# Whittlesea 2040 What our community wants for the future

The City of Whittlesea is growing in population, and by the year 2040 we’re expected to grow by another 159,000 people. To plan for the future, Council is developing a long-term Vision that will guide all of Council’s work until the year 2040.

An important part of developing this Vision is to understand what our community wants for the future.

In the first half of 2018, we asked anyone who lives, works, studies or plays/visits in the City of Whittlesea to answer up to three questions:

* What are the things you love about your local area?
* What are your favourite places in the City of Whittlesea and why?
* What are your hopes for your local area by 2040?

This document summarises what our community told us.

## How we spoke with the community

* Online feedback: surveys, website, social media and online mapping.
* Paper-based feedback: postcards, surveys and children’s drawing sheets
* Activities for children and young people: photo booths, LEGO models and a time capsule.

## Who we heard from

* 4000 people participated – around 4000 people participated through submissions, workshops and forums
* All ages (3 years to 85 + years)
* 63% were female
* 31% were male
* 1% identified as ‘other’
* 5% not stated
* More females than males, and people of other genders
* People from every suburb, as well as areas outside the City of Whittlesea
* Around two of every five people were born overseas
* Aboriginal community members in key local Aboriginal groups
* People of all abilities
* Local service providers and community organisations

## How we will use the information

The information will be used by Council to develop a Vision that will guide all of Council’s work, *Whittlesea 2040.*

## What our community told us

### Our community loves

* Sense of community
* Celebrating our diversity
* Community events
* Feeling connected and safe at home
* Well-designed local neighbourhoods
* Good community spaces
* The beautiful, clean area
* The mix of rural and developing residential areas
* Local shops and shopping complexes
* Variety of social dining options
* Local businesses, services and opportunities to work locally
* Variety of parks and open spaces
* Beautiful natural environment and wildlife
* The many opportunities to be active outdoors
* The semi-rural environment
* Great public transport network
* Connected and networked roads
* Pathways for walking and cycling
* Easy access to health services
* Availability of home care and support services
* Good educational institutions
* Lots of new public infrastructure

### Our community hopes

* To feel safe or safer at home and in public
* More and affordable community activities and events
* A stronger sense of community and wellbeing
* A welcoming and inclusive City of Whittlesea
* To be involved and have a say
* Improved facilities in local parks and new theme parks
* Access to affordable, quality homes for diverse types of households
* Carefully planned development balancing growth and retaining semi-rural areas
* Access to new or better local facilities (sports education) and community spaces
* Quality local swimming pools
* More shopping centres, shops, local eateries
* A variety of local jobs
* Quality education facilities and employment pathways
* More variety in local retail and fresh food suppliers
* Investment in local business and innovation
* More trees and well maintained parks
* Natural assets, greenery and wildlife that is cared for
* To retain our semi-rural feel through appropriate new development
* Cleaner, more sustainable living
* Leadership and investment in sustainability initiatives
* Improvements to traffic management and road networks
* A greater supply of parking
* A better and expanded public transport system
* Safe, connected paths for walking and cycling
* More sustainable, innovative transport
* More quality local schools and learning and community spaces
* Improved health facilities and expanded medical services
* Greater access to support services for various community needs
* Enough quality infrastructure to meet our growing needs.

To find out more about what our community said in the community engagement report and learn more about the Vision visit [www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au](http://www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au) or call 9217 2170.