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Submission: This report has been kept largely unpublicised with only carefully managed community consultation so last minute submissions from those suddenly faced with changes cannot be well documented. The report is wholly geared to the cost side with little interest in social needs despite the rhetoric. Your justification for proposing that self-funded retirees no longer be eligible for a Gold opal card but only for a concession Opal is apparently that such people can afford more. You provide no evidence for this assumption. I would say after considering the financial position of those like me this is untrue. It will not 'encourage greater use of public transport'. on the contrary, If I have to pay the higher rate I shall hesitate to visit my medical advisors which may well result in an earlier death. Is that your true objective?

I am getting too old for volunteer work (which already does a third of the work for which the government should pay) but friends who still can are wondering whether higher fares will be the straw that breaks the camel's back. Managing old age after a lifetime of work and taxes should not be aggravated by sudden changes in concessions.