

Monday, March 24, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0023

Contact details

Name:

Astrid Erasmuson

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:

Transitioning to an electric fleet in Dunedin would be great because our current buses seem to be old and break down frequently (doors jam or engine trouble).
Increasing frequency to 15 minutes of well traveled routes also makes sense however it appears Port Chalmers is not on that list - during Cruise season having 15 minute buses would make locals happier and more tolerant of cruisers, and move more people from port to town (and back at the end of the day).
Please consider upping bus frequency during cruise season/hours on this route!!!

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

Tell us more:

Links from small rural areas would help elderly and young people in those areas feel connected to wider Dunedin. Costs need to be reasonable though.

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?

Yes

Tell us more:

I would support an increase in bus fare to 2.50 per trip.

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:

Under the old zone system a trip from Port Chalmers to Polytech was over \$6 per trip, where it cost me approximately \$3 per trip to drive that distance in a private vehicle. I did not use the bus for transport at that time because it made zero financial sense.

Zoned fares would ensure lost patronage on Port & Mosgiel routes.

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?