

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in my opinion of the Draft Report for the Disability Standards For Accessible Public Transport 2002.

In my initial submission (#8) I mentioned that I have autism and that I have problems taking trains as a result of complying with the Disability Standards For Accessible Public Transport 2002. The problems that I experience with trains are the following:

Loud autovoice

Passenger information Display Screens that are distracting and bright

Audible push button doors

Bright orange destination signs

The solutions that I suggested are:

Option 1: Make a carriage in each train without using loud autovoice, passenger information display screens and audible push button doors.

Option 2: Have special trains so that people like me can travel on trains.

Plus, use the old green destination signs or use a winding system like used on the Queensland Rail InterCity Express trains.

On buses I have problems with bright orange destination signs and I observed LED lighting is used on many different bus companies.

The solutions for this are to use linear fluorescent or incandescent lighting and for the destination signs do the same like I suggested under the trains.

I have read the draft report and I noticed Recommendation 2 is to “modernise the Transport Standards”. If this means that my problems will be addressed and the Standards are modernised to cater for my disability will be beneficial.

If my needs are not addressed in the Disability Standards For Accessible Public Transport, I believe that it would go against the National Disability Strategy 2010-2020. One of the policy directions from the National Disability Strategy 2010-2020 says: “A public, private and community transport system that is accessible for the whole community.” How can this goal be met when the standards fail to meet my disability’s needs.

To suggest that I should wear sunglasses is another way to say “we will do nothing about your problems”. Not addressing my problems goes against what the Disability Standards For Accessible Public Transport 2002 when the Standards say: “to eliminate discrimination, ‘as far as possible’”. So remove the discrimination that I am experiencing in trains.

If my needs continue to not be addressed, I will take further action to get my needs met.

Yours sincerely,

Jason Stehn