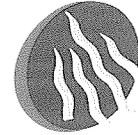




Hon Rachel Nolan MP
Member for Ipswich

Our ref: MC47516



**Queensland
Government**

Minister for Transport

1 APR 2010

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Neil

I refer to a petition number 1263-09 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Michael Choi MP, Member for Capalaba, on 9 February 2010, about the timing of the delivery of public transport infrastructure and services to Capalaba and Redland City and the request to bring forward delivery of the Eastern Busway to Capalaba by 2012.

The Bligh Government is strongly committed to the provision of public transport infrastructure for a sustainable South East Queensland. Ten years ago, Brisbane had no busways. Currently there are 24 kilometres of busways, including the South East Busway, Inner Northern Busway and Eastern Busway.

The priority of government has been to plan and protect the alignment for the ultimate Eastern Busway and this planning was completed in 2007. Since protecting the Eastern Busway alignment, infrastructure has been delivered in stages according to the following priorities:

- the \$366m first stage of the Eastern Busway, between Eleanor Schonell Bridge and the South East Busway at Buranda was completed in August 2009.
- in addition, the \$465.8m second stage of the Eastern Busway between Buranda and Main Avenue, Coorparoo (includes funding for property acquisition up to Cavandish Road, Coorparoo) is currently under construction and is due to be completed in 2012. This project will generate approximately 2500 jobs over its lifetime.

The planning and delivery of infrastructure has to be considered across the South East Queensland region and the state as a whole and prioritised accordingly. The *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program 2009-2026* (SEQIPP) outlines the Queensland Government's program of infrastructure and major projects for South East Queensland.

SEQIPP prioritises the infrastructure delivery timeframe for the Eastern Busway between Buranda and Capalaba from 2009-2010 to be completed by 2026. In the meantime, services will continue to be rolled out independent of the delivery of infrastructure. The increases in service frequency will provide many benefits for public transport users along this corridor.

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I trust this information is of assistance. If you require further information, please call Mr Daniel Cheverton, Principal Advisor of my office, on 3898 0812. Mr Cheverton will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Nolan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

RACHEL NOLAN MP
Minister for Transport