



**Transit Commission
SPECIAL MEETING**

Minutes 13

Monday, June 1 2020

10:00 a.m.

Electronic Participation

This Meeting was held through Electronic Participation in accordance with Bill 187, the Municipal Emergency Act, and an Order in Council of March 28, 2020, which amended the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act and prohibits organized public events of more than five people.

This Meeting was live streamed and archived on the Ottawa City Council YouTube Channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUR3i_hvk3-3i8vtrPg6v1Q

Persons wishing to provide comments to the Planning Committee on any of the items contained herein were strongly encouraged to submit such comments in writing, by email to the Committee Coordinator, or by calling the Committee Coordinator at the number provided.

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- Notes:**
1. *Please note that these Minutes are to be considered DRAFT until confirmed by the Commission*
 2. *Underlining indicates a new or amended recommendation approved by Commission.*

Present:

Chair: Councillor A. Hubley
Vice-Chair: Councillor J. Cloutier
Councillors: R. Brockington, G. Gower, T. Kavanagh C. McKenney
J. Sudds, T. Tierney
Citizen Members: A. Carricato, M. Olsen, L. Williams, S. Wright-Gilbert

Commission Chair Councillor Allan Hubley welcomed all meeting participants and began by calling the roll. He then explained that the Commission's meetings of March, April and May had been cancelled in response to emergency response orders instituted by the Province to deal with the COVID19 Pandemic, and in consultation with the City Clerk's Office, regarding the advisability and logistics of holding meetings. The Chair noted that transit users were able to connect with the Commission via email and by phone to have their concerns addressed. He thanked transit users for their continued support, and the employees of OC Transpo for keeping the transit system operational throughout the pandemic.

Commissioner Olsen then spoke to provide a formal apology to Commissioner Wright-Gilbert and to the Commission for remarks he had made at the meeting of Wednesday, 18 December 2019.

Chair Hubley then spoke to provide context and to outline the format for the present meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were filed.

Mr. John Manconi, General Manager, Transportation Services Department, introduced Mr. Brandon Richards as the department's new Chief Safety Officer. He also thanked OC Transpo staff and its Union leadership for their continued work.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

1. OC TRANSPRO TRANSIT SERVICE RECOVERY PLAN – COVID-19
ACS2020-TSD-TS-0003 CITY WIDE
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REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Transit Commission approve:

1. **The OC Transpo Transit Service Recovery Plan as outlined in this**

report; and,

2. **That wearing a non-medical cloth mask or equivalent face covering be a mandatory requirement for any person entering an OC Transpo bus, train, or station effective June 15, 2020, and continuing until widespread mask use is no longer required in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, and that this requirement be implemented by the General Manager, Transportation Services, as further described in this report.**

The Commission heard from Councillor Keith Egli, Chair, Ottawa Board of Health, and Dr. Vera Etches, Chief Medical Officer of Health for the City of Ottawa, who spoke to introduce the OC Transpo Transit Service Recovery Plan. Also present to respond to questions were Associate Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Brent Moloughney, and Mr. James Greer, A/Director, Transit Operations, TSD.

Also in attendance (electronically) were Councillors M. Fleury, J. Harder, M. Luloff and C.A. Meehan.

The Commission then received a detailed slide presentation overview of the Plan from Mr. Pat Scrimgeour, Director, Transit Customer Systems and Planning, TSD. The Plan, developed and based on industry associations' best practices and research, and guided by federal and provincial guidelines and policies, calls for the *mandatory* wearing of non-medical masks on all elements of the Transit System, but is characterized as focusing on *education* rather than on *enforcement*. Members were also shown a public service announcement video, prepared to disseminate the message to the public. Copies of the presentation and video are held on file with the Office of the City Clerk.

The Commission then heard from the following public delegations:

- Mr. Phillip Turcotte, Chair, Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)
- Ms. Christine Santelé*
- Ms. Maureen O'Halloran

Correspondence was also received from the following:

- Mr. Jan Lam*
- Ms Sheila Perry*, President, Federation of Citizens' Associations.
- Ms J.A. MacPhee*

*[* 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 discussions included the points covered in the presentation and detailed in the report, and the points and issues raised by the delegations, which included, but were not necessarily limited to; balancing the 'mandatory' requirement to wear masks throughout the Transit System with questions of risk to public health and safety and potential consequences of *not* wearing masks; making allowances for those who cannot, for various reasons, wear masks (or who may not have access to masks); education versus enforcement in the application of policy; the enhanced cleaning of Transit System vehicles and facilities; touch-free fare payment; the reopening of customer service centres and potential timelines for the return to full service; staggered vehicle scheduling to minimize crowding on platforms; the need for continued social distancing and increased space on buses and trains; industry best practices; partnering with the Public Health Officer; discussions of the delegation of the Commission's authority to the Chief Medical Officer of Health; and, questions pertaining to equity and inclusion in the formulation of policy.

In response to questions and suggestions from the delegations and from members of the Commission, Mr. Manconi confirmed that staff would further consult with the AAC for its additional input into the Plan, that staff would be undergoing training to learn how to deal with a variety of issues and potential situations, and that the Commission would continue to receive regular updates, via memo, on any significant changes and issues, as required.

Questions arose regarding the severability of the report recommendation. Mr. Manconi advised that operationally, staff would have difficulty implementing the Plan if both parts were not approved together. Commissioner Brockington asked that the recommendations be voted on separately. Chair Hubley ruled that the recommendations would be voted on as a whole.

Discussions having concluded, the Commission 'CARRIED' the report recommendations on a vote of ten 'Yeas' to one 'Nay', as outlined below:

CARRIED, on a division of 10 yeas and 1 nays, as follows:

YEAS (10): Commissioners: R. Brockington, A. Carricato, G. Gower,
T. Kavanagh, C. McKenney, J. Sudds, T. Tierney, S. Wright-Gilbert,
J. Cloutier and A. Hubley

NAYS (1): Commissioner: M. Olsen

**NOTICES OF MOTIONS
(FOR CONSIDERATION AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING)**

MOTION

Introduced by Commissioner A. Carricato:

WHEREAS on March 17, 2020 the Province declared an emergency under Subsection 7.0.1 (1) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*; and on March 25, 2020 the City of Ottawa declared an emergency pursuant to Subsection 4(1) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*; which both remain in effect today and have had a deep impact on OC Transpo operations;

WHEREAS OC Transpo has had a drastic reduction of about 85 percent in ridership levels which have contributed to the considerable reduction of fare revenue due to COVID-19 pandemic and this impact continues;

WHEREAS To mitigate budget pressures that may arise due to the COVID-19 pandemic it is imperative that staff explore alternative revenue streams that could offset the impacts to riders;

WHEREAS The City of Ottawa has existing agreements with two contractors for advertising on buses, in stations and on shelters, and the City received \$4.38 million from these agreements in 2018;

WHEREAS a motion (OTC 38/1) was approved by the Transit Commission on July 3, 2013 that directs staff to review the addition of advertising in LRT stations and inside train cars annually following commencement of operation of the Confederation Line;

WHEREAS the potential revenue generated for the City from paid advertising on all Line 1 assets could be substantial and partially offset the shortfall in fare revenue caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Transit Commission direct the General Manager of Transportation Services to commence a procurement process, consistent with the City's procurement policy, to identify potential revenue opportunities from advertising in stations and inside train cars on O-Train Line 1, and that staff report the findings to the Transit Commission at the conclusion of the process, expected to be in Q4 2020.

INQUIRIES

TTC 01-20

QUERY RE: RESTRICTIONS ON CHAIR CALLING TRANSIT COMMISSION MEETINGS

(COMMISSIONER R. BROCKINGTON)

The Transit Commission has not met since February 2020.

Following Royal Assent of provincial legislation allowing municipalities to meet virtually, was the Transit Commission Chair restricted in any way in calling a meeting of the Transit Commission in April or May 2020?

Did Ottawa City Council pass any motions restricting the Transit Commission Chair from calling a meeting of the Transit Commission in April or May 2020?

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Commission Coordinator

Chair