

**Submission to Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and
Transport Inquiry into the Investment of Commonwealth and State funds in
public passenger transport infrastructure and services Closing on 27 February
2009**

I am a car free old person, like many others retired in Toowoomba, hoping for socially inclusive mobility services. Car free people rely on safe barrier-free, well-lit, sealed paths, clean seat/shelters, information networks; and affordable-accessible-acceptable-available-amiable public transport network facilities and mobility link services.

Escalating oil price wars, no-frill city airlines, low tariffs on imports, generous grants to road traffic cartels and fringe benefit tax concessions - all aid car addicts to worsen the quality of healthy urban life for car free people. Cargo cartels demand more glamour games grounds, floodlit sports fields, polluting light towers, paved carparks, pedestrian barriers, roundabouts, traffic control signals, speed lanes, smart signs and security service cameras. Consumption greed drains funds for conflict-collision-crime-carnage-conviction-correction facilities and services. Super trucks, freeway flyovers and traffic tunnels fuel toxic emissions, climate calamities and biodiversity perils. Many rate payers are car free. Yet they must fund the 'Reward the Car Rich - Punish the Car Free' local council for car-truck-parking-traffic-sport frivolities, making access and mobility life more miserable for all car free people. Many residents have two cars; yet they pay no excess council rates for the free on-street services they demand. Parochial car addicts in councils pass ludicrous local laws for 'Road Traffic Safety' discriminating car free people. Congestion engineers breed more speed addicts, traffic tyrants, fuel fools, tunnel visionaries and black spots.

We got private-public partnership bus operators, recycled buses, wasteful route networks, unmet schedules and access barriers. Bureaucratic blunders cut out timely weekday services to fund 90 empty bus runs on Saturdays! Bus runs in many streets with older patrons were cut and bus stops facilities set up at high cost now are unused. Bus users' requests to right the wrongs of inconsiderate practices get only official rhetoric replies with no reward. Net results: public-private transport users suffer; subsidised fares rise; services are cut; service industries close; and many car free people are driven into unjust social exclusion and poverty traps. Wait for another folly like the lost rail and air services? Complacency and transport miseries deprive the basic living needs for car free people. Need Customer Service Charter, Best Practices Guides and Public-Private Transport services Ombudsman.

Inland towns need funding quality transport facilities, socio-technical services and drift away from choked cities. Specifically, regional council must set high priority policies, plans, practices and projects, ensuring fair equity, social justice and courtesy care to avert social exclusion and transport poverty miseries of car free people. Green Travel is walk-bike-bus-train-rideshare plans, social justice, eco-efficient resource equity and healthy life, to avert social exclusion, transport poverty, toxic pollution, climate calamities and biodiversity perils to perdition! Need competent trained facilitators of socially responsible inclusive-reliable-efficient-transparent urban practices. Urge cheaper Toowoomba range bypass with timely fast railcar services linking Toowoomba-Helidon-Brisbane-Airport. Urge 7-7/365 timely bus runs in suburbs, cbd hospitals loop, fast cross city and intercity buses and train links. Secure sustainable economic climate for eco-friendly Health-Education-Arts-Recreation-Tourism-Social actions! Entice tax and rates exempt agencies to Green Travel Actions in practice to curb traffic-parking-safety atrocities. Reward Green Travellers to city-campus-church-club-hotel-hospital-home-school-shop-sport-trade-workplace...

Plan Eco-mobility Culture Change Carnival! Join with the 2020 cities in World Car Free Days 16-22 September! Think 2022! People in eco street malls, eco-schools, eco bikes/ hybrid buses/trains, eco trade parks, eco farms... A call on Academic-Engineering-Business Leaders: Please lead Community Eco-mobility Action Projects, like Conceptual designs for a new Eco-Transit Mall, Hybrid Trolley Bus Services and Transport Oriented Redevelopment.

Leaders: Please fund public transport facilities, eco-travel services and cargo culture behaviour change actions. Set up Regional Sustainability Fund. Privatise airports, sports fields, car parks and road-traffic-waste services Time now to remove school bus fares, state levies and GST on public transport services and green taxi-buses. Time now to levy 22 percent eco-tax on all luxury motor vehicles, aircraft, water craft and motor sports events. Time now to levy Green Travel Surcharge on city airfares, car parks, car sale yards and motor service stations. Time now to recover public safety and eco service costs by Time Demand Access Permits for all motor vehicles. Time now to levy eco-safety event fees on commercial spectator sports, flood-lit games and motor vehicle races. Time now to aid air-biogas-hybrid electric bus-railcar technology industries and eco-transport training centres. Time now to fund green technology service centres, zero emission exchanges, eco-ride networks, bike couriers..

Time now to fund Eco-mobility Culture Centres and walk-bike-bus-train-rideshare-telecommute-trade service clinics. Time now to reward car free people with Green Travel Cards for bus/train travels and green transport services. Time now for resource recyclers to offer free pickup/removal of old cars from streets, sheds and backyards. Time now for industry leaders adopt socially responsible green zone facilities and eco-efficient training practices.

Hopefully, this enquiry may recommend many Australian cities and towns may join in the World Car Free Day around 16- 22 September! I would be glad to provide any further information. Care for the Car Free People!

Thank you.
Sincerely
