

**Question on Notice**

**No. 573**

**Asked on 11 May 2023**

**MR S BENNETT ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—**

**QUESTION:**

With reference to a train manufacturing workshop in Torbanlea to be constructed—

Will the Minister confirm that replacement carriages for the Spirit of the Outback will also be constructed to replace the existing carriages that are well beyond their use by date?

**ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for Burnett for the question.

The Palaszczuk Government will boost Queensland's train manufacturing industry and build and operate 65 new six-car commuter passenger trains through the Queensland Train Manufacturing Program (QTMP). Works include a purpose-built manufacturing facility at Torbanlea—in the Maryborough region—and construction of a new rail facility in Ormeau. QTMP will provide considerable benefits, including modernising and enabling the expansion of the passenger fleet to support South-East Queensland's population growth.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads and Queensland Rail are working together to examine options to replace carriages on the *Westlander*, *Inlander* and the *Spirit of the Outback*.

The Palaszczuk Government has also committed \$1 million towards this goal.

The business case will explore ways to:

- enhance customer experience and improve accessibility
- support regional tourism development
- improve regional network connectivity
- support rail manufacturing in Queensland.

Once the business case is complete, and subject to an investment decision, an approach to market to supply new carriages will be made.