



Dear Persons,

Any public transport fare increase at this time is very stupid. With the impact on our standard of living by the combined effects of record high petrol prices and increasing road traffic congestion, an incentive to choose buses and ferries by way of a fare decrease is more sensible.

The threat that CO₂ emissions pose to most biological life, including businessmen, cannot be ignored.

I challenge you to try it and see if the large increase in patronage generates more income than the proposal! Unfortunately I could not analyse the price elasticity of demand from the figures in your website because they would not print, so my radical suggestion does not give your statistics objective merit.

On the surface, the proposals to increase fares appear to have no reasonable basis. The measures of cost savings such as \$ diesel fuel / passenger / trip and \$ staff cost / passenger / trip would be distorted to savings in a big way if a large increase in passengers occurred!

Flashing in the memory of interested parties in the Manly region is the comment in a previous IPART review saying that "ferry and jetcat passengers should pay more because they can afford it." That idea is discriminatory and malicious at its source and invites a retaliatory response from the next state liberal government.

Proceeding with a fare increase may seem like good business for reasons such as "higher costs", "in line with the CPI" and "the public can absorb it" but it is not.

On a broader plane, an increase is ecologically unsound as well as irresponsible governance.

Thankyou for the existing good services.

yours sincerely,