

Question on Notice

No. 1094

Asked on Wednesday 2 September 2009

MS SIMPSON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT (MS NOLAN) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the recently opened busways in Brisbane—

Will the Minister list any new services that are running on these busways (that is a service that was not running prior to the opening of the busway, excluding any that were in service but have had the route revised to include the busway)?

ANSWER:

The Northern Busway successfully opened Wednesday, 19 August 2009. This new 1.2km section finished two months ahead of schedule and on budget. The new extension is a vital link in a chain to reduce bus travel times between the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital precinct and the city.

Stage one of the Northern Busway combined with the Inner Northern Busway means peak hour travel times between the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and the city have been reduced from up to 25 minutes to under ten minutes.

The new section alone cuts out four sets of lights and can save up to five minutes in peak traffic conditions. It will link to the next section of the busway up to Kedron which is being built in tandem with the \$4.8b Airport Link project.

This section of the Northern busway will remove more than 5000 buses a week from traffic and carry more than 32 000 passengers a day who might otherwise be driving cars.

The Eastern Busway also opened successfully on Monday, 3 August 2009. This section has linked the South East Busway to the University of Queensland and will cut the travel time by ten minutes for services travelling from the Southside to University of Queensland.

Together these busways are taking more than 7000 buses and more than 200 000 passengers per week off the road system while simultaneously cutting travel time.

In addition to the funding and constructing of these Busways, the Queensland Government, through the TransLink Transit Authority has also funded \$4.2 million worth of service improvements that were previously not government funded and were scheduled to cease services due to the withdrawal of funding by the Brisbane City Council. These services were aimed at responding to high growth in public transport use, by providing more frequent peak hour bus services.

Services that received additional frequency included routes 66, 129, 130, 139, 141, 169, 185, 209, 227 and 384. Timetables were also adjusted on routes 131, 132, 133 and 137.