08 OCT 2002

Honourable Mike Reynolds MP
Member for Townsville
Minister for Emergency Services and
Minister Assisting the Premier in North Queensland
PO Box 1148
Townsville Qld 4810

Dear Mr Reynolds

I refer to your letter dated 11 September 2002 concerning the petition you received about the current scheduled Sunbus bus services. In particular, the lack of bus services to various parts of Townsville on weekends.

Mr Geoff Robins, Queensland Transport's Manager (Public Transport) Northern met with Sunbus management and discussed the contents of the petition.

During the meeting evidence was tabled from Sunbus' records indicating a dramatic decline in patronage on Saturday services compared to weekday services to some of the areas identified in the petition. This information suggests that Sunday services would not be viable as there are less attractors available to the public on Sundays than on Saturdays and weekdays.

I am advised that Sunbus are considering some additional services to various locations in Townsville during the next twelve months. Some of these additional services will benefit residents in some of the areas identified in the petition.

I have asked for Mr Robins to contact you to discuss the proposed changes to the Sunbus services in greater detail.

If you require more information please phone Mr Robins, on 4040 6397.

Yours/sincerely

Steve Bredhauer

Minister for Transport

and Minister for Main Roads

Member for Cook