



# Island Bay Residents' Association Inc

## Community Survey results

September 2022

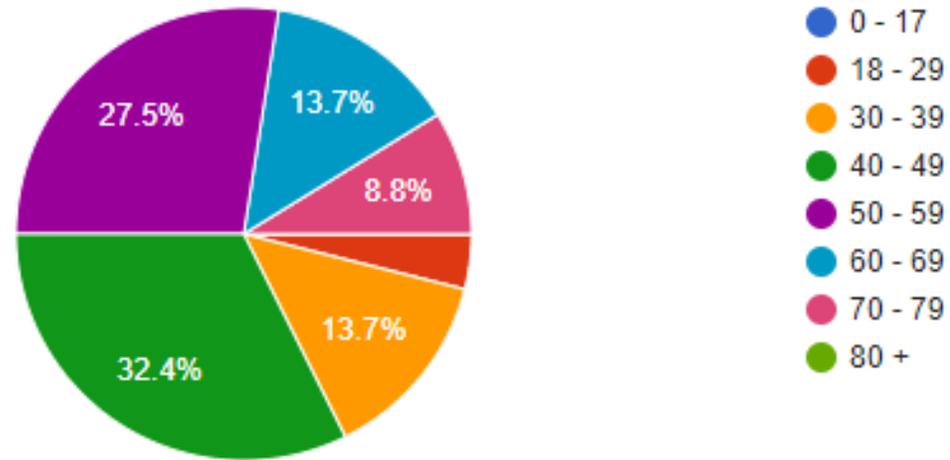
# The Survey

102 online responses over 6 weeks from 25 July till 3 September 2022

Open to all residents and business owners in Island Bay and Southgate.

Majority of responses received (in order) through promotion through:

- a) IBRA newsletter
- b) IBRA facebook page
- c) Island Bay Peeps facebook page
- d) Island Bay Community Centre newsletter



- Majority of respondents aged 40 – 59 (59.9%)
- 22.5% over 60 years
- 17.6% under 39 years

Median age in Island Bay in 2018 census: 37.4 years

Total Island Bay population in 2018 census: 6897.

➤ **Survey reflects views of a small portion of the older half of the community**

# Focus of presentation

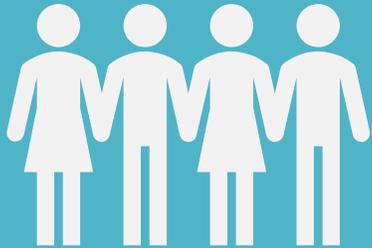
## Four main questions in survey analysed :

- What is your ideal future for Island Bay?
- What issues and initiatives would you like to see the Island Bay Residents' Association work on?
- Are there any specific problems in Island Bay you would like to see addressed?
- Are there any specific opportunities in Island Bay you would like to see action on?

Presentation focuses on the key themes discussing:  
what respondents want, and possible actions or opportunities to focus on.



# People want a more positive and less divided community



However, many people also discussed *“the divisiveness of the cycleway in our community”* and the need to *“stop fighting over the cycleway”*

Including the opportunity to focus on:

*“community engagement, togetherness, learning to live positively with a diversity of views”*

*“we need to come together with a balanced approach to prosper”*

*“being a more positive and welcoming suburb”*

*“think of ways to encourage cyclists and motorists to consider each other’s viewpoints”*

# Transport: there are equal but differing views

## MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORT

### Want to see:

- the cycleway as part of a connected city-wide cycleway network
- safe walking and pedestrian access
- improved public transport, including light rail
- less cars
- sustainability for climate and environment

30 'pro-cycleway' comments

*"I can sell my car because I can catch light rail into town or safely ride along the cycleway through Berhampore"*

*"Better bike paths linked to the CBD, and better and cheaper public transportation with wider areas"*

## GET RID OF THE CYCLEWAY

### Want to see:

- return The Parade to how it was pre-cycleway
- improved parking access for the shops
- parking for elderly / mobility issues
- WCC listening to concerns

32 'anti-cycleway' comments

*"The elderly that can't walk distance and are ratepayers without a voice can no longer park anywhere to go to doctor, chemist, community centre or a restaurant"*

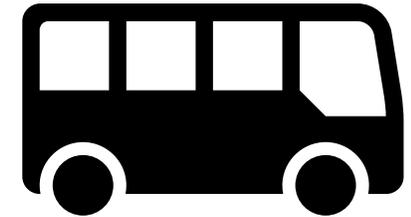
*"Obviously the cycleway and lack of carparking currently are a big issue – there must be a better solution"*

# Transport: there are commonalities and opportunities

- A lot of concern about the speed of traffic causing safety issues. Traffic calming measures such as speed limits or speed bumps are proposed by some.

*“Reduced speeds around schools by vehicles exceeding speed limits”*

*“Speeding cars going over 50kms round corner, need for traffic bumps to slow traffic”*



- Transport for elderly and disabled people require mobility parking and other options.

*“Support for the elderly and those in rest homes to help them to get to places”*

- Safe and respectful behaviour towards each other, whether on bikes, scooters, cars or foot. E.g. not speeding, slowing at schools, corners and roundabouts, being polite, keeping to our allocated ‘zones’.



- Improving road and footpath maintenance.

*“The terrible roading surface on The Parade”*

# Community Engagement

## ISLAND BAY RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

There was approval for the work being done by the Residents' Association:

- *"Keep up the good work consulting and organising regular meetings with WCC"*

With the main roles being seen as:

- *"Building inclusiveness across Island Bay rather than division. Advocating for issues that Island Bay cares about as identified through this survey or other forums. Keeping the community informed about what is going on"*

The community wants to ensure the Residents' Association:

- *"listens to the opinions of all residents. To be neutral and not ideologically biased like the Council is"*
- *"leaves your own ideology to one side"*

## WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

The parts of the community who are opposed to the cycleway feel the Council is not listening to them.

*"I would like to see Council working with residents and business owners in Island Bay rather than ignoring us so that any developments support the wishes of residents and business owners"*

*"Holding the council to account for not listening to residents"*

*"Give feedback to the Council when they are making poor decisions. It seems like they are not listening to anyone in Wellington when they are 'consulting'"*

# Thriving businesses in Island Bay are important

Many people expressed the importance of *“continuing to have viable and vibrant businesses and shops”*, including the need for *“good access to them”*.

They saw that *“a diversity of thriving local businesses mean that you don’t need to leave the suburb for most of your everyday needs”*

Many people also recommended *“focusing on ways to attract and retain businesses into the suburb”*

A number of people felt that there could be *“better connection between the town centre and the Shorland Park shops”*.

One person suggested: *“How about a ‘pop-up business’ area where locals can set up shop for a week or two to help promote their wares? I would be happy to coordinate this”*

# The new businesses people want to see ...

“More outdoor spaces to eat, drink and socialise”.  
“Taking advantage of south coast views”

**Craft beer pubs**

“Affordable retail / hospo start up spaces”

**More decent restaurants**

“Fine dining but still casual e.g. Larder in Miramar or Salty Pidgen in Brooklyn”

Common workspace (hot desks)

“Services for aging population:  
**Dentist, optician, physiotherapist, lawyer etc”**

A bike repair shop

Useful shops  
Independent shops  
Creative shops

A decent bookshop

A zero waste refillery

A fish shop for a fishing suburb

**Green grocer**  
Or weekly vege market



# Events and community activities have strong support

People were very supportive of existing events and community activities in Island Bay and wanted to see more of them.

There is strong support for the Island Bay Festival and new initiatives such as the South Coast Arts Trail.

*“A place that supports and continues the events that have made it unique (festival, races, bands in park etc)”*

*“Continue to highlight the annual Festival. Promote the fabulous Artists in Residence initiative”*

*“Island Bay festival and parade, loved the art celebration; response to Climate Change (4C’s project)”*

*“Many of my needs continue to be met by community groups. My children can participate in local extra curricular activities”*

*“Have plenty of organised local activities for all ages”*

## IDEAS FOR EVENTS TO CONNECT PEOPLE

Love the idea of Vogelmorn Community space / music venue – perhaps see if there is an opportunity for something similar in the Bay? Salvation Army building? St Hilda's?

There should be more dancing

Street parties

Integrating new residents

Neighbour days: street meet ups

A summer season of “BBQ talks” held in the park or at a hall with BBQ sausages donated. Having regular speakers on varied topics would be great. TED talk style. We have a wealth of knowledgeable specialists in Island Bay.

Meet the locals segments, more history in emails, facebook etc.

Events and promotion of the marine reserve

Community or environmental volunteering e.g. Paekawakawa

Community markets & fairs every first Saturday of the month

More community days around the beach and park

Beach clean ups

Family activities like Easter egg hunts, supporting halloween night etc.

More support for kids

Community art shows

Love to see a South Coast vege market somewhere

A tool swap place like they have in Newtown

How to reduce waste

Neighbourhood composting

Bike safety

## EVENTS BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE OR TAKING CLIMATE / ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Sharing native seedlings that will grow here and offer food to wildlife

Native plant sales

Wildflower plantings  
Using urban spaces to grow food  
Community gardens

Helping people to plant and grow trees as a climate change mitigation

Plantings

Community gardens to bring people together and provide more local resiliency

Fruit trees in the streets

Fruit trees on berms

Climate action locally: events, education, projects that tackle this challenge

Classes on growing food in South Wellington, gardening on a slope

Neighbourhood composting

Bike safety



## Major areas of interest include:

- Improving infrastructure
- Upgrading and expanding the library
- Upgrading the village centre
- Celebrate Island Bay's unique identity



## With other themes being:

- Heritage protection
- Green spaces

There is a need for village centre & infrastructure development

# Improving Infrastructure

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Many people focused on infrastructure as a general need of focus:

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*“Working, fit for purpose infrastructure i.e. parks, playgrounds, footpaths, streetlights etc”*

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Specific areas of concern included:

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**Waterpipes and stormwater discharge:** *“Major problems with water pipes etc. Let’s get the basics right”*

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**Tar seal:** *“Fixing the terrible tar seal job south of the Village”*

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**Trees:** *“Tidy up the trees on The Parade. In a storm they are not safe to walk under.”*

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**Streetlighting:** *“Having a good balance so people can feel safe when walking at night”*

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# Upgrading the library

There is considerable interest in upgrading the library and surrounding facilities (community centre, Plunket building).

- *“Improve the library, it should be inviting, modern and inspiring to be in”*
- *“The library could be expanded”*
- *“Lobby for new library and Plunket building to be made into a great hub”*
- *“Planning for the future viability of the community centre and library needs to be a ‘now’ conversation”*

## Upgrading the village centre

There was general agreement of the need to upgrade the village centre:

*“The village centre is shabby and could be improved so good to see this underway”.*

*“The town centre has so much potential which is not realised. Could benefit from new planting, street furniture, replacing the bus shelter, new paving, street lights that demarcate the centre”*

## Celebrate Island Bay’s unique identity

Various people felt Island Bay has the potential to be more of a destination celebrating it’s Italian & seaside identity.

*“Think of ideas that celebrate that we are a beach suburb with an Italian history!”*

*“Lots of summery, diverse murals. We’re a beach village. Lets celebrate that and do it to death”*

*“Celebrating our Italian, Mediterranean and seaside heritage”.*

*“Island Bay as a destination for non-locals while catering for locals”.*

## Heritage protection & green spaces

Some comments were also made about protecting Island Bay’s heritage; and increasing green space.

*“A community that retains its charm and heritage”*

*“I think our shopping centre is really cute and has heritage value on the side with old buildings. Can we get together and support owners to restore them?”*

*“Perhaps more ‘greening’ of Island Bay e.g. planting in Paekawakawa, the shops could do with some trees too – a parklet?”*

*“Some green spaces to sit near the shops”*

## Affordable housing and densification is required, but needs to be done well



Many people see a need for housing densification in Island Bay. They want to see a focus on medium density housing that is **affordable**.

*“Island Bay is no longer affordable to younger families and is therefore becoming less diverse. We should do everything we can to support affordable housing”*

*““Ensure new developments include ‘affordable’ options”*

*“more council housing so Island Bay doesn’t become exclusive”*

However, others are concerned about the quality and impacts of densification:

*“I’m worried about the monstrous block of flats being constructed along The Parade. A blot on the landscape. There are better ways to do densification”*

*“It is worrying to hear the council plans to allow multi-story building in residential streets”*

*“I’m concerned that densification will exceed infrastructure capacity”*

Noting the Council focus on housing, a number of residents saw opportunities to make sure it works for us:

*“Ensure a balance between housing affordability and amenity”*

*“Advocate for good quality, medium density housing .. Better to be in the tent advocating for good outcomes”*

# The environment needs protection in a changing climate

People are interested in protection and enhancement of Island Bay's beautiful environment, including the coast, sea, bush, walks and birds:

*"a focus on healthy coast, sea and bush"*

*"our natural features (walkways, beaches and parks) are protected"*

*"more support for the native restoration going on in Paekawakawa, Manawa Karioi etc"*

*"protect the marine reserves from pollution and erosion"*

*"enjoying the abundance of natural resources: sea, bush, walks, marine reserve, and native birds"*

*"pest control"*

There is concern about the impacts of climate change and the need to prepare for and manage landslides, sea level rise, flooding & bush fires:

*"How can Island Bay prepare for the effects of climate change? We have to be prepared for the reality that flooding, landslides and the risk of bush fires will increase"*

*"A suburb which is resilient to sea level rise and flooding"*

*"The Council needs to start dealing with slips, slip risks and support residents in this. Patchy random fixes wont work, they need to stabilise whole banks"*

*"I live in southern Derwent Street between Humber and The Parade. Banks slips are a serious issue. Currently one blocking one side of the road"*

*"Tsunami alert warnings"*

# Shorland Park and the Coast could be better connected and protected

There is considerable interest in connecting Shorland Park to the beach, with sand dune protection:

- *“A beautiful beach that is extended into Shorland Park, protected through sand dunes”*
- *“Reclaim the natural shape of the bay `by closing the road in front of Shorland Park”*

An important interim step noted by several would be a decent crossing between the beach and the park:

- *“Please turn the crossing from Shorland Park to the beach into a full orange crossing. Its insane we still have to race our kids across one of the busiest streets”*

Sand dune restoration; and upgrading storm water pipes to keep the Bay clean and swimmable are also seen as priorities.

Other ideas include:

- Combing the beach to make it a more enjoyable place to utilise
- Beach activities
- More park benches and infrastructure at the beach
- Keep the floating pontoon year round
- Covered picnic tables at Shorland Park
- Bike and scooter parking at Shorland Park
- Upgrade the band rotunda or consider use as a summer café

# There is concern about crime ...

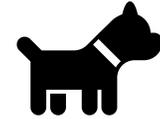


People feel concerned about an upswing in crime and see this as an increasing social issue.

*“There is a big increase in crime in surrounding suburbs – car break ins, stolen bikes, thefts from garages”*

*“There seems to be a lot of car theft happening at the moment. How can we support the marginalised in our community to keep everyone and their property safe?”*

# ...as well as rubbish & dog poo



People noted the amount of dog poo on the streets.

*“Too many dog owners are extremely lax here in cleaning up, such as the alley to the school, so please post signs and extra bags in trouble spots”*

*“Dog poo – we needs bins and free bags and a general crack down”*

A few people also commented on rubbish – taking more personal responsibility, and concern re: bins on windy days.

# Thank you!

1

To the **residents and business owners of Island Bay and Southgate** who completed the survey

2

To **Wellington City Council** for their funding and support of Island Bay Residents' Association

3

To **Island Bay library** for their support to people to complete the survey.

4

To **White Room Gallery** and **Empire Cinema** for their kind donations towards the prize draw