



Speech by

Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

Hansard Tuesday, 5 April 2011

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

TransLink, Train Timetables

Hon. A PALASZCZUK (Inala—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Multicultural Affairs) (10.05 am):
Today I have good news for public transport commuters in South-East Queensland. New and improved train timetables are coming to South-East Queensland's two busiest train lines from Monday, 6 June. These improvements will add more than—wait for this—150,000 weekly train seats, more reliability and more frequency to the Caboolture, Ipswich, Rosewood and north coast lines on the TransLink network.

With patronage on Queensland Rail services growing by about five per cent in the six months to 30 December, the time is ripe to undertake the first major recast of the timetable on our two busiest train lines in more than a decade. It is also one of the biggest enhancements ever to public transport in South-East Queensland, delivering many benefits including more capacity with 150,000 additional weekly seats; a simpler timetable based on two stopping patterns allowing trains on each line to run through Brisbane's CBD stations every three minutes at the busiest times; more reliability with delays on one line now contained, reducing impacts across the network; and a turn-up-and-go train network with off-peak, weekend and public holiday services now running at least every 15 minutes between Darra and the CBD, and four trains an hour between Northgate the CBD.

This is an exciting and historic change made possible by the recently completed infrastructure project such as the upgrade—

Mr Crandon interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! The member for Coomera, you have been stretching the tolerance of the chair. The honourable the minister has the call.

Ms PALASZCZUK: This is an exciting and historic change made possible by the recently completed infrastructure projects such as the upgrade between Corinda and Darra, the expansion to the new Richlands stations and the 46 rolling stock sets we have added to the network over the past three years.

The original version of this timetable underwent extensive consultation at community sessions, online and over the phone, during November and December. I am pleased to say that we have been able to make a number of major changes to accommodate that feedback, particularly for commuters wanting to arrive in the city at certain times and better connections for school students. I want to thank all the customers, community groups and present members who provided input into this process.

The new timetable will be available on the TransLink website later today and will be introduced from the first service on Monday, 6 June. Between now and June, TransLink will be working with all bus operators to change their timetables to continue to ensure we have a fully integrated bus and train network. This is the Bligh government in action. This is the Bligh government delivering for commuters in South-East Queensland.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! The House will come to order!