

Summary of survey responses Botany Road precinct preliminary consultation



Background

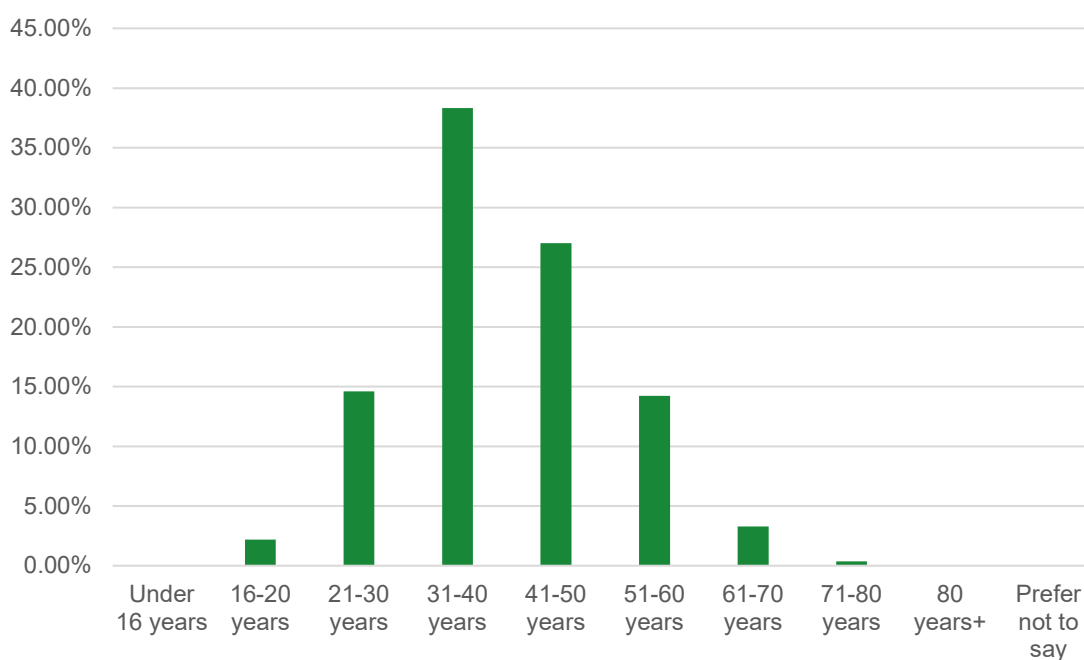
In 2020, Council engaged Cox Inall Ridgeway (CIR) to undertake Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement and a cultural heritage study for the Botany Road Precinct. Aboriginal community engagement was undertaken in the form of meetings, interviews, small focus groups, presentations, social media and email information.

CIR also conducted an online survey, which was completed by 279 people. The survey was publicised through the 'Sydney Your Say' webpage and submission process, a letterbox drop to residents in the precinct and adverts promoting the online survey through Koori Radio.

A general summary of the survey responses is contained in this report. A detailed examination of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander survey responses are included in the appendix to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community engagement and cultural heritage research project report.

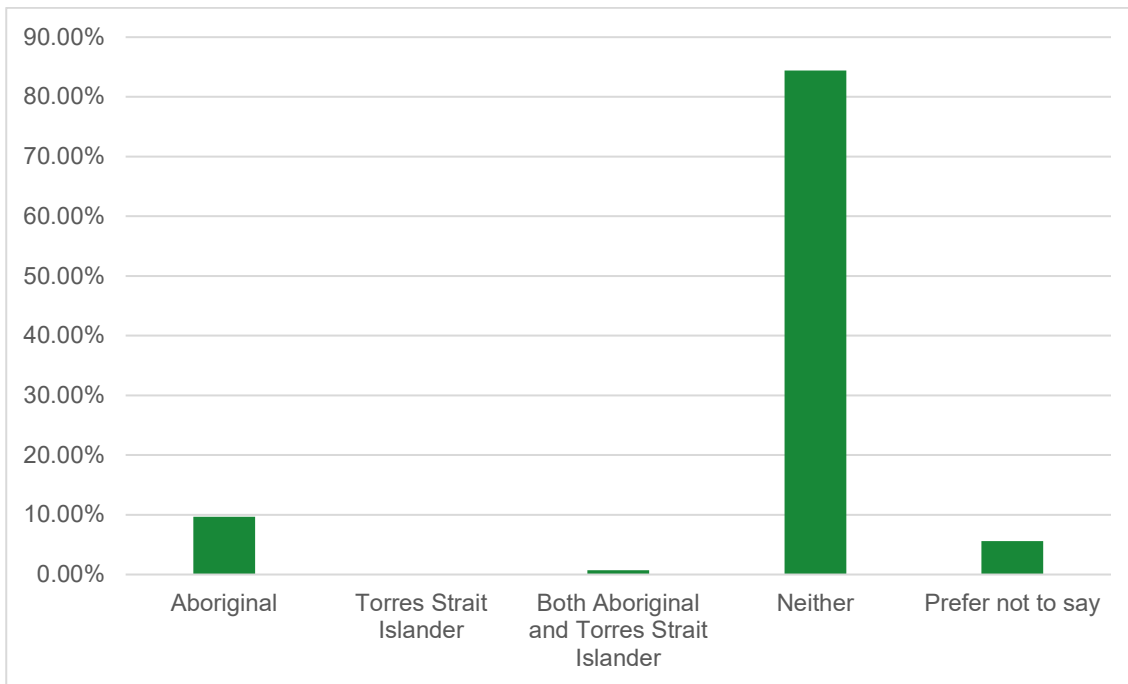
Summary of survey responses

Q1 What is your age

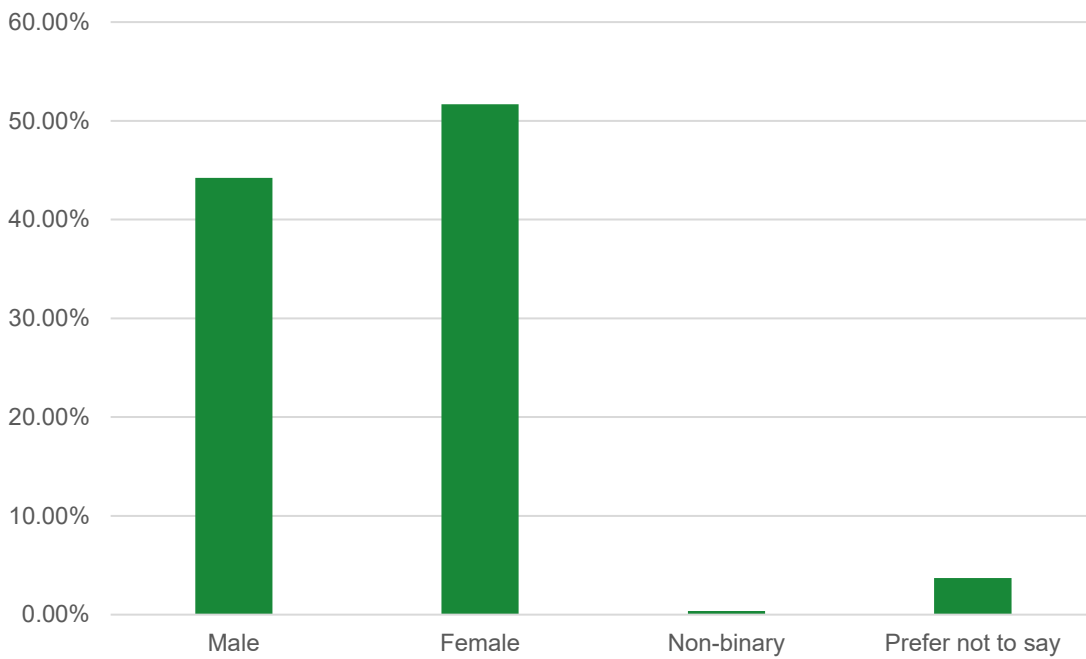


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Q2 Do you identify as an Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander person

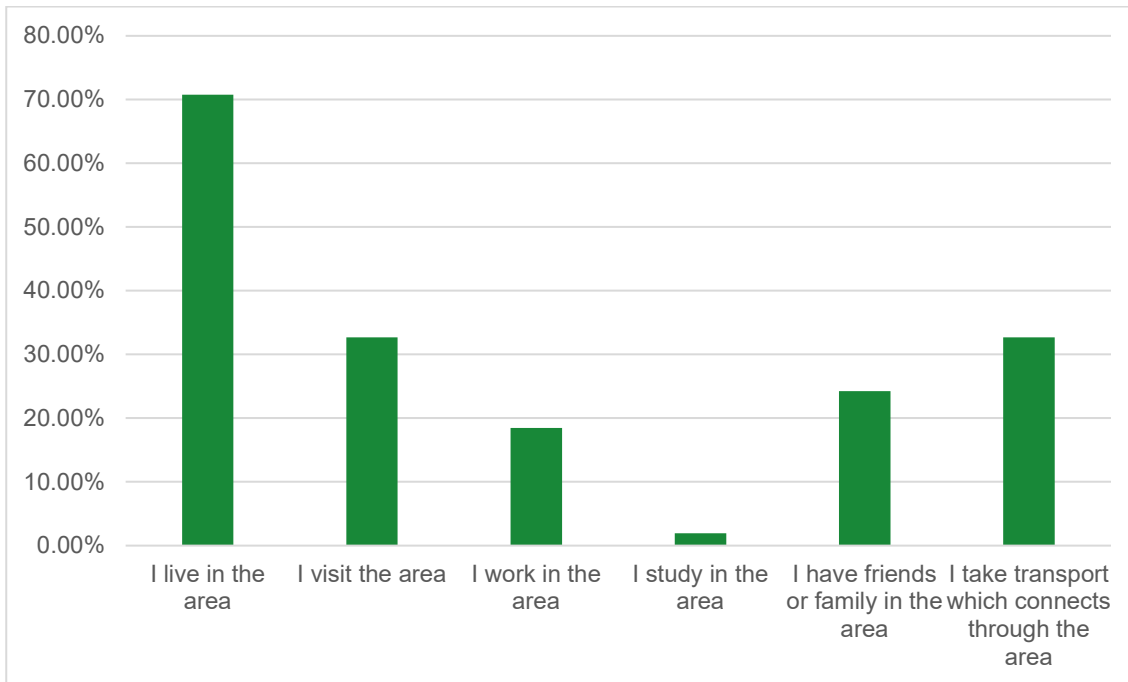


Q3 What is your gender?

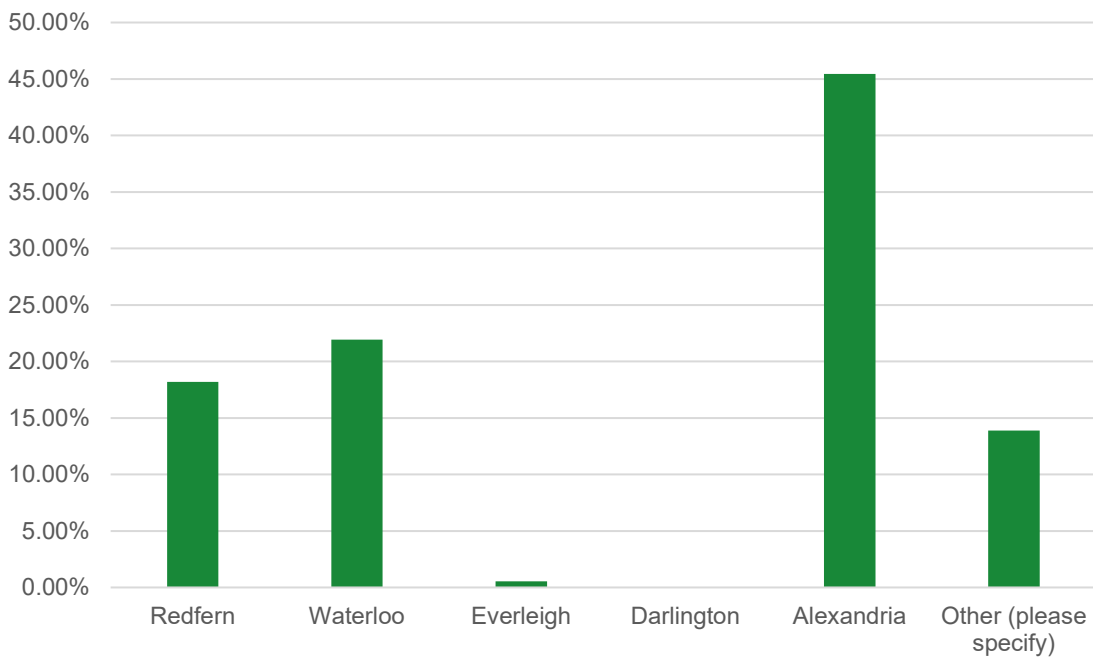


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Q4. What is your connection to the area (that is, the Botany Road Corridor and surrounding places)? [please select as many as apply]



Q5. Which suburb do you live in?



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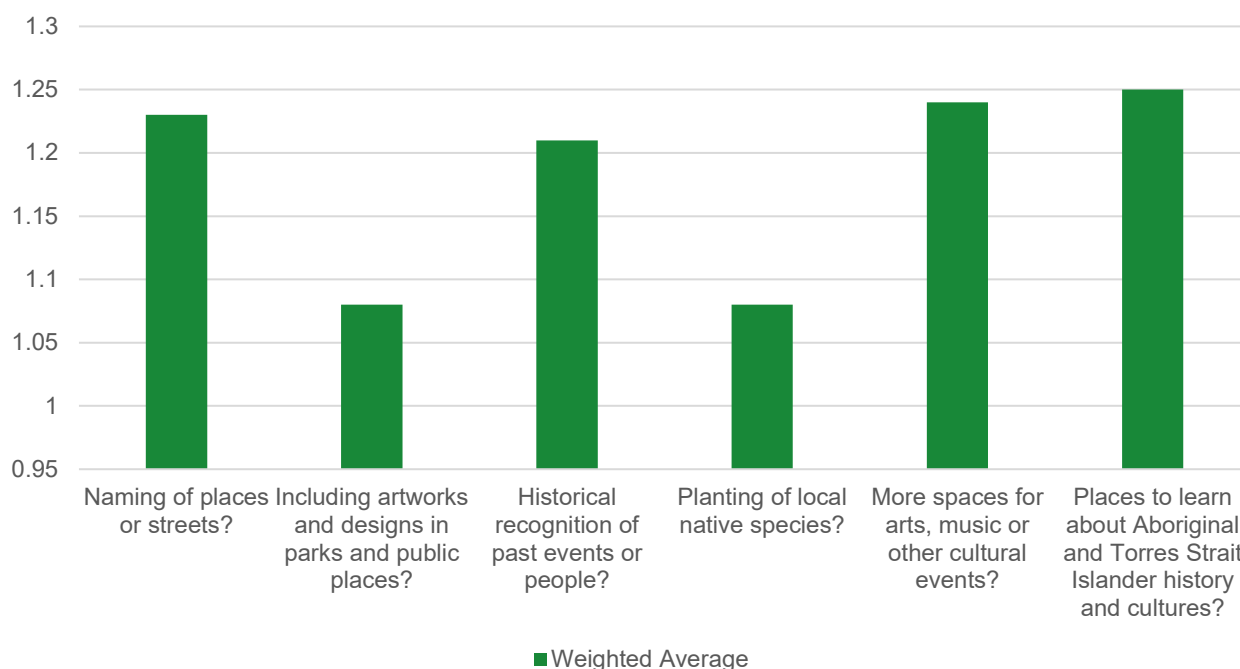
Q6. The area has an important history, being one of the first and oldest roads in Sydney, and the birthplace of many important people and organisations. Can you think of any events, places, people or groups whose stories should be celebrated, connected to the area?

There were 48 responses to this question. 38 of the responses identified the history of the area for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, both historically and as a current place of significance.

Q7. What do you think about these suggestions for ways to recognise and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, history and cultures of the area?

Answer choices:

- Naming of places or streets?
- Artworks and designs in parks and public places?
- Historical recognition of past events or people?
- Planting of local native species?
- More spaces for arts, music or other cultural events?
- Places to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and cultures?



Q8. Thinking about the next 10 or more years, what changes or improvements, if any, would you like to see made to the spaces or main activities in the area to make it a more appealing place to live, work or visit? When answering, please think about the area both during the day and at night.

A range of answers were provided to this question. The most common responses were the following:

1. Slower and less traffic, with less heavy vehicles and a safer street overall. Difficulty of this was acknowledged
2. More trees and greenery
3. More open space for socialising and gathering (not for sport or dogs)
4. More restaurants, retail, daily services, cultural and creative uses and general amenities, open longer
5. Better, wider footpaths with improved east-west access and more pedestrian crossings

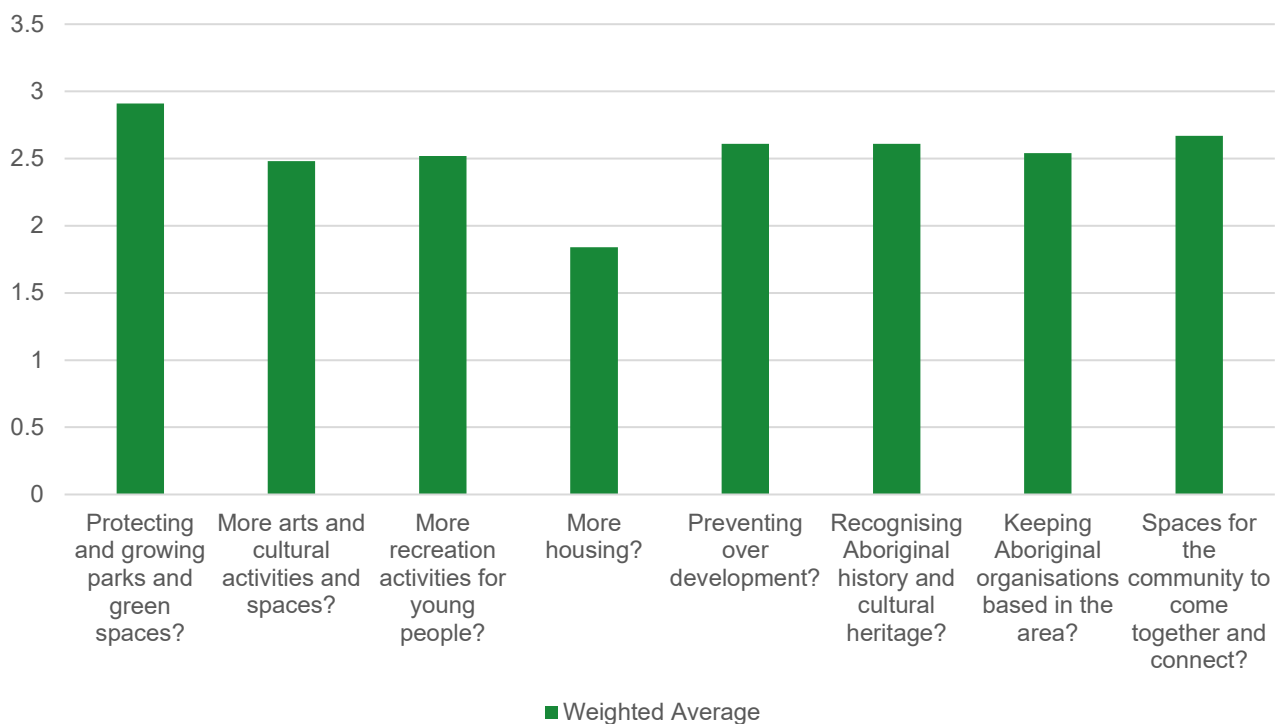
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6. More bike lanes
7. More creative and cultural spaces
8. Improved safety, particularly lighting and wayfinding
9. No 'high rise'
10. More community infrastructure like libraries, health services, schools and general spaces
11. A space for an outdoor market
12. Parking to support local businesses
13. Less social housing
14. A focus on art and materiality, through an Aboriginal and Torres Straight Island lens

Q9. How important are each of these things, in terms of planning for the future of the area?

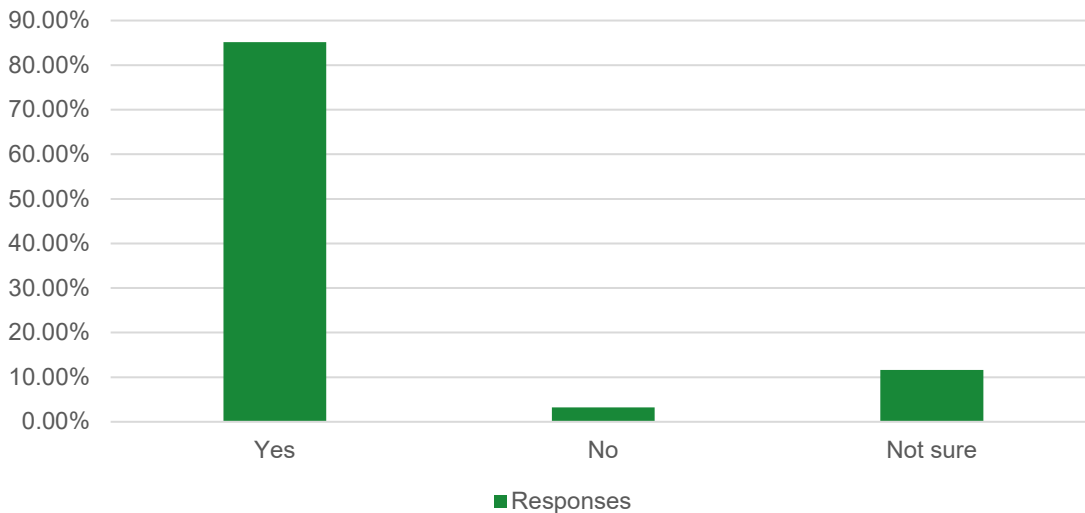
Answer choices:

- Protecting and growing parks and green spaces?
- More arts and cultural activities and spaces?
- More recreation activities for young people?
- More housing?
- Preventing over development?
- Recognising Aboriginal history and cultural heritage?
- Keeping Aboriginal organisations based in the area?
- Spaces for the community to come together and connect?



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Q10. One of the areas the City of Sydney is investigating, is growing the areas dedicated to employment, which could include be services, businesses or creative spaces. Is this something you would support?



Q11. Why/ why not?

A range of answers were provided to this question. The most common responses were the following:

1. there is a need for more employment opportunities for people who live in the area
2. more businesses and services would provide for the needs of local residents
3. the precinct currently feels like a road corridor and more activity would improve the feel of the area
4. more businesses is only beneficial if they provide for the community, in particular the residents living in social housing
5. the area has a lot of potential, particularly due to its location next to the Metro station and the Australian Technology Park
6. businesses bring parking problems and don't activate the area on the weekend
7. more creative and cultural employment opportunities and activities would be beneficial
8. providing place for people to work near to where they live
9. new businesses should support the local Aboriginal community
10. more cafes, restaurants and small businesses would make the area feel more lively

Q12. Is there any other feedback or something you want to let the City of Sydney know, to help with planning for the future of the area?

A range of answers were provided to this question. Themes from the additional feedback provided was the following:

1. the area needs revitalisation
2. The local Aboriginal community needs to have an impact on decision-making
3. improve the pedestrian and cycling experience
4. address busy streets and traffic congestion; address rat runs down residential streets
5. the area needs more trees and greenery
6. the area doesn't feel safe to walk around
7. build on Regent Street as the main street and location of businesses
8. improve rubbish collection and make the streets more attractive
9. retain and increase affordable housing
10. promote true mixed use development

