

Our ref: DG40582



8 January 2021

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 letter of 15 December 2020 seeking further information about the challenges of introducing a bus service to Kawana Forest.

I acknowledge your ongoing advocacy for your local community on this matter. However, I can only continue to advise that the Department of Transport and Main Roads' TransLink Division (TransLink) is not considering introducing a bus service to Kawana Forest at this stage.

The opportunity to provide a public transport option for Kawana Forest is constrained due to its poorly connected supporting road network. TransLink agrees there is access to this estate, primarily from Woodlands Boulevard to Kawana Way Link Road. However, there is no ability to extend an existing service such as bus route 607 without inefficient looping of buses through the estate or covering significantly more distance via Meridan Way. Both solutions will add travel time to existing customers wanting to travel north or south on bus route 607.

While a small number of school buses servicing Pacific Lutheran College use the roundabout at Woodlands Boulevard and White Cedar Drive to turn around, these services are operated using high floor vehicles. Urban bus services utilise low floor buses and operate at higher frequencies.

Providing a new service with new buses will require significant additional and ongoing financial investment due to the additional time, distance and fleet cost. It is acknowledged that extending bus route 611 is a solution that will not increase existing customer journey times. However, this will require the same additional and ongoing financial investment as a new service.

I understand that TransLink network planners work closely with Sunshine Coast Council to prioritise improvements to the public transport network and monitor residential growth.

Thank you for providing a copy of the Kawana Forest Residents Association survey results. These have been made available to TransLink's Network Planning team and will be included for consideration in future network reviews.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Neil Scales".

Neil Scales
Director-General
Department of Transport and Main Roads