

Were Street Public Art Survey



What we heard – summary of survey results

Background

During November and December 2022, we asked for community feedback to help guide the inclusion of public art within the refurbished Were St Reserve.

Through an online survey on Shaping Banyule, promoted through a comprehensive mailout to Montmorency residents, we asked a series of simple questions and prompts to find out more about how we feel about public art, including how it can benefit Were St Reserve.

We received responses from 160 people. Respondents overwhelmingly (over 93%) identified as local residents.

Key results

Preferred types of art

SITE-SPECIFIC and INCLUSIVE art emerged strongly when we asked people to identify, from a broad range of art types, three words that best represent the kind of public art you would like to see in Were Street Reserve. They were the two strongest responses followed (in order) by a preference for ENGAGING, INSPIRATIONAL, COMMUNITY-LED and TRADITIONAL art.

Art identified as CHALLENGING, AMBITIOUS and BEST-PRACTICE emerged as being of less importance to survey respondents, scoring the lowest of the sixteen options available.

Preferred forms of art

NATURAL/ORGANIC and INTEGRATED art were preferred for Were Street Reserve, being the two strongest responses followed (in order) by a preference for PLAYFUL & VIBRANT and INTERACTIVE/TOUCHABLE CLIMBABLE artworks. REPRESENTATIONAL approaches were preferred over ABSTRACT.

Themes

From a list of five themes artworks could respond to, the most popular selection was THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, with good support, across the board, for other themes (LOCAL HISTORY & HERITAGE, ART THAT BRINGS THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER, SUSTAINABILITY & CONSERVATION and LOCAL STORIES & SHARED EXPERIENCES)

Support for public art

When asked how important the inclusion of public art was in the design of public spaces in Banyule, on a scale of 0 to 10 (10 being Very Important) over 75% of responses selected responses from 7 to 10, with 10 (very important) the most common response, selected by over 25% of respondents.