

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0449

Contact details

Name:

Jane Schofield

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:

I am concerned about an increase in fares to the buses running to the outskirts and beyond Dunedin. If zones come into use and the cost of a trip to town increases, something in my already tight budget will have to go, the only flexible cost in our household is food. I will be in a position where I am forced to reallocate a portion of that already limited fund to getting my kids to school. Please keep it affordable for households who have more than one person using the transport system. I believe an increase in fees will make school attendance difficult for families and limit opportunities available for rural people.

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

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:

So long as you do not bring in zones a flat adult rate of \$2.50 is fair and affordable although many people are doing it hard with the current increasing costs of living. I would hope a discount would be available to those with gold card or community services card.

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:

I am concerned about an increase in fares to the buses running to the outskirts and beyond Dunedin. If zones come into use and the cost of a trip to town increases, something in my already tight budget will have to go, the only flexible cost in our household is food. I will be in a position where I am forced to reallocate a portion of that already limited fund to getting my kids to school. Please keep it affordable for households who have more than one person using the transport system. I believe an increase in fees will make school attendance difficult for families and limit opportunities available for rural people.

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?