## **Jenny Aitchison**Minister for Regional Transport and Roads



# Media Release Big boost now benefiting bus passengers in Griffith

#### Monday, 18 September 2023

Minister for Regional Transport and Roads Jenny Aitchison has announced a 30 per cent boost for public transport in Griffith with 77 extra bus services each week now rolled out.

As part of a raft of new service improvements, and to encourage people to try out the new services, Griffith Buslines will also be offering free travel anywhere on the Griffith Buslines network during the September school holidays, from 23 September to 8 October inclusive.

As well as benefiting from an increase in services, Griffith residents and visitors to the city will have access to simpler and more regular timetables, better connections to hospitals and new services on Sundays and public holidays.

Other changes includes improved connections to key health services and a new bus route linking South Griffith and Pioneer directly with the Griffith Hospital precinct, where there will be easier and safer access for bus passengers.

Additionally, there will be bus services to St Vincent's Private Community Hospital and improved access to the Aboriginal Medical Service on Jondaryan Avenue.

There are also expanded bus services to the growing suburbs of Collina and South Griffith, and new connections to Griffith Regional Sports Centre and Griffith Exies Sports Club.

In addition, there will be extra middle-of-day weekday services to Yenda, Beelbangera, Yoogali, Bilbul, Hanwood and Darlington Point and new school holiday services to Darlington Point and Hanwood.

Transport for NSW consulted extensively with Griffith City Council, Griffith Buslines and the broader community to ensure the new services met people's needs.

Griffith's bus network improvements and new services have been introduced as part of the NSW Government's 16 Regional Cities Services Improvement Program.

Timetables of the new services are available at <a href="https://www.transportnsw.info/routes">www.transportnsw.info/routes</a> and www.buslinesgroup.com.au/griffith/

Griffith community members and visitors can plan their trips using <u>Trip Planner</u>. More information including a map of the new network can be found at transportnsw.info/griffith-bus.

#### Quotes attributable to Minister for Regional Transport and Roads Jenny Aitchison:

"This new bus network is part of our commitment to deliver better public transport in the regions. It is fantastic that it has been achieved by listening to the Griffith community about what it really wants and needs.

#### **OFFICIAL**

"As we roll out a new bus network for Griffith, I want to invite everyone who may not regularly use buses to consider it as a transport option.

"Everyone is welcome on public transport and we want to reduce barriers so everyone can feel comfortable getting on board."

"I was particularly pleased to see such a strong interest in the recent Bus Travel Experience Day in Griffith and I hope everyone takes up the offer of free travel during the September school holidays."

### Quotes attributable to Griffith City Council Mayor Doug Curran:

"Griffith's really been a car centric city for a long time and having the bus program expanding and providing a greater range of services creates a connectivity to our whole city to go to where they need to go."

"We welcome services that will allow people to more easily access our city's new sporting facilities and those in the outer suburbs to stay connected to shops and services in the CBD, without having to rely on a car."

#### Quotes attributable to Manager of Griffith Buslines Sally Blair:

"We thank Transport for NSW for collaborating and partnering to deliver a new bus network for Griffith that is smarter and will better meet people's needs to get to medical appointments, work, shops and social events."

"All of our public route buses are wheelchair accessible, they lower to the ground, there's a ramp which makes it easy for anyone with a wheelchair, or mobility challenge to use the bus."

"We are proud to support the Griffith community with bus services as we create a better overall experience for the travelling public."