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

Suzanne Wood

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

Why are we making public transport free? It really doesn't make sense. The free tram zone only benefits tourists (shouldn't tourists be generating income for Melbourne?), students who don't want to walk three blocks, and those who already live in the city - where everything is in walking distance anyway! Everyone else, who has already paid for a ticket to come into the city, then has to crowd onto an already full tram or miss out entirely because of those just jumping on for a quick ride. Shouldn't there be incentives for people to catch transport into the city, not once you're already there, and for people to stop driving. If you're going to extend the free tram zone, make it free for everyone across the whole network, or not at all - or reduce the costs across the board - for everyone. I'm not aware of any other city in the world that provides free PT and it makes it overcrowded and unattractive. Basically those who have to travel into the city are funding free PT for everyone else who should be paying for it as well.

File1:

File2:

File3: