

Transit Windsor Advisory Committee

Meeting held May 28, 2019

A meeting of the Transit Windsor Advisory Committee is held this day commencing at 4:00 o'clock p.m. in Room 140, 350 City Hall Square West, there being present the following members:

Councillor Kieran McKenzie, Chair
Councillor Rino Bortolin
Councillor Chris Holt
Councillor Irek Kusmierczyk
Bernie Drouillard
Nathaniel Hope
Renee Morel
Carmen Salloum

Guest in attendance:

Dale McKenzie

Also present are the following resource personnel:

Pat Delmore, Executive Director
Steve Habrun, Manager Planning, Transit Windsor
Jason Scott, Planning Analyst, Transit Windsor
Mark Winterton, City Engineer
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The Committee Coordinator calls the meeting to order at 4:07 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" attached hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. Election of Chair

The Committee Coordinator calls for nominations from the floor for the position of Chair. N. Hope nominates Councillor McKenzie, seconded by Councillor Bortolin. The Committee Coordinator asks if there are further nominations from the floor for the position of Chair. Seeing none, the Committee Coordinator asks Councillor McKenzie if he accepts. Councillor McKenzie accepts and assumes the Chair.

Moved by N. Hope, seconded by Councillor Bortolin,
That Councillor K. McKenzie **BE ELECTED** Chair of the Transit Windsor Advisory
Committee.
Carried.

3. Declarations of Conflict

None disclosed.

4. Adoption of the Minutes

Moved by Councillor Bortolin, seconded by Councillor Kusmierczyk,
That the minutes of the Transit Windsor Advisory Committee of its meeting held
September 25, 2018 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

5. Business Items

5.1 Transit Windsor Terms of Reference and Mandate

It is generally agreed to defer the Transit Windsor Advisory Committee Terms of
Reference and Mandate to the next meeting.

Discussion ensues regarding increasing the meeting frequency for the Transit
Windsor Advisory Committee as four meetings a year are not sufficient to provide
Committee support and resources for the Service Delivery Review undertaken by Transit
Windsor.

Moved by Councillor Bortolin, seconded by N. Hope,
That City Council **BE REQUESTED** to consider increasing the meeting frequency
of the Transit Windsor Advisory Committee to allow for additional meetings in 2019, over
and above the four regular meetings per year in order to provide Committee support and
resources for the Service Delivery Review being undertaken by Transit Windsor.
Carried.

5.2 Transit Windsor Service – Verbal Updates

Public Transit Infrastructure Fund – Phase 1 Status

P. Delmore notes that there will be much more Committee involvement going forward than what was required of the committee in the past.

P. Delmore advises that 26 projects are required to be completed by March 2020, 16 of which have been completed at this time. The renovations are now completed at Transit Windsor and these were a few of the most recently completed projects that were funded by the Federal Government and the City of Windsor totalling \$10 M

UPass with University of Windsor

P. Delmore provides the following comments relating to the UPass Program at the University of Windsor:

- The 3 year pilot program was completed at the end of March 2019.
- Students held a referendum and all three associations voted in favour of making the UPass a permanent program.
- Working with the U of W on an agreement which will include a slight increase annually.
- In year one, 7,000 students were members of GSS and USSA and 3,000 of those members enrolled in the UPass program.
- By the end of the third year, OPUS also joined and there was a total of 13,000 students with 9,000 students acquiring a UPass.
- A very beneficial program and ridership is continuing to grow.
- Offered 2,500 passes for the summer months which as of today the supply is depleted.

St. Clair College Service Update

P. Delmore provides an overview of the St. Clair College Service as follows:

- Five thousand students enrolled at St. Clair College between January to September 2018 which yielded huge ridership increases.
- As of January 2019, additional service was provided, i.e. tripled the bus service on two of the lines to St. Clair College.
- Were hoping to offer a university pass program at St. Clair College, however, the recent announcement by the Provincial Government to allow “opt out” clauses in an effort to save money for the students will impact Transit Windsor in the future.

- St. Clair College and the University of Windsor are not certain of the September 2019 enrollment as they are not aware of how many students will be staying or coming back to school.

Leamington Transit Service Agreement

P. Delmore advises an agreement was reached with the Municipality of Leamington to provide transit service beginning July 8, 2019 with three trips a day – early morning, midday and late afternoon from Windsor.

S. Habrun reports he attended a recent stakeholder meeting and adds employers from the greenhouse sector and representatives from the social programs were represented. He states Leamington is looking at the student component as one of the “big” factors for the municipality as they can piggyback off them to grow the employment sector using the bus service between Windsor and Leamington. He adds the employers requested that the times of the buses coincide with their schedules. The municipality has indicated as this is a pilot program that they will endeavour to work for the majority of the people. A round trip is \$15 or \$10 one way with a monthly pass at \$250. The bus starts and finishes at St. Clair College and any of the people on the Leamington service can transfer to a City of Windsor service, but cannot transfer back to the Leamington service. Essentially, a transfer is only accepted at St. Clair College.

West End Terminal Relocation

P. Delmore reports the tender will be circulated on May 29, 2019 and the project should be completed by September 2019. Looking into “infotainment”, i.e. linking real time information into the Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare facility screens so riders will be aware of the arrival of a bus.

Moved by Councillor Bortolin, seconded by Councillor Holt,

That the verbal updates relating to the Public Transit Infrastructure fund, Phase 1, the UPass with the University of Windsor, the St. Clair College service update, the Leamington Transit service agreement and the West End Terminal relocation **BE RECEIVED.**

Carried.

5.3 Fare Structure Review

P. Delmore advises the fare structure has remained the same for many years and adds when there has been a fare increase, it was a flat increase across the board. In an effort to gauge where Transit Windsor stood within the industry as it relates to the fare

structure, a consultant was hired to undertake a review and to come back with recommendations. Some of the draft recommendations are outlined as follows:

- Offer free transit for kids under the age of 12.
- Alter the student fares. Currently the student fare is for anyone over the age of 5 and up through high school and post secondary students. The model is now to have a youth based pass which is 12 to 19 years of age and anyone over 19 is considered an adult.
- To hold the line on passes for 5 years to increase transit use but to increase all of the fares by 2% annually.

Moved by N. Hope, seconded by R. Morel,
That the verbal update relating to the Fare Structure Review **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

5.4 Service Delivery Review – Verbal Update

The document entitled “Round 1 Public Engagement Results – Transit Windsor Service Review March 2019” is distributed and **attached** as Appendix “A”.

The PowerPoint entitled “What’s More than Transit” provided by Dillon Consulting is **attached** as Appendix “B”. The highlights of the PowerPoint are as follows:

- The transit service review examines Transit Windsor’s current network and ridership
- Existing policies, objectives, service standards and performance targets
- System and route performance
- Operating and capital budgets
- Organization and staffing levels
- Fleet and facilities
- Bus stop amenities, including terminals
- The findings of the review, shaped by the feedback received from the community, will inform a long-range plan that will create and support an improved overall transit system for the city.
- The last Transit Master Plan update was in 2006.
- Current transit service is downtown focused for transfers. However, most people are travelling across the city and to neighbouring communities and should not have to travel to downtown to transfer. This creates a longer travel time. The downtown terminal will continue to be the main transfer location for those in the core..
- Transit Windsor supports the growth of a liveable and sustainable community by providing a reliable, safe and convenient mobility service option that is accessible to all.
- The new DRAFT Plan includes:
 - Enhanced service coverage

Expanded hours of operation
Added Sunday service for local routes

- The new network will require 45% more buses on the road during peak periods (from 85 to up to 124 buses for peak service)
- Maintenance and storage facility expansion/new facility
- Branding – develop a new brand that shows a more significant shift to signal bigger and positive change to the service.
- Feedback on the proposed Plan including policies, route network, service levels by Friday, July 12, 2019.

Moved by Councillor Bortolin, seconded by R. Morel,
That the PowerPoint entitled “What’s More Than Transit” that examines the current network and ridership, existing policies, system and route performance, operating and capital budgets, organization and staffing levels, fleet and facilities and bus stop amenities **BE RECEIVED.**

Carried.

5.5 Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (CIP)

P. Delmore provides the following comments relating to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program:

- Nine applications were completed and sent in. From a transit perspective, there were requests for – Fleet – 8 buses for 2019 and 2020 with additional buses for growth (request for a total of 19 busses).
- Request for 1.5 million for bus stops/terminals and terminal amenities
- Set aside \$3 million to be able to do quick wins coming out of the Transit Masterplan.

In response to question asked by Councillor Kusmierczyk regarding if a steering committee has been established for this initiative, M. Winterton responds the department has a Grant Coordinator position.

Moved by R. Morel, seconded by N. Hope,
That the verbal update by the Executive Director, Transit Windsor relating to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program **BE RECEIVED.**
Carried.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 4:00 o'clock p.m. in a venue to be determined.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 5:57 o'clock p.m.

CHAIR

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR