

Dear Disability Transport secretariat

I thank you for allowing me as a visually impaired person using JAWS screenreader to make a submission as an individual private citizen.

A number of bus stops don't have tactile strip.

Bus stops these days have electronic screens that don't provide audio description.

Not all train stations and train carriages have accessibility features of level/minimum gap between train and platform, audio announcements, platform tactile tile indicators, elevators, ramps, hearing loops, accessible toilets, accessible pay-phones, accessible atms and disability car parking. Unless the NSW Government through commercial partners converts heavy train lines to rapid metro or light rail, heavy rail stations are cherry picked for accessible upgrades with at times a limited selection of accessible features.

My concern relates to airports and seaports with use of metal detectors. Canes/walking stick, prosthetics, assistant aids and medical devices containing metal will be pick up in metal detectors leading to multiple scans, journey delays and detachment from luggage.

The whole journey requires a person to be trained beforehand, identifiable shorelines and landmarks, access to accessible information and websites, and if necessary direction/guidance by a second person. At times one's journey may need to be altered or lengthened for accessibility reasons.

In a discrimination case, it is questionable whether the responsibility be place on brave individual to bring a case against a large transport provider.

I ask that the Commonwealth Government embed the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities into Australian legislation. I ask that you either give the Australian Human Rights Commission or another body power to take collective discrimination cases against transport providers. I ask that Australian Way finding standards be embedded into Disability Discrimination Act as this is important for visually impaired persons. I ask that corporations including transport corporations under the Corporations Act be required to provide an accessibility statement in their annual reports stating how they made their services and facilities accessible to persons with disabilities. I ask that legislation adopts European standards where ocean-liner/seaport, airliner/airport assist person with disabilities from airport entry to seat in plane and entry of seaport to seat in ship. I ask that the Commonwealth Government through tied grants require state and territory governments

to maintain disability advocacy services long into the future regardless of the National Disability Insurance Scheme roll-out to enable some persons with disabilities with assistance to voice issues with mass transport. I ask that the Commonwealth Government assist state and territory governments, local councils and private providers to make train, bus and ferry carriage and stations be made accessible to persons with disabilities as it is likely that they may be behind in meeting a target.

Again, I thank you for allowing me to make a submission

Thanks

Matthew Gee Kwun Chan