

Better shelter tops station users' wish list

More than 1,800 Melbournians have used their mobile phones to send a message to government and councils about better stations. Over 75 per cent of the respondents to the pt4me2 Better Stations Survey said improving stations was important or very important.

Cr Jackie Fristacky, Metropolitan Transport Forum (MTF) Chairperson, said 'top of the list of improvements was better shelter, toilets, more cleaning, more car parking and staffing.'

The news is not all bad, with 53 per cent of respondents rating their nominated station as very good, good or fair. But 45 per cent rated their station as having some shortcomings or unacceptable.

The survey identified Melbourne's worst station as Tottenham, followed closely by Ringwood. The best station was Fairfield, followed by Mitcham.

Best and worst stations

Best (in order)

Fairfield
Mitcham
Nunawading
Elsternwick
Oakleigh
Mentone
Ivanhoe
Camberwell
Newport
Glenferrie

Worst (in order, worst first)

Tottenham
Ringwood
West Footscray
Hallam
Sunshine
Victoria Park
Balaclava
Footscray
Hoppers Crossing
Dandenong

The City of Maribyrnong has already identified Tottenham as a station in need (noting that it is earmarked for changes as part of the Regional Rail). The council is calling for a number of improvements including:

- access to the station from Rupert Street and Dempster Street should be greatly improved, with an emphasis on upgrading the Ashley St underpass to include a two-way walkway and improved lighting. Applied wall treatment and public art could be considered.
- station entry – the forecourt should be defined as a public space that encourages use, including paths, landscaping and lighting, weatherproof canopies and signage.
- a car park is needed to remedy the current situation on Rupert Street where drivers park cars ad hoc on a gravelled area.

FYI http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tottenham_railway_station

Visit for a detailed report http://www.pt4me2.org.au/media/BetterStations_surveypart1.pdf

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