

Author name: Y. Cheng

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Submission: The incentive behind public transport is that it is at lower cost than driving, making people to catch the public transport instead of driving.

The state government can gain benefits from subsidizing public transport:

Commuters would have the motivation to go out during weekends since the transportation is free under the current scheme. Those people would not just browsing around, they would spend money on drinks, meals and other consumer products. This provides positive impacts on retails and thus employment. Eventually, the money that the state government lost from the public transport would flow back as tax (GST and income tax).

As mentioned above, free public transport during weekend would encourage commuters to hit the road and spend money. The flow of money is like a steam to keep the state's economic engine running.

Under the current scheme: free transportation after first 8 journeys, motivates people to become commuters. This helps easing the traffic jam, leaving the road to those who need the road (police, fire brigade, ambulance, couriers, plumbers, locksmiths etc.).

Reduced number of people driving leads to reduced amount of pollutant being released to the air and thus healthier residents. Eventually this leads to healthier workforce to generate greater economic benefit and also lower medical cost for the state.

Under the proposed change, passengers can save a little bit per trip (a few cents to 2 dollar) but getting charged the most expensive TEN journeys instead of the first EIGHT journeys. The current scheme is making the cost of public transport on par with driving. The proposed fare system will make more commuters reaching the weekly cap easily. Along with the increase in weekly cap faster than the inflation (5 dollars every year), the new scheme will strongly discourage people from catching public transport. People will start hitting the road by car and causing severe traffic jam, wasting labours' time, reducing economic efficiency, generating pollutant, promoting road rage, increasing number of car accident, increasing medical cost (from car accident and pollutant related diseases), discouraging people from going out and spending money due to the jam and road rage, reducing the cash flow in the market (apart from petrol station) and again harming the economy.

I sincerely hoping the state government will keep the current fare system and have the fare linked to the inflation rate.