

# Skate Melbourne Framework Engagement – Online Survey Analysis City of Melbourne

Prepared by: Micromex Research  
Date: May 2016

# Background



**CITY OF  
MELBOURNE**

**micromex**  
research

# Methodology & Sample

## Background

City of Melbourne is conducting a two-phase community engagement program to help inform the future provision and management of skating infrastructure. Phase 1 was conducted by Council in April 2016 and involved face-to-face engagement plus an online survey.

This Report summarises the key findings of the Phase 1 online survey, and was prepared by Micromex Research.

It should be remembered that as a community engagement exercise, this was largely a self-selecting sample – so the results are not necessarily representative of the broader population.

## Data collection

The City of Melbourne developed and administered the online questionnaire.

## Data collection period

Self-complete, online interviews took place during the period 22<sup>nd</sup> March – 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

## Sample

N=505 online interviews were obtained.

A sample size of 505 provides a maximum sampling error of plus or minus 4.4% at 95% confidence. This means that if the survey was replicated with a new universe of N=500 residents, that 19 times out of 20 we would expect to see the same results, i.e. +/- 4.4%.



# Methodology & Sample

## Data analysis

The data within this report was analysed using Q Professional. Results have not been weighted as there is no known population to weight to.

All percentages are calculated to the nearest whole number and therefore the total may not exactly equal 100%.

## Reporting Conventions

As a self-completion survey, some respondents chose not to answer all questions. Thus, charts and tables are based on (i.e.: percentaged to) those who did answer each question).

Several analyses/breaks in the Report were revised/created by Micromex:

- We noted that in Q19 (What is your connection to the City of Melbourne?), a number of participants indicated they were residents – but their postcode was a long way away from the City of Melbourne. Thus, when we report Residence, it is based on respondent postcode (postcodes 3000, 3002, 3003, 3004, 3006, 3008, 3010, 3031, 3032, 3050, 3051, 3052, 3053, 3054, 3141, 3207 made up 'City of Melbourne')
- Similarly, on Q1 some participants who were obviously skaters (based on their open-ended comments) indicated they were 'impacted by skate' – so we re-coded these as skaters and have used this re-coded data.
- For each respondent, we looked at their full set of answers (in particular, their open-ended responses), and classified them as Pro, Neutral or Anti-skate. This has been used as a break.



# Key Findings



# Key Findings

## **Overview:**

The online engagement survey has been dominated by those who are pro-skate – of the 505 engagement participants, we classified:

- 11 as being anti-skate
- 27 'neutrals', and
- 467 pro-skate (including 389 skaters).

## ***The Anti-skate Perspective:***

With only 11 anti-skate participants, we can only identify diagnostic themes, without really being able to numerically evaluate them.

Those opposed to skate were noticeably different to the pro-skate participants in terms of their demographic profile – they tended to be older and reside in the City of Melbourne.

Their concerns with skating centred on the following:

- Pedestrian safety
- Damage to buildings/street furniture etc
- Noise
- Anti-social behaviour

The anti-skate participants appear to favour segregation strategies – dedicated skate areas, signage about areas/times skating is allowed, etc.



# Key Findings

## ***The Pro-skate Perspective:***

Key unifying themes for those who are pro-skate – particularly skaters themselves – include:

- A sense of community/social inclusion – dare we say tribalism – that comes from skating with others
- Access to street-scapes is important
- They seek a variety of surfaces/obstacles/challenges
- Melbourne is seen as a great city for skating. Indeed, for some there is a connection with Melbourne that seemingly goes beyond skate-able assets, and includes the beauty and atmosphere of the city.
- Self-expression/creativity/adventure derived from skating.

Looking to the future, at a strategic/framework level, those who are pro-skate are seeking 'integration' and 'inclusion' in the process. At a more functional level, they want:

- Dedicated, skate-friendly areas – but seemingly integrated within the existing urban infrastructure:
  - Areas where they can be free of stoppers/capped ledges, etc
  - Enhanced skate facilities (better designs, renovations, seating, lighting, indoor/undercover areas, etc)
- Central city locations:
  - Streetscapes are important – street plazas, street skate zones.
- Room/ability to socialise
- A safe environment (particularly for female skaters)
- Respect and tolerance from the broader community



# Findings in Detail:

## 1. Participant Profile







Sample is skewed to younger males.

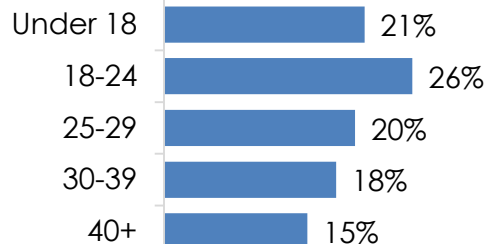
**\*\*The 'attitude towards skating' designation has been assigned by Micromex, based on a review of all question responses for each participant (particularly the open-enders) – see further details overleaf:**

# Participant Profile

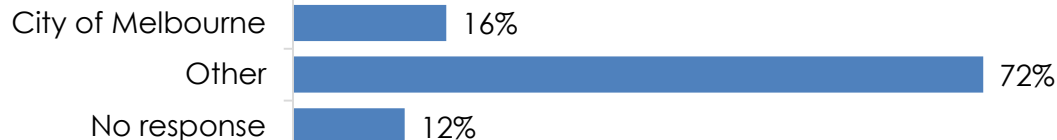
## Gender N=495



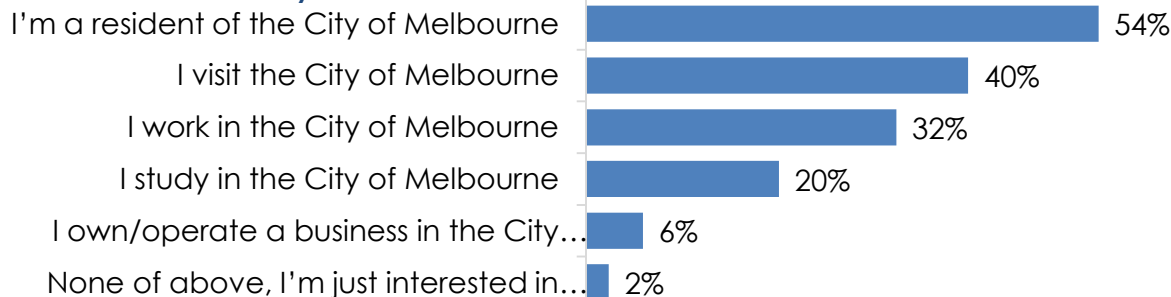
## Age N=501



## Area (based on Postcode) N=505



## Connection to the City of Melbourne N=505



## Attitude towards skating\*\* N=505



0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%



## Participant Profile

	Pro-Skate (N=467)	Neutrals (N=27*)	Anti-Skate (N=11*)
Male	82%	56%	45%
Female	15%	33%	45%
Indeterm./NR	2%	11%	9%
Under 17	22%	11%	0%
18-24	27%	22%	0%
25-29	21%	15%	0%
30-39	18%	19%	18%
40-49	7%	4%	0%
50-59	3%	15%	9%
60-69	1%	7%	36%
70+	0.5%	4%	27%
No response	0.5%	4%	9%
Live in CoM	14%	26%	91%
Live elsewhere	75%	48%	0%
No response	11%	26%	9%
Skater	83%	0%	0%
Impacted by skate	4%	15%	55%
Relationship	4%	19%	0%
Non-skater	9%	63%	45%
Other/No resp.	0.2%	4%	0%

Based on each participant's full answer set, we designated:

- 11 of the 505 participants (2%) as 'anti-skate',
- 27 participants (5%) as 'neutral', and
- 467 participants (92%) as 'pro-skate'

Given the small sample sizes for 'neutral' and 'anti', we have had to combine these groups for analysis purposes. However, a pen portrait of each cohort is provided opposite.

As can be seen, Anti-skaters and, to a lesser extent, Neutrals, have a very different demographic profile to those who are Pro-skate.

\* Caution: Small sample sizes

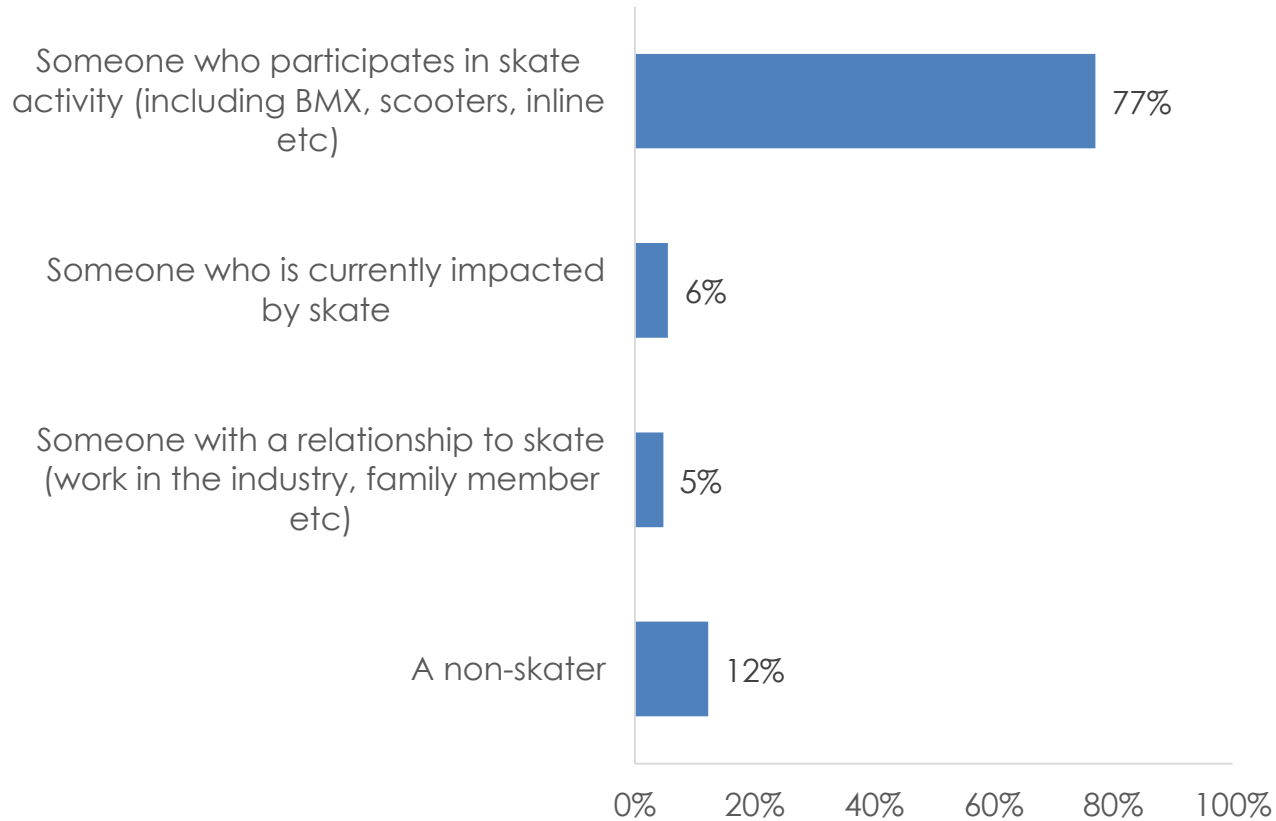
# Participant Profile – Anti-Skate

The table below provides a **sample** of open-ended comments for each of the 11 anti-skaters. Key concerns include safety/pedestrian safety, asset damage, noise and anti-social behaviour:

1	<i>Skaters should not be in areas where there is high pedestrian traffic as the risk of injury to members of the public is too high. Skaters should also not be able to use existing infrastructure that has a primary use (i.e. steps) as a skating area</i>
2	<i>I find skate activity noisy and damaging, to my mind the only suitable location is a purpose built skate park effectively lit and located so as not to disturb the neighbourhood</i>
3	<i>This activity needs to be enjoyed in dedicated skate spaces away from pedestrians and traffic. The QV site was perfect</i>
4	<i>As a CBD resident I am often confronted by skaters skating in pedestrian areas in a way that is dangerous for all concerned. There is considerable damage to public infrastructure by skaters using uneven terrain and stairs for their sport. The State library steps and green space is an example of the destruction that occurs with this inappropriate use of public green space</i>
5	<i>Skateboarding is simply not compatible with shared public spaces. The noise, the risk of collision and the all too frequent anti-social behaviour of skateboarders is not conducive to a pleasant public space</i>
6	<i>Lincoln Square has become a favourite skate area. It is an area that pedestrians use and thus it becomes an unsafe thoroughfare. The park area around the fountain has lost its amenity value as a restorative garden space</i>
7	<i>As a pedestrian there are enough hazards and generally poor footpaths without adding skating. This activity has the potential to severely injure other people especially elderly people who could break bones. Skaters pay no attention to the safety of others and should not be skating in pedestrian areas. The footpath area in front of the State Library is a prime example of skaters endangering pedestrians</i>
8	<i>I enjoy parks and plazas for the purpose they were built. What I find particularly annoying is having to clear a path for a skate boarder while I am simply going about my business; I am annoyed at having my peace and relaxation at parks, particularly Lincoln Square Carlton, ruined by skateboarders constantly weaving in and around; I am annoyed at the damage skateboarders cause to park architecture; I am annoyed at skateboarders in streets where their activity constantly puts pedestrians at risk of injury.</i>
9	<i>many of these skateboarders think they are above the law. they destroy the amenities and parks, binge drinks then get abusive if you walk through "their skate area" they should have dedicated places only and when on the roads ( not footpaths) be forced to wear helmets same as bicycles. Look at what they did to Lincoln square and the Bali memorial. when pointed out to them " who gives a &gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt; they are dead anyway</i>
10	<i>Stop destruction of public assets. Take skaters away from unsuitable areas (e.g. next to apartment blocks)</i>
11	<i>Skateboarding can very disruptive of public space and the tranquillity of scarce inner urban parkland. Boarders seem insensitive to public impacts, safety and property damage</i>

# Skate Profile

Q1 (Recoded). I am answering this survey as (Micromex re-coded some of these responses)...



Base: N = 505



**Just over three quarters of the sample (77%) were skaters.**  
**The ‘currently impacted by skate’ segment is a mixed group – of the 28 participants in this group, 6 are ‘anti skate’. 4 are ‘neutral’ and 18 are ‘pro skate’.**

# Skate Profile

Q1 (Recoded). I am answering this survey as (Micromex re-coded some of these responses)...

	Age Group					Gender identity		Residence			Attitude towards skating	
	Under 18	18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Male	Female	City of Melb.	Other	No resp.	Pro	Neutral + Anti
	N=106	N=130	N=101	N=91	N=73	N=404	N=86	N=81	N=365	N=59	N=467	N=38
Someone who participates in skate activity (including BMX, scooters, inline etc)	93%▲	84%	78%	74%	45%▼	85%▲	44%▼	43%▼	86%▲	69%	83%▲	0%▼
Someone who is currently impacted by skate	3%	6%	3%	4%	12%▲	4%	8%	17%▲	2%▼	8%	4%▼	26%▲
Someone with a relationship to skate (work in the industry, family member etc)	2%	4%	4%	5%	10%▲	3%▼	10%▲	5%	5%	5%	4%▼	13%▲
A non-skater	2%▼	5%▼	15%	16%	32%▲	7%▼	35%▲	32%▲	7%▼	17%	9%▼	58%▲
Other	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%▼	2%▲	2%▲	0%▼	0%	0%▼	3%▲

▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower level



Those living outside the City of Melbourne are overwhelmingly ‘skaters’, whilst the City of Melbourne residents tend to be more a mix of skaters and non-skaters.

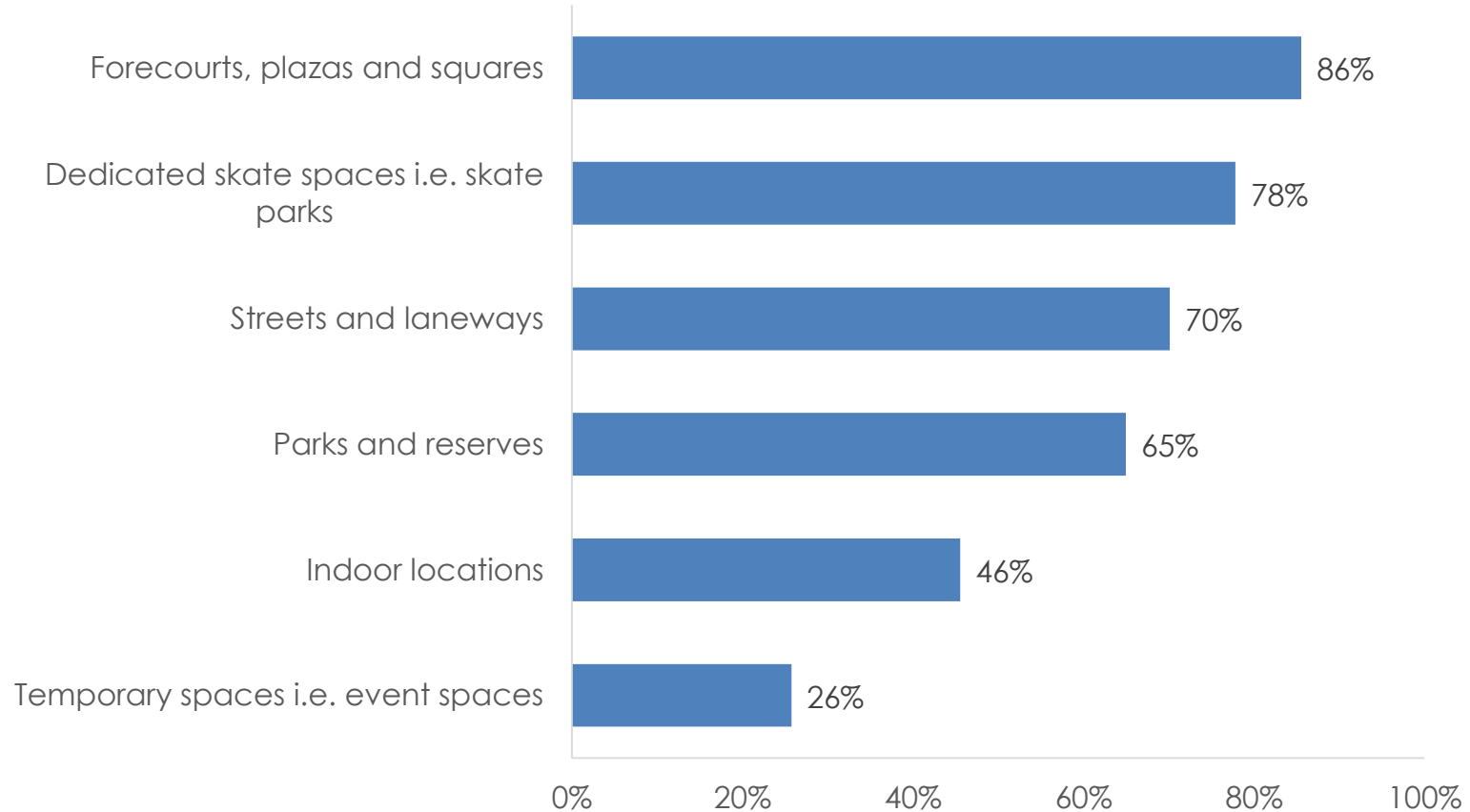
# Findings in Detail:

## 2. Suitability of Public Spaces



# Suitable Public Spaces for Skate Activity

Q2. Choose four of the following types of public spaces that you think are most suitable for skate activity



Base: N = 505

**‘Forecourts, plazas and squares’ were the most frequently selected suitable spaces, followed by ‘dedicated skate spaces’. Whilst the question prompted for multi responses, participants did not have to give more than one option. So it is potentially encouraging that there appear to be multiple options (see overleaf) – although we don’t have a sense of commitment to each.**

# Suitable Public Spaces for Skate Activity

Q2. Choose four of the following types of public spaces that you think are most suitable for skate activity

	Parks and reserves	Forecourts, plazas and squares	Streets and laneways	Temporary spaces i.e. event spaces	Indoor locations	Dedicated skate spaces i.e. skate parks
Column %	N=328	N=432	N=354	N=130	N=230	N=393
Parks and reserves	100%	66%	67%	64%	61%	67%
Forecourts, plazas and squares	87%	100%	89%	77%	80%	83%
Streets and laneways	72%	73%	100%	68%	67%	68%
Temporary spaces i.e. event spaces	25%	23%	25%	100%	30%	26%
Indoor locations	43%	42%	43%	53%	100%	47%
Dedicated skate spaces i.e. skate parks	81%	76%	76%	78%	80%	100%

▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower level

The above analysis crosses Q2 by itself, allowing us to identify potential combinations of venues suitable for skate activity. For instance, of those who selected ‘Forecourts, plazas and squares’, 76% also indicated that ‘Dedicated skate parks’ would be suitable, 73% mentioned ‘Streets and laneways’, and 66% mentioned ‘Parks and reserves’



# Suitable Public Spaces for Skate Activity

Q2. Choose four of the following types of public spaces that you think are most suitable for skate activity

	Type				Residence			Attitude towards skating	
	Skaters	Skate related	Total skate	Non skaters	City of Melbourne	Other	No response	Pro	Neutral + Anti
	N=389	N=52	N=441	N=62	N=81	N=365	N=59	N=467	N=38
Forecourts, plazas and squares	89%	75%	87%	73%	72%▼	88%▲	88%	88%▲	53%▼
Dedicated skate spaces i.e. skate parks	76%	77%	76%	92%	77%	78%	81%	76%▼	97%▲
Streets and laneways	73%	65%	72%	58%	63%	71%	75%	72%▲	42%▼
Parks and reserves	67%	60%	66%	60%	60%	65%	68%	66%	50%
Indoor locations	48%	48%	48%	29%	49%	46%	39%	46%	39%
Temporary spaces i.e. event spaces	20%	37%	22%	50%	41%▲	22%▼	31%	24%▼	53%▲

▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower level

Skaters and those Pro-Skate favoured 'forecourts, plazas and squares', 'dedicated skate spaces', and 'streets and laneways'. In contrast, the 'Neutral/Anti-skate' cohort were significantly less likely to say 'Forecourts, plazas and squares' and 'streets and laneways' were suitable – they favoured 'dedicated skate spaces'.

# Enjoyable Elements of Public Spaces Mentioned

Q3. What elements do you enjoy most about those public spaces? Are there any other areas of the municipality that you think could be suitable for skate activity?

The following three slides summarise the open-ended responses about why participants mentioned the public spaces that they did:

- The first is a simple word cloud, that highlights some of the key words that were mentioned.
- The second slide shows the main codes that were created from the verbatim comments (a full list is provided in Appendix A). Main themes that emerged when asked about the locations they felt were suitable included 'social inclusion', 'variety of surfaces/obstacles', and 'expression/adventure'.

A range of specific locations were also mentioned, including train stations, beaches, rivers, forecourts, etc.

Not surprisingly, there were considerable differences between Pro-skate and Neutral/Anti-skate participants – with the latter focussing on finding areas just for skaters and safety for pedestrians.

- The third slide shows only the seven most frequently mentioned comments, cross analysed by the public spaces mentioned. Given that most participants gave multiple public spaces, it is not surprising that there are few significant differences in reasons given by spaces.



# Enjoyable Elements of Public Spaces Mentioned

*What elements do you enjoy most about those public spaces? Are there any other areas of the municipality that you think could be suitable for skate activity?*



A word cloud featuring the following terms: fun, activity, obstacles, community, parks, smooth, creativity, ledges, and plazas. The words are arranged in a cluster, with 'community' and 'parks' being the largest and most prominent.



This word cloud highlights some of the key words that emerged from the verbatim comments.

# Enjoyable Elements of Public Spaces Mentioned

Q3. What elements do you enjoy most about those public spaces? Are there any other areas of the municipality that you think could be suitable for skate activity?

	Feeling towards skating		
	Pro N=394	Neutral + Anti N=21	Total N=415
A social way to meet up with friends without being in a skate park/Helps to engage with the broader community/sense of community/sense of belonging/healthy social activity, e.g. no drug use/Bringing different cultures together	25%	14%	24%
Great places for skating are places such as, Flinders Street station, St Kilda Beach, around the Myer, Docklands, beach promenades, Lincoln Square, Along the Yarra, State Library, Swanston Street, Museum forecourt, streets and laneways, Forecourt, Plazas	18%	24%	18%
Variety of things to skate on/The availability of obstacles, e.g. 1 foot and 2 foot curbs and transition pyramid and humps, manual pads, stairs and flat banks, bowls, vert ramps, pools, stop capping, rails, granite ledges with no metal edging	17%	0%	16%
Being creative with the streetscape and architecture/It is rewarding skating different areas/sense of adventure/Can express yourself/Adapt to surroundings	16%	5%	15%
A place where skaters can practice and skate without being asked to leave/Somewhere skaters won't be harassed/Do not bother or annoy the general public/A quiet space dedicated for skating specifically/Area to practice/Area just for skating, e.g. no Bikes	9% ▼	33% ▲	10%
Availability of smooth flat areas for skating	10%	0%	10%
Helps to spread awareness that skateboarding is not a anti-social or reckless activity/Recognise Melbourne's skate scene/Brings Buzz and vibe to the City/Skater style and fashion introduced to the City	10%	10%	10%
Different environment to the skate park/Plants and wildlife/Better atmosphere skating in the City/Want to skate in places that look and feel natural	9%	5%	9%
A lot of space for skating	8%	5%	8%
Promotes outdoor activity/Good to be in an outdoor area	6%	10%	6%
Exploring different areas/I enjoy skating/Skating is fun	6%	0%	6%
Good access to public areas/Public transport access	6%	0%	6%
Access to watch skaters, even if you are not participating	6%	0%	5%
Finding a challenge when skating/pushing boundaries/finding things that are not allowed to be skated on or are not designed for skating/Keeps skating fresh/Versatility for skating	5%	0%	5%
Safety for people skating avoiding obstruction/safe for pedestrians with a designated skater area	4%	14%	4%
The freedom of skating in these areas	4%	0%	4%

# Enjoyable Elements of Public Spaces Mentioned

Q3. What elements do you enjoy most about those public spaces? Are there any other areas of the municipality that you think could be suitable for skate activity?

	Parks and reserves N=275	Forecourts, plazas and squares N=357	Streets and laneways N=292	Temporary spaces N=111	Indoor locations N=186	Dedicated skate spaces N=320	Total N=415
A social way to meet up with friends without being in a skate park/Helps to engage with the broader community/sense of community/sense of belonging/healthy social activity, e.g. no drug use/Bringing different cultures together	27%	26%	23%	23%	25%	26%	24%
Great places for skating are places such as, Flinders Street station, St Kilda Beach, around the Myer, Docklands, beach promenades, Lincoln Square, Along the Yarra, State Library, Swanston Street, Museum forecourt, streets and laneways, Forecourt, Plazas	19%	18%	18%	20%	18%	16%	18%
Variety of things to skate on/The availability of obstacles, e.g. 1 foot and 2 foot curbs and transition pyramid and humps, manual pads, stairs and flat banks, bowls, vert ramps, pools, stop capping, rails, granite ledges with no metal edging	16%	16%	16%	12%	18%	15%	16%
Being creative with the streetscape and architecture/It is rewarding skating different areas/sense of adventure/Can express yourself/Adapt to surroundings	15%	17%	18%	9%	15%	14%	15%
A place where skaters can practice and skate without being asked to leave/Somewhere skaters won't be harassed/Do not bother or annoy the general public/A quiet space dedicated for skating specifically/Area to practice/Area just for skating, e.g. no Bikes	7%	7% ▼	8%	13%	15% ▲	12%	10%
Availability of smooth flat areas for skating	8%	9%	11%	8%	15% ▲	8%	10%
Helps to spread awareness that skateboarding is not a anti-social or reckless activity/Recognise Melbourne's skate scene/Brings Buzz and vibe to the City/Skater style and fashion introduced to the City	12%	11%	10%	12%	8%	9%	10%

▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower level

**Few significant differences in open-ended responses by public spaces mentioned – although the 'space dedicated to skaters' response was significantly more likely to be mentioned for 'indoor locations' and significantly less likely to be mentioned for 'forecourts, plazas and squares'.**

# Sharing/Managing Use of Public Spaces

Q4. Some of the public spaces listed above can be spaces shared with pedestrians, businesses, vehicles and other uses or activities in the same place, at the same time. How can we improve the way these spaces are shared and managed?



When asked about sharing/managing use of public spaces, main themes to emerge based on the word cloud included 'respect', 'dedicated/designated areas/times', and 'design elements'. The coded responses overleaf provide more detail.

# Sharing/Managing Use of Public Spaces

Q4. Some of the public spaces listed above can be spaces shared with pedestrians, businesses, vehicles and other uses or activities in the same place, at the same time. How can we improve the way these spaces are shared and managed?

	Feeling towards skating		
	Pro N=369	Neutral + Anti N=20	Total N=389
Dedicate, and clearly identify, areas for skating	20%	40%	21%
Implement more signage related to skating, e.g. Skating times, shared areas, rules	18%	30%	19%
Allow skaters to share pathways/have their own lane	12%	5%	11%
Better infrastructure surrounding skate areas, e.g. Foot paths leading around skating areas, more seating, better lighting, more fencing/barriers	9%	0%	9%
Improve skate park designs/renovations	8%	10%	8%
Encourage mutual respect between the community and skaters	8%	0%	7%
Rules and designated times for skating	7%	0%	7%
No change needed	5%	5%	5%
Better education regarding skating, e.g. Safety, shared areas, skate etiquette	4%	5%	4%
Allow more shared areas within the city	4%	0%	4%
More bins around skating areas	2%	0%	2%
More consultation with skaters/skater companies in the design/planning process of skating related spaces	2%	0%	2%
Avoid the use of skate stoppers	2%	0%	2%
Create and enforce rules/regulations for skaters, and pedestrians around shared areas	2%	0%	2%
Encourage a greater acceptance of skating within the community	2%	0%	2%
Lower skating in certain areas, e.g. Make rough pathways, remove obstacles that could be skated on	1%	5%	2%
Create new areas for skating, similar to Lincoln Park	1%	0%	1%
Widen footpaths	1%	0%	1%
Enforce safety precautions for both skaters and the public	1%	0%	1%
Remove skaters from high traffic areas	0% ▼	10% ▲	1%
Other	8%	15%	8%

▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower level

Those who were Neutral and Anti-skate tended to focus on segregation strategies (dedicated areas, signage about areas/times/etc). Those Pro-skate provided more diversity and richness in their responses – they too discussed segregation – but also greater respect/tolerance and improved skate facilities/urban designs.

# Findings in Detail:

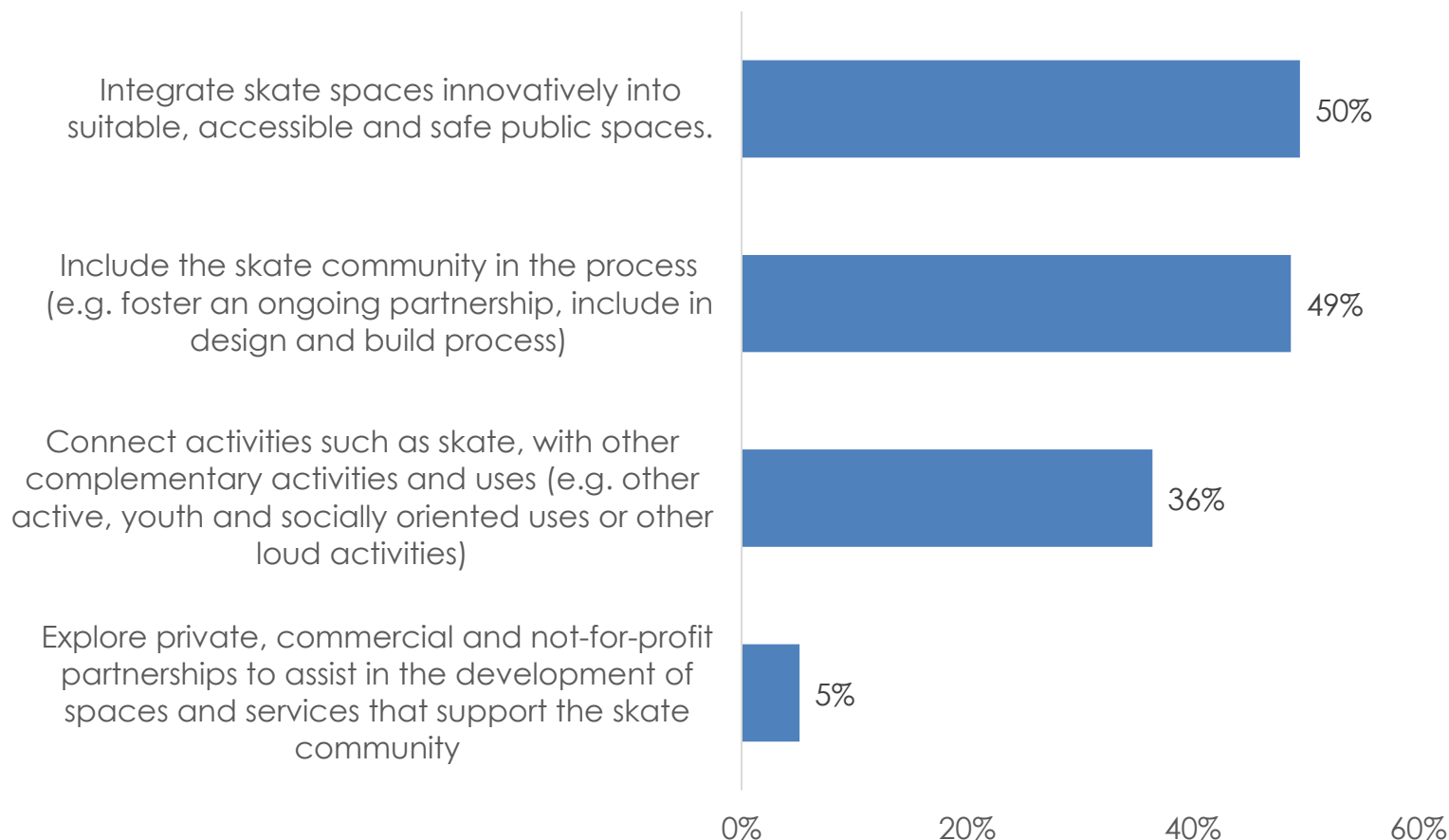
## 3. Key Guiding Principles





# Key Principles That May Guide the Future of Skate

Q5. Using past research and case studies we have identified some key principles that may guide the future of skate in the City of Melbourne. Choose which ones you think are important.



Base: N = 505

**'Integration' and 'inclusiveness' were the two key themes selected by participants – although they have little or no interest in the commercial realities of any new strategies.**

**Having a highest score of 50% on a multi-response question seems low – however, this may reflect the more theoretical/esoteric nature of these principles (compared to say the more practical/functional elements discussed later in Q's 15 and 16).**

# Key Principles That May Guide The Future of Skate

Q5. Using past research and case studies we have identified some key principles that may guide the future of skate in the City of Melbourne. Choose which ones you think are important.

	Type				Residence			Attitude towards skating	
	Skaters N=389	Skate related N=52	Total skate N=441	Non skaters N=62	City of Melb. N=81	Other N=365	No response N=59	Pro N=467	Neutral + Anti N=38
Connect activities such as skate, with other complementary activities and uses (e.g. other active, youth and socially oriented uses or other loud activities)	34%	29%	34%	55%	44%	36%	29%	36%	45%
Include the skate community in the process (e.g. foster an ongoing partnership, include in design and build process)	50%	46%	50%	40%	35%	51%	54%	50%	32%
Integrate skate spaces innovatively into suitable, accessible and safe public spaces.	52%	44%	51%	35%	41%	53%	41%	50%	39%
Explore private, commercial and not-for-profit partnerships to assist in the development of spaces and services that support the skate community	5%	10%	6%	2%	10%	4%	3%	5%	8%

▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower level

Following on from the previous slide, both skaters and those Pro-skate were more supportive of the 'integration' and 'inclusiveness' themes – although their scores are only in the 50-52% band.

# Key Principles That May Guide The Future of Skate

Q5. Using past research and case studies we have identified some key principles that may guide the future of skate in the City of Melbourne. Choose which ones you think are important.

	Connect activities such as skate, with other complementary activities and uses N=184	Include the skate community in the process N=246	Integrate skate spaces innovatively into suitable, accessible and safe public spaces. N=250	Explore private, commercial and not-for-profit partnerships to assist in the development N=26*
Connect activities such as skate, with other complementary activities and uses (e.g. other active, youth and socially oriented uses or other loud activities)	100%	0%	3%	0%
Include the skate community in the process (e.g. foster an ongoing partnership, include in design and build process)	0%	100%	76%	0%
Integrate skate spaces innovatively into suitable, accessible and safe public spaces.	4%	77%	100%	62%
Explore private, commercial and not-for-profit partnerships to assist in the development of spaces and services that support the skate community	0%	0%	6%	100%

The above table cross-analyses Q5 by itself, to see the connections between principles. The strongest alignment is between the 'integration' and 'inclusiveness' themes – and although not shown above, 39% of those who answered this question selected both these principles.

\* Caution: Small sample size

# Key Principles That May Guide The Future of Skate

Q6. Please explain your answers. Is there anything we've missed?

* Caution: Small sample size	Connect skate activities with other activities N=94	Include the skate community in the process N=148	Integrate skate spaces innovatively N=145	Explore private, commercial partnerships N=11*	Total N=272
Including the skating community will ensure they are on board with decisions that are being made	28%	49% ▲	42%	0%	38%
Integrate skate space into public space/Allow skaters to use public spaces	17%	17%	17%	18%	17%
Ensure skate space is designed like street space, and not like current skate parks/make sure it is an area skaters will want to skate	5%	9%	10%	9%	8%
All of the listed principles are important to guide the future of skate	17% ▲	4%	4%	9%	8%
Fix the negative stigma towards skating/Create a space to encourage more people to skate	6%	5%	7%	9%	6%
Nothing missed	5%	5%	6%	18%	6%
Publicise skating with competitions, events, workshops, group skating, and featuring skaters in community events	12% ▲	1%	0% ▼	0%	5%
Good integration is necessary to ensure the safety of all users in skate space	2%	5%	5%	0%	4%
Consider all ages, genders and types of skaters when it comes to skate parks/areas	6%	2%	1%	0%	3%
Unhappy with the removal of Lincoln Square	1%	4%	4%	9%	3%
Create more indoor and outdoor parks within the city in central locations	3%	3%	3%	0%	3%
Create a designated area for skating	4%	1%	1%	0%	2%
Integrate well to ensure no problems/disagreements between skaters and non skaters	2%	2%	2%	0%	2%

**Not surprisingly, main open-ended reasons focussed on the core themes of 'inclusion' and 'integration' (only codes mentioned by 2% or more of respondents are included above – see Appendix A for more details). There was also mention that the skate space should be like street spaces. 3% specifically mentioned they were unhappy with the removal of Lincoln Square.**

# Suggested Improvements

Q7: What is the one thing you would do to improve skating in Melbourne?

	Feeling towards skating		
	Pro N=365	Neutral + Anti N=16*	Total N=381
* Caution: Small sample size			
New or better skate dedicated and skate friendly areas, e.g. Skate plaza, skate park, etc.	26%	31%	26%
Council should focus on the good of skating/Advertise Melbourne as a skate friendly area/Incorporate skating competitions/Engage the community/Raise awareness of skating/Council to stop looking down on skaters and skating	13%	0%	13%
Remove things in the city that prevent skating, e.g. skate stoppers, sponge, buttons, 'no skating' signs	13%	6%	13%
Bring back Lincoln square/Create a space to replace Lincoln Square	10%	0%	10%
Create areas that can be shared with other sports and the general public	7%	6%	7%
Consultation with skaters to create usable skate areas	3%	0%	3%
segregated/wider/better access to bike paths and footpaths	3%	0%	3%
Better access to/better maintenance of roads for skating/make street areas more skate-able	3%	0%	3%
More indoor or undercover areas for skating for cold or wet weather	3%	0%	3%
Change the current legislation toward skating/Allow skating in public places	2%	0%	2%
Addressing the negative stigma associated with skaters and improve skater behaviour	2%	0%	2%
Create a space in an accessible area	2%	0%	2%
Ensure skate spaces have sufficient lighting so people can skate at all times of the day/Good lighting so shadowing does not occur	2%	0%	2%
A 'bowl' required in the City Centre	2%	0%	2%
Allow access to street skating, e.g. open air shopping areas to be accessible to skaters after business hours	2%	0%	2%
A skate area that doesn't interfere with pedestrians	1%	6%	2%
A skate area incorporating city features, such as low benches, long benches, stair sets, garden gaps, handrails and raised pads, with smooth concrete	2%	0%	2%
make a park aesthetically pleasing/Create good design aspects for skating	1%	6%	2%

**Only 381 of the 505 participants choose to answer the suggested improvements question (only codes mentioned by 2% or more of respondents are included above – see Appendix A for more details). Those Pro-skate want more/better skate facilities and a more favourable attitude towards skating from Council. 10% specifically mentioned the demise of Lincoln Square.**

# Other Comments

Q8. Do you have any further comments to make about skate in the City of Melbourne?

	Feeling towards skating		
	Pro N=219	Neutral + Anti N=11*	Total N=230
* Caution, small sample size			
Melbourne is a great city for skating, I enjoy skating in this city	21%	0%	20%
Do not approve of the removal of Lincoln Square	16%	0%	15%
Happy that City of Melbourne are engaging the skate community	12%	27%	13%
Open more skate parks/designated areas for skating	8%	9%	8%
No comment	7%	0%	7%
Promote skating in the community, e.g. Hold events, advertise, attract skaters world-wide	6%	9%	7%
Greater acceptance of skate culture is needed/Embrace the culture of skating	6%	0%	6%
Further support for skateboarding is needed from Council and the community	5%	0%	5%
Skating has many health benefits	4%	9%	4%
New and/or improved skate-related infrastructure is required	4%	0%	4%
Consult with skaters regarding future skating-related topics	4%	0%	4%
Build more street skate spaces	4%	0%	3%
Integrate skating into the city/Create more shared zones	3%	0%	3%
Unhappy with skaters/skating in my area (too much noise, vandalism, destruction, riding in busy areas)	0%	45%	3%
Stop allowing the wealthy/more vocal members of the community to dictate how public spaces should be used	2%	0%	2%
Skaters should be able to use bike lanes/have the same treatment as bikes	2%	0%	2%
Poor behaviour of a minority of skaters needs to change	2%	0%	2%
Remove skate stoppers	2%	0%	2%
Drug/alcohol issues need to be addressed	2%	0%	2%

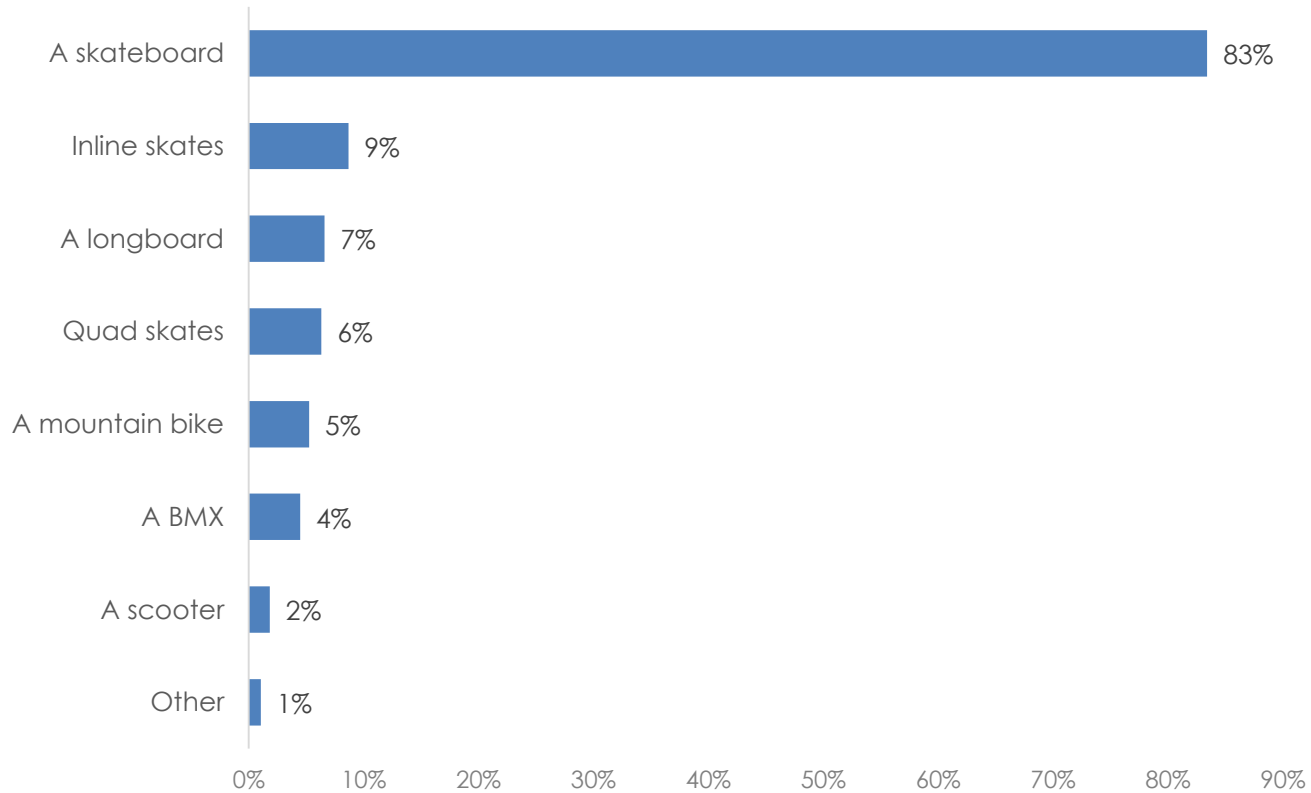
# Findings in Detail:

## 4. Profiling Skaters

This section reports on a number of metrics that were only asked of Skaters.

# Method of Skating

Q9. I ride/use...



Base: N = 380

**The sample of skaters was overwhelmingly dominated by boarders/inline skaters, with those using bikes/scooters representing about one in ten.**



# Method of Skating

Q9: I ride/use...

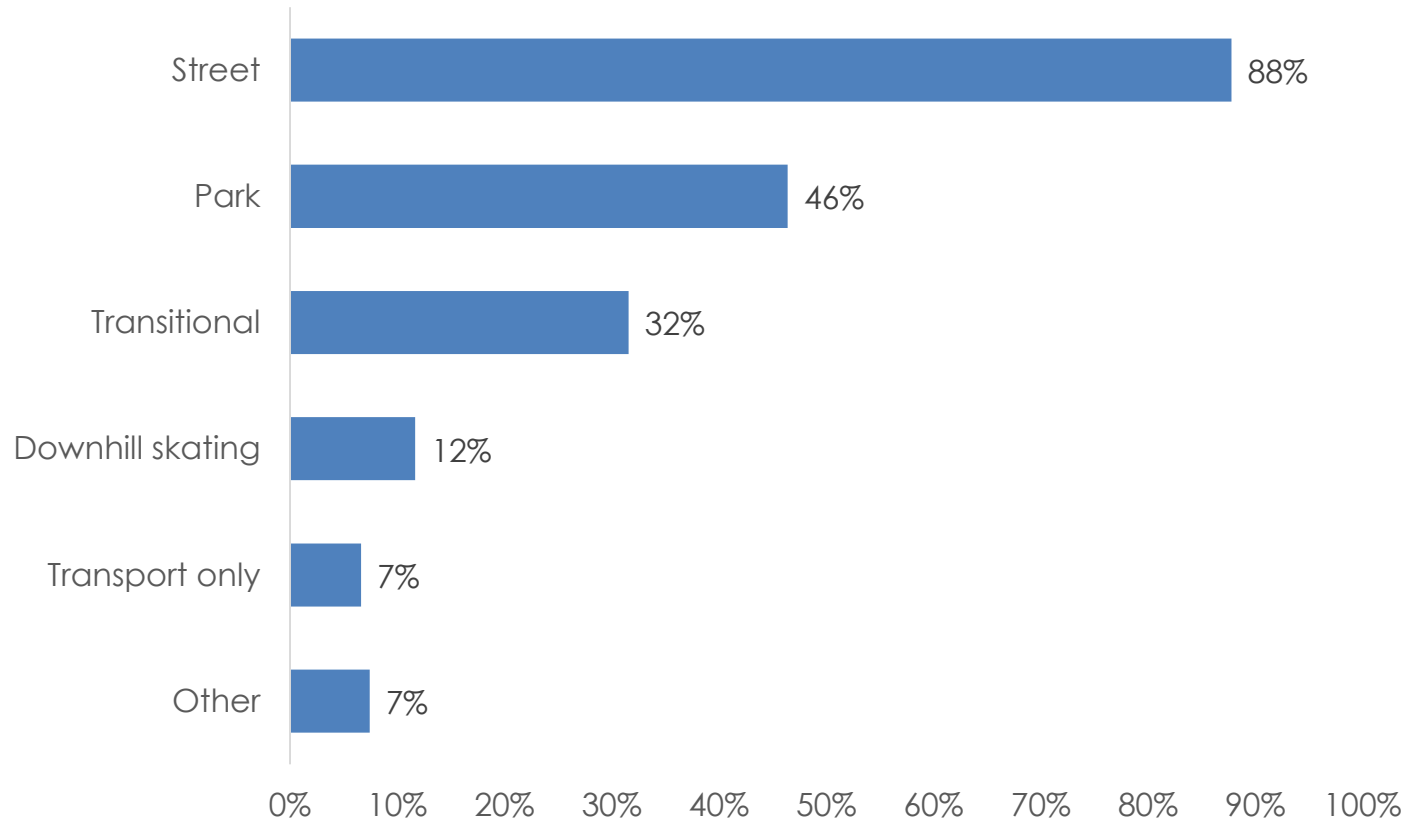
		Age Group					Gender identity		Residence		
	Total Skaters	Under 18	18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Male	Female	City of Melb.	Other	No response
	N=380	N=98	N=109	N=78	N=63	N=31	N=339	N=35	N=35	N=306	N=39
A skateboard	83%	93%▲	88%	87%	71%▼	55%▼	91%▲	14%▼	89%	83%	82%
Inline skates	9%	2%▼	8%	4%	19%▲	19%	6%▼	31%▲	6%	9%	10%
A longboard	7%	5%	7%	3%	10%	13%	6%	9%	6%	7%	5%
Quad skates	6%	0%▼	2%	9%	11%	26%▲	1%▼	60%▲	3%	7%	5%
A mountain bike	5%	6%	2%	4%	10%	10%	5%	9%	6%	5%	5%
A BMX	4%	10%▲	4%	1%	2%	3%	5%	0%	3%	4%	10%
A scooter	2%	5%▲	1%	0%	0%	3%	2%	3%	0%	2%	0%
Other	1%	0%	0%	3%	3%	0%	1%	0%	3%	1%	3%

▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower level

Skates appear to be preferred by older skaters and females, while boards are preferred by males and younger skaters.

# Skate Style

Q10. My favourite styles of skate/BMX/inline are



Base: N = 377

Only a handful of participants skate for transport – for the vast majority, it is a form of recreation.

# Skate Style

Q10. My favourite styles of skate/BMX/inline are

		Age Group					Gender identity		Residence		
	Total Skaters	Under 18	18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Male	Female	City of Melb	Other	No response
	N=377	N=98	N=109	N=77	N=62	N=31	N=338	N=34	N=35	N=304	N=38
Street	88%	95%	90%	87%	84%	68%▼	89%▲	71%▼	86%	87%	95%
Park	46%	43%	38%	43%	61%	68%	47%	44%	40%	48%	37%
Transitional	32%	24%	37%	26%	34%	45%	34%	12%	23%	35%	16%
Downhill skating	12%	7%	15%	9%	13%	19%	12%	9%	6%	13%	5%
Transport only	7%	2%	6%	10%	6%	13%	7%	9%	14%	7%	0%
Other	7%	2%	8%	8%	3%	29%▲	5%▼	29%▲	9%	7%	8%

▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower level

‘Street’ was less preferred by females and older skaters.

# Method of Skating and Skate Style

Q9. I ride/use...

Q10. My favourite styles of skate/BMX/inline are

	Street	Park	Transitional	Downhill skating	Transport only	Other
Column %	N=331	N=175	N=119	N=44	N=25*	N=28*
A skateboard	87%▲	82%	91%▲	80%	60%▼	39%
Inline skates	8%	9%	8%	9%	28%▲	25%
A longboard	5%▼	6%	9%	43%▲	24%▲	18%
Quad skates	5%	6%	2%	5%	4%	39%
A mountain bike	5%	6%	8%	9%	12%	21%
A BMX	4%	7%	4%	7%	4%	4%
A scooter	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Other	1%	1%	3%	0%	8%▲	0%

\* Caution, small sample sizes

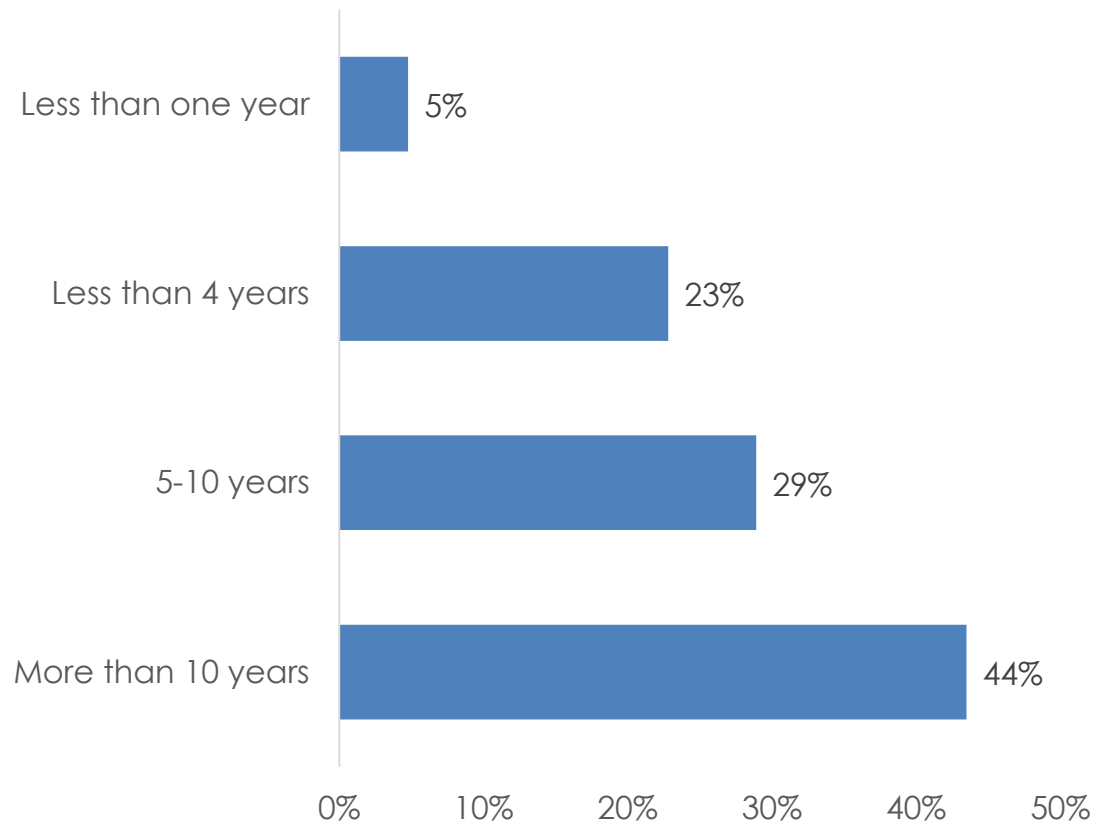
▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower level



**Skateboards dominated most styles – although for ‘downhill’ and ‘transport’ long-boards were also popular.**

# Years Skated

Q11. How many years have you been skating for?



Base: N = 377

**Almost three quarter of skaters (73%) had been skating for five or more years.**



# Years Skated

Q11. How many years have you been skating for?

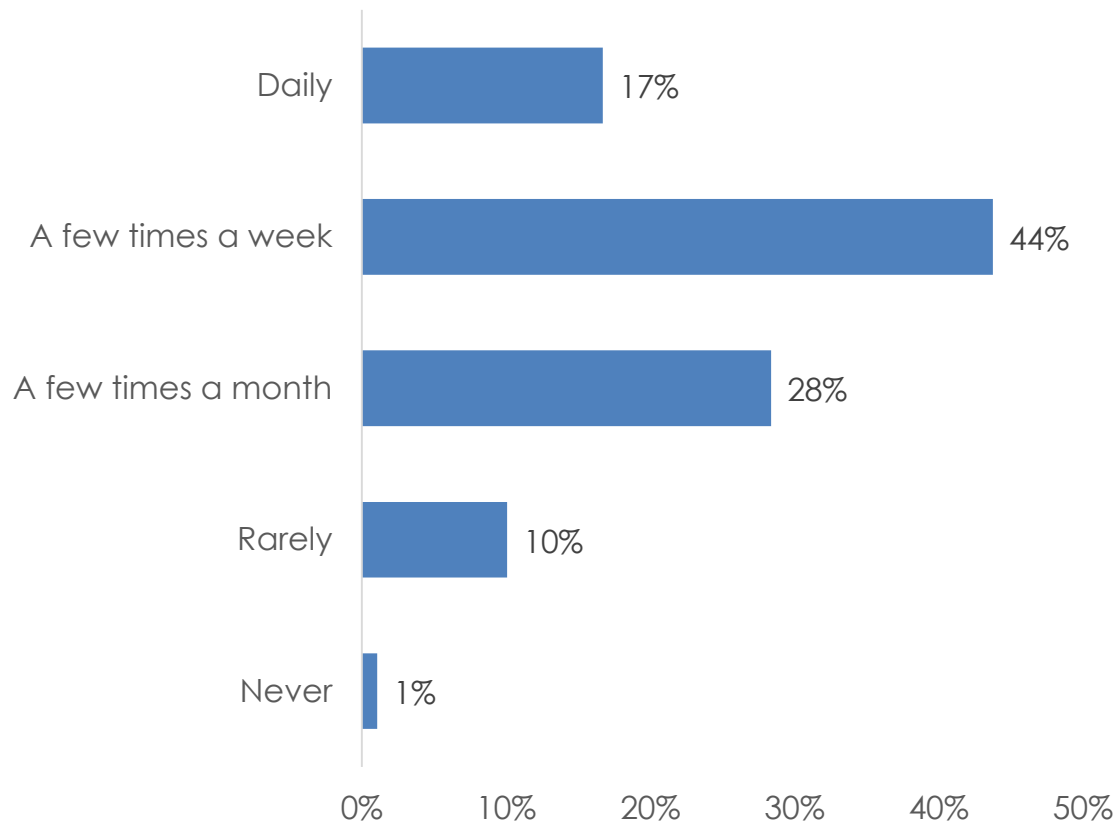
		Age Group					Gender identity		Residence		
	Total Skaters	Under 18	18-24	25-29	30-39	40 or over	Male	Female	City of Melb	Other	No response
	N=377	N=98	N=108	N=78	N=63	N=30	N=337	N=35	N=34	N=305	N=38
Less than one year	5%	9%	5%	1%	3%	3%	4%	9%	3%	5%	3%
Less than 4 years	23%	56%▲	18%	8%▼	5%▼	10%	22%	31%	15%	25%	13%
5-10 years	29%	35%	48%▲	18%	13%▼	3%▼	31%	17%	35%	27%	42%
More than 10 years	44%	0%▼	30%▼	73%▲	79%▲	83%▲	44%	43%	47%	43%	42%

▲ ▼ = A significantly higher/lower level

Pattern of years skated by age is as expected.

# Frequency of Skating

Q12. How often do you skate within the City of Melbourne?



Base: N = 377

**61% of participants claim to skate in the City at least weekly.**



# Frequency of Skating

Q12. How often do you skate within the City of Melbourne?

		Age Group					Gender identity		Residence		
	Total Skaters	Under 18	18-24	25-29	30-39	40 or over	Male	Female	City of Melb	Other	No response
	N=377	N=97	N=108	N=78	N=63	N=31	N=337	N=35	N=34	N=305	N=38
Daily	17%	18%	24%	18%	8%	3%	18%	6%	44%▲	14%▼	16%
A few times a week	44%	47%	41%	51%	41%	29%	44%	43%	44%	45%	37%
A few times a month	28%	28%	25%	24%	40%	29%	27%	43%	6%▼	30%	39%
Rarely	10%	6%	9%	5%	11%	35%▲	10%	9%	3%	11%	8%
Never	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	3%	1%	0%	3%	1%	0%



Perhaps not surprisingly, skaters who live in the City of Melbourne have a significantly higher skating frequency.



# What's Enjoyable about Skating in City of Melbourne

Q13. What do you enjoy about skating in the City of Melbourne?

	Total Skaters N=303
Great meeting spot for people around the area/Meet other skaters/sense of community	33%
Great obstacles and skating areas around the city/Great skating areas with smooth ground/Blue stone pathways, marble, modern architecture/Good paths for skating	22%
A lot of skating areas/Dynamic skating areas/Great spots to skate	20%
The city atmosphere	18%
Skate places are in close proximity to each other to move around/Areas are easy to access by transport/Convenient area	12%
Beautiful scenery around the Melbourne area	11%
Melbourne has iconic skating areas/Skating in one of the best cities of the world/Melbourne is a great city	7%
Great skating culture in the Melbourne City/People in the city have a culture of acceptance towards skaters	6%
See new places in the city	5%
Skating in Melbourne is fun/I love skating in Melbourne/The rush of street skating	4%
The challenge skating parts of the city/being creative in skating parts of the City	3%
Access to different things, such as retail outlets, food stores, free water fountains	3%
Being fit, active and healthy	3%
The freedom of skating in the City	3%
Great bike lanes and footpaths that can be used for skating	2%
It has places like Lincoln Square which is great for skating	2%
The safety of skating in the city	2%

**Main drivers of enjoyment include 'sense of belonging/community', 'good mix of skate areas/proximity of skate areas', and the 'atmosphere/beauty of Melbourne'. The comments suggest that for some skaters, there is a connection with Melbourne that goes beyond the simple availability of skate-worthy assets (only codes mentioned by 2% or more of respondents are included above – see Appendix A for more details).**

# What's Not Enjoyable about Skating in City of Melbourne

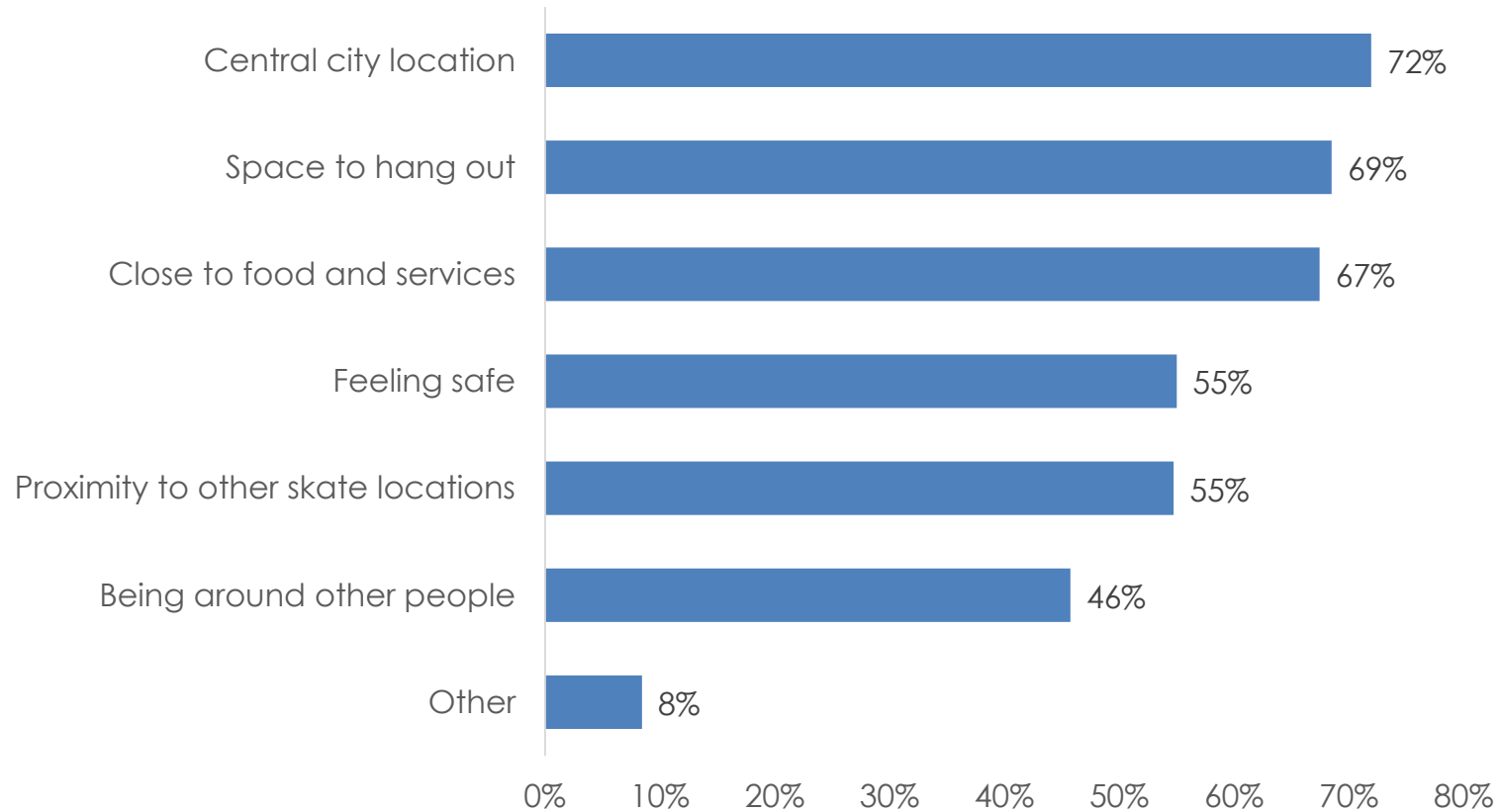
Q14. What do you not enjoy about skating in the City of Melbourne?

	Total Skaters N=295
Being harassed by security/being asked to leave areas because I am a skater/Being told not to skate	29%
The use of skate stoppers, capped ledges, etc.	18%
Congestion of people in this City and trying to skate around them/congested pedestrian crossings/ People purposely getting in the way of skaters/People getting mad at skaters	15%
Negative behaviour toward skaters and skating/negative attitude toward skating	13%
Not enough space/areas to skate	11%
The destruction of Lincoln Square	8%
Bumpy or uneven roads and footpaths	6%
Vehicle traffic taking up road space/Cars seem disrespectful of skaters on the roads	5%
Skate parks are not included in activity parks/skating should be accepted to share space such as footpaths, bike tracks, etc. /Paths off roads	3%
Accessibility of skate spots	3%
Nothing, skating in the City is good	3%
Poor weather	2%

Perhaps not surprisingly, skaters don't enjoy curbs on their skating – either security stopping them, physical devices such as capped ledges, or negativity from others in the community. Lack of physical assets (including the destruction of Lincoln Square) was also mentioned (only codes mentioned by 2% or more of respondents are included above – see Appendix A for more details).

# Important Characteristics in a Skate Space

Q15: What characteristics do you think are important in a skate space?



Base: N = 378

The important characteristics identified by Skaters tap into some of the themes identified in earlier questions:

- 'Central city location' – supports earlier comments about the atmosphere/beauty of Melbourne – and about accessibility
- 'Space to hang out' is aligned with the theme of socialisation/sense of community

# Important Characteristics in a Skate Space

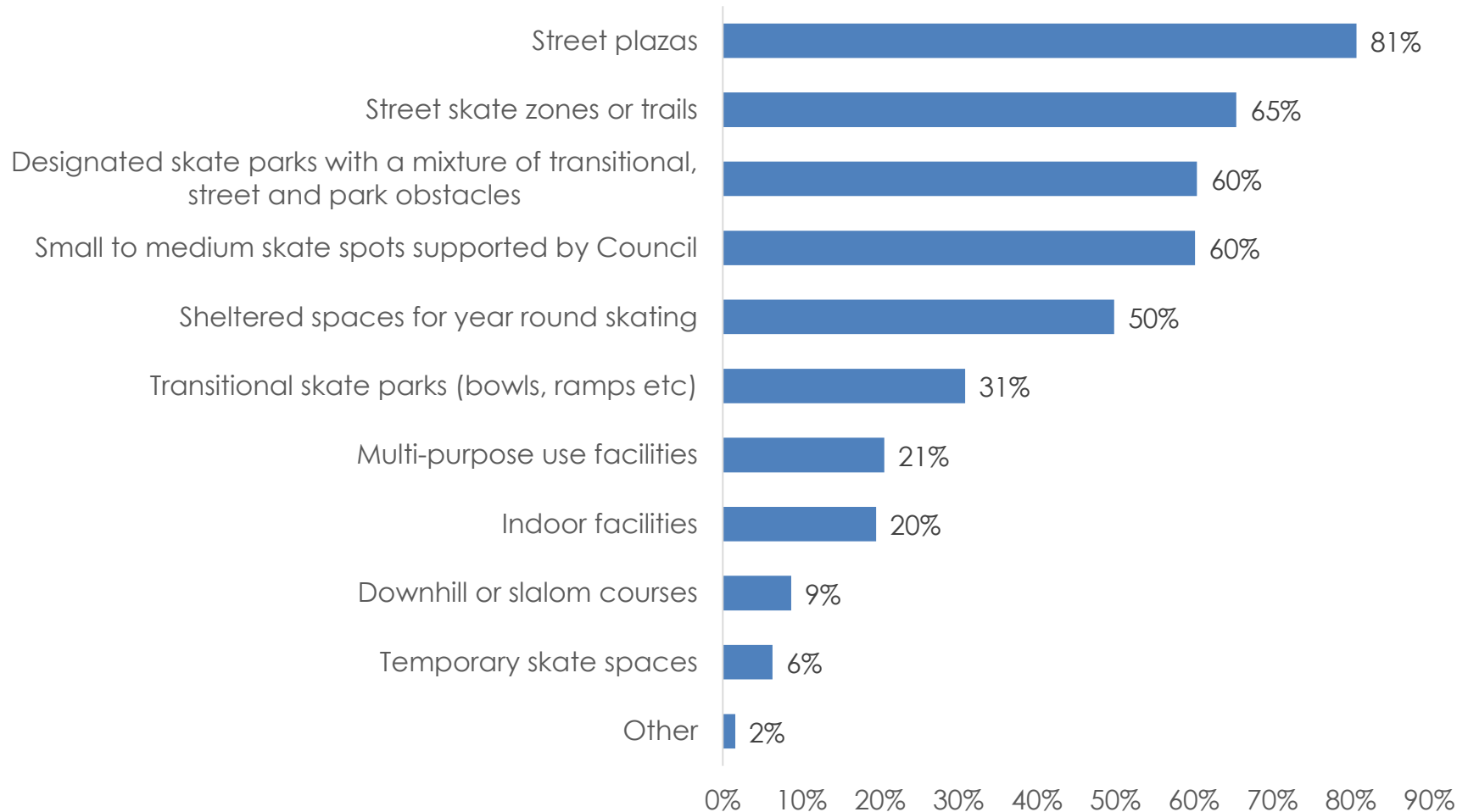
Q15. What characteristics do you think are important in a skate space?

		Age Group					Gender identity		Residence		
	Total Skaters	Under 18	18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Male	Female	City of Melb	Other	No response
	N=378	N=98	N=108	N=78	N=63	N=31	N=338	N=35	N=35	N=305	N=38
Central city location	72%	76%	71%	71%	73%	65%	73%	63%	74%	71%	79%
Space to hang out	69%	77%	69%	68%	63%	55%	70%	57%	66%	69%	66%
Close to food and services	67%	82%	70%	55%	68%	42%	67%	66%	54%	70%	55%
Feeling safe	55%	47%	56%	47%	70%	68%	51%	91%	54%	56%	45%
Proximity to other skate locations	55%	68%	51%	59%	48%	29%	57%	34%	54%	55%	55%
Being around other people	46%	41%	43%	44%	57%	55%	45%	49%	46%	46%	47%
Other	8%	5%	6%	14%	10%	13%	8%	11%	6%	9%	8%

Feelings of safety are particularly important for female skaters.

# Spaces/Facilities That Best Support the Skate Community

Q16. Which of the following spaces and facilities do you think would best support the skate community?



Base: N = 379



**The importance of 'street-scapes' (i.e.: 'street plazas', 'street skate zones or trails') is evident in the above responses.**

# Spaces/Facilities That Best Support the Skate Community

Q16. Which of the following spaces and facilities do you think would best support the skate community?

	Total Skaters	Age Group					Gender identity		Area		
		Under 18	18-24	25-29	30-39	40+	Male	Female	City of Melb	Other	No response
	N=379	N=98	N=109	N=78	N=63	N=31	N=339	N=35	N=35	N=306	N=38
Street plazas	81%	87%	83%	85%	76%	52%	86%	34%	77%	81%	84%
Street skate zones or trails	65%	65%	64%	64%	67%	71%	63%	83%	57%	67%	63%
Designated skate parks with a mixture of transitional, street and park obstacles	60%	63%	56%	54%	65%	74%	59%	69%	43%	62%	61%
Small to medium skate spots supported by Council	60%	66%	64%	58%	51%	52%	62%	46%	49%	61%	66%
Sheltered spaces for year round skating	50%	51%	50%	49%	51%	48%	47%	71%	43%	53%	34%
Transitional skate parks (bowls, ramps etc)	31%	26%	31%	22%	40%	52%	29%	51%	31%	31%	26%
Multi-purpose use facilities	21%	16%	19%	26%	21%	26%	19%	31%	29%	20%	18%
Indoor facilities	20%	18%	11%	26%	25%	26%	17%	46%	17%	20%	16%
Downhill or slalom courses	9%	8%	11%	4%	11%	10%	8%	20%	11%	9%	0%
Temporary skate spaces	6%	4%	8%	3%	10%	10%	6%	11%	3%	7%	8%
Other	2%	1%	2%	4%	0%	0%	1%	3%	3%	2%	0%

**Female skaters are less interested than Males in 'Street plazas' and significantly more interested in 'Indoor facilities'.**

# Appendix A: Full Lists of Open-ended Codes



# Full Code List – Q3

Q3. What elements do you enjoy most about those public spaces? Are there any other areas of the municipality that you think could be suitable for skate activity?

	Total N=415
A social way to meet up with friends without being in a skate park/Helps to engage with the broader community/sense of community/sense of belonging/healthy social activity, e.g. no drug use/Bringing different cultures together	24%
Great places for skating are places such as, Flinders Street station, St Kilda Beach, around the Myer, Docklands, beach promenades, Lincoln Square, Along the Yarra, State Library, Swanston Street, Museum forecourt, streets and laneways, Forecourt, Plazas	18%
Variety of things to skate on/The availability of obstacles, e.g. 1 foot and 2 foot curbs and transition pyramid and humps, manual pads, stairs and flat banks, bowls, vert ramps, pools, stop capping, rails, granite ledges with no metal edging	16%
Being creative with the streetscape and architecture/It is rewarding skating different areas/sense of adventure/Can express yourself/Adapt to surroundings	15%
A place where skaters can practice and skate without being asked to leave/Somewhere skaters wont be harassed/Do not bother or annoy the general public/A quiet space dedicated for skating specifically/Area to practice/Area just for skating, e.g. no Bikes	10%
Availability of smooth flat areas for skating	10%
Helps to spread awareness that skateboarding is not a anti-social or reckless activity/Recognise Melbourne's skate scene/Brings Buzz and vibe to the City/Skater style and fashion introduced to the City	10%
Different environment to the skate park/Plants and wildlife/Better atmosphere skating in the City/Want to skate in places that look and feel natural	9%
A lot of space for skating	8%
Promotes outdoor activity/Good to be in an outdoor area	6%
Exploring different areas/I enjoy skating/Skating is fun	6%
Good access to public areas/Public transport access	6%
Access to watch skaters, even if you are not participating	5%
Finding a challenge when skating/pushing boundaries/finding things that are not allowed to be skated on or are not designed for skating/Keeps skating fresh/Versatility for skating	5%
Safety for people skating avoiding obstruction/safe for pedestrians with a designated skater area	4%
The freedom of skating in these areas	4%
Providing indoor/outdoor locations that are sheltered from the weather and the elements	3%
Good to film and photograph skaters in public places/More interesting scenery in public places for film and photography	2%
Close to amenities, such as stores to purchase food, retail outlets	1%
A place to skate away from children	1%
Other	9%



# Full Code List – Q6

Q6. Please explain your answers. Is there anything we've missed?

	Total N=274
Including the skating community will ensure they are on board with decisions that are being made	37%
Integrate skate space into public space/Allow skaters to use public spaces	16%
Ensure skate space is designed like street space, and not like current skate parks/make sure it is an area skaters will want to skate	8%
All of the listed principles are important to guide the future of skate	8%
Fix the negative stigma towards skating/Create a space to encourage more people to skate	6%
Nothing missed	6%
Publicise skating with competitions, events, workshops, group skating, and featuring skaters in community events	5%
Good integration is necessary to ensure the safety of all users in skate space	4%
Unhappy with the removal of Lincoln Square	4%
Consider all ages, genders and types of skaters when it comes to skate parks/areas	3%
Create more indoor and outdoor parks within the city in central locations	3%
Create a designated area for skating	2%
Integrate well to ensure no problems/disagreements between skaters and non skaters	2%
Infrastructure around skate areas need improvement, such as seating, shade	1%
Avoid using private and commercial partnerships	1%
There needs to be an allocated space for skaters only, no bike or scooter users	1%
A space needs to be designed to create a sense of community for skaters	1%
Improve infrastructure to allow skating to be used as a form of transport, e.g. Remove skate stoppers, create more shared pathways	1%
To include skaters opinions as some are young or uneducated	0.4%
Skaters should pay for their own facilities	0.4%
Create more awareness of shared spaces/skate spaces	0.4%
Allocate a certain amount of funding to go towards skate related projects	0.4%
Maintain/improve current skate parks/areas	0.4%
Other	14%

# Full Code List – Q7

Q7: What is the one thing you would do to improve skating in Melbourne?

	Total N=381
New or better skate dedicated and skate friendly areas, e.g. Skate plaza, skate park, etc.	26%
Council should focus on the good of skating/Advertise Melbourne as a skate friendly area/Incorporate skating competitions/Engage the community/Raise awareness of skating/Council to stop looking down on skaters and skating	13%
Remove things in the city that prevent skating, e.g. skate stoppers, sponge, buttons, 'no skating' signs	13%
Bring back Lincoln square/Create a space to replace Lincoln Square	10%
Create areas that can be shared with other sports and the general public	7%
Consultation with skaters to create usable skate areas	3%
segregated/wider/better access to bike paths and footpaths	3%
Better access to/better maintenance of roads for skating/make street areas more state-able	3%
More indoor or undercover areas for skating for cold or wet weather	3%
Change the current legislation toward skating/Allow skating in public places	2%
Addressing the negative stigma associated with skaters and improve skater behaviour	2%
Create a space in an accessible area	2%
Ensure skate spaces have sufficient lighting so people can skate at all times of the day/Good lighting so shadowing does not occur	2%
A 'bowl' required in the City Centre	2%
Allow access to street skating, e.g. open air shopping areas to be accessible to skaters after business hours	2%
A skate area that doesn't interfere with pedestrians	2%
A skate area incorporating city features, such as low benches, long benches, stair sets, garden gaps, handrails and raised pads, with smooth concrete	2%
make a park aesthetically pleasing/Create good design aspects for skating	2%
Integrate current public areas to also be used for skating	1%
Create a safe environment to skate	1%
Availability of child friendly skating areas	1%
Build more places to skate	1%
Access to facilities, such as shade, water	1%
Wider information available on how to find appropriate skating areas	1%
Get professional names involved to encourage skating	1%
Nothing	1%
Other	13%

# Full Code List – Q8

Q8. Do you have any further comments to make about skate in the City of Melbourne?

	Total N=230
Melbourne is a great city for skating, I enjoy skating in this city	20%
Do not approve of the removal of Lincoln Square	15%
Happy that City of Melbourne are engaging the skate community	13%
Open more skate parks/designated areas for skating	8%
No comment	7%
Promote skating in the community, e.g. Hold events, advertise, attract skaters world-wide	7%
Greater acceptance of skate culture is needed/Embrace the culture of skating	6%
Further support for skateboarding is needed from Council and the community	5%
Skating has many health benefits	4%
New and/or improved skate-related infrastructure is required	4%
Consult with skaters regarding future skating-related topics	4%
Build more street skate spaces	3%
Integrate skating into the city/Create more shared zones	3%
Unhappy with skaters/skating in my area (too much noise, vandalism, destruction, riding in busy areas)	3%
Stop allowing the wealthy/more vocal members of the community to dictate how public spaces should be used	2%
Skaters should be able to use bike lanes/have the same treatment as bikes	2%
Poor behaviour of a minority of skaters needs to change	2%
Remove skate stoppers	2%
Drug/alcohol issues need to be addressed	2%
A skate bowl should be built	1%
Do not remove any further skate areas/Do not interfere with skating	1%
Security/police are too strict towards skaters/skating	1%
Existing areas designated for skating need improvements	1%
I would love to be involved in the planning process of these projects	1%
Other	8%

# Full Code List – Q13

Q13. What do you enjoy about skating in the City of Melbourne?

	Total Skaters N=303
Great meeting spot for people around the area/Meet other skaters/sense of community	33%
Great obstacles and skating areas around the city/Great skating areas with smooth ground/Blue stone pathways, marble, modern architecture/Good paths for skating	22%
A lot of skating areas/Dynamic skating areas/Great spots to skate	20%
The city atmosphere	18%
Skate places are in close proximity to each other to move around/Areas are easy to access by transport/Convenient area	12%
Beautiful scenery around the Melbourne area	11%
Melbourne has iconic skating areas/Skating in one of the best cities of the world/Melbourne is a great city	7%
Great skating culture in the Melbourne City/People in the city have a culture of acceptance towards skaters	6%
See new places in the city	5%
Skating in Melbourne is fun/I love skating in Melbourne/The rush of street skating	4%
The challenge skating parts of the city/being creative in skating parts of the City	3%
Access to different things, such as retail outlets, food stores, free water fountains	3%
Being fit, active and healthy	3%
The freedom of skating in the City	3%
Great bike lanes and footpaths that can be used for skating	2%
It has places like Lincoln Square which is great for skating	2%
The safety of skating in the city	2%
Fun way to get around the city	1%
Being outdoors	1%
Lit up areas in the evening/good lighting	1%
I like everything about skating in the City of Melbourne	1%
It is great to film skating in the city	1%
Well designed skate parks, they are large and of a high quality	1%
There is a high level of quality in the skate spots available	0.3%
Other	6%

# Full Code List – Q14

Q14. What do you not enjoy about skating in the City of Melbourne?

	Total Skaters N=295
Being harassed by security/being asked to leave areas because I am a skater/Being told not to skate	29%
The use of skate stoppers, capped ledges, etc.	18%
Congestion of people in this City and trying to skate around them/congested pedestrian crossings/People purposely getting in the way of skaters/People getting mad at skaters	15%
Negative behaviour toward skaters and skating/negative attitude toward skating	13%
Not enough space/areas to skate	11%
The destruction of Lincoln Square	8%
Bumpy or uneven roads and footpaths	6%
Vehicle traffic taking up road space/Cars seem disrespectful of skaters on the roads	5%
Skate parks are not included in activity parks/skating should be accepted to share space such as footpaths, bike tracks, etc. /Paths off roads	3%
Accessibility of skate spots	3%
Poor weather	2%
Riverside skate park is a poor skate park	1%
The tram lines on roads	1%
Kids not using skate space appropriately	1%
Need more obstacles, even just a ledge or curb, bowls or ramps	1%
Being told where we can and can't ride, e.g. not being able to skate on bike lanes after dark, not having a space on the road to share with cars, not skating in open air areas like Costco carpark or Harbour town shopping centre in Docklands after hours, e	1%
Lack of lighting in some skating spots	1%
Rubbish in the city	1%
There is no area free of scooters, BMX	1%
Nothing, skating in the City is good	3%
Other	8%

# Appendix B - Questionnaire



**CITY OF  
MELBOURNE**

**micromex**  
research

# The Questionnaire

## Detail of questions and their purpose

### I am answering this survey as...

- ☐ Someone who participates in skate activity (includes BMX, scooters, inline etc)
- ☐ Someone with a relationship to skate (work in the industry, family member etc)
- ☐ Someone who is currently impacted by skate
- ☐ A non-skater
- ☐ Other

### Purpose:

This is so that we can break up respondents' interests. We would like to be able to see what skate participants and those with a relationship to skate (usually more understanding of the context) want in comparison to people who are non-skaters (can have lesser understanding of skate culture and context).

We'd then like to be able to see where the similarities are between both as this will show the most supported spaces and strategies.

### Choose four of the following types of public spaces that you think are most suitable for skate activity

- ☐ Parks and reserves
- ☐ Forecourts, plazas and squares
- ☐ Streets and laneways
- ☐ Temporary spaces i.e. event spaces
- ☐ Indoor locations
- ☐ Dedicated skate spaces i.e. skate parks

# The Questionnaire

**What elements do you enjoy most about those public spaces? Are there any other areas of the municipality that you think could be suitable for skate activity?**

Qualitative question: This will help us better understand what people like most about these spaces, we'd like to understand the most common responses to this question. Some common threads may be around dedicated facilities, being in nice spaces or being around other people and user groups.

**Some of the public spaces listed above can be spaces shared with pedestrians, businesses, vehicles and other uses or activities in the same place, at the same time. How can we improve the way these spaces are shared and managed?**

Qualitative question: Here we would like to understand people's ideas of how public space can be better shared. Signs or line markings, or urban design may be common threads here. Designate spaces, send to skate parks or something similar may also be common. This is one of the most important responses from all respondent types for us to understand.

**Using past research and case studies we have identified some key principles that may guide the future of skate in the City of Melbourne. Choose which ones you think are important.**

- ☐ Connect activities such as skate, with other complementary activities and uses (e.g. other active, youth and socially oriented uses or other loud activities)
- ☐ Include the skate community in the process (e.g. foster an ongoing partnership, include in design and build process)
- ☐ Integrate skate spaces innovatively into suitable, accessible and safe public spaces.
- ☐ Explore private, commercial and not-for-profit partnerships to assist in the development of spaces and services that support the skate community

**Please explain your answers. Is there anything we've missed?**

Qualitative response: Support question for the above to allow people to explain their answers if they wish. We would like to better understand what people really liked, or really didn't. New ideas are also of interest.

**What is the one thing you would do to improve skating in Melbourne?**

Qualitative response: The big question, the one idea, this is another important response from all respondent typologies.

**Do you have any further comments to make about skate in the City of Melbourne?**

Qualitative response: People may want to vent here, or provide feedback on the survey itself. Interested to see common responses.

**I ride/use...**

- ☐ A skateboard
- ☐ A longboard
- ☐ A scooter
- ☐ A BMX
- ☐ A mountain bike
- ☐ Inline skates
- ☐ Other



# The Questionnaire

**My favourite styles of skate/BMX/inline are**

- ☐ Transitional
- ☐ Street
- ☐ Park
- ☐ Downhill skating
- ☐ Transport only
- ☐ Other

**How many years have you been skating for?**

- ☐ Less than one year
- ☐ Less than 4 years
- ☐ 5-10 years
- ☐ More than 10 years

**How often do you skate within the City of Melbourne?**

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ A few times a week
- ☐ A few times a month
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Never

**What do you enjoy about skating in the City of Melbourne?**

Qualitative response: Important response for us to understand what people like about skating in the city. Different context, smooth ground, access to public transport, central location may come up as common threads.

**What do you not enjoy about skating in the City of Melbourne?**

Qualitative response: Important response for us to understand what people dislike about skating in the city. Getting hassled, skate stoppers, laws, police, security, getting yelled at, not enough skate parks, too many people at skate parks, these may be some common threads.

**What characteristics do you think are important in a skate space?**

- ☐ Central city location
- ☐ Close to food and services
- ☐ Being around other people
- ☐ Proximity to other skate locations
- ☐ Feeling safe
- ☐ Space to hang out
- ☐ **Other - Qualitative:** Important to understand common responses

**Which of the following spaces and facilities do you think would best support the skate community?**

- ☐ Designated skate parks with a mixture of transitional, street and park obstacles
- ☐ Transitional skate parks (bowls, ramps etc)
- ☐ Small to medium skate spots supported by Council
- ☐ Street skate zones or trails
- ☐ Street plazas
- ☐ Sheltered spaces for year round skating
- ☐ Downhill or slalom courses
- ☐ Indoor facilities
- ☐ Temporary skate spaces
- ☐ Multi-purpose use facilities

# The Questionnaire

- ☐ **Other – Qualitative:** Important to understand common responses

## Age Group

- ☐ Under 10
- ☐ 10-14
- ☐ 15-17
- ☐ 18-24
- ☐ 25-29
- ☐ 30-39
- ☐ 40-49
- ☐ 50-59
- ☐ 60-69
- ☐ 70-79
- ☐ 80 or over

## Gender identity

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Indeterminate/Intersex/Undisclosed

## What is your connection to the City of Melbourne?

- ☐ I'm a resident of the City of Melbourne
- ☐ I work in the City of Melbourne
- ☐ I own / operate a business in the City of Melbourne
- ☐ I study in the City of Melbourne
- ☐ I visit the City of Melbourne
- ☐ None of above, I'm just interested in this subject

This is important to break down what each user group of the City of Melbourne thought as they're the ones who utilise it the most.



Telephone: (02) 4352 2388

Fax: (02) 4352 2117

Web: [www.micromex.com.au](http://www.micromex.com.au)

Email: [stu@micromex.com.au](mailto:stu@micromex.com.au)