

**Sent:** Tuesday, 4 November 2008 4:35 PM

**Subject:** Review of City Rail's Fares for 2009

To IPART,

It is Ridiculous to suggest that the average earner will earn an ave of \$98k a year! I earn under half that and my ticket is \$51 from Gosford to the city for a weekly! After paying a mortgage of \$250K plus car, food, electricity, etc, It is heartbreaking to try to scrape enough together to try to pay to get to work!. I had to move up there because of the cost of living in inner syd but by the time you factor in driving to the station and buying a train ticket, I might as well have stayed in the city!

I have also lodged a complaint on the city rail website as to the fact that I have to pay for a weekly or fortnightly or monthly ticket that includes weekends when I (and I would hazard a guess that 99% of people only work Mon- Fri)still have to pay for the days we don't use. The answer I got was that the system was not set up to accommodate only week days and it could not calculate working days and it was all to hard under the current system. THAT IS A VERY POOR RESPONSE!!!! Why should we pay for days we don't use?

Why are there fare rises? How are they justified? trains are NEVER on time, over crowded and the service from station staff and transit officers is disgusting!!!! A car was broken into at my station in the car park when I arrived at 5:30am and after reporting it to station staff they said they didn't deal with it and gruffly pointed me to the 3 transit officers waiting around. After reporting it to the transit officers who also didn't think it was their issue, the same transit officers were on my train checking tickets! That is appalling! Obviously if there is enough money to pay numerous transit officers to chase train fares (and the profit of not paying a \$20 train fare is \$220) then there should not be fare raises.

I am a young woman and when transit officers are not interested in assisting me when there are persistent, rude and abusive males on the train ad are only concerned if I have a ticket!?!?! why should there be a fare rise.

I sincerely hope that the rail system becomes privatised so that as consumers we have more of a voice under fair trading legislation instead of tax payers who simply have to 'LUMP' the appalling transit system.

I am disgusted and disillusioned with the govt and the rail system. A fare rise of almost \$10 per week is NOT going to help that