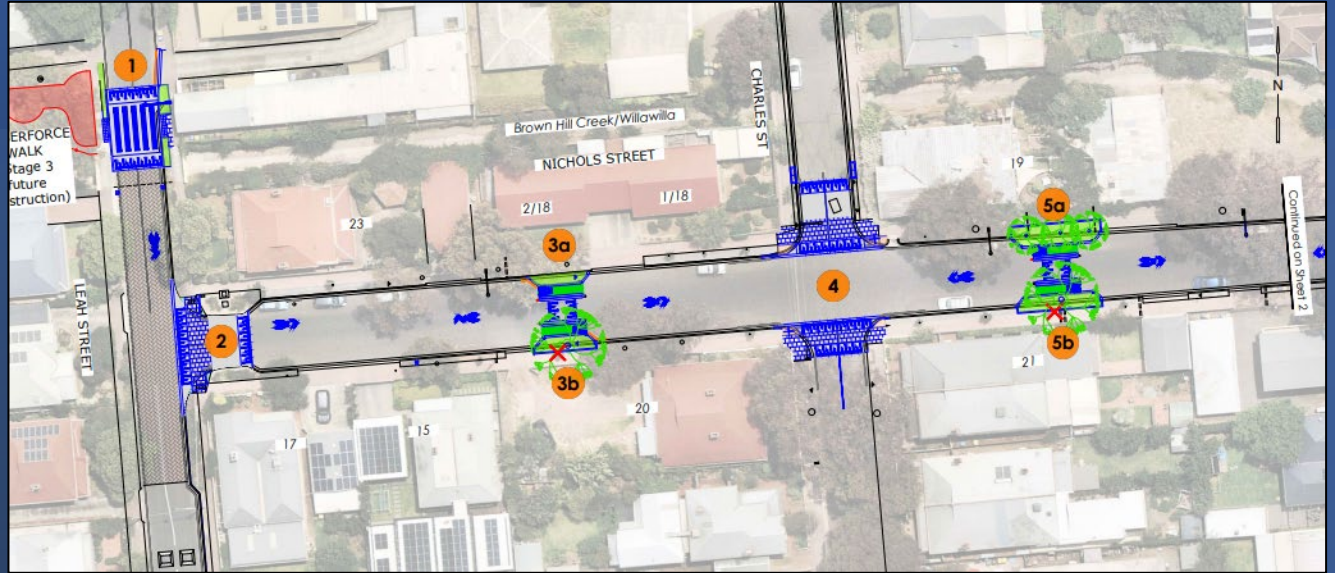


Stage 4 Wilberforce Walk Community consultation feedback Summary

May 2025



Community consultation

Community consultation was undertaken over a **4-week** period between Monday 17 February and Friday 14 March 2025.

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Stage 4 Wilberforce Walk Streetscape Improvements

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Thank you for your interest and feedback, this consultation has concluded.

Tell us what you think about the proposed streetscape improvements along Stage 4 of Wilberforce Walk.

We are seeking your feedback on proposed streetscape improvements along Stage 4 of Wilberforce Walk between Leah Street and Nairne Terrace.

Wilberforce Walk follows the Brownhill Creek alignment, serving as a key walking and cycling route linking Anzac Highway to Forestville Reserve, Unley Swimming Centre, the Mike Turtur Bikeway and the Marino Rocks Greenway.

The proposed streetscape improvements include the following (detailed on the [Concept Design Plan](#)):

- **Priority pedestrian raised crossing (wombat crossing) on Leah Street** at Wilberforce Walk, approximately 25 metres south of Nichols Street

Consultation Timeframes

 **Consultation Opens**
17 February 2025

 **Community Drop-in Session at Forestville Reserve** between 5.15pm and 6.15pm.
12 March 2025

 **Consultation closes at 5pm**
14 March 2025

Community consultation activities

- Your Say Unley webpage:
 - <https://yoursay.unley.sa.gov.au/stage4-wilberforce-walk>
- Community drop-in session at Forestville Reserve on 12 March 2025 between 5.15pm and 6.15pm
- Social media posts on Unley Facebook page.
- Email to Your Say members.
- Mailout letter to 182 residents, businesses and property owners in the project area.
- Posters on Nichols Street and Leah Street promoting the consultation.

Your Say THE CITY of *Unley*

Stage 4 Wilberforce Walk Streetscape Improvements

Tell us what you think about the proposed streetscape improvements along **Stage 4 of Wilberforce Walk**.

Improvements to safety and access, between Leah Street and Nairne Terrace, will make it easier for you and the local community to walk and bike ride in the Forestville area.



Legend:

- Project location
- Designated bikeways
- Neighbourhood bicycle routes
- Secondary on-road bicycle route



To view the concepts and provide feedback visit:
yoursay.unley.sa.gov.au/stage4-wilberforce-walk



Consultation participation

95

People provided
feedback

92

People
completed a
survey

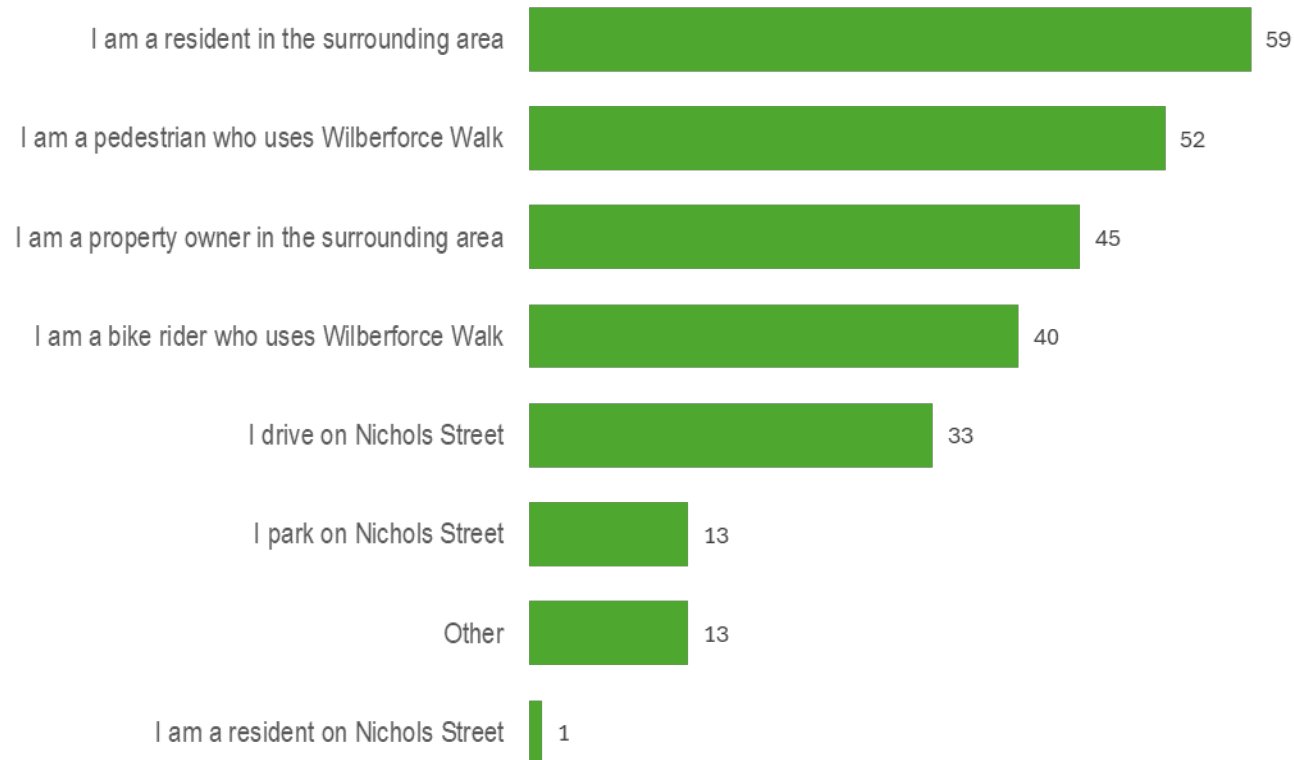
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Letters from Unley
BUG, Bike Adelaide
and Walking SA

1

Email follow up to
survey submission

Survey respondent profile



**respondents were able to select more than one stakeholder type*

Of the people that provided feedback:

64% indicated they are a resident in the surrounding area.

57% indicated they are pedestrian who uses Wilberforce Walk

49% indicated they are a property owner in the surrounding area.

43% indicated they are a bike rider who uses Wilberforce Walk

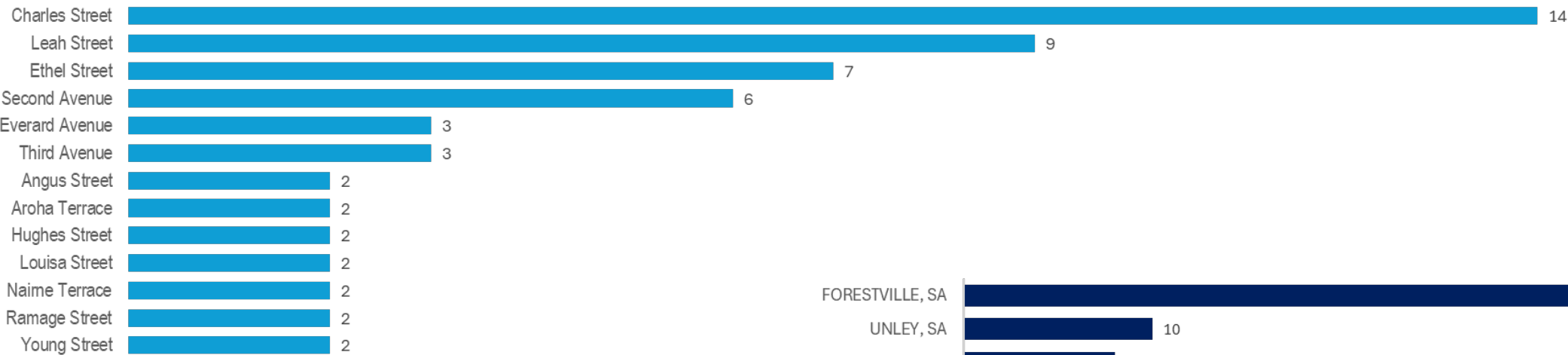
36% indicated they drive on Nichols Street

14% indicated the park on Nichols Street

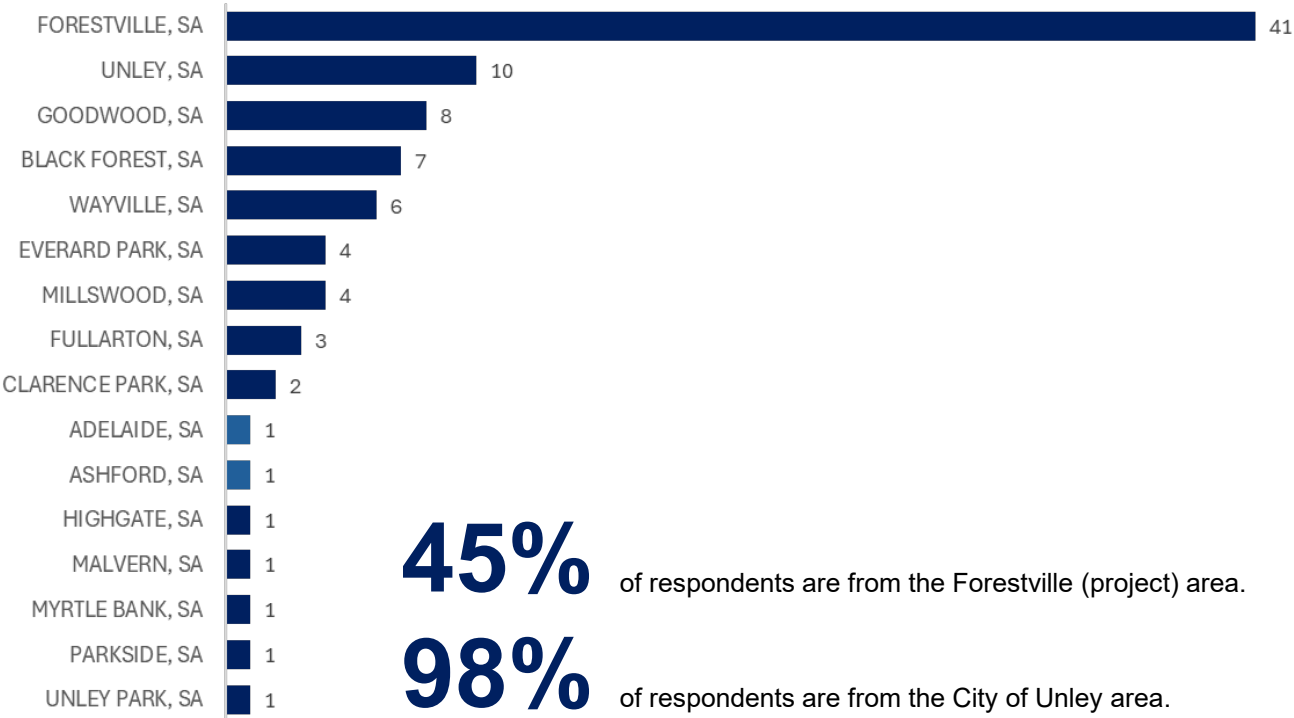
14% selected other

1% indicated they live on Nichols Street.

Survey respondent profile



Streets where survey responses were received by two or more people

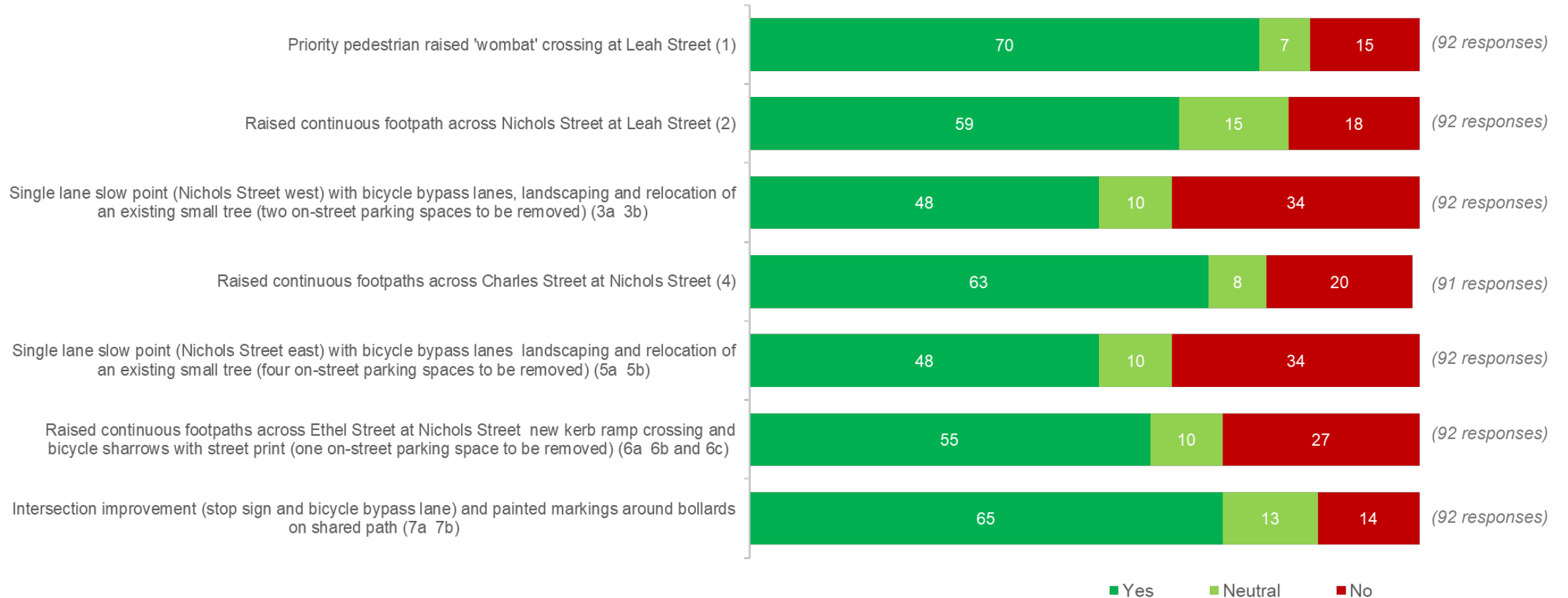


45% of respondents are from the Forestville (project) area.

98% of respondents are from the City of Unley area.

Level of support for the seven improvements

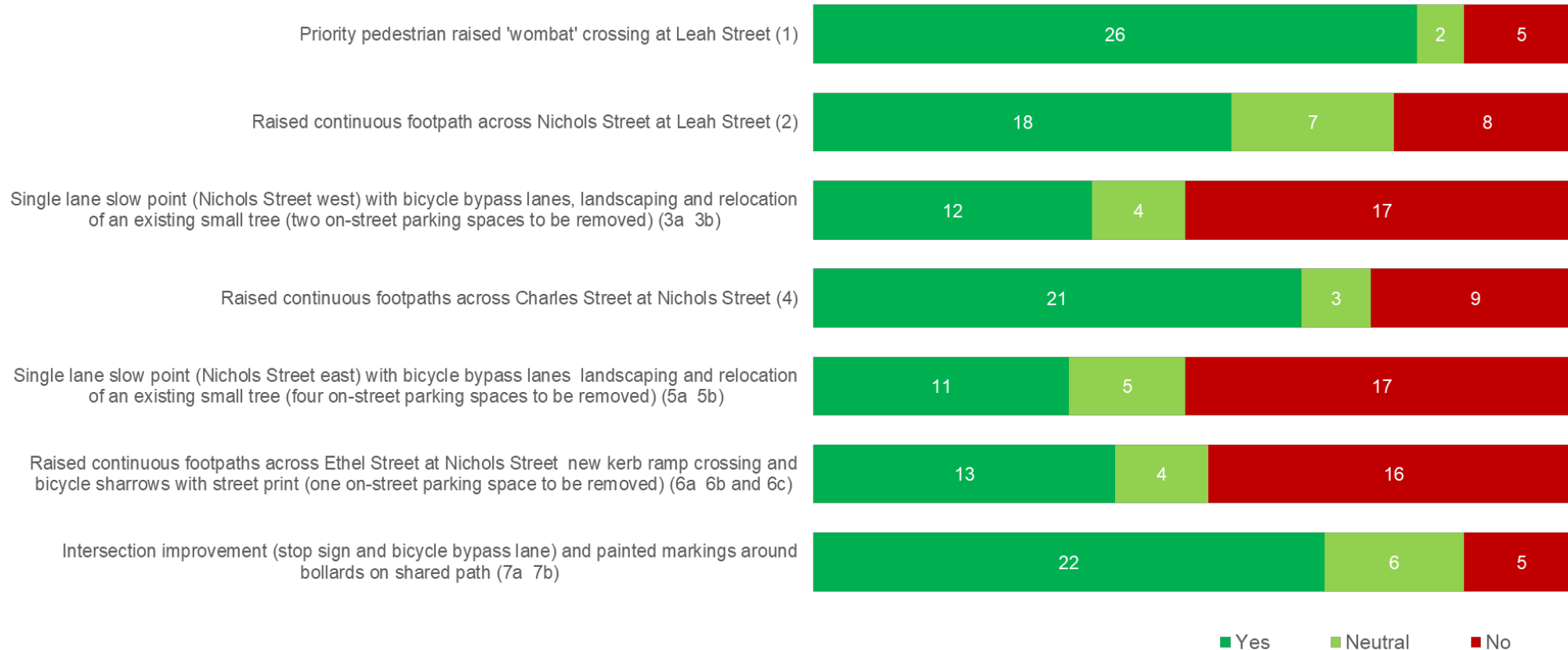
All survey respondents



All proposed improvements received a level of support greater than **50%**, with the most supported improvements being the priority (wombat) crossing on Leah Street (at 76%) and the Nairne Terrace intersection improvements (at 71%). The least supported proposal was the single lane slow points on Nichols Street receiving a level of non-support of **37%**.

Level of support for the seven improvements

Nichols, Charles, Leah, Ethel and Nairne Tce St Residents (33 (36%) of all respondents)

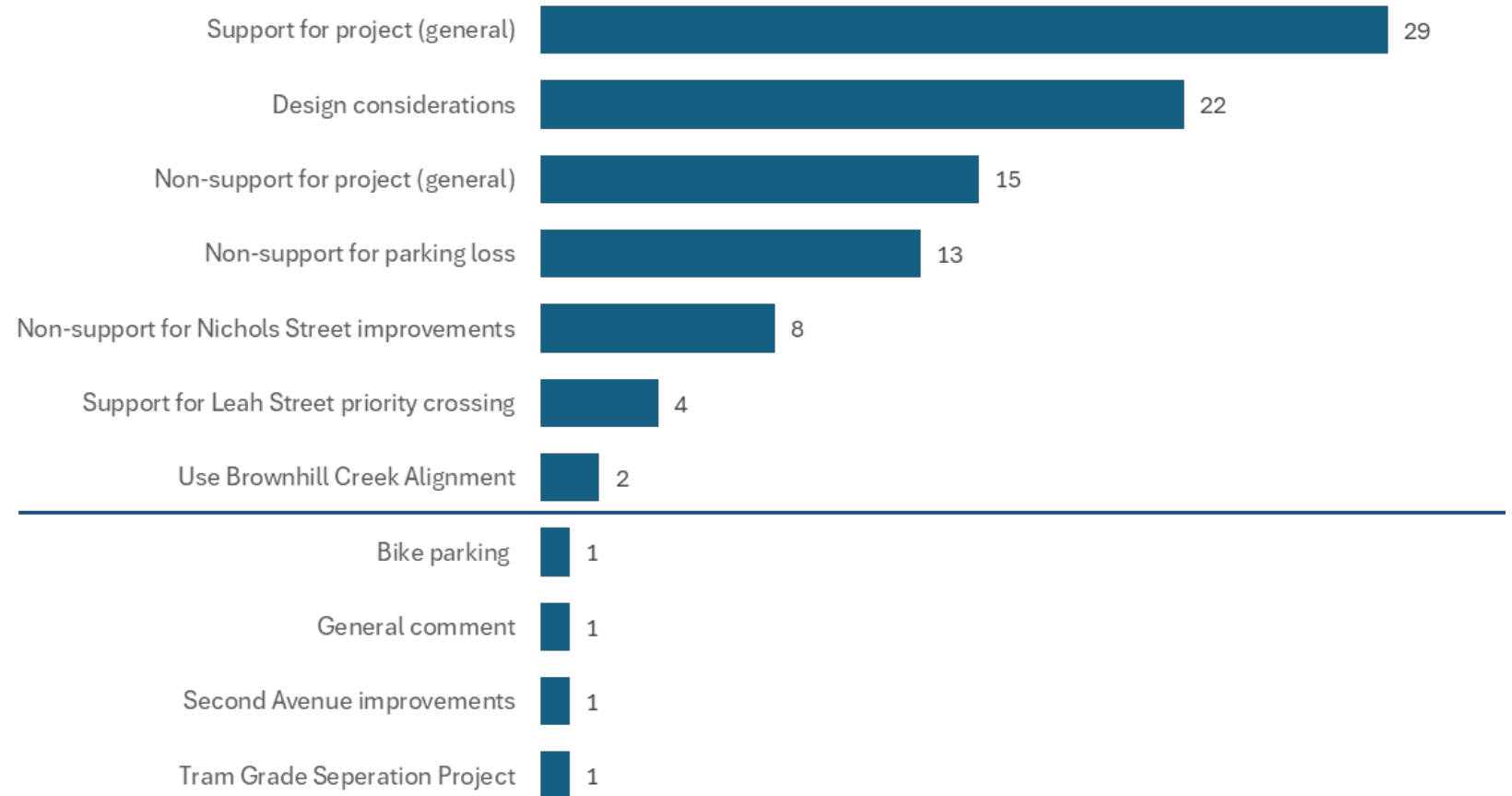


The level of support by local residents for the overall project in the area was less, with the priority (wombat) crossing on Leah Street (at 79%) , the Nairne Terrace intersection improvements (at 67%), the Charles Walk Continuous footpaths (at 64%) and the raised continuous footpath across Nichols Street at Leah Street (at 55%). **The single lane slow points were not supported, with the Ethel Street intersection improvements receiving a level of non-support of 48%.**

Summary of feedback on recommendations

All feedback received was analysed and categorised into 11 topics.

A summary of the feedback for each topic, with two or more comments, is provided in the following pages.



Summary of comments by category topic

Support for project (general) 29 comments

Most feedback received in this category endorsed the proposed improvements, with strong appreciation for the Council's commitment to enhancing safety and accessibility for people walking and cycling. The upgrades were viewed as a significant step towards encouraging more people to walk and cycle for both transport and recreation. The project was also seen as beneficial not only for improving road safety for all street users and promoting active travel, but also for supporting increased use of local amenities such as the Unley Pool, Goodwood Primary School, and nearby shops. Several comments also emphasised the strategic importance of this project, and Wilberforce Walk, as a key east-west walking and cycling connection in the area.

Non-support for project (general) 15 comments

Most feedback received in this category expressed strong opposition to the proposed upgrades, viewing the project as ineffective and costly. Many respondents felt that the works, particularly along Nichols Street and Leah Street, would not improve conditions for people walking or cycling, but instead worsen safety due to increased congestion and the displacement of traffic onto quieter residential streets like First and Second Avenues. The proposal was widely described as a "band-aid solution" that fails to address the root causes of traffic issues, such as inadequate major road infrastructure and poor east-west connectivity.

Additional concerns included the loss of on-street parking, excessive signage, and cycling infrastructure that may compromise pedestrian safety. Several submissions questioned the value for money, citing a lack of supporting usage data or clear justification for the scope of works. Many residents felt that the Council has overlooked more pressing local issues, such as neglected landscaping, hazardous pedestrian crossings (especially at Second Avenue and Brown Hill Creek), and broader traffic management, while prioritising infrastructure seen to benefit non-residents or pass-through users.

Design Considerations (22 comments)

Several design considerations were provided, including:

1. Replace wombat with a signalised Pedestrian Actuated Crossing (x3).
2. Improve the walking and cycling connection to City of West Torrens. (x1).
3. Do nothing on Nichols Street. The measures proposed are not required (x1).
4. Improve Ethel Street instead for people bike riding (x1).
5. Widen the footpath on Nichols Street on one side, as the current footpath widths do not meet accessibility standards with the current placement/location of tree(s) (x2).
6. Ensure access for mobility scooters is considered (x1).
7. Increase greening / trees in the design (x4).
8. Add a water drinking fountain, end-of trip bike facilities in the park (x2).
9. Ensure lines and signs are reduced in the design to minimise visual pollution (x1).
10. Reduce vehicle speeds at the Nichols Street junction with Nairne Tce, as cyclists often travel at speed along the Marino Rocks Bikeway (x2).
11. Need to address existing stormwater issues on Charles Street (x1).
12. Review bicycle sharrow locations on Nichols Street (x1).
13. Replace the single low slow points with a speed hump like Mills Street (x1).
14. Remove single lane slow points from design (not required) (x2).
15. Make Nichols Street one-way with two-way bicycle lane (x1).
16. Raise the intersections at Charles Street and Ethel Street with Nichols Street (x1).
17. Line-mark car parks on Ethel Street to optimise existing parking spaces (x1).
18. Raise the road on Leah Street between Wilberforce Walk and Nichols Street to highlight it is a shared space with Wombat Crossing (x1).
19. Make any new areas for paving real and permeable (x1).
20. Upgrade crossings on Wilberforce Walk on First, Second and Third Avenues (x1).

Summary of comments by category topic

Non-support for parking loss (13 comments)

Most feedback received in this category opposed the proposed removal of seven on-street parking spaces on Nichols Street, citing concerns about already limited parking availability in the area. Residents raised concern that most homes in the area lack off-street parking, and the demand for street parking is exacerbated by visitors to the Unley Pool, nearby markets, train commuters, and upcoming developments such as the Le Cornu site. Several submissions highlight that the loss of parking would disproportionately affect residents, visitors, and essential services like health workers. While there was general support for some safety improvements, a number of residents viewed that it should not come at the cost of parking.

Non-support for Nichols Street improvements (8 comments)

Most feedback received in this category opposed the proposed changes along Nichols Street, citing concerns over unnecessary disruption, loss of parking, and questionable benefit. While some acknowledged traffic pressures from surrounding developments and events at the Showgrounds and Unley Pool, many felt that Nichols Street already operates safely and at an appropriate pace, with courteous local drivers and minimal issues. Opponents viewed proposed elements like raised footpaths, single-lane slow points, and tree removals as excessive, costly, and potentially counterproductive, likely to increase congestion, reduce amenity, and worsen traffic frustration. Many questioned whether adequate community consultation or cost-benefit analysis had occurred, and suggested that simpler measures like signage, line marking, or road maintenance would be more appropriate.

Support for Leah Street Priority Crossing (4 comments)

The four comments supported the proposed priority (wombat) crossing on Leah Street, highlighting that residents have long advocated for enhanced pedestrian safety in the area and warmly welcome this much-needed crossing upgrade. While current pedestrian traffic is low, a couple of respondents noted that the new crossing is likely to encourage more foot traffic and improve local connectivity.

Use Brownhill Creek Alignment (2 comments)

The two comments raised questions about why the proposal does not include addressing the Brownhill Creek alignment between Leah Street and Ethel Street, specifically regarding the possibility of covering the creek.

Key stakeholder feedback

- Unley BUG, Bike Adelaide and Walking SA wrote a submission in support of the project.
- **Unley BUG** also provided a few design suggestions aimed at improving safety and accessibility for cyclists and pedestrians. These included
 - raising the intersection on Leah Street between Nichols Street and Wilberforce Walk to calm traffic, particularly to support right-turning cyclists from Nichols Street.
 - widening the access point to Wilberforce Walk from Leah Street, which is expected to be addressed in Stage 3 works.
 - replacing the verge landscaping on the eastern side of Leah Street (between the proposed wombat crossing and Nichols Street) with paving to create a safer, more accessible path for mobility scooter users, young children, and less confident riders.
 - reviewing the kerb ramp radius at the Nichols Street and Nairne Terrace junction to ensure it can accommodate longer cargo bikes.

