

Innovating Streets for People

Emily Place Trials

November 2021 Update



Hello again,

We hope everyone is keeping well in Level 3. We wanted to give you an update on a few aspects of the project:

- Funding for the permanent project
- Monitoring and evaluation update
- Survey results
- Changes we have made or are making now
- Community event

It's been great to see images of how the new space is being used by the community over lock down.



Photo: Adam Parkinson

Funding for the permanent project:

The project team is excited to announce that Auckland Council has decided to bring the funding for the long-term project forward to next financial year (2022-2023) which will build on the learnings and momentum from this trial and continue the development of community ideas into long-term infrastructure. We will be talking more about this with you next year.

Monitoring and evaluation:

We had planned to have the monitoring and evaluation phase of the programme wrapped up by now but unfortunately our traffic counters were laid out on the street the week we went into lock down and so we haven't been able to collect meaningful post-implementation data yet.

This data is an important part of the evaluation along with the survey results and together they present a qualitative and quantitative assessment of the project.

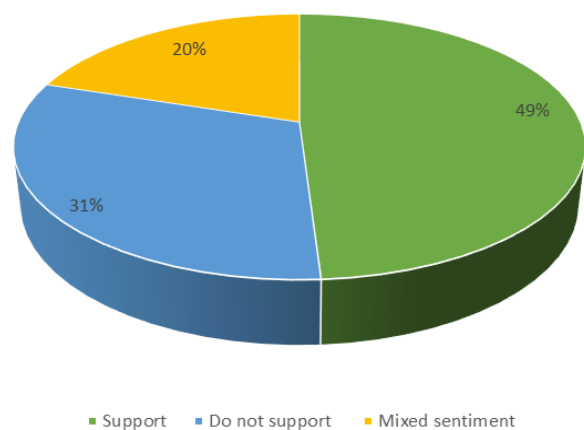
Survey results:

We do, however, have the survey results we can share with you. Lots of great ideas came out of the survey, some of which we are working on implementing shortly.

The key points that came up were:

There were 55 total responses received from the Have Your Say webpage over August 2021, where people were asked for feedback about the function, design, and impact of the trial on Emily Place.

- 27 people support the changes (49%)
- 17 do not support (31%)
- 11 have mixed sentiment. (20%)



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More details on the survey results are attached in a separate document.

Changes we have made or are making now

Based on the survey feedback:

- We are aware of ongoing issues with vehicles parking on the widened footpath. Prior to lockdown we had arranged for Auckland Transport's Parking Officers to increase their presence in the area, however the issue has continued. We will now be installing a few more of the timber planters to prevent vehicles from accessing the footpath area.
- We are working with Auckland Transport to remove the redundant parking meters adjacent to the widened footpath and the Reserve.

Since the survey and following discussions with residents:

- We were made aware of various construction related clutter around the project - this was tidied up last week and items including cones, signage and sandbags were removed
- We are looking to add some picnic tables to the turf and plaza spaces
- We are investigating a community book swap facility
- We have organized for Council staff and contractors to look at the drainage issue which some of you identified to us after the footpaths were widened.

Community event

We're still hoping to be able to host a community event over summer to be able to informally catch up and hear how you found the trial, and your aspirations for the longer-term project. We will be in touch again when we have more certainty regarding COVID-19, to provide you with further details on this.

Ngā mihi,

Claire & the Innovating Streets team

Emily Place Project Feedback: Summary Presentation

Survey August 2021

AUCKLAND'S FUTURE IN PROGRESS



Community feedback:

**49% survey
respondents support
the changes**

31% do not support

**20% have mixed
sentiment.**

Key themes in the qualitative feedback:

- The one-way system is working well
- The pedestrian experience feels easier, safer and more accessible
- Frustration over cars parked on the footpath



Community Feedback:

A safer pedestrian environment

Being a pedestrian feels easier, safer, and more accessible, now that there is only one direction of traffic, and the parklet joins up to the Reserve.

People like to stop and linger in the space.

There are still issues with safety particularly due to cars not knowing about the one-way change and driving the wrong direction, or because of trip hazards on the footpath extensions.

Behavioural change to driving

The one-way layout is working, making traffic calmer, and there is less circling for car parks.

Some vehicles still acting unsafely as they adjust to the changes – speeding over speed bumps, driving the wrong way.

Issues with parking

Some residents do find that it is harder to find a private park, catch an uber, and access their buildings.

There is frustration that there are frequently vehicles parked across the widened footpath, rendering it unusable.

There is an opportunity to correct this through planter placement along the kerb edge.

Better seating required

Some people pointed out that the seating was not quite right in order to encourage lingering, or gathering, and would prefer seating with backs like the park benches, to enable them to stay longer in the space.



Community Feedback:

Safer environment for people on bikes

Some people stated that it is a better cycling environment, as the traffic is predictable and the bike racks add to the feeling of safety and security in the space.

Design aesthetic

Many like the vibe, design, and function of the space.

Some people find the space confusing. This is largely due to the nature of the space being temporary-looking, as well as needing to adjust to the changes in road layout.

Some people would prefer more natural elements to integrate better with the space, such as real grass

Suggestions for improvement

Making the footpath extension more obvious (including removing the 'works end' sign and the parking meter) so people with prams or wheelchairs can use it and vehicles stop parking there.

Smoothing out the edges of the new footpath.

Moving the speed bump further away so that cars don't speed up once they've gone over it.

Widening the turn area.

Replacing the astroturf with grass.





AUCKLAND'S FUTURE IN PROGRESS

