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Cabramatta Circle Public Opinion Research

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Aim & Summary Methodology



To understand community awareness and perception of the Cabramatta Circle development proposal in Longfield Road, and understand which positive and negative messages – and visual stimuli – influence locals' opinions of the proposal.

Quantitative Research (19th June - 29th June 2015)

- > Survey of n=500 randomly selected Fairfield LGA residents including:
 - n=223 in the **Cabravale Ward**
 - n=129 in the Parks Ward,
 - n=148 in the **Fairfield Ward**.
- > **Vietnamese** ethnicity is also identified, and results reported for this group (n=75)
- > **Online** subsample of n=100 who were shown visual stimulus of the proposal
- The CATI (telephone) sub-sample is divided by distance from the proposed site into 'adjacent' and 'non-adjacent' groups:
 - n=130 in the 'adjacent' suburbs 0-3km from the site, and
 - n=369 in the 'non-adjacent' suburbs 3+kms from the site
- > Total sample accurate to +/-4% margin of error (at the 95% confidence interval)
- Minimum quotas and data weighting on area, sex and age to ensure accurate representation

Sample Breakdown of total n=500



Adjacent Suburbs – 3km radius of site (inside Fairfield LGA only) n=130 Non-adjacent Suburbs n= 369 Vietnamese ethnicity respondents n=75 Online respondents (shown visual stimulus) n=100 Telephone (CATI) respondents n=400



The Context: Spontaneous & Prompted Issues

Crime and roads/traffic are the two major issues in Fairfield by a long way; planning and development is very much a lower order issue





Q1) What are the most important issues of concern to you in your local area, that you would like the powers that be to do something about?

Roads are the most important issue to those in suburbs adjacent to the proposed Cabramatta Circle site; for the Vietnamese community, crime is the biggest issue *Slide 1 of 2*

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Q1) What are the most important issues of concern to you in your local area, that you would like the powers that be to do something about?

Housing is a bigger issue of concern to the Vietnamese community and those who live within 3km of the proposed development *Slide 2 of 2* CROSBY | TEXTOR RESEARCH STRATEGIES RESULTS



Q1) What are the most important issues of concern to you in your local area, that you would like the powers that be to do something about?



On a prompted basis, high rise development is the lowest issue of importance, falling well behind jobs, crime, local amenity, high cost of housing and traffic congestion.



Total important Very important

Q2) Below is a list of different local issues and situations other people we have surveyed have said are important to the local area. For each one I'd like you to please indicate whether each is very important, somewhat important, not very important or not at all important.

There is little variation in importance of issues across the various sub-groups Slide 1 of 2

Need more job opportunities in the area Beautification and clean-up of the local area and streets 92% Local crime High cost of housing in your local area ⁷⁰88% Traffic congestion on main arterial roads 75% Need for more frequent, reliable, affordable public transport 85% The need for more car parking in 67% the local area A lack of planning for population growth in the local area 65%

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Total Cabravale Fairfield Parks Adjacent Non-adjacent Vietnamese

Q2) Below is a list of different local issues and situations other people we have surveyed have said are important to the local a<mark>rea. For</mark> each one I'd like you to please indicate whether each is very important, somewhat important, not very important or not at all important. Those within 3km of the Longfield Street site are also more likely to find important a lack of affordable housing, such as apartments Slide 2 of 2





Total Cabravale Fairfield Parks Adjacent Non-adjacent Vietnamese

Q2) Below is a list of different local issues and situations other people we have surveyed have said are important to the local area. For each one I'd like you to please indicate whether each is very important, somewhat important, not very important or not at all important.



People & Groups: Awareness & Favourability

Council, the Mayor and Conservative figures are viewed favourably overall, while property developers, Labor and the Greens are viewed negatively.



N.B. Sorted by net agreement = % agree - % disagree

Q3) Below is a list of people, groups, and organisations, and for each I'd like you to please indicate whether you have a favourable, neutral or unfavourable view of them.

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Development & Cabramatta Circle: Awareness & Opinion

The vast majority think the supply of residential housing in the local area over the past few years has been either 'about right' or 'not enough'



Q4) Over the last few years do you think there has been too much supply of residential housing, not enough or about the right amount in your local area?

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Those in Fairfield ward, Vietnamese ethnicity residents, and those within 3km of the site, are more likely to say there has not been enough residential housing supply



Q4) Over the last few years do you think there has been too much supply of residential housing, not enough or about the right amount in your local area?



Prompted awareness:

(Factual information provided to survey respondents)

The proposed new residential development and new community amenities will include;

- Up to 600 new residential apartments catering for single person households to extended families,
- New housing close to existing transport,
- New public open space recreational areas and community services,
- Allowance for multi-generational living by including a 100-place child care centre and 120-bed nursing home;
 - Provide local conveniences such as a shops, a medical centre and café.

Map of site: Shown to online survey respondents only



Not surprisingly, awareness of the proposed Cabramatta Circle development is very low across the Fairfield Council area





Q5) There is a proposal to build a residential development in an old industrial precinct at 17-21 Longfield Street, Cabramatta, between Chadderton Street and Longfield Street. The development will include 7 buildings varying from 3 to 6 levels (development description),,, Before today, were you aware of this development proposal? [Online only: a map of the site is shown below]

94%

Some groups show slightly higher awareness than others, including Cabravale, adjacent, Vietnamese and those who completed the survey online (and were shown the map)





Q5) There is a proposal to build a residential development in an old industrial precinct at 17-21 Longfield Street, Cabramatta, between Chadderton Street and Longfield Street. The development will include 7 buildings varying from 3 to 6 levels (development description),,, Before today, were you aware of this development proposal? [Online only: a map of the site is shown below]¹⁸

Despite low awareness, the overwhelming tendency is to support the Cabramatta Circle development, with nearly a third <u>strongly</u> supporting the proposal





Q6) Based on what you know at this point in time, would you support or oppose this proposed development at 17-21 Longfield Street, Cabramatta? <u>Strong</u> support for the project is nearly 50% among those of Vietnamese ethnicity, and more than one third who live within 3km of the site also <u>strongly</u> support it





■ Total ■ Cabravale ■ Fairfield ■ Parks ■ Adjacent ■ Non-adjacent ■ Vietnamese ■ Online ■ CATI

Q6) Based on what you know at this point in time, would you support or oppose this proposed development at 17-21 Longfield Street. Cabramatta?



Prompted Messaging: Reasons for & against

When prompted with particular messages about the development, most are found credible Slide 1 of 2



N.B. Sorted by net agreement (given in brackets) = % Agree - % Disagree

Q7a) Below are statements that other people have said about this proposed development in an old industrial precinct at 17-21 Longfield St Cabramatta. Regardless of your overall view, please indicate whether you agree or disagree that each statement is a good reason to support the development.

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Even the lower order prompted messages attract significant agreement Slide 2 of 2

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Address urgent need for more housing for rapidly growing pop'n (+64)	79%	<mark>5%</mark> 16%
Address need for more childcare with 100-place childcare centre (+57)	74%	8% 17%
Provide best-practice design and apartment living to local area (+53)	71%	12% 17%
A unique new comm'y where extended family can live together comfortably (+47)	69%	10% 22%
Low buildings close to neighbouring residences and high buildings in the centre minimises impact on neighbours (+40)	66%	9% 25%
Removeal of industrial estate increase safety by cutting down heavy vehicle no's (+40)	66%	8% 26%
More housing options will lead to more affordable local housing (+38)	65%	8% 27%
Agree	Neutral / Unsure	Disagree

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N.B. Sorted by net agreement (given in brackets) = % Agree - % Disagree

Those of Vietnamese ethnicity find the messages about multigenerational living and dedicated seniors' housing most credible *Slide 1 of 2*

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* Net agreement = % Agree - % Disagree

Q7a) Below are statements that other people have said about this proposed development in an old industrial precinct at 17-21 Longfield St Cabramatta. Regardless of your overall view, please indicate whether you agree or disagree that each statement is a good reason to support the development.

Vietnamese

And the local Vietnamese community also finds very credible the message that Cabramatta Circle would allow the extended family to live together comfortably Slide 2 of 2





Address urgent need for more housing for rapidly growing pop'n

Address need for more childcare with 100-place childcare centre

Provide best-practice design and apartment living to local area

A unique new comm'y where extended family can live together comfortably

Low buildings close to neighbouring residences and high buildings in the centre minimises impact on neighbours

Removeal of industrial estate increase safety by cutting down heavy vehicle no's

More housing options will lead to more affordable local housing

Fairfield

Parks

Adjacent

Non-adjacent

Vietnamese

* Net agreement = % Agree - % Disagree

Broadly, the (prompted) negative messages are not as credible as the positive, though there are concerns about increased traffic congestion *Slide 1 of 2*

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N.B. Sorted by net agreement (given in brackets) = % Agree - % Disagree

Messages about crime, the 'wrong types of people' and general overdevelopment are not credible reasons to oppose Cabramatta Circle Slide 2 of 2





N.B. Sorted by net agreement (given in brackets) = % Agree - % Disagree

Respondents from the Parks ward, and those outside a 3km radius of the site find the negative messages more credible i.e. locals are less concerned *Slide 1 of 2*





* Net agreement = % Agree - % Disagree

The Vietnamese community, and those living closest to the site find messages against the development lack credibility *Slide 2 of 2*





* Net agreement = % Agree - % Disagree

Opinion Driver Map: Regression (CATI Sample)



Anti-Development



Visual Stimulus for online respondents

The online respondents were asked to carefully consider some artists' impressions and visual concepts of the Cabramatta Circle development (shown here)





Image A: Artists' impression of dwellings exterior



Image C: Artists' impression of public plaza



Image B: Artists' impression of dwellings interior, which will range in size from studio to 3+ bedroom apartments

Q9) Below please find a set of artists' impressions and visual concepts of the proposed development. Please take your time to review these images for later question.

Visuals included the proposed building layout





Image D: Overhead view of site, public open space and buildings



Image E: Concepts of use of public open space and multigenerational living





Q9) Below please find a set of artists' impressions and visual concepts of the proposed development. Please take your time to review these images for later question.

Also included were photos of the existing site









Image F: Actual images of existing site

Q9) Below please find a set of artists' impressions and visual concepts of the proposed development. Please take your time to review these images for later question.



Considered opinions

After considering messages for and against, the primary <u>unprompted</u> reasons to support the project are to address the local housing shortage with affordable housing options





Q11a) Despite your overall view of the development, from everything you have read and seen, what would you say is the best reason to SUPPORT this proposed development on Longfield Street?
Reasons to support vary somewhat across analysis groups: Parks and Vietnamese respondents more focused on affordable housing, Fairfield ward on aged care *Slide 1 of 2*





Q11a) Despite your overall view of the development, from everything you have read and seen, what would you say is the best reason to SUPPORT this proposed development on Longfield Street?

Lower order reasons to support the project are for its community space / facilities, but traffic is of particular importance among Vietnamese respondents Slide 2 of 2





Q11a) Despite your overall view of the development, from everything you have read and seen, what would you say is the best reason to SUPPORT this proposed development on Longfield Street?

After consideration, the primary reassurances people require about the project are about height, density and parking



Q11b) Despite your overall view of the development, from everything you have read and seen, what do you think could IMPROVE this development in your view?

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Reassurances vary across different analysis groups; those living within 3km are most likely to cite lower height, general opposition and a need for adequate parking *Slide 1 of 2*

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Q11b) Despite your overall view of the development, from everything you have read and seen, what do you think could IMPROVE this development in your view?

Vietnamese ethnicity respondents want reassurance that the development will address affordable housing concerns

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Q11b) Despite your overall view of the development, from everything you have read and seen, what do you think could IMPROVE this development in your view?



Considered support: The effect of communications

After messaging for and against the proposal, support for the project is more polarised; there are fewer who 'don't know' whether they support or oppose it

66% **TOTAL SUPPORT** 69% 30% Strongly support 31% 18% **TOTAL OPPOSE** 23% 11% Strongly oppose 13% Pre-messaging 16% Don't know / No Post-messaging opinion 8%

Q13) Sometimes people change their minds on a subject after they have heard some arguments for or against a proposal, and seen what the development could potentially look like. Would you say that you now support or oppose the proposed development in Ashbury?



After messaging support for Cabramatta Circle rises significantly among Vietnamese ethnicity respondents



Fairfield



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Q13) Sometimes people change their minds on a subject after they have heard some arguments for or against a proposal, and seen what the development could potentially look like. Would you say that you now support or oppose the proposed development in Ashbury? Support for the project also rises significantly among those who have seen the artists' impressions of the development (online)



Adjacent suburbs



Online respondents (with images)



Non-adjacent suburbs





Q13) Sometimes people change their minds on a subject after they have heard some arguments for or against a proposal, and seen what the development could potentially look like. Would you say that you now support or oppose the proposed development in Ashbury?

Telephone (CATI) respondents

⁴⁵



Strategic Summary



Crime and roads are the two biggest unprompted issues of concern in the Fairfield council area

- > Housing is a lower order issue
- > Planning and development only receives 3% of mentions
- There is some variation in the importance of issues across the analysis groups
 - Those living 'adjacent' to the development (within 3km of the site) are much more concerned about roads and traffic than crime
 - The Vietnamese community are more concerned about crime and so will need reassurance that the development will be a safe community and will not contribute to local crime issues
- On a prompted basis, important issues are jobs, crime and local cleanliness / beautification
 - > 70% agree it is important that there is not enough affordable housing including apartments



- Incumbent political groups and individuals (i.e. Council, Carbone, Baird, State Gov't) are viewed relatively favourably as opposed to property developers
 - Support from trusted / favourable representatives may help increase local support for the project
- Local people recognise the need for more affordable housing in the area, but it must be shown how Cabramatta Circle can help address this recognised problem
 - People in Fairfield and within 3km of the site, and Vietnamese ethnicity respondents are more likely to want more affordable housing
 - Awareness of the development is, as yet, very low (in the absence of significant advertising to date)
- Despite this, support is high at 66% of the local population
 - > This rises to a very high 72% and 77% among the adjacent and Vietnamese ethnicity communities respectively



- There is general agreement with the positive messages about the development
 - Vietnamese respondents agree most strongly with the messaging around multigenerational living and new, affordable housing and aged care for seniors
- People's biggest concerns about the project are around increased traffic congestion and direct local impacts such as changing the character of Longfield Street and privacy for neighbours
 - On the whole, negative messages are not as credible as positive messages
 - After messaging (and after seeing visual stimulus for the online respondents) the strongest reason given to support the project is to address local housing shortage and affordability
 - > Aged care and childcare facilities (and jobs) are a bonus
 - Locals need reassurance on height, density, parking and traffic



Importantly, after messaging, support increases among these groups

- > Those who live within 3km of the site
- > Those with Vietnamese ethnicity
- > Those in the Parks and Cabravale wards and
- > The online survey respondents

Support grew most strongly among online respondents, demonstrating visual stimulus will help reassure people about their concerns and persuade them about the benefits i.e. 'seeing is believing'



- The regression analysis shows which messages are most influential on people's support for, and opposition to, the development
 - > And therefore provides a basis for a simple and powerful narrative
- Neutralise the biggest concerns influencing people's opposition are
 - > There are too many units in the development
 - > The development will increase traffic congestion in the area
 - Leverage the key benefits (which are more influential than concerns)
 - The development will use best-practice design in apartment living to replace heavy old industrial buildings
 - Leading to increased safety, more public spaces
 - While the design minimises impact on neighbours
 - The development will address the urgent need for more housing in the area and provide affordable housing
 - With the added bonus of increased housing for seniors, increased aged care, more childcare, and (for the Vietnamese community) multigenerational living



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