

What train and tram zone activity centre would you like to provide feedback on? **Is Required**

**If you would like to provide feedback on more than one activity centre, please complete a survey for each activity centre you would like to provide feedback on.**

Blackburn Station

**What is your interest in train and tram zone activity centres? Is Required**

**Select all that apply**

I live in the activity centre

I own property in the activity centre

I work in the activity centre

I own a business in the activity centre

I live nearby

I visit this area often

I would like to live in this area one day

I am interested in developing property here

I am just interested

- **At least 1 option is required**

**To what extent do you agree that we need to deliver more new homes close to jobs, services, and transport around Melbourne? Choice Is Required**

Strongly agree

Agree

Neutral

Disagree

Strongly disagree

- **To what extent do you support change in your area to deliver more homes? Choice Is Required**

Strongly support

Support

Neutral

Against

Strongly against

**Tell us how you would like to see your local area develop, now and in the future.**

**1500 Characters – 250 Words**

Use existing council plans (DDO) to focus development - along Whitehorse rd, plus rezone in/around Solwood lane into a multi-use urban development and build a new Plaza over the railway line trench between Railway Road to South Parade to enable people to easily access the Station and the shopping centre by creating a joining community space.

No higher than 6-8 storeys in Sth Parade to maintain a human scaled village and minimise overshadow and impact on residents south of carpark.

Re-assign south of Laburnum st as Outer Catchment and develop masterplan for to better transition and reduce impact at sensitive SLO boundary.

Reduce Outer Catchment boundary in Nth to enable activation of Cootamundra walk-Elmhurst Basin and improve this area's linkage to railway with overpass over Whitehorse rd.

Protect sun access where people enjoy congregating & dining out - South parade, Main st, Railway parade - not Whitehorse rd/Blackburn Rd - they are major arterials to go places - not linger in.

**Are there any other streets where people spend a lot of time and should have extra sun protection to the footpath? 250 Characters – 50 Words**

Yes

No

Unsure

South Parade - heart of Blackburn Village together with adjoining Main and Gardenia streets and Railway Road from roundabout to Whitehorse Road.

Other areas that should have sun-access - Bellbird Place's grassed area at 29-30 Blackburn Rd and near Library/Morton Park Central Rd, along bike path and around the park.

**A range of key pedestrian links have been identified on the map. Are there any other key pedestrian links that should be considered?**

**Choice Is Required** 250 Characters – 50 Words

Yes

No

Unsure

Join both sides of Blackburn village - build deck over railway. Create proper linkages (and not overshadow) Cootamundra Walk - Larch st to Francis St to Elmhurst Basin to BB Village via - overpass Whitehorse Rd, improving Sikh Temple's access to RWS.

No indication of how pedestrian links will be connected or enhanced to enable active transport options beyond the walkability distance. Protected direct cycling active transport links and safe road crossings are essential to reduce car trips to the station from the 1-3km residential streets that surround activity centres. The congestion in the proposed core would reduce safety and be a disincentive for cyclists. Planners should follow best practice planning in countries like Holland and Denmark.

DTP identified a range of existing important public open spaces that should still get plenty of sun. **Are there any other favourite places that should be added?**

These could be spaces such as parks or plazas. 250 Characters – 50 Words

Yes

No

Unsure

South Parade - heart of Blackburn Village together with adjoining Main and Gardenia streets and Railway Rd from roundabout to Whitehorse rd.

Other areas that should have sun-access - Bellbird Place's grassed area at 29-30 Blackburn Rd and near Library/Morton Park Central Rd, along bike path and around the park.

Different communities value different things in their local activity centre.

**Rank in order of importance what would make your activity centre better.**  
With **1 being the lowest importance**, and **6 being the highest importance**.

- Select position

More active transport routes (For example, more walking or bike riding paths)

- Select position

More street trees

- Select position

Sporting facility upgrades

- Select position

More shared community spaces

- Select position

Improved traffic flow for vehicles

- Select position

Improvements to existing bus and tram stops

An example of a Ranking Order could be (least to most important - based on what extra is needed):

1. Sporting facility upgrades
2. Improvements to existing bus and tram stops
3. Improved traffic flow for vehicles
4. More street trees
5. More active transport routes (For example, more walking or bike riding paths)
6. **More shared community spaces – Most Important**

We want to ensure people are able easily walk and cycle around their area to access public transport, shops, services and open spaces.

**Are there currently any locations where barriers exist that prevent you from easily accessing services?**

These could be spaces such as parks or plazas. **250 Characters – 50 Words**

Yes

No

Unsure

Pedestrian access between North and South across Whitehorse Road (RWS to Blackburn Nth shopping centre, Hotel, Sikh Temple, Shops). Crossings over Blackburn Road to enable access to open space and Blackburn Lake & SLOs walking areas.

Railway infrastructure is a major barrier between north and south. The railway land lends itself to a future station redevelopment with lowered tracks and a public open space plaza linking north and south with sensitive commercial and residential above.

We want to make it easier for people to travel locally, whether walking, cycling, catching public transport, or driving, to access everyday destinations such as shops, schools, services and open spaces.

**Are there any locations in your area where barriers make it difficult, unsafe or inefficient to travel locally? These could include things such as traffic signal timing, intersection layouts, missing crossings or paths or other small changes that could significantly improve how people move around.**

These could be spaces such as parks or plazas. **250 Characters – 50 Words**

Yes

No

Unsure

The railway line splits BB village - only 3 crossings. Railway trench should be decked in order to improve full village accessibility, more shared community space. Nth Blackburn is closest Shopping Centre - needs better active transport linkages.

Sporting and other community facilities often contribute to social connection and community development.

**Are there any existing facilities that the community would benefit from if they were improved? **250 Characters – 50 Words****

Yes

No

Unsure

Blackburn Library and associated community services to be upgraded, provide similar to Manningham community services centre. Provision needs to be made in the plans for the increased demand for such services.

### **Core Heights Maps**

There are a range of building heights planned for your area. This includes taller buildings in the core and the adjacent inner catchment, and lower heights in the outer catchment.

**What range of heights do you think are suitable for the core of your area? Choice Is Required – although no option is available below 6 storeys.**



6 - 8 storeys



8 - 10 storeys



10 - 12 storeys



Greater than 12 storeys

**Where do you think the proposed highest building heights in the core should be located? Choice Is Required 1500 Characters – 250 Words**

4-6 storeys would be preferred for the core area around Blackburn Village, but this option was not given in question above.

Highest building heights (max 6-8) near Whitehorse Rd/Chapel St and Railway Rd/Solway Lane as shown, but set back so they don't loom over pedestrians. Not 10-12 storeys as they would be eyesores, like Box Hill towers that stand out and ruin the horizon for all.

Parts of the Blackburn Hotel site could include 10-12 storeys, perhaps in a central core, but needs detailed masterplan to ensure appropriate interface with adjacent residences and offset impacts on the nearby community.

Whitehorse council strategic study - [Megamile \(West\) Blackburn Activity Centre Urban Design Framework](#) provides evidence based justification through proper community consultation for taller buildings north of the railway at Blackburn.

**Do you recommend changes to building heights in the core?**

**250 Characters – 50 Words**



Yes



No



Unsure

South Parade capped at human-scale 6-8 maximum, with mix of heights so as not to be the "wall" as proposed blocking sightlines to the north. "Community focussed" development not heartless skyscrapers like Box Hill where people only exist, not live and play and enjoy.

Reference the [Megamile \(West\) Blackburn Activity Centre Urban Design Framework](#) for a more community centred approach.

**Do you have any other feedback on proposed heights? 1500 Characters – 250 Words**



Yes



No

Focus should be on enhancing community liveability and minimising impacts on residential interfaces, particularly overshadowing, light spill and its impacts on the night wildlife in the SLOs south of Blackburn Village. Tall banks of towering skyscrapers above 6-8 storeys are unfriendly, create wind tunnels and remove "Village feel" which Blackburn is renowned for. A prime example is the recently completed Pace development. Due to the design of the complex, people don't/can't congregate due to the inclement conditions created by the design – wind tunnels, no sun, no greenery. It is also impossible to drive or walk to for older residents or disabled. It has impacted the area around it with overshadowing which reduces the desire of people to walk on that side of Railway Road.

### Boundary Maps

When determining the boundaries we consider a range of factors and balance consideration.

**Please rank the below considerations in order of importance to your area.**

With **1 being of the highest importance**, and **7 being the lowest importance**. (please note these are opposite to the previous table!!)

- Select position

Natural landscape values (e.g.: Indigenous and cultural connections, biodiversity, habitat, waterways, scenic views)

- Select position

Topography (eg: natural features of the land such as hills, slopes, valleys)

- Select position

Accessibility to the core (eg: your busy main street where local businesses, local services are)

- Select position

Accessibility to public transport

- Select position

Retaining heritage and neighbourhood character

- Select position

Protecting trees, vegetation and waterways

- Select position

Traffic congestion and parking

One Ranking Order could be (With **1 being of the highest importance**, and **7 being the lowest importance**):

1. **Protecting trees, vegetation and waterways – Highest Priority**
2. Natural landscape values (eg: Indigenous and cultural connections, biodiversity, habitat, waterways, scenic views)
3. Retaining heritage and neighbourhood character
4. Accessibility to the core (eg: your busy main street where local businesses, local services are)
5. Traffic congestion and parking
6. Topography (eg: natural features of the land such as hills, slopes, valleys)
7. Accessibility to public transport

**Based on this, are there any areas that should be included or excluded from the proposed boundary as shown on the map?**

Yes

No

### **Use Unknown – Large Area of free form text?**

Reduce size of proposed areas north of Whitehorse Rd. Spread high rise development along Whitehorse Rd to Nunawading, matching Council DDO plans. This would spread impact and improve amenity, rather than trying to fit double the number of dwellings and people into the area proposed with the lack of infrastructure that exists.

**Do you recommend changes to the extent of the inner and outer catchment? 1000 Characters – 150 words**

Yes

No

Should use Council plans for the area (DD08+) as basis for development plans and spread high rise development and catchment boundary further east along Whitehorse road to link with Nunawading - like what has been done with link to Mitcham.

An active transport link along the north of the railway line between Blackburn and Nunawading connecting to the current dead-end streets would provide enhanced connectivity for residential development along Whitehorse Road.

Utilise current Council plans for the area (DD08+). Spread high rise development and catchment boundary further east along Whitehorse Rd to link with Nunawading – similar to link to Mitcham.

Designate area south of Laburnum St to railway as outer catchment. Develop masterplan and reduce heights to minimise impacts at interface of NRZ/SLO area with better integration and not degrading SLO values.

Access to sunlight will be massively impacted by overshadowing of proposed towers in Blackburn Village, particularly Main/Gardenia Street. Well designed interface/setbacks and reduced core heights is critical here as most residences are medium density, single dwelling units on small landholdings, and unlikely to be developed to proposed 3-4 storeys.

Residential area between Albert & Vine street is surrounded by proposed 10-12 storey buildings - these streets already have developments above the proposed inner catchment height level - increase heights in this area to match surrounds and existing development.

Area around Solwood Lane and railway line has been under-utilised for many years. In partnership with Whitehorse Council this area could be developed as an urban renewal opportunity, including decking the railway trench for new residential and commercial development and extending community space/linkages.

### **Do you have any other feedback about your proposed train and tram zone activity centres? 2500 Characters – 500 words**

Blackburn's leafy village character has been protected by generations of community advocates, and its liveability is deeply valued. Our community was relieved when DTP responded to our strong and united Phase 1 feedback by excising the SLO areas from the proposed Activity centre — and we remain very thankful for this decision.

However, the proposed high-rise towers for South Parade are not at an appropriate scale to maintain existing liveability. Currently a low-level village—with a character defined by tree canopy, birdlife, and sunlit café spaces—is central to Blackburn's appeal. Many residents have actually chosen Blackburn to escape the high-density environment of Box Hill. Under this proposal, that much-loved and sought out character would instead be replaced by concrete towers that overshadow adjacent low-level residential dwellings, with wind tunnelling, and the loss of much loved, social public space.

This outcome is not necessary. Since 2014, Whitehorse Council has successfully delivered the targeted growth proposed by current government plans, within the same core commercial area through medium- and high-density development, while preserving key community assets such as South Parade, Morton Park, and the library. Growth targets have been delivered, without sacrificing village character, by maintaining community support.

In contrast, DTP's proposal risks turning Blackburn into a transit hub, rather than a place people choose to live, raise families, and age in place. During this phase 2 feedback process Council and community members have put forward practical development alternatives, all of which are aligned with council's housing strategy which is currently being refreshed. We urge DTP to work with local planners, respect community input, and pursue options that deliver the espoused housing needs, while reducing building heights within the core and preserving Blackburn's village identity for future generations.

The focus on increasing housing at the expense of other land use types risks cannibalising the commercial businesses that currently provide employment to many people living nearby.

The remainder of the survey is collecting data for DTP – it is up to you what information you choose to provide.

What is your postcode?

**Which of the following age groups do you belong to?**

Under 16 years

16-20

21-30

31-40

41-50

51-60

61-70

71-80

80 plus

**Which of the following best describes your current gender identity?**

We recognise there are many ways people identify and describe their gender identity. The terminology we have used is intended to recognise this diversity and we aim to be inclusive.

Female

Male

Non-binary

I use a different term

Prefer not to say

**Do you have a disability?**

Disability includes physical, intellectual, psychiatric, sensory, neurological, invisible or learning disability.

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

**Do you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?**

Yes

No

Unsure

**How would you describe your cultural background?**

Your cultural background is the cultural/ethnic group(s) to which you feel you belong or identify. This background may be the same as your parents, grandparents, or your heritage, or it may be the country you were born in or have spent a great amount of time in, or you feel more closely tied to.

OCEANIAN (Example: Australian, New Zealander, Māori, Melanesian and Papuan, Micronesian, Polynesian)

NORTH-WEST EUROPEAN (Example: British, Irish, Austrian, Danish, German)

SOUTHERN AND EASTERN EUROPEAN (Example: Italian, Spanish, Croatian, Greek, Czech, Polish, Russian, Eastern European)

NORTH AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN (Example: Egyptian, Iraqi, Lebanese, Jewish, Peoples of the Sudan, Turkish, Israeli)

SOUTH-EAST ASIAN (Example: Burmese, Thai, Vietnamese, Filipino, Indonesian)

NORTH-EAST ASIAN (Example: Chinese, Taiwanese, Japanese, Korean)

SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL ASIAN (Example: Indian, Nepalese, Pakistani, Fijian Indian, Sri Lanken, Tamil, Aghan)

PEOPLES OF THE AMERICAS (Example: African American, American, Canadian, South American, Brazilian, Chilean, Mexican, Costa Rican, Cuban, Jamaican, Caribbean Islander)

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN (Example: Nigerian, Sierra Leonean, West African, Kenyan, South African, Zulu, Rwandan)

Other cultural/ethnic group

Unsure

Prefer not to say

**Are you of non-English speaking background?**

You should indicate 'yes' to this question if you were: - born overseas and your first language was not English - born in Australia but your first language was not English

Yes

No

Prefer not to say

**Apart from English, which language(s) could you have a conversation about a lot of everyday things?**

(Please select as many as apply)

English only

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages

Pacific Islander languages

European (excl. English) languages

Asian languages

African languages

Other language

**Would you like to subscribe to receive updates about this project?**

Yes

No