

**Sent:** Wednesday, 5 November 2008 4:10 PM

**Subject:** Re submission for the review of cityrail's fares 2009-2012

To whom it may concern,

I present this submission in response to CityRail's intent to increase rail fares. As a commuter whom is dependant on the rail system for transport, I find CityRail's desire to increase the fares somewhat of a slap in the face.

Not only have they reduced carriage numbers on some peak hour services causing massive crowding, quite often these trains are without air-conditioning. Given some of the temperatures these carriages can get to, it is an unpleasant trip, especially as you are unable to find seating for the 45 plus minute trip home or to work.

Adhering to a time table seems to be more of a suggestion than a requirement as their punctuality is somewhat to be desired. Most businesses would dock an employee's pay if they ran as oftenly late as CityRail services seem to do.

The myth that Sydney residents can easily absorb the cost of increased fares due to large incomes is also suspect. I know that most of my fellow employees claimed the low income rebate when they lodged their tax returns this financial year so along with the struggling mortgage market, a failing dollar, Australian economy and NSW credit rating, maybe CityRail should look to it's own expenditure first before trying to pry extra money out of an already exhausted commuter pocket.

All in all, I have found most CityRail services to be unworthy of as severe a fare increase as suggested. Unfortunately, for most people who use the train, it is the only recourse for transport they have and abusing a captive is most unseemly.