

Te Mahere Waka Whenua Tūmatanui ā-rohe o Te Tairāwhiti

Te Tairāwhiti Regional Public Transport Plan

Summary for consultation



We want to invest in an accessible, safe and inclusive bus and community transport network that people can rely on, so that you don't have to rely on a car to get around.

Good public transport is essential for people to access jobs, services, education opportunities, shops, medical appointments – and indeed just to catch up with whanau. Public transport is also essential to make our communities more resilient and cohesive, so that no one is left behind because they don't have a car.

Our aim is for public transport to become a credible and attractive travel option for people both in Gisborne city, and the wider region. Integration with the active travel (walking and cycling) network is critical, as a better bus network is of limited use if people cannot safely and conveniently access it.

What are we planning to change?

We want to provide faster and more frequent bus services in Gisborne city; and introduce new services to connect communities in the rest of Te Tairāwhiti. For disabled people who can't use buses, we want Total Mobility services to be more affordable and extensive.

The RPTP sets out a number of proposals for improving the public transport system. All proposals are subject to obtaining funding from Waka Kotahi NZTA through the National Land Transport Fund, and local ratepayers through the Three Year Plan.

Gisborne City Bus Network

- Replacement of four current one-way loop routes with three mostly two-way cross-city services that operate every hour 7am to 5pm Monday to Friday (see map below):
 - Kaiti South – Kaiti Mall – City Centre – Gladstone Road supermarkets – Elgin.
 - Kaiti North – Delautour Road – City Centre – Gladstone Road supermarkets – Aberdeen Road – Potae Avenue – Hospital.
 - Hospital – Ormond Road – Ballance Street village – City Centre – Grey Street – Awapuni – Kiwa Pools.



- Greater integration between GizzyBus and Waka Kura school routes, so that more children use the public buses and better use is made of council investment.
- Increase in the frequency of GizzyBus services to every half hour on Mondays to Fridays.
- Introduce a new bus route between the city centre, Kaiti Mall, Wainui Beach and Okitu.
- Extend some bus services to run directly to the airport, both for staff and passengers.
- Introduce weekend and evening services across the network.

Accessible and community transport in our rural townships

- Trial of regular public transport services between Gisborne city and communities along the East Coast, potentially including links to Hawke's Bay and Bay of Plenty.
- Set up a framework to directly fund on-demand and / or regular community transport services, including support for existing operations such as Sunshine Bus and Manaaki Waka East Coast.
- Work with communities in smaller townships and rural areas to introduce additional locally operated minibus services which will target journeys for health appointments, shopping, training, employment and meeting friends / whanau.

Total Mobility

- Additional funds to increase the maximum 75% subsidised Total Mobility single fare from \$12 to \$25, which will make travel more affordable for service users.
- Introduce a new Total Mobility digital booking system, which will provide a safe, secure and easy-to-use process for service users.
- Increase in the number of accredited Total Mobility providers, especially in areas which currently don't have a service, or where options are limited.

Infrastructure at bus stops and hubs

- Significant improvements to Gisborne city bus stops, including hard standing, level boarding, shelters, seating and provision of printed bus timetables.
- New stops where services are introduced on roads which don't currently have buses.
- Provision of a new city centre bus hub on Gladstone Road (replacing the Bright Street facility), which will be more accessible to where people want to go.
- Improvements to the existing Kaiti Mall bus hub, including a city centre bound stop for direct services along Wainui Road.

Fares and ticketing

- Increase cash bus fares, which reflects the fact that there has been no change in the last 15 years.
- Discounts, compared with the cash fare, for people who use Bee cards, including rewards for frequent travel.
- Introduce the national smart ticketing system, including the potential to use PayWave.

Types of vehicles we use

- Introduce higher capacity double deck vehicles to accommodate passengers more efficiently at peak times (especially school children).
- Replace the current vehicle fleet with more modern buses as part of the next contract in 2025.
- Work towards introducing zero emission (electric or hydrogen) buses by 2035 at the latest.

Tell us what is important to you

The Let's Talk Transport Tairāwhiti public consultation runs from 2 to 29 February, and in addition to the RLTP you can also comment on:

- The Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP);
- Mode Shift Plan; and
- Active Travel Strategy.

This really is an important time for transport in our region. You can share your feedback with us via the Let's Talk Transport Tairāwhiti web page <https://participate.gdc.govt.nz/lets-talk-transport>, or send your comments to:

By Post: P.O Box 747, Gisborne 4040 By email: service@gdc.govt.nz

If you want to read more, the full RLTP document can be found at: <https://participate.gdc.govt.nz/lets-talk-transport>

Thanks for taking the time to read this. We look forward to hearing from you.