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Page 1 of 1

DONCASTER

Outrage at missing buses

Commuters left stranded when services pulled to meet rail replacement demand in Ballarat

Andrew Rogers

DEMAND for rail replacement services has forced bus operator Transdev to take vehicles off scheduled runs on its Doncaster route.

Public Transport Victoria ordered buses to be redirected to Ballarat to cope with V/Line train cancellations due to scheduled rail upgrades.

But the move angered city-bound commuters at the Doncaster Park and Ride who were forced to navigate bigger queues and endure longer waiting times on Friday, March 9.

Transdev ran its Saturday timetable on Labour Day on

the Monday and faced no further disruptions over the public holiday.

Jenny Tierney, who catches a bus from the Park and Ride to the city twice a week, said she'd been left running about an hour late for work.

"You could tell driving up High St to the Park and Ride there hadn't been many buses because there were heaps of people at the stops," she said.

"I had to wait about 40 minutes and by the time I got on a bus, there were about 200 people waiting for one."

Transdev spokesman Tim Dilnot said the company had faced last-minute changes.

"The frequency of some

Transdev services was impacted on Friday (March 9) due to a late requirement from PTV to provide buses and drivers to support major rail upgrade works taking place that day," he said.

PTV spokesman Tim Clare said it was grateful to passengers for their patience during the delays.