

4th November, 2008

Review of CityRail Fares, 2009-2012

We wish to comment on the proposed increases to CityRail fares. We live in the Blue Mountains and prefer to travel by train when we go to the city. Driving for us has always been the cheaper option (by about \$15 to \$20 for a return journey) so any increase in fares will increase this gap.

We do not think the new fares will encourage people to use public transport and will discriminate against regular users. The increase in fares means that we will no longer take the train but opt to drive to the city as the cost of return tickets for two is, as mentioned above, considerably more than the cost of running our vehicle.

Driving is faster (80 minutes versus 2 hours) and, unfortunately, less environmentally friendly.

The trains are a lot dirtier than they used to be so again a price increase cannot be justified.

You can only buy a ticket on the day of travel and therefore cannot get a return ticket if you are returning on a different day.

Government's role is to provide services that DO NOT have to make a profit. Our taxes are there to subsidise services.