

# The Regional Public Transport Plan in summary

*A well-used public transport system is fundamental to the success of Otago. It is critical that we have a plan to identify public transport needs and opportunities and set out the means to deliver those.*

The Otago Regional Public Transport Plan (RPTP) is a strategic document that guides the planning and delivery of public transport services and infrastructure in Otago. It sets out the changes to our public transport system for the next 10 years from 2021 to 2031.

This draft RPTP includes our vision for public transport in Otago and the five objectives that will guide implementation of this Plan.

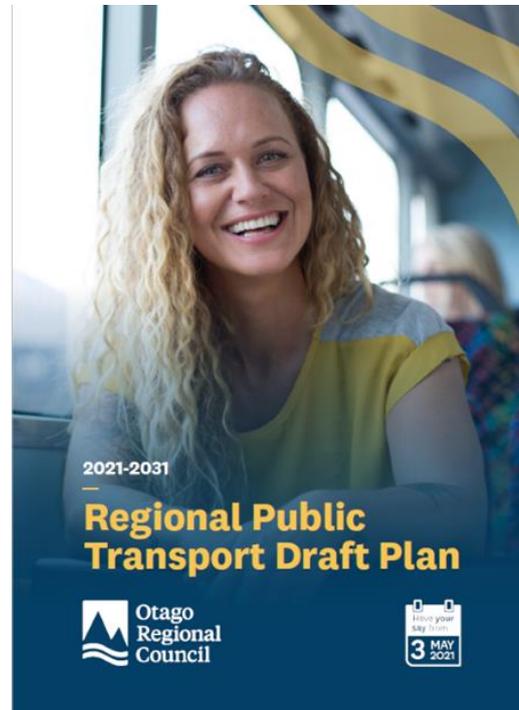
These objectives will help achieve the vision, whilst reflecting the issues which have been identified through consultation, and wider national, regional, and local policy context.

The objectives form the basis of the policies, which are described in the last part of the plan.

## **Progress Since the Last Plan**

Our focus since the last RPTP was written in 2014, has been on improving customer service. We have:

- Implemented new routes and services in Dunedin and Queenstown to provide better network coverage and frequency;
- Opened the Dunedin Central City Bus Hub;
- Provided frequent community engagement events to listen to feedback from our community on the changes made in the last plan;
- Introduced a new route into Queenstown;



- Rolled out the new Bee Card ticketing system on both networks with about 43,000 registered cards when going to print;
- Provided free services for a series of events including major community events such as the
- Dunedin's New Year Fireworks and Waitangi Day celebrations at Ōtākou Marae;
- Launched real time passenger information in Queenstown;
- Provided free buses during and after COVID-19 Alert Level 4 lockdown with an additional several months free travel for SuperGold Card holders in Queenstown and Dunedin;
- Improved communication services including a handy fold-out network map, dedicated button on Dunedin's My Little Local App and the On Board with Orbus newsletter;
- Introduced an interim single zone structure with a \$2 flat fare in Dunedin;
- Supported a Lake Wakatipu ferry service;
- Undertaken significant planning for future public transport infrastructure required with approval of relevant business cases;
- Supported total mobility customers, including moving to an electronically based system and new hoists into total mobility accessible vehicles.

## **The Challenges We Are Facing**

We identified several challenges with key stakeholders that need to be addressed:

- Reduce the impact on the environment;
- Increase access to the public transport system;
- Make public transport more attractive for users;
- Make the public transport changes required in a constrained funding environment

## Our Vision for Public Transport

Inclusive, accessible, and innovative public transport that connects Otago and contributes positively to our community, environment and economy.

To support this Vision, key priorities identified are (Figure 1):

- Improve the customer experience with the goal that more people choose to use public transport, more often;
- Improve environmental health by supporting the introduction of zero emission vehicles into the fleet to reduce greenhouse gas and particulate matter emissions;
- Capitalise on new technology and opportunities for innovation; and
- Be cost effective such that the improvements to public transport provide value for money and ensure that the right investments are in place at the right time for the greatest number of current and potential users.



## Achieving This Vision

Five objectives will guide implementation of this Plan. These objectives will help achieve the vision, whilst reflecting the issues which have been identified through consultation, and wider national, regional, and local policy context.

The objectives form the basis of the policies, which are described in the last part of the plan from page 45.

### **Objective One**

Contribute to carbon reduction and improved air quality through increased public transport mode share and sustainable fleet options.

### **Objective Two**

Deliver an integrated Otago public transport network of infrastructure, services and land use that increases choice, improves network connectivity and contributes to social and economic prosperity.

### **Objective Three**

Develop a public transport system that is adaptable and able to effectively respond to change.

### **Objective Four**

Establish a public transport system that is safe, accessible, provides a high-quality experience that retains existing customers, attracts new customers and achieves high levels of satisfaction.

### **Objective Five**

Deliver fares that are affordable for both users and communities.

## **Next steps**

The draft of this 10-year Regional Public Transport plan is open for consultation for three weeks from Monday 3 May, 2021 from 12pm until Monday 24 May, 2021, 12pm.

Hearings will take place from week commencing 31 May, 2021.

Once this feedback is received, the plan will be updated to reflect community feedback. A final RPTP is scheduled to be complete by July 2021.

## **Submissions**

Submissions must be received by 12 pm, Monday 24th May, 2021.

Complete these online at <https://yoursay.orc.govt.nz/rptp-2021-31> or send to Otago Regional Council:

Private Bag 1954

Dunedin 9054

Facsimile: 03 479 0015

Email: [RPTP2021@orc.govt.nz](mailto:RPTP2021@orc.govt.nz)

## **Need help?**

Otago Regional Council - Freephone on 03 474 0827 or phone 0800 474 082

## Acknowledgements

Otago Regional Council has engaged with a number of stakeholders in preparing this draft RPTP, and would like to thank them for their contribution.



*In alphabetical order*

- Anglican Family Care
- Arrowtown Village Association
- Blind Citizens Otago
- Blind Low Vision
- Bus User Support Group Otepoti (Bus Go)
- Central Otago District Council
- Clutha District Council
- Destination Queenstown
- Disability Information Services
- Dunedin City Council
- Frankton Community Association
- Grey Power Dunedin
- Jacks Point Residents Association
- Otago Chamber of Commerce
- Otago Deaf Society
- Otago Peninsula Community Board
- Otago University Students Association (OUSA)
- Queenstown Lakes District Council
- South Dunedin Community Network
- Spokes
- The Disabled Persons Assembly
- Trails Trust
- Waikouaiti Community Board
- Waitaki District Council
- Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency
- West Harbour Community Board