Kings Road Corridor and Level Crossing Removal Planning

What we heard from feedback provided

Project overview

Kings Road level crossing

The Australian and South Australian Governments have committed to a Level Crossing Removal Planning Program to conduct planning studies at priority level crossing locations. We identified the level crossing at Kings Road in Parafield as a priority location for the planning study. The planning study will seek to better understand the problems at this location and identify potential opportunities to remove the level crossing, improve safety and make travel easier for all users.

Kings Road corridor

In addition to the level crossing at Kings Road, we are also undertaking a planning study on the Kings Road corridor (between Port Wakefield Road and Main North Road). Funded by the South Australian Government, the corridor planning study will seek to identify potential opportunities to improve Kings Road to support development growth in the surrounding area.

Community engagement

Seeking feedback from the community and stakeholders is a key part of building a comprehensive picture of how our networks are operating. This feedback is important to help us understand community viewpoints and experiences that might not be captured by a technical analysis.

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the consultation activities and provided feedback during the four-week consultation period in August and September 2023.

How we engaged

Along with meetings with key stakeholders, members of the community were encouraged to complete an online survey and digitally ‘pin’ comments on the project map and categorise their feedback according to the nature of their comment. Members of the community were also invited to attend one of three community information session to speak to a project team member to provide feedback.

Australian Government

Government of South Australia
Department for Infrastructure and Transport

What you told us

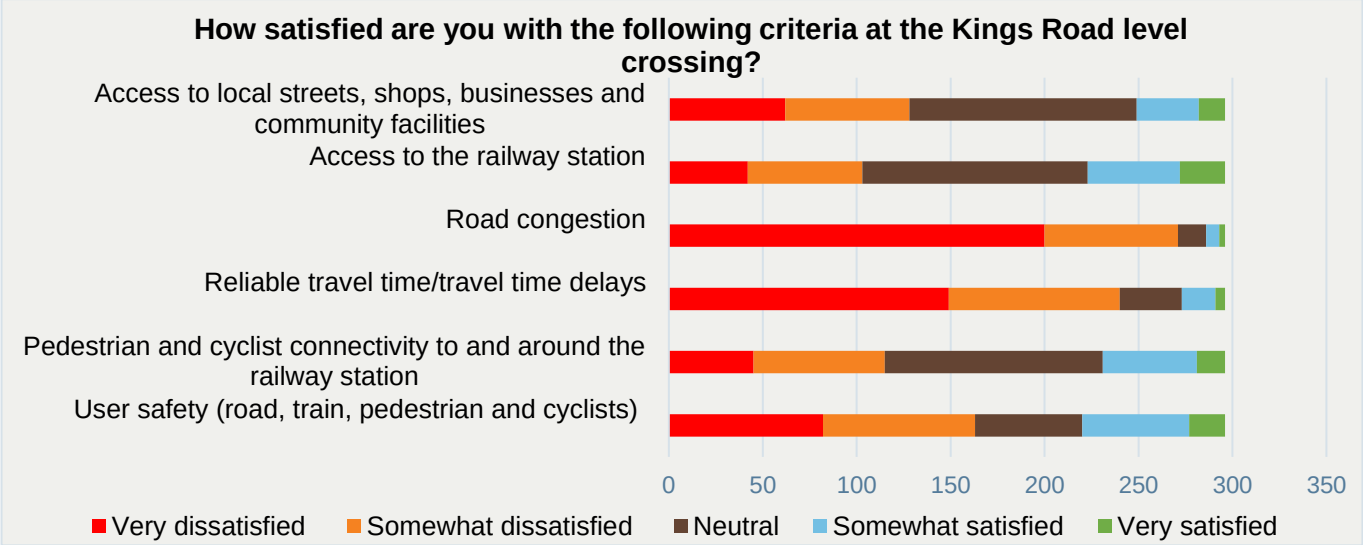
Of the 423 survey respondents, people identified as a local resident (45%), road user (29%), property owner (10%), public transport user (7%) and person who worked locally (6%). The remainder of respondents were part of local community group or a visitor to the area.

Kings Road level crossing

Of the 296 survey responses regarding Kings Road level crossing, 92% travelled through the level crossing at least once a week. The main mode of transport for respondents was motor vehicle (78%), train (8%), walking (6%), bicycle (4%), commercial vehicle or truck (3%) and bus (1%).

Local insights outlined there is interest from the community to improve:

- road congestion;
- reliable travel time/travel time delay; and
- user safety (road, train, pedestrian and cyclist).



Road congestion

Respondents stated the level crossing adds to congestion on an already busy Kings Road. The congestion from the level crossing causes traffic to back up in both directions on Kings Road and intersecting roads, particularly at school peak times. Respondents stated the congestion at the level crossing makes entry and exit into the train station car park difficult.

Approximately 75% of respondents suggested that a grade separation (underpass or overpass) would be their preferred solution at this location.

Reliable travel time/travel time delay

Respondents stated the level crossing causes travel time delays and travel time unreliability. Some advised that if a freight train crosses the level crossing, followed by an Adelaide Metro train, delays can be up to 15 minutes. Others feel the boom gates are activated too early while the train is still in the station. Respondents advised that emergency services can be delayed by the level crossing.

User safety (road, train, pedestrian and cyclist)

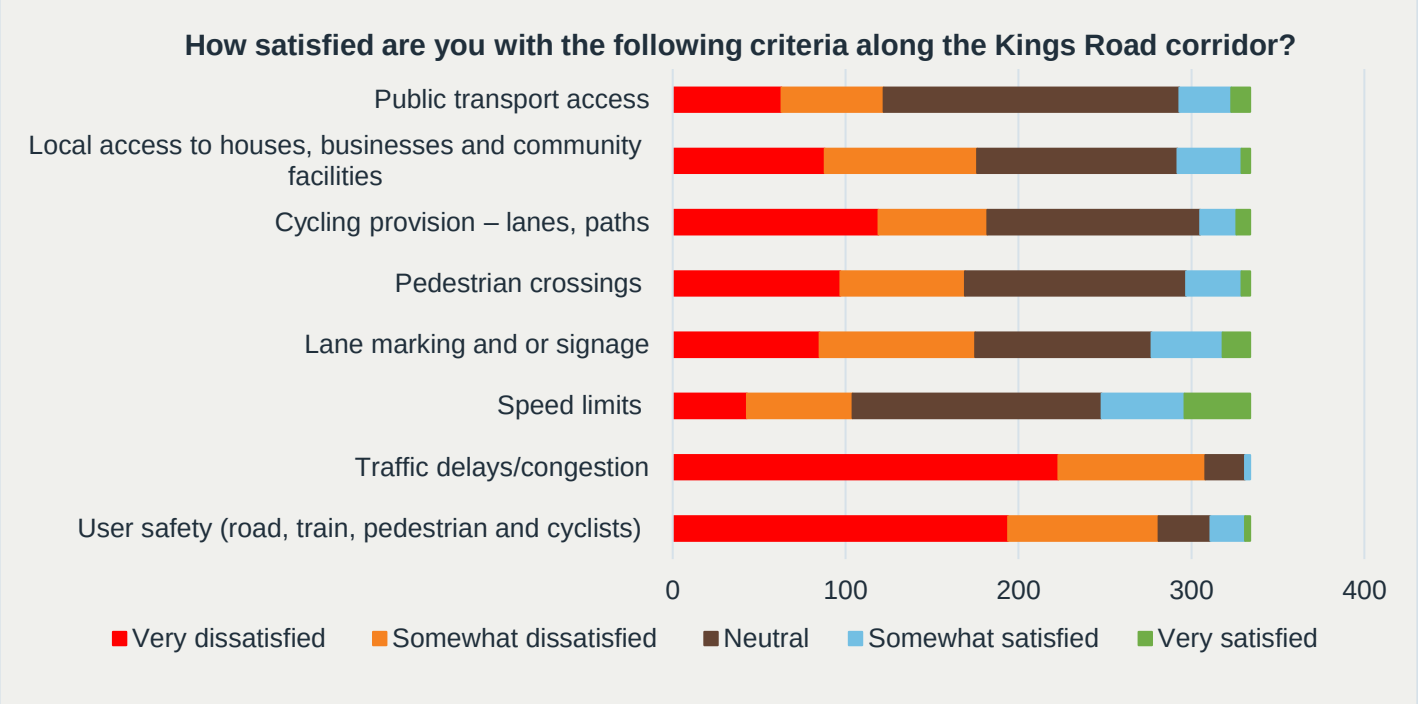
Respondents stated that accidents can occur when vehicles try to enter or exit Kings Road in heavy congestion caused by the level crossing. Accidents can also occur due to driver behaviour and risks taken due to driver frustration. It was suggested the pedestrian crossing could be improved due to the close location to Thomas More College.

Kings Road corridor

Of the 334 survey responses regarding Kings Road corridor, 94% travelled along Kings Road at least once a week. The main mode of transport for respondents was motor vehicle (78%), walking (10%), bicycle (5%), commercial vehicle or truck (4%), train (78%) and mobility aids (less than 1%).

Local insights outlined there is interest from the community to improve:

- congestion and traffic delays;
- condition of the road; and
- user safety (road, train, pedestrian and cyclist).



Congestion and traffic delays

Respondents advised that congestion and travel delays are an opportunity for improvement, stating that this is the main east-west road in the area, that is congested, particularly in school peak times. Respondents advised that merging from two lanes to one and turning vehicles can impact to traffic flow and that general roundabout functionality could be reviewed.

Many respondents suggested that a duplication of the road is required to address the congestion. However, some residents that live on Kings Road do not support the road moving closer to their homes. Loss of car parking with any road widening was a concern for Kings Road residents. Bus bays was also suggested to ease congestion of traffic behind stopped busses.

Condition of the road

Respondents stated the condition of Kings Road is an opportunity for improvement as the road has potholes and lacks kerbing and gutters in some sections. Flooding in the section without kerbing and gutters was raised as an issue for local residents. Respondents suggested that the Little Para bridge is also an opportunity for improvement as it is narrow and can feel tight if a truck is traveling in the opposite direction. The addition of bus shelters was also identified as an improvement opportunity.

User safety (road, train, pedestrian and cyclist)

Respondents stated that improvements to turning movements to and from side streets is an opportunity for improvement with suggestions that more slip lanes may assist turning vehicles. A review of signage and speed limits was also suggested. Respondents also advised that pedestrian facilities and connectivity could be improved including at Martins Road roundabout where school students cross. It was also suggested that slowing vehicles down on entry and exit of the roundabout would provide more time for students and people with mobility issues to cross. Respondents also suggested the inclusion of cycling lanes on Kings Road to provide connection to local cycling networks.

What's next?

We are analysing the feedback from the community and stakeholders, along with technical data, to identify opportunities to improve Kings Road and remove the level crossing on Kings Road.

This work will help inform future potential funding and planning considerations.

More information

To find out more about these projects or to speak to a member of the project team please:

- visit the project webpage: https://dit.sa.gov.au/LXRPP
- email us: dit.engagement@sa.gov.au
- or call us on 1300 794 880