

Sent: Thursday, 30 October 2008 8:16 AM  
Subject: Rail Submission

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to make a written complaint about a proposed 4 year 25% train fare increase.

Since moving up to the Central Coast and using the Inter City Train Service I have become very familiar with the problems of late trains, dirty trains, trains with obscenities etched on the glass panel windows, dirty and foul smelling toilet facilities, lack of information regarding trains not operation to timetables . The list could be almost endless.

And for all this the fares are to increase, surely you are joking. But I fear not.

The rail fare s should be decreasing thus promoting rail public transport and solving the peak hour road congestion. Why should the user of public transport be taxed to prop up such an inefficient utility? Rail is there to be used by all and should be affordable for all and should be promoted. By forcing more financial hardship on the users more and more people will be forced to use their private vehicles.

I can assure you that despite all the recent self promoting that City rail is publishing the service has not changed or improved. We hear in the press of rail Corp rorts, millions of dollars stolen from the public.

When I read a report that claims the average commuter has a income of \$97,917 all I can do is just scratch my head. Where are these figures coming from? That figure is more than \$30,000 above my yearly income. Do the people that sprout these figures ever catch a train, talk to the users? Clearly not.

I would love for someone to explain to me how the present pricing could be justified let alone a further increase. For what I ask you? More trains that are not suitable for use in a newly completed train line? More trains with really uncomfortable seats. Please give me a brake and treat the public with a bit more respect.

Thank you.