



Hon. Paul Lucas MP



Queensland
Government

Our ref: MC28599

20 APR 2007

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

Minister for
Transport and Main Roads

26/4/07



LAI'D UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE
THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT

Dear Mr Laurie

Re: parliamentary petition 789-07

I refer to a petition lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Mark McArdle MP, Member for Caloundra on 6 March 2007 about a bus service for residents of Kookaburra Retirement Village, Caloundra.

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 (SEQ). 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.

85 George Street Brisbane
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3237 1111
Facsimile +61 7 3224 4242
Email transport@ministerial.qld.gov.au

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 SEQ has increased by 22.5%. This equates to an additional 27 million journeys that are being made by public transport – significantly reducing traffic congestion and pollution.

TransLink advise it has investigated the current level of service in the Caloundra West area.

Due to the structure of the road network on Mark Road near Kookaburra Village, buses are unable to turnaround and therefore, TransLink cannot provide a direct service into Kookaburra Village. However TransLink is investigating a new route that would be more convenient to residents.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

PAUL LUCAS MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads