

Transport Choices Stratford

Summary of community feedback

Stratford District Council, September 2023



TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O
WHAKAAHURANGI
STRATFORD
DISTRICT COUNCIL

About our Transport Choices project

During August and September 2023, Stratford District Council asked for feedback on our Transport Choices project to develop a network of safe and environmentally friendly walking and cycling paths for Stratford's kids and the wider community.

Our Transport Choices project has two phases:

- Phase 1 creates a safe walking and cycling network between schools and important destinations on the west side of Stratford.
- Phase 2 will link the east and west sides of Stratford through safe crossing points on State Highway 3 and create cycling / walking access from key residential areas to destinations on the east side of Stratford, like Stratford High School, Stratford Bike Park, and Whakaahurangi Marae.

How we asked residents for their feedback

- Our Transport Choices team delivered letters, feedback forms, and sets of drawings and plans to affected residents.
- We held one-off public drop-in sessions at Stratford Primary School, St. Joseph's School, and TET Multisports Stadium, and weekly drop-in sessions at the Stratford Library and Visitor Information Centre during Phase 1 and 2 feedback periods.
- We advertised on Facebook, on our website, and sent messages to users of our Antenna app.
- We sent out media releases at the start of each public feedback period.
- In our free local community newspaper, the Stratford Press, we had regular reminders and information included in our weekly community newsletter, and we placed a full-page advertisement during the feedback period for Phase 1.
- We emailed stakeholders, representatives of our local iwi, and people who subscribed to email updates about Transport Choices. Many of our subscribers are parents and caregivers who filled in a recent survey about their child's travel to and from school.
- We had paper feedback forms and plans available at Stratford Library and Visitor Information Centre, Wai o Rua – Stratford Aquatic Centre, and council's Service Centre.
- Our Transport Choices team were available to answer questions and take feedback by email and phone.

About this summary document

We're providing an outline of key comments and response numbers from Phase 1 and 2 of our public feedback period.

In addition to this feedback, we received a document of 550 signatures from people who were against a general narrowing of roads and the removal of parking spaces in Stratford. The document didn't mention specific plans, streets, or areas of concern, because of this, while we acknowledge these people's concerns, we are unable to include this in our summary of feedback.

Sign-up for Transport Choices email updates



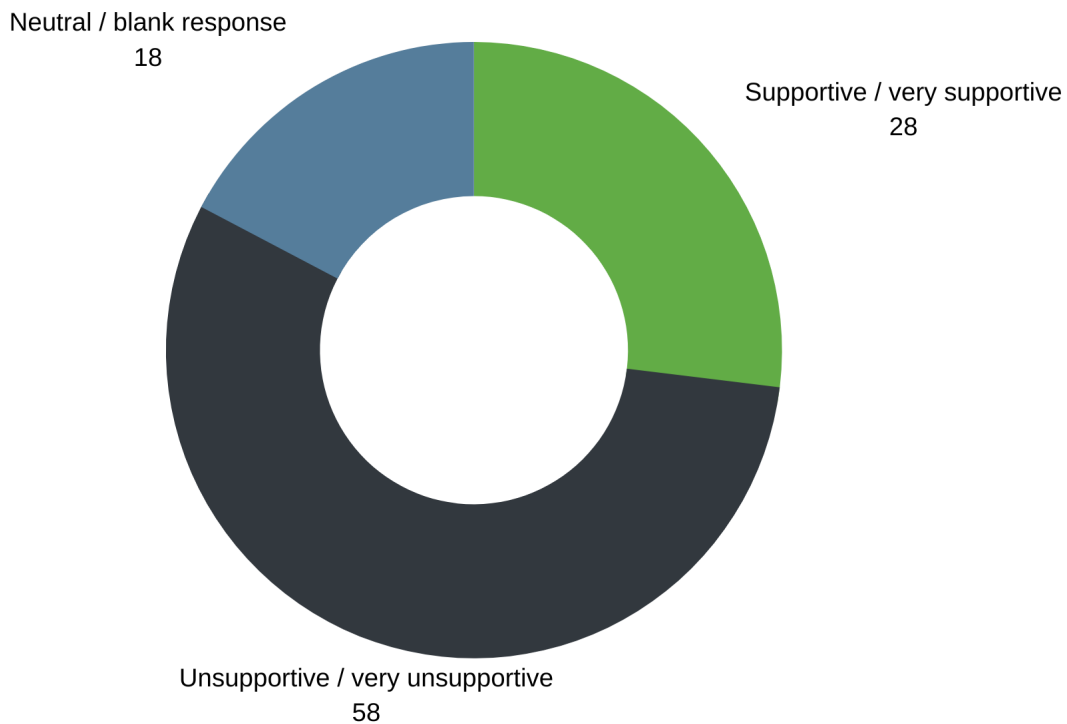
Stratford.govt.nz/TransportChoices

Phase 1 feedback

Open from Monday 14 August to 4pm Friday 8 September 2023

- Our Transport Choices team delivered **209 letters, feedback forms, and sets of drawings and plans** to residents on affected streets.
- We received a total of **75 responses via our feedback forms**. Respondents ranged from those who live, have a business, or travel through an affected area, to those who are not impacted, but are interested in the proposed plans.
- In addition, our Transport Choices team received **29 other responses** to our proposed plans by phone, email, social media, or at our drop-in sessions.

Across all of our respondents, how do people feel about our proposed Transport Choices plans for Phase 1?



Level of support	Responses	Feedback type
● Very supportive	12	Form
● Supportive	8	Form
● Supportive tone to feedback	8	Other feedback
● Neutral / blank response	8	Form
● Neutral tone to feedback	10	Other feedback
● Unsupportive	14	Form
● Unsupportive tone to feedback	11	Other feedback
● Very unsupportive	33	Form

Phase 1 feedback continued...

People who were unsupportive of Transport Choices Phase 1 said:

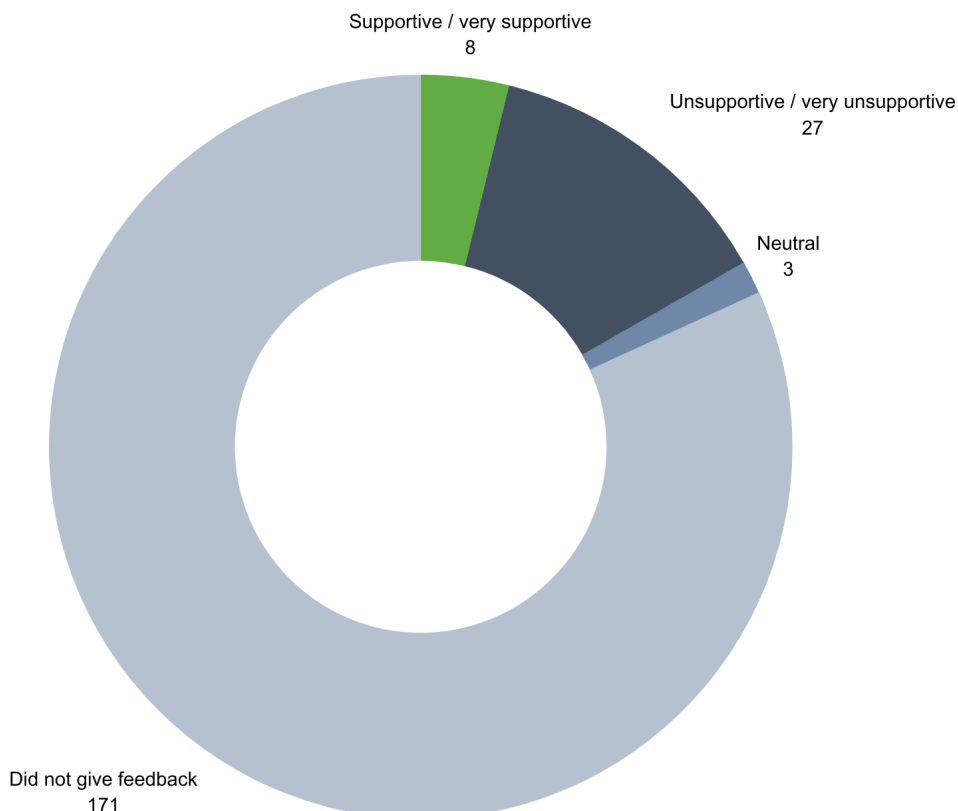
- Hamlet Street is too busy for on-street cycle lanes, with too many heavy vehicles.
- There are not enough cyclists to justify the changes and impacts.
- Navigation on and crossing SH3 will be problematic or unsafe.
- Not enough parking will be available on Miranda Street for the church and school community.
- Council should not use ratepayer money.
- The project will be rushed, and the result will not be right for the community.
- Crossing on Pembroke Road will be problematic for Taranaki Diocesan School Students.
- Putting more speed humps in will increase fuel consumption and cause pollution.
- It will impact businesses, restrict access, and impede truck and trailer units unloading or loading.
- We should leave the road as-is near the Immaculate Conception Church and St Joseph's Primary School and update the crossing between them.

- There are too many pedestrian crossings.
- Too many parking spaces will be lost.
- Roads which have cycle lanes installed in them will be too narrow and lead to congestion, parking / pulling out issues.

People who were supportive of Phase 1 said:

- That the project will help to keep kids safe.
- The changes will promote active travel options which are beneficial for health.
- We could use King Edward Park and the access track and go behind TET stadium and Wai o Rua.
- We could use the Patea Road bridge as a crossing point.
- Change the cycle lane from Miranda Street to Portia Street.
- We could change the cycle lane to the other side of the road on Miranda, Regan and Broadway Streets and leave parks as-is outside the doctor's surgery.
- The project has great potential, but more thought needs to go into making it work for all users.

How do affected residents feel about Phase 1 of our Transport Choices project?

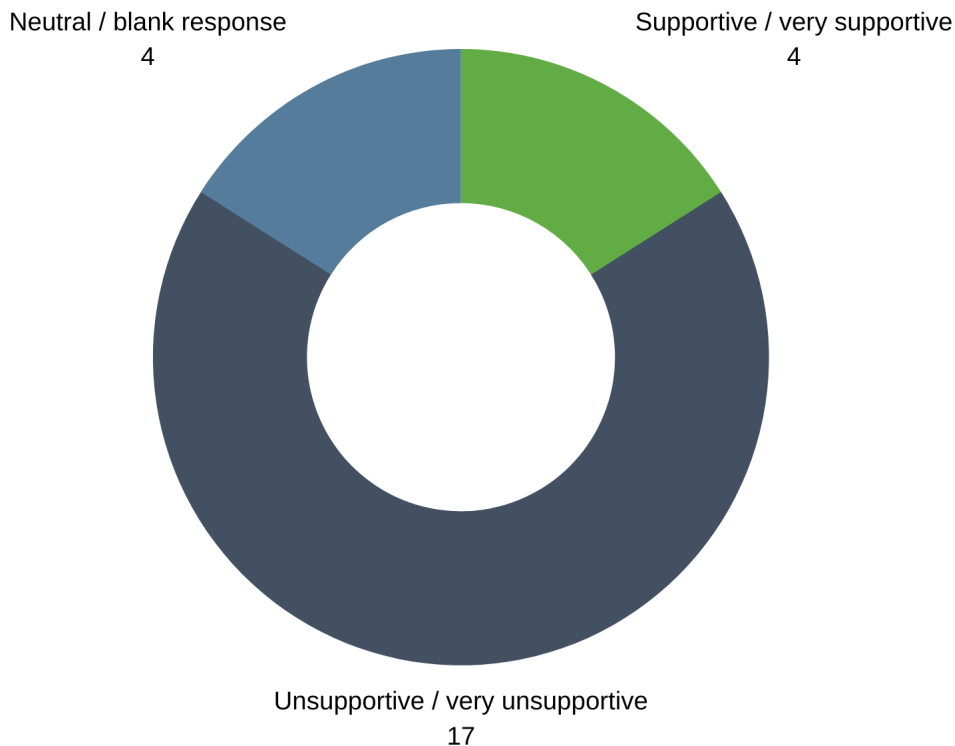


Phase 2 feedback

Open from Monday 4 September to 4pm Friday 15 September 2023

- Our Transport Choices team delivered **190 letters, feedback forms, and sets of drawings and plans** to residents on affected streets.
- We received a total of **22 responses via our feedback forms**. Respondents ranged from those who live, have a business, or travel through an affected area, to those who are not impacted, but are interested in the proposed plans.
- In addition, our Transport Choices team received **3 other responses** to our proposed plans by phone, email, social media, or at our drop-in sessions.

Across all of our respondents, how do people feel about our proposed Transport Choices plans for Phase 2?



Level of support	Responses	Feedback type
● Very supportive	3	Form
● Supportive	1	Form
● Supportive tone to feedback	0	Other feedback
● Neutral / blank response	3	Form
● Neutral tone to feedback	1	Other feedback
● Unsupportive	4	Form
● Unsupportive tone to feedback	2	Other feedback
● Very unsupportive	11	Form

Phase 2 feedback continued...

People who were unsupportive of Transport Choices Phase 2 said:

- There will be a disruption to the flow of traffic with benefits for only a small user group.
- Council should not use ratepayer money / the project will increase rates / maintenance costs will be too high.
- There are not enough cyclists to justify the changes and impacts.
- There will be no parking available down Regan Street / we should move the cycle lane to the grass berm / we should move the cycle lane next to the footpath between Cordelia and Swansea
- The changes will make it dangerous to come in and out of driveways on Regan Street.
- We should make Swansea Road a shared path or an off-road cycle way.
- The cycle lanes will not be safe for cyclists to use. The lanes must be maintained to be kept safe.

- Young riders may get confused when leaving the cycleways.
- Speed bumps will slow traffic and cause traffic congestion.
- Some cyclists travel too fast to be on the cycle lane.
- SH3 Roundabout at Regan Street should change to a traffic light intersection.
- It will impact businesses, restrict access, and impede truck and trailer units unloading or loading.
- Due to costs, it will be a half-finished job with no money for maintenance.
- Crossings on Broadway are more important for biking in Stratford safely.
- Location of crossings on Broadway could impact businesses.

People who were supportive of Phase 1 said:

- They like the fact there is a push to make cycling safer.

How do affected residents feel about Phase 2 of our Transport Choices project?

