



Expansion of Melbourne’s Free Tram Zone to be examined

The Legislative Council’s Economy and Infrastructure Committee is inviting public submissions on Melbourne’s public transport system, focusing on:

- expansion of the free tram system
- providing free fares for all full-time students
- removing fares for all Seniors Card holders
- new technologies that enable intelligent transport systems that improve the performance of the networks
- the effects and benefits of dynamic public transport pricing.

“The Free Tram Zone has been in operation for almost five years and was introduced as a budget measure to help ease cost of living expenses. This inquiry is a timely opportunity to consider whether there should be an expansion of the zone based on our experience of it over the past five years,” Committee Chair Nazih Elasmr said.

“At the same time, we want to look at other measures that can support people who use public transport and who face cost of living pressures,” Mr Elasmr said.

Trams are the primary mode of transport around inner Melbourne with an average of 5,000 services on a typical weekday. There has been an overall increase in passengers utilising the tram network since the Free Tram Zone came into effect.

“Pricing and performance are significant issues for our tram network, and this inquiry provides community members with the chance to share their views on both of these matters,” Mr Elasmr said.

“I encourage people to make a submission to our inquiry, no matter how long or short that submission is.”

Public submissions are welcome until 31 January 2020 and can be made online via an e-submissions form.

The inquiry’s terms of reference and details on making a submission are available from the Committee’s [website](#).

Issued: 26 November 2019