

From: Environment Canterbury
Sent: Sunday, 3 April 2022 4:37 pm
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

Josh

Last name

Watson

Email address

Suburb

Mairehau, Christchurch

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.

Kia ora, my name is Josh Watson and I am a twenty-three-year-old full-time worker in the central city. I am in support of Option One as part of your proposal to change the structure of the bus system. I am not a current user of the bus system as it is easier and more convenient for me to use my motorcycle to get to work. I used to use the bus system in high school but stopped using it when I was able to have my own vehicle. Recently when my motorbike was being fixed for a week and a half, I used the bus system and it reminded me of how much I enjoyed bussing and the great potential it has. I enjoy the walk to and from the bus stop and overall had a good experience. However, the cost was a major barrier to using it as a regular mode of transport and I haven't used it since. Option one would benefit me greatly as I would definitely use the bus more. If option one is chosen, I may not get a full two years of free transport when I turn twenty-six but I would still be very supportive of this option. Although I am not currently a direct rate-payer, I see the estimates of rate increases as a very reasonable amount, easily outweighing the benefits it will create for the rest of society. Another reason I support option one is that it supports economically vulnerable groups in society. I think we should judge a country (and in this case council) on how they target policy to reduce inequalities and free fares for public transport can be crucial to groups like under 25s, tertiary students, Community Service cardholders and Total Mobility cardholders. Although this option will not be crucial for me, I understand and choose it for those who it is to take off one of the financial burdens in their lives. I also support Option One as a great way to take a stand against climate change and reduce emissions. Removing the worry of money for using public transport is a great incentive to get more people on the bus, and option one encompasses the most amount of people to take advantage of it. I would prefer for the price to also be lowered for people who don't fit into the target groups of Option One and eventually free for everyone across all zones. Thank you for your time and for reading my submission and I hope to see Option One implemented. Joshua Watson

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

Yes

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

Yes

Where did you hear about the consultation?

Word of mouth
