

Question on Notice

No. 748

Asked on Wednesday, 13 June 2018

MR S MINNIKIN ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)

QUESTION:

With reference to patronage figures for the SEQ Transport Network—

Will the Minister provide patronage actuals by mode for the past three financial years including an estimate for 2017-18?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Chatsworth for the question.

The Palaszczuk Government is proud of our commitment to the release of monthly public transport open data, and the quarterly *TransLink Tracker*, after its publication was cancelled by the former LNP government when the Member for Chatsworth was the Assistant Minister for Public Transport.

Public transport patronage in South East Queensland (SEQ) for 2017–18 is estimated to be 182.46 million trips, which exceeds the 2017–18 forecast by 0.34 million trips.

Estimated public transport patronage has increased by 6.2 million trips, when compared with 2014–15 patronage, coinciding with the election of the Palaszczuk Government. All modes have experienced growth since 2014–15 after successive years of bus and rail patronage decline under the LNP.

SEQ patronage actuals from 2014–15 to 2017–18 (millions)

	2014–15 Actual	2015–16 Actual	2016–17 Actuals	2017–18 Estimated actuals
SEQ	176.26	179.85	177.42	182.46
Bus	113.13	114.11	111.70	113.67
Rail	50.42	51.10	51.02	52.69
Tram	6.28	7.68	7.98	9.23
Ferry	6.43	6.96	6.72	6.87

It is pleasing for me as the Minister for Transport to see that public transport patronage is steadily increasing. Major factors that have contributed to this growth over the past four years include our investment and delivery of key public transport infrastructure and projects such as:

- heavy rail line duplication between Coomera to Helensvale, delivered in time to support tripling of services, 24/7 during the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games
- a second stage of the Gold Coast Light Rail, a transformative project for the region led, majority funded, and delivered by the Palaszczuk Government
- the Palaszczuk Government's Fairer Fares package which delivered public transport savings to over 93 per cent of commuters.