

LETTERS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: CORRESPONDENT C

The Greater Nottingham Light Rapid Transit Advisory Committee (GNLRTAC).
c/o NET Project Office
Lawrence House
Talbot Street
Nottingham
NG1 5NT

Dear Nottingham Express Transit,

I'd like to commend you on your efforts on improving an already excellent transport system. Thanks to your efforts, Nottingham now has one of the greatest transports systems outside of London.

I'm writing concerning the introduction of the CityCard/'Pay as you go' Easyrider introduced a few years ago.

As I understand it the purpose behind the CityCard is to make it much easier for infrequent public transport users to use public transport more often. In many ways, this idea sounds very similar to the Oyster Card scheme in London which has been a great success for this very reason - people no longer need to carry exact change and can use it on the trams, buses, tubes etc.

I commend you on your rapid integration of the pay monthly Easyrider into the tram network, the problem is we now urgently need to see the same thing happen with the CityCard. The CityCard has now been in operation for a number of years and I find it inconceivable that a solution has still not been found to allow between the City Council, NCT, and NET to allow CityCard users the option of travelling on the tram.

There are many in Nottingham who work out of town once or twice a week. I'm one of them. In order for me to get to the train station, I've got to first find a cashpoint, get some change, and then drive to the park and ride site. The alternative for me would be to catch a bus into the City Centre, and then a tram to take me to the station. If I'm only travelling to somewhere within the region like Leicester or Derby, these extra steps may make it seem easier for me to simply drive. The ability to use the CityCard on the trams would make this process much easier, it would make the CityCard much more valuable to its users, and most importantly it would get more commuters out of their cars!

I am sure that I am not providing you with any new revelations. I'm sure that you will have already considered the benefits of the ability to use the CityCard on the tram. In fact I wrote to the City Council last year regarding integration with the tram and I was told that you were both actively seeking a solution.

So I ask, do you yet have any timescale as to when you expect CityCard users to be able to use the tram?

Once again, I commend you on your work so far and hope that you will continue to work on such innovative schemes for us here in Nottingham.