



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 31623

15 APR 2019

1 William Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7300
Email transportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.tmr.qld.gov.au

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition number 3049-18, lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Ms Fiona Simpson MP, Member for Maroochydore on 26 March 2019, about the Sunshine Coast public transport system.

I am pleased to advise that in 2017–18, passenger trips on buses in the Sunshine Coast region grew by 3.6 per cent to 5.6 million. This growth has continued in 2018–19 with bus trips increasing by an additional 3.4 per cent over the first eight months of this financial year. In fact, bus patronage on the Sunshine Coast has ranged between 5.4 million to 5.72 million during the financial years between 2013–14 and 2017–18.

The Palaszczuk Government has made an ongoing effort to improve the public transport system on the Sunshine Coast. In December 2016, the Palaszczuk Government cut prices for public transport through the Fairer Fares package, which has saved commuters more than \$104 million since it was introduced.

We have also funded significant improvements to bus services on the Sunshine Coast. Since 2016, the government has permanently funded services from Maleny to Nambour and Maleny to Landsborough. In early 2017, the Palaszczuk Government delivered a network change to support the opening of Sunshine Coast University Hospital, along with a new network for the Nambour area. The change included the provision of three new routes with additional services on weekdays and weekends. The new network increased opportunities for the community to access a range of destinations in Nambour, Kawana, Caloundra, Maroochydore and the University of the Sunshine Coast. More recently, we have extended a new route to the developing community at Baringa, which provides more services over a longer span of hours.

I note the request for the public transport network to have 'transparent benchmarked performance targets'. My department publishes a snapshot of customer satisfaction each month against a wide number of key performance measures, which is able to be accessed on the Queensland Government's publications website by copying and pasting the following text into your internet browser: <https://publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/translink-public-transport-performance-snapshots>

TransLink will continue to monitor changes in the community and demand for services on the Sunshine Coast, while considering improvements to services where this is warranted and can be justified against competing public transport priorities across Queensland.

Yours sincerely

MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads