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Submission: I am 22, a single young professional who lives in Sydney and is in the early years of their career as a graphic designer. On a salary of \$55,000 pa, I heavily rely on public transport. I am forced to take on a higher rent closer to the city in St Peters as the transport costs of living further out in Parramatta are just too much when added with my rent. If the overall cost of living in Sydney gets more expensive, I will be priced out and forced to relocate. I have all the opportunity for career advancement here in Sydney and I love the city. Unfortunately, spending almost \$120 a fortnight on public transport is just not feasible in the long term. The increase of prices would not only impact myself, but others like me who are trying to make ends meet on what would be seen as a “decent salary.” People my age with degrees should not have to work two jobs to afford the cost of living in Sydney. I have watched transport prices rise over the years whilst my salary has not. It’s unfair that the government does this with the goal of a “budget surplus” instead of having the people’s best interest at heart.