



MEDIA RELEASE

ROBERT BROKENSHERE

FAMILY FIRST ENVIRONMENT SPOKESPERSON



FAMILY FIRST CALLS FOR DOLLAR-A-DAY PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR PENSIONERS & SELF-FUNDED RETIREES

Monday 11 August 2008

FAMILY FIRST MLC Robert Brokenshere has called upon the State Government to offer additional support to pensioners and self-funded retirees by providing a \$1.00 ticket for buses, trains and trams for pensioners and self-funded retirees for all-day travel during off-peak times.

“Rising inflation, petrol prices and food prices – and recent fare increases – are all combining to make it real tough for pensioners”, Mr Brokenshere said, “The Rudd Government let pensioners down also in the 2008/2009 Federal Budget. Our pensioners deserve relief against rising costs of living, and can do their bit for the environment also by catching more affordable public transport”

Mr Brokenshere pointed out that now was a convenient time to implement a dollar-a-day ticket, with the most recent State Budget including an \$29m upgrade of the ticketing system and funding available in the National Travel Behaviour Change Project (see *Background Information Paper*).

FAMILY FIRST research reveals that the current best offering for pensioner concessions nationwide is in the ACT, with Action bus network providing a \$1.40 ticket for off-peak all-day travel.

ABS data released on 23 July 2008 revealed that nationwide:

- Since 1945 the proportion of passenger-kilometres travelled by motorised vehicle in capital cities has gone from 60% public transport & 40% other vehicle in 1945 to 10% public transport and 90% other vehicle in 2007
- In 2006, over one-quarter (26%) of people aged 18-34 years used public transport as their main method of travel to work or study, compared with 11% of people aged 55 years and over.

“Pensioners deserve some relief in the hip pocket through public transport concessions”, Mr Brokenshere concluded, “If its good enough for Canberra, its good enough for South Australia”

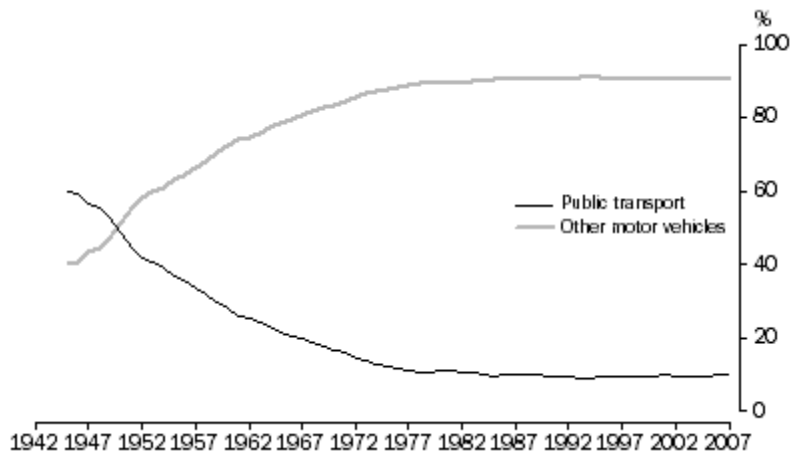
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DOLLAR A DAY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION PAPER

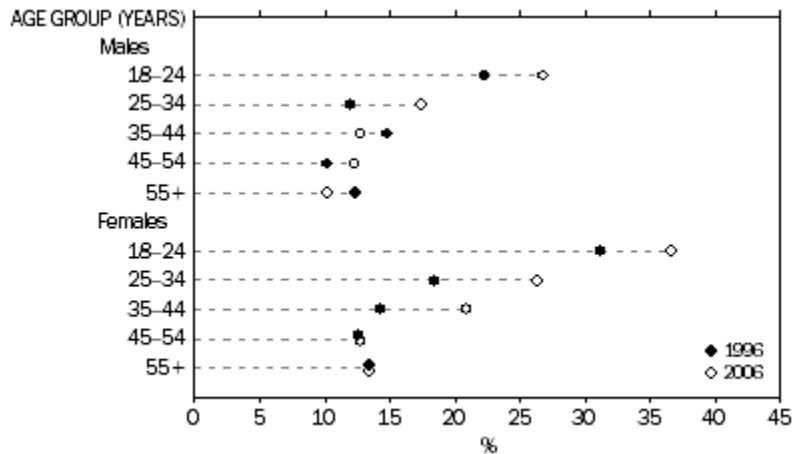
- 23 July 2008 ABS source data from:
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4102.0Chapter10102008> including these graphs:

PROPORTION OF PASSENGER-KILOMETRES TRAVELLED BY MOTORISED VEHICLE TYPE: CAPITAL CITIES - 1945 TO 2007



Source: Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics (BTRE), 2007 [Estimating urban traffic and congestion cost trends for Australian cities, Working Paper 71](#); BTRE unpublished data (1945-1976)

PROPORTION USING PUBLIC TRANSPORT AS MAIN FORM OF TRANSPORT FOR USUAL TRIP TO WORK OR STUDY(a): CAPITAL CITIES(b)



- (a) As a proportion of the total number of persons in each age group.
(b) Excludes Darwin.

Source: ABS 2006 Household Survey of Waste Management and Transport Use and ABS 1996 Environment Survey.

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- ACTION Buses Fares data below: (Link: <http://www.action.act.gov.au/fares.html>)

Adult	
Faresaver 10^	\$22.00
Weekly	\$24.60
Monthly	\$82.00
Daily	\$6.60
Shopper's Off Peak Daily*	\$4.10
Concession	
Faresaver 10^	\$11.00
Weekly	\$12.30
Monthly	\$41.00
Daily	\$3.30
Pensioner Off Peak Daily *~	\$1.40
School Student	
Faresaver 10^#	\$8.20
School term	\$56.00

- Presently in Adelaide an interpeak single trip ticket costs \$1.20 but:
 - only lasts for 2 hours each ticket
 - Off-Peak definition is less liberal, being 9:01am to only 3pm and not after evening rush-hour
 - Is not available to self-funded retirees, as FAMILY FIRST's proposal is
- *FAMILY FIRST's Pensioner Off-Peak Travel Tickets would allow unlimited travel for those holding a Pensioner Concession Card or similar card, outside of off-peak periods (those being 6am-9am and 4pm-6pm) from 12:01am to midnight in a given calendar day.*
- The **National Travel Behaviour Change** project is one of a range of projects as part of the Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program announced in 2006 and targeting 2008-2012 for greenhouse gas emission reductions. For the NTBC project nationwide :
 - \$6.4m in funding is available and
 - 1.23 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent over the period 2008-2012 are expected to be relieved from the environment
 - Program link: <http://www.environment.gov.au/settlements/industry/ggap/ntbc.html>
- The 2008/2009 State Budget included \$29 million in funding for a new public transport ticketing system, so it is timely to include this reform as ticketing technology is changed (Link: Budget Speech - http://www.treasury.sa.gov.au/public/download.jsp?id=2740&page=/dtf/budget/publications_and_downloads/current_budget.jsp)