

Monday, March 24, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0020

Contact details

Name:

Mike Wheeler

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:

I think school transport should be a priority
Specifically at school bus times that would allow direct transport to a school (or schools) and avoid the bus hub transition
This would remove a large number of cars doing the school drop off from our roads and reduce congestion and emissions

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:

Dedicated school busses

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 think you should increase to \$3

But make all school student fares free all the way to year 13 (at least during school week) allowing public transport up to year 13 to be free all year round you will change their behaviour as young adults and drive future generations to use public transport more

I am all for subsidising those with a community services card back to \$2 as well

While I do not know the exact make up of child/youth/CSC/adults I think an in depth review of this would allow a better costing for this

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:

Apart from the no1 bus to Palmerston the zones are very small in comparison to other cities Dunedin and Queenstown should remain one zone

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:

Building this habit from a young age is important

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

No

Tell us more:

You should expand the free free to year 13

Once an adult they're earning a wage or benefit and can afford the \$2-3 fare

When a student at high school that's when they'll be forming habits they will use for their lifetime

An example is my friend who went to wellington college and would bus every day

He was forced to get his licence at university because the public bus in dunedin was terrible (2002)

He bought a scooter to take his surfboard to st Clair

He still to this day uses public transport in Brisbane and his bike as a primary mode of transport

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.

Please expand free public transport to the youth so they can develop better habits and as they age public transport will be better used