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Submission: As a Northern Beaches resident I currently pay \$36 a week on my opal card to get to work at the southern end of the city. In October this year when George Street is closed for the light rail I will be forced to catch the train from Wynyard to Central which will increase my weekly fare to \$60. If I times the difference by 48 for the year (taken out 4 weeks annual leave) that equals \$1152 a year. A significant increase due the fact that I would now need to change modes of transport to go the same distance.

Therefore I believe there are 2 potential solutions to this problem

1) Allow changes in modes of transport to be included in the one journey and hence northern beaches to central would still cost \$36 per week

Or

2) If change modes of transport within an hour charge twice but count it as 2 trips on the opal card this would then cost \$31.52 in my above example.

Although I am very much in favour of the light rail down George Street and realise it cannot happen overnight I do think this would impact a significant number of people including university students at UTS and Sydney University. It also impacts people travelling in the opposite direction who work at the northern end of the city.