

Submission Form for the Draft West Coast Regional Public Transport Plan 2023

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Position:

Organisation:

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This submission form is intended to help you make a submission on the Draft West Coast Regional Public Transport Plan 2023. Where relevant, please give reasons for your answers. If more room for answers is required, attach answers on a separate piece of paper. Please return your submission by **5.00pm, Friday 29 September 2023.**

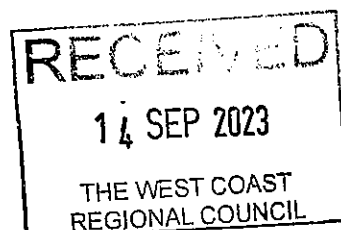
1. Do you think the policies and actions for delivering public transport on the West Coast are appropriate given the characteristics of the region? Are there any other policies and actions you would suggest including?

No I do not. How can this draft plan take time to note carbon emissions, petrol prices, isolated communities, sustainable futures, vulnerable people - and then offer NO PLAN apart from four taxi cabs? The argument that the population is too small falls over as soon as one takes a minute to watch the traffic moving between Hokitika and Greymouth at the start and end of every working day. The draft report also notes that our region officially has more low income and elderly people than elsewhere in the country. It is not only a council responsibility but also a moral obligation to provide public transport for such communities.

Tourism is set to return to the Coast. It is embarrassing not to have public transport options to offer our guests who are assuming they are visiting a modern and relatively wealthy tourist mecca. Fewer young people are getting into cars. If the West Coast wishes to be part of a modern, fair, thriving, healthy society, it is imperative that a decent public transport network is restored and maintained. IF YOU BUILD IT THEY WILL COME! Short term thinking must not be an option.

2. Do you think that there are other services that should be available other than those identified within this RPTP? If yes, please detail what these are and justification for their inclusion.

Yes I do. The high cost of petrol, our vulnerable communities and the return of tourism all make investment in a modern public transport system imperative. Train rides should not be a luxury item. Ease of movement is a human right. There is already an idle rail network on the Coast. Restoring these services will be of immeasurable benefit to all who call the Coast home and to the many thousands who come to explore it. At a minimum a bus service should be put on twice a day between our larger towns - all of which are small/flat, that is walkable/cycle friendly. Justification: decent, affordable, modern public transport is a basic right. Most places the world over understand this. Modern, affordable public transport is among the criteria people weigh when choosing a place to live. If the West Coast wishes to attract young families and new business, and the investment and innovation these arrivals contribute, it must be able to offer them modern, affordable public transport.



3. Are there any other comments you wish to make on this draft RPTP?

Please have courage. Please do something valuable and morally good that will benefit our community for years to come. Please think long term. Please be a part of the solution rather than plugging your ears and kicking the can down the road - this will only lead to bigger costs, bigger losses, bigger clean up. The West Coast deserves better. Better than what? Better than four taxis.

Name: Sam Duckor-Jones

Signature: 

Date: 8 September 2023

NOTE:

The provision of public transport services is dependent on district and regional rates as well as subsidies from the NZ Transport Agency. The Policies and Actions in this draft RPTP 2023 have been included within the relevant local authority Long Term and Annual Plan processes, as well as detailed in the draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021 - 31. Increases to the funding proposed will also need to be addressed through these planning processes. Current proposed funding can be viewed in the draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021 - 31.

Hearings on the Draft Regional Public Transport Plan

- Do you wish to address a hearing panel in support of this submission? **Yes, No**

When making a submission please indicate whether or not you wish to be heard in support of your submission. If you wish to be heard you will be contacted and given notice of the hearing and the procedure to follow at the hearing. If this section is left blank, the Regional Transport Committee will assume you do not want to attend a hearing.

- Please indicate how you would prefer to be contacted – **phone, email or postal address?**

How to submit:

Post to: Draft Regional Public Transport Plan, West Coast Regional Council P O Box 66, Greymouth 7840 **OR**

Go to this link: https://westcoastregionalcouncil-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/kayla_sims_wcrc_govt_nz/Eil6Q2CHYSFFj7-jeJDLVPYBlqh_z6MMYujKmcj-VLJQEA

Privacy and Information statement

This privacy and information notice applies to all information collected through consultation on the Draft West Coast Regional Public Transport Plan 2023.

Your submission is public information and we will publish a summary of submissions and decisions on submissions. We are collecting the names and contact details of submitters for the purposes of this consultation only. Please indicate on the submission form if you wish to have your name, or your organisations name, withheld in the publication of submissions, decisions on those submissions, or any other information we publish about the Plan.

Please note your submission is also subject to the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). This means that other people will be able to obtain copies of submissions by making a request under the OIA. If you think there are grounds for your information to be withheld under the OIA, please note this in your submission.