

Monday, March 24, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0039

Contact details

Name:

Amelie A

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:

I like the idea of ORC contributing to funding for Trusts to help with transport in smaller centers but it will depend on the costs to the overall rate payers. In the current context of ORC wanting to increase revenues, it may not be the optimal time to do so. Also I d still think it should be public transport rather than

personal, for the environmental side.

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:

Increasing to \$2.50 will probably be ok but for people using it to commute everyday it will be a significant increase across the year so there is a risk that less people take the bus again and we will all lose with less revenue and more cars on the road again. If at all possible, I'd say avoid it though!

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?

Tell us more:

I said no because you do not say at all how much fares would be so I cannot say whether I can support or not. In general, it is probably not a bad thing if the fare remains affordable and not too much higher.

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?

No

Tell us more:

Dunedin has a poorer population overall than Queenstown so it seems like a good thing helping out youth there to go to schools, activities, jobs seems like a good thing.

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.**

Making sure people can get their bikes on the bus would be a priority, especially for the longest routes as this is a best commute way.

The plan should reference to the analyses of current and historical state of buses (usage, numbers) and financial analyses. Without these all the expensive writing is not robust if it is not supported by evidence.