

Make Submission

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Public Transport Options

Public Transport is one of the programmes in the Transport and Urban Development portfolio. For the first year of the Long-Term Plan 2018-28 we are proposing changes to the Public Transport programme as outlined in the **Consultation Document**. (on page 14)

To make comment on the Public Transport proposed changes please complete the selection panel below.

To make comment on the the whole Transport and Urban Development portfolio, please use the tab on the left.

Please review the options in the Consultation Document and indicate which option you support: Option 4 – none of the above. (Please provide comment/ideas for an alternative solution)

Public Transport Comments

Please provide any comments.

I know by my choosing of 'none of the above' it is not a helpful option but I come from an interesting perspective and feel this way for several reasons.

I am from Selwyn. Leeston to be exact, so I don't even have a bus service and trust me I have been signing campaigns and begging to have one put in, yes I can drive and yes I would still use the bus five days a week. Instead I currently have to drive either to Lincoln, Rolleston or Halswell to be able to use the bus system. I have recently started studying at University of Canterbury and decided I would catch the bus from Halswell every day, as I am aware of the impact on the environment from only myself using the car. I also knew that it would mean the roads were less congested without me on them (again environmental impact) and I wouldn't have to find a car park as Canterbury University is notoriously difficult for finding a park. I also thought - it would save me some money.

I previously studied at ARA on Madras St and decided to try catching the bus for a couple weeks to see how much money I saved (again environmentally aware and wanted to give the bus a shot). It worked out to be the same cost driving to Lincoln and catching the bus to Madras Street as it was from me to drive from Leeston to Madras St. Which was \$80 a week. Obviously I thought why bother using it? I'm not saving any money. So I went back to driving myself because at least driving I could listen to my own music and do what I wanted. Getting to and from class on my own schedule.

Driving and catching the bus this time round isn't much cheaper. I'm saving maybe \$10 a week. If you insist on pushing the price up I will most likely go back to driving myself. So you lose yet another public transport user because it has got too expensive. And a lot of the people I have spoken to about this issue say the same thing. The more expensive it is the less likely they are to use it. So what does that mean you'll do in the future? Cut off more routes as less people use them because they can't afford to? Make the fares more expensive yet again to cover the shortfall? Cut public transport all together?

I think the options provided are insufficient. I don't think it's fixing a problem at all, I think it's making it worse. It seems you need to be better at targeting public transport to more people, you've got young people because they either can't drive or can't afford to and old people because it's FREE - so again not making any money. What about everybody else? I think there are more options available instead of jumping straight to the worst case, and starting a good public transport campaign should be one of them.