

Monday, April 28, 2025

# Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0353

## Contact details

Name:

Kathryn Bennett

Organisation (if applicable):

Age Concern Otago - Waitaki

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

## 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:

Enhancing regional connectivity and community transport between Oamaru and Dunedin is vitally

important for seniors in terms of accessing healthcare/hospital appointments. At the moment, there is a huge barrier for seniors to access these services due to no community transport/regional connectivity. Link in with St John to provide a community health shuttle between Oamaru and Dunedin. Need to be able to provide an affordable option for people from the upper Waitaki Valley to access Oamaru/Dunedin.

### 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:**

25% seems a high percentage increase.

### 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:**

Please also allow for a discounted senior rate for longer trips.

### 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?**

**Let us know if you have any other comments or ideas on the topics discussed in the Draft Regional Public Transport Plan.**

In Oamaru, please consider bus services between outlying regions: Oamaru to Kakanui; Weston; Hampden; Herbert; Maheno