

**SUBMISSION TO
THE IMPACT OF PETROL PRICING SELECT COMMITTEE
BY : COMMUNITIES AGAINST THE TUNNELS**

1. The Committee's Terms of Reference invite submissions on "practical ways that consumers can reduce their petrol bills".
2. We submit that there are several ways of achieving this objective, namely -
 - Commuters can choose to travel by public transport, or by bicycle, or by walking – all of which will produce the desired effect
 - Commuters can decide to travel by public transport but they will soon realise that the efficiency, frequency and cost of public transport services available in South East Queensland generally fail to meet acceptable community standards, as they will find that taking this option creates significant inconvenience, frustration and delays to their daily life
 - Commuters can choose to travel by bicycle but they will observe a chronic deficiency of adequate and integrated bikeways into the city heart, and across the city, requiring them to share congested roads with heavy vehicles in unsafe conditions
 - Commuters can and should lobby and make representations to all levels of Government, demanding a greater share of taxation receipts be devoted to alternative forms of transport infrastructure other than roads, and telling their elected officials that they do not approve of any new freeways or tolled tunnels being constructed
 - Commuters can decide to purchase smaller motor vehicles which consume less petrol, i.e. vehicles with smaller engine capacity, and/or vehicles which have hybrid power plants such as the Toyota Prius
 - Commuters can lobby owners of regional shopping centres to create sustainable transport options for their customers by providing private neighbourhood bus services during business hours at low or no cost
 - Commuters can organize with their workplace colleagues and/or their employer to initiate carpooling arrangements, so that each worker may only need to use his/her own car every second or third day
 - Commuters can lobby local and State Governments to initiate and sustain carpooling databases free of charge to commuters, linking those motorists who travel identical or similar routes

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