

Author name: I. McLeod

Date of submission: Friday, 5 February 2016

Submission: The Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) is recommending changes that imply the need for hefty fare increases, for axing the \$2.50 Sunday Fun Day tickets and for the removal of the \$2.50 cap for seniors and pensioners. As a non-waged senior citizen and volunteer worker in the Blue Mountains region, this affects me directly in terms of my affordability of public transport and my capacity to help people in need. Also, for those on average incomes, calculations have been made to show the inequity these increases would create. For people in Lakemba for example, who travel to the city 5 days week, this would mean an additional annual cost of \$416 - that's a huge 24% increase.

Therefore, at a time when we are wanting to encourage more people to use public transport this makes absolutely no sense to me. I urge IPART to think about individuals like myself and of communities like ours - where affordable and accessible transport isn't just a 'nice to have', it's critical to people's lives.