

Survey Results

1. Can you please improve the reliability and frequency of buses in and around The Gap Ward?

Brisbane Transport, a division of Brisbane City Council operates as a contractor under Queensland State Government's, TransLink a division of the Department of Transport and Main Roads. Brisbane Transport has provided public transport services to Brisbane for over 90 years and currently operates over 1,500 buses daily and provides over 68 per cent of the total public transport services.

Earlier this year Council submitted a proposal to State Government to help fix public transport in Brisbane. The proposal is based on forming an alliance with State Government to develop a coordinated strategic approach to public transport, which includes Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail.

The proposal calls for a progressive review of the Brisbane bus network in localised areas, such as The Gap ward and developing a strategy for high frequency bus services. Developing a demand responsive transport options, simplification of routes and rebranding to improve legibility for passengers.

The Brisbane Metro will return over 300 buses into the suburban network from 2023 delivering increased frequencies and expanding services. The forward plan includes high frequency feeder service for Metro 1 and 2, as well expanding the Metro network to other parts of the city.

2. Please incentivise or reduce fares to encourage the community to use public transport.

Public Transport zones and fares are set by Queensland Government's, TransLink a division of the Department of Transport and Mains Road. Fares collected go directly to the State Government. Brisbane Council contributes to over \$120 million in fare subsidies, services and infrastructure and is the only local government to do so.

Council's proposal to the State Government included, introducing a loyalty program for GoCard users, fare sharing between bus, train and ferry. It also included developing a clear park and ride strategy to encourage multi-mode use of public transport from private vehicle to public transport.

[TransLink announced a 1.8% increase of fares set to take effect on the 7th January 2019](#)

3. Please increase better active travel options

Approximately 40 per cent of peak morning traffic through the city is school traffic. This is very obvious to vehicle based commuters how much school traffic contributes to general traffic when students are on holidays. Council encourages schools, students and parents to re-think how they travel to school. Not all students can actively travel to school all the time, however active travel can give students the opportunity to bond with fellow students as well as reducing the amount of traffic travelling and parking on our local streets around schools. Council has partnered with RACQ to work with a number of primary schools to educate the students on road safety, bike and scooter maintenance to reduce congestion around schools.

Council has a number of new bikeway projects in the pipeline that will be added to, however improvement closer home is the completion of the widening of the Brian Hallinan bikeway, between School Road and Riaweena Street as well as behind The Gap High School. The upgrade to the connection of the footpath/bikeway between Parkside Crescent and Westgate Place improves the connectivity to both the local school and the express bus services on Payne Rd. New footpath construction and upgrades across the ward have been focusing on connections to schools, parks and bus stops.

4. Concerns about over development.

This year Council invited residents to help shape Brisbane's future and as a community over 100,000 residents contributed to this conversation. From this feedback Council developed Brisbane's future Blueprint that set eight principles and 40 actions will help guide decisions into the future.

Council's action items include changes such as allowing townhouses and apartments only on appropriately zoned land, such as medium density residential areas and mandating best practice design. Council is also pursuing greater enforcement powers and penalties from the State Government to protect character and heritage. The Gap Neighbourhood plan has current Emerging Community areas re-zoned to low density residential and in some cases imposes building development envelopes on the land to protect biodiversity areas and green space. The Ferny Grove Upper Kedron Neighbourhood plan limits development of the urban edge precinct to a maximum of 3 houses per 10,000m² and locks up overall 910,000m² of land for ecological and green space corridors.

The South East Regional Plan developed by the State Government has given the Brisbane a target of 188,200 new dwelling to cater for the expected 386,800 new residents. Over the same period, the State Government Statistician has predicted a population growth of 0% for The Gap and a reduction in growth for Ferny Grove and Upper Kedron of 1%

5. We would like to see more trees, vegetation and creek restoration.

Council has accelerated the Bushland acquisition program and for my ward has seen over 69ha of private bushland secured and rehabilitation started. This supports the Lord Mayor's vision of preserving and increasing our biodiversity in the suburbs. In the last three years I've planted over 7,000 plants in Ashgrove, The Gap, Ferny Grove and Keperra to improve the biodiversity. Over 1,300 street trees have been planted throughout the ward and we have some of the best performing volunteer Habitat Brisbane groups in Brisbane that are supported by Council. An example of this habitat program is the re-vegetation of the creek bed Enoggera Creek Ashgrove that will reduce silt movement by planting native grasses into the creek bed to increase the available breeding areas for native fish species. The ward office has funded the installation of habitat boxes and native bee hives in public parks in key locations across the ward. Use by our native neighbours is audited every two years for activity. Tenants have included squirrel gliders, possums, large and small parrots, micro bats and native bees. Funding was also secured in the 2017-18 budget for the removal of declared and evasive weeds and maintenance in the upper sections of Enoggera Creek as well as rehabilitating the riparian zone.