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Submission: The cost increase proposed to the Gold Opal Card may put public transport out of reach of many seniors, or certainly reduce the affordability of travel by public transport.

I am also aware that many self-funded retirees may not qualify for the pension despite living on modest incomes not too dissimilar to the amount to the pension.

Overall, I would expect this will discourage many people from using public transport, a very undesirable and unfortunate result in these times.

If other states have shown the merit of reduced cost transport to the community, NSW clearly should investigate this approach thoroughly.

Wally Sloss