

**Draft Operating and Capital Budget – Transit Commission**

**Budgets préliminaires de fonctionnement et d'immobilisations de 2023 –  
Commission du transport en commun**

**COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Council, sitting as Committee of the Whole, approve the Transit Commission 2023 Draft Operating and Capital Budget as follows:

1. That Transit fares for children aged 8-12 shall become free of charge, and go in to effect on July 1, 2023;
2. Transit Services user fees (pages 4-6) as amended;
3. Transit Services operating Resource Requirement (revised page 3);
4. Transit Commission Capital Budget (pages 7-8, individual projects listed on pages 15-42).

**RECOMMANDATIONS DE LA COMMISSION**

Que le Conseil, siégeant à titre de comité plénier, d'approuver son budget préliminaire de fonctionnement et des immobilisations de 2023 comme suit :

1. Que le service de transport en commun soit offert gratuitement aux enfants de 8 à 12 ans à compter du 1er juillet 2023;
2. Frais d'utilisation des Services de transport en commun (pages 4 à 6), tel que modifiés;
3. Besoins en ressources de fonctionnement des Services de transport en commun (révisé, page 3);
4. Budget des immobilisations de la Commission du transport en commun (pages 7 et 8, projets individuels énumérés aux pages 15 à 42).

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL**

The Commission also approved the following DIRECTIONS to staff:

**Motion No. TTC 2023-02-02**, moved by R. Brockington

**BE IT RESOLVED** that staff be directed to assess the financial feasibility of restoring peak-period, peak-direction transit service to the section of Prince of Wales Drive between Meadowlands and Fisher, based on the current population, current and future rates of transit ridership, and funding available within the approved 2023 transit operating budget; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that staff work with the Ward Councillor to confirm the financial feasibility of the proposed new service and subsequently to confirm implementation.

**Motion No. TTC 2023-02-03**, moved by R. Brockington

**BE IT RESOLVED** that, the General Manager prioritize ways to augment sponsorship opportunities with outside entities, enter in to an agreement if feasible and report back to the Transit Commission by October 2023 on what progress has been made, how other jurisdictions attract sponsorships to offer free transit and challenges encountered to attract new sponsorships.

**POUR L'INFORMATION DU CONSEIL MUNICIPAL**

La commission a également approuvé les DIRECTIVES au personnel suivantes :

**Motion n° CTC 2023-02-02**, proposée par R. Brockington

**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE** l'on demande au personnel d'évaluer la viabilité financière du rétablissement du service de transport en commun sur la promenade Prince of Wales, entre la promenade Meadowlands et l'avenue Fisher, dans les périodes et directions de pointe, en fonction de la population actuelle, des taux d'achalandage actuels et futurs, et du financement prévu dans le budget de fonctionnement approuvé de 2023;

**IL EST EN OUTRE RÉSOLU QUE** le personnel collabore avec le conseiller de quartier pour confirmer la viabilité financière du nouveau service proposé, et par la suite, confirmer sa mise en œuvre.

Motion n° CTC 2023-02-03, proposée par R. Brockington

**IL EST RÉSOLU QUE le directeur général hiérarchise les moyens d'augmenter les possibilités de commandite externes, établisse une entente si possible et fasse un compte rendu, d'ici octobre 2023, à la Commission du transport en commun sur les progrès réalisés et la façon dont les autres villes attirent des commandites pour la gratuité du transport et les difficultés rencontrées ce faisant.**

Documentation/Documentation

1. Extract of draft Minutes, Transit Commission, 9 February 2023  
Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal, Commission du transport en commun, le 9 février 2023
2. General Manager and Chief Financial Officer's Report, Finance and Corporate Services Department, dated February 1, 2023 (ACS2023-FCS-FSP-0001)  
Rapport du Directeur général et Chef des Finances par intérim, Direction générale des finances et des services organisationnels, daté le 1 février 2023 (ACS2023-FCS-FSP-0001)

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**EXTRACT OF DRAFT MINUTES 2  
TRANSIT COMMISSION  
9 FEBRUARY, 2023**

**EXTRAIT DE L'ÉBAUCHE DU  
PROCÈS-VERBAL 2  
COMMISSION DU TRANSPORT EN  
COMMUN  
LE 9 FÉVRIER 2023**

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2023 Draft Operating and Capital Budget - Transit Commission

ACS2023-FCS-FSP-0001 - City Wide

The draft budget was tabled at the Council meeting of February 1, 2023. The Transit Commission's report on the draft budget will be considered by Council at its meeting of March 1, 2023.

Renée Amilcar, General Manager, Transit Services Department, Pat Scrimgeour, Director of Transit Customer System and Planning and Scott Laberge, Associate Director, presented an overview of the report recommendations and answered questions from the Commission. A copy of the slide presentation is filed with the Office of the City Clerk.

The following staff also responded to questions:

- Finance and Corporate Services Department: Isabelle Jasmin, Deputy City Treasurer
- Transit Services Department: Jocelyne Turner, Director, Strategic Communications and External Relations, and Paul Treboutat, Chief Safety Officer
- Office of the City Clerk: Caitlin Salter MacDonald, Manager, Council and Committee Services

Commissioners received the following submissions, and a copy of each is filed with the Office of the City Clerk:

- Lisa Freeman letter received February 3
- Giulia Brown email dated February 6
- Zack Ladouceur email dated February 8
- Michael Fakhouri email dated February 8

The following members of the public spoke before the Commission and provided comments on the report recommendations:

1. Nick Grover (Free Transit Ottawa)

2. Sam Hersh
3. Anna Bramble
4. Giulia Brown
5. Richard Langlois
6. Sarah Donnelly
7. Erin Coffin
8. Rachel Buxton
9. Kyle Humphrey
10. Laura Rose Seebach Shantz
11. Thomas Ledgley
12. John Redins
13. Miranda Gray
14. Chris Wrinn
15. Ole Hendrickson (speaking notes on file)

Transit Services Department staff undertook to share with Commission documentation on how fare revenue is calculated, including modeling of payment patterns for single fare as compared to passes.

Following discussions, Commission considered the following motions.

### **Recommendation**

**That the Transit Commission consider the relevant portions of the 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets and make recommendations to Council sitting in Committee of the Whole to be held March 1, 2023.**

### **Amendment:**

**Motion No. TTC 2023-02-01**

Moved by W. Lo

**WHEREAS the 2023 Draft Operating and Capital Budget documents for the Transit Commission were circulated and published after being tabled at Council on February 1, 2023, which was after the Transit Commission agenda publication date; and**

**WHEREAS a corrected Transit Commission Budget Book (English Full and Condensed) was distributed to Council and published on the City's agendas and minutes web portal on February 8, 2023;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that, pursuant to Subsection 89(3) of the Procedure By-law, the Transit Commission add the budget documents to the Agenda, including corrected English Full and Condensed Budget Books for Transit Commission that shows on page 3 the “Transit Engineering Services” line.

**Carried**

**Amendment:**

**Motion No. TTC 2023-02-02**

Moved by R. Brockington

**WHEREAS** transit service on Prince of Wales Drive south of Meadowlands Drive and north of Baseline/Heron Roads was removed by decision of Council in 2011 as part of a “route optimization” process of cost reduction,

**WHEREAS** many residents of areas along and east and west of Prince of Wales Drive south of Meadowlands and north of Fisher are beyond a convenient walking distance of their nearest bus stops,

**WHEREAS**, clients visiting the Debra Dynes Family House, many whose only means of transportation is via public transit, and the staff who work there, have passionately advocated for a return of this much needed Prince of Wales corridor service,

**WHEREAS**, the Carleton Heights and Area Residents Association has consistently championed the need for a return of this much needed corridor service,

**WHEREAS**, during the 2022 election campaign, the number one transit issue in the Carleton Heights – Courtland Park neighbourhood was a need to provide transit service along the Prince of Wales corridor,

**WHEREAS**, the current situation is contributing to lower transit use among residents of these area

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that staff be directed to assess the financial feasibility of restoring peak-period, peak-direction transit service to the section of Prince of Wales Drive between Meadowlands and Fisher, based on the current population, current and future rates of transit ridership, and funding available within the approved 2023 transit operating budget; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff work with the Ward Councillor to confirm the financial feasibility of the proposed new service and subsequently to confirm implementation**

**Carried**

**Amendment:**

**Motion No. TTC 2023-02-03**

Moved by R. Brockington

**WHEREAS, increasing revenues, other than from the transit levy or transit fares needs greater attention by the Transit Commission,**

**WHEREAS, free transit, in addition as a temporary offer in response to compromised LRT service and the Winter 2022 occupation, have historically been linked to Canada Day and New Years' Eve,**

**WHEREAS, augmenting sponsorship opportunities to offer free transit on a particular day, that would cover all or partial costs for the day, will both increase ridership and generate much needed revenues,**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the General Manager prioritize ways to augment sponsorship opportunities with outside entities, enter in to an agreement if feasible and report back to the Transit Commission by October 2023 on what progress has been made, how other jurisdictions attract sponsorships to offer free transit and challenges encountered to attract new sponsorships.**

**Carried**

**Amendment:**

**Motion No. TTC 2023-02-04**

Moved by R. Brockington

**WHEREAS OC Transpo transit fare is free for children aged 0-7 years old,**

**WHEREAS, on November 17, 2021 Transit Commission approved a motion to amend the fare category for children from ages 0-5 which was free of charge and to expand the range to 0-7 years of age,**

**WHEREAS OC Transpo transit fare (cash) for children aged 8-12 is \$1.90,**

**WHEREAS transit fare is free in the following Canadian jurisdictions, by specified children's age group:**

- **Victoria, BC, transit fare is free for children aged 0-12,**
- **Vancouver, BC, transit fare is free for children aged 0-12,**
- **Edmonton, AB, transit fare is free for children aged 0-12, when accompanied by a fare-paying customer,**
- **Winnipeg, MB, transit fare is free for children aged 0-11, when accompanied by a fare-paying customer,**
- **Toronto, ON, transit fare is free for children aged 0-12,**
- **Montreal, QC, transit fare is free for up to five children aged 0-11, when accompanied by a fare paying customer aged 14 or older,**
- **Halifax, NS, transit fare is free for children aged 0-12,**
- **St John's, NL, transit fare is free for children aged 0-11**

**WHEREAS transit fares paid by passengers aged eight to twelve years of age are estimated, on an annual basis, to generate \$174,000 in fare revenue (based on 12 months, at 70% pre-COVID ridership),**

**WHEREAS increasing the coverage of free fares for children will benefit families, particularly racialized families and those led by single parent households,**

**WHEREAS, it is unlikely that children aged 0-11, will ride public transit alone, and instead be accompanied by at least one fare-paying passenger,**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Transit fares for children aged 8-12 shall become free of charge, and go in to effect on July 1, 2023.**

For (8): G. Gower, C. Curry, R. Brockington, M. Carr, J. Leiper, W. Lo, S. Menard, and T. Tierney

Against (1): D. Hill

**Carried (8 to 1)**

**Amendment:**

**Motion No. TTC 2023-02-05**



Moved by C. Curry

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Transit Commission recommend that Council, sitting as Committee of the Whole, approve the Transit Commission 2023 Draft Operating and Capital Budget, as follows:

1. **Transit Services as follows:**
  - a. **User fees as amended (pages 4-6);**
  - b. **Operating Resource Requirement (revised page 3);**
2. **Transit Commission Capital Budget (pages 7-8, individual projects listed on pages 15-42).**

For (8): G. Gower, C. Curry, M. Carr, D. Hill, J. Leiper, W. Lo, S. Menard, and T. Tierney

Against (1): R. Brockington

**Carried (8 to 1)**

Councillor S. Menard dissented on the Operating Resource Requirement (Page 3) - Transfers, Grants and Financial Charges - \$42 Million Reduction to Capital Reserve (as described on Page 13).