Why are changes being made and what are they for?

They’re part of a programme of changes being made over several years. This is the third and largest stage of changes.

The changes were first outlined in 2014 in the Otago Regional Public Transport Plan—a plan that signalled a fundamental shift in our approach to public transport in Otago.

If your bus route changed already in 2015 or 2016, you won’t see many changes. Most other routes will have changes in keeping with the principles of the Public Transport Plan.

What are the changes for?

The changes have at their heart buses that come more often and get you where you’re going faster.

Routes with changes will be more direct, and we’re moving towards getting most urban peak services running every 15, 20 or 30 minutes.

Almost all routes will be same every time, without variations— even in evenings and weekends.

Where does the bus hub come into it?

The bus hub is also part of the changes first outlined in the Public Transport Plan. Combined with the principles of more direct services, reduced journey time, and buses that come more often, its planned to help open up the whole network by making transfers from one service to another more straightforward.

We intend to publish a new bus timetable booklet with the planned bus hub.

Why are some routes going out of service?

Main network

One weekday route (Maori Hill Roslyn, 66/67) is going out of service on 18 September. The associated evening and weekend routes (68,69) will go out of service too. Some other evening and weekend services will also go, where they are replaced by extended hours on main routes.

Potential alternatives for current users of route 66/67:

- The Ridge Runner will travel along Highgate via the Roslyn shops, down Warrender St, onto George St to the Gardens, then down to the campus.
  Frequency: every 30 minutes both directions at peak times, hourly off-peak.
- Ridge Runner will also open up direct access from Roslyn/Maori Hill to Mornington, Belleknowes, the Glen and South Dunedin.
- Route 50 will run via Maori Hill
- Four routes run up Stuart St and under the Highgate overbridge at Roslyn

For help with planning your travels, call 03 474 0287.

School services

School bus routes 48A and 51C are going out of service.

48A is the Logan Park High School to Maori Hill service; 51C is the Logan Park High School to Wakari service.

As we work through the stages of implementing the new bus network, Otago Regional Council contracted services are being integrated with the main network. These changes will mean that for some school students, the walk to the bus stop may be longer; or there could be a need to transfer between services.

For help with planning journeys to and from school, call 03 474 0287.

What else is new for 2017?

- You’ll find bike racks on the front of every urban bus service.
- Free wifi – stay tuned, this is coming soon.
- A dedicated Otago Regional Council Bus Services facebook page.
- 2018 and beyond
- Online top-ups with a new ticketing system.
- Real time tracking of your bus on your mobile phone.

All routes

- SAME ROUTE
- CYCLE RACKS
- MORE DIRECT
- INCREASED & MORE REGULAR FREQUENCY

Some routes

- 7 DAYS, ALL DAY ON URBAN ROUTES

Plus

- RIDGE RUNNER- NEW SUBURB CONNECTOR SERVICE

NEED HELP? CALL OUR BUS HELPLINE ON 03 474 0287
OR HEAD TO: OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL BUS SERVICES
8am - 5.30pm Mon - Fri
9am - 5pm Weekends.
Introducing the Ridge Runner

The Ridge Runner is an entirely new route and will be a key part of the network structure.

The Ridge Runner will skirt the hills just above the Town Belt, dropping down to the flat at both ends of the route (campus and the Hills Road-Andersens Bay Road corner).

Though it isn’t a complete circle, the Ridge Runner is essentially an ‘orbit’ service — designed to connect urban bus routes that span out from a single central point. It will intersect almost all of Dunedin’s urban services. Together with the planned bus hub, the Ridge Runner will be a key part of the planned bus hub, the Ridge Runner service to service opening up journeys across the whole network.

Ridge Runner in brief

- Every 30 mins during the day
- Commuter times geared to make it easier to ‘connect the dots’ with easier transfer points from service to service opening up journeys across the whole network.
- Name has changed but not the route
- New hourly evening and weekend services following the weekday routes

Main network

One main weekday route on the main network is going out of service — Roslyn Maori Hill 65/67. More details on the back.

School services

Two school bus services are going out of service — 48A and 51C. More details on the back.