

Sunday, April 27, 2025

Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID

RPTP-0340

Contact details

Name:

Jay Cooper

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

Tell us more:

Simple fair fares, if we want less cars on the roads and more people utilising public transport then it needs to be good, reliable, safe transport

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:

Rural transport is so important to help rural families engage in city life. I think school transport is also important to have as part of the discussions. If possible these should be separate entities. It's getting unreasonable to allow rowdy school students share buses with our elderly community, and can be unsafe for both parties

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 think 2.50 is still a reasonable price for buses, but it should be transparent what the fees increase is to cover

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 longer you are on the bus, the more expensive the fare should be, excluding school students who I think should be covered for the entirety of their journey to and from. School

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:

I think it's reasonable to charge a small fee for students and have a student rate across the board

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

Yes

Tell us more:

Concession discount should certainly apply

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.

Look forward to seeing what the ORC has planned, importantly a focus on getting people out of cars and on to buses should be the goal