

From: Environment Canterbury
Sent: Tuesday, 29 March 2022 9:30 am
To: Have your Say
Subject: Submission on draft Annual Plan 2022/23

Anonymous User just submitted 'Draft Annual Plan 2022/23 submission' with the responses below.

First name

Hannah

Last name

Rondel

Email address

Suburb

Ilam, Christchurch

Phone number

Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?

No, I'm submitting as an individual

Which age category are you in?

15– 24 years old

Do you wish to speak to your submission at a Council hearing?

No

Which bus fare structure option would you like to see trialled?

Option 1 (preferred): Fare-free for under 25s, students, Total Mobility and Community Services card holders

Tell us more about why you support the selected bus fare option.

As a student even lower prices aren't affordable to use bussing as a main form of transportation. It is something I just can't afford even though I'd like to. With the rising cost of living it is getting even harder to afford any transportation other than biking, which isn't always available to me as someone with a disability. Some days I need to take multiple trips to get to uni/work/supermarket etc so the cost adds up quite quickly. I would love to use bussing as is it better for the environment which is something I'm passionate about, however if I bring another person in the car with me the cost of petrol is still cheaper than both of us bussing there and back. In the other proposed options, using the current child maximum weekly fares this could mean my transport costs by using the busses would be up to \$15 a week. Whilst this is a helpful improvement, it is still less than what I currently contribute to petrol. Any money going towards expenses is taken away from other areas of my budget, including grocery shopping. Free transport would give me more room to feel free to go out and explore the city without worrying about if it was digging in to my budget or not. On top of this, I can't use the bus system for everything., I still need to use my car for work and things like grocery shopping. Therefore it's currently too expensive to pay for both petrol and bussing (even at \$15/week) so I would likely just spend a little more money on petrol to save costs. I know I am not the only student in this situation. Similarly, I think the people who need to use busses the most are the ones who currently can't afford it. That includes people with community services cards, mobility cards and students too. It should be most easily accessible to those who need it most. Those people who can't access and/or use a car. If gold card users can get free rides then using the same logic so should other people with mobility cards and people receiving government financial assistance. With rising living costs free transport options (that aren't mobility sensitive) would reduce a huge burden on these groups of people and make accessing the city easier.

Any other comments on bus fares?

I don't understand why the current 'student' CANDO card prices only apply to under 19s. These aren't students, they're high school students. High school students can still be considered children so it would make sense they get the child fare anyway. It is misleading to say it is a student discount when it doesn't apply to the majority of uni students. It's important for high schoolers to get around town easily,

but equally they are most likely to be living at home with limited to none living costs. University students already have a high burden of expenses, higher than most highschool students, so it doesn't make sense why our fares aren't already included in this bracket.

Is borrowing and repaying through general rates the right approach for this regionally significant event?

Don't know

Which option for distribution of rates in Ashburton River rating district do you support?

I don't have a preference

Would you support a levy to accelerate action in response to climate change?

Yes

Where did you hear about the consultation?

Social media (Facebook, Instagram)
