

Rail extension to Yanchep a priority

GARETH PARKER

The State Government's public transport plan calls for an extension of the northern suburbs railway line from its existing terminus at Butler to the satellite community of Yanchep, with possible stops at Alkimos and Eglinton, as a "stage one" project to be completed by 2020.

Yanchep and Two Rocks residents welcomed the move, saying their infrequent bus services could not compete with the convenience of private cars.

But having seen timelines for

promised infrastructure plans blowout in the past, they wanted to see the plan backed with funding to secure the rail extension's future.

Two Rocks-Yanchep Residents Association secretary Ivan Ward said public transport services were "absolutely dreadful", with infrequent services on a bus route to Clarkson train station the only option.

"Most people who use that service take it to get the train into Perth, so having the train right

into Yanchep would be unbelievable for us," he said.

"It's what we've been looking for years, it's marvellous."

Two Rocks mother Mandy Castle said it took about an hour on the bus to get to Clarkson.

"We could do with more frequent buses and definitely trains," she said.

"We're always driving down to Clarkson to get on the train."



Happy families: Mandy Castle with children Megan and Daniel, Tammie Bell, with children Linden and Isabelle, and Hayley Howse with children Shayla, Kate, Jack and friend Kiara Cardwell welcomed the Yanchep rail plan.

Picture: Michael O'Brien