



Minister for Transport and Main Roads
Minister for Digital Services

Our ref: PET52697
Your ref: A128465

2 April 2024

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 4003-23, lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 5 March 2024, about a request to introduce a *go* card that charges more than the standard rate as a means for generous citizens to reduce the fare burden for the general public.

I thank petitioners for their suggestion. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is committed to making public transport affordable and accessible for all users.

I can advise that public transport fares are not set at a higher price to offset the impacts of customers who do not pay. Rather, the Queensland Government seeks to set public transport fares at levels that balance affordability with sustainable levels of government subsidisation. Translink's public transport fares also use zone-based pricing that reflects the distance customers travel.

Revenue from public transport fares does, however, fall well short of the full funding requirements to provide transport services, with the Queensland Government subsidising more than 80 per cent of public transport costs. Fare revenue remains important in helping to offset these costs and to enable reinvestment in public transport improvements for the benefit of all customers.

With regard to providing lower-cost options to customers who need it most, the Queensland Government currently offers a broad range of fare concessions to ensure public transport is affordable and accessible. Concession pricing and products are available for children, school students, pensioners, seniors, veterans, tertiary/post-secondary students, job seekers, asylum seekers, and customers with a disability. These concessions enable eligible passengers to access public transport at half the cost of a full fare paying passenger and, in some cases, the ability to travel without payment.

I appreciate the thought put into this petition and can assure petitioners TMR will continue to work to make public transport affordable and accessible for all users.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bart Mellish".

BART MELLISH MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads
Minister for Digital Services