

Question on Notice

No. 676

Asked on Thursday, 17 May 2018

MR S O'CONNOR ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)

QUESTION:

With reference to upgrades at Helensvale Station—

Will the Minister advise (a) the current number of car parking spaces at Helensvale train station, (b) how many car parks are currently unavailable due to the upgrades, (c) if any car parks will be removed as a result of the upgrade and (d) whether there are any plans to increase the total number of car parks in the next 12 months to ensure commuters can continue to use the station?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Bonney for the question.

Helensvale is recognised as the major hub for the northern Gold Coast region, and the Palaszczuk Government's \$14 million upgrade to this multi-modal facility will allow customers to more seamlessly connect between buses, trains, light rail, taxis and private cars.

There is currently a total of 1035 parking spaces available at Helensvale train station – 635 at the park 'n' ride on the western side of Helensvale rail station and 400 at the light rail station on the eastern side.

Once the final stage of the upgrade to the Helensvale bus facility is completed (Stage 2), a total of 1285 parking spaces will be permanently available. A total of 250 car parks were temporarily unavailable from the date the site was required for the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, and will remain unavailable until the end of the Stage 2 of the upgrade project, which is currently scheduled for completion by August 2018, weather and construction conditions permitting.

The final stage of this project is now underway and it will upgrade taxi rank and kiss 'n' ride facilities, make improvements to short-term parking, lighting and CCTV facilities, and provide space for 50 additional bicycles, including a sheltered bicycle parking rack. This was part of almost \$1 billion delivered in infrastructure for the Games.

Following the success of the temporary Games park 'n' rides, the Palaszczuk Government has extended access to the temporary park 'n' ride facility at Varsity Lakes Station, with 81 parks recently being made available at Varsity Lakes while longer term planning for the site occurs.

These major infrastructure public transport investments by the Palaszczuk Government are in stark contrast to the Gold Coast's infrastructure needs being ignored during the three years of the previous LNP Government.