

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to express my concern regarding the proposed review of CityRail fares.

Fares should be increased in line with an improvement in service. This has not fundamentally occurred.

Whilst the timetable has brought about a more consistent service in terms of being on time, this has come at a cost to passengers, the most noticeable of which is there are not enough services to meet the demand. Is it just unfortunate or bad planning that:

- passengers must stand in carriages from Seven Hills to the city during peak times?
- passengers must occasionally miss their train despite being on time, due to the overcrowding of trains leaving the city?

The State Government used to provide services to the public from tax dollars. This is obviously not the case anymore - one only needs to cite the increase in private road tolls.

I request that rather than review the CityRail fares prior to the improvement of services (a radical improvement - not a re-statement of statistics due to a change in underlying definitions) that the State Government reviews its planning strategy with respect to public transport. I wish to see a vastly improved rail infrastructure funded through increased raising of debt through Tcorp of NSW.

Then and only then will Sydney be able to keep up with other comparable cities and CityRail be in a position to charge accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

John Phokos