

Public Transport Levy Att 1 Timeline

ATTACHMENT 1

TIMELINE RELATING TO THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT LEVY

The following outlines the important milestones and the related timelines to the development of the public transport levy to date. The main references are Council resolutions, specific activity and some supporting comments are included.

Date of Milestone	Details of Milestone
June 2008	<p>During the budget deliberations of the newly amalgamated Council the subject of a Transport Levy was raised and discussed. Council resolved as follows:</p> <p><i>Budget Meeting Minutes of 17 June 2008</i></p> <p><i>That Council:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>(i) Consider a Public Transport Levy for the Sunshine Coast for introduction in the 2009/10 financial year.</i><i>(ii) Over the coming six months, a Report be prepared for Council proposing a Policy for collection of funds, transport funding hypothecation and identification of eligible funding targets;</i><i>(iii) A five year program of works be developed, describing the project, its cost, community benefit attaching and a demonstration that it complies with the governing guidelines.</i><i>(iv) The Policy, Guidelines and Five Year Program be developed through the Regional Strategy and Planning Department, with implementation occurring through Regional Strategy and Planning and Assets and Infrastructure Departments, as appropriate.</i>
April 2009	<p>The Special Budget Meeting of 21 April 2009 considered the proposal of a Transport Levy with a wider range of possible activities as well as the amount of the levy. Following considerable discussion the following resolution resulted on the basis that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• many of the activities proposed are already council responsibility and the existing mechanism of general rates were already being used to fund those activities;• a specific focus on public transport, which is not a council responsibility, would assist in raising the profile of the network on the Sunshine Coast and provide financial leverage with the State;• allows transparency in the use of the levy; and• agreed to \$20 per annum per rateable property as the levy amount <p><i>Special Meeting Minutes of 21 April 2009</i></p> <p>Council Resolution (SM09/022)</p> <p><i>That Council:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>(a) adopt a Public Transport Levy of \$20.00 per rateable property for implementation in the 2009/2010 financial year.</i><i>(b) the Transport Levy Policy, attached as Appendix A, be amended to have a sole focus on public transport and to guide the equitable and efficient allocation of revenue raised from the Public Transport Levy and the amended Policy be presented on 2 June 2009; and</i><i>(c) request the Chief Executive Officer to develop an indicative 5 year program for public transport improvements across the region for presentation to a future budget meeting, with such a program including current and proposed funding sources to support the program.</i>

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June 2009	<p>The meeting of 6 June 2009 adopted the Public Transport Levy Policy and the levy amount for 2009/10.</p> <p>Council Resolution (SM09/043)</p> <p><i>That Council:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) <i>note the report from Project Manager, State Transport Projects, George Pegoraro;</i>(b) <i>adopt the Public Transport Levy Policy, attached as Attachment 1, with the exception of Clause 6.3;</i>(c) <i>confirm the outline of the indicative 5 Year Public Transport Levy Program, attached as Attachment 2 in the report, as the focus areas of expenditure; and</i>(d) <i>receive a further report in the near future with a refined 5 Year Public Transport Levy Program and further detail of the 2009/2010 program.</i>
August 2009	<p>This report to Council identified the table of initiatives for 2009/10 for the public transport levy.</p> <p>(GCM) ITEM 4.2.1 PUBLIC TRANSPORT LEVY</p> <p>Council Resolution (OM09/249)</p> <p><i>That Council:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) <i>note the report titled "Public Transport Levy";</i>(b) <i>authorise the Chief Executive Officer to progress:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">i. <i>initiatives meeting the requirements of the Public Transport Levy Policy for the 2009/10 and 2010/11 years and generally in accordance with the listing provided in Attachments 1 and 2 to the report;</i>ii. <i>the addition of services on the Maroochy North Shore (including the Sunshine Coast Airport) to Nambour and Maroochydore and a Mooloolaba Holiday Bus; and</i>iii. <i>the matter of co-contributions;</i>(c) <i>request the Chief Executive Officer to then progress planning for initiatives suitable for a 5-year implementation plan from 2010/11 to 2015/16 and beyond with residents and Progress Associations and the broader community; and</i>(d) <i>note that further reports to Council will be forthcoming in relation to the implementation and planning associated with the Public Transport Levy.</i>
Dec 2009 / Jan 2010	<p>The free holiday bus was run in the Noosa area as well as Route 600 between Maroochydore and Caloundra.</p>
March 2010	<p>The first service initiative under the public transport levy took effect on 1 March 2010 in partnership with the Department of Transport and Main Roads Passenger Services Division.</p> <p>The existing 5 day per week Maleny to Landsborough bus service was extended to serve Beerwah and began to operate 7 days per week. It is known as the Beerwah to Landsborough to Maleny Bus Service trial.</p>
May 2010	<p>On 1 May 2010 saw the launch of two different types of service initiatives.</p> <p>Council Cabs began operating across the majority of the Sunshine Coast delivering a targeted service initiative to over 60's and people with a disability.</p> <p>The introduction of Flexilink services saw seven (7) new services being trialled across the Sunshine Coast. Two of these services were in conjunction with the Department of Transport and Main Roads Passenger Services Division.</p>

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The list of services was:

- Peachester to Beerwah
- Conondale to Maleny
- Mooloolah Valley area
- Mountain Creek to Buderim
- Kunda Park to Mons
- Kenilworth to Mapleton
- Pomona to Cooroy

An agenda report in May provided the information for the 2010/11 initiatives proposed for the public transport levy.

SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING 18 MAY 2010 - 5.1.2 PUBLIC TRANSPORT LEVY

Council Resolution (SM10/027)

That Council:

- (a) note the report titled "Public Transport Levy";*
- (b) confirm there is no change to the Public Transport Levy amount and the method of application for 2010/2011, being \$20 per rateable property per annum;*
- (c) amend the purposes for which revenue from the levy can be used within the Public Transport Levy Policy Statement to include operational projects that deliver strategies, education or marketing to encourage modal shift to underpin public transport and have the amended policy for council consideration prior to budget 2010/2011 adoption;*
- (d) adopt an indicative program of projects/initiatives as listed in Table 1 of the report for implementation in 2010/2011 subject to:*
 - (i) further advise from TransLink regarding their contribution to the proposed airport service;*
 - (ii) consideration of ways to deliver improved access from Coolum to Nambour; and*
 - (iii) deletion of proposed expenditure on schools Travelsmart program;*
- (e) request the Chief Executive Officer to provide a further report proposing future investment from the levy in public transport linked to identified strategic sustainable transport goals;*
- (f) endorse the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding with TransLink generally in accordance with the draft document in Attachment 5 to the report;*
- (g) be advised of the development of a messaging and marketing plan to support the sustainable transport theme; and*
- (h) request the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a report before December 2010 examining appropriate contributions to the Public Transport levy from key destination workplaces.*

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Council Resolution (SM10/028)

That Council request the Chief Executive Officer prepare a proposal for the consideration of Council by December 2010 that includes the Maroochy North Shore/Coolum services to Nambour and Maroochydore in Public Transport levy initiatives.

**November
2010**

This month saw the opening of a new Sunbus depot in Caloundra.
Council also considered the following matter.

(SPC) ITEM 4.2.6 MAROOCHY NORTH SHORE / COOLUM SERVICES TO

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NAMBOUR AND MAROOCHYDORE IN PUBLIC TRANSPORT LEVY INITIATIVES – 10 NOV 2010

Council Resolution (OM10/325)

That Council:

- (a) *note the report titled “Maroochy North Shore / Coolum Services to Nambour and Maroochy in Public Transport Levy Initiatives”;*
- (b) *proceed with the development and implementation of a trial to 30 June 2011 for four return services per day, seven days per week direct service between Coolum and Nambour; and*
- (c) *confirm that the initiatives be progressed, namely;*
 - Initiative Proposed Action;*
 - Council Cabs Continue to support;*
 - Sunshine Coast Airport Service Implement and Monitor;*
 - Route 613 Improve and Monitor;*
 - Route 620 Bring forward additional weekend services;*
 - Analyse Travel patterns from “go card” data Support TransLink with analysis and propose refinements and / or improvements as necessary;*
 - Travel demand management Support implementation of any network wide travel demand management initiatives;*
 - Bus Stop Infrastructure Continue to improve.*

December 2010

A major service change in the Maroochy area took effect on 13 December 2010.

The changes included:

- The first public transport service to the Sunshine Coast Airport using Route 622;
- Amendments to Route 622 to now run between Maroochy and Noosa;
- Increased weekend frequency for Route 600 between Maroochy and Caloundra saw the same frequency 7 days per week;
- Increased weekend frequency for Route 620 between Maroochy and Noosa saw the same frequency 7 days per week;
- Split of Route 619 between Maroochy and Kawana Shopping World into Route 614 and Route 619 with minor alignments adjustments and frequency changes;
- Split of Route 602 between Caloundra and Nambour into Route 602 and Route 612 with minor alignments adjustments;
- Improvements in frequency and alignment change through Millwell Rd for Route 613 between Twin Waters and Maroochy.

The new Sunbus depot commenced operations in Caloundra in line with these service changes.

December 2010 / January 2011

The Free Holiday Bus concept was expanded across the Sunshine Coast to encompass all Sunbus services, the two QConnect services, all Flexilink services and Council Cabs. This initiative occurred between 26 December 2010 and 9 January 2011. There were two no service days for Sunbus services in the period. Heavy rain was experienced through the period leading to flooding in parts of Queensland which affected visitor numbers. The flooding in SEQ led to a ‘free’ public transport period being declared throughout SEQ from 14 to 21 January 2011 by the State government for all Sunbus services and rail services.

April 2011

As part of its budget process Council again considered the public transport

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levy and resolved as follows:

SPECIAL MEETING (BUDGET) 4 APRIL 2011

4.1.3 PUBLIC TRANSPORT LEVY INITIATIVES REPORT

Council Resolution (SM11/15)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Public Transport Levy Initiatives Report";*
- (b) *confirm there is no change to the Public Transport Levy amount and the method of application for 2011/2012, being \$20 per rateable property per annum;*
- (c) *note the status of 2010/11 initiatives;*
- (d) *confirm the cessation of the following initiatives at 30 June 2011 unless a dramatic change in use is recorded:*
 - (i) *Buderim to Mountain Creek flexilink service;*
 - (ii) *Cooroy to Pomona flexilink service;*
 - (iii) *Kunda Park/Buderim/Mons flexilink service; and*
 - (iv) *Mooloolah Valley area flexilink service;*
- (e) *adopt an indicative program of projects/initiatives as listed in Table 1 of the report for implementation in 2011/2012;*
- (f) *authorise the Chief Executive Officer to progress this listing subject to further advice from TransLink and the Department of Transport and Main Roads as necessary and appropriate development and analysis prior to implementation; and*
- (g) *note that a further report will be presented to council regarding public transport investment of previous years reserves funds.*

June 2011	The first rail timetable change in about 15 years caused minor alterations to the timing of several services for the Sunshine Coast but also amended the stopping pattern used by trains. While the time adjustments were minor in the number of minutes services were moved it resulted in issues of overcrowding on afternoon trains from Brisbane Central to the Sunshine Coast. The new stopping pattern did add some minutes travel time to the journey. A further adjustment took effect in July 2011 in an attempt to overcome the afternoon crowding issues.
July 2011	Four flexilink services were terminated due to very low patronage. These services were: - <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mooloolah Valley area• Mountain Creek to Buderim• Kunda Park to Mons• Pomona to Cooroy
August 2011	Bus service alignments accessing the Noosa/Tewantin area were reviewed in conjunction with the opening of the new Noosa Junction facility.
September 2011	TransLink undertook a service review of the Hinterland Connect service between Maleny and Nambour.
October 2011	The launch of the Coolum to Nambour bus service trial occurred on 31 October 2011.
December 2011 /	The Free Holiday Bus initiative across the Sunshine Coast to encompass all Sunbus services, the two QConnect services, all Flexilink services and Council Cabs occurred between 26 December 2011 and 8 January 2012.

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**January
2012**

**February
2012**

A report was submitted to Council relating to continuation of existing service initiatives. During the normal course of business this report should not have been required. The change in the election date from the 31 March 2012 to 28 April 2012 resulted in difficulties related to issuing of advices of continuation, under existing Funding Agreements and contractual arrangements, for existing services supported by the public transport levy. It also dealt with providing financial certainty to enable the advices to State agencies and contractors.

This in turn ensured that existing users would remain confident in the services and that the new council had time to consider the issue in the course of its budget considerations.

Council Resolution (OM12/26)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled 'Public Transport Levy Initiatives Continuation Report';*
- (b) *confirms it requires the seamless continuation of existing public transport services to ensure no interruption to users of these services until the new council has considered the Public Transport Levy as part of the 2012/2013 budget process;*
- (c) *authorise the Chief Executive Officer to consider options and negotiate with transport agencies to provide continuation of current public transport service;*
- (d) *note that funds to support the services will be drawn from the Public Transport Levy Reserve with the amounts to be reported to Council when known; and*
- (e) *clarify that the existing services affected include:*
 - (i) *Beerwah to Landsborough to Maleny Bus Service trial;*
 - (ii) *Council Cabs;*
 - (iii) *Improvements to Route 619 (between Maroochydore and Kawana Shopping World);*
 - (iv) *Coolum to Nambour Bus Service trial; and*
 - (v) *Flexilink services between Peachester and Beerwah, Conondale and Maleny, Kenilworth and Mapleton and Boreen Point and Tewantin.*

**March and
April 2012**

Activities to ensure service continuation in line with the above Council resolution took place.

A major survey initiative was undertaken for the Coolum to Nambour Bus Service trial to assist in its evaluation.
