

media release

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PASSENGERS URGED TO SWITCH TO MYKI AS VALUE METCARDS WITHDRAWN

One of the final steps in the gradual phasing out of Metcard will soon take place with the removal of all value Metcards from sale, with passengers who buy these tickets encouraged to use them up.

Transport Ticketing Authority Chief Executive Bernie Carolan announced today that after 1 July 2012, only single-use 2 hour, Daily, City Saver and Seniors Daily Metcards will remain on sale.

“The progressive removal of Metcard ticket types and equipment has so far happened as expected and it’s now time for the next group of passengers to make the switch to myki,” Mr Carolan said.

“The expansion of the myki sales and top up network means that those passengers who are yet to buy a myki can choose the most convenient option to suit their needs.

“The Transport Ticketing Authority has completed the rollout of the myki retail network so there are now around 800 locations, including all 7-Eleven stores, where Victorians can buy and top up a myki over the counter.

“myki card fees were reduced on 1 January 2012 to make it cheaper and easier to get a myki and since then a surge in sales means more than 70 per cent of trips are now taken using myki.

“The end of 2012 is not that far away and it is time for passengers holding onto unused Metcards to use them up.”

The Metcard types to be withdrawn from sale include:

- 10 x 2 hour
- 5 x Daily
- 5 x Weekend Daily
- Sunday Saver
- City Saver x 10
- 5 x Seniors Daily
- Off-Peak Daily
- 10 x Early Bird

In addition to retailers, myki cards are sold at Premium railway stations, online at myki.com.au and via Public Transport Victoria on 1800 800 007. Full fare passengers also have the option to buy at more than 400 myki machines, located at all metropolitan railway stations and some accessible tram stops and bus interchanges.

Mr Carolan said that early preparation should mean that most passengers make a smooth transition to myki.

“Significant work has taken place in recent months to ensure that passengers can ready themselves for switching to myki, with a number of customer education materials and face-to-face interaction with staff available to assist those who are unsure of what the change means for them,” Mr Carolan said.

“For the vast majority of people who currently buy these Metcards, getting a myki card and topping up with myki money means they will simply have to touch on and touch off when they travel to automatically pay the same fare they do now.

“I would encourage people to use the next few weeks to familiarise themselves with the many sales and top up options available and identify the best way for them to use myki.

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“People with unused trips on multi-use Metcards will be able to use them after 1 July and we encourage these people to then switch to myki.”

More than 80 per cent of Metcard ticket vending machines have now been permanently turned off across the train network and passengers should use up any Metcards they have left and then obtain a myki card.

The Government will make further announcements in due course about the withdrawal from sale of individual Metcards.

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Note to editors: Public Transport Victoria (PTV) provides a single point of contact for customers wanting information on public transport services, fares, tickets and initiatives. Customers can continue to call 13 6954 (13 myki) with myki enquiries and select the myki option after being immediately transferred to the PTV call centre menu.



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