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Submission: In countries all over the world, seniors are given discounts on public transport. I cannot see any reason for changing the present \$2.50 charge for a senior and a pensioner other than that it's a grab for money from those who can afford it the least. Most of these seniors have paid tax all their lives and deserve to be able in their retirement to move around their cities and countries for a reasonable cost.

Any decision to raise the cost of public transport may see seniors either being forced to stay close to their own houses or it might force them to use their cars. If a trip costs \$2.50 return, a person would probably take the public transport option, if \$9- they probably would choose their car. In some cases it might even be cheaper to use a car at this increased cost. We would then see an increased traffic problem in a number of areas.

Isn't it a government job to try to make public transport as accessible as possible for people to avoid traffic jams and increased pollution. May seniors choose to no longer drive with fares being cheap, and this would change if increased fares came in.

Seniors and retirees who babysit for their children who go to work would be disadvantaged as well. Looking after grandchildren might cost now \$10 for 4 days, future costs would be \$36-

We as a nation should be respecting and supporting the older person, not trying to tax them with increased fares. We should be encouraging our seniors to make trips, go on excursions, visit family and friends. I know of a number of business and organizations that depend heavily on seniors for their business or for their volunteering generosity..

There are times outside of rush hour when we should in fact be encouraging seniors to take public transport rather than discouraging.

Perhaps the government, if they are keen to earn extra money from the residents of NSW, could consider making private school students who do not go to their local school, pay full fares.