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Newhaven Local Area Traffic Management Study

Summary of community consultation phase 1 (issue identification)

Introduction

Bass Coast Shire Council has engaged Trafficworks to prepare a Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) study in Newhaven. The study aims to achieve the following:

- improve the sense of 'place' and amenity for Newhaven residents and businesses
- improve accessibility and safety for local drivers, pedestrians, cyclists, people using mobility devices, and commercial vehicle operators
- provide a guide for future development and management of the local roads in Newhaven for funding opportunities.

An online survey for the community and a public community consultation session have been undertaken to understand the community's concerns. This report summarises phase 1 of the community consultation undertaken and the key findings.

Consultation method

Consultation – public meeting

A community meeting was held on 18/05/2026. The meeting was open to the public and 27 community members attended. A presentation was held which discussed the following:

- the objectives of the LATM study and what is outside scope
- the study methodology and timeframes
- our understanding of local movement issues in Newhaven

Community members raised concerns and asked questions during the presentation. After the presentation, community members were invited to continue to raise concerns about travelling in Newhaven by documenting them on handouts or discussing them with Trafficworks and Council staff present.

Consultation – online surveys

An online survey was conducted by council between 1/05/2026 and 27/05/2026. The survey consisted of a written questionnaire and a pin drop survey that allowed the community to

place pins on a map of Newhaven and comment their concerns. The survey received the following responses:

- 53 people responded to the questionnaire or the mapping survey
- 48 people responded to the questionnaire
- 14 people provided 33 pin drops of their concerns on the mapping survey.

Key Findings

The key findings of the initial community consultation are summarised below.

Public meeting

It appeared that most community members were concerned about pedestrian safety and vehicle speeds because people walk along the roads as many roads in Newhaven do not have footpaths. There were different views from the public regarding what was considered a problem.

Online survey

Demographics of respondents

- most were 65 years old or older
- the top 3 values were pedestrian friendly streets, limiting though traffic, and slow moving traffic. This aligns with the strategic objectives outlined in the Bass Coast Integrated Transport Strategy 2025 – 2045 for local streets
- the 3 main modes of travel in Newhaven were walking, driving in cars, and cycling.

Issues raised

- the 3 roads with the most issues raised were Forrest Avenue, Boys Home Road, and Cleeland Street
- pedestrian safety and vehicle speed were the most common issues raised. Most roads in Newhaven do not have footpaths. Pedestrians are required to share the road with vehicles.
- the survey noted that Phillip Island Road is outside of the scope of the study. Nevertheless, 7 people raised comments about issues on the road. These comments will be forwarded to the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) for consideration, as they are the responsible authority for the road.

Requested improvements

- the most supported improvements were ‘other,’ reduce speed, speed humps, and signage. The most common ‘other’ improvements requested was constructing footpaths or shared paths

— it is noted that vehicle speed was raised as an issue by 52 people. Reducing speed was supported by 33 people and the installation of speed humps was supported by 26 people.

Map of issues raised

The number of concerns raised in the questionnaire within Newhaven is shown in Figure 1 below. The pins with comments from the mapping survey are shown in Figure 2. This has excluded comments outside the study area (i.e., Phillip Island Road and Churchill Island).

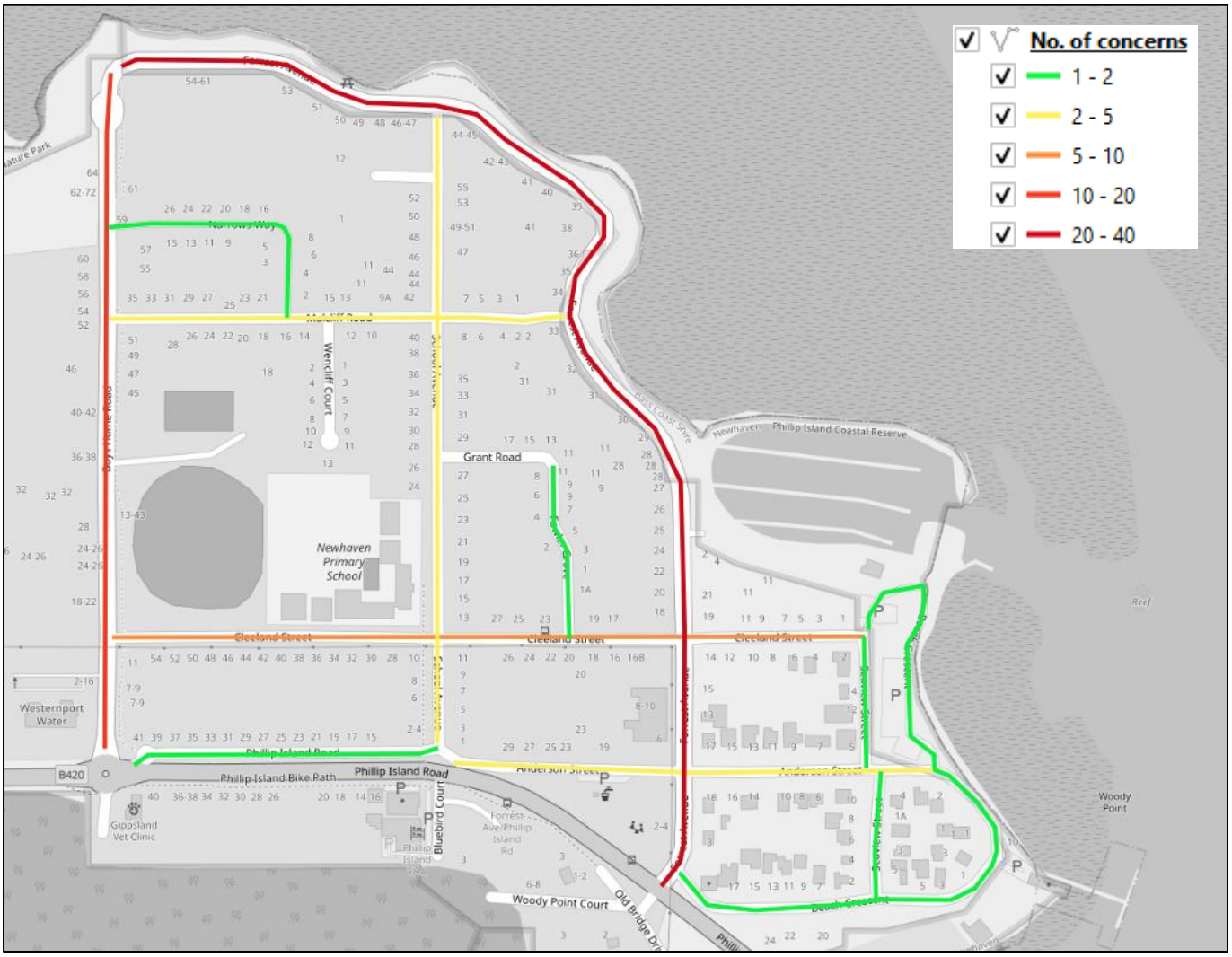


Figure 1: Number of concerns raised within Newhaven from the questionnaire

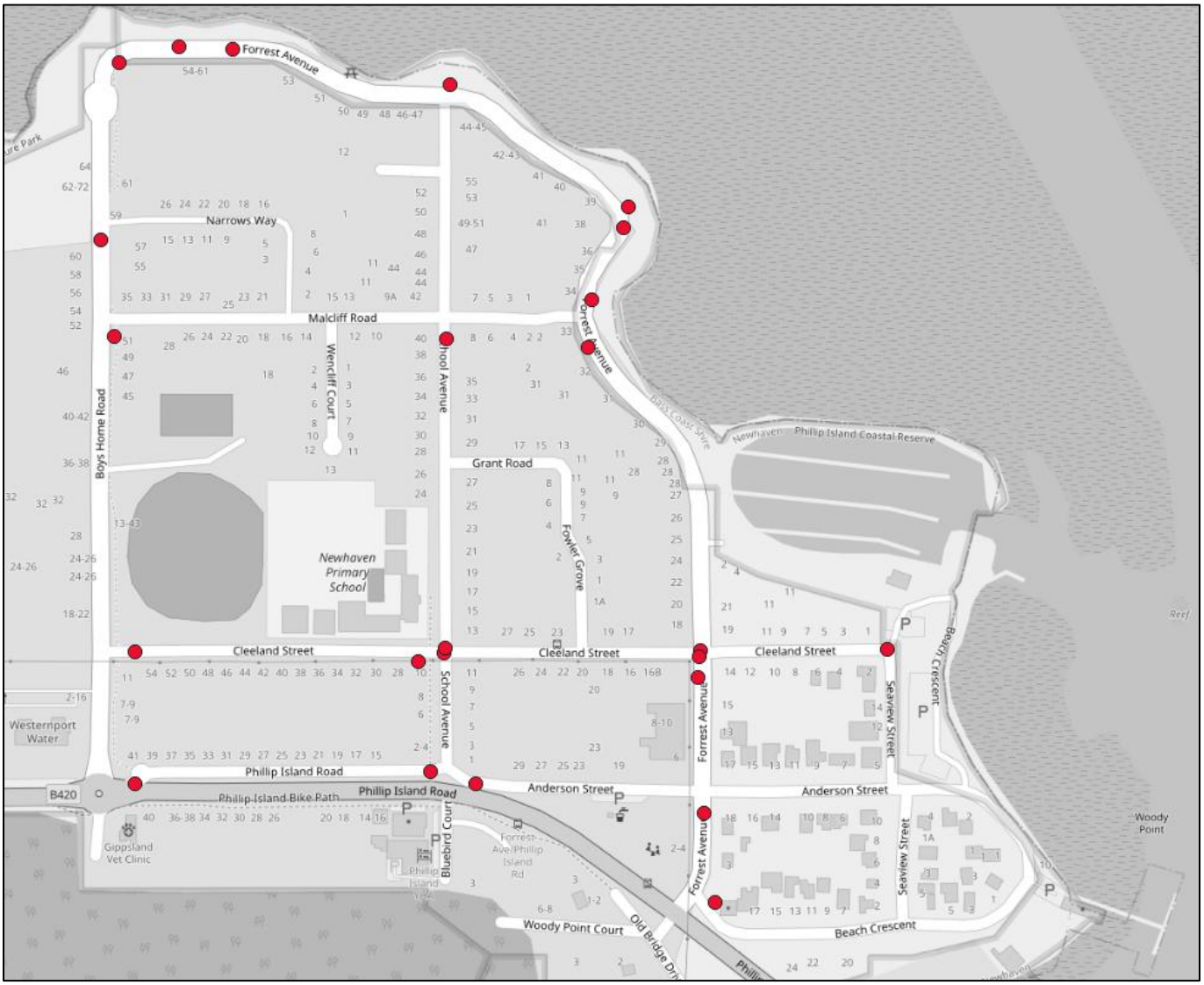


Figure 2: Pins of community concerns from the pin drop survey

Public meeting

Concerns raised by the community during the public meeting aligned with issues raised in the online survey. The attendees raised pedestrian safety and vehicle speeds as their key issue. Pedestrians are walking on roads as many roads in Newhaven do not have footpaths.

There were different views from the public regarding what was considered a problem.Some supported and some opposed lowering the speed limit on roads in Newhaven or installing traffic calming infrastructure. The attendees were informed that the entire community will be consulted to gauge the level of support for proposals in the phase 2 consultation. The phase 1 consultation primarily aims to understand issues experienced by the community.

Online survey responses– questionnaire

Q: Your connection to Bass Coast

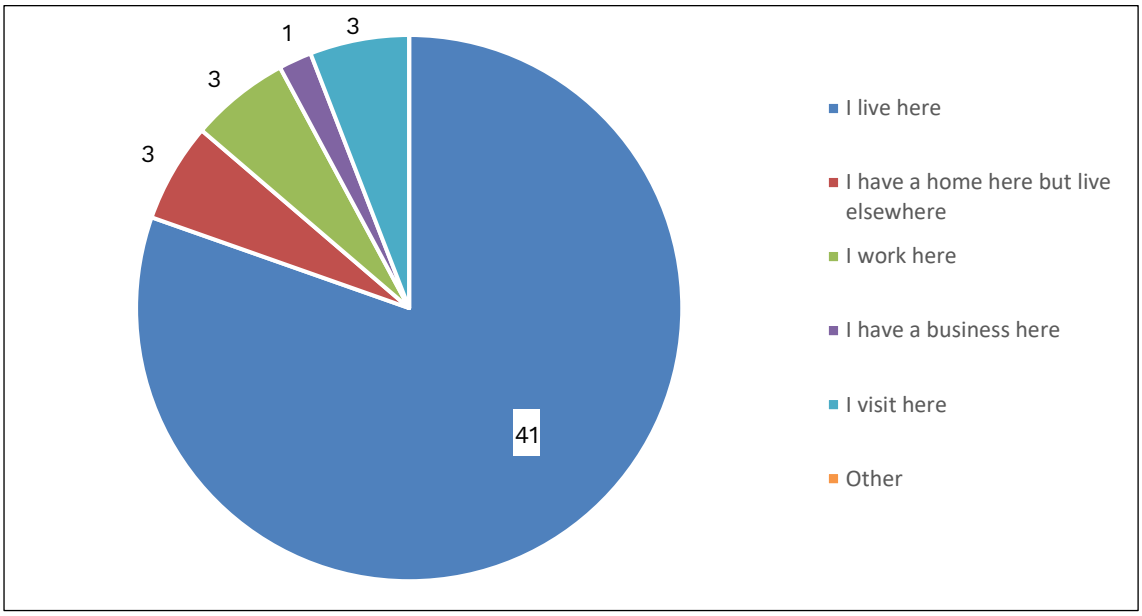


Figure 3: Respondents' connection to Bass Coast

Q: Your age

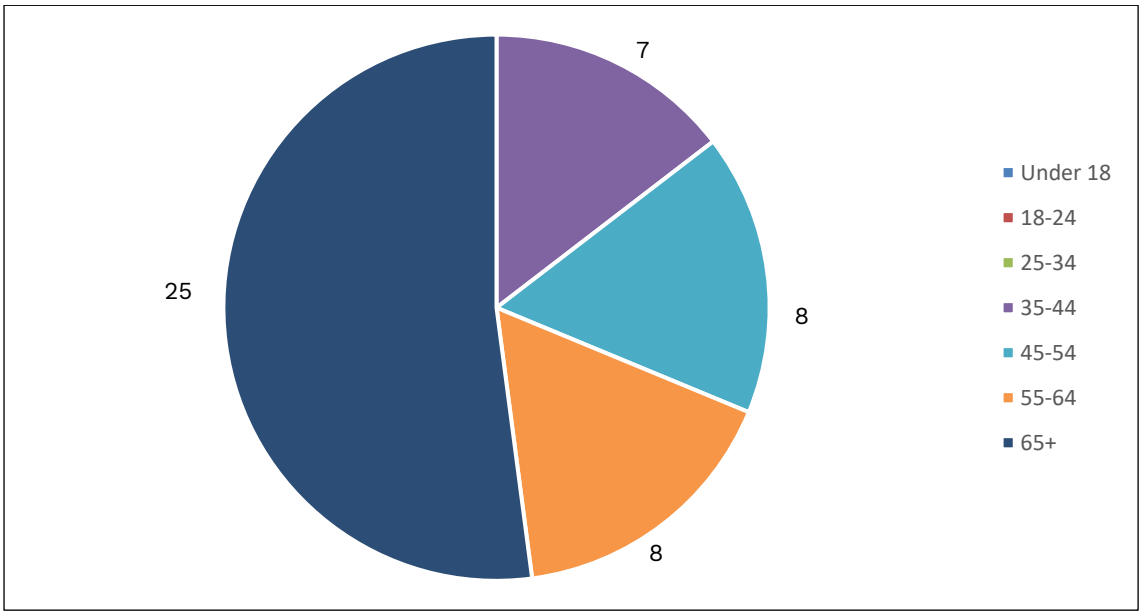


Figure 4: Respondents' age group

Q: What gender do you identify as?

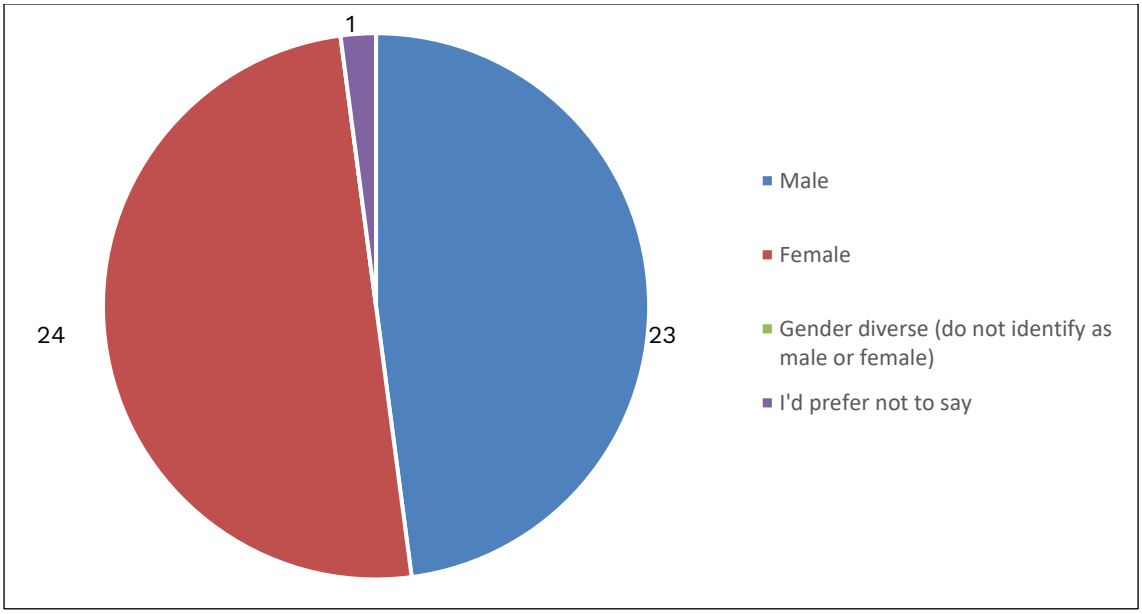


Figure 5: Respondents' gender

Q: What do you value the most when it comes to moving around Newhaven and the broader Bass Coast (select up to 3)?

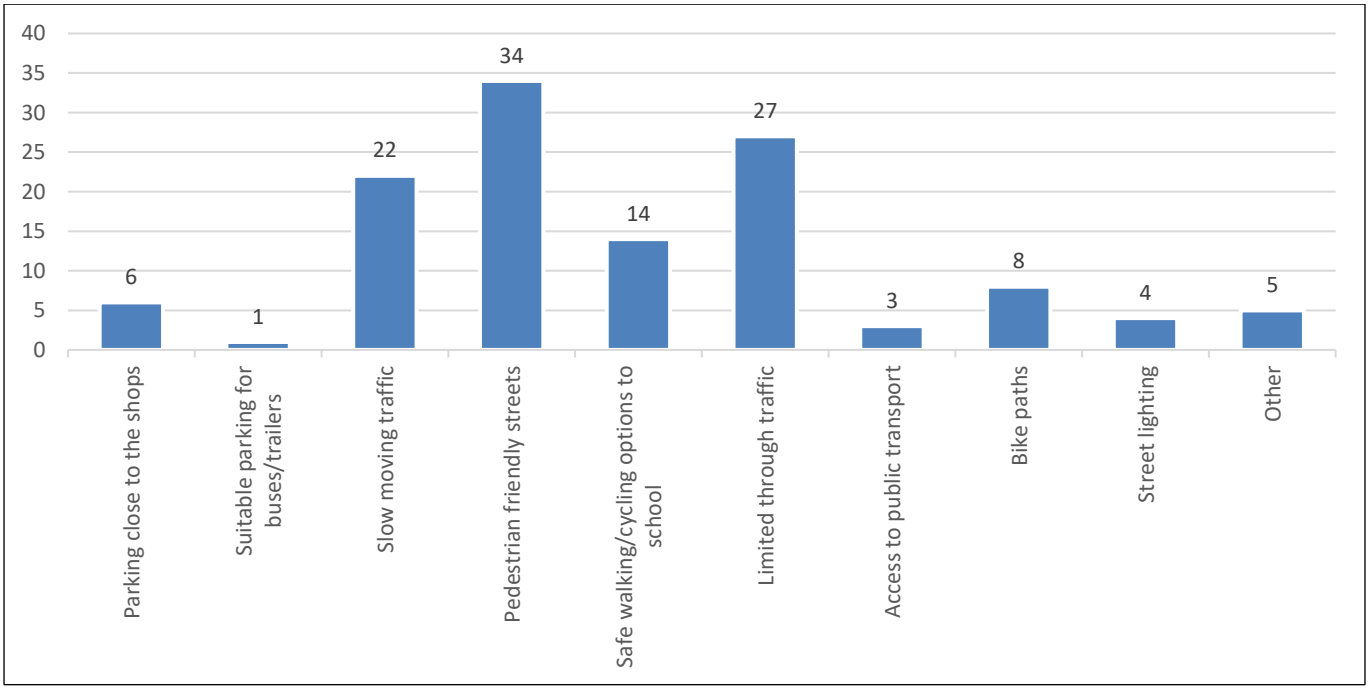


Figure 6: Respondents' 3 most valued modes of travel

Q: In the last 6 months, what are the main ways you have travelled around Newhaven?

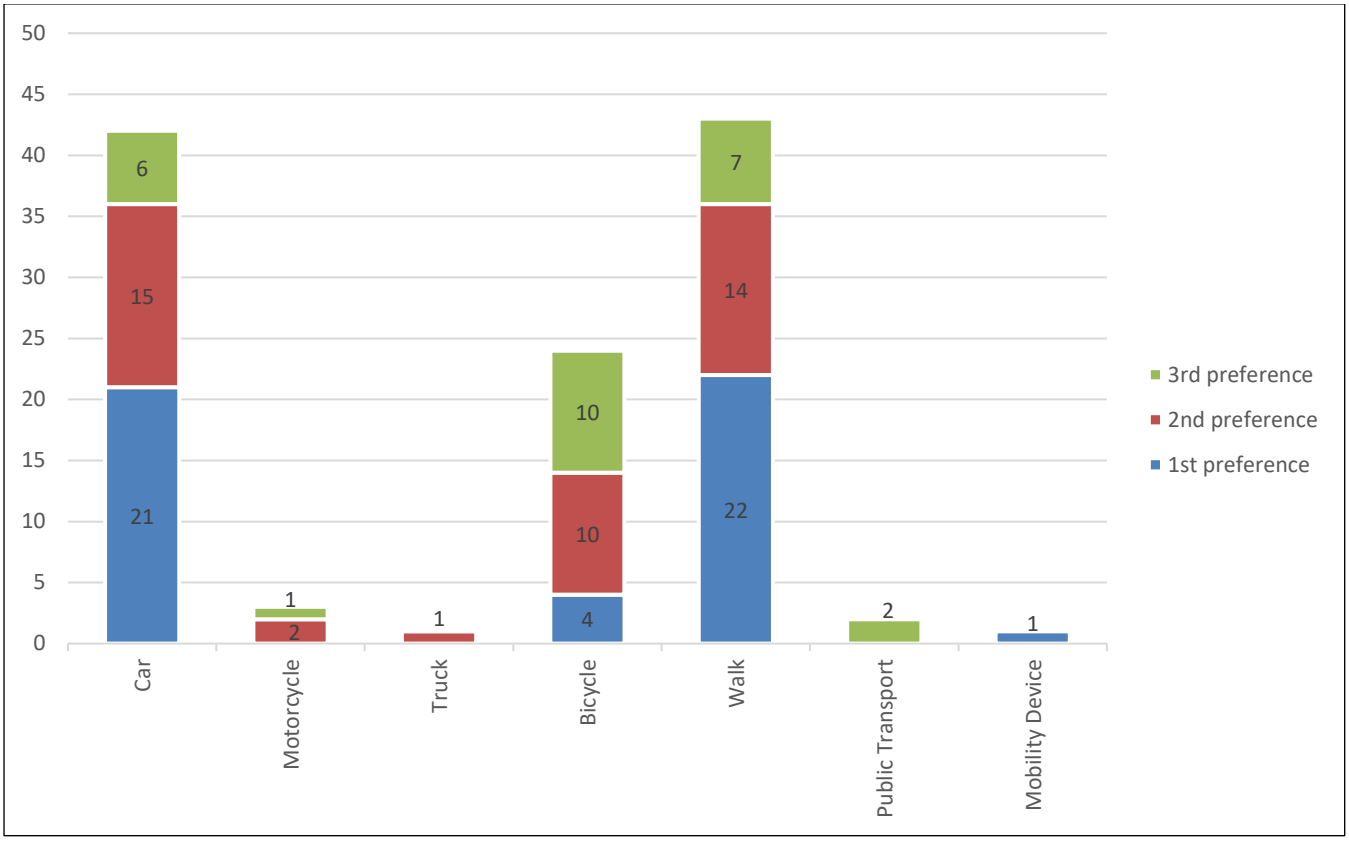


Figure 7: Respondents' main ways of travelling

Q: Do you have any traffic or road safety concerns on the street you live on or other streets in Newhaven? Tick the box if the concern applies

Table 1: Categories of issues raised on roads

Road	# of issues raised	Type of issue							
		Pedestrian safety	Cyclist safety	Vehicle speed	Number of vehicles	Through traffic (non-local traffic)	Trucks	Irresponsible driving	Parking
All streets	2	2	0	2	1	1	1	2	1
Anderson Street	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
Beach Crescent	3	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	1
Boys Home Road	12	8	5	11	2	2	2	5	1
Cleeland Street	9	5	4	4	3	5	1	4	4
Forrest Avenue	30	28	16	20	9	11	3	11	6
Fowler Grove	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	0
Malcliff Road	6	6	1	5	1	2	1	4	1
Narrows Way	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
School Avenue	4	4	4	4	2	1	0	3	1
Seaview Street	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0
Total	**70**	**59**	**35**	**52**	**23**	**25**	**9**	**33**	**16**

An ‘other’ option was provided to describe the type of concern on the roads. 10 ‘other’ issues were raised by the community. These were all reclassified into the categories presented above. For example, ‘Cars go too fast’ was reclassified from an ‘other’ type of issue to a ‘vehicle speed’ issue.

*comments about Phillip Island Road and Churchill Island have been excluded as they are outside the study area

Q: Could you provide some more information about the concerns in this street?

Table 2: Specific details of concerns

Road	Specific details of issues
All streets	— there is a lot of activity near the school, shops, and sporting field (1 person)
Anderson Street	— bus parking is an issue (1 person) — vehicles towing boats are not driving safely (e.g. speeding, cutting corners) at the Forrest Avene and Anderson Street intersection. Wildlife have been hit and during peak seasons vehicles park on nature strips (1 person)
Beach Crescent	— there is a growing number of cars and people at the Beach Crescent and Forrest Avenue intersection, near the Island Pie Shop (1 person) — it is unsafe for pedestrians walk along the road. There are no footpaths (1 person)
Boys Home Road	— vehicle speed and volume is increasing (1 person) — concerned about the speed of vehicles between the northern end of the road, where it connects to Forrest Avenue, to driveway to the sporting field car parking (1 person) — at night, it is dark at the corner with ‘Old Boys Home Road’ (1 person) — vegetation is overgrowth in some areas (1 person) — the existing footpath ends at Forrest Avenue. (1 person)
Cleeland Street	— motorists failing to give way at intersections and obey give way or stop signs (3 people) — cars with boat trailers park close to intersections, restricting sight lines. Requesting parking restriction signage near intersections (1 person) — concerns about boat trailers during peak season (1 person) — poor car parking behaviour during school peak times (1 person) — concerns about traffic flow during school peak times (1 person)

Road	Specific details of issues
Forrest Avenue	— Forrest Avenue is narrow or winding (7 people) — lack of footpaths (7 people) — dangerous for pedestrians crossing Forrest Avenue, specifically between Beach Crescent and Anderson Street near the Island Pie shop (2 people) — parking near the Island Pies store is dangerous (1 person) — when it rains, water is not draining off the road adequately (1 person) — it is difficult to turn into and out of Forrest Avenue at Phillip Island Road due to slow westbound traffic on Phillip Island Road (1 person)
Fowler Grove	— during events at the Newhaven hall, cars park on both sides of the road and cause congestion (1 person) — cars park too close to Fowler Grove intersections. Requesting No Parking signs near the intersections (1 person)
Malcliff Road	— lack of footpaths (2 people) — traffic on Malcliff Road is higher than School Avenue (believes that the give way condition is applying to the wrong road) (1 person)
Narrows Way	
School Avenue	— poor car parking behaviour during school peak times (1 person)
Seaview Street	

Table 2 only includes comments that provides additional context to address the issues. For example, a respondent ticked a box that notes a road has a 'vehicle speed' issue and wrote 'people are driving too fast through the street' as additional information. This information has not been included in Table 2.

*comments about Phillip Island Road and Churchill Island have been excluded as they are outside of the study area

How would you improve these issues?

Table 3: Specific details of concerns

Road	Requested improvement					
	Reduce speed	Speed humps	Line marking	Signage	Other	Other improvements listed
All streets	1	2	0	0	0	— reduce speed limits on all roads (1)
Anderson Street	1	0	1	1	2	— extend the park into road reserve and make some formalised parking and safer pedestrian links to school and crossing (1) — wombat crossing (1) — traffic islands to slow vehicles (1)
Beach Crescent	0	0	0	0	2	— footpath(1)
Boys Home Road	5	7	0	2	7	— raised T intersections (2) — prefers chicanes instead of speed humps (1) — convert the road to a no through road (1) — street light upgrades at the intersection with Malcliff Road (1) — provide bicycle infrastructure along the road (1) — continuation of footpath or a crossing facility (1)

Road	Requested improvement					
Cleeland Street	2	0	3	4	6	— footpaths to the Newhaven Hall and the Primary School (2) — line mark 40 km/h symbols on the road (1) — provide boat trailer parking at Graydens reserve (1) — remove the pinch points and consider making the road one-way during school times (1) — Increased police presence (1) — education (1) — more signage to ensure safety at intersections (1)
Forrest Avenue	15	11	4	8	20	— construct path for pedestrians and/or bikes (12) — additional or improved car parking on the east side of Forrest Avenue near the Island Pie shop (2) — more parking for boat trailers (2) — roundabout (2) — make the road one way (2) — implement a shared zone (2) — drainage improvements (1)
Fowler Grove	1	1	1	0	1	— No Parking restrictions near intersections (1)
Malcliff Road	4	3	0	3	1	— change the vehicle priority at the Malcliff Road and School Avenue intersection (1)
Narrows Way	0	0	0	0	0	
School Avenue	3	2	0	3	1	— increased police presence (1)

Road	Requested improvement				
Seaview Street	1	0	1	0	0
Total	**33**	**26**	**10**	**21**	**40**

*comments about Phillip Island Road and Churchill Island have been excluded as they are outside the study area

Q: Please provide any further comments you have about traffic and road safety in Newhaven.

Many of the comments provided to this question were respondents reiterating their concerns or requested improvements expressed earlier in the questionnaire. Some did not respond to any other questions and only responded to this question. A summary of their responses is below:

- the Phillip Island Road, Forrest Avenue, and Beach Crescent intersection is dangerous (2 people)
- specific requests for speed humps to not be installed in Newhaven (2 people)
- traveling in Newhaven is acceptable and does not require improvements (2 people)
- the roads connecting to the boat ramp should not have traffic calming devices (1 person)
- does not want a footpath or any changes to Forrest Avenue (1 person)
- widen roads and add more lanes (1 person)
- car parking from the soccer field can overflow (1 person).

Online survey responses– mapping survey

Most of the pins dropped with community concerns were people repeating their concerns from the questionnaire, were about issues on Phillip Island Road or about walking / cycling to Churchill Island, which are outside the scope of this study. The following comments are either additional new concerns raised by an individual that they have not previously raised in the questionnaire, or comments from people who have not responded to the questionnaire:

- cars park at the School Avenue / Anderson Street bend. Oncoming traffic cannot see parked vehicles around the bend (1 person)
- vehicles are speeding at the Boy Home Road / Forrest Avenue bend but does not want road humps (1 person)
- vehicles are speeding on Boys Home Road between Narrows Way and Malcliff Road (1 person)
- the roads connecting to the boat ramp should not have traffic calming devices (1 person)