

Author name: D. Waddell

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Submission: I appreciate the need to consider all options in saving money, but feel discouraging older people from travelling is very short-sighted,

NSW has a remarkably inefficient public transport system when compared with most other affluent nations. I would advocate halting all motorway developments like the westconnex as they do not solve any problems, merely encourage more people to drive.

In Ireland and Great Britain, seniors travel absolutely free. I think that is over the top, I think it is fair that seniors pay a little, but suggest that the current \$2.50 fare is appropriate because:

1) it encourages older people to get out and about and be more involved in their communities. All research shows that the more involved, motivated and full of life, older people are, the healthier they are and the more they contribute to our society and economy in the way of volunteer work and less health costs.

2) it encourages them to leave their cars at home

As an alternative I would suggest that the \$2.50 fare can only be used out of peak hour so that they are not crowding public transport for commuters at these busy times. In off-peak hours, they merely provide some revenue to help provide a more frequent service for all the public.