

Plain Language Statement

Melbourne School of Psychological Science



Project: *Understanding urban sustainability beliefs and behaviours across Melbourne transport users*

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What is this research about?

Making our cities more liveable is important for improving the health and wellbeing of current and future inhabitants. This study aims to explore people's experiences, identities, beliefs and behaviours regarding transport and urban sustainability in the context of Greater Melbourne.

Who can participate in the study?

This research study is aimed at people who meet the following criteria:

- Are 18 years or older.
- Have used either a car, a bicycle, or public transport as their primary mode(s) of transport in the past six months.
- Currently live in the Greater Melbourne region as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics boundary line (see <https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/2GMEL>).
- Are proficient in English.

What will I be asked to do?

Should you agree to participate, you will be asked to complete an online survey lasting approximately 20-25 minutes. In the survey, you will be asked questions about things like your method of transport and commute enjoyment, your beliefs about urban sustainability and transport, your ideal future city, your support for various transport and urban policies, and various advocacy and lifestyle behaviours.

What are the possible benefits of this research?

The findings from this study may inform policymakers as to what citizens want from their cities and which urban issues need to be prioritised. By providing insights as to the psychological and social processes that underlie people's beliefs and behaviours towards urban liveability, this research will offer valuable knowledge to urban planners and decision-makers. This research is especially valuable to Australian policymakers due to the local context of the research.

Will I be paid for my participation?

If you choose to participate in this study, you can enter your email in a raffle at the end of the survey to win one of fifty \$20 digital gift vouchers. Based on our desired sample size of 615, you would have a 1 in 12 chance of winning a voucher. The winners will be randomly drawn by a number generator following the closing of the survey.

What are the possible risks?

Apart from giving up your time, we do not expect there to be any risks associated with taking part in this study.

What if I want to withdraw from the research?

Participation in this research is completely voluntary. You can withdraw from the study at any time you wish during survey completion up until you submit your responses. As your data is completely anonymous once you submit the survey, we will not be able to re-identify your data.

Will I hear about the results of this project?

We will post a summary of the findings at the following link when they become available:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ut1-C-6EBstfNZjEK1hbCdAMJSarcMTj2yqj_M1VPhI/edit?usp=sharing

What will happen to information about me?

- **Where will my information be stored?** If you choose to take part, files containing data will be stored electronically on a secure university server with a password. The information you provide will be de-identified, that is, no identifying information will be used in reporting the study results. As such, any information you provide is confidential and the raw data will only be accessible to the listed researchers. Others outside the research team may have access to de-identified archived data. Upon publication, the data may be stored on the Open Science Framework, as is common practice for research transparency. This means that other researchers can download the data file with all participants' responses in it. However, the responses you provide are not linked to any identifying details about yourself as we will remove any identifying information, such as your email address and any responses that you give to open-ended questions that contain potentially identifiable information.
- **For how long will my data be stored?** The raw data will be stored for a minimum of 5 years, in accordance with the Australian Code of Responsible Conduct of Research. Following the data storage period described above, the de-identified data will remain in an online research repository (the Open Science Framework) if uploaded and may be used in future research projects. Specifically, as the anonymous research data will be made available online, other researchers may wish to use this to test other research questions that may provide similar benefits to understanding of the topic.

Results may be presented at conferences in Australia/overseas and published in scientific journals.

Where can I get further information?

If you would like more information about the project, please contact the researchers; Ms. Abby Robinson (abby.robinson1@unimelb.edu.au) or Prof Iain Walker (iain.walker@unimelb.edu.au).

Who can I contact if I have any concerns about the project?

This project has human research ethics approval from The University of Melbourne (ID: 28094). If you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of this research project, which you do not wish to discuss with the research team, you should contact the Research Integrity Administrator, Office of Research Ethics and Integrity, University of Melbourne, VIC 3010. Tel: +61 3 8344 1376 or Email: research-integrity@unimelb.edu.au. All complaints will be treated confidentially. In any correspondence, please provide the name of the research team and/or the name or ethics ID number of the research project.

How do I agree to participate?

If you wish to participate, please click 'continue' to view a consent form and provide your consent.