

Anonymous M
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NO to FARE RISE!!!

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a 3rd year UNSW student currently undertaking the Undergraduate Program at RC. And I would like to present some facts to help you look at the fare increase issue with an extra dimension.

During the 2.5 months I spent here at RC, I read the news clippings related to RC daily. Here is a summary of what I think are the arguments towards the fare increase issue:

Yes: No fare increase for several consecutive years already
Service improvements visible to justify fare rise
To match inflation rate
To raise extra money to improve services
To reflect petrol price increase

No: No significant service improvements to justify fare rise
Current service standard is still way below expectation
RC is already earning extra money from increased patronage
Fare increase will have a big impact on election next year
Do not wish to pay more until significant improvements occur
Fare increases in the past has not resulted in significant improvements
Significant off-peak fare rise might create more congested peak services
General lack of confidence in RC's management
Natural negative reaction to price increase

I would like to expand on the organisational culture and management of RC. While working at RC, I noticed RC is a huge entity with extremely low efficiency. The general perception of "the larger the body is, the less efficient it is" is particularly true here.

The resources, including human resources, are not appropriately allocated. Good suggestions to changes are usually neglected. The spirit of teamwork is not present and morale level is low in this organisation.

Employees are unwilling to do the "crap" yet important work while blaming each other. Necessary training and is lacking especially in the engineering division. Young talents are neglected and the division is still relying on old employees. Competent graduates are moving to the private industry. It's not hard to imagine what sort of people will be working here as old employees retire in the next 10 years.

To me RC is already an organisation unable to make positive changes in the near future. Therefore a fare increase is never going to make a difference.

RC needs a complete reform, not a fare rise.