

Monday, March 31, 2025

# Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0141

## Contact details

Name:

Jonathon Holmes-Welsh

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:**

Many bus stops including main ones in Queenstown such as steamer wharf have no seating or shelter, a big priority should be upgrading those. The frankton bus hub could do with being fully enclosed with a glass roof and more seating as well as rubbish bins. The steamer wharf one is always extremely busy and with no seats or shelter people often have to crowd the real nz office to keep dry when it's raining. Along with this being such a heavy tourist destination I feel that it would be a great incentive to add digital bus signs such as Christchurch and Dunedin have showing when the bus is coming. This would make it easier for when there's service delays ect.

## 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:**

It would be extremely handy to have a hourly service to Wanaka like Dunedin does with Palmerston

### 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:**

As a daily user of the bus service I believe higher prices will draw less people away from using them. Queenstown is already extremely expensive to live in and I feel a lot of us young ones working paying an arm and a leg couldn't afford another price increase. Along with this many of the stops need shelter and seat upgrades and it doesn't seem right to pay more if the infrastructure is already limited .

### 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:**

I believe this will result in less people taking those services eventually leading to them being spaced out by a hour or being canceled all together.

### 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.**

I'd really love to see the main bus stops such as Frankton and Steamer Wharf upgraded with more seating, shelter, digital bus signs ect