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Submission: Aged 72, I am a Gold OPAL Card user.

(A) "Child Fare" -- It was just days from 1st July, 1956, when James Dibble reading the ABC News announced "a small increase in adult fares" but that children would now pay half-adult fare!

This was a serious impost for kids. The adult fare to Wynyard from our Palm Beach home went up from 2s/6d (two shillings and sixpence) to 2s/9d, but children had paid just threepence (3d) and would now pay 1s/3d – that was FIVE times as much! No Family Fare in those days (my birth family had 6 kids under 16 years).

Child fares (and Concession fares) ought be reduced to one-third adult fare to redress that inequity !

(B) In recent years there has been the "Family Fare" concept where only the first child travelling with an adult paid; the rest travelled free. The "OPAL" introduction seems to have eliminated this concept for now, with each child paying, thus trebling the cost of taking 3 children out – this must be reduced!

(C) The proposal to define a new "Family Fare" as something like "2 Adults plus up to 3 children" is inadequate unless only one child is to be charged.

OPAL should permit LINKING of Child OPALS, and post-process OPAL use on a trip by multiple children such that a limited number of them is actually charged Child Fare or that-limited-cost shared equally across the travellers.

(D) I believe that the child-paying-age ought be increased to the 5th birthday! At least!

(E) GOLD OPAL Card: It seems to me that all my travel on one day upon reaching the CAP is regarded as a succession of transfers. Thus I would never qualify for free travel to end-of-week.

At \$3.60 (and higher) per day, my usual 5-day sequence of assisting at not-for-profit centres most weeks, plus weekends with grandchildren on outings, would set me back \$25.20 versus the current \$17.50 ...

A weekly CAP equal to 5 days' travel, \$18.00, should be introduced.

(F) CHANGING VEHICLE(S) DURING A JOURNEY: "Flag Fall" component charges should be discarded from travel on the second and later vehicle trips on a journey.