

Swan River Crossings Fremantle Traffic Bridge

Swan River Crossings - Community Survey Outcomes

Context

The new Fremantle Traffic Bridge will create a striking gateway to Walyalup (Fremantle).

While most of the new bridge can be constructed with the existing crossing open, the bridge will need to fully close to complete the project - limiting access and impacting commute times, particularly along Stirling Highway and Canning Highway, and crossing Stirling Bridge.

Based on the current timetable, a 12-month closure of the bridge is anticipated to commence in early 2026. This means that approximately 24,000 vehicles per day that use the bridge will seek alternatives, including Stirling Bridge, which carries around 40,000 vehicles per day.

Reducing vehicle numbers on the road network is critical to avoid significant congestion once the Fremantle Traffic Bridge closes.

It will take a combined effort from all road users, including freight, truck and car drivers, as well as people walking, riding bikes and scooters, to navigate this disruption. Everyone is asked to think about how they can reconsider travel options to move safely and efficiently during this time.

A My Say Transport Survey was undertaken from May to June 2025 and attracted 1,249 responses.

The online survey aimed to seek feedback from the local community and road users about:

- how they cross the river, including frequency, purpose and mode
- who is thinking about shifting to other modes, such as public transport
- what would encourage more use of public transport, walking, and cycling.

The survey is not representative of the entire user population and does not reflect the voices of all user groups. The results should not be generalised. The My Say community survey was one component used to seek feedback.

Meetings and briefings have been conducted with community and stakeholders since 2024 from areas north, south and east of the project area. Feedback has also been sought from local governments, businesses and schools.

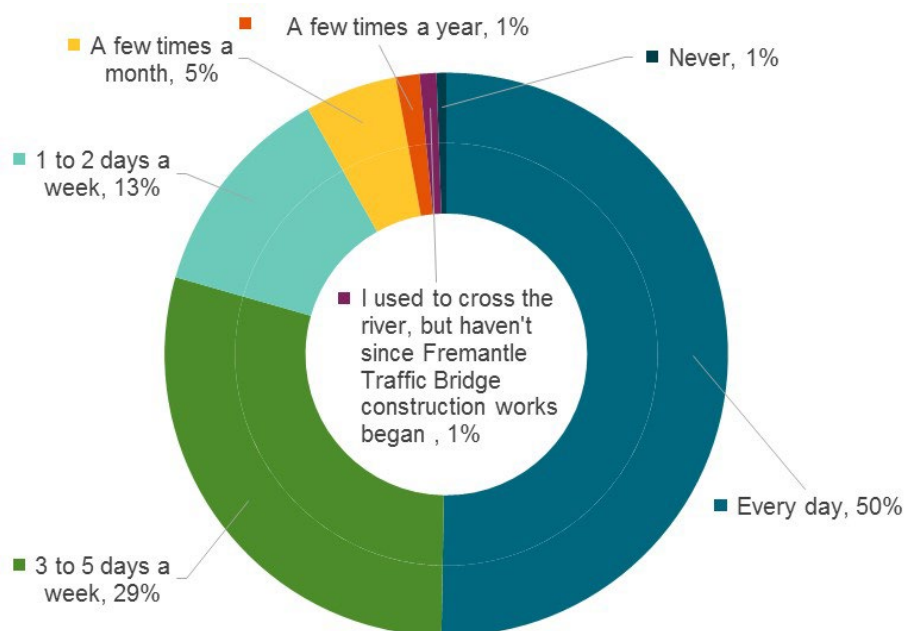
Respondents

Of the 1,249 respondents:

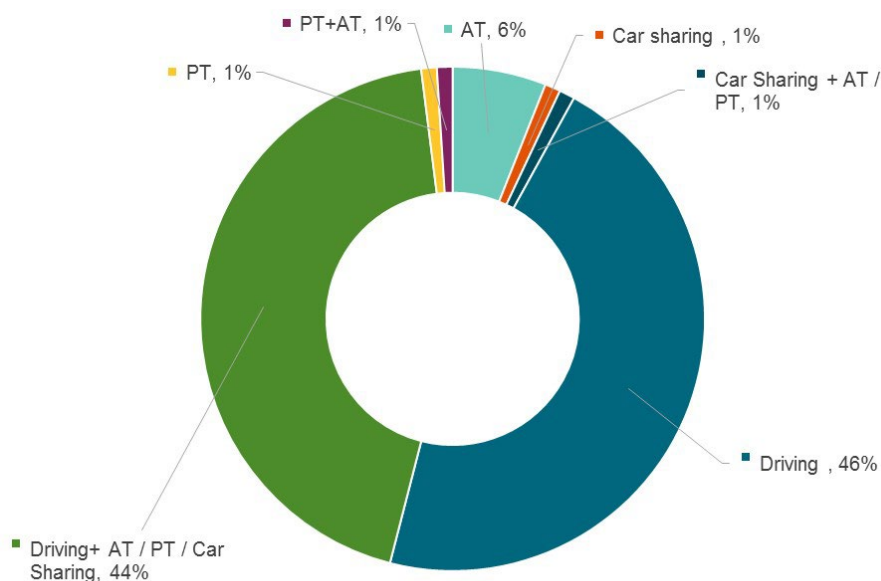
- 75% were aged 35-65
- Three in five were female
- 76% worked, with about half working full time
- 6% were students.
- About 1 in 6 are parents with children at home.

Who is crossing the bridge, why and how?

Frequency: Half the respondents cross the river daily, while a further three in 10 crossing 3-5 days a week.



Mode: 46% of respondents rely solely on private vehicle transport, with a further 44% combining vehicle and other modes.

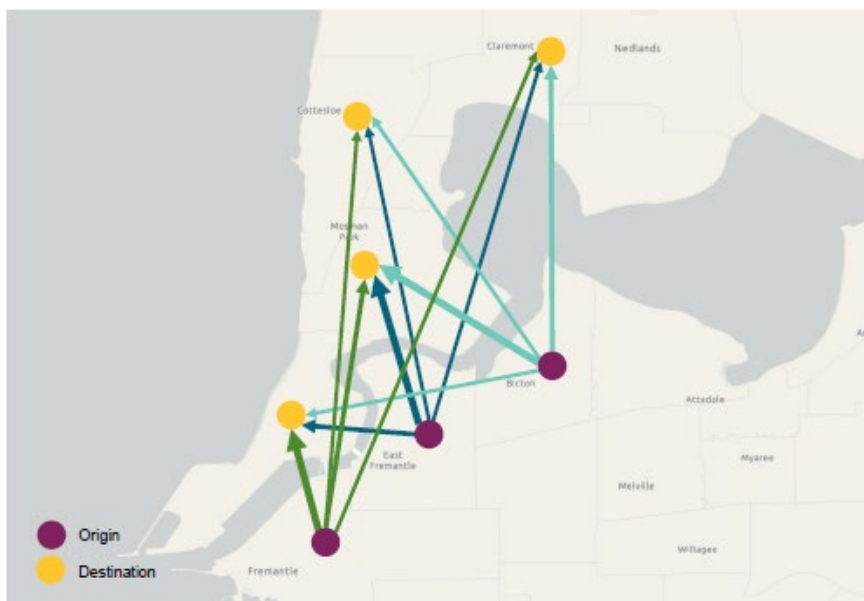


Purpose: People cross the bridge for multiple reasons. Commuting to place of work and for leisure were the top two trip purposes.

Trip Origin

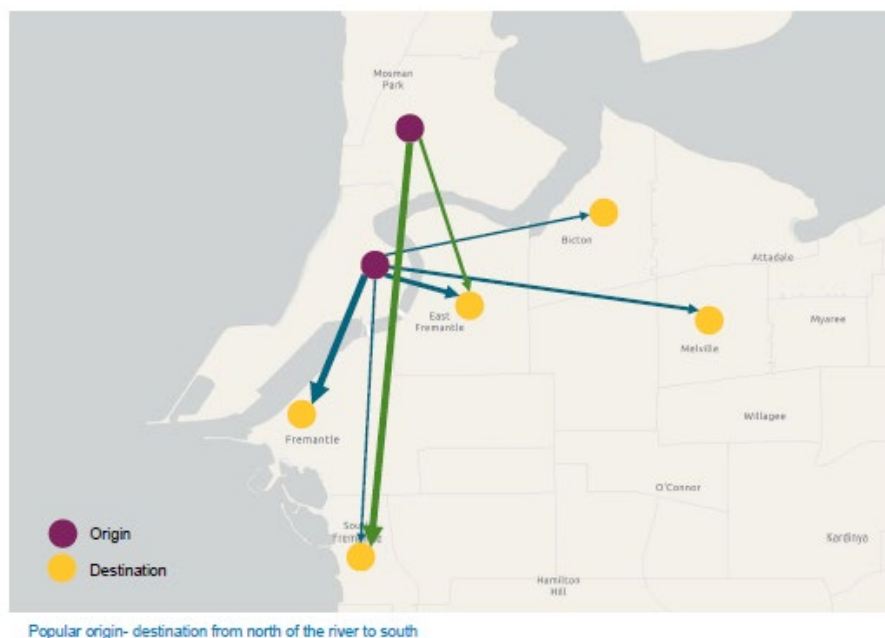
- A large proportion of respondents live south of the Swan River (75%) compared with 24% that travel from the north of the river.
- Trip origins are concentrated close to the bridges, with most impacted trips from suburbs within 5km of the bridges.
- Respondents often visit multiple suburbs north of south of the river.

Origin – Destination (South to North)



- Mosman Park is the most common destination overall, especially for East Fremantle and Bicton.
- East Fremantle residents most frequently travel to Mosman Park, North Fremantle, Claremont and Cottesloe.
- Fremantle residents most frequently travel to North Fremantle, Mosman Park, Cottesloe, Claremont.
- Bicton residents most frequently travel to Mosman Park, Claremont, Cottesloe and North Fremantle.

Origin – Destination (North to South)



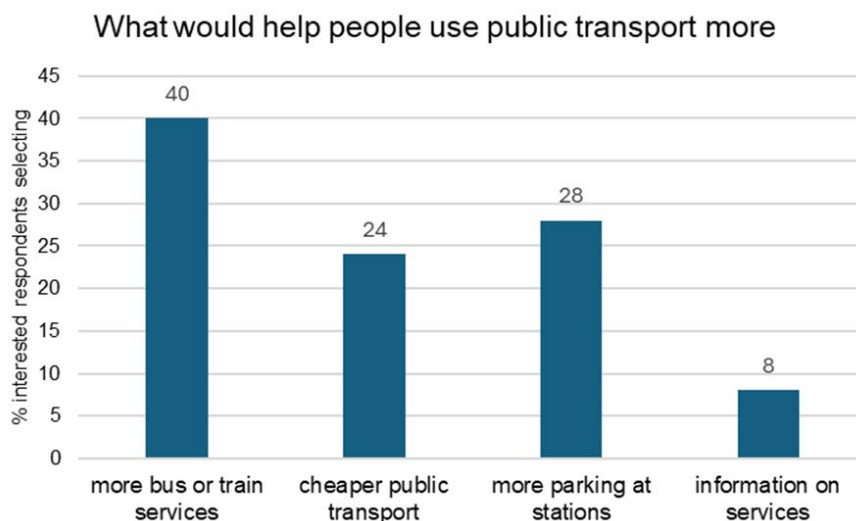
- North Fremantle residents most frequently travel to Fremantle, East Fremantle, Melville, Bicton and South Fremantle

- Mosman Park residents most frequently travel to Fremantle and East Fremantle
- Fremantle is the most common destination for both North Fremantle and Mosman Park travellers

Considering travel times and congestion are expected to increase over the Stirling Bridge and nearby roads during construction, the Respondents were also asked to provide information on the alternative travel option/s they could consider when the bridge is closed. While considering alternative is not possible for some for a variety of reasons, some are already thinking about alternatives.

Who is thinking about alternative transport modes?

Around 35% of the respondents are interested in using public transport more during the closure. From those, one-third currently drive across the bridge. Nearly half of those 35% are already using a combination of modes and considering increasing their use of public transport. More services and more parking at stations, combined with cheaper public transport, would encourage them to shift modes.

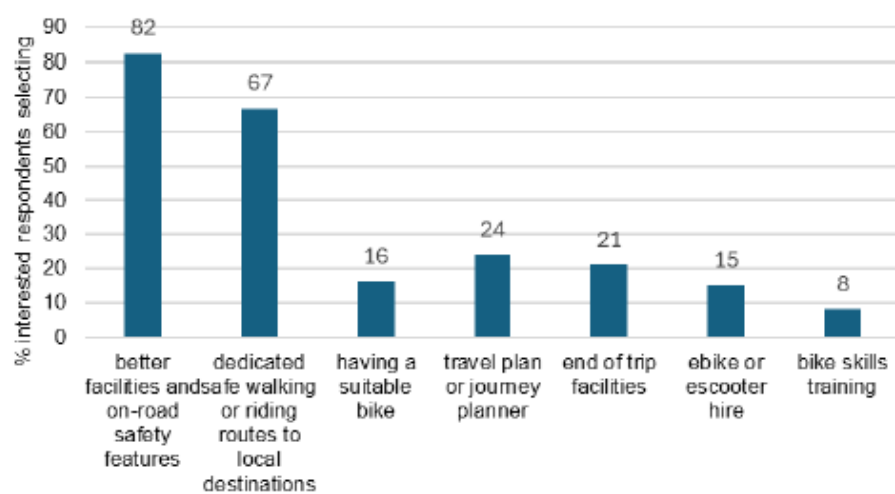


Residents of East Fremantle, Fremantle and Bicton indicated an interest in increasing their use of public transport during the closure.

Respondents considering use of public transport during the closure, are mainly crossing the bridge as part of their commute to work, or study or both.

About a third of the respondents are interested in walking, wheeling or riding more during the closure. However, they express several challenges like lack of safe and dedicated infrastructure, presence of heavy vehicle and navigation through detour routes. This group provided information on what could encourage them to walk, wheel or ride more.

What would help people walk, wheel or ride more



We thank everyone who took the time to provide us with this valuable feedback.