CHIEF MINISTER OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT

INVESTING IN A MODERN BUS SERVICE
14 May 2013

The Country Liberals Government is committed to building a modern, convenient, and accessible public transport system through expanding services, improving infrastructure and investing in new technologies.

“We are making a huge investment in our public transport system, underpinning our investment in new routes and fulfilling Government’s commitment that fare increases would be reinvested back into service delivery improvements,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

Expanding bus services
The Territory’s continued population growth means an increased demand for bus services and the need to expand routes.

The Territory Government’s Budget 2013 continues to put Territorians first, with $1.04 million in ongoing funding allocated to provide public bus services in the new Darwin and Alice Springs suburbs of Lyons, Muirhead, Rosebery, Bellamack, Zuccoli and Kilgariff.

Almost $160,000 will also be provided to enhance special needs student bus services in Alice Springs.

The Territory Government will also provide an additional $430,000 per annum for bus network operational support and for the installation and operation of new technologies to enhance the public bus service for Territorians.

Improving bus infrastructure
To support this expanded modern public transport system, the Country Liberals Government will also undertake over $3.3 million worth of public transport infrastructure works, including:

- $500,000 for upgrading/replacing existing bus stops/bus shelters across Darwin
- $500,000 for upgrading/replacing existing bus stops/bus shelters across Alice Springs
- $350,000 for upgrading/replacing existing bus stops/bus shelters across Greater Darwin
- $500,000 for new Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant bus stops across Darwin
- $300,000 for new DDA compliant bus stops across Alice Springs
- $500,000 to upgrade the pavement at the Casuarina Bus Interchange
- $250,000 to upgrade CCTV at two Darwin bus interchanges to improve security
- $150,000 install security lighting at bus shelters in Alice Springs
- $150,000 for a new bus stop at the Rapid Creek Shops
Investing in new technologies

Chief Minister Adam Giles said Budget 2013 will see the NT Government investing $1 million in a new ticketing and data collection system, giving passengers more information regarding bus timetables and routes.

“The new system will link to Smartphone apps that display the location of a bus, giving passengers comfort in knowing where the bus is and when it will arrive,” Mr Giles said.

“The system offers real time-time information, giving passengers greater flexibility and planning options.

“The new state of the art data system will also give the Government the opportunity to review patterns of demand to build a more efficient public transport system.”

$110,000 will be invested to continue to provide free wi-fi in buses and interchanges.

“Smart phones, iPads and android tablets are an everyday part of life for many Territorians and the continuation of wi-fi will allow passengers to catch up on emails, social media and keep in contact with family while using public transport.

“By investing in technology we are investing in the Territory’s future, and promoting the Territory as a technology smart jurisdiction,” Mr Giles said.

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