

Author name: j. rowe

Date of submission: Wednesday, 3 February 2016

Submission: We the undersigned are bitterly disappointed at the way the NSW government is treating senior members of NSW community who are active across a wide range of organisations, groups and other self managing activities. As we have been long term tax payers we feel that our contribution to society will be cut short if the proposed changes go ahead and fares are significantly increased for seniors both Centrelink card holders and self funded retirees.

The government should be very concerned regarding the detrimental effect such price increases are likely to have on the physical and mental health and general well being of seniors. Increased fares will make many of the current outdoor healthy activities beyond the economic reach of many seniors who will have to prioritise their travel expenditure. As you can appreciate, implementation of these proposed changes will directly impact on women, often single, widowed or divorced and living alone, who will be at risk of becoming socially isolated leading to depression and ill health. In the longer term the economic impact of fare increases and a two tiered GOLD Opal Card system will impact financially on the Government's delivery of health and other welfare services for older NSW citizens.

In addition, the current fare structure enables seniors to contribute to the wider society through charity and other volunteer organisations, support government facilities ie hospitals, clinics and the like, keep elderly drivers off our busy roads and to maintain healthy physical and psychological lifestyles.

Please take time to peruse the attached submission and the signatures of support. Many of the signatures on the attachment are those of senior constituents who will be exercising their voting rights in the next NSW government elections.

Your job is to keep public transport 'public' and available to all.

June Rowe



[REDACTED]

OPPOSITION to IPART Media Release Monday 20 December 2015:  
PROPOSED PUBLIC TRANSPORT FARES in particular those changes proposed for GOLD OPAL CARD concession fares and card holders.

We the undersigned **CANNOT** support the proposed changes to Gold OPAL card senior concession fares and eligibility for obtaining concession fares. Many of the Gold OPAL card holders are 'self funded' retirees who receive little or NO government grants, subsidies, pensions or benefits.

The current eligibility and fare structure of daily \$2.50 cap allows many many self funded retirees to remain physically, mentally and emotionally fit and well, thus reducing the demand that these citizens place on the medical and welfare systems provided by both State and Federal Governments. Not only do the opportunities provided by the daily \$2.50 cap maintain the well being of seniors, especially those who are widows/widowers and others living in single person households, it allows seniors to remain independent by providing affordable and easy access to social events, medical and other appointments, meeting friends, shopping, attending cultural activities, child minding and other grand parent duties and the like. Social isolation can lead to depression, poor physical and mental health causing increased demand on welfare and health services.

In addition, self funded retirees make up a vast portion of the volunteering force engaged across the State in hundreds of activities supporting government and non-government departments, hospitals, libraries, schools, galleries, environmental, charity and welfare organisations. Any increase in the daily cap would very much reduce the number of voluntary hours that self funded retirees would be able to offer due to the increased costs of travel.

A fare raise from \$2.50 per day to \$9.00 per day is almost a 260% increase-this is LUDICROUS. There should be NO move to introduce a two-tier system for Gold OPAL card eligibility as it is discriminatory to penalise former tax payers who for various reasons due to their own previous budgetary efforts to cater independently for their retirement needs do NOT qualify for a Centrelink benefit.

We the undersigned feel that the timing of this announcement means that many affected citizens are unaware of this media release.

NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
LYNETTE LAWRENCE	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
JUDITH EDMONDS	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
GAIL MASON	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
KATHLEEN SULLIVAN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
IRENE LONG	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
B. THOMASON	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
J. THOMASON	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
J. HOWE	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

TO NSW Premier; Minister of Transport; local NSW STATE Members of NSW Parliament ; *IPART*

OPPOSITION to *IPART Media Release Monday 20 December 2015: PROPOSED PUBLIC TRANSPORT FARES* in particular those changes proposed for **GOLD OPAL CARD** concession fares and card holders.

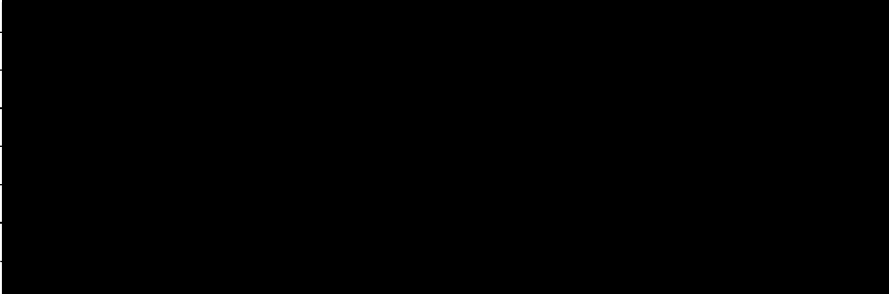
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NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
<i>Pat Haywood</i>		
<i>NOELINE STAMBRASS</i>		
<i>TRALEY 135TH</i>		
<i>Kerrie Clarke</i>		
<i>Lynda Ward</i>		
<i>Chris Gray</i>		
<i>Jose Melly</i>		
<i>VICKI ALLEN</i>		



TO NSW Premier; Minister of Transport; local NSW STATE Members of NSW Parliament; *IPART*

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NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
<i>LOARAIN PHIBBS</i>		
<i>CAROLE EASTLEY</i>		
<i>VALENE McMICHAEL</i>		
<i>KATH BELL</i>		
<i>TERRY HOGAN</i>		
<i>AUDREY NEWMAN</i>		
<i>SUSAN SMITH</i>		
<i>CHLOE ANDERSON</i>		

NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
PEGGY CHAN		
MARGARET MERLIN		
MARGI STEWART		
JUDY ASHTON		
Josephine RINGSTAD		
SALLY ZYLLBERGER		
RAYLEE HOCHSTETTER		
YVONNE ABADIAS		
MARY BARNES		
MAREE TOFLER		
Irene Barnes		
RUTH MASSY		
DENNY VIRGONA		
SUZANNE WAGNER		
ANDRA STED		
Sue Kasperly		
ANN THOMAS		
Jillian Kennedy		
Ben Dunder		
Bill Bunning		
VAL CAREY		
Margi Stewart		
Mary Hammond		
Mary Biddos		
Natalie Chabin		
Poh-Chuen Esaffie		
Rosemary Taylor		
SHIRLEY STOKES		
JO SARGANT		
JENNY WIGAN		
CATHY QUAN		
REBECCA CARTER		
MARTIN JOHNSON		
YVONNE BRAMER		
Thelma Glaser		
Judy Moore		
Margaret Whitefield		
Francis de Jong		
Heather Dabie		
Rosemary Sullivan		
Anne Edwards		
DOYUN KANG		
GRAHAM MENICOL		
JOHN WALTON		
MARCELA DAVID		

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NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
Mary Davies		
Joan Bennett		
BARBARA ELBOURNE		
MARY Roche		
BRIAN FOWLER		
Manei Cordina		
Alan Cordina		
VALERIE PERFECT		

June Rowe (co-ordinator)

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