



Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET3292-20

Your ref: A552494

22 May 2020

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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 petitions 3323-20 and 3292-20 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Tim Mander MP, Member for Everton on 22 April 2020 requesting additional bus services on behalf of the residents of Bald Hills.

The Palaszczuk Government understands the important role in which public transport plays in connecting people to jobs, education, essential services and each other.

That is why the Palaszczuk Government implemented the Fairer Fares for South East Queensland package in late-2016. This has seen costs of public transport down by more than 11 per cent, which has saved Queenslanders \$221 million as of January 2020. Since then, commuters have been embracing public transport with record patronage of 190 million trips taken on buses, trains, trams and ferries prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Together with our fares initiative, the Palaszczuk Government is also embarking on major public transport projects, such as the \$5.4 billion Cross River Rail project which unlocks the congestion of the rail system, allowing more trains to run more often.

The Palaszczuk Government is also investing \$371 million in a new statewide smart ticketing system. This system will expand our ticketing options and allow Queensland's public transport customers to choose a payment method that suits their lifestyle. The new system will be progressively rolled out across all modes of public transport in South East Queensland and regional urban bus services.

We are also supporting bus services in Brisbane with the Palaszczuk Government committing \$1 billion over three years from July 2019 to support Brisbane's bus services. However, as you may appreciate, the Department of Transport and Main Roads' TransLink Division receives many requests for additional bus services. These requests must be considered and prioritised against the competing needs of the network across the State and the levels of funding available.

Rail services are available throughout the day from Bald Hills station, with regular connections to services across South East Queensland. In addition, TransLink operates the following bus services in and around the local area.

- Route 680 services Gympie Road, Bald Hills with connections to the key attractors of Chermside to the south, and Strathpine, North Lakes and Redcliffe to the north. Services run every 30 minutes during the day and hourly in the evening and at weekends.

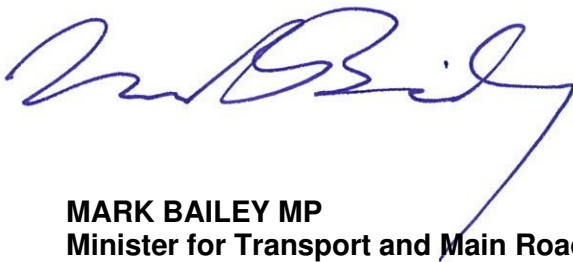
- Route 327 services a large portion of the Bald Hills area on the eastern side of the Gympie Arterial Road, connecting residents to the key centres of Strathpine and Toombul via the Taigum Shopping Centre. Services run every 30 minutes on weekdays during the morning peak and hourly at all other times, including Saturdays.

Additionally, the Brisbane City Council (BCC) operates Personalised Public Transport (PPT) services to connect residents to transport hubs. These services provide connections to the Bald Hills train station and easy access to bus services 327 and 680, which operate near the station. Detailed alignment and schedule information for the PPT service can be found on BCC's website at www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/traffic-and-transport/public-transport/personalised-public-transport.

Further, the patronage levels on bus routes 327 and 680 indicates that current service levels are commensurate with passenger demand. Therefore, there are no plans to introduce additional services in the Bald Hills area at this time.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Bailey', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right and then curves downwards.

MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads