



# Hon Jackie Trad MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure,

Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade

Our ref: PET 13894

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

27 APR 2015

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 2356-15 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Glen Elmes MP, Member for Noosa on 26 March 2015 requesting cessation of access by scheduled TransLink bus route 628 services to Swan Street, Wylah Street and Creek Road, Noosaville.

I would like to assure you that this government understands that an effective public transport system is of paramount importance to all Queenslanders. We are working hard to ensure Queenslanders are getting a fair deal and can rely on public transport that is efficient, connected, affordable and most importantly, safe.

I am advised that there are a number of objective criteria used by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) when designing an urban bus route, including:

- appropriate patronage – TMR determines if there is a sufficient demand for the service on the intended designated route
- cost – a budget for the service must be available and the service needs to provide an appropriate value proposition. TMR takes this obligation seriously to ensure value for service is balanced against community expectations regarding the provision of frequent, reliable passenger services
- an appropriate route – an appropriate route must allow the patronage and cost elements to be achieved in an appropriate and safe manner.

Through previous representations, TMR understands that some Creek Road residents are concerned with buses accessing Swan Street, Wylah Street and Creek Road, citing unsuitability of road design for use by heavy vehicles, increased noise and the safety of residents and other road users.

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In response to these concerns, TMR commissioned a road safety audit by a fully qualified and independent road safety auditor. This report confirmed that Swan and Wylah Streets and Creek Road are each of a width that is in accordance with the *Transport Planning and Coordination Regulation 2005*. Schedule 1 and Part 2 Development Standards, section 4 (Lane width if traffic can pass stopped bus) states that the combined lane width of a road with a speed limit of 60 km/h that is designed so traffic can pass a bus stopped to load or unload passengers must be at least seven metres.

In addition, the audit confirmed that the state and quality of the road surface and the lighting in this area is of appropriate standard and TMR has no evidence to suggest it is of such a standard so as to adversely affect the safe use of the route by buses.

On the basis of this audit, TMR has advised that the roads in the Creek Road catchment are suitable for use by both urban and school bus services.

It should also be noted that stop utilisation data for all stops located in the vicinity of Creek Road indicates good use by the residential catchment with approximately 3900 customers in the 2013-14 year, with consistent patronage across all week days and weekends. As such, removal of services from these roads would significantly impact on the local community, including residents of Lagoona Estate retirement village and Noosa Waters' retirement village.

I wish to assure you that the bus services which access Creek Road and other streets in the area provide a much needed service for the greater community and the roads have been comprehensively assessed and deemed safe for use by buses. As such, no changes are currently planned for services accessing Swan Street, Wylah Street and Creek Road.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



**JACKIE TRAD MP  
DEPUTY PREMIER**

**Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure,  
Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade**