

I am not sure whether feedback on the proposed settlement boundaries is being considered in this submission process, but I think that the growth areas that have been designated for Ocean Grove are too big and will likely make many of the strategies and objectives related to protecting the environment impossible to achieve. There are no walking/cycling paths (other than through the Nature Reserve, which, on another note, has also become a very busy place) that link Oakdene Estate with 'old Ocean Grove' (area south of Thacker Street/Shell Road). Thus, many people living in Oakdene Estate drive into 'old Ocean Grove' and many people who live in 'old Ocean Grove' drive out to Kingston Village Square. This will only get worse with more people living beyond the existing Oakdene Estate. The designated growth areas will also lead to more people driving to the beach, but there is already not enough parking at the beach and people park cars (illegally) in vegetated areas.

The town centre is also already at capacity with parking, and so many additional homes will only lead to more people driving and more cars needing parking. The shopping centres outside the town centre are convenient, but they will never replace strolling down the main street and visiting the numerous small businesses that make the town great. However, this stroll could be made to be completely inconvenient to those who don't live within 'old Ocean Grove' (i.e. and have to drive) and it may even become unappealing to those who do live within 'old Ocean Grove' if the town is overrun with people and the surrounding streets are overrun with parked cars.

I think overdevelopment in Ocean Grove is a real threat to the environment and the town itself and I urge you to consider reducing the growth areas designated for this town, if possible.