

Saturday, April 5, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0183

Contact details

Name:

Ilene Lumsden

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

Yes

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

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

Tell us more:

I think it's a great idea to support community groups to get their transport needs met. People living rurally, with differing mobility needs, or needing public transport outside of normal operating hours - they can be included too. Great to know the ORC wants to help community groups by offering a subsidy service to those who are helping others perhaps at their own cost.

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:

I absolutely love the Community Connect concession on my Bee card, which gets me \$1 fares. I'm a beneficiary living with a disability, and this is the main thing that ensures I can do that, and I'm so grateful for that.

I could pay \$1.25 instead of \$1 for each trip and still afford to get where I need to go each week, I think.

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:

A few times a week, I go across town from Wakari to South Dunedin or Anderson's Bay. I am grateful for the flat rate and fare transfer from one bus to another during those trips and I would be so happy if that didn't change.

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:

It's a great way of making sure kids can travel safely no matter what. I don't like the thought of kids dealing with long distances, bad weather, being unsafe, late to school, absent from school, or they can't get home because transport is a factor.

I'd love for the ORC to help us all make sure kids and parents don't have to worry about those things, because I imagine that's a lifeline for many families.

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

No

Tell us more:

I'm not an expert, but I believe that with differing populations and levels of household income, Dunedin needs a different youth subsidy to Queenstown. I think we have more high schools and students here, and I hope that the frequency of their bus rides could justify that, and still cover costs.

Any other comments?