

Saturday, March 29, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0117

Contact details

Name:

Kate Whitehall

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:

Buses cannot drive earlier than the planned time by a bus stop, they will have to wait until it's time. We also like an extra bus Arthurs Point to town around school times. It's ridiculous that there is no 8.15am and 8.30am bus for parents who work in town and like to take the bus in as well - please add these to the route. Also extra buses at 3.15pm and 3.30pm (as the 3.38 bus is always very late it makes waiting time back towards Arthurs Point very long for children).

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:

Extra buses around community programs and potentially extra bus stops or change routes so there is easier access to activities, certainly with connecting routes from one bus to another.

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:

Yes, as long as this reflects to buses being on time as much as possible and adding some extra times on certain routes. Probably drivers can appreciate an extra pay (and potentially break, we wonder if some drivers actually get a break)

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:

It will discriminate to those living in cheaper neighbourhoods further away from town. It also takes away people using public transport when friends live further away. Some people do not drive for many different reasons. Public transport should encourage everyone for every budget. It's also better for the environment to have more people on a bus. Perhaps consider a pass for locals or NZ residents (just don't exclude those actually being on certain visas and working here)

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:

It won't be cheaper for a family to pay for children. I reckon even youth should be free (up to 18yr) or otherwise keep discounted prices for youth

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.

Work around primary school times with what bus times are offered and ensure buses are on time (not leaving early) and reliable (not coming at all).