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Submission: We are everyday commuters working in the CBD 5 days a week, and don't see how IPART can come up with this new fare structure. Considering that service is already poor (Delayed & infrequent trains, carriages often dirty & overcrowded) comparing to all the other developed countries in the world, how can the fares still go up? We understand that there is a current loophole (rather, a system in place to get more people catching public transport which often gets exploited) that you need to close, and appreciate the change in the unfair multi-mode fare system, but why give us something and take away another equally important?

We consider ourselves living close to the city at Petersham, however once the fare increase is in place, we would be facing a more than 50% increase in the fares. My wife works part time for 4 days a week, and takes occasional train/bus trips within the city circle during lunch – which means now even having 8 paid trips, she wouldn't qualify for the free trips during lunch hour. Considering now the free shuttle 555 is no longer available and it is now much harder to get around the city, is this fare that we have to pay reasonable? Is this what the government wants to achieve – encourage less people on public transport?