




Speech By
Amy MacMahon

MEMBER FOR SOUTH BRISBANE

Record of Proceedings, 1 May 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Kangaroo Point, Public Transport

 **Dr MacMAHON** (South Brisbane—Grn) (7.21 pm): Kangaroo Point is one of the most densely populated suburbs in Queensland, home to over 11,000 people. Despite thousands of people trying to get to work, uni and appointments every day, Kangaroo Point has an appalling public transport system. Kangaroo Point is surrounded by the Brisbane River but no CityCats stop at Kangaroo Point. Locals instead have to take their chances with the small and often crowded Cross River ferries and CityHoppers. Locals tell me they often cannot even get on a ferry as they are too crowded. If you want to get any further down the river than the inner city, you have to get on a ferry, get off the ferry and then wait for a CityCat. The Dockside terminal has just reopened after a much needed upgrade and campaign from the community, but are CityCats stopping there? No. In fact, the north side of the river has over twice as many CityCat stops as the south side.

On top of this, the bus service is appalling. Only a handful of buses stop in Kangaroo Point and only one bus—the 234—stops in the Kangaroo Point peninsula. Outside of peak times, nearly all of these buses only run hourly. While the Dockside terminal was being upgraded, the 27 shuttle bus was helping to get people into the CBD. So many locals have told me that the 27 was a great service, often packed and, unlike the 234, actually ran on time. Now the 27 bus has been cancelled, locals have no choice but to rely on patchy and often late buses, or take their chances on the ferry. Locals have been campaigning to bring back the 27 bus. We urge both the City Council and the state Minister for Transport to take this matter seriously.

Of course none of these issues are the fault of the bus drivers or the ferry captains who work very hard to get us to where we need to go. The fault lies with the Brisbane City Council, the transport committee chair and the Minister for Transport who have treated the 11,000 residents of Kangaroo Point as unimportant. I am personally affected by this laughable public transport system. Members might remember that my car is now permanently out of action and for the last few months I have had to rely on the public transport system to get around. There are no CityCats I can catch and the buses are infrequent and often running late. This morning I caught the 234 from Kangaroo Point to the CBD to get to parliament and, of course, the 234 was running late. This gave me a chance to chat with fellow commuters who were waiting for the bus, many of whom said they were sick of the dire public transport system in Kangaroo Point. If the bus is running late again tomorrow and I am late to parliament, who do we have to thank for that? We will thank the Labor transport minister and the LNP Lord Mayor who have left Kangaroo Point with a substandard public transport system.