

FACT SHEET

FARE GO PACKAGE

HOW THE BRACKS GOVERNMENT WILL CUT THE PRICE OF TRAVELLING ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Embracing the challenge

The Bracks Government is cutting the cost of travelling by public transport to help families that have been affected by high petrol prices.

If re-elected the Bracks Government would roll out its \$94.1 million *Fare Go* package to cut the travel costs of those who typically travel the furthest – people who live in Melbourne’s outer suburbs and in regional Victoria.

Progress in the last seven years

Since 1999 the Bracks Government has:

- Created a new Sunday Saver ticket, providing cheaper all-day travel on Sundays across all three metropolitan zones.
- Extended the availability of concession fares to include Health Care Card holders.
- Cut the price of a Tertiary Student Concession Card to come into line with the cost of primary/secondary concessions.
- Extended the metropolitan train network to Watergardens (Sydneyham) with a further extension to Craigieburn currently in progress.
- Opened new railway stations at Grovedale (Marshall) and Deakin University (Warrnambool).
- Undertaken the biggest upgrade of the country rail network in over 120 years, reversing years of underinvestment.
- Extended the tram network to Box Hill, Docklands and Vermont South, and launched the Think Tram program to improve tram travel times and reliability.
- Introduced more than 370 new and refurbished trains, including 38 new high speed V’locity trains and nearly 100 new trams onto the tracks.
- Extended the operating hours of trains and trams on Friday and Saturday nights by an hour so the last services now leaves between 1.00am and 1.30am.
- Put more than 5 million kilometres of new bus services into our public transport network, including Smart Buses.
- Upgraded more than 80 transport interchanges to provide better connections between different forms of public transport.

- Managed the Southern Cross Station at Spencer Street redevelopment which is now a world class station for Victoria.
- Employed more than 300 extra front line staff on the public transport network to increase security and assist passengers.
- Established the Public Transport Ombudsman to conduct independent scrutiny of public transport complaints.
- Developed a new training scheme to provide an additional 180 new Victorian train drivers.
- Encouraged more environmentally friendly transport options through Travel Smart, which encourages participants to consider options such as public transport, cycling, carpooling and walking.
- Improved security at train stations including installation of CCTV, distress buttons on all trains, better lighting at railway stations and transport interchanges and roving security staff after 9 pm.
- Provided an additional 400 regional rail services every week as part of the new V/Line timetable.
- Reopened regional train services to Ararat and Bairnsdale.

But there is still more that needs to be done to improve Victoria's public transport network.

Earlier this year we outlined a massive 10-year, \$10.5 billion investment program to further improve our transport infrastructure.

A Fare Go

The Fare Go package takes the next step - cutting the cost of travel on our public transport networks.

Every public transport user who travels in Zone 3 and anywhere in regional Victoria would have their travel bills slashed by up to \$725 per year under a future Bracks Government.

If re-elected the government would roll out a five-year, \$94.1 million plan to cut public transport fares from 4 March next year including:

- Abolishing Metropolitan Zone 3 and replacing it with an extended Zone 2 region;
- Reducing the cost of all V/Line train and bus tickets by an average of 20 per cent;
- Reducing local bus fares on the Mornington and Bellarine peninsulas; and
- Placing a further six outer-suburban V/Line stations into the Zone 2 pricing system.