Feedback Report
Operational Transport Management (OTM611S)
Assignment 2, 2019

Dear students
Thank you for the effort and congratulations in completing your second assignment for this semester.

This assignment was practical and hence assessing your reasoning when it comes to the provision of public resources, which include public transport services. It is worth mentioning that some of you did very well in justifying your answers. You felt that people that residing in the rural areas are also entitled to their share using public transport services as citizens of Namibia. In fact public transport services in rural areas can help to develop rural communities and bridge the gap between the rich and the poor people. People that are living in rural areas are also entitled to a good living conditions, just like those people living in the capital city or other towns. Some of you also presented the risks that involved in providing the public transport services to the people living in rural areas. This showed that you did not only focused on the benefits however you also assessed the implications involved in the whole process, which is good.

The biggest problem is there are still students that are not referencing (in text referencing) their work, despite marks awarded to the layout of the assignment to force students to do so. Please use the APA referencing guide to cite the sources of the information used in your assignments.

Finally, you should always make sure you read your assignment carefully before attempting to answer any question, and also, be guided by the marks allocated per question when answering questions.

Best regards,
Ms Ester Kalipi
OTM611S Marker Tutor
Case study

The public transport services provided by the government to users in Windhoek town is subsidized, despite having access to basic services (e.g. clinics, schools, supermarkets) in their surroundings i.e. suburbs. While the majority of people in Namibia who are leaving in the rural areas are using unconventional transport i.e. transportation which involve the village buses run by volunteers, shared taxis, car schemes and post buses and it is very costly. People also travel a long distances to have access to basic services such as schools, hospitals, shopping mall and work places.

1) Given the high demand for transport services in the rural area, will you advise the government of Namibia to offer subsidized public transport services to people that are living in the rural area? Please justify you answer! 15 Marks

Tips on answering question 1: students need to state clearly whether the government should offer subsidized public services to people living in the rural area or not. After stating that, there is a need to justify their answers.

The government on Namibia can offer the subsidized public transport services to people living in rural areas because of the following reasons:

- Rural demographics make public transit desired.
- Rural residents with disability may rely on public transit, to help them access the needed services.
- Public transit can reduce the risk of road accidents in rural areas of Namibia.
- Rural poverty rates exceed urban poverty rates in all regions. Rural public transit can help to reduce personal travel expenditures due to gas and other vehicle maintenance expenditures.
- Public transport can help to promote active lifestyles in rural communities that are struggling with health problems such as obesity, and can link people with health care services.
- Rural public transportation can be an important force on supporting local economies by connecting residents (especially non-drivers) with local business and job opportunities.
- Rural public transit spending per capita is lower than in urban areas, hence increasing local and federal investment can help to address this issue.
2) Assess the possibility of offering convectional/public transport services in the rural area of Namibia?  

The possibility of offering the public transport in the rural areas in Namibia depends on the assessing the following factors:

- Geographical and demographic factors of the rural areas in questions. The high the population, the more it make it viable to offer the public transport services to a certain community, especially if the population is not widely dispersed.

- Transport infrastructure analysis – this will determine which public transport services to provide in the rural area, since transport infrastructures such as roads, railways are required first before the provision of transport services.

- Transport option analysis – which will depend on the availability of transport infrastructure and also on the population density to make up the capacity required for daily transport trips.

- Estimating the mobility - current state of travelling between the rural areas and the nearest towns and also their daily needs for transport to determine the viability of offering the public transport services.

- There must be evidence that people living in a certain areas are able to fill or make-up the seat capacity of a bus for a certain trip to be conducted.

- There must be a pick-up point; pick up time for a certain trip, i.e. there must be a timetable communicated to the people on trips that are scheduled.

- The bus can also operate on the main road and people should go to the pick-up point on the main highway. This should be arranged to combine different locations to ensure that the bus capacity is filled in order to use the resources efficiently.

3) Is there a need for the government to keep offering public transport services to users in Windhoek? Please justify your answer!

- Yes, there is a need for the government of Namibia to keep offering public transport services in Windhoek because it will help to reduce problems associated with congestion.

- Subsidized public transport can also help long commuters to reach work on time and also their home safely.
• Public transport also help to promote safety as it reduces a number of road accidents because the roads will not be overcrowded with lots of cars if a lot of people are using public transport.

4) Referencing, layout and coherent flow of the report 5 Marks

These five marks are allocated to a layout of an assignment stated in the assessment criteria which has the following:

• The table of contents
• Introduction
• Conclusion
• In-text citation
• References

The reason is to force students who are enrolled on distance to learn how to write an assignment in professional way at their level of studies.

Total Marks: 50
References


