

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

# Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0416

## Contact details

Name:

Lana Cruickshank

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:**

Could consider the provision of a digital platform that supports carpooling and ride shares. Also look into a bike-share scheme - a 'bike library'. This would encourage active travel for those who are physically able and willing but don't own a bike or have the means to buy one.

## 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 say yes but a 25% increase for some may be a major consideration. For others it may appear reasonable. Could you consider subsidies for those that need it (if you don't already).

## 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:**

I think this is fine and aligns with the method used by many transport operators globally. Typically the housing cost the further from amenities decreases, and thus transport costs increase. Just as if you were driving a car -the further you live the higher the fuel costs. However zone fares must account for total passenger use i.e. the increased fares are split evenly based on average patronage for that particular zone (on any given trip). Otherwise the revenue margin may become unreasonable if patronage becomes very high.

## 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:**

Wholeheartedly agree that this sends a great message to youth and will encourage a lifetime of better transport choices. It makes it much more affordable for families that travel too.

**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've said yes however I'm indifferent because I'm not familiar with the needs and barriers in Dunedin

## 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.**

Many other modes to consider other than just buses.