





Swan River Crossings Fremantle Traffic Bridge

Frequently Asked Questions – Travel Alternatives during Bridge Closure

Public Transport - Trains

Can you increase train frequency?

Yes. Following feedback from the community, four additional train services will be introduced on the Fremantle line – two in the morning peak and two in the afternoon peak. This will provide significant additional capacity for road users who currently drive over the Fremantle Traffic Bridge and the Stirling Bridge in peak time and are considering making the switch to public transport.

Can you increase the number of train carriages?

No. Train stations across the Perth network differ significantly in size and capacity. The smallest stations are designed to accommodate trains with no more than six carriages. To ensure safe boarding and aligning at these smaller stations, the maximum length of any train operating on the network is restricted to six carriages.

Will you provide cheaper public transport?

Yes. Currently, 85 per cent of public transport patrons from Fremantle travel at least two zones and will benefit from the one zone fare cap starting on 1 January 2026.

A further 100 parking bays will be provided at Fremantle Station and the current \$2 parking fee will be waived. The introduction of the new one-zone flat fare (\$2.80 for SmartRider users and \$3.50 for others) will provide a weekly saving of up to \$27 for commuters travelling to Perth via train five days a week.

The Student Free Travel scheme and the Sunday Free Travel scheme will both continue.

Why can't free public transport be provided to and from Fremantle Station and around Fremantle?

The key focus of the public transport initiatives is to provide additional capacity for those road users who currently use Stirling Bridge and the Fremantle Traffic Bridge during peak hour.

PTA is unable to implement a selective free public transport initiative for the Fremantle Bridge closure. Free travel without clear eligibility criteria and effective controls could lead to overcrowding, which would impact current patrons and those needing to use buses and trains as an alternative to cars during the closure period.















The previously announced one fare cap from 1 January 2026 provides an incentive for existing users and encourages new users.

A free travel zone will be implemented during the traffic bridge closure for existing buses travelling between Douro Road and Fremantle Train Station.

Can I take my bike on the train from North Fremantle to Fremantle during peak?

The key focus is on maximising capacity during closure to encourage people to take public transport. Additionally, space is required for people with disabilities. During closure, there will be capacity constraints with predicted increase in public transport take-up due to the one zone flat fare structure, reducing space for bikes.

Bikes are not permitted during peak periods when travelling in peak direction unless:

- It is folded, and placed in an appropriately designed, fit for purpose carry bag.
- When folded the maximum dimensions are no more than 120cm x 68cm x 40cm.

When is the peak time for public transport?

General peak periods are weekdays (excluding public holidays) between:

- 7.00am and 9.00am (travelling towards Perth).
- 4.30pm and 6.30pm (travelling away from Perth).

Public Transport – Bus

How many additional buses will you provide?

Additional buses are being provided to support on-time running and maintain the timetabled services. This encourages people to use public transport if they are new to the service, or to stay with public transport if they are existing users.

Bus frequency and timetables will be maintained by 'injecting' some buses. For example, if a bus doing the 8am trip from Fremantle is timetabled to also do the 9am trip and can't return in time, another bus will be provided to do that service. This maintains the frequency of services.

Will there be increased bus services specifically for school students?

Yes. Three new school bus special services will be provided to travel to Iona Presentation College, St Hilda's Anglican School and Presbyterian Ladies' College.

Why are <u>public transport</u> buses being provided only to these three private schools?

Iona Presentation College, St Hilda's Anglican School and Presbyterian Ladies' College are key destinations for school families crossing the bridge in the height of peak travel. They do not have dedicated bus services and were identified for special bus services to reduce current significant car usage to and from these schools over Stirling Bridge. Other schools identified are located further along the Fremantle Line and have services from Claremont Station.

Will John Curtin College be provided with additional bus services?

John Curtin College is well serviced by public bus service routes 502 and 915 every 5-10 minutes in peak. These buses travel between Fremantle Station and Bull Creek Station.

The school has information on its website showing these services and distance from the school: https://www.jc.wa.edu.au/my-jcca/public-transport





Can you bring back the CAT Bus in Fremantle?

When the City of Fremantle advised it would no longer fund the CAT, the Public Transport Authority used its portion of CAT funding to provide additional trips on Route 532 (in particular Fremantle to South Fremantle). Reinstatement of the Fremantle CAT would subject to funding (and vehicle availability). As above, to support movement within the Fremantle area, a free-travel zone for existing bus services travelling along South Terrace. between Douro Road and Fremantle Train Station

Can I bring my bike or E-scooter on the bus?

No bikes, manual or powered, are allowed on board a bus, including train replacement buses unless:

- It is folded, and placed in an appropriately designed, fit for purpose carry bag.
- When folded the maximum dimensions are no more than 120cm x 68cm x 40cm.

What is the new bus route and associated bus stops for buses that currently travel over the bridge? New bus routes will be available via Transperth Home prior to bridge closure.

Station Parking and Security

Will you increase the number of transit security guards at stations?

Yes. Additional transit officers will be placed at Fremantle Station during school terms following feedback from schools and parents indicating an increased presence would provide more of an incentive for students to use public transport.

Will there be more parking at Fremantle train station?

Yes. An additional 100 parking bays will be provided at Fremantle Station with parking to be free for train users with a SmartRider. This ensures those using public transport benefit from the parking subsidy. The parking area is an existing car park previously leased by the City of Fremantle.

How can I get a SmartRider?

SmartRiders can be purchased at Transperth Info Centres and selected SmartRider Retail Sales Outlets (include link https://www.transperth.wa.gov.au/SmartRider/Retail-Outlets).

There is also a new SmartRider Hub at Fremantle Station

Will there be more parking at North Fremantle train station?

Unfortunately, there is insufficient space close to the North Fremantle station to construct additional parking facilities.

What is in place to stop non-public transport users from parking at Fremantle train station?

When you're using your SmartRider to pay for parking, you must tag on to a bus or train to or from the station you parked at on the same day that you parked. If you fail to tag on after paying for parking on two consecutive occasions your card will be blocked from using the parking facilities.

How can I find out more information about biking, walking or other travel options?

We have been working with the Department of Transport and Major Infrastructure to provide tailored journey planning support for various communities and schools located on either side of Stirling Bridge to encourage the use of public transport, active transport alternatives, and car-pooling to reduce car usage. This includes:





- Identifying safe routes and developing area-wide active travel maps to local destinations.
- Implementing *Your Move* at additional schools: Bike Education, school safe routes access guides, student leadership labs.
- Working with local government authorities to support active travel to /from public transport stops/ stations (e.g. school walking buses) and end-of-trip facilities.

Further Information

Click <u>here</u> to learn more about the Project or scan the QR code. For enquiries, please phone 138 138 or email <u>enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au</u>.



