

From: Environment Canterbury
Sent: Sunday, 3 April 2022 12:49 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

Samantha

Last name

Dryden

Email address

Suburb

Halswell, 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?

Yes

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 Sam and I am an 18 year old student at Lincoln University. I have lived in Halswell, Christchurch my whole life. I wholeheartedly support making fares free for under 25s, students, Total Mobility and Community Services card holders. In Christchurch 53% of our carbon dioxide emissions come from transport. An equitable, accessible public transport system is vital if we are to meet our goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2050. A major barrier to accessibility and equity is the cost of public transport fares. For many people in Christchurch it is still cheaper to travel in a private car, despite the ownership costs, the harmful emissions and the increased congestion this causes. I regularly use Ōtautahi bus services to get to and from university and to social and volunteering events. My siblings also use the bus to get home from school. However, especially with the regular crossing of zones, this is a big cost for my family and I, to the point where I often choose to carpool to places instead. By making public transport free for these groups ECAN is removing this barrier, and helping to make it easier for more people to choose a more sustainable transport option. It also signals ECAN's commitment to lowering Christchurch's emissions. The climate crisis is happening now and now is the time to support people to choose sustainable transport. We cannot afford to wait.

Any other comments on bus fares?

Fees free for under 25s, students, Total Mobility and Community Services card holders is a fantastic start, however, I would really support combining this option with the second flat fare option. This because if free fares only benefit these groups, it doesn't encourage life long bus use and reinforces the idea that 'buses are only for youth'. I would also love to bring to your attention that I think a new bus route is needed that runs through Cashmere, Halswell, and Lincoln. Currently my friends and I who live in these areas avoid bussing to university when we can, because the multiple indirect transfers make it inconvenient.

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

Yes

Where did you hear about the consultation?

Word of mouth

Print ad or billboard

Meeting or event

Social media (Facebook, Instagram)
