



30 Years of Community Viewpoints: The longitudinal results of AIDA questionnaires from 1983 to 2015

This summary sets out the main results of four of AIDA's periodic community questionnaires on environmental, planning and development opinions concerning the Aireys Inlet to Eastern View district over the past 30 years, following the Ash Wednesday bushfire. Unfortunately the results of a fifth, 1996 questionnaire, appear not to have survived. Each of the questionnaires was far-sightedly planned to include many of the same questions, so that a perspective on individual opinions over time might be obtained. This longitudinal analysis is the first time that these long-term viewpoints have been analysed and published.

Questions addressed to AIDA members, or in the case of two of the questionnaires all local ratepayers, had multiple choice responses. This analysis only reports on the single choice receiving the highest response in each case. Where three or more consecutive questionnaires had a majority for the same choice these have been highlighted to indicate consistent long-term opinions expressed over time by what amounts to two to three generations of local residents and property owners.

The responses reveal an 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 and 2015, so they can be taken to represent general community views. Many opinions show an increase over time in their degree of support and these are marked with a red upward arrow, while a few show a decline in support for the prevailing view, and these are marked with a green downward arrow.

Consistent long-term opinions are highlighted in:

- Red, for those now favoured by over an extraordinary 90% of respondents!!
- Orange, for those very solidly favoured by 70%-89% of respondents!
- Yellow, for those favoured by 50%-69% of respondents,
- Lime, for those opinions still the predominant view, but favoured by less than 50% of respondents,
- Blue, for those showing a consistent long-term opinion but which changed to the current, differing viewpoint in 1990, and
- Grey for those which once showed a consistent long-term opinion but which changed to the current, differing viewpoint in 2015.

A few questions have been discontinued over time and others are new. All of the 2015 responses which are strongly held, i.e. by 70% or more of respondents, are circled in red.

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 275 Respondents (AIDA only) | Oct 1990 599 Respondents (whole district) | Oct 1999 1701 Respondents (whole district) | Feb 2015 290 Respondents (AIDA) |
| 1. Aireys inlet has developed significantly over the past 30 years. Do you wish to see further development? | - - | Minor 59% | Minor 65% | Minor 64% |
| 2. Should the area be promoted for more tourist development? | ? ? | Not at all 51% | Only low key 56% | Only low key 56% |
| 3. Should the area be conserved for its natural beauty and serenity as a retreat from the pressures of big city living? | ? ? | Entirely 80% | Entirely 80% | Entirely 92% |
| 4. Do you think residential development should be limited to the existing approved residential areas? | - - | Yes 90% | Yes 91% | Yes 95% |
| 5.1 Do you want to see commercial development of the town? | ? ? | - - | - - | - - |
| 5.2. Do you want to see further commercial development in the area? | - - | No 54% | Limited only 52% | No 51% |
| 6. Should the special environmental qualities of the area be protected and conserved? | - - | - - | - - | Entirely 94% |

| Dec 1983 | Oct 1990 | Oct 1999 | Feb 2015 |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|----------|----------|----------|----------|

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

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



8. Aireys Inlet to Eastern View has some special environmental controls not applying elsewhere. What is your opinion of them?

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

9. 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% |
| • Pedestrians sharing local streets with cars? | - | - | - | - | - | - | Approve | 73% |
| • Naturally vegetated residential roadsides? | - | - | - | - | - | - | Approve | 92% |
| • Unsealed local streets? | - | - | - | - | - | - | Approve | 74% |
| • Separate roadside foot paths? | - | - | - | - | - | - | Dis-approve | 43% |
| • The increase in the amount of signage throughout the area? | - | - | - | - | - | - | Dis-approve | 75% |

| | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Dec 1983 | Oct 1990 | Oct 1999 | Feb 2015 |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|

10. 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

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|-------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|------------|------------|
| • 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 & Lighthouse | ? | ? | No | 68% | No | 62% | No | 73% |
| • Painkalac Creek mouth & 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% |
| | Dec 1983 | | Oct 1990 | | Oct 1999 | | Feb 2015 | |

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



| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|-----|------------|-----|------------|------------|------------|
| • Marine rock platforms and beach zones? | - | - | Yes | 87% | Yes | 89% | Yes | 90% |
| • Coastal sand dunes? | - | - | Yes | 91% | Yes | 93% | Yes | 93% |
| • Wetlands and natural waterways? | - | - | Yes | 89% | Yes | 93% | Yes | 94% |
| • Coastal heathlands? | - | - | Yes | 89% | Yes | 90% | Yes | 92% |
| • Native forests? | - | - | Yes | 91% | Yes | 92% | Yes | 94% |
| • Urban conservation zones with restrictive controls on private land? | - | - | Yes | 65% | Yes | 69% | Yes | 76% |
| • Rural conservation zones restricting development on private rural land? | - | - | Yes | 69% | Yes | 72% | Yes | 76% |
| • Other areas or purposes? | - | - | - | - | - | - | Don't know | 63% |

12. Which additional recreational developments would you favour in the area?

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|
| • Walking tracks | - | - | Yes | 88% | Yes | 88% | Yes | 89% |
| • Bicycle tracks | Yes | 50% | Yes | 67% | Yes | 74% | Yes | 66% |
| • Horse riding | Yes | 43% | Yes | 53% | Yes | 44% | No | 58% |
| • Defined trail bike tracks | No | ? | No | 74% | No | 67% | No | 74% |
| • Boating facilities on the Painkalac Creek | No | 53% | No | 57% | - | - | - | - |
| • Golf course | Yes | 56% | No | 45% | No | 63% | No | 91% |
| • Sports oval | Yes | 35% | No | 45% | No | 49% | No | 59% |
| • Indoor sports facility | No | ? | No | 53% | No | 54% | No | 58% |
| • Tennis | - | - | Yes | 59% | Yes | 45% | No | 58% |
| • Bowling green | No | 58%? | No | 44% | No | 53% | No | 66% |
| • Other developments | - | - | - | - | - | - | No | 54% |

| | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Dec 1983 | Oct 1990 | Oct 1999 | Feb 2015 |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|

13. Which additional tourist developments would you favour in the area?

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|-------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|------------|------------|---|
| • A major tourist info centre for the Otway Ranges | No | 53% | No | 54% | No | 55% | No | 76% |  |
| • Development of hotel or motel accommodation | No | 65% | No | 78% | No | 55% | No | 85% |  |
| • More private camping ground facilities | No | 65% | No | 72% | No | 71% | No | 75% |  |
| • Provision of public camping ground facilities | No | 72% | No | 74% | No | 72% | No | 65% |  |
| • Improved traffic management for peak summer conditions throughout townships | Don't know | 39%? | Yes | 47% | Yes | 73% | Yes | 72% |  |
| • More pedestrian crossings | - | - | Yes | 47% | Yes | 62% | Yes | 51% | |
| • Alternative routes for through traffic | Don't know | 55% | Yes | 47% | Yes | 58% | Yes | 65% |  |
| • Other | - | - | - | - | - | - | Don't know | 69% | |

| | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Dec 1983 | Oct 1990 | Oct 1999 | Feb 2015 |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|

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

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|------------|----------|------------|-----|------------|------------|------------|
| • Sewerage & drainage? | No | 55% | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| • Sewerage? | - | - | No | 46% | No | 56% | No | 60% |
| • Drainage? | - | - | Yes / No | 43% | No | 42% | No | 43% |
| • Water supply? | - | - | - | - | - | - | No | 61% |
| • Street construction? | No | 66% | No | 66% | No | 54% | No | 70% |
| • Street lighting? | No | 61% | No | 64% | No | 57% | No | 82% |
| • Rubbish collection? | No | 43% | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| • Rubbish collection for weekenders? | - | - | Yes | 57% | Yes | 60% | No | 45% |
| • Fire protection? | Yes | 71% | Yes | 65% | Yes | 60% | Yes | 67% |
| • Emergency access and evacuation? | - | - | - | - | - | - | Yes | 75% |
| • Better telecommunications infrastructure, including for mobile phones and tablets? | - | - | - | - | - | - | Yes | 72% |
| • Conservation of the natural environment within the residential township areas? | ? | ? | Yes | 85% | Yes | 85% | Yes | 87% |
| • Siting and design controls that aim to improve the visual and environmental impacts of future development? | - | - | Yes | 75% | Yes | 82% | Yes | 91% |
| • Are the costs of providing these services major consideration in your answers above? | No | 69% | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| • Other? | - | - | - | - | - | - | Don't know | 81% |



| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|-----------------------------|--|-------------|
| 15. In just a few words, what single thing do you like best about the physical environment and enjoyment of Aireys Inlet to Eastern View? | - | - | - | - | The most common words used: | 1. Beach 2. Natural Environment 3. Bush 4. Natural Beauty 5. Unspoilt | 139 returns |
| 16. In just a few words, what is the biggest threat to the physical environment and enjoyment of Aireys Inlet to Eastern View? | - | - | - | - | The most common words used: | 1. Development 2. Overdevelopment 3. Houses 4. Bush Fires 5. Increasing | 139 returns |
| 17. In just a few words, what single thing most needs improvement now for the physical environment and enjoyment of Aireys Inlet to Eastern View? | - | - | - | - | The most common words used: | 1. Control 2. Traffic 3. Road 4. Protection 5. Beach | 123 returns |

| | Dec 1983 | | Oct 1990 | | Oct 1999 | | Feb 2015 | |
|---|----------|---|----------|------------|-----------------------------|---|--|------------|
| 18. Are you a resident of Aireys Inlet / Eastern View? | ? | ? | Week-end | 59% | - | - | Week-end | 46% |
| 19. Are you or your family ratepayers in the Surf Coast Shire? | - | - | Yes | 99% | Yes | 99% | Yes | 96% |
| 20. What age are you? | ? | ? | - | - | 35-49 years | 37% | Over 65 | 55% |
| 21. Are you answering this questionnaire as an individual or do the answers represent the views of other members of your household? What is the total number of respondents? | ? | ? | - | - | - | - | 162 returns for 290 respondents | |
| 22. Are you a member of the Aireys Inlet and District Association (AIDA)? | - | - | - | - | No | 54% | Yes | 91% |
| 23. Any additional comments | - | - | - | - | The most common words used: | 1. Environment 2. AIDA 3. Development 4. Aireys Inlet 5. Protect | | 34 returns |