



Speech by

**Mark Ryan**

**MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD**

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## **GO CARD**

**Mr RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (12.25 pm): I rise to inform the House of some important developments in the area of public transport for Queenslanders and the people of the Morayfield state electorate. The Bligh Labor government is investing in public transport service provision and infrastructure whilst continuing the rollout of the go card ticketing system. The go card provides many benefits to consumers and public transport planners. I have been a go card user for a number of years. My family, my friends and I continue to enjoy the benefits of go card and are strong advocates for its place in our public transport network. The go card is quicker than the paper ticket equivalent because with the go card it is not necessary to queue for a ticket. The go card is great value because it is 30 per cent cheaper than the equivalent single trip paper ticket price. Moreover, frequent use discounts of a further 50 per cent apply if go card users use their go card more than 10 times a week. In addition, go card users get a 10 per cent discount on all trips in off-peak travel periods.

The go card is convenient because there is no need to buy separate tickets for different trips and it can be used on buses, ferries and trains. If a person chooses to register their go card then they can also top it up online and check their journey details. The go card is easy to use. People need to simply touch on at the beginning of their journey and touch off at the end. The trip fare is automatically deducted from the card balance. The go card is smarter because it uses the latest technology to calculate the cheapest trip cost for an individual's entire journey, including up to three transfers and irrespective of the distance travelled or the type of transport used.

The go card is reusable and it is easy to top up the credit balance. The credit balance does not expire and users can choose how much money they want to put on their go card. The go card is safe and secure because after registration the go card can be locked down to protect the credit balance if the go card is stolen or lost. It is important to emphasise to users of the go card that they must always touch on at the card reader at the beginning of their journey and touch off at the card reader at the end of their journey. Failure to do this may mean that the user may be travelling without a valid ticket or will be charged a fixed fare amount for the journey.

The House will be interested to hear that the number of retail outlets for the go card continues to increase. Go cards can be purchased by a variety of means including online, at selected shop retailers, at selected train stations, by calling the TransLink hotline or by post. A new public transport fare structure commenced on 4 January 2010. The restructure will encourage greater use of the go card, will fund more public transport services in South-East Queensland and will redress the current taxpayer funded fare imbalance. This is the first fare restructure since 2008. Usually, fares change each year. As already highlighted, the go card has many benefits: it is quicker, easier, safer and more efficient. It also provides public transport planners with important patronage demand and use information. Further, go card fares are significantly cheaper than the equivalent paper ticket fare.

Residents of the Morayfield state electorate are already seeing an increased investment in public transport infrastructure and services by the Bligh Labor government. In fact, I am very pleased to see that the Bligh Labor government is delivering on our election commitment to provide more car parking spaces at Burpengary train station and Morayfield train station. The additional car parking will encourage more

people onto public transport, will reduce pressure on car parking infrastructure in neighbouring areas and will reduce car parking congestion on local roads. Burpengary station will benefit from an extension of the existing car park on the western side of the train line, providing approximately 90 new spaces, as well as upgrades to lighting and closed-circuit television systems.

When the car parking works are complete, Burpengary train station will have over 500 parking spaces for commuters. Meanwhile, the Morayfield train station will have extended its existing car parks on both sides of the line to gain approximately 90 more parking spaces. Construction at Burpengary and Morayfield train stations is expected to be completed this financial year. I look forward to continuing to work with the Bligh Labor government to deliver a greater investment in public transport service provision and infrastructure for the people of the Morayfield state electorate.