

# FREE OFF-PEAK SENIORS BUS AND RAIL TRAVEL

Easing the Cost of Living for Seniors

A Tim Nicholls-led Liberal National Government will provide free off-peak public transport to passengers with a seniors *go* card.

# **The Problem**

We understand increases in the cost of living make it hard for Queenslanders to make ends meet – especially those on fixed incomes like seniors and pensioners.

Under Annastacia Palaszczuk's watch, Labor has increased car registration by double the inflation rate for three years in a row. If you have a 4-cylinder car that's an increase of over \$50!

In recent years the cost of public transport has also risen dramatically – when Annastacia Palaszczuk was the transport minister in the Bligh Labor Government, bus and train fares went up 15% year after year after year. A total of 45%.

While the Palaszczuk Labor Government has no plan to tackle the cost of living issues facing Queenslanders, the LNP team has been listening and understands something must be done, and will act on the cost of living.

## **Our Record**

The LNP has a track record of looking after our senior citizens and reducing the cost of living because we understand the pressure it puts Queenslanders under.

Queenslanders told us transport costs were far too expensive in Queensland – that's why the previous LNP Government froze the cost of car registration for three years – and will do so again if elected at the next state election.

We also cut public transport fares by 5% across the state for the first time.

A senior *go* card holder regularly travelling from the Gold Coast to Brisbane saved up to \$148 per year, while those regularly travelling from Enoggera, Indooroopilly or Newstead to the Brisbane CBD saved \$41 per year.

In regional Queensland, for example, seniors who are regular bus passengers travelling in Townsville saved up to \$66 a year.

# **Our Real Plan**

A Tim Nicholls-led LNP Government will make off-peak bus and rail travel free for senior *go* card holders.

This will mean many of the 20 million senior public transport trips made each year will be free.

The LNP is committed to tackling the rising cost of living. Under our plan, seniors could save around \$720 in public transport costs a year.

The free seniors off-peak travel applies on Translink bus services, Queensland Rail services and G:link Gold Coast Light Rail services on:

- weekdays 8.30am–3.30pm and 7pm–6am the next day
- weekends all day, and
- state-wide public holidays all day.

THE LNP'S POLICY COULD SAVE SENIORS AROUND \$720 A YEAR!

(Cost of Living Report – Special Edition: The cost of living and age pensioner households, Issue 4 – QCOSS)



To learn more about Our Plan visit betterqueensland.org.au

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# **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### What services will this apply to?

Senior *go* card holders will be able to travel for free on any TransLink bus services, Queensland Rail train services and G:link Gold Coast light rail services.

The free travel will not apply to ferry or Air Train travel at this time.

The Brisbane City Council currently offers the free CityHopper ferry service through the inner city reaches of the Brisbane River.

# Who is eligible for free travel?

Australians with a valid Seniors Card from any state or territory are eligible for a senior *go* card fare.

To be eligible for Seniors Card, Seniors Card+go or a Seniors Business Discount Card, you must:

- · be a permanent resident of Queensland
- live in Queensland for at least 6 months of the year and your home address must be shown on your driver licence, or be registered as your home address
- be 65 years or older and working less than 35 hours a week in paid employment.

Other conditions may apply and more information on the Seniors Card can be found here: <a href="https://www.qld.gov.au/seniors/legal-finance-concessions/seniors-card">https://www.qld.gov.au/seniors/legal-finance-concessions/seniors-card</a>.

#### What time is considered off-peak?

The free seniors off-peak travel applies on Translink bus services, Queensland Rail services and G:link Gold Coast Light Rail services on:

- weekdays 8.30am–3.30pm and 7pm–6am the next day
- weekends all day, and
- state-wide public holidays all day.

## How much will peak time seniors fares cost?

During peak times seniors will still be eligible for concession fares – 50% of the cost of an adult fare.

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