

Summary Engagement Report

Woodward Street, Merewether Road and embankment upgrades



The project aims to enhance road and footpath conditions by improving the functionality, serviceability and safety for pedestrians, parked cars and traffic.

Overview

We asked the community to identify road and embankment issues on Woodward Street, Merewether.

Community members were able to provide feedback by adding comments to the interactive map, completing the online form or by email.

The community were able to provide feedback on our Have Your Say page from **23 March to 3 May 2023**.

Purpose

The objectives of the engagement were to:

- Understand concerns and problems in relation the road, path, and embankment.
- Identify the specific location of issues.
- Give community members the opportunity to provide ideas and suggestions.

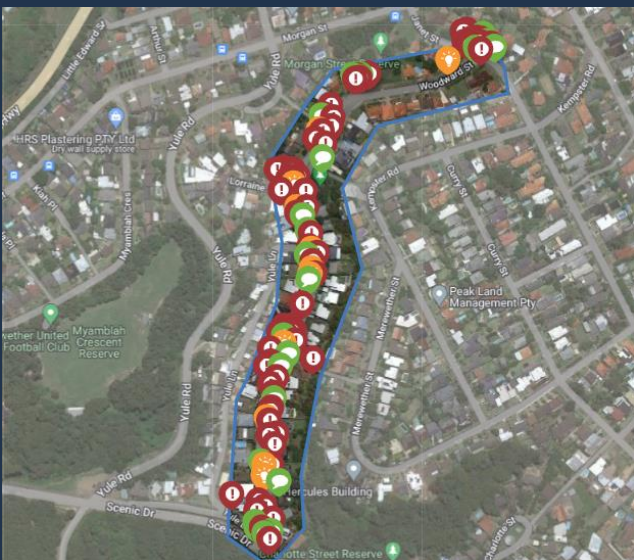


Feedback received

33 Online form submissions

105 Comments on the interactive map

1 Email submission



Woodward Street, Merewether Road and embankment upgrades



City of
Newcastle

Overall themes



Concern regarding the width of the street and issues surrounding on-street parking

Road maintenance and quality issues stemming from poor drainage

Requests for better traffic management

Concern regarding access and poor quality footpaths

Key themes within online form/email submissions (N=34)



Width of the road

Nearly three quarters of submissions mentioned concerns about the narrow road and limited on-street parking.

People provided examples of traffic incidents or issues with large vehicles such as construction vehicles and garbage trucks.



Improve/maintain footpaths

Ten online form submissions commented on the quality or lack of adequate footpaths.

Improve/maintain drainage

Ten online form submissions commented on drainage issues and made suggestions regarding new kerb and guttering.



Issues with on-street parking

More than half of online form submissions mentioned safety issues, incidents of damage to cars and concerns about being unable to park on the verge.



Improve median strip/embankment

Ten online form submissions commented on issues with the median strip/embankment.



Road maintenance

Nearly half of online form submissions mentioned the need for road maintenance.

Concerns were primarily about potholes, road surface and issues resulting from poor drainage.



Improve traffic management

There were also 10 comments about traffic management e.g. speed, adequate signage regarding the one-way road and dangerous conditions turning into Woodward Street.

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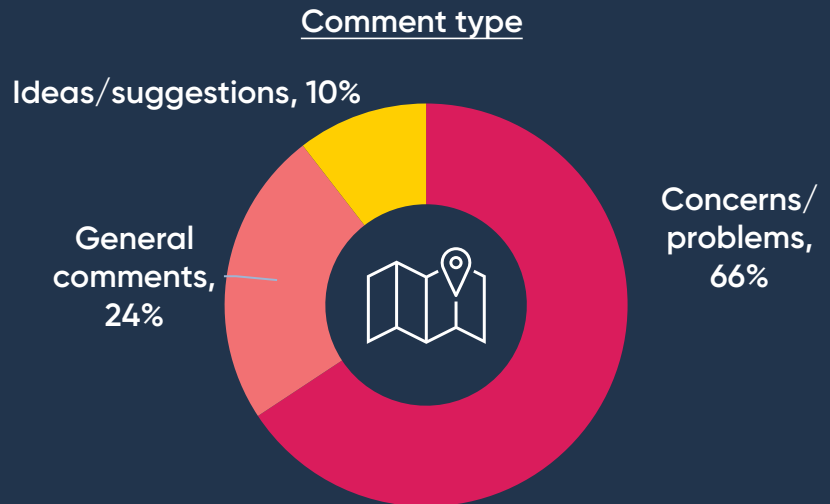


Interactive map feedback (N=105)

Community members were able to leave comments on a map to pinpoint exactly where the issues are.

Two-thirds of comments highlighted concerns along the length of Woodward Street, Merewether.

Participants were also able to agree (up vote) or disagree (down vote) with comments from other people. The most popular comments by comment type are shown below.



Top Concerns/Problems

The most popular comments were:

- Seepage in several areas of Woodward Street, particularly opposite 67-71 Woodward Street.
- Lack of drainage and water seeping from/in between the median onto the road causing degradation, pot holes and moss (near 63 Woodward Street).
- Cars being parked on the bend creating a narrow road over the rise (near 12 Woodward Street).
- Road dogleg and narrowing (near 52 Woodward Street) presenting collision risk to parked cars.
- Turning from Woodward Street is difficult even with stop sign due to oncoming traffic from the eastern crest (near 114 Janet Street).

Top General Comments

The most popular comments were:

- The suggestion of a right-hand turning lane from Scenic Drive.
- A reduced speed limit on Woodward Street.
- A blind spot mirror to make it easier to pull out onto Janet Street.
- Reducing the speed limit to 50km/h on Scenic Drive.
- Road widening and condition of the road.

Top Ideas/Suggestions

The most popular comments were:

- A two-way mirror to view cars coming from Janet Street towards City Road.
- Widening the road by replacing the embankment with a retaining wall.

Next steps

Thank you to everyone who shared their thoughts, ideas and suggestions. The project team will review all feedback received and use this to identify appropriate solutions. We will provide further updates to the community as the project progresses.