

Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: PET 33856

Your ref: A481126

1 8 SEP 2019

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3116-19, lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Mark McArdle MP, Member for Caloundra on 20 August 2019 about reopening the Bellvista and Bells Reach bus stops.

I acknowledge the comments made by the petitioners regarding bus route 606 between Baringa and Caloundra, including the impact this has had for some residents of the Bellvista and Bells Reach Estates in Caloundra West. This service change was designed to extend service coverage to Baringa, increasing the number of daily services, and removing one-way loops to make services more direct and easier to understand. This service change has delivered 50 new trips per week through this area and extended services to new areas previously without service in the Caloundra South Priority Development Area.

The additional walking distance for passengers at the Bellvista and Bells Reach Estates was identified during the planning process, and new bus stops were constructed on Bellvista Boulevard to mitigate some of the increased walking distances some residents may experience in accessing services.

Further to the above, I am pleased to advise I recently met with local residents to hear their concerns directly. As a result of this meeting, the Department of Transport and Main Roads has engaged with residents and worked with our delivery partner, Sunbus, to identify an alternative service option which will service the six bus stops decommissioned under the service change.

The Palaszczuk Government is working towards ensuring the new service meets the needs of the community, while representing value-for-money for the Queensland Government, and I look forward to advising the community on details of the new service in the very near future.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

MARK BAILEY MP Minister for Transport and Main Roads