

Minister for Transport and Main Roads Minister for Digital Services

Our ref: PET 55050 Your ref: A1335308

12 September 2024

Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of the Parliament Parliament House

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Dear Mr Laurie

George Street

I refer to petition 4107-24, lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Brent Mickelberg MP, Member for Buderim on 20 August 2024 about disability parking permits for parents/carers of a child with a disability.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads' (TMR) Disability Parking Scheme provides parking concessions for people with severe mobility impairment or those diagnosed as legally blind, allowing them to access services such as hospitals, shopping centres and entertainment venues more easily. The scheme helps Queenslanders to retain independence by making it easier to access vital services, visit friends and family, as well as seek work or education.

The current policy is to issue one permit, that can be used in any vehicle they travel in, per person. The permit is granted to an individual, rather than a vehicle. While it is acknowledged this arrangement may create inconvenience or difficulties for some scheme members and their families, permit allocation must be weighed against the potential for permit misuse if an individual was issued with multiple permits.

It is important any change in policy be made with a full understanding of the implications for people with a disability. TMR has commenced a review of the Disability Parking Permit Scheme and the feasibility and impacts of issuing additional permits for parents/carers will be included within the scope of this review. The review will examine eligibility for additional permits, the impact of additional permits on the availability of disability parking bays, and an examination of what other jurisdictions do in relation to this matter.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

BART MELLISH MP

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Minister for Digital Services