Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035 Feedback form

Unique ID   RPTP-0148

Contact details

Name: Michelle Watt

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

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:

I dont have a car, and my daughter and I rely on public transport. Although I work full time, the increased costs of living are really impacting on us. Having affordable public transport means we can travel around town, participate in community events, get to work and school, and generally improves the quality of our lives.

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:

It is good to have the freedom to travel across the city without additional costs. Increasing fares for longer journeys means we will not go to the beach, not visit Mosgiel or other areas. This will have a flow on impact on community events.

Folks will be disadvantaged as some have moved away from the city center to find cheaper rents and now may face increased bus costs

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:

Yes increasing this amount would impact on my child being able to travel to school, to after school activities and to friends.

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

Yes

Tell us more:

Yes fairness

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 have chosen to not have a car and depend on public transport for myself and my teen daughter. It is already financially tough and to increase transport costs will have an impact on us even though I work full time. Costs keep increasing and it seems working folks always seem to bear the brunt of increased costs, we don't have community services cards to get subsidies, and this is just another financial pressure. It means we will need to limit the number of trips we take and our weekend trips around the city will need to be limited, and this will have an impact on using city facilities such as parks etc., attending community events and meeting up with friends - impacting on our wellbeing. I love to visit many of Dunedin's walking tracks and catch buses to all different parts of Dunedin, I just won't be able to afford to do this if prices increase in future.

Also