

Our ref: DG40176

15 OCT 2020

Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP
Member for Kawana
kawana@parliament.qld.gov.au

Office of the
Director-General

Department of
Transport and Main Roads

Dear Mr Bleijie

Thank you for your email of 8 October 2020 about public transport on the Sunshine Coast.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is committed to providing customers with a positive travel experience when using public transport, through the delivery of integrated, efficient and reliable services and infrastructure.

The provision of transport services to all areas of Queensland can be challenging. This is particularly the case in low-density and semi-rural regions as demand is generally inadequate to support stand-alone scheduled services. Low-density developments such as Kawana Forest that are poorly connected to the local road network reduce the efficiency of resources and limit opportunities to provide coverage for all residents within the levels of funding available.

I understand that TMR's TransLink Division has previously communicated to you, the challenges related to introducing services to the Kawana Forest Estate. These challenges include:

- the inability of the current road network to adequately support bus movements, for the safe operation of the standard 12.5 metre *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* compliant buses on very narrow roads and roundabouts
- the investment consideration required by local council to improve the condition and layout of local roads within the estate to facilitate TransLink buses
- travel time impacts on other passengers if existing services could be extended into the estate
- investment considerations to service a relatively small market given the isolated nature of this development that has poor connection to surrounding developments in Meridan Plains, Currimundi and Birtinya.

Please be advised that TransLink acknowledges that a small number of existing school services do serve Pacific Lutheran College and turn around at the roundabout at Woodlands Boulevard and White Cedar Drive. However, these school services are operated using high-floor vehicles which are not utilised in the urban TransLink fleet, and drivers are advised to operate with extreme caution when using the roundabout. Unfortunately, this operation would be unsuitable for a low-floor bus operating at a higher frequency.

TransLink acknowledges the Kawana Forest Residents Association has conducted a survey of residents demonstrating support for a bus service and would be willing to review the results for consideration in future reviews.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Neil Scales
Director-General
Department of Transport and Main Roads