

**The best way to reduce traffic congestion in cities is to provide a free public transport service. To what extent do you agree or disagree? Give your opinion and examples from your own experience.**

During the last five decades more and more people have moved to urban areas, resulting in traffic jams in big cities around the globe. Urban designers along with other specialists are trying to find an effective solution to this problem. Fortunately, despite the complexity of this issue not only ~~succeeded~~have the researchers ~~succeeded in to~~solving this problem to an acceptable level in many metropolitan roads, they also have found new solutions for ~~to be built~~building metropolitan areas called smart cities. In this essay, I attempt to elaborate on some practiced methods focusing on free modes of transportation, and at the end I will express my own stances in this controversial topic.

One of the most effective ways to control congestion in big cities was introduced in the mid ~~of~~ 1990s by the Japanese. This method was involved with fully subsidized means of transportation with HCV (High Capacity Vehicles). That the fare free public transit was a key way to solve congestion in many parts of Tokyo was an undeniable fact in those days. Jammed and tired of wasting so many hours in the congested highways, people around the world thought this is the ultimate solution, and fare free public means of transportation is the golden key to their locked roads.

Statistics on that time showed the average speed in the cities with free public transportation strikingly increased, and this was definitely a remarkable achievement in mass transit. This solution failed after car manufacturers introduced inspiringly seductive sales promotions. It was after the end of the cold war when the price of oil dramatically decreased and people changed d their environmentally friendly way of commuting and congestion of roads observed again on main roads of large cities. In spite of the drawbacks of using private vehicles such as air pollution, health-damaging and negative financial impact on society car owners were not willing to commute ~~with-by/via~~ free public transport any longer.

By way of conclusion, while subsidizing free public transportation definitely can mitigate the congestion on roads in crowded cities, I believe that enlightening people upon the damages of traffic jams on their lives seems more important. I opine that addressing this ever-growing issue requires more than just financial incentives. In other words, making people aware of the downsides of congested roads along with fare free transit can decidedly lead to a permanent solution.