

Author name: Anonymous

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Submission: Travel on the train around stations on the city circle should be free or substantially reduced, IF, you have caught or then catch another mode of transport e.g. bus, for the rest of your trip.. If not, you pay the usual fare. This will become particularly relevant in October 2015 when buses down George Street are removed to make way for SE light rail.

The current system counts your bus trip and transfer to train trip as 1 journey for the 8 journey threshold for travel savings, yet both trips are charged at their usual fare within that 1 journey. This is 'having your cake and eating it' and is not fair. Sure, once I have done 8 bus trips and 8 train trips the saving threshold will kick in for both, but it will have cost \$60 to get to that point.

I catch a Wynyard express bus from northern beaches and then transfer to a train for the trip to Central using my Opal card. I get charged the full rate for both the bus (\$4.50) and the train (\$3.30) in both directions except for a minor discount which caps daily travel at \$15!. I choose this crazy option because it is the most reliable method of getting to Central from Wynyard. I could have transferred for no extra cost, onto a Railway Square bus at Dee Why (not after October 15) or Wynyard for that matter, and trundle down George Street (not after October 15) to Railway Square.

My journey one way costs me a staggering \$7.80. By comparison, if I was to catch a train from Sydney to Newcastle one way, it only costs 50 cents more at \$8.30.

When the bus timetable change kicks in in October 15, commuters from the north needing to get as far as say town hall or beyond, face a much longer journey time (because of the transfer onto a bus which takes a much more circuitous route than previously or a more expensive one as outlined above.

I'm happy to discuss any of this further via my email detail above. I am submitting this feedback as an individual commuter. As I work in the transport industry, my preference is to keep my personal details confidential to avoid any perceived, potential conflict. However, I stand by my own opinion and if it is important for the information I've submitted to receive greater standing, then I am prepared to review this position.