

Question on Notice

No. 61

Asked on Thursday, 13 February 2014

MR SHUTTLEWORTH asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (MR EMERSON) —

QUESTION:

Will the Minister outline what efforts the government is taking to reduce the cost of public transport, in particular for those with disabilities or at financial disadvantage, including any available concessions?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Ferny Grove for the question.

In line with our election commitment to provide cost of living relief for public transport users, the Newman Government has continued to deliver a lower fare increase for 2014, halving the previous Labor government's planned 15% increase down to 7.5%. This is on top of our commitment to improve the *go* card frequent user discount, which now offers free travel to *go* card customers who complete nine paid journeys in a week, Monday to Sunday.

The government introduced the off-peak trial in January 2014, extending the off-peak discount to more customers by starting off-peak fares half an hour earlier at 8.30am. This will boost affordability and provide more peak capacity for the public transport network.

All concession *go* card users are eligible for 50% concession fares on all TransLink services, anytime, while Seniors, Pensioners and Gold Repatriation *go* card users can travel for free after completing two paid journeys in one day.

The TransLink Access Pass is available for eligible members of the community who have a significant permanent physical or intellectual disability and are unable to touch on or touch off with a *go* card. The pass is \$62.90 and offers unlimited travel on all TransLink bus, train and ferry services.

Free travel is available to:

- Vision Impairment Travel Pass holders.
- Attendant carer of a Companion Card holder.
- Travel Trainer Pass holders.
- Totally and Permanently Incapacitated (TPI) Veteran/Extreme Disablement Adjustment (EDA) Veteran Travel Pass holders.

Alternatively, the Taxi Subsidy Scheme (TSS) provides an affordable and accessible transport option for people with a disability who experience profound difficulties using other modes of public passenger transport. Customers can contact the Department of Transport and Main Roads for further information about the TSS.