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# Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

## Manly Special Entertainment Precinct – Early Consultation

Consultation period: Thursday 13 March – Friday 11 April 2025

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# 1. Summary

Northern Beaches Council undertook early consultation with the community, local businesses, relevant government agencies and stakeholders between 13 March to 11 April 2025 to seek feedback on the proposed Special Entertainment Precinct (SEP) trial in the Manly commercial centre and its boundaries.

Early engagement with the community and relevant stakeholders on the boundary of the precinct was a requirement of Council's application for grant funding from the NSW Government's SEP Kickstart Grant Program.

Written feedback via email and post were sought, as well as two online surveys -one for the community and one for businesses. The online survey for community members asked respondents whether they had any feedback on the proposed boundaries, and what types of events, activities and businesses they wanted to see in Manly after-dark, as well as providing an opportunity to respond with any general feedback on the project.

A separate online survey targeted at business owners sought feedback on the boundaries and their appetite for later trading hours and hosting live music and performances.





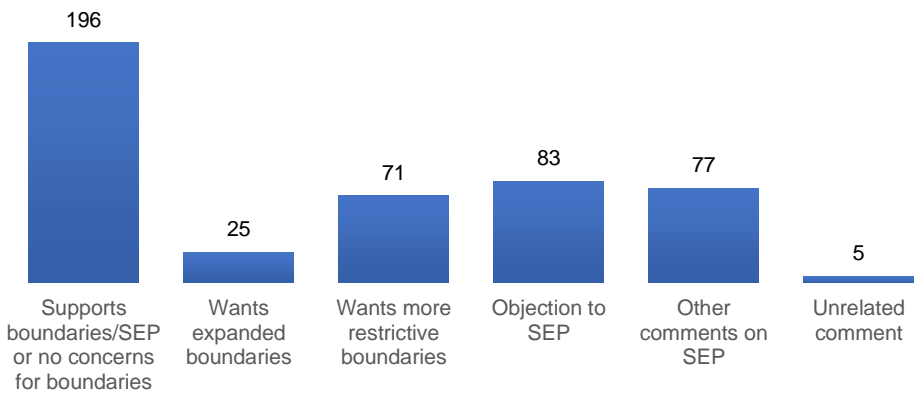
The feedback from the community indicated there was general support for the proposed SEP, precinct boundaries and a more diverse range of activities after-dark. Notwithstanding this, many respondents raised concerns about the impact of late trading hours, funding and resourcing, and the potential increase in anti-social behaviour and impacts on sound amenity.

Around 78%\* of respondents identified at least one event, activity or business that they would like to see in Manly after-dark, including family-friendly dining, retail, live music/performance, restaurants, buskers/street performers, pubs/bars, outdoor dining, markets and family-friendly activities/events.

Approximately 64%\* of respondents provided feedback on the proposed boundaries, the majority (around 67%\* of these) either supported the boundaries and/or SEP or had no concerns regarding the boundaries. Around 5% of total respondents requested expanded boundaries and about 16% felt that the proposed precinct area should be smaller.


Most of the respondents noted the boundaries should be restricted and suggested that some residential areas and buildings should be excluded from the Manly SEP. Respondents who felt that the boundaries should be expanded, noted that the SEP should include more businesses along Pittwater Rd and South Steyne, and Ivanhoe Park and Manly Oval.

## 1.1. Key outcomes



 <p>Total unique responses<sup>1</sup></p>	<h1>461</h1>																	
 <p>How responses were received</p>	<p>Comment form</p> <p>Written responses (email/letter)</p> <p>Community survey</p> <p>Business survey</p>	<p>Completions: 429</p> <p>Number received: 35</p> <p>Completions: 3</p> <p>Completions: 2</p>																
 <p>Online questions</p>	<p>The following questions were asked via the online community survey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Do you have any feedback on the proposed boundaries?</i></li> <li>• <i>What events or activities would you like to see after dark? e.g. busking, street performers, family-friendly dining</i></li> <li>• <i>What kind of businesses would you like to see open later at night? e.g. bookstores, hair salons, cafes, retail stores, pharmacies</i></li> </ul>																	
 <p>Responses</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Q1. Do you have any feedback on the proposed boundaries?</b></p>  <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Response Category</th> <th>Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Supports boundaries/SEP or no concerns for boundaries</td> <td>196</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wants expanded boundaries</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wants more restrictive boundaries</td> <td>71</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Objection to SEP</td> <td>83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other comments on SEP</td> <td>77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unrelated comment</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total responses</b></td> <td><b>429</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Response Category	Count	Supports boundaries/SEP or no concerns for boundaries	196	Wants expanded boundaries	25	Wants more restrictive boundaries	71	Objection to SEP	83	Other comments on SEP	77	Unrelated comment	5	<b>Total responses</b>	<b>429</b>
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<sup>1</sup> Some respondents completed multiple surveys and/or made written response via email/post.

\* All feedback was analysed using comment sentiment and was not quantitative.

 Feedback themes <sup>2</sup>	<b>Reasons for supporting SEP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liveliness and vibrancy</li> <li>• European atmosphere</li> <li>• More variety of offerings</li> <li>• Support local economy, live music and creative industries</li> <li>• Family-friendly offerings</li> </ul>	<b>SEP concerns</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sound controls/impacts</li> <li>• Anti-social behaviour/safety/alcohol consumption</li> <li>• Trading hours</li> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Foreshore noise</li> </ul>
	<b>Events/activities/businesses wanted in Manly after-dark</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restaurants/cafes/takeaway</li> <li>• Family-friendly dining/activities/events/spaces</li> <li>• Retail</li> <li>• Live music/performance/theatre/comedy</li> <li>• Buskers/street performers</li> <li>• Outdoor dining/licensed areas</li> <li>• Pubs/bars</li> <li>• Markets</li> <li>• Hair/beauty</li> <li>• Cinema/outdoor movies</li> </ul>	

## 1.2. How we engaged

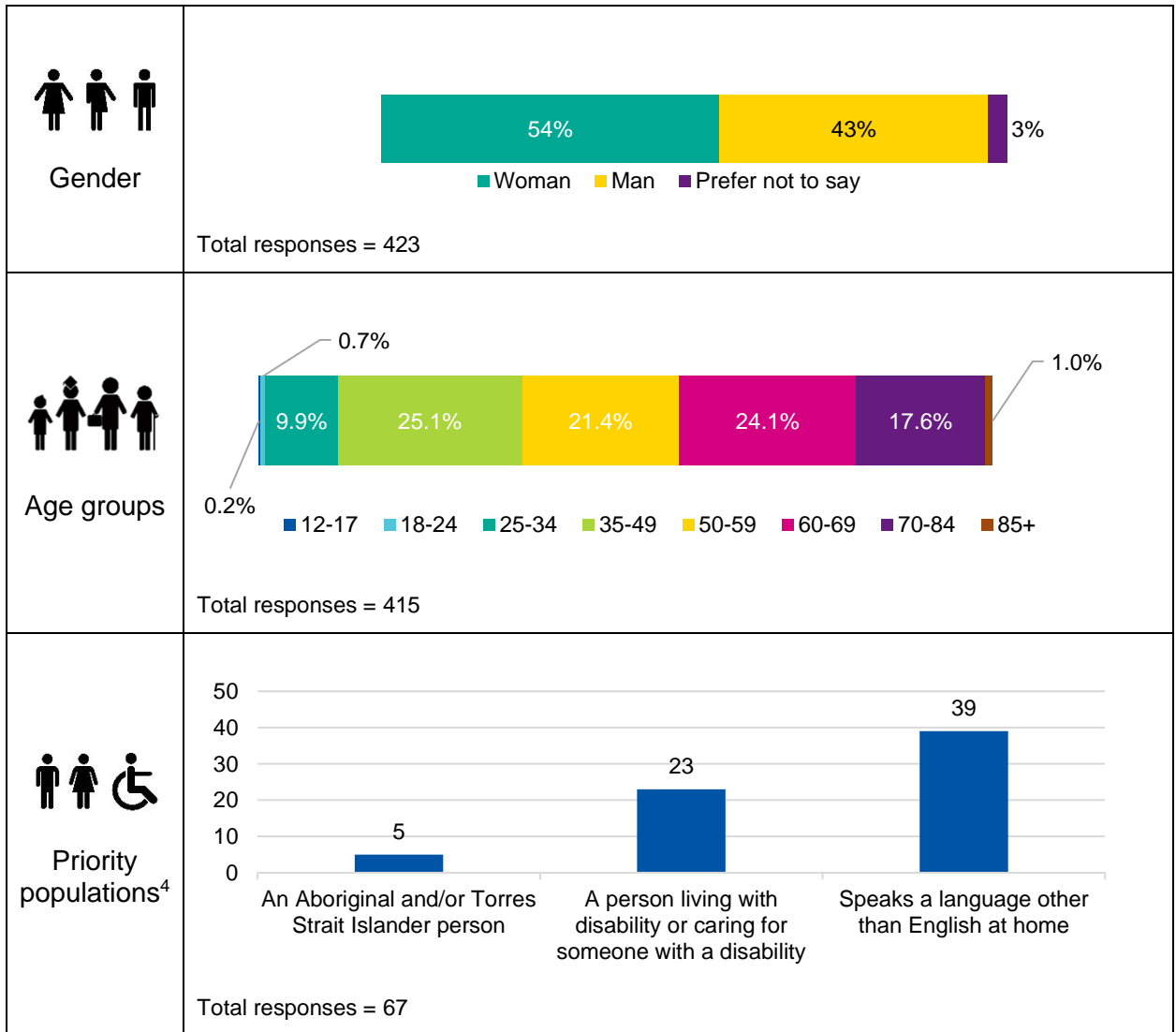
 Your Say project page	Visitors: 2408	Visits: 3073	Average time onsite: 2mins 31secs
 Print media and collateral	Resident notification letters:		Distribution: 6,470
	Letter drop at business premises:		Distribution: 200
	Site signs used: Manly and Dee Why Customer Service Centres, Manly, Mona Vale and Dee Why Libraries		Number: 5
	Postcard availability: Manly and Dee Why Customer Service Centres and Libraries, Manly Visitor Information Centre, Manly and Dee Why Libraries, and the youth songwriting competition (Northern Composure Unplugged) events at Manly and Mona Vale libraries.		Number: 250
	Council (weekly) e-News newsletter		Distribution: 3 editions (57,258 subscribers)

<sup>2</sup> Based on analysis of responses in community survey questions Q1, Q2 and Q3, and written responses. See Appendix A for verbatim responses.

 Electronic direct mail (EDM)	Manly Main Street (fortnightly) newsletter	Distribution: 2 editions (534 subscribers)
	Keep A Look Out For (KALOF) – Youth (monthly) newsletter	Distribution: 1 edition (1682 subscribers)
	The Drift Library (monthly) newsletter	Distribution: 1 edition (85,000 subscribers)
	Manly Art Gallery & Museum (monthly) newsletter	Distribution: 1 edition (4,500 subscribers)
	The Wave Disability (monthly) newsletter	Distribution: 1 edition (1,400 subscribers)
	Creative News Arts & Culture (monthly) newsletter	Distribution: 1 edition (2,934 subscribers)
	Community Engagement (fortnightly) newsletter	Distribution: 2 editions (22,451 subscribers)
 Stakeholder Meetings	Manly Community Forum	Attendance: approx. 40
	Police/Council Operational Meeting	Attendance: approx. 20
	Northern Beaches Community Safety Advisory Committee	Attendance: approx. 30
	Northern Beaches Liquor Accord	Attendance: approx. 20
	Manly Business Chamber	Attendance: approx. 20
	Northern Beaches Live & Local Community Working Group	Attendance: approx. 20
 Stakeholder notification letters/emails	Liquor & Gaming NSW	Number: 1
	Transport for NSW	Number: 1
	Northern Beaches Police Area Command	Number: 1
	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure	Number: 1
	Northern Sydney Local Health District	Number: 1
	Greater Manly Residents Group	Number: 1
	Clontarf Community Forum	Number: 1
	Fairlight Village 2094 Group	Number: 1
	North Harbour Community Group	Number: 1

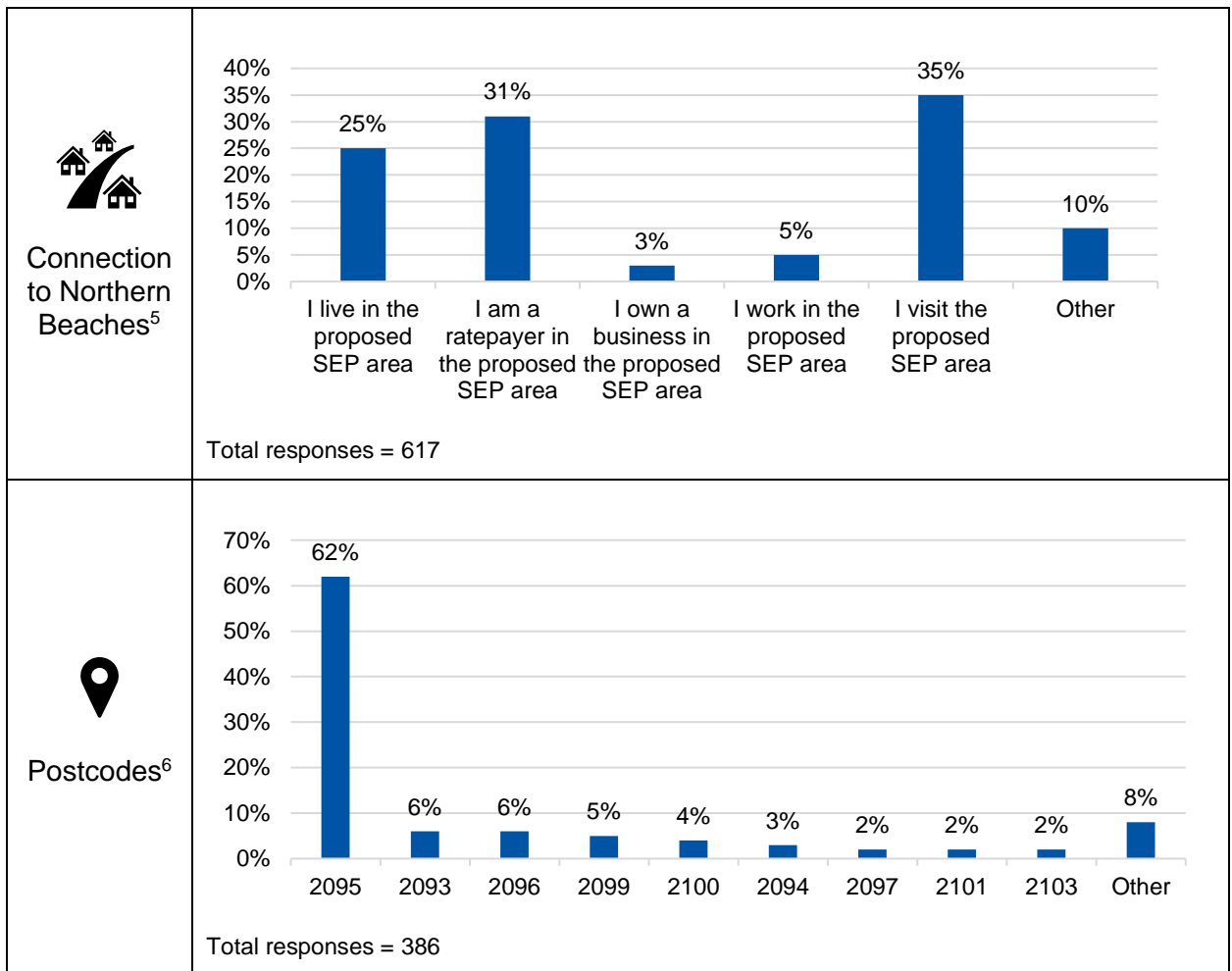
	Save Little Manly Beach Foreshore	Number: 1
	Friends of Ivanhoe Park Botanic Garden	Number: 1

### 1.3. Who responded<sup>3</sup>



<sup>3</sup> Demographic data was gathered by request only. The data represented only includes those respondents who provided this detail.

<sup>4</sup> Respondents could select more than one option.



<sup>5</sup> Respondents could select more than one option.

<sup>6</sup> Those with 5 or less responses are represented in the column 'other'.

## 2. Background

At its meeting of 18 February 2025, Northern Beaches Council resolved to endorse the lodgement of an application to seek funding from the State Government's SEP Kickstart Grant Program and to endorse the establishment of a SEP in the Manly commercial centre as illustrated in Figure 1 below.



Figure 1. Proposed Manly SEP boundaries

A Manly SEP would strategically align with and implement a number of actions and priorities in the [Manly Place Plan \(My Place: Manly\)](#) adopted in September 2024, including undertaking an acoustic assessment to guide the development of noise planning controls, and six-month trials of late-night trading hours.

The establishment of the Manly SEP trial is also consistent with other Council-endorsed policies including the [Community Strategic Plan 2040](#) (adopted in 2022), Northern Beaches [Local Strategic Planning Statement \(Towards 2040\)](#), [Economic Development Strategic \(Business on the Beaches\)](#), [Arts and Creativity Strategy \(Connected Through Creativity\)](#), and [Destination Management Plan \(Destination Northern Beaches\)](#).

Council has undertaken early engagement with the community and key stakeholders as a requirement of the SEP Kickstart Grant application.



The feedback obtained during the early consultation period will be used to inform the preparation of specific documents for the Manly SEP, namely:

- the precinct management plan
- the planning proposal to amend the Local Environmental Plan
- and if required, make changes to the precinct boundaries endorsed by Council at the meeting on 18 February 2025 (see Figure 1).

Future consultation will include:

- the establishment of a Precinct Working Group, as identified in Council's resolution to *"note that if Council's grant application is successful, a working group be established involving a diverse group of representatives from the entertainment and live music industry, local businesses, local residents and community groups, NSW Police, Liquor & Gaming NSW and other key stakeholders to inform the preparation and implementation of the SEP trial"*
- continued discussions and operational meetings with relevant government agencies and stakeholders
- public exhibition of the draft Precinct Management Plan, SEP planning proposal and any required Development Control Plan (DCP) amendment.

### 3. Engagement objectives

Community and stakeholder engagement aimed to:

- build community and stakeholder awareness of participation activities to provide feedback on the proposed precinct boundary
- provide accessible information to enable meaningful participation and understanding of the project's background
- identify community and stakeholder concerns, opportunities, local knowledge and values with regards to the SEP
- seek out and facilitate the involvement of those affected by or interested in the project by sharing details with residents, local businesses and the broader entertainment industry
- communicate to community and stakeholders how their input was incorporated into the planning and decision-making process by sharing the outcomes from community consultation and the grant application and next steps
- engage with a diverse range of stakeholders including priority populations.

### 4. Engagement approach

This early consultation period for the Manly SEP was conducted between Thursday 13 March and Friday 11 April 2025. During this time, feedback was sought from:

- the community via written comments (postal and email), and an online survey for community members.

- the local business community via written comments (postal and email), and an online survey for business owners.
- relevant Government agencies and stakeholder groups via written comments (postal, email and face-to-face meetings).

A [project page](#) was created on Council's Have Your Say platform, which outlined the key features of a SEP and the grant application, Frequently Asked Questions, Precinct Map, useful links, project team contact information, indicative project timeline, how to make a written submission, and a link to the online community survey.

The project page was primarily promoted through:

- Electronic direct mail (EDM).
- Postcards and A3 posters with QR code link to the project at customer service centre, libraries and the Northern Composure Unplugged youth songwriting competition event.
- Letters to residents, landowners, relevant stakeholder groups, government agencies and local resident associations.

Council staff also attended various meetings with key stakeholder groups (listed in Table 1.2) to provide updates on the Manly SEP project and to identify and discuss preliminary issues. All of these groups agreed to provide input throughout the establishment of the Manly SEP.

#### 4.1. Community survey

An online survey for community members was available to complete on the project Your Say page. The community survey included the following questions with open-field written comment boxes:

- *Do you have any feedback on the proposed boundaries?*
- *What events or activities would you like to see after dark? e.g. busking, street performers, family-friendly dining*
- *What kind of businesses would you like to see open later at night? e.g. bookstores, hair salons, cafes, retail stores, pharmacies*

A copy of the community survey questions and verbatim responses are found in Appendix A.

#### 4.2. Business survey

The business survey was available through a private link advertised through:

- the Manly Main Street email newsletter
- Beaches Biz News email newsletter
- Manly Business Chamber meetings
- letters dropped off to business premises within the proposed SEP boundaries

A copy of the business survey questions and verbatim responses is found in Appendix B.

#### 4.3. Reaching diverse audiences

It was determined for this project that it was particularly important to engage with demographics that are usually underrepresented in Council engagement activities, in particular younger people.

In addition to regular channels and engagement techniques to capture a range of views, the following activities were included to capture cohorts that are traditionally harder to reach:

- use of QR codes on letters, postcards and posters
- notification in the Keep a Look Out For (KALOF) Youth monthly newsletter
- notification in The Wave - the Northern Beaches disability newsletter
- postcards available to take at the Northern Beaches acoustic competition for musicians aged 12-24 (Northern Composure Unplugged) on 3 April 2025 (Mona Vale Library) and 10 April 2025 (Manly Library).

## 5. Findings

### 5.1 Proposed boundaries

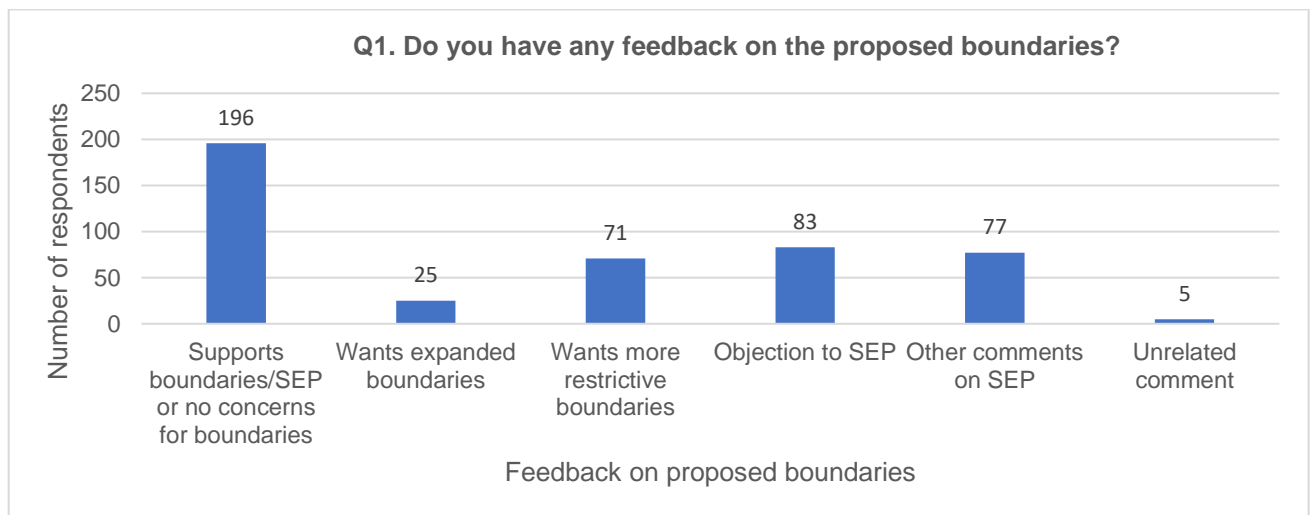


Figure 2. Feedback on boundaries<sup>7</sup>

Approximately 64%\* of respondents provided feedback on the proposed boundaries, the majority of whom either supported the boundaries and/or SEP or had no concerns regarding the boundaries.

Around 16%\* of respondents felt that the proposed precinct area should be smaller. Most of these respondents indicated that the SEP boundaries should not apply to residential areas, and should be restricted to areas where there is an existing concentration of entertainment activity e.g. The Corso and the foreshore.

Some respondents (approximately 5%\*) expressed strong support for the Manly SEP and wanted the precinct extended to include more businesses along Pittwater Road, South Steyne, Shelley Beach, the Manly Life Saving Club, North Head, and Ivanhoe Park and Manly Oval.

<sup>7</sup> Based on written responses and Q1 of the community survey, verbatim responses in Appendix A.

\*All feedback was analysed using comment sentiment and was not quantitative.

Feedback from the Northern Beaches Police Area Command noted that open space areas should be included in the SEP to address increased vibrancy in areas such as East Esplanade and areas outside licenced venues around the Manly Skiff Club near Stuart Street.

## 5.2 Events, activities and businesses requested in Manly after-dark

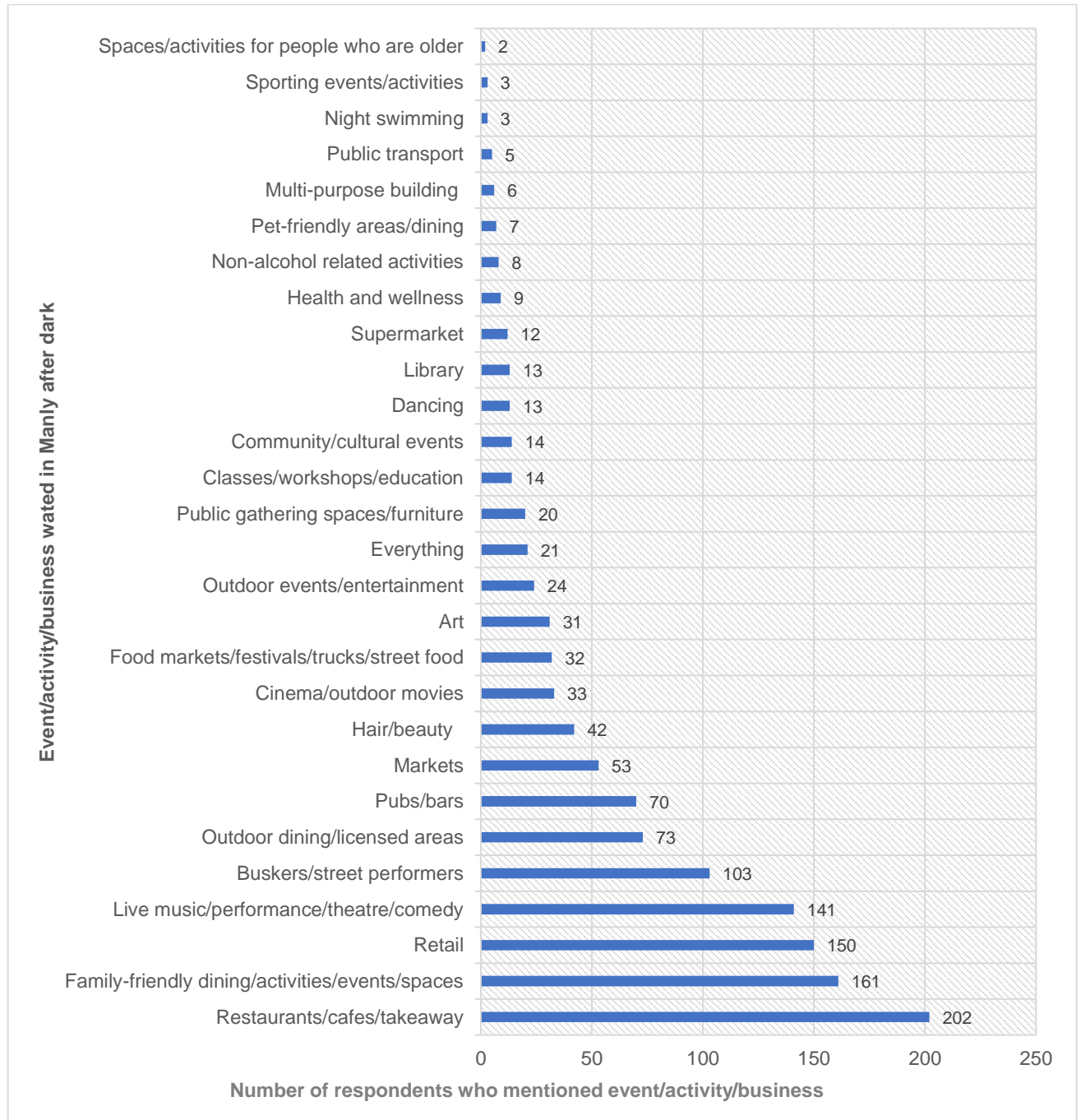


Figure 3. Events/activities/businesses wanted in Manly after-dark<sup>8</sup>

Around 78%\* of total respondents indicated at least one type of event, activity or business type that they would like to see in Manly after-dark. Respondents made suggestions for a wide

<sup>8</sup> Based on written responses and Q1, Q2 and Q3 of the community survey, verbatim responses in Appendix A.

\* All feedback was analysed using comment sentiment and was not quantitative.

variety of uses with many noting the need to improve the quality of night-time offerings and support the live music/creative industry and local businesses.

Hospitality uses including restaurants/cafes/takeaway, family-friendly dining, pubs/bars and outdoor dining/licensed area was the most popular category of uses wanted in Manly at night.

Many respondents indicated a desire for European-style outdoor dining and ambience, especially along The Corso, and more spaces and opportunities to gather informally and socialise safely at night. Some respondents also suggested food markets and street food stalls.

Respondents noted that Manly is lacking liveliness and fun after-dark and wanted to see more entertainment and culture. Live performances were a popular suggestion from respondents who felt that live bands with original music, theatre and comedy were missing from Manly.

Night-time retail was also a popular suggestion from respondents (32%\*) as they are considered low-impact and contribute to a lively, yet safe character.

Around 35%\* of respondents indicated that they wanted to see more family-friendly uses including dining, events, activities and spaces in Manly that cater to all age groups and are not focused on alcohol consumption.

### 5.3 Concerns raised by respondents

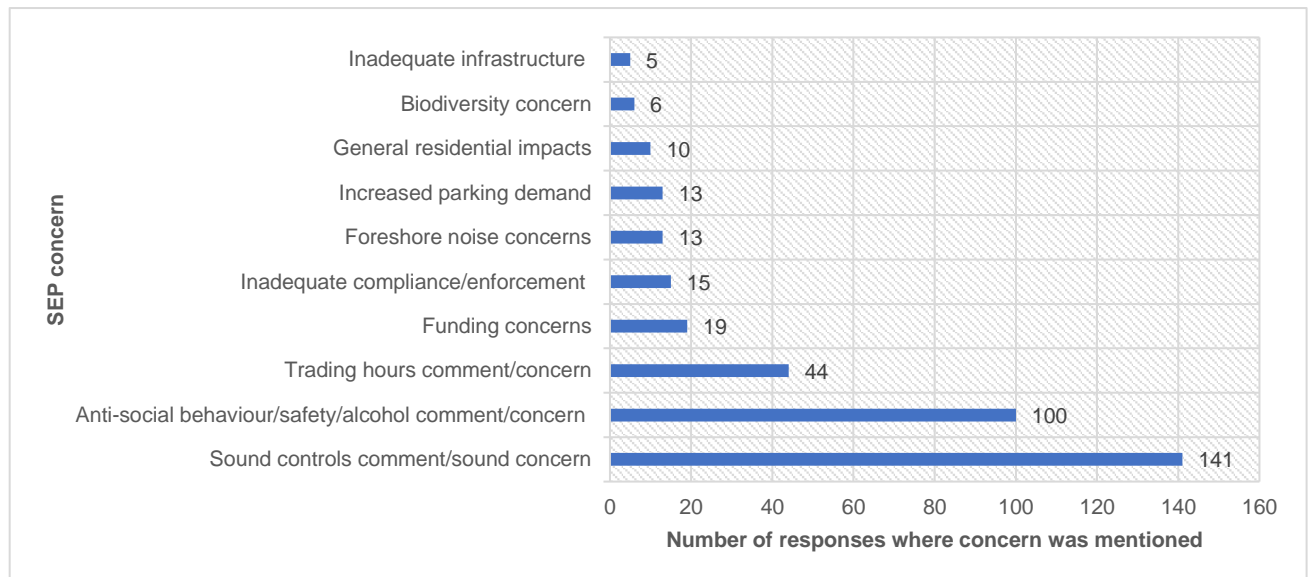


Figure 4. Concerns raised by residents in responses<sup>9</sup>

Approximately 48%\* of respondents indicated some concern regarding the potential impacts of the Manly SEP. The chief concern related to existing and potential impacts on residential noise amenity including the loudness of music at existing venues and disturbances from patrons leaving venues.

Many respondents were supportive of more night-time activity, as long as they finished before certain hours and noise limits were enforced, including outdoor activities such as busking.

Another key concern of respondents related to existing and potential anti-social behaviour exacerbated by alcohol-consumption, including violence and vandalism. Some respondents

<sup>9</sup> Based on written responses and Q1, Q2 and Q3 of the community survey, verbatim responses in Appendix A.

\* All feedback was analysed using comment sentiment and was not quantitative.

noted Manly's history of high incidences of alcohol-related violence, the subsequent success of the venue lock-out, and the need for higher police and ranger presence.

Respondents who raised concerns noted that Manly should be a quiet, peaceful area for residents, or that there is no need to make the Manly commercial centre more vibrant than it already is.

#### 5.4 Business sentiment<sup>10</sup>

Five responses from local businesses were received including from:

- a hospitality business owner who noted that residential concerns about noise and disturbances can be addressed through sound mitigation measures and improved dialogue between operators and residents
- the general manager of a small bar who indicated that they were very supportive of the proposed Manly SEP, very likely to take up later trading hours during the SEP trial and that they were not satisfied with the current public transport availability/frequency, safety, quality of public space, number and type of night-time activities, cost of activities, and availability of family entertainment in Manly
- the owner of a retail business who indicated that they were very supportive of the proposal and that they were likely to take advantage of any later opening hours during an 18-month trial of the Manly SEP
- an accommodation business owner who indicated that residential areas should be excluded from the SEP boundaries and noted the potential increases in noise disturbances at night
- a retail store owner who indicated that they were somewhat supportive of the proposed Manly SEP and noted the need to increase access, foot traffic and visitors to the area, and police presence.

#### 5.5 Council response to key issues, suggestions and considerations raised

Key issues, suggestions and considerations raised in feedback (number of times raised)	Council's response
Support for restaurants/cafes/takeaway in Manly after-dark (approx. 202)	This support is noted.  We will work with members of the local business community to understand how to support their operations at night.
Support for more live music, entertainment and arts and culture (approx. 171)	This support is noted.  We will work with members of the creative sector to understand how to support more live music, entertainment and arts and culture, including how to encourage more venues to host live music and performance.

<sup>10</sup> Based on responses from businesses (email, business survey and community survey), verbatim responses in Appendix A.

<p>Support for family-friendly dining/activities/events/spaces in Manly after-dark (approx. 161)</p>	<p>This support is noted.</p> <p>We will consider the needs of a wider range of demographics including families during the establishment of the SEP and other projects to improve the Manly centre.</p> <p>The adopted <a href="#">Manly Place Plan</a> includes actions to develop a program of events to support and encourage family-friendly night-time activities.</p>
<p>Support for retail in Manly after-dark (approx. 150)</p>	<p>This support is noted.</p> <p>We will work with members of the local business community to understand how to support their operations at night.</p>
<p>Concern that the SEP will result in more anti-social behaviour e.g. littering, public disturbances, vandalism and alcohol-fuelled violence (approx. 141)</p>	<p>These concerns are critical 'whole-of-government' issues and will be considered during the establishment, operation and evaluation of the SEP trial.</p> <p>As part of the SEP framework, amenity and safety considerations mandates Council to engage with the following groups to discuss and resolve any impacts on amenity and safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the community</li> <li>• local businesses</li> <li>• relevant stakeholder groups</li> <li>• government agencies including NSW Police, Transport for NSW, the Northern Sydney Local Health District</li> </ul> <p>We have begun liaising with the Northern Beaches Community Safety Advisory Committee and local police to identify key safety issues.</p> <p>SEPs can address public safety by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• offering more footfall, diverse activities and catering to all demographics to enhance natural surveillance and discourage anti-social behaviour by making it less likely for that behaviour to occur undetected</li> <li>• facilitating engagement between Council, the community, stakeholders and government agencies to identify and address gaps in safety infrastructure e.g. lighting, late-night public transport</li> <li>• empowering licensed venues to do more to manage the safety and wellbeing of their patrons and minimise impacts of the surrounding public domain</li> <li>• having a process for suspending and revoking a SEP in the event that anti-social behaviour</li> </ul>

	and violence leads to demonstrated risks to public safety.
Support for making public outdoor areas livelier through buskers and street performers (approx. 103)	<p>This support is noted.</p> <p>In the <a href="#">Manly Place Plan</a>, Council committed to building on the Northern Beaches <a href="#">Arts and Creativity Strategy</a> through a busker program to provide entertainment in designated areas of Manly centre.</p> <p>The impacts of buskers and street performers will be considered when developing the sound framework for the SEP.</p>
Concern that the SEP will impact on residential noise amenity (approx. 100)	<p>Council acknowledges that there are existing land use conflicts and aims to balance the need to protect Manly's status as an important historical, strategic and vibrant night-time destination, with residential amenity.</p> <p>The <a href="#">Manly Place Plan</a> adopted in September 2024, identifies the need to undertake an acoustic assessment of the centre and develop noise planning controls to address the impacts of vibrancy on nearby residences.</p> <p>The SEP framework requires that we work closely with the community, relevant stakeholders and government agencies to develop controls that will help achieve the area's desired future character.</p> <p>The new sound controls will also be informed by acoustic testing.</p>
Support for outdoor dining/licensed areas in Manly after-dark (approx. 73)	<p>This support is noted.</p> <p>Council has committed to encouraging outdoor dining in the right places in the <a href="#">Manly Place Plan</a>.</p>
Suggestion to limit the boundaries of the SEP to non-residential areas only (approx. 71)	<p>The SEP boundary which was the subject of this early consultation period is based on the study area of the <a href="#">Manly Place Plan</a> and the location of existing live entertainment/music venues.</p> <p>No land included in the SEP boundary is located in residential zones. Land within the SEP boundaries is predominately zoned E1 – Local Centre with some RE1 – Public Recreation, RE2 – Private Recreation, SP2 – Infrastructure and SP3 – Tourist land under the Manly Local Environmental Plan 2013.</p> <p>We will consider amending the boundary to exclude areas which are unlikely to benefit from or contribute to the SEP.</p>



Concern regarding impacts of extending trading hours (approx. 44)	We will work with the community and local businesses to develop suitable trading hours that support vibrancy with consideration of impacts on residential amenity.
Concern regarding funding (approx. 19)	<p>Council was successful in its application for the SEP Kickstart Grant and has received funding from NSW Government.</p> <p>The grant will fund activities related to the establishment of the Manly SEP, such as community engagement and marketing.</p> <p>It will also allow Council to bring forward medium-term (3-5 years) actions identified in the adopted <a href="#">Manly Place Plan</a> including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• acoustic testing</li> <li>• trials of late-night trading hours</li> </ul>
Concern regarding inadequate compliance/enforcement (approx. 15)	<p>These concerns are noted and will be considered during the establishment, operation and evaluation of the SEP trial.</p> <p>The Precinct Management Plan once developed, will describe how complaints will be managed including how:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• since 1 July 2024, Liquor &amp; Gaming NSW now oversees entertainment sound-related complaints from licensed venues.</li> <li>• Council will continue to regulate and manage complaints regarding non-licensed venues, and other sources of noise from licensed venues i.e. waste disposal, delivery services, mechanical noise.</li> <li>• acts of violence, criminal activity, vandalism etc. will continue to be under the responsibility of NSW Police.</li> </ul> <p>We will work with Liquor &amp; Gaming NSW and local police to address the impacts of the SEP on compliance and enforcement arrangements.</p>
Concern regarding foreshore noise (approx. 13)	We will undertake acoustic testing to inform sound controls that will address exposure of residential properties to unreasonable levels of entertainment noise.
Concern regarding increased parking demand (approx. 13)	Council's adopted <a href="#">Northern Beaches Transport Strategy</a> aims to focus on sustainable transport options including increasing public transport and active travel trips, and discouraging car trips.

	We will work with Transport for NSW to review the capacity of the public and active transport network and address any gaps.
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## Appendix A Verbatim community and stakeholder responses\*

To view all verbatim comments, please click the link below:

[https://eservices.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/ePlanning/live/Common/Output/Document.aspx?t=w\\_ebdoc&id=20cPUCak0WgV0A60ki4OEg==](https://eservices.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/ePlanning/live/Common/Output/Document.aspx?t=w_ebdoc&id=20cPUCak0WgV0A60ki4OEg==)

Personal identifying information, and content which is discriminatory, hateful or which may defame, offend, insult, humiliate or intimidate has been redacted.

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\* Spelling and grammatical errors have been amended only where misinterpretation or offence may be caused.

## Appendix B Verbatim business survey responses

Survey question	Business response 1	Business response 2	Business response 3
What is your role in the business or organisation?	Owner	[Redacted]	Owner
What type of business or organisation do you operate?	Retail - general	Small bar (max. 120 patrons)	Retail - general
Does your business or organisation have outdoor trading (e.g. footpath dining, beer garden)?	No	No	No
Are you a member of any business collaboration groups?		Liquor Accord	Business Chamber/ Business Association
What are your busiest times of trade/operation?	Months - October - February  Days - Thursday - Saturday  Times - 10-3	Friday and Saturday 7pm-10pm	Monday - Friday October - April  The market impacts visibility to our business and trade on the weekends.
What day is your busiest day of trade/operation after 6pm?	My business does not trade after 6pm	Saturday  Friday	My business does not trade after 6pm
Does your business or organisation want to open later or more nights during the week?	Yes - later	Yes – both later and more nights during the week	Yes – both later and more nights during the week
What would assist your business or organisation to extend its operating hours?	No assistance needed - we are able to adjust our trading hours as needed.  If there was a Thursday or Friday late trade, we would participate and assess over a trial period	Greater exposure of venue, extended trading hours and more foot traffic in the area precinct.	- Limit the markets blocking visibility to shop front businesses. Put them along areas that could do with more foot traffic and create a walking trail eg Whistler Street  - Do more activities to increase visitors to Manly alongside Tourism Australia and Destination NSW e.g Vivid Sydney and capitalising on the Trip Advisor number 1 beach rating. At the moment

			visitors numbers are going down  - Police patrols. The police don't seem to be engaged with local businesses and have no interest in taking police reports or investigating when windows investigating.
<b>Does your business or organisation currently host live music or live entertainment performances?</b>	No	Yes	No
<b>Does your business or organisation want to hold more live music or entertainment performances?</b>	No	Yes	No
<b>How often does your business or organisation currently host live music or live entertainment performances?</b>		Once a week.  Every Thursday evening from 7-10pm	
<b>Does your business or organisation want to hold more live music or entertainment performances?</b>		Yes - more often	
<b>What would assist your business or organisation to hold more live music or entertainment performances?</b>		Subsidy or live music grants to help aid the cost of musicians	
<b>How activated and vibrant would you currently describe the night-time activity in Manly on a scale of 1 – 5?</b>	2	1	4
<b>How satisfied are you with the following features in relation to the Manly commercial centre?</b>	Public transport availability/frequency - Very satisfied  Feeling safe - Somewhat satisfied  Quality of public space - Somewhat satisfied	Public transport availability/frequency - Not very satisfied  Feeling safe - Not very satisfied  Quality of public space - Not very satisfied	Public transport availability/frequency - Somewhat satisfied  Feeling safe - Not very satisfied  Quality of public space - Very satisfied

	<p>Number and type of night-time activities - Not very satisfied</p> <p>Cost of activities (i.e. value for money) - Not very satisfied</p> <p>Availability of family entertainment - Not at all satisfied</p>	<p>Number and type of night-time activities - Not very satisfied</p> <p>Cost of activities (i.e. value for money) - Not very satisfied</p> <p>Availability of family entertainment - Somewhat satisfied</p>	<p>Number and type of night-time activities - Somewhat satisfied</p> <p>Cost of activities (i.e. value for money) - Somewhat satisfied</p> <p>Availability of family entertainment - Somewhat satisfied</p>
<p><b>Do you have any further comments about the night-time activities or the current night-time operations of your business or organisation?</b></p>	<p>Kids shows and live performances 6-8pm (so it can be a night out for families)</p>		<p>I would be very concerned if night activities were to be increased without investment in security / police activity in the area.</p> <p>There is already a high risk of damage on nights when there is increased activities eg over public holidays. Concerned that more night time activity will bring more costs to business dealing with break-ins etc.</p> <p>Move the markets - it is very difficult to hold night time activities/activations in core areas if the market is putting down all their stalls, moving tables etc</p>
<p><b>How supportive are you of the proposed boundary of the Manly SEP?</b></p>	<p>Very supportive</p>	<p>Very supportive</p>	<p>Somewhat supportive</p>
<p><b>Can you please tell us more?</b></p>	<p>Seems logical in area</p>	<p>Great initiative. [Redacted] greatly supports this!</p>	<p>Police presence / security</p> <p>Markets in the way</p>
<p><b>How likely is your business or organisation to take advantage of later opening hours during an 18-month trial of a Manly SEP?</b></p>	<p>Very likely</p>	<p>Very likely</p>	<p>Likely</p>

<p><b>How likely would your business or organisation consider hosting live entertainment during an 18-month trial of a Manly SEP?</b></p>	<p>Not at all likely</p>	<p>Very likely</p>	<p>Neutral / unsure</p>
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<b>Document administration</b>	
Version	1.0
Date	4 June 2025
Approval	Content provided and approved by the Strategic & Place Planning Team.
Status	Final
Related Projects	Manly Special Entertainment Precinct
Notes	Community and stakeholder views contained in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Beaches Council or indicate a commitment to a particular course of action.