



Speech By  
**Michael Hart**


**MEMBER FOR BURLEIGH**

---

Record of Proceedings, 22 August 2019

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Old Burleigh Town, Bus Service**

 **Mr HART** (Burleigh—LNP) (2.32 pm): In my electorate off Bermuda Street there is a very popular area called Old Burleigh Town. Oyster Creek Drive is the road into that area. About 800 to 900 people live in the area, but they have no bus service. For the past four or five years I have been fighting to get a bus service for the residents. I have constantly talked to TMR and to TransLink. Recently, local resident Lynne Parfitt put together a petition. Lynne walked through the whole area and knocked on every door. She managed to garner over 1,068 signatures. Obviously, she collected some signatures from outside the area as well.

The people in that area do not have a bus service. A lot of them are elderly and a lot of them require medical attention. Schoolchildren live there. There are people who need to link up with the train system at Varsity Lakes, which is four or five kilometres away. A bus service that links them to the rest of the TransLink system is vital.

We presented the petition and thought that the minister would come back to us and say, 'We'll have a look at that.' Instead, the minister said that Surfside Buslines need roads that are seven metres wide and that there was not seven metres between the kerbs on Oyster Creek Drive. I went out there with a tape measure. I table a picture of me measuring the road, which is over eight metres wide and in some places is 10 metres wide.

*Tabled paper:* Photograph depicting the member for Burleigh, Mr Michael Hart MP, measuring a road [1335](#).

Every day Koala Koaches drives a very similar sized bus into the area to pick up schoolchildren. There is absolutely no excuse why those people should not have a bus service. The minister is insistent that instead they use a taxi service, they make some other arrangements or they walk five kilometres to the nearest bus centre. That is not good enough. I table the responses from the minister.

*Tabled paper:* Letter, dated 2 June 2019, from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Hon. Mark Bailey, to the Clerk of the Parliament, Mr Neil Laurie, responding to petitions 3135-19 and 3088-19 relating to a bus service for Old Burleigh Town, Burleigh Heads [1338](#).

I table a letter to Lyn Perez, who also lives in the area and also wrote to the minister about the issue.

*Tabled paper:* Letter, dated 19 August 2019, from Chief of Staff, Office of the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Ms Tam van Alphen, to Ms Lyn Maykin-Perez regarding a bus service for Old Burleigh Town, Burleigh Heads [1336](#).

The minister reiterated that they will not even consider a bus service. I table a letter in response to a petition that the Speaker of the House presented two days before.

*Tabled paper:* Letter, dated 2 June 2019, from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Hon. Mark Bailey, to the Clerk of the Parliament, Mr Neil Laurie, responding to petition 3129-19 relating to a request to extend the bus services to Progress Road, White Rock [1337](#).

In that response, the minister said that in the future they would certainly look at a bus service for the people of the Speaker's electorate. I have seen the Facebook posts of numerous members from the other side of the House saying that they have had new bus services allocated in their areas. I ask the minister: why do the people in my electorate not deserve to have a bus service like everybody else in the state?