

Question on Notice

No. 555

Asked on 2 May 2024

MR P WEIR ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS AND MINISTER FOR DIGITAL SERVICES (HON B MELLISH)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the considerable growth in population in the Toowoomba Regional Council area over the past five years—

Will the Minister advise if the department will consider providing public bus transport services for the communities within a 20-25 kilometre radius of the Toowoomba CBD given the increase in population and rise in requests for public transportation provisions to be made available?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Condamine for the question.

Significant improvements to the Toowoomba bus network were implemented in 2017, following extensive consultation with residents, Toowoomba Regional Council, and delivery partner Bus Queensland.

These changes resulted in additional investment into the Toowoomba urban bus network and rollout of the Translink brand, with the intent of increasing the attractiveness of the network through delivering a focused network where Toowoomba residential suburbs can directly access shopping centres, services and employment in the CBD.

Network improvements, including the introduction of additional weekday peak trips and Sunday services, were implemented at this time.

Translink has also recently invested in the Toowoomba bus network to replace Kan-go services with On Demand Transport (ODT). The introduction of ODT in Toowoomba has improved service coverage and hours of operation, introduced a more efficient booking system, and reduced wait times for customers.

Translink will continue to monitor demand and will consider services as part of the usual review process.