



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 38489
Your ref: A600272

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to my interim response to petition 3377-20 about providing better public transport to the western Ipswich suburbs, which was tabled on 8 October 2020.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to providing equitable, efficient and accessible public transport services in Queensland in line with the objectives under the *Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Act 1994*, and the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport Standard 2002 (DSAPT).

Since 2019, the Palaszczuk Government has delivered several improvements to bus services across the Ipswich region. This includes new routes 531 and 533, which service Ripley Valley to Yamanto and Springfield, and the fast-developing Spring Mountain respectively. Additionally, the replacement of bus route 522 with routes 527 and 528 has greatly increased service reliability and improved train connections. Further improvements have also been made to the reliability of bus route 526 which services Springfield through to Redbank.

In addition to this, the Palaszczuk Government has delivered important transport infrastructure to cater for the expanding region. These projects include:

- \$38 million for an accessibility upgrade at Bundamba Station
- \$2.6 million for Ebbw Vale Park 'n' Ride upgrade adding 70 new parking spaces
- \$44.5 million Springfield Central Park 'n' Ride upgrade adding 1100 new parking spaces
- \$1 million contribution towards the preliminary business case for the Ipswich to Springfield Public Transport Corridor Strategic Assessment subject to the Federal Government matching this amount and the Ipswich City Council funding the remaining amount needed.

The provision of transport services to all areas of Queensland can be challenging and must strike the right balance to achieve viability, reliability and value-for-money. This is particularly the case in low-density and developing urban fringe areas, as demand is generally inadequate to support stand-alone scheduled services.

For the suburbs of western Ipswich, TransLink provides several public transport services to connect residents with key destinations across Ipswich and South East Queensland. These include:

- Rosewood line train services
- bus routes 506, 512, 514, 515 and 529, in addition to connectivity to routes 500, 502, 503 and 509 from Riverlink shopping centre to adjacent suburbs
- multiple school bus services
- FlexiLink service (roam zone D) in parts of Karalee, Barellan Point and Chuwar.


Given the current low-density and population in this area, an increase in service levels or a redirection of public transport services is not being considered at this time.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) works with many service delivery partners to provide public transport services under the terms of a service contract. These contracts place obligations on the contract holder, including the requirement to comply with all relevant and applicable legislation, which includes disability laws such as the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*, as well as DSAPT.

Please be assured that TMR will continue to work closely with public transport delivery partners and other key stakeholders to identify future transport opportunities for the broader Ipswich community.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads