

**Submission
No 1**

THE TRANSPORT NEEDS OF SYDNEY'S NORTH-WEST SECTOR

Name: Mrs Annmaree Fowler

Date received: 5/09/2008

29th July, 2008.

Ministry of Transport
School Student Transport Scheme
SSTS Appeals Panel
Locked Bag 5085
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

COPY

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I am wishing to **appeal** the notification that subsidized bus travel is to be withdrawn at the end of this year, ie. 2008 for both of my children, Lachlan Fowler (Year 7) and Joshua Fowler (Year 10) who both attend Epping Boys High School.

Lachlan's Reference # is **07D224892** and Joshua's Reference # is **04D2749**.

The grounds for my appeal involve both "**Distance**" and "**Safety**".

Our Home Address is 205 Malton Road, North Epping. I have walked the **distance** between our home address with the most direct walking route to Epping Boys High School (rear Entrance to the school).

The walking route I took was the following:

- 205 Malton Road turned left and following this to the corner of Malton Road and Norfolk Road.
- Turned right into Norfolk Road
- Turned left into Chester Street, Epping
- Turned right into York Street.
- Veer left into Barti Close where directly on your right is a pathway.
- This pathway led me through a bush land path and a large amount of steep, slippery steps winding down to Epping Road just before the Terry's Creek Bridge.
- Turned left at Epping Road and followed this Road until turning left again and up a steep path through to the back entrance of the school.

This walking route measured **2.9 kms** which is the required **2.9km** distance stated in the Appeals Panel Application Form. The time this took was 30 minutes. The above information illustrates my reason for appeal regarding **distance**.

The **safety** issue is probably more of a concern.

The bush pathways mentioned above are very secluded and out of sight of local houses and passing traffic. There is no lighting and the steps are very steep and slippery. Once the path ends at Epping Road the speed limit here is 80kms. Epping Road is a very busy Road used by both buses and cars and more often

than not are traveling well in excess of 80kms. The path is narrow and there are no barriers on the side of the road. The noise and pollution are also extremely high. If I were to drive both of my sons to school, which would occur more often if our free travel pass was withdrawn, our car emission gases would be adding to what already is a major environmental problem.

Considering my major concerns above I request a review into both of my sons' withdrawal of subsidized travel. My son Joshua has held a subsidized travel pass for 3 and 1/2 years whilst my son Lachlan only received his pass at the beginning of 2008. I have another son who will be attending Epping Boys High School year commencing 2011.

I am intending to send a copy of this letter to my local Parliament Member as I feel my issues are warranted and if need be any further action necessary shall be dealt with.

I would be more than happy to discuss these issues with you at any time.

In anticipation of a favourable response.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Annmaree Fowler

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Cc Felicity Findlay – C/- Hornsby Shire Council, PO Box 37, Hornsby, NSW,
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