

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Expanding Melbourne's Free Tram Zone

Ms Donna Cameron
[REDACTED]

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I am in favour of the suggested extensions to the free tram zones. In fact, I believe they are, in most cases, a logical extension to the current free tram zones. The extension to the University of Melbourne will aid students to reduce travel costs.

I am particularly in favour of the extension of the zones to the large public hospitals. This will enable patients and their families access to no cost public transport. Alfred Health, Royal Melbourne Hospital (RMH), Royal Children's Hospital and Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre (PMCC) service not just metropolitan Melbourne but country Victoria with specialist health services that may not be able to be accessed elsewhere. Accessing these facilities via public transport can be difficult, particularly when you are not from Melbourne and unfamiliar with where the free tram zones end. In the case of RMH and PMCC it is only two more short stops beyond the end of the free tram zone and, as such, definitely makes sense to extend the free zone to these facilities. Car parking at public hospitals is limited and costly to patients/families. Extending the free tram zone to these hospitals will help to reduce this cost burden and possibly decrease traffic congestion by making it easier to access these facilities by means other than cars.

I believe providing free fares to all full time students and Seniors Card holders is also a very good suggestion. Many students cannot afford to buy a 12 month or even a 1 month ticket due to the upfront sum required, although this is the 'cheaper' option rather than topping up periodically to buy daily tickets. Providing free public transport would be a welcome cost saving to students and Seniors Card holders, many of whom are on lower incomes.

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File1:

File2:

File3: