

Hello,

I am writing to express my delight at hearing the extension to the free tram zone is being considered by your committee. In particular, this directly affects my students, and thus I have a particular interest.

As a satellite campus for the University of Melbourne, our students attend the Southbank campus. However several specialised facilities and teaching spaces as well as almost all student amenities (and student housing) are located at the Parkville campus. As such, my students have to often travel to and from the Parkville campus in the course of competing their daily life as students. Obviously this commute also affects staff travelling between the campuses, but it is especially for the students that an extension of the zone would be valuable.

In addition, I personally teach Masters students, who are ineligible for any travel concession on their Mykis. This means they are paying full fare to travel between essential resources, while also being ineligible for any financial support as students such as Austudy or Newstart. They work very hard in our full time courses and also outside of them to support themselves while studying, and this would be a small but valuable assistance to them.

Furthermore, from an environmental perspective I think anything that boosts everyone to use public rather than private transport should be encouraged.

Finally I love our tram system and am a daily user. I love the accessibility of the system and the encouragement of all people – young, old, diverse – to share public space is to be heartily welcomed and encouraged wherever possible.

Thanks you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

**Jo Briscoe** [REDACTED]  
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