

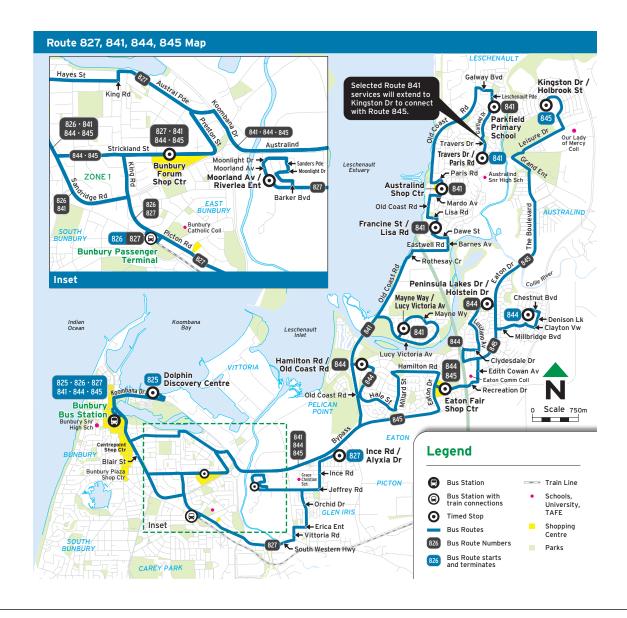
TABLE TALK

AUSTRALASIAN TIMETABLE NEWS No. 384, August 2024

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RAIL & TRAM NEWS



Hunter line disruption

Evening and early morning services recommenced running along the Hunter line on Monday 15 July after three weeks of cancellations caused by protest activity.

There was limited emergency bus replacement available during the first few weeks, with a more comprehensive bus replacement provided in the last week.

Some days also had extended periods of cancellations impacting peak-hour trips at the last minute. Transport for NSW said it had been guided by NSW Police in its approach.

NBN News reported a total of 33 arrests and 96 charges had been laid over the three-week period. **NBN NEWS**

Light Rail disruption

Industrial action returned in late July with significant impacts to operations along the L1, L2 and L3 lines over the week of 22-26 July.

During peak periods (07:30-10:30 and 15:30-18:30),

there was limited to no service across the network as follows:

- L1 Central-Lilyfield: Reduced service.
- · L1 Lilyfield-Dulwich Hill: No service.
- · L2 Circular Quay-Central: No service.
- L2 Central-Randwick: Reduced service.
- L3 Kingsford line: No service, limited service available between Central and Moore Park (L2).

A visual depiction of this is shown on the map below black signifies no service.

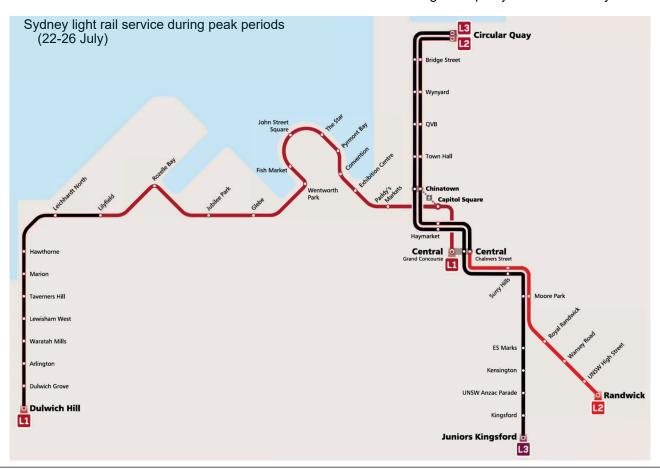
On each weekday, trams were scheduled to operate to a reduced timetable. While coincidentally L2 and L3 lines had pre-planned maintenance 21:00-01:00 on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights with bus replacement between Central Chalmers Street and Randwick/Juniors Kingsford. TRANSPORT FOR NSW



Yarra Trams: New operator confirmed

The state government announced in July that a joint venture between Transdev and John Holland has won the tender to operate the Yarra Trams network of trams and maintain assets for the next nine years.

Outlining the focus of the state government in its announcement, Transdev John Holland said that it has committed to gender parity from the first day of the



contract, while also setting targets to increase employment opportunities for women, indigenous people, the long-term unemployed, young people and people living with a disability.

Transdev confirmed a contract value of \$6.8 billion over its life. It will be taking over from existing operator Keolis Downer in December. *VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT, TRANSDEV*

V/Line: Bairnsdale line

V/Line has released plans for the cessation of locomotivehauled services along the Bairnsdale route by September. The plan involves deploying new VLocity sets and making use of the recently upgraded Bairnsdale Stabling Yard, which will now be able to store two 3-car sets overnight.

The state government said in a statement that the first and last runs of the day are currently operated with locomotive-hauled carriages, with the upgrade enabling these runs to instead be operated by VLocity sets.

Timetable changes effective from Sunday 15 September:

- M-F 06:14 Bairnsdale to Southern Cross (SX) now operated by 6VL.
- M-F 13:35 Swan Hill to SX has a platform alteration at SX.
- M-F 18:06 Bairnsdale to SX consist reduced from 6VL to 3VL.
- M-F 18:33 SX to Bairnsdale now operated by 3VL. Platform alteration at SX.
- SAT 06:14 Bairnsdale to SX now with 3VL.
- SUN 07:34 Bairnsdale to SX now with 3VL.
- SAT 13:35 Swan Hill to SX and 18:43 SX to Swan Hill have a platform alteration at SX.
- SAT/SUN 18:23 SX to Bairnsdale now with 3VL.

The four services listed above now operated by VLocity sets also have additional stops at Trafalgar, Yarragon, Longwarry, Bunyip, Tynong, Nar Nar Goon, and Clayton. The stop at Clayton is set down only (Up) or pick up only (Down).

Despite the additional stops, there is no increase to endto-end journey times. There are some associated changes to movements around Southern Cross and Bairnsdale as a result. **SUPPLIED**

Airport Rail

Melbourne Airport has finally withdrawn its reservations to an above-ground railway to its facility, which the state government has been banking on to reduce the cost of the project, which is now not expected to be completed until 2033 due to years of delays that even saw federal Transport Minister Catherine King appoint an independent mediator to try to resolve the impasse between the two last November.

The airport's management said construction on the rail line needs to start as soon as possible to prepare for the airport's third runway opening in 2030, bringing an estimated 45 million passengers in and out of the



Planned Airport rail route (Victorian Government).

airport, although one of the biggest challenges for the project would be the airport's need to be operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

But she said most outstanding matters should be able to be negotiated "pretty quickly, because we were well progressed when the project got paused last year".

State Premier Jacinta Allan said she expected there would be an additional fee on top of the daily commute charge to travel to the airport but could not say what the final fare would be. ABC NEWS



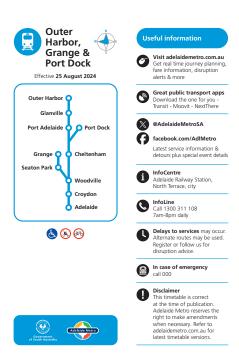
Timetable adjustments

With the Port Dock spur line due to open on Sunday 25 August, timetable changes will take effect on the Outer Harbor and Grange lines from this date.

Services to/from **Port Dock** will run every 30 minutes daily stopping at all stations between Port Dock and Adelaide stations. Departure times are 05:30-00:30 weekdays & 07:18-00:48 weekends ex Port Dock, and 30 mins (weekdays) and 39 mins (weekends) earlier ex Adelaide. Passengers can change at Alberton for down services towards Outer Harbor.

Outer Harbor services have changed trip times while stopping patterns are now more standardised, now instead running limited stops between Alberton and Adelaide (stops at St Clair and Woodville). Some Up evening services will however continue to stop at all stations due to Grange services continuing to drop to an hourly service after 20:00. Peak Osborne services continue to operate to altered times. On weekends, Outer Harbor services continue to operate limited stops across the day despite Grange line trips running every 60 mins, which means there is one half-hour gap every hour for intermediate stations between Woodville and Adelaide.

New timetables have now been made available on the





Route description

Outer Harbor to city via

Grange to city via Seaton Park, Woodville & Croydor Service operates 7 days

Service operates 7 days including public holidays.

public holidays.

Monday to Friday
 – 9:01am to 3pm and 6pm until last service

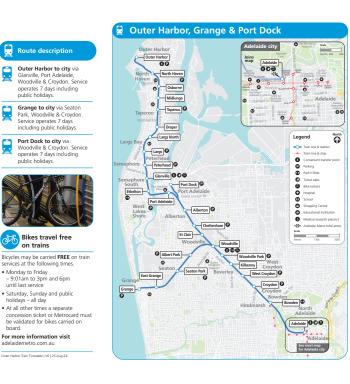
Saturday, Sunday and public holidays – all day

For more information visit adelaidemetro.com.au





- Ticket Vending Machines are located PIN) to buy a ticket or recharge you
- PIN) to buy a ticket or recharge your Metrocard (Machines do not accept notes or 5c pieces). Singletin & Daytrip tickets are issued already validated. Keep your ticket until you have left the station at the end of your trip as ticket checks are conducted every day at Adelaide Railway Station and on a random basis at all other stations. You will need your ticket or Metrocard to exit Adelaide Railway Station.
- Railway Station



Adelaide Metro website. The new cover page and map for Outer Harbor/Grange/Port Dock lines is shown above. An excerpt of the new timetable is shown on page 5.

Meanwhile, since Monday 1 July, Ethelton station has been closed for a \$10 million station upgrade, with the works planned to last until late October. The public PDF timetables have not been adjusted for this. Adelaide Metro has been encouraging passengers to use Glanville station instead during the closure. There have also been a number of weekday evening and weekend closures impacting the Outer Harbor line during July to facilitate the upgrade, with bus replacement route H1 operating in lieu between Outer Harbor and Woodville.

ADELAIDE METRO with support from PAUL BROWN



State Budget 24/25

The State Budget 2024/25 was handed down in May by treasurer, deputy premier, transport and tourism minister Rita Saffioti. Rail-related expenditure for this year includes:

- Metronet: Byford rail extension \$544 million
- Metronet: Victoria Park-Canning LX Removal \$516m
- Metronet: Morley-Ellenbrook Line \$269 million
- Metronet: High Capacity Signalling \$257 million
- Rail Infrastructure & Revitalisation \$245 million
- Metronet: Thornlie-Cockburn Link \$225 million
- Metronet: Railcar Replacement \$209 million
- Metronet: Railcar Acquisition \$117 million
- Metronet: Yanchep Rail Extension \$80 million

- Metronet: Bayswater station \$72 million
- Metronet: New Midland station & carpark \$70.2m
- Agricultural Supply Chain Improvements \$34.8m
- Metronet: Forrestfield-Airport Link \$25.1 million
- Metronet: New stations & existing upgrades \$19.4m
- Australind Railcar Replacement \$15.2 million
- Grain Freight Upgrades \$14 million
- Parking Facilities Upgrades \$11.7 million
- Smartrider Asset Replacement and Technology Update - \$7.7 million
- Metronet: Lakelands station \$6.8 million
- Metronet: Caledonian Avenue LX Closure \$6.5m
- Regional Level Crossing Upgrade \$6.4 million
- Stations Lift/Escalator Upgrades \$1.2 million

The Metronet railcar "acquisition" covers growth requirements from network expansion with 102 C-series carriages, while the "replacement" portion covers replacement of the existing A-series trains with 144 Cseries carriages. C-series trains commenced operating on the Joondalup and Mandurah lines earlier this year and are being progressively entered into service.

Looking across transport modes, the State is also budgeting \$2.4 million this year to enable Stadium station to be open seven days a week, an additional \$2.3 million to facilitate CAT bus improvements, and an additional \$2 million to facilitate the progressive withdrawal and disposal of A-series trains, and \$1 million towards a feasibility study for Swan River ferry service expansion. A further \$28.4 million provision is provided for various projects within the METRONET umbrella with tenders yet to be finalised, for example, Morrison Road level crossing removal. The total provision over the next four years is \$839 million.

The government makes further payments to ensure the continued running of public transport entities and operators across Perth and the wider state including \$490 million to various bus operators, \$24.8 million for Intra-town regional bus services, \$2 million to ferry

Continues on page 6 >>>

The following commentary was provided by the Western Australian government in its budget papers regarding the work being undertaken by the Public Transport Authority:

With the opening of Lakelands Station in June 2023, the completion of the new Bayswater Station in April 2024 and the upcoming opening of Yanchep Rail Extension in mid-2024, the METRONET program continues to expand Perth's public transport network. The upcoming completion of the Morley-Ellenbrook Line, Byford Rail Extension and Thornlie-Cockburn Link and the elevation of the Armadale Line from Victoria Park to Cannington will mark significant milestones in the delivery of the METRONET program. The Authority will continue to work towards the smooth integration of the new lines, stations and services within its existing operations to continue to deliver world-class public transport to the people of Western Australia.

A new **Midland Station and carpark** will be constructed between Helena and Cale Streets. The new station will provide better integration with the town centre, with much closer connections to the Midland Gate Shopping Centre and Midland Health Campus. Main construction works have commenced and are expected to be completed in 2025. An 800-bay multistorey carpark will be provided at the new Midland Station. Construction is expected to be completed between late 2024 and early 2025.

Five new stations will be built at Morley, Noranda, Malaga, Whiteman Park and Ellenbrook as part of the 21 km **Morley-Ellenbrook Line** from Bayswater Station to Ellenbrook. Construction is currently underway, with Ellenbrook Station completed in March 2024.

The **Thornlie-Cockburn Line** will be extended to Cockburn Station on the Mandurah Line and will include the construction of two new stations at Nicholson Road and Ranford Road, with park-and-ride facilities and bus interchanges to be provided.

The Morley-Ellenbrook Line will be completed by the end of 2024. With this new line, five new train stations will be completed at Morley, Noranda, Malaga, Whiteman Park and Ellenbrook, with bus interchanges and parking available. The service will provide five trains per hour from Ellenbrook through to Perth and new buses will provide 5.2 million kilometres in additional services each year to connect the new stations to the community.

The Armadale Line between Victoria Park and Armadale was shut down in November 2023 to allow for the delivery of the Victoria Park-Canning Level Crossing Removal and Byford Rail Extension projects. The Armadale Line will be extended by 7.8 km from Armadale Station to Byford. The Byford Rail Extension has removed seven level crossings and will deliver a new elevated station at Armadale and an at-grade station at Byford. To maintain public transport services for the Authority's customers, significant investments have been made in train

replacement and express bus services, improved bus interchanges, priority bus lanes and traffic management measures. The Authority is also taking the opportunity to complete significant Rail Revitalisation Program works along the Armadale Line between Beckenham and Armadale during the closure, replacing life-expired infrastructure assets and undertaking additional preventative maintenance, with assets built to a high standard and capable of meeting the future demands of the network.

The **High Capacity Signalling Program** will replace the existing Transperth rail network signalling system with one that allows for increased service frequencies. The program of works includes the Radio Systems Replacement, Nowergup Railcar Modification Shed, Public Transport Operations Control Centre and Train Control and Signalling projects.

Six **level crossings** have been removed at Mint Street, Oats Street, Welshpool Road, Hamilton Street, Wharf Street and William Street, and new elevated stations will be provided at Carlisle, Oats Street, Queens Park, Cannington and Beckenham. Construction of the elevated viaduct structure and of the Carlisle, Oats Street, Queens Park, Cannington and Beckenham stations is underway.

The first C-Series train entered passenger service on 7 April 2024. The urban rail network is currently serviced by 336 railcars. In total, the Authority will manufacture 246 **C-Series railcars** to replace the ageing A-Series fleet and provide additional railcars to service the growing METRONET network. The construction of new maintenance facilities in Bellevue and Nowergup will continue in 2024-25.

To further contribute to the Government's goal of **net zero** greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, the Authority will continue to install solar panels at bus and train stations and depots throughout the urban network. The Authority is also continuing the development and provision of electric vehicle charging infrastructure at selected train stations.

Several initiatives have been implemented to encourage the continued use of public transport and relieve **cost of living** pressures on the community. Following the success of the Summer of Free Public Transport, which ran from 24 December 2023 to 28 January 2024, all passengers with a SmartRider card are able to travel across the network for free every Sunday and school students with a valid SmartRider can travel for free on weekdays.

The provision of safe and cost-effective public transport services to regional Western Australia remains a priority for Government. More than 330,000 trips are expected to have been made on **Transwa** services in 2023-24, with further growth expected in 2025-26 when the new Australind train service commences. Accordingly, the Authority continues to invest in Transwa services and to look for opportunities to enhance the service, including through safety improvements.

operators, and \$1.1 million for Inter-town country bus services. A total of \$1.83 billion is estimated to be spent on metropolitan and regional public transport services this year. Regional school bus services are expected to cost \$148 million, while Transwa regional rail and rail coach services are at \$60.5 million.

The \$3 billion-plus in whole-of-transport funding for the 12-month period is made possible with a \$2 billion-plus appropriation from Commonwealth funding.

A government overview of key projects is provided on page 5. **WA GOVERNMENT**

INTERNATIONAL

UK: Blackpool tram extension

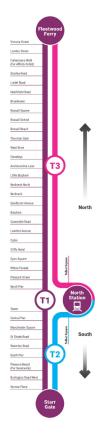
In Blackpool, a tram line extension commenced operating on Sunday 16 June serving the new North station, located near Blackpool North railway station. Routes have now taken on route identifiers as follows:

- T1 Fleetwood-Starr Gate.
- T2 Starr Gate-North.
- T3 Fleetwood-North.

Blackpool Transport reports the new timetable consists trams running every 30 minutes, with a combined frequency of every 15 minutes between Fleetwood and Blackpool Town Centre.

Railway Gazette reports that the seaside town in northwest England has the only traditional tramway in the UK not to have been closed down in the 20th century. However, a previous line along Talbot Road was abandoned in 1936 and Blackpool North station was last served by tram in 1963.

The new map is provided right. PAUL BROWN, BLACKPOOL TRANSPORT, RG



France: TGV disruption

In the morning leading up to the Opening Ceremony of the Summer Olympic Games in France on Friday 26 July, the country's high-speed rail network suffered what was reported as "coordinated acts of sabotage" by the country's Prime Minister, Gabriel Attal.

The New York Times reported comments made by a spokesperson for rail operator SNCF saying that fires were set in signal and points cabling pipes at multiple locations targeting key junctions on the rail network to maximise damage, a "massive attack on a large scale to paralyse the TGV network", with "very meticulous work" undertaken by the perpetrators. SNCF head Jean-Pierre Farandou said "each fire cut off two lines".

The fires were set between 01:00 and 05:30 on three of

France's four high-speed national lines:

- · Courtalain, southwest of Paris;
- Pagny-sur-Moselle, to the east; and
- · Croisilles, to the north.

Each location is over 60 miles from Paris.

Meanwhile, SNCF said that another malicious act had been foiled on a route that connects Paris to southeastern France, with these services continuing to run normally.

SNCF passenger services chief Christophe Fanichet said there were delays of 90-120 minutes on services between Paris and France's north and east, while Eurostar reported that services between London and Paris experienced cancellations and significant delays of up to 90 minutes.

Initial indications were that repairs would last across the weekend with normal service anticipated to resume on Monday 29 July while authorities continue their criminal investigation. The operator said it had been expecting over one million people to be travelling on the rail network over the weekend.



Impact and repairs being undertaken from BBC News/SNCF/Vald'Yerre Municipality/Getty Images.

The news follows a number of security and safety incidents including assault and robbery reported by news outlets on Games officials in the fortnight leading up to the Opening Ceremony, with authorities continuing to try to subdue safety concerns in light of the strong security measures, while authorities had also briefly ordered the evacuation of the EuroAirport Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg, the French-Swiss airport near Basel, Switzerland, citing unspecified "safety reasons" on the same day. THE NEW YORK TIMES, ABC NEWS, BBC NEWS

Philippines: Manila Metro fleet issues

The Philippine Senate will inquire into a fleet of growth trains procured a decade ago for Manila's Metro rail line (MRT-3) which remain out of service.

12 four-carriage trains, which were procured at a cost of 3.7 billion pesos (\$AU95 million) to increase capacity on the line were delivered from Chinese manufacturer CRRC Dalian back in 2017, with the trains remaining in storage since that time.

The Senator spearheading the move, Raffy Tulfo, says that the national government of the time knew the trains were incompatible with the line infrastructure, but

decided to complete the contract anyway, while maintenance for the trains is costing up to \$AU50 million per year.

The city's single metro line opened in 2000 under a 25-year agreement to a consortium of local private builders, Metro Rail Transit Corporation. The Department of Transportation intends to open a tender for operation of the line shortly as the incumbent contract finishes next year, although the government has acknowledged that it will continue to partly subsidise operating costs of the line regardless of the outcome.

A second line, MRT-7, is currently under construction and will be operated by San Miguel Corporation, with a fleet of 36 three-carriage sets built by Hyundai Rotem. SMC is also expected to tender for the MRT-3 contract. INTERNATIONAL RAIL JOURNAL (2)

ENDS

BUS & COACH NEWS



Free transport period

Commuter bus services operating across Darwin, Casuarina, Palmerston and Alice Springs are fare-free from Monday 1 July to Monday 30 September, presumably as a cost of living measure by the government, although there has been little publicity.

Meanwhile, the 2024/25 NT Budget included \$545,000 in funding for the relocation of Darwin Bus Interchange. A significant portion of the \$2.3 billion transport package is dedicated to highways and other roads upgrades. NT GOVERNMENT



Brisbane: Various adjustments

Translink advises of some minor adjustments as follows:

From Monday 22 July, the **StationLink** bus service between PA Hospital and Rocklea is numbered '19', route **P179** was renumbered to P183, and **338** renumbered to 358. Translink said that these changes have been made in preparation for "future changes across our bus network". Meanwhile, Rocklea station (image below) re-opened on Monday 8 July after its closure back in 2022 for Cross River Rail and upgrade works.



To support the South East Busway project, from Monday 5 August, routes 551, 555, N555, 561, 566, P569, 571, 573, 575 & P581 no longer service School Road in Underwood, while route 572 has some trip time adjustments to facilitate interchanging with route 555. From Monday 12th, routes 576 & 577 no longer serve some stops on School Road. *TRANSLINK*



Inner/North-western Sydney network changes

Coinciding with the opening of the Sydney Metro rail extension from Chatswood through Sydney CBD to Sydenham (expected in August), Transport for NSW has released planned changes to the bus network that are to be implemented at the same time to reduce duplication while supporting mobility by improving the frequency of services on other key routes in the area.

The agency's plan includes modifying 11 routes, increasing services on weekends for 12 routes, increasing services on weekdays for 10, introducing weekend services for five, extended operating hours for five, withdrawing five routes and introducing two new routes.

While route **610X** will be added to the city's official All-day Frequent Bus Network, the creation of route **516** delivers on a local election commitment to connect Top Ryde and East Ryde with Metro rail services at North Ryde station, and the expansion of operating hours on some routes supports multi-modal mobility between Metro and Bus modes.

Other changes will impact routes in north-western Sydney to better meet passenger demand and improve reliability. Areas to benefit as a result of residential growth are said to include Box Hill, Gables, Grantham Farm, Marsden Park, Riverstone, Schofields and Tallawong.

Continues on page 10 >>>

Metropolitan Region 7 (Busways)

- **113** (Chatswood-Royal North Shore Hospital) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 120 (Chatswood-City (QVB)) additional services.
- 202 (Northbridge-City (Bridge St) via North Sydney) some additional trips in lieu of reduced trips on route 208.
- **203** (Castlecrag-North Sydney) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 204 (Northbridge-City (Bridge St) via Freeway) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 205 (East Willoughby-City (Bridge St) via Freeway) some additional trips in lieu of reduced trips on routes 204 and 206.
- 206 (East Lindfield-City (Bridge St) via Freeway) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 207 (East Lindfield-City (Bridge St) via North Sydney) some additional trips in lieu of reduced trips on route 208.
- 208 (East Lindfield-City (Bridge St) via Northbridge & North Sydney) - some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 209 (East Lindfield-Milsons Point via North Sydney) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 251 (Lane Cove West-City (Wynyard) via Freeway) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 253 (Riverview-City (Wynyard) via Freeway) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 254 (Riverview-McMahons Point via North Sydney) some trips changed to only do a "single loop" from McMahons Pt to Riverview.
- 255 (Colwell Crescent (Chatswood)-Chatswood) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 256 (Chatswood-Chatswood West loop service) some additional trips introduced.
- 261 (Lane Cove-North Sydney via Longueville) weekday daytime trips doubled to operate every 30 mins and introduction of Sunday services.
- 269 (North Sydney-Milsons Point via Kirribilli loop service) - some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 275 (Castlecrag-Chatswood) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 285 (Lane Cove West-City (Wynyard) via Freeway) some additional trips in lieu of routes 288 and 294.
- 286 (Denistone East-Milsons Point via St Leonards) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- **287** (Ryde-Milsons Point via St Leonards) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 288 (Macquarie University-City (Erskine St) via Freeway) - daytime service frequency adjustments improving consistency (weekdays from 4bph to 3bph and weekends from 2bph to 3bph). Trips also coordinated with route 292 between Lane Cove Interchange and the City for a combined average 6bph during the day. Two weekday trips extend between Macquarie Uni and Epping Boys High School (one per peak flow).
- 290 (Epping-City (Erskine St) night service) some trips withdrawn.

- 291 (Epping-McMahons Point via Nth Sydney) some additional trips in lieu of route 290.
- 292 (Marsfield-City (Erskine St) via Freeway) additional services to cater for demand. Daily daytime trips increased from 2bph to 3bph, with service timing coordinated with route 288 between Lane Cove Interchange and the City spacing services out.
- 293 (Marsfield-City (Wynyard) via Lane Cove Tunnel) additional services to cater for demand.
- 295 (Epping-North Epping loop service) additional trips and extended operating hours.
- 297 (Denistone East-City (Wynyard) via Lane Cove Tunnel) - additional trips and improved service frequency.
- 500X (West Ryde-City (Hyde Park) via Victoria Road) additional peak trips to improve frequency and capacity.
- **501** (Parramatta-Central via Victoria Road) additional trips to cater for demand. Sunday services increased from 3bph to 4bph improving connections with trains at West Ryde station.
- 505 (Woolwich-City (Town Hall)) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 506 (Macquarie University-City (Domain)) additional trips to cater for demand.
- 507 (Meadowbank-Gladesville/City (Hyde Park)) reduction in the peak trips that extend to/from the City. Additional trips scheduled between Meadowbank and Gladesville.
- **513** (Carlingford-West Ryde via Dundas Valley) minor trip timing changes.
- 515 (Eastwood-Ryde) minor trip timing changes.
- 517 (Macq. Centre-Ryde) minor trip time changes.
- 518 (Macquarie University-Meadowbank Wharf) additional services to cater for demand.
- 521 (Parramatta-Eastwood) additional services to cater for demand.
- 523 (West Ryde-Parramatta) additional services to cater for demand.
- 524 (Ryde/West Ryde-Parramatta via Melrose Park) reduction in trips extending to Top Ryde Shops due to low patronage.
- 533 (Olympic Park-Chatswood via North Ryde) additional services to cater for demand.
- 536 (Gladesville-Chatswood) service reduction due to low patronage.
- **538** (Gladesville-Woolwich) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 540 (Silverwater-Auburn) minor trip time changes.
- **541** (Epping-Eastwood) minor trip time changes.
- **544** (Macquarie Centre-Auburn) reduction in trips due to low patronage.
- 545 (Parramatta-Macquarie Park via Telopea) additional services to cater for demand.

Metropolitan Region 7 (Busways) Continued

- 546 (Parramatta-Epping via Oatlands) and 549
 (Parramatta-Epping via North Rocks) additional trips to provide an improved frequency of a bus every 30 minutes during the day between Epping & Carlingford Court and Epping & Parramatta respectively. Trips along both routes are coordinated to provide the shared Bay Road corridor with a 15-minute service frequency during the day.
- 550 (Parramatta-Macquarie Park via Epping) additional services to cater for demand.
- **551** (Marsfield-Eastwood) minor timing changes.
- **552** (Oatlands-Parramatta) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- **553** (North Rocks-Beecroft) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.

Metropolitan Region 9 (Transdev John Holland)

328 (Bondi Junction-Darling Point via Edgecliff) some additional trips in lieu of withdrawn route 200.

Metropolitan Region 6 (Transit Systems)

 526 (Burwood-Rhodes via Olympic Park) - additional trips between Strathfield and Rhodes to increase capacity due to the aforementioned truncation of route 525.

Metropolitan Region 4 (CDC NSW)

- 607X (Bella Vista-City (QVB)) some trips withdrawn, with a greater proportion of remaining trips now scheduled to operate using double decker bus fleet.
- 610X (Castle Hill-City (QVB)) some weekday trips withdrawn, with a greater proportion of remaining trips now scheduled to operate using double decker bus fleet. Significant increase in trips on weekends, supporting the route's inclusion in TfNSW's All Day Frequent Network.
- **611** (Blacktown-Macquarie Park) some additional trips, with a greater proportion of services now scheduled to operate using articulated bus fleet.
- 612X (Castle Hill-North Sydney) some additional trips, with a greater proportion of services now scheduled to operate using articulated bus fleet.
- 616X (Kellyville Ridge-City (QVB)) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.
- 620X (Dural-City (Wynyard)) some trips withdrawn due to low patronage.

- 622 (Dural-Milsons Point) minor route adjustment around the new Crows Nest railway station.
- 630 (Blacktown-Epping via Baulkham Hills) additional trips doubling weekday daytime frequency
 to 2bph and also extended operating hours.
 Introduction of operation on Saturdays, Sundays and
 Public Holidays (PHs). Provides uplift in connectivity
 with rail services at Blacktown, Seven Hills and Epping
 stations, and shopping precincts at Winston Hills,
 Baulkham Hills, North Rocks, Carlingford and Epping.
- 643 (Gables-Rouse Hill via Box Hill) timing changes to accommodate aforementioned route extension.
- 715 (Rouse Hill-Seven Hills via Norwest) additional trips doubling the weekday daytime frequency to 2bph. Introduction of operation on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays. Provides uplift in connectivity with rail and medical services at Seven Hills. Norwest and Rouse Hill stations.

Metropolitan Region 1 (Busways)

- 735 (Rouse Hill-Blacktown) special operation on Sundays (Blacktown-Blacktown via Rouse Hill loop) now adjusted to now operate normally in line with the rest of the week.
- 740 (Gables-Rouse Hill) changes to accommodate aforementioned route extension and the daily daytime frequency is doubled to 2bph.
- 742 (Marsden Park-Rouse Hill) limited service diversions into Terry Road (Ingenia Lifestyle Rouse Hill) are withdrawn, additional trips Mondays-Saturdays to improve service frequency, and the introduction of operation on Sundays/PHs.
- 745 (Norwest Private Hospital-St Marys via Stanhope Gardens) - additional trips doubling the weekday daytime frequency to 2bph and the introduction of Sunday services (1bph).
- 746 (Riverstone-Rouse Hill) extended operating hours on weekends/Phs and improved links with Metro trains at Rouse Hill.

- 747 (Mt Druitt-Rouse Hill via Marsden Park) changes to accommodate aforementioned route
 extension, and the doubling of weekend/PH services
 to 1bph over the full length of the route as well as the
 doubling to 1bph for short-workings between Marsden
 Park (extended from Melonba) and Rouse Hill, so this
 section will now have a service frequency of every 30
 minutes in this section.
- 748 (Marsden Park-Rouse Hill via Schofields) additional weekday daytime trips doubling services to 4bph and Sunday evening services doubled to 2bph, improving links to rail services at Schofields, Tallawong and Rouse Hill.
- 751 (Melonba-Blacktown) changes to accommodate aforementioned route extension, and additional trips on weekends/PHs doubling the frequency from 1bph to 2bph.

Routes modified

The below table shows modified route start/end points.

Route	New start/finish	Previous start/finish
115	Chatswood-North Sydney (loop)	Chatswood-City (Bridge St)
252	Gladesville-North Sydney	Gladesville-City (King St Wharf)
261	Lane Cove-North Sydney via Longueville	Lane Cove-City (King St Wharf)
265	Lane Cove-North Sydney via Crows Nest	Lane Cove-Nth Syd via Greenwich Pt Wharf
267	Chatswood-Greenwhich Point Wharf	Chatswood-Crows Nest
269	North Sydney-Milsons Pt via Kirribilli	McMahon's Point-Milsons Pt via Kirribilli
288	Macquarie Uni-City (Erskine St)	Epping-City (Erskine St)
320	Green Square-Central	Green Square-Gore Hill
525	Olympic Park-Parramatta	Burwood-Parramatta via Olympic Park
740	Gables-Rouse Hill	Box Hill-Rouse Hill
751	Melonba-Blacktown via Colebee	Marsden Park-Blacktown via Colebee
N91	Town Hall-Macquarie Park	Bondi Junction-Macq. Park via Town Hall

Routes 115, 252, and 261 no longer run across the Bridge into Sydney CBD with the availability of Metro rail services, the Greenwich Point wharf connection is taken off from route 265 to improve journey times there, now added as an extension to route 267, route 320 is significantly truncated with Metro and legacy rail services available from Central, and route 525's duplication with 526 between Olympic Park and Strathfield is removed. Meanwhile, route 643 (Gables-Rouse Hill via Box Hill) extends further north in Gables for coverage of residential growth, and route 747 (Mt Druitt-Rouse Hill via Marsden Park & Riverstone) extends further into Marsden Park for the same reason.

Routes added

- BWR7 119 (Gore Hill-North Sydney) replacement for removed northern-most section of route 200 and 320 services.
- BWR7 516 (Top Ryde-Chatswood via North Ryde) - replacement for withdrawn 259. 3bph during peak periods and 2bph daytime daily.

Routes withdrawn

- TJR9 200 (Gore Hill-Bondi Junction)
- BWR7 259 (Macquarie University-Chatswood)
- BWR7 294 (Macquarie University-City via Lane Cove)
- CDR4 602X (Bella Vista station-North Sydney)
- CDR4 619 (Castle Hill-Macquarie Park)

Timetable adjustments

Pages 8 and 9 provide a list of routes impacted by timetable adjustments split by region.

TfNSW advises with many of the above route service withdrawals/reductions that there is availability of other services, and passengers may need to use an earlier or later service due to the changes.

Some trip timing changes occur to some school services, although TfNSW advises the majority remain untouched. TfNSW also says it is "considering" further enhancements to improve connectivity to Metro rail stations which remains dependant on driver/fleet availability. TRANSPORT FOR NSW

NightRide adjustments

In tandem with changes to the north-west bus network (above), the opportunity is being used to modify some NightRide routes and service levels after six years of operation of the current timetables.

- N80 (Town Hall-Hornsby via Strathfield) some trips withdrawn.
- N81 (Parramatta-Town Hall via Olympic Park and Wentworth Point) - some trips withdrawn due to poor patronage.
- N90 (Town Hall-Hornsby via North Shore) some trips withdrawn.
- N91 (now Town Hall-Macquarie Park) drops the Town Hall to Bondi Junction section, which formed most of N100 in a previous lifetime. TfNSW says passengers can use other services in lieu (e.g. 333N).

These four routes are operated by Busways as part of the region 7 contract. *TRANSPORT FOR NSW*

Central Coast timetable changes

Outer Metropolitan Region 6 (Busways)

From Monday 8 July, a timetable revision was implemented for Busways routes on the Central Coast.

The revision aims to improve service reliability while also taking in patronage levels and customer feedback in service provision.

Routes with timing changes

A review of some timetables has identified changes shown below (a full list of impacted routes is provided after):

- **32** (Spencer-Gosford) some trip time changes of up to five minutes.
- **32/4** (Mangrove Mountain-Gosford via Kariong) some trip time changes of up to four minutes.
- **33** (Somersby-Gosford) The weekday 17:08 trip ex Somersby Public School now operates five mins later.
- **34** (Gosford-Kariong loop service) some trip time changes of up to six minutes (mostly on Saturdays).
- **37** (Tuggerah-Gosford) some trip time changes of up to five minutes.
- **38** (Gosford-Wyoming loop service) some trip time adjustments of up to nine minutes.
- **50** (Woy Woy-Umina loop service) some trip time changes of up to six minutes.
- **50/3** (Woy Woy-Umina & Booker Bay loop service) some trip time changes of up to nine minutes.
- **53** (Woy Woy-Booker Bay loop service) some trip time changes of up to five minutes.
- **54** (Woy Woy-Pearl Beach & Patonga loop service) some trips operate anywhere from 21 minutes earlier to 10 minutes later.
- **55** (Ettalong Beach-Gosford via Woy Woy) some trip time changes of up to nine minutes.
- **55/3** (Woy Woy-Ettalong & Umina Beach loop service) The only trip scheduled, departing Woy Woy 21:40 on Saturdays now operates two minutes earlier.
- **57** (Umina Beach West-Woy Woy via Umina Beach) some trip time changes of up to five minutes.
- **58** (Woy Woy to Woy Woy Bay & Phegans Bay loop service) The weekdays 17:25 and 18:30 trips ex Woy Woy have reduced journey time enroute, arriving back at Woy Woy station four minutes earlier.

Here is the full list of impacted routes, provided by TfNSW:

Weekdays - 32,32/4, 33, 34, 37, 38, 50, 53, 54, 55, 57, 58, 59, 63, 64, 66A, 66C, 67, 68, 70, 78, 79, 80, 82, 91, 94, 96, 97, 99

Saturdays - 34, 38, 50, 50\3, 53, 54, 55, 55\3, 57, 63, 64, 65, 66A, 66C, 67, 68, 70, 78, 81, 82, 90, 92, 99.

Sundays - 78, 79, 81, 82, 90, 92, 97, 98, 99.

Local school services are also impacted: 2002, 2006, 2009, 2018, 2019, 2026, 2036, 2039, 2045, 2046, 2053, 2057, 2058, 2060, 2061, 2067, 2071, 2073, 2083, 2095, 2102, 2107, 2111, 2127, 2128, 2139, 2154, 2156, 2163, 2169, 2189, 2190, 2194, 2198, 2205, 2207, 2208, 2501, 2505, 2510, 2521, 2526, 2533, 2540, 2542, 2543, 2545, 2556, 2557, 2559, 2560, 2562, 2564, 2565, 2567, 2568, 2570, 2575, 2577, 2579, 2580, 2588, 2594, 2607, 2609, 2618, 2621, 2622, 2624, 2630, 2632, 2633, 2636, 2640, 2650, 2658, 2663, 2665, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2684, 2687, 2692, 2693, 2694, 2705, 2715, 2718, 2719, 2786, 2789, 2793, 2794, 2799, 2800, 2805.

Busways also subsequently commenced its new eightyear operating contract for the region on Sunday 28 July. TRANSPORT FOR NSW, BUSWAYS

CDC maintains growth

CDC NSW has bought out its Red Bus CDC NSW joint-venture partner, The Entrance Red Bus Services, taking full control of the entity from Saturday 6 July. The entity commenced operating its new eight-year contract across Outer Region 7 on the same day.

CDC NSW says the entity will maintain its joint-venture branding for the life of the contract, there are no driver losses with minimal job losses elsewhere, the Shore family will continue to own the land (the bus depot), and a number of Shore family members will continue to be employed by the operation, including John Shore Jr who will continue to manage daily operations.

Likely seeing the writing on the wall for local family businesses in the industry, John Shore Jr, managing director of Red Bus, said "After many discussions as a family, we have decided that this transition represented an opportunity to sell the business to a trusted partner. We approached CDC NSW last year with an acquisition proposal and they have been incredibly respectful throughout the process. Our collaboration with CDC NSW through the period readying the business to start new services today has demonstrated their commitment to staff and investment in local communities, aligning with the values that Red Bus was built upon. [CDC NSW] understand the importance of maintaining the high standards of service excellence that our community has come to expect. While this transition marks a new chapter, we are assured that the Red Bus brand and reputation will be preserved". cpc wsw

Southwest Link

Transit Systems announced on 8 July that it had successfully completed recruitment of new bus drivers for its majority share of the upcoming Southwest Link bus service.

Currently slated to commence in October, the Bankstown-Sydenham service will be operated by multiple operators, including Transit Systems and U-Go Mobility, using dedicated resources operating from depots at Bankstown and Marrickville, with the state

government's expectation that there is zero impact from the introduction of this new service on their pre-existing commuter route commitments.

See page 2 of the *Table Talk* June 2024 edition for an overview of Southwest Link's routes.

Newly-minted chief executive, Daniela Fontana, said in a statement: "We surpassed our initial recruitment targets, but we are not taking the pedal off the metal when it comes to driver recruitment. As Sydney's largest bus operator, our efforts to find and retain the best talents are ongoing, ensuring that we keep our cities moving efficiently and reliably. Many thanks to our local team of recruitment and training experts, and also to our additional driver trainers flying in from Perth to keep up with the influx of new trainees". TRANSIT SYSTEMS

WSI rapid bus links

Further information has been released regarding proposals for rapid western Sydney bus routes to serve the upcoming Western Sydney International Airport at Badgery's Creek.

A map overlaid with these routes is provided on the next page. TfNSW advises the route numbering may still change before implementation. It appears that in the medium term, routes will be shared between existing region 1 and 2 operators Busways and Transit Systems.

- 772 (Mt Druitt-Bradfield via Airport): New route
- 790 (Penrith-Bradfield via Airport): New route
- 825 (Liverpool-Bradfield via Airport): New route
- **840** (Campbelltown Hospital-Leppington): Extension of existing route Campbelltown Hospital-Oran Park.
- 845 (Campbelltown-Airport via Bradfield): New route
- 860 (Liverpool-Airport via Bradfield): New route

The community has until Monday 16 September to provide feedback via the survey at https://www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/new-bus-services-western-sydney

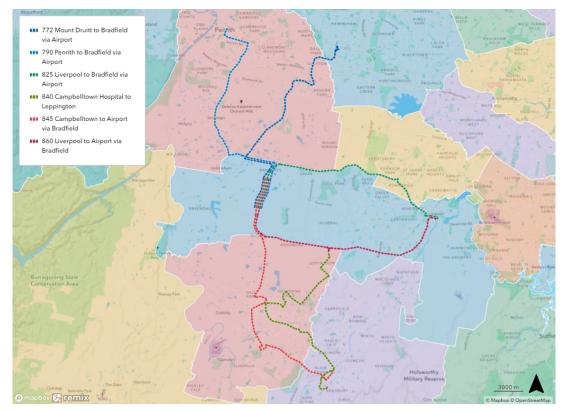
Meanwhile, at the time of publication, Transport for NSW also had a survey open to the public regarding On Demand services: https://yoursay.transport.nsw.gov.au/ondemand. TRANSPORT FOR NSW



Port Adelaide adjustments

With the Port Dock railway line due to open on Sunday 25 August, new and revised local bus timetable adjustments have been released.

Torrens Transit routes 117, 118, 333, 150, 150B, 150P, 230, 232, 252, 252A, 254, 254X, N254, 333, and 361



Western Sydney's planned rapid bus routes to serve the new WSI Airport (source: TfNSW).

will extend from Port Adelaide Interchange or otherwise divert into the new Port Dock Interchange where passengers can change for the new rail service. Some routes have significant trip time changes on particular days (e.g. 252 and 252A on Saturdays where trips operate around 15 mins earlier).

For many routes where there is a simple extension to/ from Port Dock, trips often commence there at a slightly earlier time or terminate there at a slightly later time which means there is no impact on departure times at other stops along the route (361 is an exception, with many trips seeing departure times along the route altered by one minute).

Further, with the extra mileage from the change, for routes like 150 and N254 where the extension occurs mid-route, some buses depart stops before Port Dock earlier, while others instead arrive at stops after Port Dock later. It appears up to three minutes has been added to end-to-end journey times, depending on the time of the day.

Conversely, for routes like 252 (now Port Dock-City via Mansfield Park), where the mileage is either the same or even slightly less because trips will no longer serve Port Adelaide Interchange, instead diverting to/from the new Port Dock Interchange, some trips have the same travel time, while others have lost one minute of travel time.

Passengers would be strongly encouraged to check their bus times for any changes.

Route 115 (West Lakes-City), which was effectively an evening short-working of 117 has been subsumed into route 117 (now Port Dock-City via West Lakes). Former 115 trips from the City in that direction only now extend to Port Dock. ADELAIDE METRO with support from PAUL BROWN



Transperth adjustments

From Monday 1 July, buses may arrive and depart from different bus stands at St George's Terrace. Routes impacted are 24, 27, 32, 33, 39, 72, 75, 111, 160, 177, 178, 179, 270, 282, 283, 910, 930, 935 and 940.

From Monday 15 July, a multitude of changes impact bus services to support the extended Yanchep railway line. Trip time changes impact routes 15, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 96, 100, 101, 111, 114, 115, 148, 158, 160, 177, 178, 179, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 229, 230, 233, 277, 278, 344, 355, 371, 374, 376, 386, 387, 390, 391, 402, 403, 404, 406, 407, 410, 412, 413, 414, 415, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 427, 428, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 470, 471, 473, 474, 500, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 523, 525, 526, 527, 529, 530, 531, 532, 534, 535, 536, 537, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 548, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 574, 577, 584, 585, 586, 588, 589, 591, 592, 593, 594, 597, 598, 600, 604, 605, 910, 915, 990, 998 and 999. More thorough changes occur to routes 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 490, and 491 with an outline and map provided in last month's *Table Talk*.

Added trips to existing routes includes:

Route	Days	Trips added
85	Weekdays	06:50 ex Perth Busport, and 07:20 short-
05	vveekdays	working ex Glendalough station.
100	Weekdays	Several extra trips due to heavy loadings at Curtin Central Bus Station.
148	Weekdays	Some additional trips in lieu of withdrawn route 158.
177	Weekdays	Some additional trips.
178	Weekdays	Some additional trips.
355	Weekdays	05:53 short-working ex Whitfords station.
386	AM Sundays	01:00 ex Perth Busport.
200	Weekdays	04:59 ex Forever Bvd/Ladybird Rd, and 14:22 ex Joondalup station.
390	Saturdays	21:46 ex Joondalup station.
	Sundays	06:52 ex Forever Bvd/Ladybird Rd.
391	Weekdays	14:32 ex Joondalup station.
402	Weekdays	08:24 ex Perth Busport.
403	Sundave	07:35 ex Stirling station, and
403	Sundays	08:19 ex Perth Busport.
421	Weekdays	05:44 & 22:10 ex Scarborough Beach Bus Station, and 16:56 ex Stirling station.
502	Weekdays	05:24 ex Leach Hwy/North Lake Rd, and an additional early evening trip ex Bull Creek station.
	Weekends	Additional evening trips to increase service frequency to hourly.
512	Weekdays	An additional early evening trip ex Murdoch station.
513	Weekdays	05:43 ex Ralston/Dearle Sts, and an additional early evening trip ex Murdoch station.
515	Weekdays	06:15 ex Murdoch station, and 14:42 ex Jandakot station.
	Weekdays	18:11 & 18:59 ex Fremantle station.
532	Saturdays	08:07, 09:00, 09:20 & 19:05 ex Fremantle station, and 08:25, 09:18, 09:38 & 19:24 ex Hampton/Clontarf Rds.
	Sundays	09:05 & 19:01 ex Fremantle station, and 09:23 & 19:21 ex Hampton/Clontarf Rds.
543	Weekdays	19:30 ex Kwinana station.
544	SH weekdays	15:09 ex Kwinana station, and 15:12 ex Wellard station.
548	Weekends	Additional Fremantle station-Coogee short-workings. Extended operating hours.
555	Weekdays	Additional trips to improve frequency. Extra trip 06:11 ex Rockingham Beach.
569	Weekdays	11:49 ex Warnbro station, and 12:17 ex Daintree St.
574	Weekdays	04:07 ex Lakelands station which links with newer earlier train towards City.
593	Weekdays	07:11 ex Mandurah station.
910	Weekdays	Some additional early morning and mid- afternoon trips.
	Weekends	Some additional early morning trips.
990	Weekdays	05:30 & 19:11 ex Perth Busport.
998	TBA	Some additional trips due to high patronage.

Further adjustments follow:

- 301 route and time changes due to closure of Helena Street level crossing. Will use Morrison Road LX until Cale Street LX becomes available.
- 502 Early daily morning short-working trips extended to start from Bull Creek station. Peakperiod and early weekend evening frequency adjustments.
- 503 Weekday AM peak frequency adjustments.
- 504 Weekday AM peak frequency adjustments.

- 507 Services towards Cannington station instead operate via Albany Highway then Cecil Avenue to service Cannington station.
- 513 The 06:23 trip ex Fremantle station now instead commences from Fremantle College at 06:29. Morning peak frequency adjustments from Murdoch station to Fremantle station.
- 517, 518 & 519 Extra trips now service Murdoch TAFE.
- 530 The 06:45 trip ex Yangebup Rd/Milgun Dr now extends to commence from Cockburn Central station at 06:33.
- 910 Existing early morning short-working trips to Fremantle station now instead commence from Perth Busport.
- 915 Weekend early morning frequency adjustments to provide earlier services into Fremantle station.
- 990 13:17, 13:30, 19:35 & 20:06 weekday trips ex Scarborough Beach Bus Station now extend from Glendalough station through to Perth Busport, departing SB at 13:22, 13:32, 19:33 & 20:04 respectively. The 15:25 & 15:35 weekday trips ex Glendalough station now instead commence from Perth Busport, departing at 15:07 & 15:17, while the 15:13 trip ex Perth Busport instead starts short from Glendalough station at 15:29.

Withdrawn trips on existing routes includes:

Route	Days	Trips withdrawn	
101	Numerous trips withdrawn due to low patronage.		
158	Some trips withdrawn with new route 148 trips in lieu.		
179	Some trips withdrawn to provide additional route 177 and 178 trips.		
277	Numerous trips withdrawn due to low patronage.		
278	Numerous trips withdrawn due to low patronage.		
423	Weekdays	15:32 ex Stirling station. 23:59 ex Stirling station due to low patronage (LP).	
441	Weekdays	18:18 ex Whitfords station due to LP.	
442	Weekdays	18:44 ex Whitfords station due to LP.	
445	Weekdays	18:23 ex Warwick station due to LP.	
446	Weekdays	17:43 & 18:03 ex Whitfords station due to low patronage.	
462	Weekdays	16:16 ex Whitfords station due to LP.	
464	Weekdays	20:46 ex Whitfords station due to LP.	
465	Saturdays	22:59 ex Whitfords station due to LP.	
505	Weekdays	07:05 & 19:25 ex Bull Creek station, and 06:18 & 18:08 ex Murduch stn due to LP.	
511	Weekdays	06:00 ex Winterfold/Stock Rds, 08:19 ex Fremantle station, and 09:26 ex Murdoch station due to low patronage.	
525	Weekdays	06:24 ex Bannigan Ave/Carnegie Pde due to low patronage.	
526	Weekdays	09:19 & 16:58 ex Cockburn Central station due to low patronage.	
560	Weekdays	One AM peak trip withdrawn. Trip arriving 08:57 at Warnbro station withdrawn, with previous trip running later to spread out.	
574	Weekdays		
584	Weekdays	An early evening trip ex Lakelands station withdrawn.	
585	Weekdays	Some trips withdrawn to provide reduced peak frequency of 3bph.	
590	Weekdays	09:17, 13:25, 15:51, & 17:16 ex Scar- borough Beach Bus Station due to LP.	

Effective from <u>Sunday 21 July</u>, a new early weekday morning trip has been introduced on route **301**. It departs Midland station at 06:35 arrives Midland

Hospital 06:41 and returns to Midland station at 06:49. Transperth advises it is not on the printed timetable and the bus stops until a later date, however it will still be visible on the Transperth Journey Planner and App.

From <u>Sunday 28 July</u>, route **479** trips that deviate via Ocean Keys Shopping Centre have some trip time changes. Clarkson station and Mindarie Marina departure times are not impacted.

There are adjustments to some school special trips effective from "Sunday 11 August". TRANSPERTH

TransRegional update

TransKununurra's Lakeside Bus has been split into two distinct routes - **700** and **701** since Monday 13 May due to "heavy loadings".

After two years of trial running, TransEsperance routes **810**, **811** and **812** have been made permanent, operating on Mondays through to Fridays.

Effective from Sunday 7 July, TransBunbury services now also operate on Sundays, to a special Sunday timetable. Three new timetables dated 7 July 2024 are available from the PTA website. Meanwhile, route **827** has been adjusted to no longer serve some stops along Flynn Street and Henley Drive, but now extends to serve more of Glen Iris via Moorland Ave, Moonlight Dr, Sanders Parade and Barker Boulevard. The new route map is provided on the cover page. **PTA**

State Budget 24/25

The State Budget 2024/25 was handed down in May by treasurer, deputy premier, transport and tourism minister Rita Saffioti. Bus-related expenditure includes:

- Electric buses and depot modifications \$92.6m
- Stirling Bus Interchange \$83.8 million
- · Bus Replacement Program \$58 million
- Various Bus Infrastructure Projects \$31.7 million
- Canning Bridge Bus Interchange \$8 million
- Smartrider Asset Replacement and Technology Update - \$7.7 million

The following commentary was provided by the government in its budget papers regarding the work being undertaken by the Public Transport Authority:

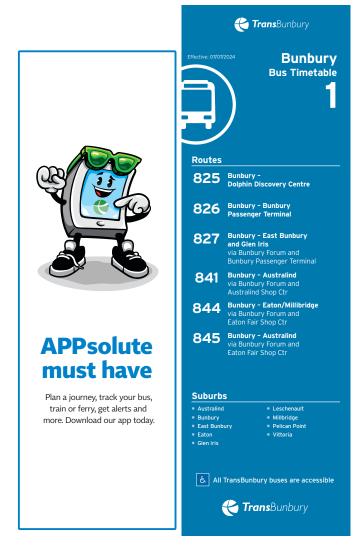
State funding of \$125 million, with a matching federal contribution, is being used to kick-start the transition of the diesel **bus fleet** to electric. This includes the acquisition of 130 locally built buses and the commencement of the conversion of existing bus depots to electric, with the first stage consisting of Malaga, Karrinyup, Bayswater and Claisebrook over the next three years. The Perth Central Area Transit (CAT) services will be the first to take delivery of 18 electric buses during 2024-25, with these buses to be charged at newly constructed charging stations at Elizabeth Quay Bus Station.

To further contribute to the Government's goal of **net zero** greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, the Authority will continue to install solar panels at bus and train stations and depots throughout the urban network. The Authority is also continuing the development and

provision of electric vehicle charging infrastructure at selected train stations.

Several initiatives have been implemented to encourage the continued use of public transport and relieve **cost of living** pressures on the community. Following the success of the Summer of Free Public Transport, which ran from 24 December 2023 to 28 January 2024, all passengers with a SmartRider card are able to travel across the network for free every Sunday and school students with a valid SmartRider can travel for free on weekdays.

The Authority is continuing to work on implementation of the recommendations within the **2022 Bus Fair report**, including the expansion of school bus services' eligibility criteria for country students to attend their nearest appropriate school and an increase in the conveyance allowance, which was implemented for the start of the 2024 school year. **WA GOVERNMENT**



Updated cover for new TransBunbury timetable (source: PTA).

ENDS

FERRY & SHIP NEWS



South Mosman wharf

Transport for NSW (TfNSW) advised that upgrade works at South Mosman wharf (*Table Talk*, June 2024, page 11) would have a small impact on buses operating along route **111** as well as school buses from Monday 5 August through to Monday 16 September, with these buses to "turn around on Raglan Street at the Musgrave Street intersection on weekdays from 6am-4pm only".

TfNSW also advised that "travel apps may not reflect this temporary change". TRANSPORT FOR NSW



Ferry disruption

Some car ferry services have been impacted by cable replacement works during the month of July. Between 10:00 and 14:00, services were impacted on selected days:

- Thu 20 June Swan Reach ferry
- Tue 16 July Mannum upstream ferry
- Thu 18 July Walker Flat ferry
- Tue 23 July Cadell ferry
- Thu 25 July Purnong ferry
- Tue 30 July Waikerie ferry
- Thu 1 Aug Lyrup ferry

The Narrung ferry was closed on Wed 3 July 09:30-15:30 for ferry changeover. **SA GOVERNMENT**

ENDS

AIR NEWS



WA Regional Fare Cap

The state government announced in its 2024/25 Budget in May that the WA Regional Airfare Zone Cap would be continuing until end of 2025/26 with another \$65.3 million as a cost-of-living initiative. It is also providing \$21.3 million this year towards proposed upgrades of the Onslow, Albany, East Kimberley, Carnarvon and Eucla airstrips to ensure continued operations of public and private air services in those locations. *WA GOVT*



IT glitch causes significant impacts

The recent Crowdstrike glitch, caused by a routine program update which caused many Windows computers to display a constant "Blue Screen of Death" has caused international turmoil not just in aviation, but banks, broadcasters, and indeed many other businesses in an age where most, if not all, are reliant on reliable computer and digital systems to operate.

Samchui.com reports that it caused widespread flight disruptions affecting tens of thousands of passengers worldwide with thousands of flights cancelled globally with over 4,500 flight cancellations in the US alone.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reported communication problems stemming from the outage, leading several major American carriers to issue ground stops for all departing flights in the early morning of Friday 19 July.

The problem update was said to have affected an estimated 300,000 computers in 150 different countries, while the day saw an estimated 65,000 flights experience delays, growing as time passed.

Delta Air Lines was America's most affected airline with more than 1,200 flight cancellations on Friday alone, although American Airlines, United Airlines, Frontier Airlines, and Spirit Airlines all also experienced significant disruptions. Delta hub Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport was the most affected airport in the country with around 900 flight cancellations.

Other major hubs like Chicago O'Hare International Airport and Los Angeles International Airport were also affected with reports of lengthy delays and cancellations throughout the day.

The ripple effects of the Microsoft outage extended beyond American borders, impacting airlines and airports across the globe such as India's IndiGo, SpiceJet, and Akasa Air all faced difficulties, reporting issues with online booking, check-in systems, and communication with air traffic control. Major Indian airports in Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Kolkata, and Pune were particularly affected, with reports of slow check-in processes, long queues, and flight delays.

Other global airports including in Germany, Italy, Canada, Singapore, and Malaysia were also directly affected.

The Microsoft outage began around 18:00 American eastern time on Thursday 18 July, with it identifying a temporary failure within its Azure cloud software, leading to a breakdown in "service management operations and connectivity or availability of services" across the central US region.

On their part, Crowdstrike CEO George Kutrz issued a statement "We quickly identified the issue and deployed a fix, allowing us to focus diligently on restoring customer systems as our highest priority. The outage was caused by a defect found in a Falcon content update for Windows hosts. Mac and Linux hosts are not impacted. This was not a cyberattack. We are working closely with impacted customers and partners to ensure that all systems are restored, so you can deliver the services your customers rely on.""

Australian operators reported they had returned to normal operations by Sunday 21 July, while AustralianAviation reported that on Saturday 20 July Melbourne Airport had one cancellation from Qantas and Virgin. Initial impacts to Sydney, Brisbane and Perth airports caused passengers being unable to check-in while scores of flights had experienced delays. SAMCHUI.COM, AUSTRALIAN AVIATION

ENDS

Front Cover: A map of TransBunbury bus routes (courtesy Public Transport Authority of WA).

About Table Talk

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