

Monday, March 31, 2025

# Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0140

## Contact details

Name:

Lin Moir

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:

Thanks to Mr Peters I have free access to the buses at certain times of the day. I use the buses two days a week regularly, sometimes more. I am very impressed with the drivers. All are courteous and often put themselves out to assist less able people than themselves.

While on holiday in Nelson I was able to use the Bee card to ride on their buses. Many, if not all, there are electric and very nice and clean. I presume that is the way that the ORC intend to go, towards becoming more environmentally friendly. I applaud that suggestion.

I had heard, possibly incorrectly, that we would soon be able to use the Bee Card or another card to access public transport New Zealand wide. Subsequently I was expecting this to happen within a year or two. No doubt you have more knowledge of this than I do.

Many thanks for the opportunity to comment.

## 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:**

Possibility of a national bus pass, as referred to earlier?

### 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?**

**Tell us more:**

Given that I have some free travel times, I am reluctant to comment on this issue. Obviously buses are intended for those that cannot afford to run their own vehicles, with a side effect of saving our roads and environment.

### 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

### 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

**Tell us more:**

but I would hope that drivers would be allowed some discretion and would not leave young people on the side of the road at night, if their safety was an issue.

**Any other comments?**