

Author name: Anonymous

Date of submission: Tuesday, 19 January 2016

Submission: One of the fundamental pillars around the introduction of opal and the charging plan of 8 trips and free after that was to not only make transport easy but to also encourage people to leave their car and take public transport. To change the current pricing to the proposed rewarding after 10 trips will certainly make people rethink public transport.

The transport minister that introduced the Opal was well aware that adding short unnecessary trips was happening and she encouraged people to use the system, knowing that it takes a lot of time for people to clock up these unnecessary trips. The ones that should be stopped are the people that run between the tram stops and many cases have multiple cards that they tap. Perhaps the way to stop a lot of these is to put the card readers on the light rail.

For buses, where people are using one stop to get the trip perhaps the system should reverse the charge and as such it would not count towards the free travel.