



Draft Community Engagement Policy Survey

Community engagement helps us make decisions that meet the needs and reflect the priorities and aspirations of our community.

We've updated our Community Engagement Policy to make our consultation processes more transparent and easier to understand.

The draft Policy aims to be clearer about when, why and how we'll engage with you, and covers all types of decisions, projects or plans that might significantly impact community members.

We are inviting the community to complete this survey to provide feedback on the scope of community engagement proposed and other elements of the Policy.

Surveys must be returned by **9 June 2025** by

email: yoursay@bayside.vic.gov.au or

post to: Community Engagement, Bayside City Council, PO Box 27, Sandringham 3191.

1. When we will engage (in scope)

We will engage our community at times which ensure community members and/or stakeholders can meaningfully contribute with genuine influence on Council decision making.

When we engage our community will be guided by:

- Where community/stakeholders can influence the outcome(s).
- When a change, such as to a service, plan or strategy, facility or building, is proposed and may have a significant impact on the community. The impacts may be built form, financial, environmental, social, economic or governance related.
- When we need information for the development or progress of projects and plans, and/or for decision-making.

1a) How would you rate this approach and explanation of when we will engage?

Required

___ / 5

1 = extremely poor; 2 = poor; 3 = moderate; 4 = good; 5 = very good

1b) How could we improve "when we will engage"? (optional)

--

2. When we won't engage (out of policy scope)

Council may not undertake community engagement in the following situations:

- Projects where there is no decision to be made that may impact our community
- When an adopted policy, strategy or decision has determined a clear direction for implementation of a project
- When decisions will be informed by technical, financial, research, legislative or safety requirements, or previous and recent (within 5 years) community engagement on the subject
- Operational decisions which may include strategies or policies that have minimal to no impact on the community
- Where confidentiality requirements prevent engagement
- Projects that are the responsibility and being delivered by other authorities, organisations or levels of government.

For projects where community engagement is to be carried out with specific statutory requirements (e.g. planning, traffic and transport related consultations) engagement will be informed by those statutory requirements and timeframes.

This policy does not apply to routine statutory planning applications for residential developments on private land. Statutory planning matters are controlled by separate legislative requirements and regulations set by the Victorian Government.

This policy does not apply where Section 223 of the 1989 Local Government Act still applies.

2a) How would you rate this approach and explanation of when we won't engage?

Required

___ / 5

1= extremely poor; 2 = poor; 3 = moderate; 4 = good; 5 = very good

2b) How could we improve "when we won't engage"? (optional)

--

3. Who we will engage with

Our engagement plans will identify community members or stakeholders who may have an interest or a connection to a project or decision to ensure they are informed and encouraged to participate.

Identified community members will include those who:

- are likely to be affected by an initiative, project or decision
- have expressed interest in the topic or location
- may provide valuable insight and input
- are populations identified through Equity Impact Assessments as impacted by a project or process
- are members of a relevant stakeholder group and can provide lived experience perspectives.

3a) How would you rate this approach and explanation of who we engage with?

Required

___ / 5

1= extremely poor; 2 = poor; 3 = moderate; 4 = good; 5 = very good

3b) Have we missed anyone? Required

Select one answer only
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

3c Suggestion to include:

--

4. Engaging with us

Each year, we typically engage on around 30 significant projects, reaching over 50,000 community members through our online engagement website, Have Your Say, and our face-to-face activities.

Over the past year have you:

4a) Responded to surveys or made submissions on our Have Your Say website?

Select one answer only
☐ More than 10 surveys
☐ Between 6-10 surveys
☐ Between 1-5
☐ None
☐ Not sure

4b) Participated at in-person drop-in or pop-up events?

Select one answer only
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

4c) Been part of a Bayside community consultation group /workshop?

Select one answer only
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

If Yes, what was the topic at this group or workshop?

--

4d) Have you been satisfied with your engagement experience with Bayside City Council in the past?

Select one answer only
☐ Extremely
☐ Very
☐ Moderately
☐ Somewhat
☐ Not at all
☐ Not sure

4e) How could we improve your engagement experience? (optional)

5. About You

This section contains optional questions to help us understand the sections of our community that have provided feedback. The information you provide is confidential and non-identifiable..

5a) What is your connection to Bayside?

Select all that apply	
☐	Live in Bayside
☐	Own or run a business in Bayside
☐	Work or study in Bayside
☐	Visit to Bayside but live outside the area
☐	Prefer not to say
☐	Other (please specify)

5b) What is your age group?

Select one answer only
☐ Under 18
☐ 19-29
☐ 30-49
☐ 50-64
☐ 65-79
☐ 80 and over
☐ Prefer not to say

5c) What is your gender?

Select one answer only
☐ Female
☐ Male
☐ Non-binary
☐ Prefer not to say
☐ Prefer to self-identify (please specify)

5d) Which suburb do you live in?

Select one answer only
☐ Beaumaris
☐ Black Rock
☐ Brighton
☐ Brighton East
☐ Cheltenham
☐ Hampton
☐ Hampton East
☐ Highett
☐ Sandringham
☐ Other

5e) Do you

Select all that apply
☐ Live with disability or chronic illness
☐ Have caring responsibilities for person with disability or senior
☐ Speak a language other than English at home
☐ Identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

5f) Did you have the information you needed to provide your feedback on the Policy?

Select one answer only
☐ Information was very easy to find / understand
☐ Information was mostly easy to find / understand
☐ Information was mostly hard to find / understand
☐ Information was very hard to find / understand
☐ I'm not sure