

Monday, May 5, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0536

Contact details

Name:

Robert Van Turnhout

Do you wish to speak to your submission at a public hearing?

No

Topic 1: Are we focusing on the right things in the plan?

Do you agree that these focus areas capture Otago's public transport priorities?

Yes

Tell us more:

Seems perfectly logical

Topic 2: Should we support community transport services in smaller towns and rural areas?

Our proposal: we are considering the establishment of a subsidised community transport programme providing support for transport services in Otago's smaller towns and rural areas.

What do you think about this proposal?

Do you agree with ORC having a role in supporting community transport services?

Yes

Are there other initiatives or programmes that you think Council should be considering?

No

Topic 3: Should we increase our passenger fares?

Our proposal: we are considering increasing the base fare for adult Bee Card passengers from \$2 to \$2.50. This would effectively increase bus fares for all passengers using Bee Cards by 25%.

What do you think about this proposal?

Should Council increase the adult Bee Card fare?

No

Tell us more:

In my community there are many low income households, in fact there are many households that live in sheds. The ability of people to afford to pay for parking and fuel to hold down a low paying or part time job in town is dependent on having a low cost bus service. Parking and fuel would make their incomes so low that the ability to work would become non-viable.

Topic 4: Should we charge more for longer trips?

Our proposal: we are considering introducing a zone fare system to our bus networks in Dunedin and Queenstown. Under this system, passengers travelling further distances across multiple zones will pay a higher fare than those travelling short distances within one zone.

What do you think about this proposal?

Should Council charge more for longer trips?

No

Tell us more:

Absolutely not. For all the reasons described. People live a bit further out of town to make living affordable so any increased costs would make life a lot harder for those people.

Topic 5: Should we keep our free fares for children (5-12 years)?

Our proposal:

- A. Retain free fares (100% discount) for children (5-12 years), **AND**
- B. Standardise our concession discount for youth (13-18 years) to 40% across both the Dunedin and Queenstown networks. For example, if the adult fare is \$2, youth pay \$1.20, or if the adult fare is \$2.50, youth pay \$1.50.

What do you think about this proposal?

Should Council retain free fares (100% discount) for children (5-12 years)?

Yes

Tell us more:

Absolutely. If you have 2-3 children at school as I did years ago (when the cost was \$10.00 per child each way per day or \$100 per week). 2-3 kids at school then was non-viable as it was cheaper to drive them into

town. I do not want this situation again.

Any other comments?

Let us know if you have any other comments or ideas on the topics discussed in the Draft Regional Public Transport Plan.

It would be good to get the bus service to Palmerston to actually WORK! There is currently not enough time for the buses to make the trip and the 6pm bus is always late by 15-35 minutes. Having people sit out or stand in the cold and dark winter nights until 6:30pm or (40 minute wait for late bus) is completely unacceptable.

Also the fact that people have to stand up in a bus doing 90km/hr is surely a violation of OSH rules. Any crash at that speed with people in the aisle will be carnage. It's completely unacceptable.