

Friday, March 28, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0100

Contact details

Name:

Deirdre Caswell

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?

No

Tell us more:

Currently the number 3 bus service to Ocean Grove / Ross Creek is woefully unreliable. There have been numerous times the bus has not arrived and the 'realtime' tracking app does not show anything. It is not ok to be left standing at a bus stop at 651am in the dark and the bus doesn't show up. There are numerous stop along this route with no lighting so passengers have to signal drivers with their cellphone light, how is this acceptable?

The bus service currently runs every half hour and when it is running, 9 times out of 10 the bus is late, especially around 250pm onwards.

I catch the bus everyday as I don't want to drive into town for work but the unreliability of the number 3 means that's I am often late for work and am certainly late returning home. It's not good enough.

The cost is fine, if it needs putting up, put it up, leave the children's fare alone and for school students, just get the service running reliably.

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:

Getting the busses to run on time!

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:

If it means that drivers can be paid a living wage then definitely.

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:

Up the dare but leave it at a flat rate, people can't help where they live, don't make it a barrier for catching the 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:

We want to encourage people on buses not turn them off

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

Yes

Tell us more:

So many high school children and their families rely on the bus, don't make it harder than it is

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.

Get the services running on time. I think I'm getting to know the lovely young lady who answers the phone when I ring to ask where the bus is. It is not a seamless experience if you live out in the number 3 route and it's not equitable for your passengers