

Wednesday, April 23, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID RPTP-0300

Contact details

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Organisation (if applicable): Central Lakes Breastfeeding Charitable Trust

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?

Tell us more:

Bus services between Hawea and Wanaka. Many families live in Hawea reliant on one car resulting in

social isolation and disadvantaged for those parents and babies.

There is a large and growing population of mothers living in Hanleys farm with no transport optipn. A more regular bus, with options to go direct to QT would build confidence in he system. However there is much anxiety about travelling on a public bus with no seat belts on a 100km/hr road, the speed limit does need to be reduced. This applies to all major roads in Queenstown (CLBCT appreciates this is not the domain of ORC).

For Arrowtown/QT bus many parents would prefer a circular route, e.g so they can get to Arthur's Point from Shotover without having to change .

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:

Please do everything you can to retain the cheaper fares. Consider a season card for commuters. Consider extending free rides for parents with children under five, or at least with babies. Travelling by bus for caregivers with young children can be a game changer- can parent, feed, cuddle, talk etc on the bus and infant restraint not needed, babies can stay asleep in baby wearer or lying flat in the bassinet

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:

It would be fare to pay a bit more, so long as it doesn't put people off using the bus. Cheaper fares do help us feel more connected now. Arrowtown families now need to travel to either Shotover country or Remarkables Park to see a GP. Families with young children in arrowtown are really excited about a direct bus between QT and Arrowtown via Arthur's Point.

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:

Children MUST travel for free. Many parents take their children to school on the bus and carry on to work. It is even better now that buses can take bikes again. Some parents ride on the bus to school then carry on to work on their bike.

All children aged under 18 need to ride for free.

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

Yes

Tell us more:

I would like an unsure option for this question.

Our preference is for all children under 18 to ride for free. It is the safest way to travel and will see a reduction in car crashes for younger people .

There is also a need to de-stigmatise bus travel. Many new parents in the region view car travel as a status symbol and something to aspire to.

It would be great to see a campaign (such as images of mums and buns / school children using the buses)

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.

Please ask QLDC/ NZSTA to review speed limits on bus routes and also install bus stops on Ladies Mile- near stalker Road.

A scheduled focus on different user groups could be really useful to drill down into how to maximise what is currently available.

Thank you for all your work to make the buses/ public transport as accessible as you can.