

# Zone 0

Axel Wilke ViaStrada

2020 Transportation Conference

# "bright, stylish and environmentally friendly"



## The Shuttle – history & route

- Start: 1998
- Free
- Every 10 min; fixed route
- Diesel hybrid electric (eco-friendly)
- Cool look
- Stop: 22 Feb 2011 earthquake





#### Shall we have it back?

3 reports to the PT Joint Committee later...



**Christchurch city** councillors keen on CBD shuttle if joint committee rejects service

Shuttle service felled

by quakes may soon

Metro metroinfo co es

Michael Hayward .

return

Charlie Mitchell .

19:03, Aug 23 2016

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# Who is responsible for what?

- Canterbury Regional Council (ECan) responsible for public transport
- Christchurch City Council (CCC) responsible for all other transport matters
- Public Transport Joint
   Committee (ECan + CCC + Selwyn + Waimakariri districts)
  - Coordination body
  - No delegated authority

And the previous Shuttle?

- Operated and financed by CCC
- Not part of the public transport system





### **Current status**

- Everyone is keen to get the Shuttle revived
- No one is keen to pay for it
  - Diesel bus; fixed loop; 10 to
    15 min headway
  - -\$0.5m to \$1.5m per year + \$250k one-off



TradeMe advert from July 2019



# Proposal

- Zone 0
- All buses free in central city (orange box)
- for Metrocard holders

https://thecommongood.kiwi/zone-zero/





## **Zone 0 benefits**

- Much cheaper to run than Shuttle
- Better level of service
  - -Better coverage
  - -More frequent buses
- Turns people into Metrocard holders
  - Important step for them to use paid public transport
  - Initial Metrocard free (reverse 2011 policy)





# **Spreading the word**



Deon Swiggs (city councillor for central city)

Calls for bus trips

four aves to be free

🔊 🔕 🔕 🔍

Michael Hayward

13:52, Sep 29 2019

within Christchurch's

- Explored idea with ECan staff "Can't be done; two routes over capacity"
- Worked with several community groups
- Obtained media coverage "Can't be done because we don't have tag off"



# **Christchurch zone system**

- Existing zone system
- Pay higher fare if zone boundary crossed
- Relies on
  - passenger telling the driver, or
  - driver asking passenger
    ECan staff: *"4 zones work, 5 zones won't work"*









# What is wrong?

- Declining patronage started with a new network model ("hubs & spokes")
- System is in downward spiral
  - -Costs increasing at well-above inflation
  - -Falling patronage despite increasing central city employment
- Measures are needed to turn this around
  - -Zone 0 designed to turn opportunistic users into customers!









# **Conclusions**



STRADA

- People want the free Shuttle back; nobody wants to pay for it
- Zone 0 proposal
  - significantly cheaper
  - -much better Level of Service
  - designed to turn free users into paying customers

#### Reverse declining patronage in Christchurch?

# Thank you!

We've got you covered from the sunrise in Masterton to the sunset in Kāpiti.

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