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Submission: I am writing to recommend maintaining the current fare for Seniors Card holders and maintaining the current arrangement for eligibility to Seniors Cards.

I believe the changes are short sighted and fail to take into account the broader economic and social benefits of keeping fares at this level for all seniors. The current arrangement is an incentive for people to stay engaged and contribute to our wider community.

I am a self funded retiree. Since retiring from the full time workforce 8 years ago I have been actively engaged in a range of volunteering activities averaging approximated 8 hours each week over a number of days. I regularly use trains and buses to travel to these commitments. I also use public transport regularly for other purposes.

The proposed changes would impact significantly on my budget and result in a reduction in my current volunteering hours.

I am actually astounded that the government would choose to implement such changes which undermine the cohesion and wellbeing of our community for such limited financial gain and such a massive loss of public good will.