

MEDIA RELEASE

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HOW METRO SERVICES CAN SAVE COMMUTERS MORE THAN \$8,000 PER ANNUM

Metro has today welcomed the findings of the Australian Railway Association's report The Cost of Commuting: An Analysis of Potential Commuter Savings.

Speaking about the findings Metro CEO, Mr Stuart Wiggins said "This report is a welcome addition to the existing studies that highlight the benefits of using public transport and the significant contribution it makes to both the community and an individuals' back pocket.

"People tend to only think of fuel costs when weighing up the costs of driving versus taking public transport, but there are many other costs to take into account, such as maintenance, insurance, parking, registration and other hidden costs. This report is a timely reminder of the clear economic benefits a high quality public transport system offers the community. As Tasmania's key public transport operator, Metro are always looking at innovative ways to make taking a bus easy, reliable and cost effective.

Since introducing the Turn Up and Go service on the busy Hobart/Glenorchy corridor, Metro has seen a 9% increase in patronage.

"Given Turn Up and Go's success, we are planning to add similar services to other high frequency corridors, including one in Launceston that will result in a service every 15 minutes to the University of Tasmania," Mr Wiggins said

"Passengers who use Greencard can save an additional 20% on fares, taking potential savings to almost \$10,000 per annum."

"Metro provides essential road transport services for the community. Independent reports such as those released by the Australian Railway Association offer a timely reminder of the savings that can be achieved by travelling with us," Mr Wiggins said.

For more information about timetables, fares, concession entitlements and Greencard, passengers can call 13 22 01, go to www.metrotas.com.au, or contact customer service on <u>correspondence@metrotas.com.au</u>.

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