



Bus Network Review – Feedback and Outcomes

Overview

- 390 submissions received
- This included individuals, retirement villages, Chamber of Commerce, TAFE, local MP
- Over 75 positive comments received

The main issues for each route are listed below:

322 – Port Macquarie to Shelly Beach & Lighthouse Plaza

- Objection to proposed withdrawal of service from Home Street and Owen Street
- Objection to proposed withdrawal of service from Gordon Street
- Objection to proposed withdrawal of service from Glasshouse bus stop
- Concern over walking distances to nearest bus route

324 – Port Macquarie to Tacking Point & Lighthouse Plaza

- Objection to proposed withdrawal of service from Jonas Absalom Drive and Sapphire Drive
- Request to extend services further along Marbuk Avenue
- Objection to proposed withdrawal of service from Glasshouse bus stop
- Concern over walking distance to nearest bus route
- Request for more frequent services

325 – Port Macquarie to Base Hospital and The Ruins Way

- Concern from Parklands Village regarding the crossing of Hindman Street and lack of bus shelter
- Request for diversions at either end of Lincoln Road and more bus stops
- Request for Marian Drive diversion on trips in both directions
- Request for later trips in the evening

334 – Port Macquarie to Laurieton and Kendall

- Objection to proposed withdrawal of service from Private Hospital (Lake Road)
- Request for connections with trains at Kendall
- Request for more accessible buses
- Objection to proposed withdrawal of service from Glasshouse bus stop
- Request for more frequent services and longer operating hours of services

335 – Port Macquarie to Base Hospital and Wauchope

- Concern from Garden Village regarding the crossing of Findlay Avenue and lack of bus shelter
- Objection to proposed withdrawal of service from Waugh Street (Wauchope)
- Request for more frequent services
- Request for more accessible buses

341 – Port Macquarie to Airport

- Objection to proposed withdrawal of service from Tuffins Lane

In response to the feedback received, Busways proposes to make the following changes to the proposed network:

- The proposal to operate route 322 via Hill Street direct has been reassessed and the current route via Home Street and Owen Street will remain;
- The proposal to operate route 322 via William Street has been reassessed and the current route via Gordon Street will remain;
- The proposal to operate route 322 to Emerald Downs has been swapped with route 324 to Marbuk Avenue;
- Route 322 extended, via Marbuk Avenue full length and Amethyst Way, as per community requests;
- The proposal to operate route 324 via Ocean Drive direct between Crestwood Drive and Emerald Drive has been reassessed and the current route via Jonas Absalom Drive will remain;
- Route 324 extended to operate via the western end of Sapphire Way as per community requests;
- Route 325 has been confirmed as operating along The Ruins Way to Maysfield Court (this terminus was not shown in the consultation brochure);
- Route 325 will not be diverted at either end of Lincoln Road to serve the retirement villages but closer bus stop locations will be determined with Council;
- The proposal to operate route 334 via Hill Street and drop passengers for Port Macquarie Private Hospital near Lake Road to walk around the corner has been reassessed and it will now operate via Hill Street, Seaview Avenue and Lake Road (or reserve on trips from Port Macquarie) – this will allow passengers to utilise the stops on Lake Road as they currently do;
- The proposal to operate route 335 via Fernhill Road has temporarily been postponed until Council undertakes road works at the intersection with Lake Road to improve safety – services will operate via the Oxley Highway instead in the short term;
- The proposal to operate route 335 via Oxley Highway and Campbell Street (Wauchope) has been reassessed and services will instead operate via Beechwood Road, Cowdery Street (as per the current route) then Johnstone Street (instead of Waugh Street) – this will still give 400m coverage but allows better access to Wauchope District Hospital;
- Routes 340 and 341 will still be withdrawn from Tuffins Lane due to its imminent closure;
- The proposal to operate route 341 via Bellbowrie Street and turn right onto Hastings River Drive has been reassessed and will now operate via Newport Island Road instead, only requiring a safer left turn onto Hastings River Drive;
- The proposal to operate all services in a two way route through the Port Macquarie CBD via William Street is the subject of further discussion with Council and the Chamber of Commerce; bus stop locations need to be assessed in order to address community concerns regarding walking distance to major attractors
- The allocation of low floor buses will be more evenly spread across all routes, while still adhering to the Disability Discrimination Act requirements
- New service linking the Beechwood and Crosslands communities to Wauchope (with connections to/from Port Macquarie buses)
- Trial night services in the Port Macquarie urban area

The next stage of the review will be an investigation into the school bus network throughout the region. Parents/ students and schools affected by any major proposed changes will be consulted and given the opportunity to provide feedback.

It is anticipated the new route and school bus networks will be implemented in the first half of 2013.
