

Author name: M. Farrell

Date of submission: Wednesday, 3 February 2016

Submission: We self funded retirees who hold Senior Cards are about to be hit with your recommended steep increases in public transport fares at a time when investment returns are virtually zero or negative. Not only is this unfair but poor economics.

Senior card holders by and large travel outside peak times when there is spare capacity on public transport. Any airline will tell you that it makes sense to sell empty seats at or above marginal cost. The same applies to public transport.

There is no evidence to suggest that senior card holders spend their days riding around on public transport. A typical senior card holder might make a trip to a particular destination and return. If we are to pay \$9.00 per day we might as well get a normal opal card and pay less.

I might also point out that if the transport concession is removed for seniors, then that will be the end of the senior card since the other "concessions" are pitiful.

As a resident of Glebe it would be particularly galling to face the effective abolition of the senior concession at a time when the bus service has been severely degraded by the changes resulting from the effective closure of George Street.

I therefore lodge my objection to the recommendation to raise the senior card rate by 260%, which would have to be largest public transport fare increase in living memory