

MacFarlane Road Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Study

As We Heard It Report – Spring 2022

Summary

An online survey for the MacFarlane Road Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Study was undertaken between November 22 and December 31, 2021. 239 respondents completed the survey, and 33 (14%) of them responded that they live along MacFarlane Road. The primary concerns of the survey respondents were speed (60%), pedestrian safety (50%), cyclist safety (46%) and cut-through traffic (44%). In general, traffic calming along MacFarlane Road was supported by 72% of survey respondents.

The survey asked for feedback about potential roadway modifications that may be considered through the Traffic Calming Study. Overall, the survey indicated a high level of support for the concept of a short section of sidewalk (66%) and pedestrian crossovers (57%) and a moderate level of support for speed cushions (49%), raised crosswalks (47%) and cycle-friendly bulb outs (41%). None of the proposed measures received more opposition than support.

The survey results differed when comparing feedback from respondents who live on MacFarlane Road versus those living in the neighbouring area or outside the neighbourhood. Respondents who live on MacFarlane Road expressed the greatest level of support for speed cushions (67%) and cycle-friendly bulb outs (52%). Neighbouring area residents preferred the concept of a short section of sidewalk (68%) and pedestrian crossovers (55%). These two options were also supported by residents living outside the neighbourhood, with pedestrian crossovers being supported by 74% of respondents and a short section of sidewalk supported by 63% of respondents.

Survey responses from all survey respondents

Where do you live?

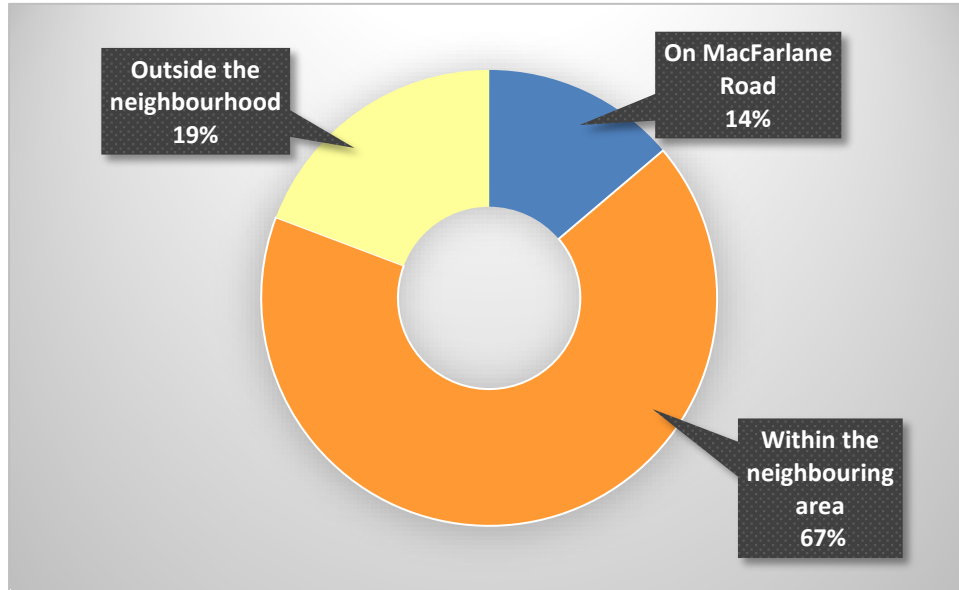


Figure 1: General residence areas of survey respondents

What mode(s) do you use when travelling along MacFarlane Road?

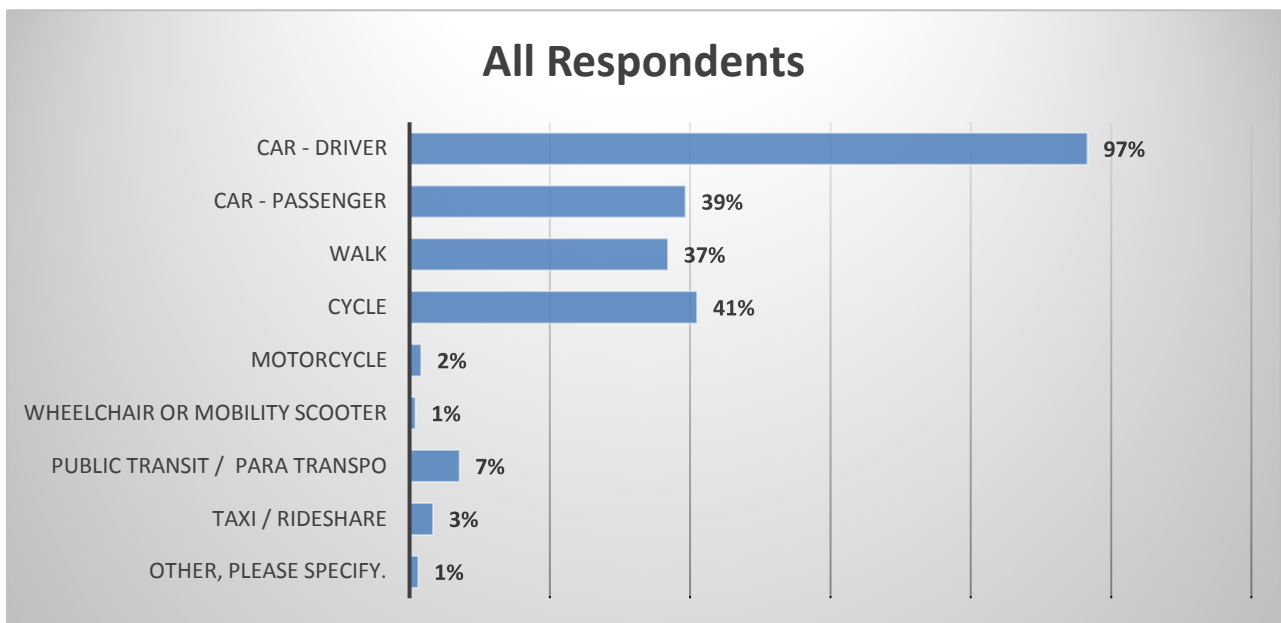


Figure 2: Modes of transport used on MacFarlane Road

What are your primary concerns when travelling along MacFarlane Road?

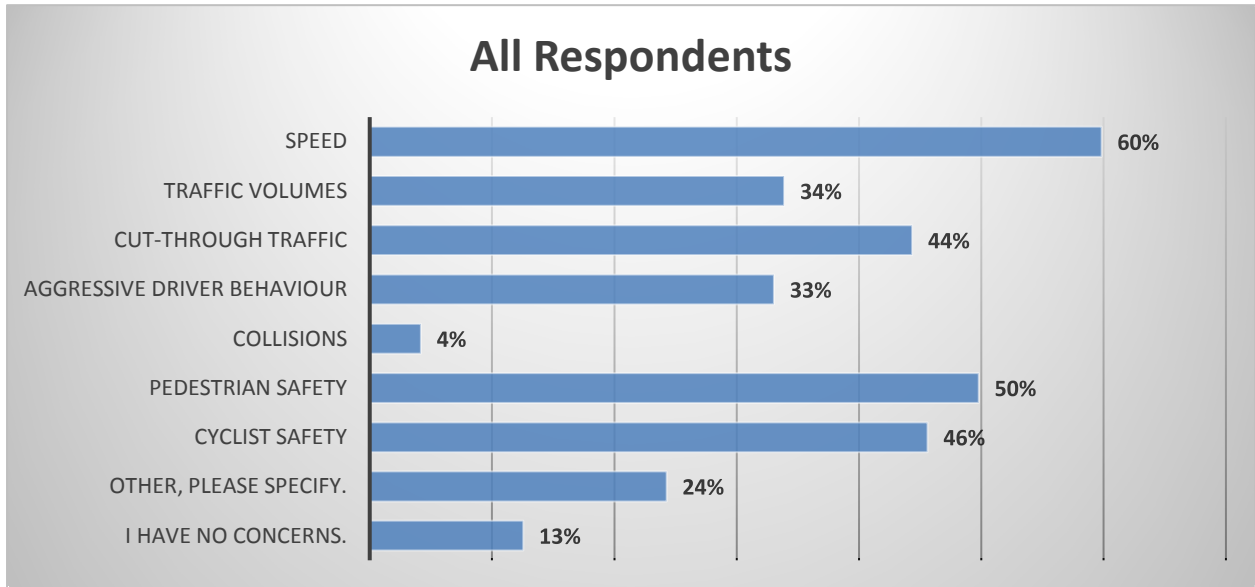


Figure 3: Primary concerns on MacFarlane Road

Do you support traffic calming along MacFarlane Road?

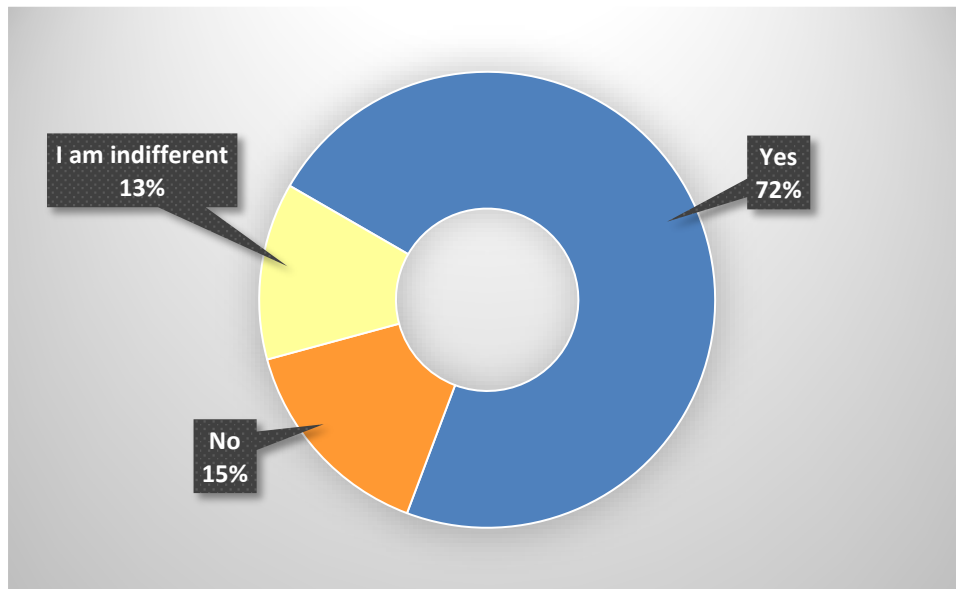


Figure 4: Support levels for traffic calming on MacFarlane Road

Feedback from all survey respondents

The survey responses show a high level of support for instituting traffic calming measures on MacFarlane Road. Feedback about potential roadway modifications that could be considered through the traffic calming study showed that support for the concept of a short section of sidewalk and pedestrian crossovers were highest among all survey respondents. All potential measures received a higher level of support than opposition against them. The highest levels of opposition were seen for the concepts of cycle-friendly bulb outs, speed cushions and raised crosswalks. Cycle-friendly bulb outs received the most opposition and were the least popular potential measure relative to the others that were proposed, although the level of support was still higher than the level of opposition.

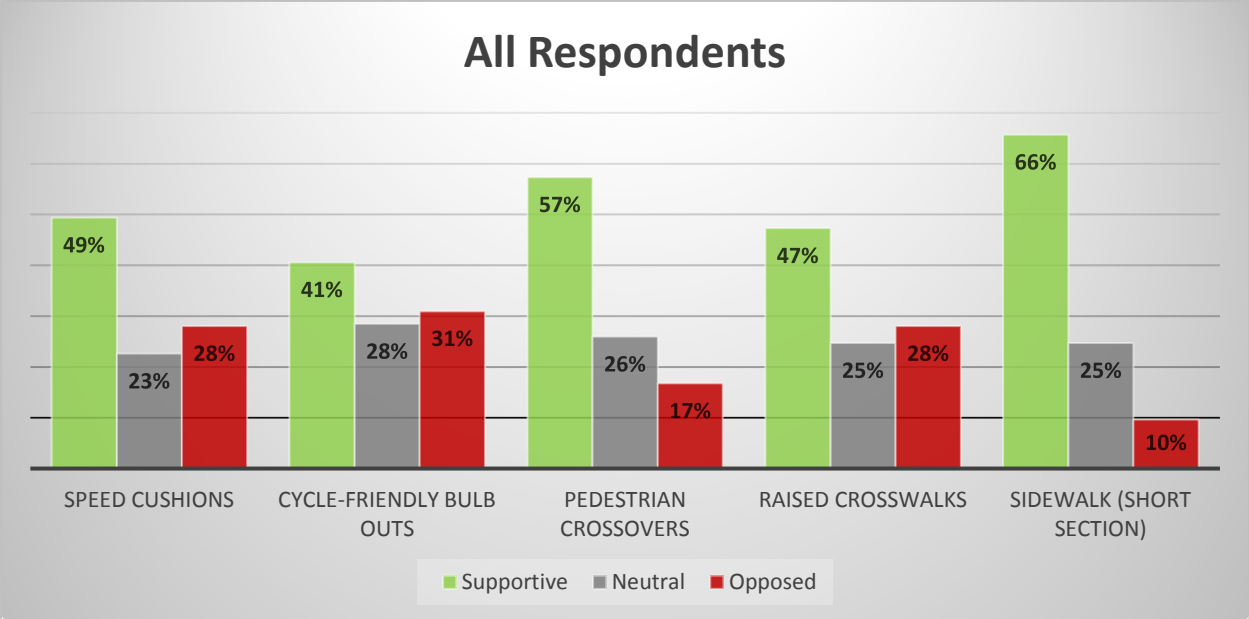


Figure 5: Support levels of different measures from all survey respondents

Survey responses from subgroups

Feedback from MacFarlane Road residents

MacFarlane Road residents generally supported all potential measures. Speed cushions and a sidewalk section had the highest levels of support and lowest levels of opposition. The support for speed cushions was significantly higher when compared to all survey responses. The least supported measures were pedestrian crossovers and raised crosswalks, although they still had higher support levels compared to opposition.

When compared to all survey respondents, the support for pedestrian crossings was somewhat lower among MacFarlane Road residents.

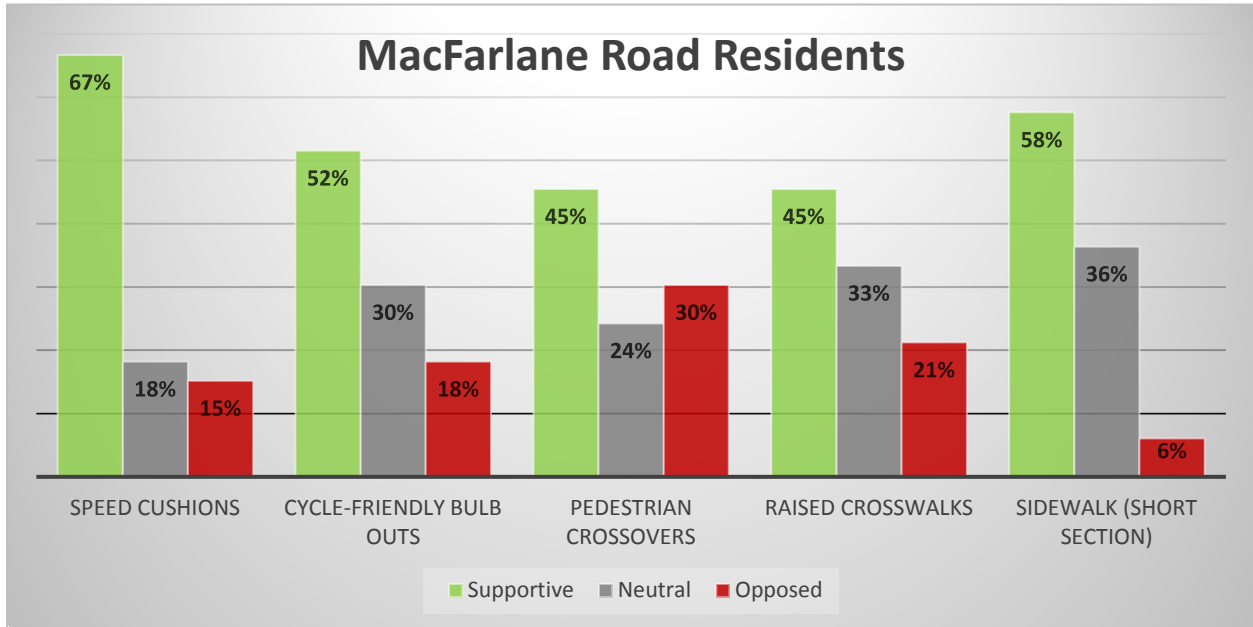


Figure 6: Support levels of different measures from MacFarlane Road residents

Feedback from neighbouring area residents

The results of the survey from neighbouring area residents shows that support for the concept of a short sidewalk section and pedestrian crossovers was significantly higher than the level of opposition. All potential measures received more support than opposition, although the support for ride-over cycle-friendly bulb outs was only slightly higher than the level of opposition.

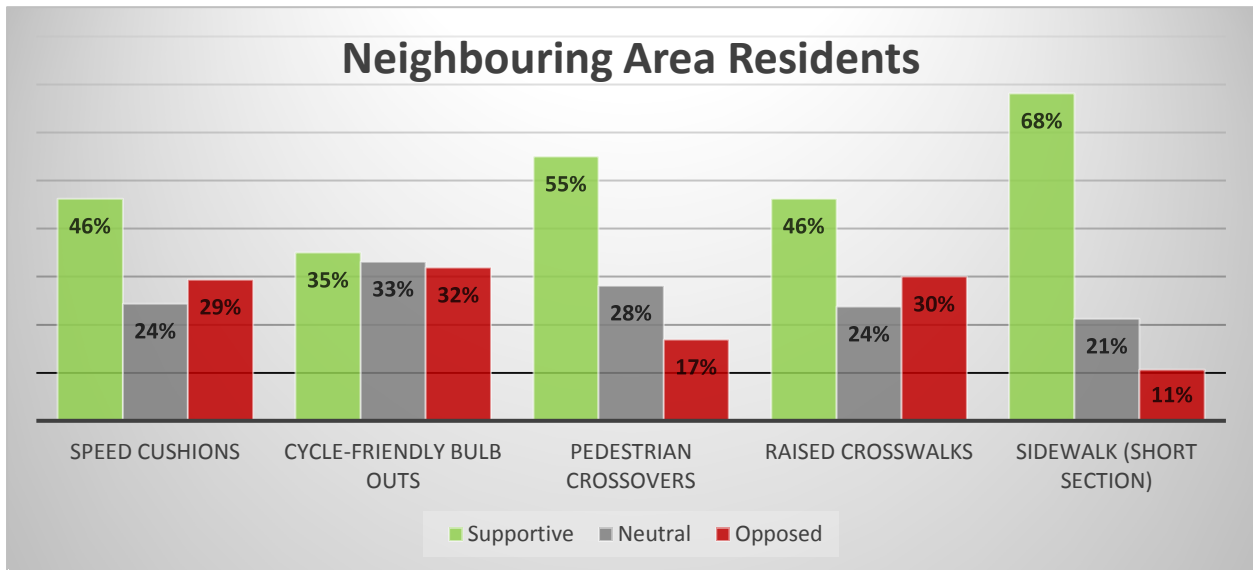


Figure 7: Support levels of different measures from neighbouring area residents

Public Commentary

Many individual comments were received. The following tables provide a summary of these comments grouped into similar categories.

Traffic Issues

Category	Comment	Number of Comments Recieved
General	There are no traffic issues.	1
Pedestrians	Safety of pedestrians	9
	Safety of pedestrians crossing MacFarlane Road	7
	Safety of pedestrians crossing Merivale Road	5
	Safety of pedestrians at bus stops	3
	Lack of pedestrian facilities	7

	Lack of sidewalks	2
Pedestrians/Cycling	No marking for pedestrians and cyclists on south side of Deakin Street	1
Cycling	Safety of cyclists	3
	Lack of cycling facilities	3
	No signs indicating cyclist presence	1
Transit	Lack of bus shelters	1
Driver	Aggressive drivers	5
	Drive on shoulders	3
	Cars passing buses	2
	Driving under the influence	1
	Cars passing on the right	1
	Distracted driving	1
	Drivers do not comply with stop signs	1
Road Geometry	MacFarlane Road is too wide at Merivale Road	1
	Shoulder is not wide enough for cyclists	1
Road Conditions	Poor pavement conditions/Resurfacing required	53
	Poor pavement conditions of bicycle lane	1
	Poor visibility due to foliage	1
	Lack of streetlights	4
Traffic Conditions	High traffic volumes	7
	High truck traffic volumes	8
	Cut through traffic	18
	Cut through traffic on side streets	4
	Turning movements at the intersection of Merivale Road and MacFarlane Road	7
	Difficult to turn from southbound Merivale Road to eastbound MacFarlane Road	1
	Difficult to turn left onto Brisbane or Greenside	1
	Difficult for cyclists to turn left from westbound Merivale Road to side streets	1
	Difficult to turn left from northbound MacFarlane Road to westbound Deakin Street	1
	Difficult to turn right from northbound MacFarlane Road to eastbound Deakin Street	1
	Difficult to turn from Deakin Street to MacFarlane Road	1
	Eastbound traffic on Deakin Street encroach to opposing lane to access left turn lane at Prince of Wales Drive.	1

	The intersection of Pineglen Crescent and Mayo Avenue is dangerous.	1
	Speeding	28
	Speeding trucks	4
	Speeding on Pineglen Crescent	2
	Speeding on O'Donnell Court	1
	Heavy trucks and buses	3
	Noise	6
	Vibration	9
Parking	Parked vehicles on shoulder	1
	Parked and idling trucks	1

Suggested Solutions

Category	Comment	Number of Comments Received
Pedestrians	Add sidewalks.	9
	Add pedestrian crossings.	2
	Pedestrian crossing on Merivale Road at Pineglen Crescent	1
Cycling	Add bicycle lanes.	1
	Add raised cycle tracks.	1
	Add cycling facilities along Merivale Road	2
Transit	Limit the speed of buses.	1
Road geometry	Widen MacFarlane Road to add shared cycling/pedestrian lanes	1
Road Network	Separate access road between Merivale Road and industrial areas	3
	Add legal access roads to industrial areas	1
	Close MacFarlane Road for non-local traffic	1
Road Conditions	Centreline and side barriers	2
	Add streetlights.	3
Traffic Control	Traffic signalization of Merivale Road and MacFarlane Road	6
	Traffic signalization of Merivale Road and Amberwood Crescent	1

	All-way stop controls	1
	Restrict MacFarlane Road to local traffic only.	1
	Prohibit right turns from northbound Merivale Road to eastbound MacFarlane Road during morning peak hours.	3
	Prohibit left turns from Deakin Street to Prince of Wales Drive	1
	Restrict trucks.	1
	Increase size of No Heavy Trucks sign	1
Traffic Calming	Support traffic calming measures.	6
	Oppose traffic calming measures.	6
	Do not resurface to calm traffic.	1
Temporary measures	Speed display boards	3
Permanent Measures	Narrowing traffic lanes	1
	Support speed humps.	1
	Oppose speed humps.	5
	Chicanes	1
	Traffic circles	1
Speed Management	Reduce speed limit to 40km/h.	1
Maintenance	Maintain shoulders for walking.	1
	Maintain bulb-outs in Winter.	1
Enforcement	Automated speed enforcement	5
	Police enforcement	6
Negative effects	Traffic calming along MacFarlane may divert traffic to other local streets.	7
Other	Undertake a study for Grenfell Crescent	1