




Speech By
Charis Mullen

MEMBER FOR JORDAN

Record of Proceedings, 6 February 2020

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Jordan Electorate, Public Transport

 **Mrs MULLEN** (Jordan—ALP) (2.10 pm): A new year and an opportunity to continue to improve the lives of those we represent. Since our last sitting of parliament, the electorate of Jordan has seen major changes to our bus services—something that I have been advocating for strongly since my election in late 2017. 18 November was an exciting morning as the member for Logan and I jumped on the 535, the brand-new TransLink operated bus service from Flagstone to Browns Plains. As I have previously advised the House, delivering public transport to the suburbs of Flagstone, Greenbank and New Beith has been very important to me. Not having access to any public transport in the area has been a longstanding concern for local residents. Whilst the rural residential nature of these communities makes it slightly more difficult to deliver public transport, it should never be impossible. The new 535 service has been made possible through a \$19.6 million funding agreement over the next 10 years to deliver these services. The service connects residents with the key local transport and commercial hub at Grand Plaza in Browns Plains and then on to express services to Brisbane. As demand increases, further services will be added to provide greater opportunities to jobs, community and social services. I encourage those who live along the route to get on board and support these new services.

I do not underestimate how important having access to good and reliable public transport is for those we represent, whether they are students, young families or our elderly residents. Therefore, I was very happy that our government has been able to also deliver new and improved bus services for the Ipswich area of my electorate.

On 28 January we introduced a brand-new bus service which provides public transport for the first time to the growing Spring Mountain area. I was absolutely thrilled to greet some of the very first passengers on the new 533 Spring Mountain loop, which includes the unique 18-seater Poncho bus—which is very cute—and connects that community to the train station, as well as shopping facilities and services. On the same day we introduced two new services—route 527 and route 528 which split the very long and at times unreliable 522 bus service that used to run from Goodna to Springfield Central.

These two new bus services are now shorter and better connect locals with train services at both the Springfield and Springfield Central stations. This has included building a brand-new bus interchange right at Springfield station which has been great for locals who used to walk up a rather steep hill to reach the train station in the past. We have also introduced a new and more reliable timetable for route 526 which runs from Springfield Central to Redbank station via Redbank Plaza shopping centre. Only yesterday we heard the announcement of three new rail services on the Springfield line.

I want to thank the ministers who have supported my efforts and have listened to me when it comes to having better bus services for our region: Minister Dick, who has responsibility for the greater Flagstone priority development area, and Minister Bailey with TransLink. Of course, I want to see continuous improvements and TransLink has assured me that it will review the services after a period of time so we can continue to deliver great local bus services for the Jordan electorate.