


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

Nila James


SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I do not live in Victoria but I'm a frequent visitor to Melbourne because my daughter is studying there. I happen to love the city.

What I have observed over 2 years is a tram system that severely adds financial stress to students in Melbourne University as well as some TAFE institutions. The PTV's decision to stop free tram transport at the RMIT Swanston Street stop, yet allowing free transport all the way to the Docklands, singles out students unfairly and I think you will find your young people of Melbourne really would appreciate the decision to declare free tram travel all the way to the Melbourne University stop as well as the stop outside the VCA and Shrine of Remembrance. Many of them have campuses in Southbank and they travel daily to and fro Melbourne Carlton/Parkville campus and Southbank. I think that you'd find the Docklands stretch to the city is probably longer, yet it's free. And people who live around the Docklands can probably afford to pay the PTV as opposed to students in Parkville.

It is important to identify the parametres of the city centre and just how far we can accommodate students by taking into consideration the location of city based campuses of higher education. It is also important to identify Melbourne's key tourism sites and declare free tram travel to further increase tourism traffic to these areas.

We are still unable as a first world country to provide free education for our citizens like some European nations, which is a crying shame, but we can at the very least take into account the social and financial pressures of university students by reducing the burden of travel where we can and help them reduce their individual carbon footprint by encouraging public transport use.

These are social issues which would go a long way in making it equitable for youths in the "Education State".

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File1:

File2:

File3:

