
From: Ngaire Hickey <ngairehickey@xtra.co.nz>
Sent: Saturday, 3 March 2018 10:18 p.m.
To: Mailroom Mailbox
Subject: LTP Submission

As a mature regular bus user without a car I wish to protest at the cutting of both 135 and 150 bus services. You seem to have already made the decision so most people will not bother wasting their time writing about it. I believe that a bus route was promised to the new development at Prestons/Marshlands Road when roading was completed. Roading has been completed but bus service never materialised.

When the pool re opens at QE2 and two schools shift to that site it is possible that the 135 route will be better used. I occasionally work in the area of Alpine View and will be forced to take a taxi or give up the work if both routes are cut. I gave up my car to help the environment and it now seems that was a very bad idea. Christchurch dwellers in the East will be forced into cars. How can that help the environment?

You acknowledge that some people will be disadvantaged. That is obvious. My direct route to New Brighton was cut last time so I have already suffered a disadvantage. I now have to take two buses and risk an extra fare if I do not get good connections or walk about 1km for a direct connection. In my opinion the bus cuts have hastened the demise of New Brighton even though it is supposed to be on the regeneration priority list. I certainly go there less often as a result of changing routes and clearly I am not the only one.

Why do you not think about combining some routes or adding to the routes of Orange line or Orbiter? For example, the 80 could be re-routed to New Brighton and go on to Parklands or vice versa. The Orange line could go to Prestons/Marshlands Road and on to the hospital and Queenspark and even New Brighton. Perhaps the Orbiter could loop from Eastgate to near QE2 via Pages Road and back down Wainoni Road. More schools would then be included on its route. I do not know other routes well enough to make suggestions but I would hope Ecan does since transport is part of its job. You must have members who can think laterally, instead of just about cutting which is the easiest but surely not the only option.

As for fare increases they too will be inevitable. My only comment is that you must try not to hurt the poorer members of the community who may not have concession cards.

Ngaire Hickey