

Question on Notice

No. 133

Asked on Tuesday 20 February 2007

MR LEE asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (MR LUCAS) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the excellent new bus services to the University of Queensland from the city-route 109 (commenced 18 December), Carindale-route 209 and Eight Mile Plains-route 169 (both started 19 February)—

- (1) How many services per week does this amount to?
- (2) What is the cost?
- (3) How much is (a) the State Government contributing and (b) the Brisbane City Council contributing?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for his question.

The Eleanor Schonell Bridge, colloquially known as the Green Bridge, was opened by Brisbane City Council (BCC) on 17 December 2006.

Since 18 December 2006 the State Government, through TransLink, has introduced many new bus services around Brisbane, including routes 109, 209 and 169, at a cost of \$4.1m per annum, to take advantage of the new bridge. BCC has not contributed any funding towards these services. Route 109 was introduced on 18 December 2006. Routes 169 and 209 were introduced on 19 February 2007.

Route 109 runs from the city to The University of Queensland (UQ) Lakes station via the Eleanor Schonell Bridge. This service runs every 8 – 10 minutes during university peaks and every 10 -15 minutes off-peak on weekdays and every 20 minutes on weekends. This equates to 767 trips each week.

Route 209 runs from the Carindale interchange to UQ via the Eleanor Schonell Bridge. This service operates every 15 minutes weekdays and 30 minutes on weekends all year round. This equates to 518 trips each week. This service benefits passengers in Chatsworth, Greenslopes, South Brisbane and Indooroopilly.

Route 169 runs from Eight Mile Plains Busway station to UQ via the Eleanor Schonell Bridge. This service operates every 10 minutes during peak periods, 15 minutes off-peak weekdays and 30 minutes on weekends all year round. This equates to 568 trips each week. This service also benefits passengers in Greenslopes, South Brisbane, Indooroopilly, Mansfield and Mt Gravatt.

Passengers from the city save about three minutes travel time using route 109 across the new bridge, compared to existing services on Coronation Drive. Passengers on routes 169 (from Eight Mile Plains) and 209 (from Carindale) will save about 20 minutes each journey, as passengers can now travel directly, avoiding the CBD and the need to interchange.

I am also advised that that on the first day of UQ's 2007 semester these new services carried an extra 3,123 passengers to UQ compared with the same time period last year, an increase of 25%.

As a result of the popularity of the services, TransLink provided an additional morning service on each route travelling towards UQ leaving their respective origins at 7:05am. These additional services commenced on 5 March 2007 at an additional cost of \$105 000.

This is another example of how the State Government is improving public transport in SEQ under TransLink.