

**Submission
No 205**

INQUIRY INTO ROAD TOLLING REGIMES

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G'day,

I have some choice words to persuade a reduction on the costs of tolls for public and commercial access to key transit roads.

My name is Jzawo, I live in the small outer Sydney suburb of Glenorie.

When I say it's small, I mean basic in regards to infrastructure and sparse in population.

Geographically however, it is in comparable distance from north to south, as long as the distance between the southern tip of KINGSFORD SMITH Airport runway to the urban sprawl of North Sydney. That's NORTH Sydney Glenorie is massive, as it is massively far from the inner suburbs / CBD of Sydney.

Glenorie happens to have one bus, the furthest north Hills Bus service along Old Northern Road, the only road that connects Glenorie to anywhere south of Dural (all of Sydney). This Submission should also include all residents who live in similar isolated semi rural circumstances, such as those residing from Glenorie all the way to Maroota and Wiseman's Ferry, where public transport is merely an idea.

Thankfully, I drive, as does essentially everyone who lives outside of any deep urban centre. In fact, I drive a considerable amount, clocking in 23,000 Kms in 11 months.

For me, and I imagine for many, there's a necessity to commute if you wish to achieve most things desirable in life. Unfortunately for me, many destinations require me to travel 60+ minute distances, usually via motorway into Sydney.

Many of the motorways are quite advantageous and efficient, however there are many weak spots within Sydney's infrastructure which would require a Royal Commission and competent government if it were ever to be fixed... Alas, I digress.

It is simply astonishing how much we are required to pay in service tolls for these key roads, such as the M2, the M7, the West / North West Connex are particularly exorbitant. I read a statistic that Australia claims the position of most expensive road tolls in the world.

It is another example of poorly regulated privatisation cash gouging.

The same thing happened with broadband, after Telecom was privatised; atrocious service, sub quality broadband, and unfathomable price rates.

For many reasons indeed, I am perpetually disillusioned with this government's nearly decade long reign and failure to provide its citizens with an affordable, safe, fair go at life.

Every day I have a go, every bloody day.

I'm still waiting to "get a go", but I'm struggling for money constantly despite destroying my body working multiple jobs literally hours apart.

I feel many young Australians can resonate with my story.

We can't afford to buy or rent a house, the sheer privilege of owning a car is excessively dear, and if you want to drive it anywhere near Sydney, you'll pay your wages.

I currently work in the city, and study at UTS, yet I still can not afford to move into Sydney and try to establish a life there.

So many things can be improved in this diverse beautiful land, of which I acknowledge the traditional owners, particularly my land of Darug Nation. Let's start by improving accessibility to our roads, which will let us get to where we should be headed.

In all honesty, I would actually rather the government prioritise remedying Indigenous First Nations rights and reparation instead of the cost of our motorways... Anyway, get to work, make this place better.

For a fair Australia,
I know how I am voting.

Jzawo from Glenorie