

2020 Community Survey Results

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AIDA

Aireys Inlet & District Association

2020 COMMUNITY SURVEY INSIGHTS

LONGITUDINAL STUDY BY AIDA – AIREYS INLET & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

Message from the president

In a globalised world, it is important that the voice of local communities is heard. AIDA's 2020 Community Survey, conducted during the last quarter of 2020, was designed to gauge our community's opinions on a range of key issues that are important to the future of our coastal townships. AIDA is pleased to now make the results of this survey widely available.

We believe it is vital to know our community's views on its built and natural environment, its facilities, its economy, what it loves and enjoys, what are perceived as future challenges and how they might be confronted, so that this knowledge can be used to take actions to protect and preserve what is most valued about our area and to help design a resilient future for this place we love.

This year's community attitude survey adds to the longitudinal data AIDA collected in 1983, 1990, 1999 and 2015. This year we added some new questions and discontinued a few questions that we thought had become redundant. This allowed space for community members to reflect on the implications of the focus on the Great Ocean Road with the creation of the new Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority and the Covid pandemic. (The full longitudinal survey data set is included on page 24 of this report, and a PDF of all responses can be accessed [here](#).)

During this survey, we were particularly interested in hearing from people in the community who were not AIDA members but who wished to have their say. This was the case for more than half of the 398 respondents. The survey response rate was particularly pleasing (as too was the high positive response to the idea of surveys as a mechanism for community engagement around critical issues and decisions). What was even more pleasing was to find that the wider community's attitudes are very much aligned with those of AIDA members, meaning

there is strong support in the community to protect and preserve the low-key, coastal-village atmosphere of our townships and our environment.

This year, thanks to AIDA committee members Suzanne Cavanagh and Chris Ryan, the data has been divided into six themes so that it presents a more understandable and compelling picture of the community's attitudes to:

- * the essential character of the district
- * the core characteristics of the community
- * the type of tourism seen as valuable
- * the types of development seen as appropriate
- * opinions on key assets
- * the trends, challenges and opportunities for our future.

Please take time to study the survey data and the emerging themes. They have been organised so you can explore it at several levels of analysis if you wish – from an overview of the key themes and their relevant questions, to the possibility of reviewing the raw data and the more than 2600 comments made by the respondents.

AIDA will share the survey widely and use the data to inform our activities and advocacy with local and state government and government agencies. Making this data fully public will ensure that other community groups will be able to use it so they can consider community views in their own activities.

Our thanks to Ian Godfrey for his analysis of the longitudinal data and to Nan McNab for designing and producing this beautiful publication of the survey results.

We thank everyone who gave their time and thoughtful responses to the survey. We also thank the many local organisations that helped us to promote the opportunity to respond to the survey.

Charlotte Allen,
President

Themes





CHARACTER

An untouched, serene, 'coastal village', highly valued and appreciated for its environmental assets and connected community



TOURISM

Low-key, responsible tourism – the local vision



DEVELOPMENT

Development to maintain 'a serene village on the Great Ocean Road'



KEY ASSETS

The assets of a thriving town: forests, rivers, seas, landscape, people, services



COMMUNITY

A well-informed, connected community underpinned by quality local organisations



FUTURE

A cohesive and strong community determined that its voice be heard, with clear ideas about future challenges and opportunities



CHARACTER

An untouched, serene, 'coastal village', highly valued for its environmental assets and connected community

Survey respondents, both local and visitors, were effusive in describing the character of the Aireys region, its villages and unique eco-system.

The calm, relaxed lifestyle, with its friendly, connected community, living beside and amidst bush and coast, is seen as rare today and is highly valued and appreciated.

- * Vulnerability of the region: vulnerability from over-development, environmental degradation and inappropriate tourism is of concern. The sentiment that once lost such an asset was lost forever emerged from the comments. The fragile and unique area around the Painkalac rated particular mention.
- * Infrastructure and amenities to support local needs and tourism were identified as a need in some precinct areas.
- * Outdoor activities are seen as an important part of the lifestyle.
- * Township 'look and feel' and safety. The current amount of signage is seen by many as excessive and as negatively affecting the character and look of the township. Speed reduction was suggested for some precincts; the sealing of roads elicited differing views, as did the issue of footpaths. The low-density, not overly-commercial environment was seen as intrinsic to the 'untouched' look and feel of the Aireys region.
- * Community emerges as one of the area's greatest strengths. The connections between local business, local organisations, volunteers and highly skilled locals, all create an integrated community that is helping shape the resilience of the Aireys region.
- * Stronger enforcement of regulations. Comments were made that it appeared building guidelines were not always being enforced and that there should be more stringent enforcement generally of local regulations.
- * Preservation and conservation are seen as integral to the sustainability of the region's special natural assets. There were many mentions of the rich indigenous flora, the wildlife, and by some, actions around regenerating degraded vegetation areas.

The Character Overview was based on answers by respondents to the following questions:

Q3	Q5	Q7	Q8	Q13
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2 TOURISM

Low-key, nature-based tourism – the local vision; quality experiences and strong management

Not all tourism is right for the Aireys region and respondents were clear in enunciating the type of visitation they welcome. Slow, nature-based, year-round, focusing on our local culture and support for the fragile environment, is seen as important for both a vibrant community and local economy.

Any development should be 'low-key', and to our survey respondents, that mainly centred on improving traffic and parking management.

- * How we see ourselves: this place is highly prized for its natural beauty, serenity, flora, fauna, low-key lifestyle and outdoor pursuits.
- * Preferred type of tourism: slow tourism that draws on the distinctive attributes of the area, such as walking, hiking, canoeing; appreciation of the rich flora and fauna; the sanctuary and marine park; health and fitness. Experiences that support short- and long-term stays and that benefit local business are seen as vital.
- * An astro-tourism opportunity, connected to the protection of the night sky (Q7), was strongly viewed as being in keeping with our appreciation of our natural assets.
- * Tourism promotion: strong promotional campaigns are seen as inappropriate, particularly during peak season (see Capacity and spread, below), but attracting year-round visitation of those who wish to enjoy the natural environment and appreciate actions to sustain, conserve and (for some) to help regenerate, is seen as beneficial for the place as these underpin the attractions of the destination. Striking a balance between the needs of residents and tourists is also important.
- * Capacity and spread: there is a strong feeling that the area is at capacity already in peak season, that the natural environment is being affected, that amenities are at their limit and risks are increasing. Seasonal spread needs to be improved, with new offerings to suit our distinctive qualities, e.g., the Dark Sky, our cultural history, walking experiences, nature interpretation, etc., as well as recreational pursuits.
- * Local business: attracting the right visitor, with the right tourism product, is important, as is ensuring tourism revenue stays in the community. New cafés and recreation businesses are seen positively, but there were also suggestions around increasing ambience and design. **'Local shops need the income from visitors but not the busloads.'**
- * Better traffic management: concern was expressed about traffic, safety, parking issues and amenity and environmental strain associated with current visitation (pre-Covid). Improved visitor signage was raised here and elsewhere in the survey (See Character – Q8)

The Tourism Overview was based on answers by respondents to the following questions:

Q2	Q3	Q6	Q11	Q20
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3 DEVELOPMENT

Development to maintain 'a serene village on the Great Ocean Road'

Since these surveys began in the early 1980s there has been overwhelming support for limiting residential and commercial development and village infrastructure to protect the area's greatest assets and character. Most residents recognise the need for equity in access, but identify 'overdevelopment' as one of the biggest future threats.

Serenity is connected to built form and landscape, embedded in roads and pedestrian ways, in signage, street lighting and a 'non-urban' built form that doesn't aim to dominate the natural assets of the town. This is a place for low-key, not luxury, development. Nature, environment and climate change should be addressed in all planning decisions. The town is not isolated from the effects of out-of-scale commercial development elsewhere along the road.

- * Development pressures: development (residential, commercial or infrastructure) is an on-going area of concern; a recurring fear is that commercial and residential pressures ('urbanisation') might transform the district into 'an Anglesea or Torquay', (or worse, 'Sorrento'). There is very considerable concern about pressures that could flow along the Great Ocean Road from commercial developments (tourism-related, or from larger residential growth areas). Social diversity is under threat – 'low-cost' housing is disappearing; small-scale, high-quality, locally appropriate businesses will face pressures. Resisting pressures is a key to preserving character and community life and creating a thriving future. **'No more tourist developments or cheap facade buildings. Keep development small scale, independent and focused on nature and locality.'**
- * Residential development: the character of the residential areas (serene, natural, sensitive to landscape) is being threatened by larger, more prominent ('flashy', 'unsustainable') houses being approved (outside planning guidelines). The district should be as far from the feel of suburbia as possible. Critical need to limit town boundaries. Concerns include subdivision for townhouses. Up-grading, renewal of existing housing is a better approach – could allow for 'tiny granny flats'. **'It's sad to see the hill views starting to look like housing estates.' 'Council planning regs must be adhered to.'**
- * Quiet village infrastructure: over 25 years residents have consistently identified important infrastructure characteristics – pedestrian use of roads, a high proportion of unsealed roads, naturally vegetated roadsides, controls on amount and character of signage and public lighting. 'Traditional' urban infrastructure (sewerage and drainage, street lighting and construction) is seen as low priority.
- * Climate-resilient development: Concern that commercial, residential development and land use is not in keeping with the coming challenges of climate change – energy use, water use, fire protection. There is overwhelming support for the provision of fire shelters.

The Development Overview was based on answers by respondents to the following questions:

Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q11	Q12
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4 KEY ASSETS

The assets of a thriving town: forests, rivers, seas, landscape, people, services

Survey respondents (local and visitors) see the town’s assets clearly and understand that its sense of place is about the linkage of community life and the environment.

‘Living amongst nature. Great community who care about each other and preserving the natural environment. Good cafes and restaurants. Active volunteers who are into human rights, gardening, weed management and so much more. Walking, arts and music.’

- * Physical geography, ecosystems and landscape: respondents value the experience of ocean, estuarine and forest ecosystems, outdoors, nature, as well as scenic landscape features. The coast, the beaches, the Painkalac Valley and river, the lighthouse area, visually define the district's character as does the 'being in nature' recreational opportunities they provide. These ways of valuing the district's assets underpin the widespread concern about the potential loss of the core assets through inappropriate development
‘Big sky. Dirt roads. No big shops. Cliff-walk tracks. Community connection. Native environment. Surf life-saving club. Relaxed lifestyle. Smallish community.’
- * Geographical assets: over 90% of residents prioritise the conservation of marine rock formations, beaches, coastal sand dunes, wetlands, waterways and native forests.
‘The biggest danger to our wildlife, to our natural environment, is people. It has to be managed appropriately.’
- * The assets of landscape character: a stunning 'sense of place'. Unmade streets and shared roads are strongly supported (though with some vocal opposition) as is maintaining its non-urban residential character; protecting sea views, the 'rural/country' nature of the valley and the inlet; low-rise built environment. This landscape has an incredible history, both before and after settlement. The landscape character could and should extend to the night sky (by controlling lighting). It is all 'beautiful and photogenic.'
‘People walking in family groups and kids playing along our unmade streets.’
- * Access to nature is an asset: being able to 'be out in nature', walking forest and coastal trails, watching birds, smelling the flowers, fresh air – for recreation and community connection.
‘The natural beauty, the local people, and the simple lifestyle.’
- * Appropriate local community-connected businesses and services: commercial operators well attuned to community needs. General store (not supermarket), post-office, cafes, pub, other restaurants; community health services, the school and the community hall. Internet connection, NBN, is highly valued (and much criticised).
- * Serenity: the town's biggest asset is that it is relaxed, quiet, peaceful, sleepy, unrushed.
‘I like the gentleness of our town and its relaxed feel and our sense of community.’

The Asset Overview was based on answers by respondents to the following questions:

Q3	Q5	Q9	Q10	Q13
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5 COMMUNITY

A well-informed, connected community underpinned by skilled local organisations

The idea of 'connected community' is important to how the Aireys region sees itself and how it functions.

The cherished 'village feel' is in part delivered through many quality, local organisations and by local businesses that see themselves as an integral part of the community.

- * Vulnerability of the community: for all its considerable strength and connectedness, the community sees some level of vulnerability of social cohesiveness associated with increasing overcrowding during summer.
- * A well-informed community: the Aireys community sees itself as a generally very well-informed community, being able to access information from a broad range of high quality sources. The comments by survey respondents reflect an appreciation of the breadth, quality and delivery of local information, particularly through the many newsletters from local organisations.
- * How to strengthen 'connection' further: respondents were very forthcoming in their ideas on how 'connection' might be further strengthened. Suggestions centred around 'listening to each other more' (through a range of suggested means), building inclusivity and encouraging more diverse opinions, eliciting direct and transparent information, by communicating clear follow-up action, building community capacity and knowledge and by more local group activities.
- * A strong local voice to government, particularly to the new Authority (GORCAPA) was mentioned by respondents.

The Community Overview was based on answers by respondents to the following questions:

Q3	Q13	Q16	Q17	Q18
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6 FUTURE

A cohesive and strong community determined that its voice be heard, with clear ideas about future challenges and opportunities

A well-informed and networked community with a strong sense of the authenticity of its character and importance of its assets. There are surprisingly coherent views on future challenges and vulnerabilities and opportunities for action to shape the future.

There are also deep concerns about the power of the community to realise opportunities and have a real voice in decision-making about the Great Ocean Road.

- * Characteristics of cohesion: a well-informed community with a high interest in, and appreciation of, future challenges and vulnerabilities. Vibrant word-of-mouth communication with strong local community organisations.
- * Identification of key challenges: strong agreement about a set of challenges and the importance of addressing them in order to protect the 'authenticity' of the district – its social and community assets as well as its physical and natural environment.
- * Ability to shape the future? Residents are very concerned about the power of the community to shape the future given the scale of the perceived challenges and the wider regulatory, economic and political forces at work. How could the community influence the decisions of the SCC, GORCAPA, the state government and big business?

'The likelihood is that Great Ocean Tourism objectives will lead to decisions which don't reflect local values.'

- * The top perceived challenges:
 - o Climate change: a clear recognition of the likely impact of climate change on local conditions – the need for the community to anticipate and deal with fire, erosion, water supply and increasing temperatures, particularly during peak tourist season. This will affect community life, beaches, parks, the valley and nature. Key issues are fire safety – emergency evacuation as well as 'community fire shelters' with a need to educate peak-season visitors.
'Climate change has the potential to do untold damage to our future ... increased numbers and severity of fires ... issues with flooding of major access roads ... a frightening pair of potential problems.'
 - o 'Over-tourism': fear and rejection of future 'unbridled', commercially driven tourism growth. Concern that the economics of the GOR as a visitor destination will shape the infrastructure of the town, with loss of character and the deterioration of physical, social and environmental assets, from visitation that exceeds capacity.
 - o Inappropriate (out of character) development: tourist-oriented and other (including housing) that is dollar driven; changing character and increasing vulnerabilities from climate impacts.
'The desire of the SCS and the new GORCAPA to define, chart, map, straighten, clear, develop and create 'progress'. The Torquay template... to be resisted at all costs.'
 - o Threats from tourist development elsewhere along the GOR: increased traffic, too many cars and buses dividing the town, hazardous for pedestrian movement in a town not suited to large-volume traffic; stream of people passing through – 'the

5-minute tourist'; speeding through and around town; vulnerability in case of fire. Pressure on small-scale hospitality businesses. Successful local businesses need protection from big tourist facilities in nearby towns which can cannibalise established small-scale businesses; there is a need to support growth of diverse small businesses along the GOR, to support the local economy.

'Money being taken out of small-town enterprises – they can't compete with BIG.'

- * Top future opportunities:
 - o Enhancing village character and atmosphere: increasing parking but separating shops and parking; pedestrian-oriented planning; a permanent village marketplace.
 - o Constraining infrastructure development: favouring pedestrians and bicycles over cars, controlling speeds on all roads (including the GOR), introducing pedestrian crossings.
 - o Support local businesses that reflect local character: nature and Indigenous education, recreation (bikes, boats), locally produced food, outdoor eating; music and cultural events.
 - o Build local renewable energy capacity: invest in local supply of town-based and owned wind and solar.
 - o Planning and design of local water infrastructure, from ocean beaches to freshwater (for floods and droughts) – wetlands, the Painkalac and the 'old' reservoir.
 - o Build strong technology infrastructure: internet and communications are critical for business, home-based working, emergency responses and new support businesses.
 - o Jobs and businesses focused on local character and slow tourism: nature, Indigenous, walks and night-sky education.
 - o Planning for all-year-round visitation – reducing dependency on peak-season economy
 - o Ensuring good community services: health, schools, aged care.
- * Enhancing the community's future-thinking, action and voice: Q11 dealt specifically with practical actions to 'increase community involvement in decisions affecting our future'. Overwhelmingly the community desires to have real input into future decision-making. Self-reliant action is strongly supported, expressed as a need for more meetings focused on future challenges and actions: face-to-face, zoom, 'town-hall', information sessions; politics in the pub events; a festival of future thinking, an annual 'expo' with speakers from community groups and relevant authorities addressing challenges; more and regular surveys on key issues. The Surf Coast Council and the new GORCAPA should undertake real meaningful community consultation; scepticism about 'consultation' remains an undercurrent in many comments to the survey.

'Won't matter what we say, the Government and authorities will do what they want to do.'

The Future Overview was based on answers by respondents to the following questions.

Q2	Q3	Q6	Q11	Q12	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q20
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Questions

Overview of responses to questions by survey respondents; questions are categorised by six survey themes

1 CHARACTER Questions

Q3 Which of the following terms do you associate with the Aireys district (see list)?

'Slow paced and relaxed.'

The district is highly prized for its nature, serenity and as a retreat from life's pressures. Its outdoor lifestyle is a major attraction.

The associated words chosen by respondents focus on the stunning natural environment, particularly rich in indigenous flora and in wildlife, whilst others words highlighted its small-town, relaxed, coastal-village style and connected community.

The Aireys region is seen as a haven from life's pressures and promotes wellbeing. **'Big sky, forest and beach, small wildflowers, birds, walking, surfing and kayaking.'** Comment 1

Q5 Should the district be conserved for its natural beauty and serenity?

Entirely: 82.43%

The natural beauty, serenity and low-key coastal village style, are some of the reasons people are attracted to the Aireys region. Its fragile eco-system would be threatened by over-development and by lack of appropriate action around protection and conservation.

The idea that, once lost, the natural asset cannot be replaced and that it is our duty to protect it, emerged from the comments.

The rich bio-diversity of the region is acclaimed, but vulnerable. The Painkalac was mentioned as a particular focus for conservation.

Achieving a balance was also mentioned recognising that some precincts / areas do need more infrastructure.

'Full environmental flora and fauna assessments on the entire Painkalac Valley and surrounding Otways Forests should be undertaken on a longitudinal basis so that we clearly understand what we need to conserve.' Comment 40

Q7 Protecting neighbourhood character, including environmental protection by controls on house design and site development

Strongly support: 81.54%

Protection of neighbourhood character, including environmental protection, is overwhelmingly supported

A mere 12 out of 363 respondents did not specifically support protection of the neighbourhood.

Concern about contravention of current planning guidelines was expressed:

'I am concerned that these regulations are not properly implemented. There seem to be numerous examples of contravention of the guidelines in town.' Comment 49

Q8 There are a variety of opinions on some local issues (see list)

Low priority – separate roadside paths: 32.73%

Issues particularly addressed the 'look and feel' of the town

The main issues relate to the amount and style of signage, the unsealed roads, roadside paths, naturally vegetated roadsides and restorative work.

Many (82.61%) felt that controlling the amount and style of signage around town was either very important or important and many felt there was currently too much.

Opinions on sealing or not sealing roads differs, with some respondents strongly against sealing (impacts local character), to some suggesting sealing some high traffic roads, and yet others wanting all roads sealed (dust, road erosion runoff, cost to maintain). In a similar vein, footpaths elicit differing opinions – from having them everywhere (safety), to areas around shops (cater for disability) and the lighthouse precinct – to no footpaths at all.

Some other 'hot topics' related to inadequate enforcement of building guidelines, a need for a reduction in the speed limit in designated areas, inadequate enforcement of dog and cat laws, preservation action in relation to wildlife e.g., the Hooded Plovers, indigenous flora and fauna,

protection of the coast, protection of views around the lighthouse, marine conservation and many comments regarding vegetation, stronger action on weed species on private land and restorative work. **'Regeneration of native species is important. Minimisation of weeds, e.g. kikuya and agapanthus, in gardens and on council-managed land.'** Comment 111

Q13 What do you like best about the physical environment, lifestyle and community of Aireys Inlet to Eastern View

'Inclusive', 'Peaceful', 'Friendly', 'Natural', 'Relaxed', 'Safe'

The passionate descriptions provided by respondents are testament to the value attributed to the unique 'untouched coastal village' feel and the extraordinary natural environmental assets

The highly valued Aireys *seaside village* feel is characterised by a 'low-density, low development' built environment. Respondents spoke of 'stepping back in time', in being able to 'use bush and beach without a car', about the country feel and that the local region has managed to resist becoming overly commercialised ... 'no big shops'.

The essence of the region is its natural assets and these are cherished by locals and highly appreciated by visitors. Descriptions such as 'wide range of natural values; coastal, marine, forests, river and hinterland', 'wild and natural', 'big sky, wildflowers, birds, kangaroos, beach and bush', 'lovely in winter' help define what is valued.

The community organisations are seen as the backbone to an integrated community e.g., the Community Garden, 'Rubbish Rangers' litter collectors, the Fairhaven Surf Club, AIDA, the village market, etc. The integration of business and the community is seen as a strength in creating a connected and resilient community.

'Remembering Grandpa who started family holidays at Aireys in the early 1960s - now three generations. Love this place.' Comment 4

[Go to survey data](#)

2 TOURISM Questions

Q2 Should the area be promoted for more tourism development?

Low-key only 65.81%

Slow tourism - good for residents, local business and the environment

Slow tourism focusing on nature-based tourism, local culture and support for the fragile environment is welcomed and seen as important for the local community and supports local business - but ... it was emphasised that tourism must be the 'right tourism'.

In general, more promotion across the board was not seen as needed for the Aireys region. Attracting the 'right tourist', however, one that is seeking to enjoy and appreciate the natural environment, was seen as vital. There is a strong feeling that we have reached tourism capacity during peak season, evidenced by the road congestion and amenity strain. It was suggested that more should be done to spread tourism visitation, with all-year-around, nature-based tourism experiences that would benefit the visitor's experience, local business progress and place less strain on the environment.

Coach tourism was seen as putting strain on current local amenity levels, e.g., toilets. The lighthouse precinct was noted as vulnerable. The cost to the community of this type of tourism was highlighted, as was the minimal benefit received. **'Too many tourists destroy the reason people choose to visit the region.'** Comment 15

Q3 Which of the following terms do you associate with the Aireys district ... (list)?

'Natural beauty and serenity'

Strong environmental values and knowledge underpin a connected community. The district is highly prized for its natural beauty, serenity, flora and fauna and outdoor pursuits.

The word associations chosen by the respondents focused on the natural environment, particularly rich in indigenous flora and in wildlife, both of which are highly prized, as are

the coastline, marine sanctuary and the small-town, connected lifestyle. Comparison is made with nearby coastal villages that are more developed and now sport a busier lifestyle. Outdoor pursuits such as surfing, family beach life, walking and hiking are much appreciated. The local music scene was highlighted as an enjoyable part of local cultural life. Mention was made also of our local history.

'Nationally renowned for its diversity of heathland, flora, surfers' destination, shipwreck and pioneer history, Indigenous heritage, dark-sky viewing for keen amateur astronomers, one of Victoria's important salt-wedge estuary, safe family holidays, market place, knowledgeable scientific community (flora and fauna), inclusive eco-community.' Comment 25

Q6 Do you support development in the area of ... (list)?

Recreational activity 80.50%

Community needs and local benefit to guide the suggestions for development

The needs of the community were suggested as the guide for the type of development for the Aireys region; in essence, low-key, small-scale, independent and local in nature.

There is a strong appetite for more recreational activities (80.5%) and whilst the activities were not detailed (they are elsewhere in the survey), the emphasis was on eco-tourism: nature and environmental opportunities; walking, e.g., a Painkalac walking track; new cycling paths; and nature interpretation. Cultural activities and a pony club were also mentioned.

More restaurants were suggested by some, but it was also recognised that they may struggle during the low season. It was felt that some enhancements in the design of our retail setting such as more ambience, lifting quality standards, retail around a village square instead of strip shopping design, outdoor dining, etc., could further increase appeal.

In keeping with comments elsewhere, parking (particularly around the lighthouse precinct) and adequate toilets were raised.

Housing density was a topic of interest, with smaller residential blocks and houses i.e., a low-density built environment in keeping with

a small-village feel, was seen as appropriate. 'Well serviced ... except during Christmas period ... but don't want to lose environmental beauty for three weeks of the year.' Comment 45

Q7 Question around environmental controls: limiting lighting and protecting neighbourhood character

Protection of night sky 83.66%

Night sky protection – an opportunity

There was very strong support for the prospect of protecting the night sky (against light pollution), an action seen as being in keeping with the character of Aireys Inlet and an opportunity for a distinctive astro-tourism experience, e.g., night-sky education and amateur astronomy. It was also seen as being beneficial to the protection of birds and nocturnal animals.

'The night sky is absolutely worth protecting as there are few places within a township area where you can view the splendour we have here.'

Comment 112

Q11 Which additional tourism developments would you favour in our part of the Great Ocean Road?

Parking and traffic-management controls 48.16%

There are additional slow-tourism opportunities for the Great Ocean Road, but traffic management was highlighted as a key issue

Whilst there was little enthusiasm for additional at-scale commercial development, new soft adventure, eco-tourism experiences, local cultural events, a walking circuit, a riding centre of excellence and diving experiences were among the suggestions made.

Traffic management support around alternative routes for through-traffic (particular concern regarding fire risk), was the main type of development being sought. More effective parking controls were suggested as being needed.

'Encouraging tourists to appreciate and understand the beauty and natural riches of the environment.'

Comment 26

Q20 How concerned are you about particular effects from major tourism elsewhere along the Great Ocean Road ...?

Risk to life from disastrous events 77.49%

Potential impacts of major tourism development on the community are of concern

Respondents drew attention to the potential negative impacts of major tourism developments on communities along the Great Ocean Road, fearing minimal local benefit at the expense of leakage to external developers, environmental risks (aquifer and the ecosystem), fauna habitat, traffic management and fire-risk concerns. The Eden Project elicited such concerns, but there were some who felt the project offered some possible benefits that were worth considering and investigating further.

'These issues require the community to take action and to speak loudly to the new Great Ocean Road Authority.'

Comment 25

[Go to survey data](#)

3 DEVELOPMENT Questions

Q4 Should residential development be limited to the existing approved residential areas?

Yes 86.9%

All development should be limited to existing boundaries of the district; any additional residential expansion has to be handled with care to balance needs. Residential development needs to preserve natural landscape and town character and environmental challenges. Avoiding 'urban style' residential character is critical.

Q5 Should the district be conserved for its natural beauty and serenity?

Entirely 82%

The natural beauty, serenity and low-key coastal village style attract people to the district. Development – residential and commercial – must reflect this. The fragile eco-system would be threatened by overdevelopment – residential and commercial – losing the character of a serene 'living in-nature' village.

The idea that, once lost, the assets of the district cannot be replaced was expressed. Climate change makes this all the more difficult. 'Pockets of unsympathetic development can threaten the whole.'

Q6 Support for more development

Restaurants and food services 44%

Shops and retail 20%

Light industrial 16%

Recreational activities 80%

Tourist development 20%

Balance is good at present. Less strip development with cars (square for the town?). 'Avoiding urban character of Anglesea or Torquay.' Development for recreation strongly supported – walking and cycling paths (along Painkalac), night-sky viewing.

Q7 Protecting night sky and neighbourhood character

Night-sky protection; limiting lighting of streets and from signage 84%

Protection of neighbourhood character, including environmental protection and house design 81.54%

Concerns expressed over some contravention of the current planning guidelines, council approvals and regulations not implemented.

Q8 Opinion on local issues

Important/very important:

Provision of housing for older persons 56%

Pedestrians sharing local streets with cars 62%

Naturally vegetated residential roadsides 83%

Unsealed local streets (28% 'acceptable') 54%

Q11 Additional tourism development in our part of the Great Ocean Road?

Reject 'a major tourism centre' 70%

Reject expansion of motel or hotel 76%

Private and/or public camping facilities received a mixed response. The issues of 'overdevelopment' and impact of flows from other big developments along the road are raised here.

Q12 Need for infrastructure improvements

Support for siting and design controls to improve visual and environmental impacts of future development; real concern that planning controls are not being enforced 92%

Support for the construction of community fire shelters 91%

Support for emergency access/escape routes 94%

For all the issues, concerns and ideas around 'development' as an emerging challenge see the Future theme.

[Go to survey data](#)

4 KEY ASSETS Questions

Q3 Which terms do you associate with the Aireys district?

'Natural beauty and serenity' 93%; 'connected community', 'slow paced and relaxed', and 'outdoor life' over 60%; 'luxury living' only 3.5%

'Big sky, forest and beach, small wildflowers, birds, walking, surfing and kayaking.'

Q9 Do you support the development of conservation zones?

This question identifies key landscape assets for the respondents with over 90% naming marine rock platforms, beaches, sand dunes, wetlands, native forests and coastal heathlands as essential areas for conservation. This has been consistent through the decades of these surveys.

Q10 Do you support further recreational development within the area?

This question extends the landscape assets of the district to specifically identify the ocean, the Painkalac, forest walks and cycling tracks, and emphasises the importance of access to these natural features, so they become a prized asset.

Q13. In just a few words, what do you like best about the physical environment, lifestyle and community?

Whilst this question reinforces the identification of physical and environmental/landscape assets, the answers also highlight the experience ('feel', 'look' 'peaceful', 'sense', 'delights', 'beautiful', 'atmosphere') of living within that landscape and nature that contributes to the district's 'serenity'. The integrated, small-scale and relevant local commercial businesses and a range of community organisations are talked of as part of its 'sense of place'.

'Open landscape, ocean meeting bush, small environmentally focused community',

'relaxed ... township visually integrated with local environment of cliff, valley and creek ... people walking and kids playing along unmade streets ... rich community organisations and friendly encounters on path, shops and cafes'.

NOTE – Questions 14–15, analysed in the Future theme focus on threats to the core assets of the district.

[Go to survey data](#)

5 COMMUNITY Questions

Q3 Which of the following terms do you associate with the Aireys district ... (see list)?

'Connected community' 60.20%

The district sees itself as a 'connected community'

'Connected community' was a strong association for respondents when thinking about the Aireys district.

This sentiment emerged elsewhere in question responses in this survey, as did the feeling of 'family orientation'.

A comment was made by one respondent, however, that Covid highlighted that there was a permanent/part-time divide.

"I thought it could be a connected community but the last 8 months has really demonstrated the great divide between permanent and part-time residents ..." Comment 35

Q13 What do you like best about the physical environment, lifestyle and community of Aireys Inlet to Eastern View?

'Sense of community, natural environment' Community organisations are the 'social backbone'

A 'village feel' was mentioned many times throughout the survey comments. The community is the 'social backbone' with the many community organisations providing the opportunity for developing and enhancing connections, e.g., the Community Garden, 'Rubbish Rangers' litter collectors, AIDA, the Fairhaven Surf Club, the village market, etc.

The integration of business and community is seen as a strength in creating a connected community, but a comment cautioned that won't continue without leadership. Comment 111

Overcrowding over summer was seen as a threat to local community connection with the risk of loss of community feeling.

'Due to all of the events ... it is losing the local

and community feel and connections ... therein removing what people who live here came here for/ value/enjoy.' Comment 102

Q16 How well informed ... main sources of information about Q17 what is happening around the district?

'Feel well informed' 75.58%

Word of mouth is a strong source of information indicating the effectiveness of a connected community.

The Aireys region sees itself as having many different, quality sources of information. Word of mouth is important (68.59%), as are newsletters from the many community organisations, school and council. Local press such as the *Surf Coast Times* and local digital publications such as *NewsAngle* are well regarded, as are the increasing number of Facebook accounts such as Aireys3231 (43.72%). The General Store noticeboard provides an additional easy-access information source.

Q18 What practical actions could be taken to increase community connection and involvement in decisions affecting our future?

306 Comments!

The community proffered many ideas regarding increasing community engagement and connection.

A 'connected community' is very important part of the character of Aireys Inlet.

The concept of 'a community square' was mentioned a number of times – whether that be the suggestion of establishing an actual physical town square, or 'politics at the pub', moderated discussion of issues affecting the community at a location such as the surf club.....or simply a 'listening post' at the General Store or at the market from time to time.

Some respondents would like to see the community achieve broader **interaction and participation** across demographics and groups and particularly with the younger members of our community. Along these lines, suggestions were

made to both increase our support of our strongly valued local networks and increase the level of interaction between them, our local businesses, Surf Coast Council and the broader community.

Building **local community capacity** via smart public education and open discussion, was seen as an opportunity – whether through webinars or at the community centre with expert speakers, or via workshops e.g., on environmental education issues, a say for the community on the Climate Action Plan including GHG emissions.

Genuine community consultation, discussion and debate on local issues is seen as important and a number of suggestions were made from developing a local community network group, a Festival of Future Thinking, a moderated ‘town hall’ style key issue discussion event, greater direct communication by Council (including occasionally by the Councillors themselves), more surveys such as this 2020 Community Survey – noting emphasis on follow up actions and activities for the community.

Better **public noticeboards** – particularly with information about events – ‘not just tradie promotions’, may help communications as well as greater use of community Facebook sites.

More **community events** were suggested as a good way to increase community connection e.g., a local expo, arts/music festival, family activity events and combining working-bees with local social event such as tree planting by the community followed by a social barbecue.

Stronger and more effective **accountability of government** and organisations was requested through greater transparency of action, more direct face to face updates and briefings by government representatives with the community and the sharing of views.

Comments reiterated the importance of the Aireys region having an **effective community voice to the Authority** [GORCAPA].

‘Greater transparency in planning decisions being made by the Surf Coast Council. Greater transparency and stronger accountability by the State Government in relation to tourism development and management of the GOR.’ Comment 188

[Go to survey data](#)

FUTURE Questions

Q2 Should the area be promoted for more tourist development?

Visitor pressure already experienced – straining local amenities.

This question shows significant agreement about the tourism ‘character’ of the town as well as its vulnerabilities, affecting all aspects of a thriving town. Clearly many in the district suspect that, at peak times, things are being pushed beyond capacity.

Q3 Which of the following terms do you most associate with the Aireys district?

There is strong agreement about the key characteristics of the town, evidence of the coherent nature of the community as well as what it is that needs protecting into the future.

Q5 Should the district be conserved for its natural beauty and serenity as an alternative to big-city living?

This question again shows such a strong agreement on the need for conservation. It also introduced many of the key threats to its preservation – fire, urbanisation, unsympathetic development.

Q11 Which additional tourism development would you favour in our part of the Great Ocean Road?

The ‘not at all’ answers show concerns about future development and the impact of tourism developments along the road. A major tourist facility, hotel expansion, private camping are not supported, where public camping access, controls on parking and alternative routes for through traffic are seen as a priority or good idea.

Q14 In just a few words, what do you see as the biggest future threats to our environment and living conditions?

The future threats are identified here with remarkable agreement. Climate change (particularly fire, erosion, sea levels), over-tourism, unbridled development and traffic (particularly in peak times) are understood as individual threats that become interconnected. Threats are to ‘living’ (community life) as well as nature (the district’s assets).

Q15 In just a few words what do you see as the top priorities for the district, in the post-COVID recovery period?

‘Maintaining the inherent values of the area that differentiate it from areas like Lorne and Torquay where tourism and urban development have significantly impacted.’

‘Maintaining’ requires action to increase local awareness of threats, welcoming but managing (limiting) visitors, building climate resilience, developing green infrastructure, encouraging community initiatives, supporting existing small-scale local businesses, resisting ‘progress’. Stronger controls on buildings/planning, tolls for Great Ocean Road use, strengthening health services and aged care, improving internet access and speed.

Q16 Do you feel well informed about important things that are happening around the district?

Of respondents 75% say yes to this question – a characteristic of a strong well-connected community, particularly in light of Q17.

Q17 What is your main source of information for what is happening around the district?

General word-of-mouth, local social media and community newsletters maintain community information flows.

Q18 In a few words what practical actions could be taken to increase community connection and involvement in decisions affecting our future?

Many specific proposals for ways to build community awareness attached to action; a strong sense that self-reliance as a community is critical, but that 'authorities' need to be held to their consultation commitments. More and regularly targeted surveys; community information 'town-hall' sessions, meetings, 'expos'; drawing local organisations together around common challenges; a district website to encompass existing organisations; regular 'future-focused' stalls at market days; politics in the pub expansion; more 'what-if' challenge sessions; get the board of GORCAPA to meet in the Hall; working bees to support local communications as well as needed improvements; new approaches to governance for the Surf Coast; A Festival of Future Thinking – an engagement between all groups and the local authorities.

Q20 How concerned are you about particular effects from major tourism development elsewhere along the Great Ocean Road (e.g., from the Eden project proposed for the old Alcoa mine in Anglesea)?

More than 70% of respondents are concerned about increased traffic along the Great Ocean Road; about unfair competition with current small-scale diverse businesses supporting tourism; and about increased risk to life from emergencies such as fire. Big issues created by development outside of the district because of physical and economic connections.

[Go to survey data](#)

Longitudinal results



AIDA questionnaires 1983–2020
35 years of community viewpoints

35 YEARS OF COMMUNITY VIEWPOINTS

The longitudinal results of AIDA questionnaires: 1983–2020

This summary sets out the main results of five of AIDA's periodic community questionnaires on environmental, planning and development opinions concerning the Aireys Inlet to Eastern View district over the past 35 years, following the Ash Wednesday bushfire. Unfortunately the results of a sixth, 1996 questionnaire, appear not to have survived. Each of the questionnaires was far-sightedly planned to include many of the same or closely similar questions, so that a perspective on individual opinions over time might be obtained. This longitudinal analysis is the result.

Questions addressed to AIDA members, or, in the case of 1990 and 1996, all local ratepayers, and in 2020 to other residents also, had multiple-choice responses. This analysis only reports on the single choice, or in some cases the main choices, receiving the highest response. This can lead to non-strictly comparative cases as, e.g. in Q6, where the question has changed to the relative support for each category rather than the earlier survey's reporting of absolute support, and Q8 where degrees of support or opposition have been aggregated. Also, as indicated,

over time a few questions have been discontinued and others are new.

The responses reveal a remarkable depth and consistency of opinions in our district over time. Importantly, they also show that there is no appreciable difference between the general community opinions of 1990 and 1999 and the largely AIDA-member opinions of 1983, 2015 and 2020, so they also can be taken to represent general community views.

Long-term opinions are highlighted in:

- Red, for those now favoured by over an extraordinary 90% of respondents!!
- Orange, for those favoured by 70–89% of respondents!
- Yellow, for those favoured by 50–69% of respondents,
- Green, for those opinions still the predominant view, but favoured by less than 50% of respondents.

The results of the 1983 questionnaire that are difficult to read in the surviving copies are shown with a question mark.

Questions	Year of questionnaire									
	Dec 1983	Oct 1990	Oct 1999	Feb 2015	Dec 2020					
	275 Respondents (AIDA only)	599 Respondents (whole district)	1701 Respondents (whole district)	290 Respondents (AIDA)	398 Respondents (AIDA+)					
1. Aireys Inlet to Eastern View has developed significantly over the past 30 years. Do you wish to see further development?	-	-	Minor 59%	Minor 65%	Minor 64%	Minor 72%				
2. Should the area be promoted for more tourist development?	-	-	No 51%	Low key 56%	Low key 56%	Low key 66%				
3. Which terms do you most associate with the Aireys district?	The most common choices:					94%				
	1. Natural beauty and serenity					82%				
	2. Outdoor Life					67%				
	3. A retreat from the pressures of ...					60%				
	4. Connected community					60%				
	5. Well being									
4. Should residential development be limited to the existing approved residential areas?	-	-	Yes 90%	Yes 91%	Yes 95%	Yes 87%				
5. Should the area be conserved for its natural beauty and serenity as an alternative to big city living?	?	?	Entirely 80%	Entirely 80%	Entirely 92%	Entirely 82%				

6. Do you support the development in the area of:

• More restaurants and food services	-	-	-	-	-	No 46%	Yes 44%		
• More shops and retail outlets	No 61%?	No 64%	No 62%	No 66%	Yes 21%				
• Light industrial activities within defined commercial areas	No 75%?	No 80%	No 80%	No 72%	Yes 16%				
• Recreational activities	Yes? 46%	Yes 57%	Yes 58%	Minor 51%	Yes 81%				
• Tourist developments	No 72%?	No 70%	No 60%	No 55%	Yes 20%				
• Other	-	-	-	-	No 61%	-	-		

Dec 1983	Oct 1990	Oct 1999	Feb 2015	Dec 2020
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7. Aireys Inlet to Eastern View has some special environmental controls not applying elsewhere. Do you support them?

• Protection of the night sky, by limiting street lighting, illuminated advertising and private external lighting	-	-	-	Working well 62%	Strongly support 84%
• Protection of neighbourhood character, including environmental protection, by controls on house design and site development	-	-	-	Needs more 58%	Strongly support 82%

8. There is a variety of opinions on some local issues. What do you think about ...

• The provision of housing for older persons, close to the shops?	-	-	-	Approve 75%	Support 86%
• Pedestrians sharing local streets with cars?	-	-	-	Approve 73%	Support 90%
• Naturally vegetated residential roadsides?	-	-	-	Approve 92%	Support 97%
• Unsealed local streets?	-	-	-	Approve 74%	Support 82%
• Separate roadside foot paths?	-	-	-	Dis-approve 43%	Not support 46%
• Controlling the amount and style of signage around town?	-	-	-	Approve 75%	Support 92%

9. Do you support the development of conservation zones within the area for:

• Marine rock platforms and beach zones?	-	Yes 87%	Yes 89%	Yes 90%	Yes 93%
• Coastal sand dunes?	-	Yes 91%	Yes 93%	Yes 93%	Yes 92%
• Wetlands and natural waterways?	-	Yes 89%	Yes 93%	Yes 94%	Yes 93%
• Coastal heathlands?	-	Yes 89%	Yes 90%	Yes 92%	Yes 91%
• Native forests?	-	Yes 91%	Yes 92%	Yes 94%	Yes 92%
• Urban conservation zones with restrictive controls on private land?	-	Yes 65%	Yes 69%	Yes 76%	Yes 66%
• Rural conservation zones restricting development on private rural land?	-	Yes 69%	Yes 72%	Yes 76%	Yes 70%

10. Do you support further recreational development within the Aireys Inlet to Eastern View area?

• Walking tracks	-	-	Yes	88%	Yes	88%	Yes	89%	Yes	93%
• Bicycle tracks	Yes	50%	Yes	67%	Yes	74%	Yes	66%	Yes	72%
• Horse riding trails	Yes	43%	Yes	53%	Yes	44%	No	58%	No	53%

Do you support further recreational development within the Aireys Inlet to Eastern View area?

	Dec 1983	Oct 1990	Oct 1999	Feb 2015	Dec 2020
• Horse riding trails	Yes	43%	Yes	53%	Yes 44%
• Defined non-motorised trail bike tracks					74% Yes 52%
• Defined motorised trail bike tracks	No	?	No	74%	No 67% No 77%
• Boating facilities on the Painkalac Creek	No	53%	No	57%	- - - - No 52%
• Golf course	Yes	56%	No	45%	No 63% No 91% No 100%
• Sports oval	Yes	35%	No	45%	No 49% No 59% No 46%
• Indoor sports facility	No	?	No	53%	No 54% No 58% No 48%
• Tennis	-	-	Yes	59%	Yes 45% No 58% Yes 53%
• Bowling green	No	58%?	No	44%	No 53% No 66% Yes 41%
• Other developments	-	-	-	-	- - No 54% - -

11. Which additional tourism development would you favour in our part of the Great Ocean Road?

• A major tourist information or 'discovery' centre	No	53%	No	54%	No	55%	No	76%	No	70%
• Expansion of hotel or motel accommodation	No	65%	No	78%	No	55%	No	85%	No	77%
• Other commercial services for tourists	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No	73%
• More private camping ground facilities	No	65%	No	72%	No	71%	No	75%	No	68%
• Provision of public camping ground facilities	No	72%	No	74%	No	72%	No	65%	No	57%
• Parking and traffic management controls (in peak season)	Don't know	39%?	Yes	47%	Yes	73%	Yes	72%	Good idea	48%
• Alternative routes for through traffic	Don't know	55%	Yes	47%	Yes	58%	Yes	65%	Good idea	42%
• Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	Don't know	69%	-	-

12. Do you see the need for planning or infrastructure improvements in the area for:

	Dec 1983	Oct 1990	Oct 1999	Feb 2015	Dec 2020
• Sewerage?		No	46%	No	56%
• Drainage?	No	55%	Yes / No	43%	No
• Town Water supply?	-	-	-	-	-
• Street construction?	No	66%	No	66%	No
• More pedestrian crossings	-	-	Yes	47%	Yes
• Street lighting?	No	61%	No	64%	No
• Public rubbish collection?	No	43%	-	-	-
• Fire reduction?					
• Fire protection					
• Community fire shelters?	Yes	71%	Yes	65%	Yes
• Emergency access / escape routes	-	-	-	-	-
• Better telecommunications infrastructure, including for mobile phones and tablets?	-	-	-	-	-
• Siting and design controls that aim to improve the visual and environmental impacts of future development?	-	-	Yes	75%	Yes
• Conservation of the natural environment within the residential township areas?	?	?	Yes	85%	Yes
• Are the costs of providing these services major consideration in your answers above?	No	69%	-	-	-

13. In just a few words, what single thing do you like best about the physical environment and enjoyment of Aireys Inlet to Eastern View? 398 free text responses analysed

14. In just a few words, what do you see as the biggest future threats to our environment and living conditions? 398 free text responses analysed

15. In just a few words what do you see as the top priorities for the district, in the post COVID recovery period? 398 free text responses analysed

	Dec 1983	Oct 1990	Oct 1999	Feb 2015	Dec 2020
16. Do you feel well informed about things that are happening around the district?	-	-	-	-	Yes 76%

17. What is your main source of information for what is happening around the district?	-	-	-	-	Word of mouth 69%
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18. In just a few words what practical actions could be taken to increase community connection and involvement in decisions affecting our future?	398 free text responses analysed				
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19. What events and activities in the district would make you feel the town is thriving?

Arts/cultural festivals	-	-	-	-	-	The same	61%
Production/growing of local specialty ('Aireys') produce - for local consumption and/or distribution	-	-	-	-	-	More	56%
Events focused on nature observation (e.g. night-time star gazing; bird watching/ photography...)	-	-	-	-	-	More	62%
Indigenous tours (history, flora/fauna...)	-	-	-	-	-	More	67%
Sports and recreation-based events (bike; walking, etc)	-	-	-	-	-	The same	58%
'Green' infrastructure for the district (e.g. water saving; renewable energy supply; environmental start-ups hub)	-	-	-	-	-	More	67%

20. How concerned are you about particular effects from major tourism development elsewhere along the GOR (for example, from the Eden project proposed for the old Alcoa mine in Anglesea)?

Increased traffic along the Great Ocean Road	-	-	-	-	-	High concern	75%
Competition between current (diverse, small, local) hospitality businesses and large resort-like developments	-	-	-	-	-	High concern	64%
Risk to life from disastrous events (such as fire, storms flooding) at peak visitor times	-	-	-	-	-	High concern	77%
Effects on land value - house prices	-	-	-	-	-	Low concern	45%

21. Do you see the need for planning or infrastructure improvements in the area?	-	-	No 54%	Limited only 52%	No 51%
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22. Should the special environmental qualities of the area be protected and conserved?	-	-	-	-	-	Entirely 94%
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23. Do you see the need for planning or infrastructure improvements in the area for:

• Rubbish collection for weekenders?	-	-	Yes 57%	Yes 60%	No 45%
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24. Do you want to see the development of improved public facilities in any of the following areas? e.g. car parking, toilets, picnic and play facilities ...

	Dec 1983	Oct 1990	Oct 1999	Feb 2015	Dec 2020
• Sunnymead Beach	No 53%?	No 61%	No 54%	No 60%	
• Sandy Gully Beach	No 63%?	No 60%	No 55%	No 64%	
• Steppe Beach	-	-	-	No 68%	
• Aireys cliff tops & light-house	? ?	No 68%	No 62%	No 73%	
• Painkalac Creek mouth and beach	? ?	No 64%	No 57%	No 76%	
• Painkalac Creek flats downstream from the Great Ocean Road Bridge	No 64%	-	-	-	
• Painkalac Creek flats upstream from the Great Ocean Road Bridge	No 65%	-	-	No 75%	
• Fairhaven beach	No 55%	No 63%	No 55%	No 59%	
• Moggs Creek/Eastern View beaches	No 80%	-	-	-	
• Moggs Creek beach	-	No 65%	No 61%	No 68%	
• Great Ocean Road Memorial Gateway	-	-	-	No 55%	
• Eastern View beach	-	No 66%	No 59%	No 69%	
• Angahook Forest Park	No 56%	-	-	-	
• Angahook-Lorne State Park	-	No 63%	No 60%	-	
• Great Otway National Park	-	-	-	No 58%	
• Within Aireys Inlet	No 58%	No 58%	No 46%	No 48%	
• Within Fairhaven	No 63%	No 60%	No 54%	No 62%	
• Within Moggs Creek / Eastern View township	No 65%	-	-	-	
• At Moggs Creek	-	No 61%	No 58%	No 67%	
• At Eastern View	-	No 63%	No 57%	No 67%	
• Other areas	-	-	-	Don't know 46%	

25. Demographic profile

	Dec 1983		Oct 1990		Oct 1999		Feb 2015		Dec 2020	
• Are you a permanent resident of Aireys Inlet / Eastern View?	?	?	-	-			-	-	Yes	47%
• Are you a semi-permanent resident of Aireys Inlet / Eastern View?	?	?	Week-end	59%	-	-	Week-end	46%	Yes	38%
• Are you a temporary visitor to the district?	?	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	4%
• Is your family ratepayers in the Surf Coast Shire?	-	-	Yes	99%			Yes	96%	Yes	52%
• Are you a member of the Aireys Inlet and District Association (AIDA)?	-		-		No	54%	Yes	91%	Yes	42%
• Are you a member of another district organisation?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		Yes	20%
• What age are you?	?	?	-	-	-	-	Over 65	55%	Over 65	41%
• Do you have children living at home?	?	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	No	68%

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 Survey data <https://aireys-inlet.org/wp-content/uploads/AIDA-2021-Community-Survey-DATA-output.pdf>