



CHAPTER 1

Introduction

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The year 2009 marks the beginning of a time of transition in fares and ticketing in Victoria. Early in 2009, the first public trials of the myki ticketing system will get underway on town bus services in Geelong; the first necessary step before a wider rollout of myki across Victoria.

A number of important changes are being made to the Metcard ticketing system during 2009 to further encourage bulk purchase, including the sale of value Metcards (such as the 10x2 hour and 5xSeniors Daily) onboard buses and the increased availability of the 5xSeniors Daily from train station ticket machines. This latest change builds on the foundations already established over the last five years, such as integration between V/Line and metropolitan ticketing, the integration of Nightrider into the Metcard system and discounted off-peak travel (such as the Sunday Saver and Early Bird).

An important development in concessions policy starting from 2009 is the agreement with the Commonwealth Government to recognise Seniors Cards from other States and Territories as valid for concession fares on V/Line services and purchasing Seniors Daily Metcards. Once more, Victoria has led the way nationally in concession policy and during 2009 it is expected that the other States and Territories will extend the same benefits to Victorian Seniors Card holders travelling interstate.

The next 12 months will be an interesting period of change as the V/Line and Metcard ticketing systems prepare to drawdown as myki gets ready to shoulder the load of public transport ticketing in Victoria. The smoothness of that transition very much depends on the solid foundation of fares and ticketing policy across the state built up by the Department of Transport's Public Transport Division over the last five years.

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Legal status

The contents of this manual set out conditions which have been determined and published in the Government Gazette pursuant to section 220D of the *Transport Act 1983*, except for —

- Any express references to the **myki** ticketing solution
- Any reference to the availability of tickets other than the references under the heading "Pre-pay Bus Stops and Bus Routes" in Chapter 2.
- Any references to the processes associated with infringement notices
- Any references to contact information.

The conditions in this manual (the Conditions) take effect from, and including, 1 January 2009.

The Conditions apply to one or more of the following classes of tickets as set out throughout the manual, except to the extent set out below, and govern the entitlement to use the public transport services specified in the Conditions in respect of which those tickets are issued:

- Metropolitan tickets
- V/Line tickets
- Student Passes
- Regional Bus Tickets
- Free Passes and authorities
- Smartcards

Only tickets within the above classes are valid for the public transport services specified in the Conditions.

If tickets that are smartcards are issued by or on behalf of the Public Transport Ticketing Body for a public transport service, the fares specified in this manual for that service do not apply in respect of those tickets. The Public Transport Ticketing Body will determine special fares that apply in respect of those tickets as well as the rules for their use.

Public transport operators must make a copy of this manual available for inspection at their principal office. Copies are available for sale to the public for \$5 at the MetShop, located in the Melbourne Town Hall (corner of Swanston and Collins Streets).

The manual and updates may be downloaded from metlinkmelbourne.com.au/ticketing