

River Esplanade Active Transport Link

Community Engagement Summary

3 November – 5 December 2025

The River Esplanade Active Transport Link aims to improve the active transport network for walking and riding between Foote Street and Parkyn Parade in Mooloolaba. In November 2025, Sunshine Coast Council invited community feedback on two potential concept designs.

Community engagement

Engagement was open for a period of five weeks between 3 November and 5 December 2025. Engagement activities included:

- Online survey and interactive map available on project Have your Say Sunshine Coast project page
- Pop-up information sessions in three key locations
- 1:1 meetings with local businesses, accommodation providers, active transport organisations and businesses.

The project received strong community engagement, with respondents broadly supporting improved active transport connectivity along River Esplanade. Feedback highlighted the importance of a safe, continuous and accessible link, while raising concerns about user conflict, on-street parking, traffic movement and local amenity. Preference between the two draft concepts was closely split, with Option 2 marginally preferred over Option 1, and one in five respondents

indicating neither option fully met expectations. Overall, the results indicate support for the project's intent, alongside a clear expectation for further design refinement.

Promotion highlights



3 community
pop-up sessions



820 notifications delivered
to local households

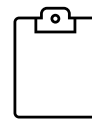


71,829 views on
social media



11,000 emails sent
via Our Council

Participation highlights



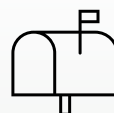
145 survey
responses



Majority of respondents
from Mooloolaba &
surrounds



87% identify as active
transport users



9 email
enquiries



1336 visits to
Have your Say
Sunshine Coast

What we heard

Feedback highlighted the importance of a safe, continuous and accessible link, while raising concerns about user conflict, on-street parking, traffic movement and local amenity. Overall, the results indicate support for the project's intent, alongside a clear expectation for further design refinement.

Improved safety and connectivity: Many respondents expressed strong support for delivering a safer, more continuous active transport link through Mooloolaba. The majority (66%) indicated they were supportive or very supportive of the project, and 67% expect to use the link weekly or more often.

Separation of users and E-bike safety: A recurring theme was concern about interaction between walkers, riders (particularly, e-bike riders), especially in high-activity areas. Some respondents raised concerns about speed differences and shared paths and called for the separation of all users.

Parking and traffic: While not universal, concerns were raised regarding potential impacts on on-street parking, traffic flow and the character of River Esplanade. Some respondents questioned whether the link can safely accommodate additional infrastructure without affecting existing access and amenity as the area is already congested at peak periods.

Accessibility: Residents highlighted the need to accommodate children, older adults, and mobility device users with wider footpaths, kerb ramps, and shaded resting points.

Amenity and environment: Given the significant proportion of respondents were aged 35-69 and over 5% identified as a person with a disability, inclusive design is an important consideration. Respondents called for a link that is accessible, comfortable and suitable for all ages, genders and abilities.

What's next?

Thank you to everyone who had their say and provided input. We appreciate your patience while the community feedback was collated, analysed and reviewed.

Using community feedback, the design team will identify and move forward with a preferred option which will progress into detailed design.

Stay informed

We will continue to communicate the next steps and project timelines.

Stay informed by visiting the [Have your Say Sunshine Coast project page](#) and follow the project.

Contact us

If you have any other general enquiries, please contact the Council project team via email: ActiveTransportLinks@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

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Key Theme	Summary of feedback supporting the project	Summary of feedback in opposition to the project	Project team response
Overall support for the project	66% of respondents were supportive or very supportive of the project. Many acknowledged the need for safer, improved active transport connections and supported investment in active transport infrastructure.	18% were unsupportive or very unsupportive of the project. Concerns focused less on the concept of active transport and more on localised impacts and safety risks.	Feedback will inform the selection of a preferred concept and detailed design, with refinements made where warranted to address local impacts while maintaining the project's overall objectives.
Safety and user conflict (walkers, riders and E-bike users)	Strong support for improving safety and reducing existing conflict between vehicles, walkers and riders. Many expect to use the link regularly (67% weekly or more).	Concerns raised about e-bike speeds, shared space conflicts and whether sufficient separation can be achieved within the constrained link.	Further design development will consider separation treatments, path widths, line marking, signage and speed management measures to minimise user conflict and improve perceived and actual safety outcomes.
Design preference (Option 1 vs Option 2)	Option 2 was slightly preferred (42%), with Option 1 also receiving substantial support (38%). Feedback suggests community sees value in both options.	20% selected "neither", indicating dissatisfaction with aspects of both designs.	The preferred concept will draw on strengths of both options and directly address key concerns raised.
Parking and traffic impacts	Some respondents recognised the need to prioritise active transport over on-street parking and supported reallocating space for safety improvements.	Concerns raised about potential loss of on-street parking (particularly by local businesses), congestion and impacts to local access and amenity in a high-demand coastal area.	Further traffic and parking analysis will be undertaken as design progresses. Opportunities to minimise parking loss and manage traffic impacts will be explored and clearly communicated.

Key Theme	Summary of feedback supporting the project	Summary of feedback in opposition to the project	Project team response
Accessibility and inclusivity	Respondents emphasised the importance of accessibility for older users and people with mobility challenges. 5.5% identified as a person with a disability, reinforcing the need for inclusive design.	Concerns that narrow paths or mixed-use arrangements may not be suitable for all users, particularly elderly residents.	The detailed design phase will focus on making the path easy and safe for everyone to use, including older people and those with mobility challenges. This will include looking at path width, surface quality, slopes, crossing points and clearer separation between different users.
Level of use and behaviour change	67% expect to use the link weekly or more often, indicating strong anticipated uptake and community demand.	A small proportion (13%) indicated they would rarely or never use the link, questioning overall benefit relative to impacts.	Usage data indicates the project is likely to deliver meaningful behaviour change. Ongoing communication will highlight broader community and network benefits beyond individual use.