

Sent: Wednesday, 5 November 2008 11:25 AM

Subject: Proposed Rail Fare Increase

Please forward to above address today .

Media reports indicate a proposed rail fare increase of as much as 17% in the new year.

My own experience travelling from Holsworthy station to the City Circle weekdays cannot justify such an increase.

The removal & limiting of parking facilities at other stations such as Liverpool (no parking) & Glenfield & Warwick Farm has meant an influx of non locals using Holsworthy station. Add the increasing population from new subdivisions around Holsworthy and the people who drive from as far away as Camden & Picton and it equals chaos.

Passengers need to arrive at the station more than 30 minutes prior to their train in order to obtain parking. When we board a train there are few if any seats and we must stand for at least 50 minutes. By the time we arrive in the city we are exhausted especially on the quite regular occasions when our normal train is cancelled and we stand packed like cattle with no space and insufficient airflow. Returning home the train is full by St James as it is the only express service available to those working 9 - 5 . So many passengers get off at Holsworthy that it is chaotic driving out of the carpark.

As to reported average commuter household incomes - few people on the Macarthur & South west lines are so fortunate ! In fact many do not even earn the reported Sydney average income of \$66,219.