

Regional Public Transport Plan



The Invercargill City Council is seeking your feedback on its proposed Regional Public Transport Plan. We are looking for your views and suggestions on the route changes, new fare structure, changes to Total Mobility and any areas where you believe the coverage of bus travel should be improved and why.

What is a Regional Public Transport Plan?

The Regional Public Transport Plan is a strategy document which sets out the intentions and policies for how the Public Transport (buses) and subsidised Total Mobility Scheme will operate over the next three years in the Southland region. It shows what it costs, where the money comes from, the levels of service expected and what is likely to change over that period. At present, approximately 199,000 bus trips are taken, along with 54,000 subsidised total mobility trips.

Why are we developing a new Plan?

The Local Government Act 2002 sets out requirements which must be met for a Passenger Transport Service. The Invercargill City Council has agreed with Environment Southland that it will deliver this service on their behalf and this document fulfils that statutory requirement.

The Plan seeks to inform residents of Southland of the recommended changes over the next three years and why they are recommended. Additionally the Plan establishes how the service successfully aligns with the Government's desire to assist in investing with the community (the Government Policy Statements for Transport) together with identifying the key problems, the benefits of addressing these and the consequences of not.

What are the key changes from the previous Plan?

Passenger Transport

Three new connecting Invercargill Bus Smart routes, together with a new timetable are being proposed to replace the current four loops which have been used since 2012. These new routes are shown on the attached plans and look to address issues raised by customers that the routes took too long, were not direct enough, and that timetables did not get passengers into town at the right time, particularly in the mornings. These issues, together with falling patronage, strongly suggest a change is needed to correct the declining use trends.

The buses will run generally from 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday and Saturday 10am to 3pm. This is similar to current timetables, but there will be additional buses on during the morning business run and again in the evenings to make travelling into the CBD and home again more desirable.

Also suggested is a change to the fare structure recognising that the service has a strong community focus and the use of peak and off peak fares was a disincentive to use. The proposed fares are:

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| ▪ Children under 5 years | Free |
| ▪ Supergold Card Holders (9am to 3.00pm and Saturday) | Free |
| All other users – at all times: | |
| ▪ Payment by Bus Smart Card (and trip tagged on and off) | \$2.00 per trip |
| ▪ Payment by Cash | \$3.00 per trip |

What are the key changes from the previous Plan?

Passenger Transport (Continued).

All travellers (including adults and school children) are proposed to be treated the same with a flat fare structure which is incentivised by paying with the electronic Bus Smart card.

The new routes do however, due to the 30 minute return time from the Dee Street Hub, have in some areas of the City less coverage and a longer walk distance to a bus stop. The new routes have tried to include the existing high use bus stops. New bus stop and bus shelter locations will need to be established on these routes which could change parking outside of properties in residential and commercial areas in some locations along the routes.

The existing school bus routes are to stay the same and no new routes are proposed.

Total Mobility

The Total Mobility scheme will continue to be offered with similar subsidy levels, but a change is proposed to move from the current sticker card system to an electronic card with photo ID called the Ridewise card. This card is understood to be able to be used in many other provincial areas of New Zealand. This card will make the system more robust and easier to manage. The current maximum level of subsidy remains at 50% of the travel cost up to a maximum subsidy of \$25.00.

A minor change to the policy on new service providers is being proposed. The policy requires that all new providers must have a wheelchair service available unless the circumstance exists where Council approves an introduction period during which it is not required. This change will ensure that providers do not change their company structures to avoid providing a service.

Providers must make the Total Mobility service available between 7am and 11pm at a minimum.

How do I have my say on this proposal?

To have your say on this proposal you need to provide feedback to the Invercargill City Council by 5pm, Friday 15 December, 2017.

You can provide your feedback through writing to:

Submission RPTP

Invercargill City Council
Private Bag 90104
Invercargill 9840

Or by emailing: policy@icc.govt.nz.

Can I talk to the Mayor and Councillors about this proposal?

If you wish to present your submission to the Mayor and Councillors, please indicate this clearly in your submission. Submissions are planned to be heard by the Community Services Committee on Monday 26 February 2018 from 4pm.

How do I get further information?

The draft Regional Public Transport Plan is available on Council's website www.icc.govt.nz. To get further information on this proposal, contact Russell Pearson, Roading Manager, or Melissa Short, Manager – Strategy and Policy on 03 211 1777.

Submission Form

REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT PLAN



CONSULTATION

Submitter Details

First Name	<input type="text"/>	Surname	<input type="text"/>
Organisation	<input type="text"/>	Postal Address	<input type="text"/>
(if appropriate)	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>
Phone (daytime)	<input type="text"/>		Postcode
Email	<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>
IF NON-RESIDENTIAL RATEPAYER, PROPERTY(IES) LOCATED IN	<input type="text"/>	Signature	<input type="text"/>

Returning your submission

Return by 5pm, Friday, December 15.

Deliver to: Civic Administration Building
101 Esk Street
Invercargill

Email: Policy@icc.govt.nz

Post to: Submission - RPTP
Invercargill City Council
Private Bag 90104
Invercargill 9840

Presentation of submission

Please tick as appropriate. If neither of the boxes is ticked, it will be considered that you do not wish to be heard.

I wish to speak to the Mayor and Councillors about my submission.

I do NOT wish to speak in support of my submission and ask that the following written submission be fully considered.

Other Ideas?

If you have a different option for any of the issues that you think Council should consider, please tell us.

Tips for making an effective submission

- + Head each of your topics with a title so we clearly know what issue you are submitting on. Make it clear what you are supporting or opposing and give reasons why.
- + Bullet points help you form ideas clearly and are easy for the Mayor and Councillors to read.
- + Dark coloured pens make it easier to read and copy your submission.

Please note: Submissions received on the Regional Public Transport Plan will be made available to the public as required by the Local Government Act 2002 and subject to the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. This will include the name and address of submitters.

