

Maximum fares for rural and regional bus services from 1 January 2018

**Public Hearing – Tuesday 7 November 2017
International Hotel Wagga Wagga
Cnr Lake Albert Rd & Sturt Highway, Wagga Wagga
Commencing at 10.30 am**

The purpose of this public forum is:

- ▼ to explain IPART's approach for making draft decisions on maximum fares for rural and regional bus fares to commence from 1 January 2018, and
- ▼ to provide the opportunity for questions and to comment on our approach, draft decisions and recommendations.

The public hearing will be transcribed. A copy of the transcript will be made available on IPART's website within five days of the hearing.

1. Opening remarks, Peter Boxall, Chair

An introduction from IPART's Chair.

2. Maximum fares for single journeys, frequent travel and the regional excursion daily (RED), IPART Secretariat

IPART's Secretariat will deliver a short presentation on IPART's draft decisions on fares for rural and regional bus services. We are seeking stakeholder feedback on:

- ▼ Do you agree with the proposal to reduce maximum bus fares for single journeys and to introduce a daily cap for frequent travel?
- ▼ Do you agree with our proposal to simplify the fare structure by reducing the current 200+ sections into 10 fare bands (0 to <2km, 2 to <10km, 10 to <25km etc)?
- ▼ Do you expect lower fares to result in greater use of bus services in rural and regional areas?

3. Efficient Costs of Rural and Regional Bus Operators, AECOM

AECOM will provide a short presentation on its advice on efficient costs of providing contracted bus services.

4. Delivering better transport services in rural and regional areas, IPART's Secretariat

IPART's Secretariat will deliver a short presentation on IPART's draft recommendations on delivering better bus services in rural and regional areas. We are seeking stakeholder feedback on:

- ▼ Are you more likely to use bus services that add an on demand component to an existing fixed route?
- ▼ Do you agree that passengers should pay a maximum surcharge of up to \$5 for on demand services?
- ▼ What types of on demand bus services do you consider would be cost-effective in regional NSW?
- ▼ Will our recommendations on fares, ticketing and on demand trials address the barriers to travel in cross border areas?

5. General Q&A

This will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to ask any further questions and comment on IPART's draft decisions.

6. Closing remarks from the Chair