

Monday, April 28, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0374

Contact details

Name:

Amy Wong

Organisation (if applicable):

Fernhill Sunshine Bay Community Association

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:

Ensuring there is a bus stop close to the hospital or other medical services. Currently the only stop near

the Lakes district hospital is at the airport which is too far for some patients to be able to walk from. A stop on demand stop would suffice.

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:

No as the \$2 fare is very attractive to engage bus users from our area, any more would seem to much of an increase when traveling for a short distance from Fernhill/Sunshine bay to town. Also while there is no high school bus any increase will impact the wider community.

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:

Again the \$2 fare is an attractive price to pay for a bus trip to encourage residents to leave their cars at home. Again this would have major impact on those that need to travel from Fernhill/Sunshine Bay to Frankton and again significantly impact the high school students as there is no school bus.

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:

This encourages people to leave the cars as the public bus is an great option to get kids around the district.

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

Yes

Tell us more:

This should be a set fee (\$1.40) for youth as if distance pricing is applied this could still then increase the commute for highschool students due to the lack of school bus.

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.

There are issues in the Queenstown area with school students not giving fair and equal access to the bus transport. This is the lack of school bus from Fernhill/Sunshine Bay area to the highschool as well as the inequitable treatment of highschool students over the general public when they have to use the bus. There is also a lack of shelters for busy bus routes (High school and Steamer Wharf). It would also be great to see the bike racks back on the buses as soon as possible as this is heavily used by our residents. Over all the community appreciates the bus service from the area as there are multiple stops with a great schedule and allows quick and easy access to the district.