

Overall Summary 1 May 2008

At the end of the meeting each table was asked to report back on what they liked best about the maps, and make suggestions on improvements which could be made. Below is a summary of the comments made:

Activities

Liked best about the maps discussed:

- The mix of uses
- Smith Street is not another Lygon Street – restrict restaurants

Suggestions made to improve the Structure Plan:

- The industrial / business area around Easey Street blocks the residential area. This area should be rezoned
- No mention of noise made on maps. Noise should be mentioned

Public Spaces

Liked best about the maps discussed:

- The fact that public spaces is looking at more than just parks
- More trees (they should be native)
- Footpaths – we need to design people in – keep footpaths for the public
- Widen footpaths on Smith Street

Suggestions made to improve the Structure Plan:

- Public toilets / recycle bins / cleanliness need to be discussed more
- Concern about the bottles etc left on the streets during the weekend
- Parks need to have a focus (e.g. some parks have playgrounds)

Transport

Liked best about the maps discussed:

- Focus on pedestrians and bicycles
- Emphasis on pedestrian and bicycle axis – not on major roads
- Widening footpaths on Smith Street
- Bicycle lanes
- Freeing up roads for trams
- Diversion of traffic to certain main roads
- Wellington Street being identified as a main traffic road

Suggestions made to improve the Structure Plan:

- Strict control on motor traffic – cars, buses and trucks is required
- Need more focus on motor vehicles in the plan
- Smith Street should be a destination – not just a through traffic street
- Concerned if Smith Street was closed to traffic that Wellington Street would not cope with the extra traffic. How can Wellington Street carry more traffic and bicycles?
- Need more trees to filter pollution – particularly along Johnston and Wellington Streets
- More details required on parking strategy
- Objectives 3.3 and 3.4 do not address parking – off street parking like they have in Camberwell would be good
- There is not enough parking for businesses and residents

Buildings

Some people thought the Yarra Planning Scheme is too prescriptive / restrictive and is stifling development, whilst others wanted to keep the heritage feel of the area.

Liked best about the maps discussed:

- Height restrictions in different sections
- Keeping human scale

Suggestions made to improve the Structure Plan:

- Most of the identified height restrictions are fine, however 6-7 storey buildings are too tall. Buildings should be between 4-6 storeys and have offsets