not support this housing type.

There was a mixed reaction to Boarding houses, 37.6 per cent supported the inclusion of boarding houses in planning for the future, almost as many (34.9 per cent) did not support the inclusion of boarding houses and a large proportion of the respondents (27.5 per cent) were neutral about the use of boarding houses.



Other types of housing suggested included:

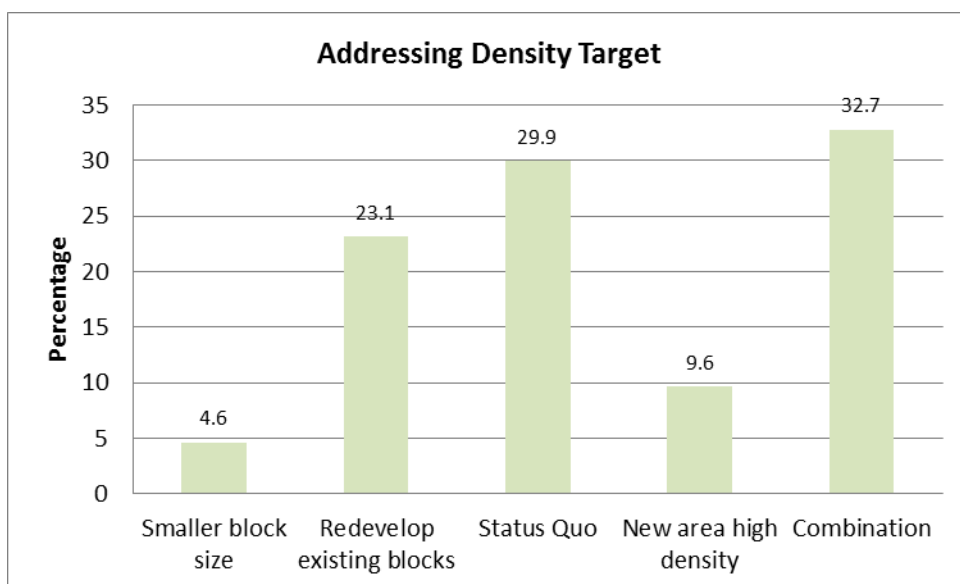
- Eight-storey multipurpose Housing/commercial;
- Hotels;
- Caravan parks;
- Caravan parks with permanent accommodation;
- Twelve-storey apartments;
- Emergency accommodation (homeless, youth, domestic violence etc.);
- Apartments at the train station;
- Townhouses and apartments over shops and restaurants;
- Large residential blocks;
- Lifestyle villages for families;
- Low income housing (and retirement villages);
- Rural properties;
- Backpackers; and
- Up to three-storey on 500 m² blocks.

Several people discussed the need for more public housing, however other respondents felt that Rockingham has a problem with 'state housing' tenants and did not support more.

Respondents suggested that future development needed to be environmentally sensitive and sustainable and that the appropriateness of the type of housing was determined by the area; for example, eight-storey apartments may be appropriate in some areas but not others.

THE CITY IS REQUIRED TO INCREASE DENSITY OF HOUSING IN EXISTING URBAN RESIDENTIAL AREAS BY 50 PER CENT. HOW WOULD YOU PREFER THE CITY TO ADDRESS THIS HOUSING DENSITY TARGET?

The majority of respondents felt that a combination of strategies would be the best way to address the density target.



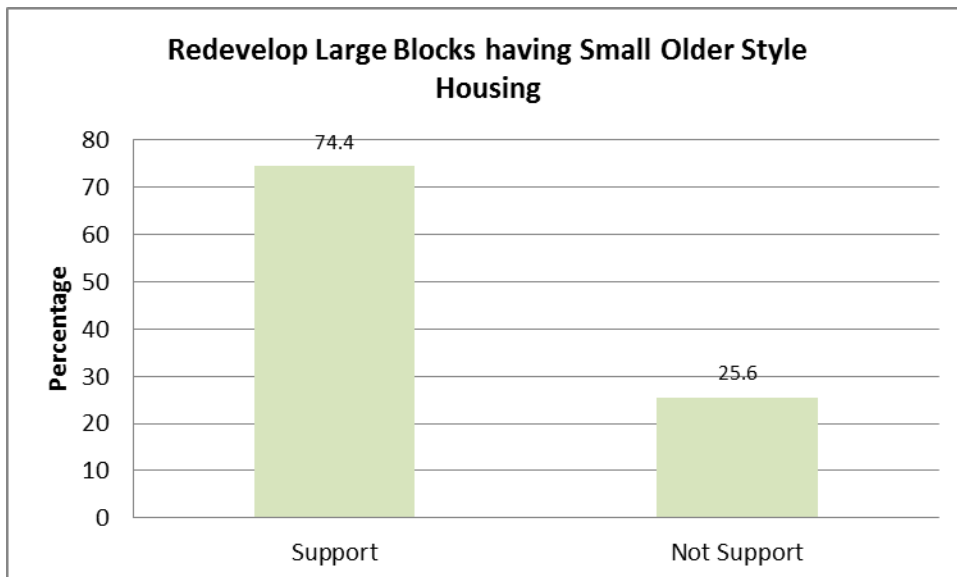
Other suggestions included:

- English style terraces and units;
- Apartments over water to protect the coast;
- High density around public transport, especially the train;
- Reduce block size to 220m²;
- Develop the rural blocks to protect the coast from development;
- Percentage of housing to be matched by public open space; and
- Rezone R20 to R40.

Several people were concerned that high density areas would become ghettos. Fifteen persons suggested that Council should not accept the State Government's requirement for higher density.

DO YOU SUPPORT THE REDEVELOPMENT OF AREAS THAT HAVE SMALL OLDER STYLE HOUSING ON BIG BLOCKS?

The majority of respondents (74.4 per cent) support the redevelopment of areas that have small older style housing on big blocks.



WHERE WE WORK

DO YOU CURRENTLY WORK OUTSIDE THE CITY OF ROCKINGHAM?

The majority of respondents did not work outside the City of Rockingham; however many of the respondents did not work and were either retired or had home duties. Of those responded, 38.6 per cent of respondents worked outside the City of Rockingham. When asked why they did not work in the City of Rockingham, the majority felt that there were not sufficient employment opportunities, particularly in their areas of expertise. Other reasons given included:

- Personal business outside the City (7);

- Limited opportunities in my field (52);
- There are limited employment opportunities in Rockingham (42);
- Work in Kwinana (9);
- Had the job before moving to Rockingham (8);
- Government position in Perth (7);
- Fly in-Fly out (6);
- Pay rates are lower in Rockingham (6);
- Work at various locations (e.g. sub-contractor) (5);
- Studying (3);
- Prefer to work outside Rockingham (3); and
- Used to work in Rockingham and was transferred (1).

PLANNING FOR TRAVELLING TO WORK

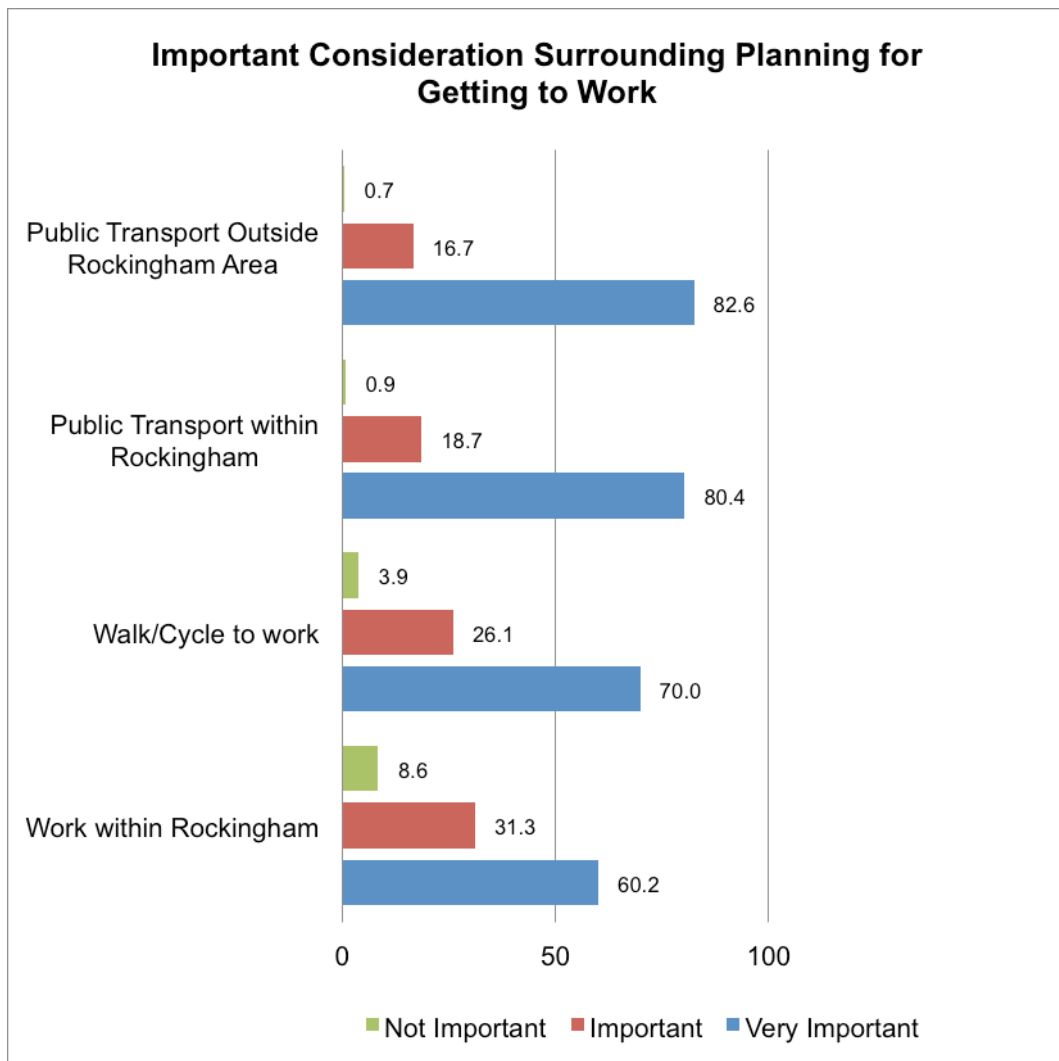
Respondents were asked to rate the importance of planning for the City's residents:

- To work in Rockingham;
- To walk/cycle to work in Rockingham;
- To access public transport to work in Rockingham; and
- To access public transport to work in areas outside Rockingham.

The majority of respondents felt that it was very important to work in Rockingham and expressed walking and cycling as to be their preferred mode of travel to work. In regards to planning for accessing public transport to work both within the City of Rockingham and outside, the majority responded positively.

When asked for other issues that need to be considered when planning for the way we will work in the future, the following issues and suggestions were raised:

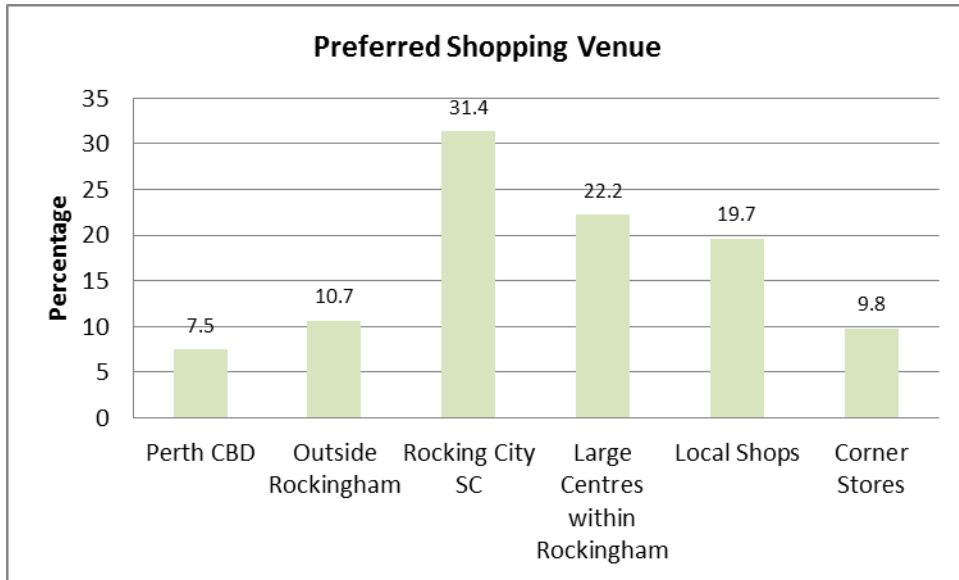
- Better public transport (26);
- Infrastructure needed included (24): child care facilities, deep sewerage, cycle paths, foot paths, upgraded rural roads, shade at playgrounds, parking at train stations and the foreshore, youth facilities and increased road layouts to reduce the traffic congestion;
- Suggestions to encourage employment included (20): incentives, increased internet access, flexible work hours, and the creation of office space. Two groups mentioned for increased employment opportunities were university students and the disabled. Many respondents thought that home businesses or people working from home would become more pronounced in the future;
- The need for light rail, particularly from the train station and suburbs to the CBD, hospital, shopping centres and the University (10);
- Better and cheaper access to technology, particularly the internet for business and the perceived increase in home businesses (7);
- The need for more police, security guards and emergency services (5);
- Train stations at Secret Harbour and Singleton (4); and
- More mixed use residential/retail/commercial areas to encourage employment and to reduce the underutilisation of areas (3).



WHERE WE SHOP

WHERE DO YOU PREFER TO SHOP?

When asked where they preferred to shop the majority of respondents (31.4 per cent) said they preferred to shop at the major shopping centre in Rockingham or other large centres within Rockingham (22.2 per cent).



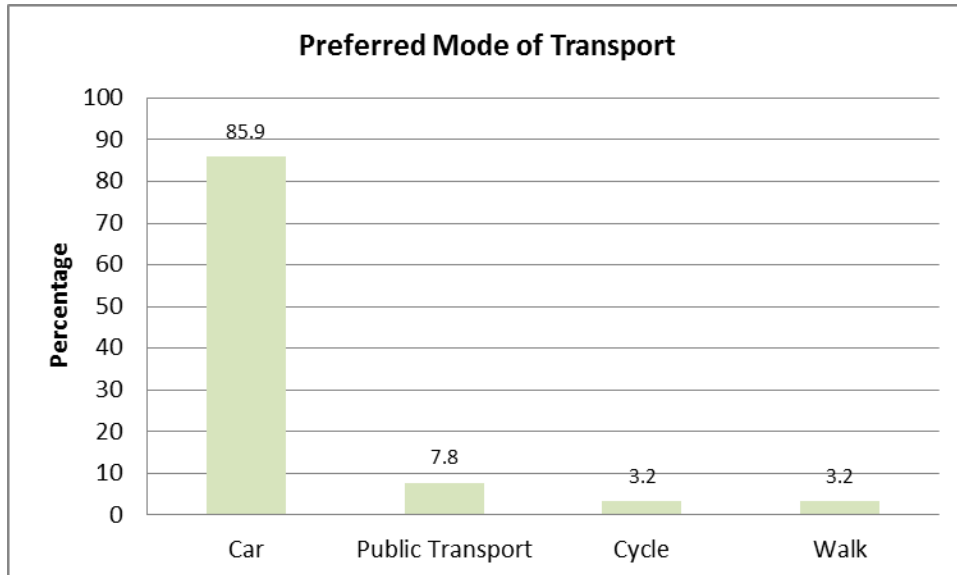
HOW DO YOU RATE THE AVAILABILITY OF SHOPPING CENTRES IN ROCKINGHAM?

When asked to rate the availability of shopping centres in Rockingham, the majority thought there was an adequate supply of large centres (54.8 per cent), suburban centres (65.6 per cent) and local shops (64.6 per cent); however the availability of corner shops was thought to be poor (50.6 per cent).



HOW DO YOU PREFER TO ACCESS SHOPPING CENTRES?

When asked how they preferred to access shopping centres, the majority of respondents said they use a car (85.9 per cent). However several people commented that they would be likely to use public transport if it was available or if it was more reliable.



OUR ENVIRONMENT

WHAT ARE THE KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES THAT NEED TO BE CONSIDERED WHEN PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE?

The majority of respondents felt that the development of Rockingham must coincide with protection of the natural environment. Several respondents mentioned the need to alter the way developers open new housing areas by citing the bulldozing of trees and sand dunes at Baldvis as practices that should not be encouraged.

Specific areas of the environment that were mentioned that need protecting included:

- Mature trees;
- Beaches;
- Point Peron;
- Native bushland;
- Biodiversity;
- Lakes (Lake Richmond);
- Wetlands;
- Black Cockatoos and their habitat;
- Local wildlife;
- Flora and fauna;
- Sand dunes;
- Marine life and seagrass;
- Heritage areas;

- Indigenous heritage; and
- Beach access.

There was awareness that to protect the environment people would need to be encouraged to embrace the concept of sustainability. Specific areas to be encouraged include:

- Public transport;
- Water saving (water wise gardens, recycled grey water, water tanks);
- Environmental awareness;
- Carbon neutral developments;
- Sustainable building design (verandas);
- Sustainable energy, solar panels;
- Walking/cycling;
- Tree lined streets;
- The elderly to downsize their homes;
- Community gardens; and
- Recycling.

Respondents suggested that planning should aim for:

- Psychological well-being;
- Maximum useable Public Open Space (POS);
- Sea level rise/climate change;
- Aged friendly/disabled friendly development;
- Family recreation;
- Adequate services;
- Another exit from the hospital;
- Increased health facilities;
- Better rubbish collection;
- Better road designs;
- Cycle and foot paths;
- Decentralisation so that people can work, live and play in the same area;
- Deep sewerage;
- Slow growth;
- Youth facilities;
- Waste management;
- Play areas for children;
- Truck only roads;
- Parks in all suburbs;
- More police/security;
- Free community gardens;
- The effects of global warming;
- Green areas within developments;
- More restaurants on the foreshore;
- Large blocks;
- Industry; and
- Cycle friendly/walkable city.

Respondents felt that planning should aim to reduce:

- Visual pollution;
- Traffic congestion;
- Air and water pollution;
- Pollution of the beach and pollution from industry;
- Littering;
- Beach erosion;
- The use of fossil fuels;
- Graffiti;
- Vandalism;
- Rubbish from residents, tourists, ships and motorists;
- High density ghettos;
- Smells from sewerage treatment plant;
- Over-industrialisation;
- Over-development;
- Over-crowding;
- Waste;
- Traffic noise; and
- Stormwater runoff.

And that plans should not include:

- Inland canals;
- Industry on the beach;
- Development of Point Peron;
- Nuclear waste at Kwinana;
- Smelly factories;
- Live sheep trade; and
- Wall-to-wall housing.

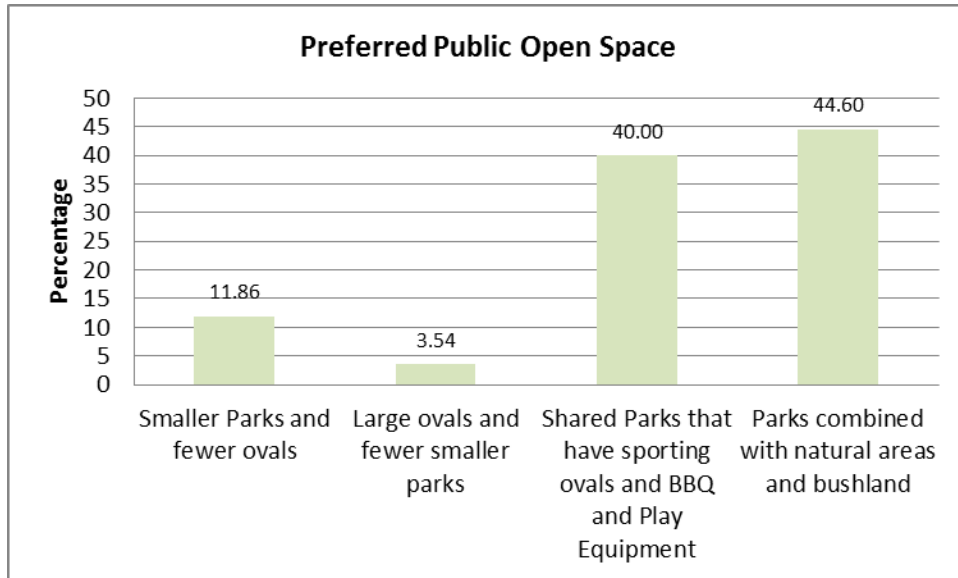
Respondents felt there was a need for:

- More burn-off in bushland areas;
- More tip passes;
- Cheaper public transport;
- More dustbins and public toilets; and
- More street cleaning.

WHERE WE PLAY

PREFERENCE FOR RECREATIONAL AREAS

The majority of people would like to see public open space that combines parks with natural areas and bushland (44.6 per cent).



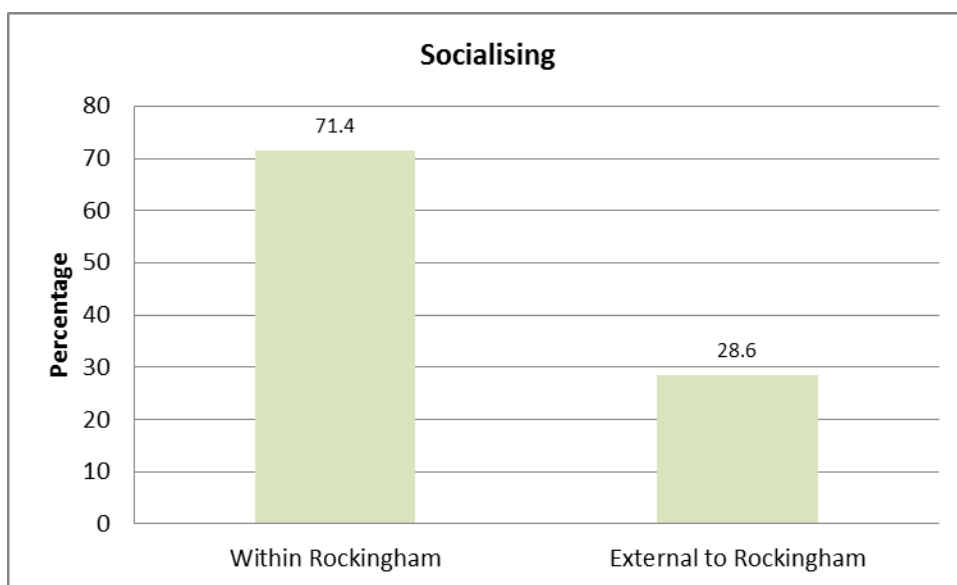
Other comments on public open space included:

- Natural bush areas, or a park similar to Kings Park (16);
- Combination of the types of parks (10);
- Fun play equipment for children (7);
- Currently have a good mix (6);
- Dog exercise areas (5);
- Protect Point Peron (4);
- Toilet facilities at parks (3);
- Skate park (2);
- Parks to be well maintained (2);
- Encouraging sport should be a priority (2);
- Spaces for teenagers (2);
- Will need more as the City grows (2);
- Bridle trails (2);
- Public transport to parks (1);
- Adventure playground (1);
- More trees (1);
- Beach area (1);
- Food garden (1);
- Cultural/performing arts centre (1);
- Designated sporting facilities (1);
- More trailer parking at the boat ramp (1);

- Enclosed playgrounds for safety (1);
- More parks in the suburbs (1);
- Family bike path through parkland (1);
- Keep existing parks, as much green as possible (1);
- Lakes (1);
- Areas for bush walking (1);
- Sporting arenas need to be affordable (1);
- Tennis wall (1); and
- Similar facility to John Graham Park at Woodman Point (1).

DO YOU MAINLY SOCIALISE AT PLACES OR VENUES IN ROCKINGHAM?

The majority of respondents socialise in venues or places around Rockingham (71.4 per cent).



WHAT SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES WILL WE NEED TO PLAN FOR THE FUTURE?

A number of suggestions were made for further consideration and they include:

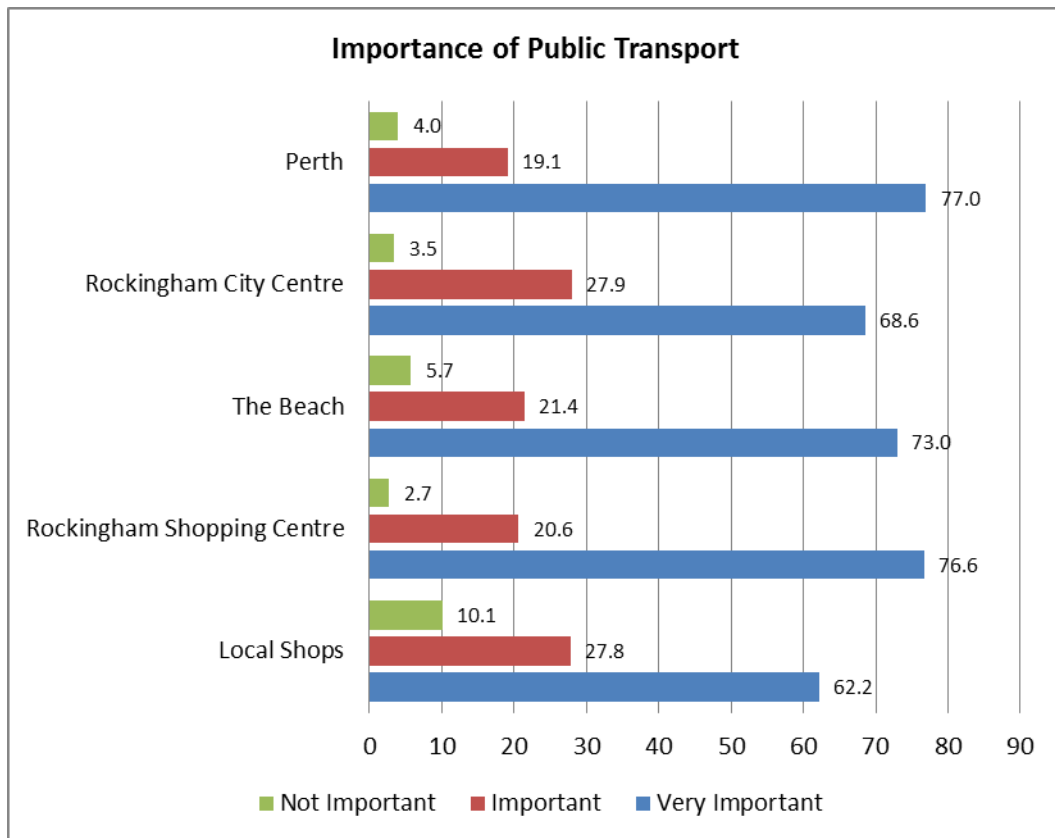
- Clubs for mixed generations (49);
- Youth facilities (49);
- Facilities for the aged (25);
- Entertainment complex/concert hall (21);
- More restaurants along the coast (away from the CBD) (20);
- Cultural/performing arts centre (14);
- Close the night club/sex shops or move them (14);
- Good sporting facilities (13);
- More festivals – community events (12);
- Facilities for children (including disabled children) (9);
- Beaches (8);
- Marine based/aquatic facilities (7);
- Safe night life (7);
- More parks, shaded areas, BBQs (7);
- Family entertainment (family friendly venues) (7);
- Facilities for the retired (4);

- Small bars (4);
- Cycle race track (4);
- Police presence to ensure safety (4);
- Opportunities for people to volunteer (3);
- Outdoor markets (3);
- Art gallery (3);
- Aquatic centre (3);
- Improved services for the aged (2);
- Christmas pageant (2);
- Theatre (2);
- Family restaurants (2);
- Caravan Park (2);
- Village type shopping (along the road) (2);
- Dog parks, dog friendly areas (2);
- Cinemas (2);
- Encourage activity not just eating and drinking (2);
- More community centres (2);
- Fun park (1);
- Pool hall (1);
- Extended public transport hours (1);
- Community gardens (1);
- Men's shed (1);
- Night clubs and bars (1);
- Non-religious private schools (1);
- Quad and dirt bike parks (1);
- Fun run (1);
- Interactive social places (1);
- Rockingham hotel rebuilt as a 5 star hotel (1); and
- Changing areas for swimmers (1).

GETTING AROUND

WHEN PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE HOW IMPORTANT IS IT TO PROVIDE PUBLIC TRANSPORT?

Respondents felt that public transport was a very important issue when planning for the future. Seventy seven per cent felt that it was very important to plan for public transport to Perth and 10.1 per cent felt it was not important to plan for public transport to the local shops. With the exception of the local shops, less than 6 per cent felt that it was not important to plan for public transport to Rockingham City Centre, the beach, Rockingham Shopping Centre and Perth.



The following were suggested as areas that will need to be considered:

- A good service to all areas (22);
- Light rail to Fremantle (22);
- Train station (18);
- Schools and university (18);
- Light industrial area (18);
- Baldivis (10);
- Hospital (7);
- Tram/light rail down Read Street (5);
- To the airport (5);
- Foreshore (4);
- Safety Bay (4);
- Outlying suburbs (4);
- Train station at Secret Harbour (3);
- Secret Harbour (3);
- Light rail from the foreshore to train station (3);
- Mandurah (3);
- Karnup (2);
- Kwinana industrial area (2);
- Light rail to the foreshore (2);
- Penguin Island (2);
- Singleton (2);
- Rural areas (2);
- More taxis in Rockingham (2);
- Garden Island (2);

- Golden Bay (1);
- Cycle paths (1);
- Southern suburbs (1);
- Clipper service around Rockingham (1);
- Warnbro (1); and
- More parking at train stations (1).

OUR VISION

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT ROCKINGHAM THAT SHOULD BE KEPT OR IMPROVED AS THE CITY GROWS?

Fifty per cent of the respondents mentioned the natural beauty of the beach and/or the foreshore as part of the thing they loved about Rockingham. As distinct from the physical aspects of the beach a further 16 people said it was the beach character of the area and 26 people said it was the relaxed, casual holiday atmosphere of Rockingham that they valued and wanted to see retained. Four respondents said there was nothing about Rockingham they liked. Other likes included:

- Parks, ovals, POS including the well kept street scapes (83);
- Natural bushland and reserves (35);
- Point Peron (29);
- Social opportunities, restaurants on the foreshore, dining out opportunities and festivals (29);
- Family friendly area (23);
- Good community friendly feeling of Rockingham (19);
- Small scale, low density no high-rise (11) large blocks (5);
- Free parking (8);
- Easy access to the freeway and Perth (7);
- Small population, small rural town feeling (6);
- Shopping centres (5);
- Police presence (5);
- Affordable housing (4);
- Variety of housing styles (4);
- Navy town (1); and
- Specific attractions (26) include: golf course, Time Zone, hospital, university, library, cinema, foreshore restaurant, dog beach, dog parks, cycle paths, 50 metre pool, dive trail, artificial reef, skate park, rotary markets, aqua jetty.

WHAT DON'T YOU LIKE ABOUT ROCKINGHAM THAT SHOULD BE CHANGED?

Five people said there was nothing about Rockingham they did not like. However the majority of people commented on the anti-social atmosphere/crime/hoons (59), that the laws are not being upheld (3), particularly 4x4 and motor cycle uncontrolled, dogs on dog-free beach, driving on the curbs, littering and graffiti (12) and that there need to

be more police (17). Respondents were also concerned about the night club and/or sex shops near the foreshore, which they consider a bad location given the area's attraction to tourists and families (38). Other issues raised include:

- Run-down housing, derelict buildings (29);
- Traffic congestion (24);
- Bogan reputation (23);
- The high rise and high density housing (12);
- Poor public transport (10);
- Better maintained street verges/facilities/sporting grounds (10);
- More cycle paths (8);
- More for the kids/youth to do (8);
- More entertainment areas (particularly at night) (8);
- Not enough family eating places (6);
- Untidy, badly maintained foreshore (5);
- Foreshore needs to be developed (5);
- Pont Peron area is untidy and underdeveloped, requires access for tourists (5);
- Not enough connection or facilities with the southern suburbs (5);
- Develop by infill in the centre of Rockingham instead of the outskirts (5);
- Apartments on empty land near council (4);
- Removal/destruction of the bush (4);
- More family venues (2);
- Rural areas to be developed for housing (1);
- Poor street lights (1);
- Endless suburbs all look the same, need green zones (1);
- Few employment opportunities (1);
- High school – poor reputation, run-down (1);
- No facilities on Secret Harbour foreshore (1);
- Aesthetics of the industrial areas (1);
- Improve family facilities on the foreshore (1);
- Shire needs to protect heritage (i.e. Churchfield Inn) (1);
- Festivals should be away from foreshore as they block access (1);
- Kent Street should be pedestrian (1);
- Seating on the foreshore should be under trees (1);
- Rockingham is too big to walk around, too car-centric (1);
- Not visually appealing or well maintained (1);
- Need a big store like Woolworths on the beach front (1);
- Development is catering for the minority not the majority (1);
- Sport is moving to Lark Hill and is too far (1);
- Should be areas for off-road vehicles (1);
- The development at all costs attitude will damage the coast (1);
- The road along old Rockingham popular park should be one way (1);
- Red brick on the foreshore are confusing for tourists who think they are for pedestrians (1);
- Speed of decision making too slow (1);
- There are no beachside cafés outside Rockingham Beach area (1);
- Need a post office at Baldivis (1); and

- Your planning has destroyed the character of Rockingham (1).

Thirty eight respondents had specific dislikes which included: poor road surfaces, overhead power lines, dirty sidewalks, access to freeway, lack of public transport to southern suburbs from train, skate park (state of upkeep), lack of footpaths in new suburbs, industrial pollution, pass tip system, dress code at shopping centre, large shopping centres, the influx of homeless, rubbish and litter, shopping trolleys littering the streets, late night drinking venues (should be closed), too much state housing, run-down neglected housing, seaweed on the beach – clean the beach, the image that there is nothing to do – that Rockingham is a quiet place, lack of connection from beach to outer suburbs, ugly car park between Rockingham Beach Road and hotel, ugly concrete block housing, view of industrial area from foreshore

Sixteen respondents mentioned the following as lacking in Rockingham: short stay accommodation, parking, shaded areas at the parks, 24-hour shopping, taxis and late night buses, boat parking, shopping centre at Baldivis, tourism, large shopping centre, transport between beach and train, speed control mechanisms on back streets. One person felt that Rockingham was losing services and gave the closure of the RAC office as an example of the potential loss of other corporations and government services as a concern to be addressed when planning Rockingham's future.

Fifteen people made comments about the poor performance of the Council, Councillors or the Mayor.

WHAT IS MISSING IN ROCKINGHAM THAT WE WILL NEED TO PLAN FOR?

Respondents generated an extensive list of amenities, services and venues that the City should include in its planning, these included:

- Marina/boat harbour (29);
- Performing arts centre (27);
- Hotel, tourist accommodation (27);
- Bigger variety of stores (especially large Big W, Myer) (21);
- Teenage entrainment (18);
- Public transport (17), train to Fremantle (5);
- Foreshore cafés (other than the central area) (13);
- Cycle paths (13);
- Jobs (9);
- Upgrade parks (toilets) (8);
- More cafés and restaurants (7);
- Better improved parking (7);
- Light rail (7);
- Family fun Park/Theme park like Adventure World, (6);
- More educational opportunities (5);
- Ice skating ring (4);
- More activity on the foreshore (4);
- Outdoor market (3);
- Secure area for dogs off-leash (3);

- Decent council (3);
- Better roads to improve traffic flow (3);
- CCTV cameras at night spots (3);
- National Broadband Network (3);
- More entertainment on the foreshore (2);
- Footpath/ pavements on the streets (2);
- Affordable housing (2);
- Art gallery (2);
- Medical centre (2);
- More open fields and bush (2);
- Aged care facility (2);
- Better roads (1);
- Christmas pageant/carols by candlelight (1);
- Dirt bike area (1);
- Amphitheatre (1);
- Indoor sports area (1);
- Water theme park (1);
- Golf club, bowling club (1);
- Aquatic centre (Baldivis) (1);
- Street shopping (1);
- Doctors (1);
- Landscape Ennis Ave (1);
- Better community services (1);
- A park like Kings Park (1);
- Street lighting (1);
- Child care centres (1);
- Decent access to the freeway (1);
- School truancy (1);
- Water Bell Park properly (1);
- Enhance the foreshore to make it usable by tourists (1);
- Taxi service (1);
- Register, protect, and relocate heritage buildings (1);
- Health facilities (1);
- Indoor pool (1);
- Street trees (1);
- Later hours for café/restaurants on foreshore (1);
- Litter bins (1);
- Making room for crowds lining up for petrol (1);
- More high rise on foreshore (1);
- Control traffic in residential areas (1);
- Dog friendly cafés (1);
- Pubs (1);
- Sporting venues – pool gym (1);
- Playgrounds (1);
- Up-market tavern (1);

- Secure play area for children – Donnybrook style (1);
- Senior sports facilities (1);
- Skate park on foreshore (1);
- Space for large events (1);
- Disabled toilets (1);
- Speed bumps on back streets (1);
- Support for teen mums (1);
- Tourist attractions (1);
- Transitional respite care (1);
- Yacht board-walk like Mandurah (1);
- White lines on resurfaced roads (1);
- Feeling a sense of community, a sense of city (1);
- A tourist destination (1);
- Train that comes into Rockingham (1);
- Become carbon neutral town (1);
- Make the ugly city more attractive (1);
- Cappuccino strip like Fremantle (1);
- Green sustainable development (1);
- The night life is killing the town – bad reputation (1);
- Measure to deal with climate change – sea level rise (1);
- Use of indigenous species as street trees (1);
- Sophisticated night spot for older people to listen to music and talk (1);
- Need more family-oriented entertainment near the beach (carousel, amusement centre, ice cream kiosk) (1);
- Overpass where schools are on main road (1);
- Pride in Rockingham (1);
- Public service and big business employment – decentralising government (1);
- Resist the idea of USA base being a benefit (1);
- Road to bypass Rockingham to reduce traffic congestion (1);
- Should advertise the area's attractions to boost tourism (1);
- A whole-of-community approach toward anti-social behaviour and dog owners that believe that their dogs do not need a lead (1);
- It's about taking the angst out of resident's lives (1);
- The feeling of a safe peaceful community (1);
- Vibrancy, the place is dead and the people rude (1);
- Need to ask ratepayers what they think of developments (1); and
- We need to take pride in our natural heritage (1).

CONCLUSION

The Community Survey, a component of the larger Community Engagement Programme undertaken by the City of Rockingham, generated a great deal of information that can be utilised to inform the strategic land use planning for the City.

The majority of respondents felt that a mix of housing types was appropriate for the future development of Rockingham. Nodes of higher density, as is the current plan, were supported as it allows for a mix of residential types and supports density around public transport and high value assets such as the foreshore. There was also strong support for redeveloping older style housing stock on large blocks.

The survey results showed that the residents support the need for additional job opportunities in Rockingham and a better public transport system linking residential areas and shopping centres. The residents value their natural assets and want them to continue to be a draw card for both residents and tourists.

The Rockingham residents enjoy the lifestyle opportunities the City currently has to offer and would be keen to see these maintained and improved upon. When planning venues for social opportunities, the residents have shown strong preference towards considering the requirements of all age groups, including children, teenagers, the mature and the aged.

The results of the survey suggest that the residents of Rockingham are an engaged community who are keen to participate in planning discussions on the future development of Rockingham. As the planning and consultation progress, it is likely that more specific planning direction will become evident as the City engages in a more detailed dialogue with its community on key strategic land use planning issues that may affect the future growth of Rockingham.