



Delia Lawrie
MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT

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MORE SCHOOL BUSES FOR TERRITORY STUDENTS

The Martin Government will deliver an additional 15 buses for the 2008 school year to improve student transport in Darwin and Alice Springs.

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Delia Lawrie, said Budget 2007 will deliver \$2.1M for an extra 12 new school buses for the Darwin region, to be in place for the start of school in 2008.

“The extra buses will improve our service capability to manage a growing school population,” said Ms Lawrie.

“Our school bus fleet is amongst the most modern in the country with airconditioning, extra seating capacity and CCTV cameras, and this funding commitment will expand this fleet.

“Students with special needs will also be better supported with Budget 2007 delivering an extra 3 special needs school buses in Darwin and Alice Springs at a cost of \$460,000.

“The new buses are in response to growing need in this area and will ensure we can continue to provide a high-level transport service to students with special needs.”

In Darwin, the addition of two new special needs buses will increase service capacity, including servicing expected increased student numbers at the new \$900,000 Humpty Doo Primary School Special Education Annex. In Alice Springs, 1 additional special needs school bus will be added to existing services.

“Strong forward planning managed the transport needs for students moving to the Middle School model at the start of this school year.

“Similar consultation and planning will commence soon to bed down student transport needs for 2008,” said Ms Lawrie.

Member for Nightcliff, Jane Aagaard, welcomed the commitment of additional buses for students in her electorate.

“This will meet the growing need of students attending Nightcliff Middle School in 2008”, said Ms Aagaard.

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