

Saturday, April 19, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0272

Contact details

Name:

Jason Keane

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:

Passenger Experience:

1. We were promised real-time tracking. But from recent experience this is rather hit or miss.
2. Buses often run early, so we miss them. Then have to wait 1 hour in the weekends for the next service. It's times like this I get very resentful as a regional tax payer.

Environmentally Sustainable:

1. Buses at "Off peak" times often have less than 30 percent passenger loading. How is that sustainable from an environmental or financial perspective?
2. The Dunedin Ridge Runner service is often under utilised. I can understand running it a peak times (before and after school) but not evenings and weekends. Did we not built a hub to facilitate random point to point commutes?

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?

No

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

Yes

Tell us more:

Central Government should be paying for the not viable community transportation needs. Otherwise credit the council with a rebate (to offset private share targets) they are forcing the ORC to meet.

Cash top ups on buses make the drivers targets for robbery. Why not have Beecard top up locations around the city e.g. Nite n Day store in Octagon

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:

- Increase for "Peak periods" only.
- Keep "Off Peak periods" the same price as now, to incentivise people filling the buses in the evenings and weekend. Thus forming a habit of using public transportation
- No price increases for lower socioeconomic areas I.e. South Dunedin

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?

Yes

Tell us more:

The Palmerston service is way under priced when indexed against current fuel prices at the pump. I'm not happy about subsidising a service for people who decide to live in the outskirts of the city. Those long distance users should be contributing more to "their" bus route.

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)?

No

Tell us more:

\$1 for everyone between the ages of 5 - 12. This also allows for capturing revenue from visitors to the city (cruise ship etc)

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

No

Tell us more:

50% off for those that have school. Polytechnic & University ID cards

Then \$2 everyone else in that age bracket.

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.

- Introduce Demerit points for bus operators that don't deliver on their contractual obligations. That is, late running services early running services or missed runs altogether.
- Introduce a means of easily reporting missed, late or early services to ORC. Example, via an app or text message.