

Franks and Morrison Street, Falmouth - Road Sealing Survey

Background:

In 2017, Council conducted a community wide Consultation as part of the development of a 10 Year Strategic Plan, that led to the development of individual Township Plans. During the Falmouth consultation process it was evident at that time, that the community differed in opinion as to whether the streets be sealed or remain unsealed.

In late 2020, Council received notification of a funding allocation through the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP) – Extension. The sealing of Franks and Morrison Streets, Falmouth was raised as a potential project for funding.

Due to the division of the Falmouth community around road sealing, Council wanted to ensure there was broad support from the Falmouth community to undertake this project. To determine current community sentiment, a survey was prepared and released on 25 February with a closing date of 14 March 2021.

The survey was made available to residents through the Falmouth Community Centre database, including twenty hard copies with a sealed survey box placed at the Community Centre for respondents.

Survey responses are summarised in this report.

Discussion:

The survey returned 69 responses, six (6) hard copies and 63 online.

One online response was submitted twice and was therefore excluded from the total respondent count, leaving 68 respondents.

Based on a reported population of 102 people in Falmouth (2016 census data) the return rate is 67.6%.

Survey outcomes

Sealing both Franks and Morrison Streets;

- 35 out of 68 responses or 51.47% = YES
- 34 out of 68 responses or 48.53% = NO

Sealing of one Street

- 14 out of 68 responses or 20.59% = YES
- 54 out of 68 responses or 79.41% = NO

Survey Comments

The survey provided a comments box, which was utilised by 59 of the 68 or 86.8% of respondents.

These comments have been collated and grouped into common themes as follows;

Theme	Number of Responses (descending order)
Seal all Streets in Falmouth	15
Traffic Speed	14
Unsealed Roads add to the Village feel of Falmouth	13
Dust generation – existing unsealed roads	12
Need for traffic calming infrastructure , e.g. speed Humps or other effective devices.	11
Stormwater improvements	10
Kerb and Channel – provision of	6
Overhanging Tree	2
Giveaway/speed signage	2
Total Comments	85

Conclusions:

Survey respondents are divided on the sealing of both Franks and Morrison streets – 35 of 68 respondents say Yes, 34 say No.

The majority of survey respondents do not support the sealing of one street only – 54 of 68 respondents say No, 14 say Yes.

Survey comments received provide the Council with a range of common themes in relation to the provision of road and stormwater infrastructure at Falmouth.

Survey comments reveal general road safety concerns in relation to perceived motor vehicle speed on township roads.