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Submission: Public transport should be free for the following reasons:

1. we need to get people off the roads to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, congestion, car accidents and the cost of building roads, the costs of which are not collected from road users nor taken into account by government 2. free, regular service of public transport has been in place in Wollongong for some years, and is very popular and heavily patronised 3. the cost of collecting fares and policing trains (especially using police for this role) is not efficient, and not costed when bureaucrats and decision-makers try to impose a user-pays model without taking all costs into account 4. the non-monetary benefits of building rail lines, light rail etc. rather than roads to growing areas of the city and regional centres, such as better mental health and community engagement of marginalised citizens, is not, but should be, taken into account in decision makers' bias towards roads & cars

Jennie Morris