



Queensland Branch

Bus Circular

AUTHORISED BY OWEN DOOGAN BRANCH SECRETARY

Level 1, 457 Upper Edward Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

Email: info@rtbu.com.au; Website: rtbu.com.au

Phone: (07) 3839 4988

Circular No: 53/2017

Date: 3 March 2017

Dear Member,

Bus E-News: Driver Safety Update Council Opposition Motion for More Security Guards on Buses Fails

The State Government Review into Bus Driver safety is due to be released this month. This is welcome news to long suffering bus drivers. As soon as it is available the RTBU will seek a meeting with the Transport Minister with a view to implementing any recommendations sought by our members. Let's hope someone has listened to us.

Meanwhile at City Hall

Attempts to get extra security on the bus network as an interim safety measure descended into a farce at last Tuesday's Transport Committee Meeting with a motion to increase the number of security guards failing. The proceedings were "Unbelievable" according to our President, who attended the session and described it as "Like a skit from Monty Python. I cannot believe that no one in Council is prepared to take responsibility for Driver Safety".

Press reports of the proceedings are readily available [online](http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/what-has-council-done-the-battle-over-brisbane-bus-attacks-20170228-gun2h0.html), (<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/what-has-council-done-the-battle-over-brisbane-bus-attacks-20170228-gun2h0.html>).

Drivers should now contact their local BCC Councillor and demand that their employer exercise its duty of care and increase security immediately – last I checked the employer was responsible for Worker's Safety. Contact details for your councillor will be available on the BCC [website](https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/about-council/governance-strategy/councillors-wards/ward-office-locations), (<https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/about-council/governance-strategy/councillors-wards/ward-office-locations>). If you aren't sure which ward you are in, you can look up your address on the council [ward boundary map](http://results.ecq.qld.gov.au/interactive_maps/local-government-map.html?council=Brisbane%20City%20Council), (http://results.ecq.qld.gov.au/interactive_maps/local-government-map.html?council=Brisbane%20City%20Council), to find out.

Lobby groups are also being organised at each depot – talk to your delegate to get involved.

Meanwhile on the Front Line

A driver has been badly injured in a vicious attack at the Griffith University stop on the Busway. He was beaten up by two drunk men when he asked them to get off the bus after numerous complaints from passengers. The driver spent 3 nights in the PA Hospital and is still unable to drive. We all hope he recovers fully, but he has sustained injuries that threaten his ability to continue as a driver.

The men will appear at Brisbane Magistrates Court on Wednesday, 22 March 2017. I will be attending and hope to see you there.

Unity is Strength

Tom Brown
Secretary, Tram and Bus Division