

14 JUNE 2017

EXTRACT OF DRAFT TRANSIT
COMMISSION MINUTES 22

EXTRAIT DE L'ÉBAUCHE DU
PROCÈS-VERBAL 22 DE LA
COMMISSION DU TRANSPORT
EN COMMUN
LE 31 MAI 2017

31 MAY 2017

OC TRANSPO EQUIFARE

ACS2017-CCS-TRA-0002

CITY WIDE

Councillor Blais requested that a Motion (outlined as Motion N^o OTC 22/03 below) be placed on the Transit Commission Agenda for the 31 May 2017 meeting.

Mr. John Manconi, General Manager, Transportation Services Department (TSD), along with Messrs. Pat Scrimgeour, Director, Transit Systems and Planning, TSD, and Troy Charter, Director, Transit Operations, TSD, were present to respond to questions.

Having stepped out of the Chair, he moved the following procedural Motions to waive the Rules of Procedure to allow for the consideration of the above-noted Motion at the present meeting.

MOTION N^o OTC 22/01

Moved by Councillor S. Blais:

That, pursuant to Subsection 1(2) of Procedure By-law 2016-377, the Transit Commission approve that the Rules of Procedure be waived to allow for the consideration of the item listed below;

- **OC Transpo EquiFare**

CARRIED

MOTION N^o OTC 22/02

Moved by Councillor S. Blais:

That, pursuant to Subsection 89(3) of Procedure By-law 2016-377, the Transit Commission approve the addition of the item listed below for

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consideration by the Commission at today's meeting:

- **OC Transpo EquiFare**

CARRIED

With the Commission's concurrence, he then introduced the following Motion, the purpose of which is to request that the Transit Commission recommend Council direct staff to develop an equitable single fare option for all OC Transpo services, based on the principles established for the EquiPass, and in compliance with existing commitments and policies regarding fare ratios, the Long Range Financial Plan and the Transit Affordability Plan, for consideration as part of the 2018 City of Ottawa budget process.

MOTION N^o OTC 22/03

Moved by Councillor S. Blais:

WHEREAS OC Transpo has launched the monthly EquiPass - priced at \$57 per month - a 50 per cent discount from the regular adult monthly pass for residents whose household income falls below the low-income cut-off threshold, as set out annually by the Government of Canada;

WHEREAS the low-income cut-off indicates an income threshold below which an individual or family is likely to spend significantly more of its income on food, shelter and clothing;

WHEREAS OC Transpo's mandate is to deliver safe, reliable, and courteous service at a reasonable price;

WHEREAS the 2015-2018 term of council priorities (TM5) articulates a strategic objective to "ensure reliable, safe, accessible and affordable transit services", and;

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WHEREAS Ottawa is and endeavours to remain a caring City which invests in its citizens while ensuring affordability for all residents;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Transit Commission recommend that Council direct staff to develop an equitable single fare option for all OC Transpo services, based on the principles established for the Equipass and in compliance with existing commitments and policies regarding fare ratios, the Long Range Financial Plan and the Transit Affordability Plan for consideration as part of the 2018 budget process.

The Commission's discussions included requests for staff to return with a comparison of similar programs in other municipalities, and that the review include evaluations of user-eligibility criteria, suggestions for controls to ensure fairness, and a way to ensure that the program's cost would not be subsidized by other Transit users, in overall considerations regarding the feasibility of implementing such a program.

Staff asserted that all options responding to the directions outlined in the Motion would be examined, in comparing similarly-sized municipalities, and would include an analysis of whether such could be implemented within existing revenue/cost ratios, with a view towards bringing back either recommendations or a range of options for the Commission, and for Council to consider.

There being no further discussion, Motion N^o OTC 22/03 was put before the Commission and was "CARRIED", as presented.