
MOTION TO DETERMINE THE SCOPE, APPROXIMATE COST, AND
TIMELINE FOR A STUDY TO EXAMINE THE EFFECTS OF VARIOUS
FARE STRUCTURES ON TRANSIT RIDERSHIP

CITY WIDE

Referred from the Transportation Committee meeting of December 1, 2021.

MOTION NO. TRC 2021-24/2

Moved by Councillor S. Menard.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, in recognition of the effect that increased transit use could have on reducing auto traffic and potential positive outcomes for the City's transportation network, that Transportation Committee recommend that Council direct the Transit Commission to have staff to determine the scope, approximate cost, and timeline for a study to examine the effects of various fare structures on transit ridership, including free transit in the month of December 2021, free transit for those in grade school and secondary school, free transit in clogged corridors such as Bank Street, and universal free transit or a city-wide U-pass and that this study consider the implications of those options on tourism, equity, service levels, and the Long Range Financial Plan, inclusive of potential future federal support for transit operations.

Wendy Stephanson, Chief Financial Officer and Isabelle Jasmin, Deputy City Treasurer, Finance Services Department, answered questions from the Commission.

The Commission heard the following delegations:

- Kari Glynes Elliott (Ottawa Transit Riders)
- Róisín West
- Neil Saravanamuttoo
- Laura Shantz

The following members of the public made written submissions (emails) in support of the motion, dated March 29. A copy of each is filed with the Office of the City Clerk:

- Steph Pearson
- Annie Crombie
- Mike Fullerton
- Cecile Wilson
- Nick Grover (Free Transit Ottawa)
- Michael Bernards

Transit Commission considered the following proposed direction to staff:

Councillor T. Tierney

That staff be directed to review the impact of various funding strategies on affordability and financial sustainability, including fare increases, the ratio between fare and transit tax as part of the Transit Services Long Range Financial Plan (LRFP) that will be coming to FEDCO in Q2 2022.

Following discussions, the Commission considered the following motion to refer the motion and proposed direction to Council:

Motion No. 2020 TTC 32-03

Moved by: Councillor C. McKenney (on behalf of Councillor S. Menard)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this item be referred to Council for consideration at its next meeting on April 13, 2022.

REFERRAL CARRIED