

Public Art Strategy 2025 - 2030

Community feedback report
July 2025

Executive summary

1.0 Consultation background (September 2024)

- Initial community consultation on the development of the Public Art Strategy was undertaken by a consultant in September 2024
- Outcomes in this initial consultation indicated that 85% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that Council should invest in public art
- The feedback received from the consultation undertaken in September 2024 has been used to develop the Draft Public Art Strategy

2.0 Response summary

- Consultation on the Draft Public Art Strategy carried out from 30 April to 20 May, provided the community with the opportunity to tell us whether they support the goals of the strategy and what public art theme is most important to them

2.1 Making Marion responses

- 16 responses were received via the online Making Marion survey
- 14 out of the 16 online responses (88%) were from participants from within the City of Marion Council area
- 12 responses (75%) either strongly supported or somewhat supported the draft strategy
- 4 responses (25%) either strongly do not support or somewhat didn't support the draft strategy
- The 5 goals of the strategy were supported, with the goals of; *"Increase the capacity of community, government and commercial stakeholders to develop public art projects, that contribute to the social and economic fabric of the City of Marion"*, and *Develop iconic works which are distinctive, interactive and situate people within the City of Marion* being the most strongly supported
- The "Nature and Sustainability" public artwork theme was ranked as the most important by respondents
- 1 written response was received. Support levels weren't attributed to this response as the survey questions weren't addressed.

Table 1: Summary of support levels

Overall support level	Within CoM Council area	Outside of the CoM Council area	Total
Strongly support	6	2	8 (50%)
Somewhat support	4	0	4 (25%)
Neutral	0	0	0 (0%)
Somewhat do not support	1	0	1 (6%)
Strongly do not support	3	0	3 (19%)

Executive summary

3.0 Consideration of community comments

All community comments were carefully reviewed and considered. The current Strategy already addresses the key themes raised, including inclusivity, quality, transparency, and sustainable investment. Concerns about artist selection and funding will be managed through existing governance and project delivery processes. As such, no further amendments to the Strategy are necessary following this review. Council remains committed to ongoing engagement and review during implementation.

Table 2: Comment summary and council response

Combined Comment Summary	Council Response
Public art adds delight, vibrancy, and emotional uplift; there is strong support for more artworks across the city.	Noted. Council values community appreciation for public art and will continue supporting its creation and maintenance to enhance the city's vibrancy and community wellbeing.
The Strategy is seen as ambitious yet realistic, with strong support for its direction and funding.	Noted. Council welcomes support for the Strategy's vision and will continue to implement it in a practical, staged, and achievable manner.
Art supports diversity, wellbeing, inclusion, and community connection; it enriches culture and should celebrate local stories, including Kaurua culture.	Noted. Council recognises the importance of inclusive, culturally rich public art and is committed to reflecting local stories and supporting diverse community engagement.
Desire for more community involvement, varied styles, and balanced themes; local artists should have more display opportunities.	Noted. Council supports a balanced and accessible public art program and will explore ways to increase community participation and visibility for local artists.
Suggestion to adopt a 'percent for art' policy to ensure sustained investment.	Noted. Council will consider a 'percent for art' approach as part of its ongoing strategy to support sustainable public art investment.
Concerns about repeated selection of certain artists, inflated language in the Strategy, and the quality of delivered projects.	Noted. Council remains committed to transparent and competitive selection processes and will continue to monitor the quality and community value of its public art projects.
Feedback that some abstract artworks are unclear or too costly; there is a need for greater cost transparency and clarity in presentation.	Noted. Council acknowledges varied artistic preferences and will aim for a diverse range of artworks while considering clarity and cost in future project delivery.
Call for responsible use of ratepayer funds.	Noted. Council is committed to delivering cost-effective public art projects that provide lasting cultural and social value to the community.
Public art should reflect local identity, place, and history to give meaning to spaces.	Noted. Council agrees and will continue to prioritise public artworks that strengthen sense of place and celebrate the city's unique cultural and historical character.

Engagement Snapshot

Purpose of engagement

To seek the views and input from the community on the draft Public Art Strategy 2025 - 2030.

Community consultation commenced on **30/04/2025** and closed on **20/05/2025**.

How we engaged:

- Social media campaign
- Emails to key stakeholders
- Promotion to Marion 100 members
- Promotion in Council eNewsletters
- Hard copy materials at Council Libraries and Community Centres

16

Survey responses

received via
Making Marion Survey

1

Written submissions





Received via email




Social media summary

Content:

The campaign used consisted of Facebook and LinkedIn posts throughout the consultation period to promote the opportunity to participate in the survey.

POSTS ↓	IMPRESSIONS	REACTIONS	ENGAGEMENTS	REACH	ENGAGEMENT RATE	COMMENTS
7	8,29K	25	29	5,15K	0,35%	1

City of Marion 15 May 8:30 AM Public Art Str... +2 From your ideas to impact! 	City of Marion 15 May 3:00 AM Public Art Str... +2 From your ideas to impact! 	City of Marion 11 May 11:06 PM Public Art Str... +2 We're making Marion's public spaces more vibrant, meaningful, and inclusiv... 	City of Marion 9 May 6:30 AM Public Art Str... +2 We're making Marion's public spaces more vibrant, meaningful, and inclusiv... 
Impressions: 98	Impressions: 257	Impressions: 6,64K	Impressions: 108
Reactions: 1	Reactions: 1	Reactions: 9	Reactions: 1
Engagements: 1	Engagements: 1	Engagements: 11	Engagements: 1
Reach: 74	Reach: 254	Reach: 3,64K	Reach: 83
Engagement rate: 1,02%	Engagement rate: 0,39%	Engagement rate: 0,17%	Engagement rate: 0,93%
Comments: 0	Comments: 0	Comments: 1	Comments: 0

City of Marion 9 May 6:30 AM ABP +2 We're making Marion's public spaces more vibrant, meaningful, and inclusiv... 	City of Marion 30 Apr 8:30 AM Public Art Str... +2 Your voice shapes our city's art! 	City of Marion 30 Apr 8:30 AM ABP +2 ... 
Impressions: 478	Impressions: 544	Impressions: 163
Reactions: 6	Reactions: 2	Reactions: 5
Engagements: 6	Engagements: 4	Engagements: 5
Reach: 459	Reach: 539	Reach: 101
Engagement rate: 1,26%	Engagement rate: 0,74%	Engagement rate: 3,07%
Comments: 0	Comments: 0	Comments: 0

Social Media Summary

30 April – 20 May 2025

Posts	Impressions	Reactions
7	8,290	25
Reach	Engagements	Engagement Rate
5,150	29	0.35%

Definitions:

Impressions - show the number of times your content was displayed to these users.

Reach - shows the number of unique users that were exposed to your content. If the same person sees one of your posts three times, the Impressions would be 3 but the Reach metric would only count 1.

Engagements - inform about how many times users engaged with a post during their lifetime. Engagement is seen as the combined number of reactions to, comments on, and shares of a post.

Engagement Rate: Calculated by the total engagements a post received divided by the total number of impressions on that post.

Reactions - Reactions are a type of engagement with your Facebook content. They are comprised of the total amount of Love, Haha, Wow, Sad, Angry, and Like actions that users took on your post. This can be reported on in the Measure module.

Participant responses

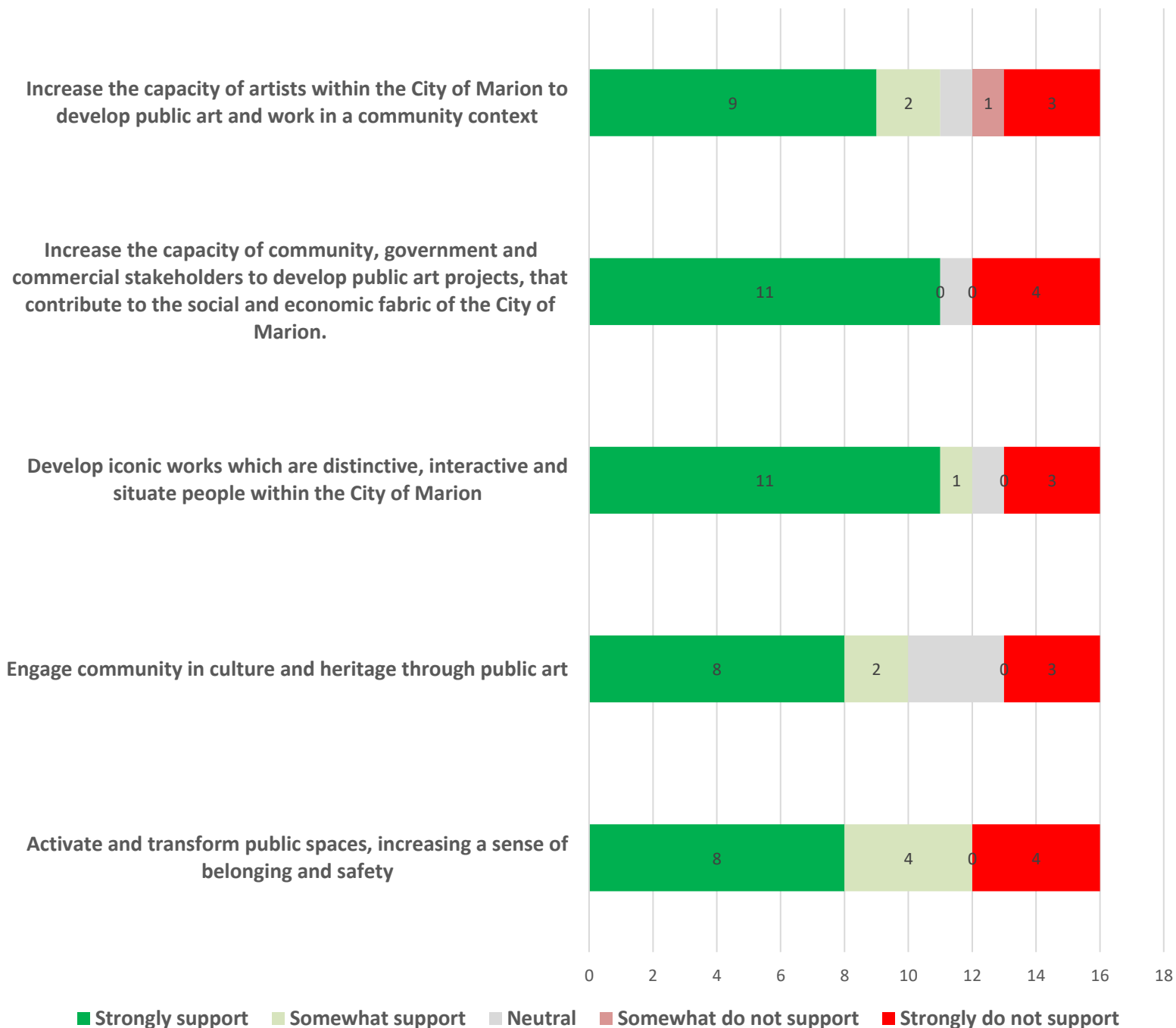
Suburb

SUBURB	RESPONSES
Ascot Park	1
Basket Range	1
Brighton	1
Glengowrie	1
Hallett cove	1
Hallett Cove	1
Marion	1
Mitchell Park	1
Oaklands park	1
Park Holme	1
Park Holme	1
Plympton Park	1
Seacliff Park	1
Seaview Downs	1
South Plympton	1
Warradale	1
Total	16

Suburbs outside the CoM

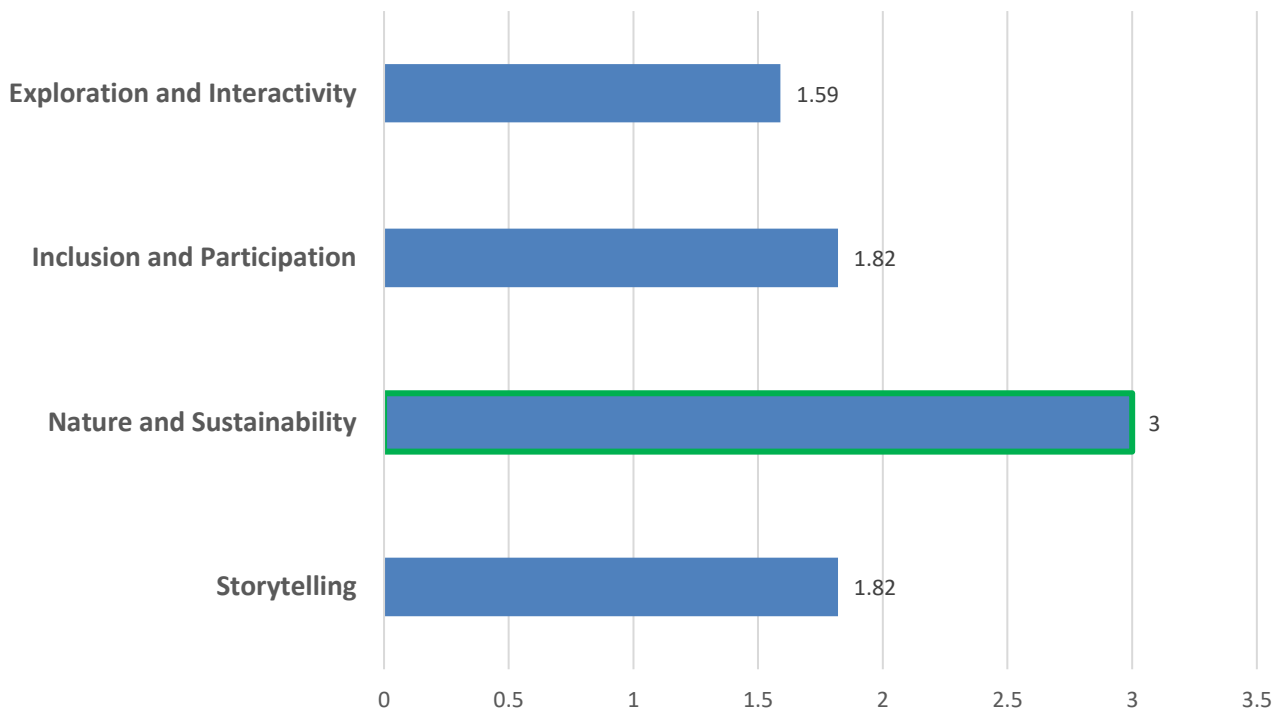
Participant responses

Do you support the 5 goals of the Action Plan?



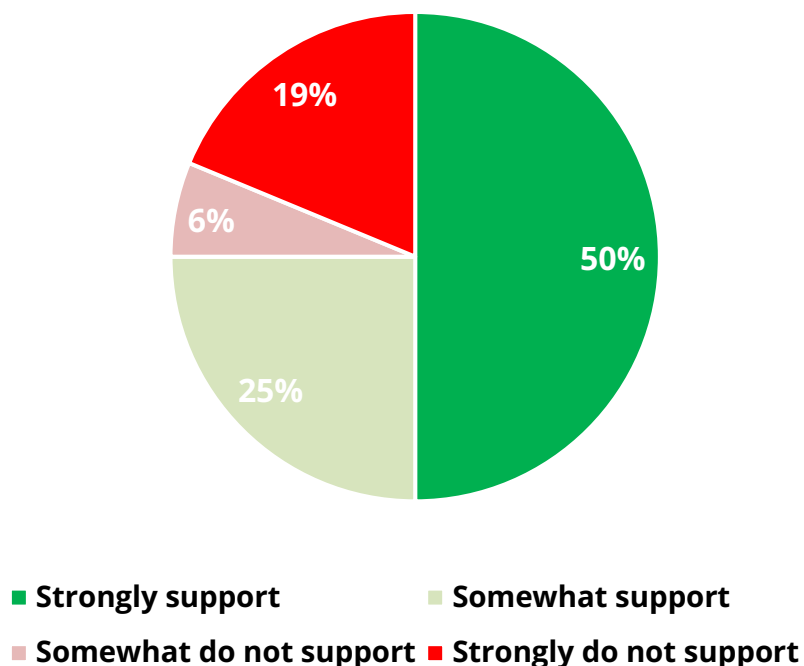
Participant responses

From the 4 identified public art themes (Storytelling, Nature and Sustainability, Inclusion and Participation and Exploration and Interactivity), which one is most important to you?



*Values represent the weighted average from submissions received

Overall support for the draft plan



Comments

Strongly support – please tell us why?

- 1 As I walk around many areas of Marion, I am constantly discovering artworks I have not seen before. Latest one is a frog made from metal bits, nuts and bolts, cutlery etc. It is nothing short of amazing and placed perfectly along the Sturt drain near Maldon Green. I had not walked along that section of path for many many years and was delighted by the discovery. Adding new artworks and maintaining those already in place keeps the City of Marion alive and interesting. Never know what you will find.
- 2 It is ambitious yet lays out a realistic path forward
- 3 Art brightens a dull day
- 4 Any plan to bring more art into our community is excellent!
- 5 It is important for the community and supports the future of Art and supports, integration, diversity, shared experiences, positivity and recognises artists and their contribution to the community. It contributes to health and wellbeing. It offers things to do for people who may be alone and feel isolated.
- 6 Well considered art has the ability to connect people and challenge perceptions, it is free and embedded into our surroundings - enriching our investment in our unique culture
- 7 Love visiting other places that have good public art - great to have some locally

Strongly do not support – please tell us why?

- 1 Certain artists seem to be favoured over others to deliver public art works. The plan is inflated Council jargon to make it look like they're doing the right thing. The quality of projects delivered needs to be looked at.
- 2 Spend ratepayer dollars more wisely

Strongly support – other comments

- 1 The sense of discovery of public art is quite magical. I approve of the plan and although ambitious - not everything may happen or targets met within given timeframes, I think as long as there is stated and budgeted ambition to continue with a program of public art of so many different kinds, especially works that can involve many members of the community, such as stobie pole art and community murals, public artworks in the city of Marion will continue to proliferate and be maintained for the benefit of the whole community, including visitors. It is so important to tell the history, celebrate diversity of nature and people, encourage understanding of the local Kaurna culture and value what we have in our city, both natural and human made.
- 2 Council should consider adopting a 'percent for art' policy for all projects within its borders over a certain amount
- 3 Well done for allocating funds to this project.
- 4 Would recommend ensuring a balanced approach between all elements, not too focused on any one area. Rather ensure balance and inspiring community. Would also suggest staying away from anything like hold fast bay's sea squirt sculpture which is disgusting.
- 5 please have more of it
- 6 Need more places and opportunities for all artists to display their work - displays in shopping centres, shops that have local artists work on their walls, sculptures anywhere and everywhere.

Somewhat support – other comments

- 1 Some of the current art on display is very good. It does get confusing where the abstracts are not identifiable. It is also mind boggling at the cost of some of the art that is chosen.
- 2 A sense of place and history give an area purpose and makes it special.

Comments

Somewhat do not support – other comments

1 The Marion RSL needs some assistance with external murals and painting.

Strongly do not support – other comments

1 I would like to see more diversity in the artist selected and higher quality artwork

Written submissions

Received 19/05/2025

Good morning,

As a Marion ratepayer I am all in favour of beautiful art and sculptures, the Marion maiden looking over the bridge, and down the well is always a talking point, the native grasses on the median strips, the street lamps along Finnis street also a nice streetscape, but sadly that abruptly stops at the corner of Finnis and Seccafien.

A lovely idea would be to have stobie poles in our local area with art work telling the Marion story complemented with native grasses on the poorly kept median strips.

Government or Council approval of dense housing in the Marion area is in my humble opinion out of control, and in the foreseeable future will create an untidy streetscape and a street parking nightmare (example George street Dwyer road)

Residents have no choice but to accept the forthcoming increase in council rates, but I hope in the near future I will see an improvement in the above mentioned.

Regards

NOTE:

As part of our transparency commitment, we have published feedback received during the consultation period. Comments that identify or refer to individual staff members have been anonymised and summarised to protect privacy and comply with workplace and privacy laws.