

Friday, May 2, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0479

Contact details

Name:

Mayor Gary Kircher

Organisation (if applicable):

Waitaki District Council

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?

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?

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?

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?

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?

Any other comments?



Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

Growing strong communities.

1 May 2025

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Dear Madam

Submission to Otago Regional Council Draft Public Transport Plan 2025-35

Waitaki District Council (WDC) makes the following submissions in response to the Otago Regional Council's (ORC's) Draft Public Transport Plan:

1. Focus areas

WDC supports the focus areas in the plan but suggests the following changes to better reflect Otago's public transport priorities:

1. **Passenger Experience:** Provide public transport services that promote social inclusion and respect the safety and wellbeing of all passengers. ~~, particularly for transport-disadvantaged people.~~
2. ~~Aligning with community needs and priorities~~ **Build trust:** Proactively engage with communities and organisations, including iwi, to foster trust and ensure public transport projects meet local demand and align with community priorities.
3. **Environmental Sustainability:** Invest in a public transport system that reduces reliance on private vehicles, promotes positive environmental outcomes and supports sustainable urban planning and development. ~~regarding greenhouse gas emissions, pollutants and land use~~
4. **A-Connected and integrated network:** Deliver a reliable and convenient public transport system that improves personal freedom, supports local economies and enhances community resilience. ~~and access to opportunities.~~
5. ~~Cost effectiveness: Value for money:~~ **Value for money:** Provide public transport services in a manner that represents good value for money.

2. Supporting community transport services in smaller towns and rural areas

WDC has strongly advocated to ORC for public transport opportunities in the Waitaki district.

- ✓ WDC supports ORC's ongoing support for the Total Mobility programme, providing opportunities for door-to-door public transport for disabled people in Ōamaru.

- ✓ WDC supports the current regional service between Dunedin and Palmerston.

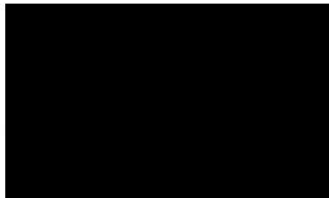
3. Aspirations

- ✓ WDC endorses ORC's role in supporting community transport services. One example relevant in the Waitaki district is providing public transport options to access hospital services in Dunedin.
- ✓ WDC supports the implementation of daily services between Ōamaru and Dunedin via Palmerston.
- ✓ WDC supports the implementation of a fixed route urban connector service between Weston and Ōamaru North via South Hill.
- ✓ WDC supports the implementation of an on-demand service between Ōamaru North and Ōamaru CBD.

Conclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on Otago Regional Council's Draft Public Transport Plan 2025-35. We do not wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Yours sincerely



Mayor for Waitaki

Person for Contact:

