

**6 MARCH 2019**

**EXTRACT OF DRAFT TRANSIT  
COMMISSION MINUTES 2**

**EXTRAIT DE L'ÉBAUCHE DU  
PROCÈS-VERBAL 2 DE LA  
COMMISSION DU TRANSPORT  
EN COMMUN  
LE 20 FÉVRIER 2019**

**20 FEBRUARY 2019**

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2019 DRAFT OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET – TRANSIT COMMISSION

ACS2019-CCS-TRA-0002

CITY WIDE

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POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Commissioner Theresa Kavanagh declared a point of personal privilege, as the delegation representing the Federation of Citizens Associations is her spouse. She reported that she had communicated with the Integrity Commissioner on this matter, and she reported that no Conflict of Interest existed.

At the outset, the Commission received a detailed PowerPoint slide presentation from Mr. John Manconi, General Manager, Transportation Services Department (TSD), which served as an overview of the Commission's portion of the 2019 Draft Operating and Capital City Budget. A copy of this presentation is held on file with the City Clerk.

Messrs. Pat Scrimgeour, Director, Transit Customer Systems and Planning, Troy Charter, Director, Transit Operations, Jim Hopkins, Chief Safety Officer and Ms Jocelyne Bégin, Manager and Special Advisor to the General Manager (all with TSD), were also present to respond to questions, along with Ms Isabelle Jasmin, Deputy City Treasurer, Corporate Finance, Corporate Services Department, and Ms. Jennifer Pereira, Legal Counsel, City Clerk and Solicitor Department.

Councillors D. Deans, L. Dudas, K. Egli, M. Fleury and C.A. Meehan were also in attendance.

Commissioner Cloutier introduced the following 'Roadmap' Budget Motion:

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**MOTION N<sup>o</sup> TTC 02/02**

Moved by Commissioner J. Cloutier:

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Transit Commission recommends that Council, sitting as Committee of the Whole, approve the Transit Commission 2019 Draft Operating and Capital Budget, as follows:**

- 1. Transit Services as follows:**
  - a) User fees (pp. 4-6);**
  - b) Operating Resource Requirement (p. 3);**
- 2. Transit Commission Capital Budget (pp. 7 and 8, individual projects listed pp. 15-37).**

The Commission then heard from the following delegations offering their views and suggestions for the Transit Commission's portion of the Draft 2019 Operating and Capital City Budget:

- Ms Erin Andrews\*
- Dr. Anu Bose\*
- Mr. Alex Cullen\*, FCA
- Ms Margaret Dunn\*, and Messrs. Asaf Mitta and Alex Cullen, Seniors Transportation Committee of the Council on Aging
- Ms Marcelle Lafontaine\*
- Mr. Stephen St. Denis\*
- Mr. Donald Swartz, Free Transit Ottawa
- Ms Emma Coulter, Healthy Transportation Coalition
- Ms Heather Stecher
- Mr. John Redins

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- Ms Kari Glynes Elliott\*
  - Mr. Peter Gaudet

Written correspondence was also received from Mr. Ian Mitchell\*.

*[ \* Individuals / groups marked with an asterisk above either provided comments in writing or by e-mail; all submissions are held on file with the City Clerk. ]*

The Commission's questions to the delegations and to staff were based upon the staff presentation and many of the points raised by the delegations, which included, but were not necessarily limited to: the correlation between rising fares and falling ridership; setting appropriate transit pass fare structures and strategies; improving service delivery, access, accessibility and affordability; giving seniors the ability to pick their 'ride free' day; increasing investment in public transit to lower infrastructure repair costs; ongoing issues with Para Transpo and the need for an on-line booking system; route change logistics; the need to apply a gender lens to all TSD decision-making; and, the need for greater inter-departmental cooperation to enhance productivity, service delivery, and to help achieve the goals of lowering greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and shrinking the City's carbon footprint.

The Commission's discussions and deliberations centred on the points raised above, and included discussions on transit infrastructure and route reliability, customer satisfaction, opportunities to increase revenue through advertizing, fuel costs, user fee structures for 'Park & Rides', appropriate budgeting and planning based on anticipated LRT deliverables, risk assessments and financial implications for the City in the event of non-delivery of services.

Discussions having concluded, Councillor T. Kavanagh introduced the Motions listed below (being Motions N<sup>OS</sup> TTC 02/03, 02/04 and 02/05). Chair Hubley consulted Mr. Tim Marc, Senior Legal Counsel, City Clerk and Solicitor

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Department, for advice regarding whether the above Motions were in order. Mr. Marc's responses are listed beneath each Motion for ease of reference:

**MOTION N<sup>o</sup> TTC 02/03**

Moved by Commissioner T. Kavanagh:

**WHEREAS** the terms of reference for the Transit Commission includes, among its responsibilities:

*Attract an increasing number of customers to transit (B, 4 (1));*

**WHEREAS** the City's Transportation Master Plan has as one of its primary goals increasing transit modal share (i.e. share of all transportation trips in Ottawa) from 22% (2011) to 26% (2031);

**Whereas** since 2011 the number of transit rides in Ottawa has fallen from 103.5 million rides to 97 million rides in 2018, despite both population growth and employment growth;

**WHEREAS** OC Transpo fares have increased by over 24% over the same period while inflation has increased by only 11% during that period;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** OC Transpo staff bring forward to the Commission a report on possible fare strategies to increase transit ridership consistent with the City's Transportation Master Plan.

Mr. Marc suggested that Motion N<sup>o</sup> TTC 02/03 should be considered outside of the Budget process, after the Commission had dealt with its portion of the 2019 City of Ottawa Operating and Capital Budget. Commissioner Kavanagh opted to resubmit it as a *Notice of Motion*, to have it return for the Commission's consideration at its next meeting.

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**MOTION N<sup>o</sup> TTC 02/04**

Moved by Commissioner T. Kavanagh:

**WHEREAS the Ottawa Seniors Transportation Committee (OSTC) has submitted a proposal to Transit Commission entitled “Senior Pick Your Ride-Free Day”;**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the OSTC proposal “Pick Your Ride-Free Day” be referred to OC Transpo staff for analysis and report back to the Transit Commission.**

Mr. Marc suggested that Motion N<sup>o</sup> TTC 02/04 should be considered outside of the Budget process. Commissioner Kavanagh opted to resubmit it as a *Notice of Motion*, to have it return for the Commission’s consideration at its next meeting.

**MOTION N<sup>o</sup> TTC 02/05**

Moved by Commissioner T. Kavanagh:

**WHEREAS the EquiPass, Community Bus Pass and Access Pass are limited to persons on low incomes;**

**WHEREAS the proposed 2.5% fare increase in the 2019 City budget would provide hardship for these low-income persons;**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the fare structure proposed in the Transit Commission 2019 budget be amended so that the EquiPass, the Community Bus Pass and Access Pass remain at 2018 fare levels.**

Mr. Marc offered that, as Motion N<sup>o</sup> TTC 02/05 did not include any mention of offsetting revenues to balance what was being requested, as outlined in the recently-approved Governance report, it was not in order. He suggested that, with the addition of identified offsetting revenues, it would be appropriate to re-

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introduce it at the 6 March 2019 meeting of City Council, sitting as Committee-of-the-Whole. Commissioner Kavanagh opted to withdraw the Motion, with a view to resubmitting it at the meeting of Committee-of-the-Whole.

Discussions having concluded, the report recommendation was put before the Commission and was "CARRIED", as amended by Motion N<sup>o</sup> TTC 02/02, on a division of ten "YEAS" to two "NAYS", as outlined below:

YEAS: (10) Commissioners R. Brockington, A. Carricato, G. Gower, M. Olsen, J. Sudds, T. Tierney, L. Williams, S. Wright-Gilbert, J. Cloutier and A. Hubley

NAYS: (2) Commissioners C. McKenney and T. Kavanagh

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CARRIED, as amended