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Date of submission: Friday, 5 February 2016

Submission: I commute each day on the E65 bus from Freshwater to Wynyard and return on the same service in the evening. I strongly disagree with the removal of the incentive for all weekly commuters after completion of 8 journeys in a week. I understand the need to make the pricing system fairer, but disadvantaging those who commute to the city everyday by removing this incentive is only going to encourage more people back into their cars. Weekly commuters (i.e. those generally making 10 trips per week) represent the majority of the travelling public thus being a significant (if not the largest) revenue driver for the public transport system. I strongly believe the pricing system should acknowledge this significant commuter group through offering an amended incentive scheme for frequent travel. I would advocate the incentive being free travel after the most expensive 8 trips completed in a week. This would work through a credit at the end of the week so that only the 8 most expensive trips are paid for. This would eradicate the opportunity for people to make short trips early in the week at less cost, as it would be the higher fares they end up paying for. I have the option of driving instead and will likely take up that option should the incentive be kept at the proposed 10 most expensive trips being paid for in a week.

On a separate point, to me, it is fair that occasional users pay more than those who use the transport system regularly, as overall those users will ultimately pay far less than those who use it all the time.