

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0057

Contact details

Name:

Ralph-Peter Hendriks

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?

No

Tell us more:

Focus the basics. Make sure buses are comfortable and warm. I have struck unheated buses on the Port Chalmers line many times.

Many bus drivers drive like they drive their own car. Very few seem to have good balance between speed and comfort. Many drive too fast. Also, quite a few too slow. Make sure you teach drivers to drive smoothly, not too slow, not too fast.

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?

Yes

Tell us more:

Allow dogs on buses, on a leash, at all times, like in Europe.

Make sure we can take bikes on buses again as soon as possible (before winter).

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:

Keep fees low to encourage people on buses. I think there is a case for free public transport. Would save you having to set up expensive payment systems.

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?

Yes

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

Should Council standardise our concession discount for youth (13-18 years) to 40% across both the Dunedin and Queenstown networks?

Yes

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.

Hand buses over to DCC. It makes no sense for the ORC to manage Dunedin buses. ORC should deal with issues that are Otago-wide, like rivers and air, not local public transport.