



Hon. Paul Lucas MP



Queensland
Government

Our ref: MC26593

Minister for
Transport and Main Roads

08 FEB 2007

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

Dear Mr Laurie

Re: request for a bus service for residents of 'The Palms', Melody Court

I refer to a petition lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Steve Dickson MP, Member for Kawana on 29 November 2006 about a request for a bus services for residents of 'The Palms', Melody Court.

The Beattie Government's investment in public transport is unprecedented in Queensland history. In 2006/07, the Government will spend over \$700m providing train, bus and ferry services in south east Queensland. With fare revenue covering less than a third of this cost, the Government's investment represents a massive subsidy to provide frequent, reliable and affordable services.

In addition, as part of the four year program of the TransLink Network Plan (TNP), the Beattie Government is rolling out a record public transport infrastructure program, including:

- \$1.09b for rail upgrades, including additional tracks on the Ferny Grove, Beenleigh and Sunshine Coast lines and extending the Gold Coast line to Coolangatta and the Ipswich line from Darra to Springfield, upgrading train stations and expanding park n' ride facilities.
- \$673m for bus infrastructure including, the Inner Northern, Boggo Road, Eastern and Northern Busways and the extension of the South East Busway to Springwood and improving bus stations, park n' ride facilities and bus stops across the network.

The results of this huge investment are clear. In the two years since the Government introduced TransLink, providing one ticket for trains, buses and ferries and standardising fares across all TransLink operators, patronage in south east Queensland has increased by 27%. This equates to an additional 33 million journeys each year that are being made by public transport – significantly reducing traffic congestion and pollution.

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I have been advised by Translink that they will be implementing changes to the route 602 service in 2007 and TransLink will consult with residents of 'The Palms' to establish if there is sufficient demand for the redirection of the service. This would provide regular and direct bus services between the Palms Retirement Village and Maroochydore, Kawana and Caloundra.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

PAUL LUCAS MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads