

Monday, April 21, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID RPTP-0284

Contact details

Name: Nereida Gomez

Do you wish to speak to your submission at a public hearing?

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?

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?

Are there other initiatives or programmes that you think Council should be considering?

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:

If you want people to use public transport services, you shouldn't increase the price. Raising fares would likely push people to use their cars instead, since driving becomes a more convenient and cost-effective option. For example, a return trip on public transport might cost a minimum of \$5, which is about the same as what many spend on fuel for a single journey. If public transport is meant to reduce traffic and emissions, keeping it affordable is key

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:

Increasing public transport fares would make commuting more difficult for those who rely on it the most—students, low-income workers, and people without access to a car. For many, even a small fare hike can make a big difference in their monthly budget. Public transport should be seen as a public good, not just a service for profit. If the goal is to reduce traffic, emissions, and promote equal access to mobility, then keeping fares low, makes much more sense. Raising prices only deepens inequality and discourages the shift away from car dependency

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?