

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID RPTP-0238

Contact details

Name: Michel Herde

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

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:

Connect small communities better to larger towns

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 it as cheap as possible and pay balance through rates (increases) instead.

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

Tell us more:

But don't introduce too many zones. Possibly just 2. Within Dunedin, and going beyond (e.g. Waitati).

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.

Electrifying the fleet is great, but please consider making the busses less grunty in terms of acceleration. Many bus drivers around Dunedin don't seem to be very capable of handling their huge vehicles appropriately and safe for all other road users. They essential drive them like normal cars, accelerating and breaking sharply, and going around corners very fast, often cutting them. This is uncomfortable/dangerous for the passengers being thrown around inside, and dangerous for cyclists and pedestrians in the road. The old slow combustion engine busses were not quite as prone to revealing poor driving skills.

There are devices which can be retrofitted essentially dampening the reactivity of the accelerator pedal. And please give your bus drivers driving lessons and instructions they need to adhere to and show them how to use a steering wheel. I observe busses dangerously cutting corners unnecessarily on a daily basis.