

- Increasing patrols by Council Locals Laws Officers to enforce temporary measures within their jurisdiction;
- Communication with local residents, tour operators and the general public to advise of the temporary changed traffic conditions.

Council will continue to work with all stakeholders including the recently formed Autumn Festival Committee, who are coordinating a number of open gardens and are planning to implement initiatives to minimise impact on the community and to maximise the visitor experience.

We will also be monitoring visitation and the effectiveness of the temporary measures we have implemented, to refine as required and to assist with future planning.

For up-to-date information on the temporary measures visit

mrsc.vic.gov.au/autumn-leaves

or call 5422 0333

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Management of increased autumn visitation in Macedon & Mt Macedon



Management of increased visitation during autumn

Council has been working with VicRoads, Victoria Police, Open Garden owners and members of the community to develop some trial measures to manage an anticipated influx of visitors to Macedon and Mount Macedon during autumn.

Throughout April 2016, areas of Macedon and Mount Macedon experienced a substantial increase in visitation which placed substantial pressure on Honour Avenue, Mount Macedon Road and some of the surrounding areas.

This impacted traffic flow, road safety and raised concerns around public amenity. The heaviest impact appeared to be concentrated on weekends and public holidays, however we understand that weekday visitation was also greater than in previous years.

The reason we can ascertain for the change in intensity of activity is due to an increase in tour operators offering 'Autumn leaves' packages as well as social media – otherwise the leaves and open gardens have been a key visitor attraction for over 100 years.

Following on from a community meeting in December 2016, a number of proposed measures were suggested and scoped, with a number to be trialled this coming autumn.

At this point in time, we are planning to implement changes between 8 & 30 April 2017, however depending on the climate and subsequent changing colour of the leaves, this will be monitored and adjusted where necessary.

Temporary measures being implemented in partnership with VicRoads, Victoria Police and the garden owners will include:

- Measures to address public amenity such as increasing the servicing of existing public amenities in the main hot spots of Macedon and Mount Macedon, as well as providing additional bins;
- Implementing a temporary no stopping area along Honour Avenue, Macedon between 9am and 5pm and directing cars to Tony Clarke Reserve using traffic management and signage;
- Reducing the speed limit along Honour Avenue between 9am and 5pm on weekends and public holidays;
- Extending the existing no stopping area where parking is a risk to public safety in some narrow sections of Mount Macedon Road, Mount Macedon in the vicinity of the majority of open gardens;
- Introducing 2 hour restricted parking in sections of the Mount Macedon village, to enable those who are visiting the businesses in the village with a better opportunity to park;

