

Carole Jackson
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Fare rises

I do not think that there should be a rise in train fares as the service has not improved at all and in fact has deteriorated.

I live in the Blue Mountains and travel to the city four days a week. Except for a couple of hours during the rush hour, we have an hourly service only. The trains are supposed to be express trains, but trains that stop at less stations still take the same amount of time to reach the city. Most of the time there is a situation where the trains that stop at less stations go slowly so that they get in on time and in fact they often end up being late. I find this ludicrous!

I also cannot understand why our trains have to stop at places like Granville and Blacktown that have a good train service. It is laughable to hear that it is a pick up only station. People ignore this and just get off. Where are the transit officers to book them and get more money for the railway! If I get on at Parramatta I find that I cannot get a seat and have to stand until Penrith and dozens of people (who can get other trains) get off.

We have station masters on the stations until lunch time only, allowing for vandalism during the other hours. Graffiti and litter is also a disgrace right throughout the rail network.

I think it is about time that the railway improved conditions for the train travellers and took a pride in the rail network before they can think of putting the fares up again.

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