

Author name: P. May

Date of submission: Saturday, 23 January 2016

Submission: Being a Self Funded retiree I was very concerned with your recommendation to charge Seniors full fare until \$9-00 a day cap (i.e. non Pensioners) it seems with your board unfair approach you have not taken the following into account or have failed to understand who makes up the "Seniors Category". Also I suggest you review the reasons why Seniors were originally included in the same travel Category with Pensioners originally.

(1) Keep Seniors off the roads. Seniors should be encouraged to use Public Transport wherever possible instead of using their cars (Senior's cars should only be used in cases where Public Transport cannot meet their needs e.g. carrying large objects etc). This is not only because the Seniors will add to the current Road / Parking Chaos but it will ensure they get out and about for health and quality of life reasons. Note for example my wife and I travel to Bankstown Square from Panania by Bus , the cost of a return fare is \$7.00 each. Therefore under your proposal the total cost to us will be \$14.00 instead of \$5.00 now – it will be cheaper and easier for us to use our Car for similar short distances.

(2) Most Seniors use Public Transport during Non Peak hours when the Trains / Buses are far from being full and I will go as far as to say the many "Local Buses" will be near empty if many Seniors have to pay according to your recommendations

(3) Not All Self funded retirees are wealthy.

- Most Wealthy Seniors do not use Public Transport.

- Many Seniors get the Seniors Health Card, note the eligibility rules insure that they not Wealthy

- Large numbers of Self Funded retirees rely on safe income streams, their investments in most cases have halved in recent years.

(4) Your proposal seems to ignore what is occurring in other States / Overseas

For example

- Gold Coast QLD. Seniors who are residents travel Free outside of Peak Travel Times.

- The MYKI card in Melbourne Vic has a daily Cap \$3.90 not \$9.00 as you recommend

- In Adelaide SA Seniors travel in non peak hours for Free

- In London, Seniors can travel all over England by Local Buses for Free.

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