

## The Corporation of the City of Windsor

## Mayoral Decision MD 06-2025

I, Drew Dilkens, Mayor of the City of Windsor, by virtue of S. 284.16(4) of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, and O.Reg. 530/22 thereunder, hereby exercise my authority to veto the amendment made by City Council at its meeting held January 27, 2025 with respect to the addition of the tunnel bus service to the 2025 City of Windsor budget.

This veto is being issued for the following reasons:

- 1) This service acts as an economic development engine for the City of Detroit. The City of Windsor sees almost no economic activity originating from Detroit through this service. At this time, our City and our Country are under economic attack by the President of The United States who is threatening 25% tariffs on Canadian made goods. While our cross-border bond with the City of Detroit remains strong and is important to us, as Mayor, I cannot in good conscience have Windsor taxpayers subsidize transit service to a country that is threating our livelihood.
- 2) City Council's decision to increase fares to \$20 per person each way, will significantly undermine tunnel bus usage and lower total revenue. This fare increase makes the tunnel bus service more expensive than driving a car to Detroit (including the cost of tolls and parking fees). The expected revenue decrease will lead to a greater overall loss in the tunnel bus operation. I acknowledge and appreciate City Council's attempt to increase revenue by raising the fare, however I sincerely believe this will further undermine the 2025 budget.

This Mayoral Decision comes into effect on February 6, 2025.

Drew Dilkens, Mayor, City of Windsor Dated: February 6, 2025