

Question on Notice

No. 1224

Asked on Thursday, 4 August 1011

MR KILBURN ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS (MS PALASZCZUK) —

QUESTION:

Will the Minister outline how the opening of the Eastern Busway from Buranda to Langlands Park and the associated increase in capacity will benefit residents of the Chatsworth Electorate?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Chatsworth for the question.

As the Honourable Anna Bligh MP, Premier and Minister for Reconstruction announced last month, the \$466 million Eastern Busway extension opened to the public six months ahead of schedule on Monday, 29 August 2011.

A Community Open Day was held on Saturday, 27 August 2011 allowing the public to walk the new alignment and see the state of the art features of this impressive new 1.05 kilometre busway extension.

The Eastern Busway extension links Buranda to Coorparoo via two tunnels and two new stations at Stones Corner and Langlands Park.

The new busway and services will significantly upgrade public transport for thousands of Brisbane residents with more buses and five new bus routes rolling through Brisbane's eastern suburbs, particularly those suburbs along Old Cleveland Road, such as Camp Hill, Carina, Carindale, Belmont, Chandler and Capalaba West.

New buses will give customers an extra 103 590 weekly seats via the busway and eastern corridor, with 2238 buses a week stopping at the new Stones Corner busway station and 1752 buses stopping at Langlands Park Busway Station.

The new section of busway allows commuters to bypass four sets of traffic lights and the heavily congested Logan Road/O'Keefe Street roundabout at Buranda, saving nearly 1.5 hours travel time per week.

The service package includes up to 31 new buses, 12 new bus stops and five new bus routes, including two new high frequency bus routes - route 222 (Carindale to Roma Street) and route 590 (Garden City to Number One Airport Drive).

Buses on route 222 will run every 10 minutes in-peak and every 15 minutes off-peak between 6.00am and 11.00pm, seven days a week.

Route 590 will run every 15 minutes in-peak and every 30 minutes off-peak between 5.30am and 7.30pm weekdays and every 30 minutes on weekends between 7.00am and 7.30pm.

The upgrade of route 222 will add additional off-peak and weekend services to the Old Cleveland Road and Eastern Busway corridor. This service is the main bus route for the Eastern busway extension.

The new route 590 will be a great link for shoppers and workers between Garden City, Cannon Hill, Carindale, Direct Factory Outlet at Number 1 Airport Drive, as well as key industrial hubs including the Metroplex Gateway office park at Murarrie and the Australia Trade Coast and Aviation training precinct.

Route 590 also gives residents along Creek Road buses on Sunday for the first time.

As part of the service package, the new local bus route 213 has been introduced – operating regular 15 minute peak services between Cannon Hill and Carindale via Tingalpa and Belmont.

This bus package not only benefits the busways but also targets crowded buses, particularly those around Carindale.

The combination of increased routes and service frequency together with high quality time saving infrastructure will provide a sustainable transport facility that will serve the community for many years into the future.