

Our ref: PET 16076

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

1 0 DEC 2015

Level 12 Executive Building 100 George Street PO Box 15009 City East Queensland 4002 Australia Telephone +61 7 3719 7100 Email deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie Nul

I refer to a petition number 2503-15 lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Dr Christian Rowan MP, Member for Moggill on 10 November 2015 requesting a diversion of bus route 444 to service the Sugarwood Grove Garden Villas on Sugarwood Street, Bellbowrie.

Due to recent machinery of government changes, I am no longer responsible for Transport portfolio. However, due to the required timing of this answer, I am providing a response for my complete previous portfolio.

The Queensland Government is committed to providing an integrated and reliable public transport network.

I am advised Sugarwood Street does not provide buses with access to a turning facility and that the extensive use of traffic calming measures, narrow streets, and private vehicles parking on the street in the development to the east of Moggill Road, prevent the safe operation of Brisbane City Council (BCC) buses.

I am also advised the redirection of bus route 444 to the corner of Sugarwood Street and Weekes Road, Bellbowrie would add significant time to existing customer travel times and come at significant additional operational cost. In light of this, I can advise that the requested redirection of services is unable to be further considered at this time.

I wish to assure residents, however, that the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) will continue to work closely with BCC to identify any network improvements in this area to ensure services continue to meet the needs of the broader community.

As a possible alternative to bus travel, residents with mobility restrictions may be eligible for membership of the Taxi Subsidy Scheme (TSS). The TSS is a Queensland Government initiative designed to improve the mobility and quality of life for Queenslanders with a disability by providing access to affordable taxi travel.

For further information and to determine eligibility, residents can access TMR's website at www.tmr.qld.gov.au, or contact the TSS unit by phoning 1300 134 755 or by emailing tssu@tmr.qld.gov.au.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

JACKIE THAD MP DEPUTY PREMIER

Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade