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**The Regional Municipality of Durham**

**MINUTES**

**DURHAM REGION TRANSIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, March 6, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Transit Executive Committee was held on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 1:31 PM

Present: Commissioner Collier, Chair  
Commissioner Barton, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Carter  
Commissioner Drew  
Commissioner Mulcahy  
Commissioner Pickles  
Regional Chair Henry

Also

Present: Commissioner Highet  
Commissioner Wotten

Absent: Commissioner Anderson  
Commissioner Bath-Hadden was absent due to municipal business

Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer  
V. Patterson, General Manager, Durham Region Transit  
J. Austin, Deputy General Manager, Business Services, Durham Region Transit  
W. Holmes, Deputy General Manager, Operations, Durham Region Transit  
A. McKinley, Deputy General Manager, Maintenance, Durham Region Transit  
A. Naeem, Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal  
C. Norris, Manager, Customer Experience, Durham Region Transit  
N. Pincombe, Director of Business Planning, Budgets & Risk Management Finance Department  
S. Pollock, Communication Coordinator, Durham Region Transit  
N. Taylor, Treasurer, Durham Region Transit, and Commissioner of Finance  
S. Rashad, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
A. Wak, Supervisor, Financial, Durham Region Transit  
C. Tennisco, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

**1. Declarations of Interest**

Commissioner Collier made a declaration of interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* with respect to Item 6. B), Report #2019-DRT-6: 2019 Durham Region Transit Business Plan and Budget, as it pertains to the U-Pass, including fare revenues through U-Pass arrangements with Durham's post-secondary institutions fare adjustments and annualization. He indicated that his son attends the University of Ontario Institute of Technology and uses the U-Pass.

**2. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Commissioner Carter, Seconded by Commissioner Drew,  
(20) That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Transit Executive Committee meeting held on Wednesday, February 6, 2019, be adopted.  
CARRIED

**3. Delegations**

There were no delegations to be heard.

**4. Presentations**

4.1 Vincent Patterson, General Manager, and Nancy Taylor, Treasurer, Durham Region Transit, Re: the Durham Region Transit 2019 Business Plan and Budget

Vincent Patterson, General Manager, and Nancy Taylor, Treasurer, Durham Region Transit, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Durham Region Transit 2019 Business Plan and Budget. A copy of the presentation was provided as a handout.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Corporate Budget Overview
- Durham Region Transit Budget Overview
- 2018 Accomplishments
  - Customer Service
  - Customer Outreach
  - Service Improvements
- 2019 Proposed Expenditures & Financing
- 2019 Priorities & Highlights
  - Operating & Capital
  - Staffing
- 2019 Risks & Uncertainties
- 2019 Initiatives to Modernize & Find Service Efficiencies
- Future Budget Pressures
  - Impacts on 2020 Budget
  - Forecasted Pressure

V. Patterson responded to questions regarding opportunities for initiatives to adopt a low-income transit fare model, including conversations with agencies such as the Durham Region Non-Profit Housing and Durham Regional Local Housing Corporations; and the timelines to bring forth the data from the low-income travel study and subsequent recommendations for a pilot program. V. Patterson advised staff will report back in the Spring of 2019.

Discussion ensued regarding the newly announced provincial initiative, "Children 12 and Under Ride Free on GO Transit", to travel free on all GO Transits trains and buses beginning March 9, 2019; if DRT allowed children 12 and under to ride free, with a paid adult, could it generate additional ridership and future ridership habits; whether the opportunity exists for a DRT 6-month, "children 12 and under ride free" pilot program; and options for offering a reduced rate during off peak times. V. Patterson advised that DRT is looking at a pilot program for a reduction of about \$20.00 off the \$93.50 youth monthly pass, that would be offered over a 10-month period commencing in September 2019.

Staff responded to further questions regarding whether DRT has looked at electric buses as an option for future bus acquisitions; potential funding opportunities; and, the cost differentials of a diesel and electric bus. J. Austin provided an update on the Canadian Urban Transit Research and Innovation Consortium (CUTRIC) pilot programs for electric powered buses.

V. Patterson responded to questions regarding the OnDemand ridership numbers for the northern municipalities; what 6.3 per cent in DRT's U-Pass revenues equates to in actual ridership; and the purchase of new buses to address future growth demands, including low-floor minivans. Discussion followed on the options for contracted services to help serve the current demand for specialized services.

V. Patterson provided an update on the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program; the support for the GO Rail service extension; and bus services along Highway 2 into Bowmanville.

B. Holmes responded to questions regarding the initiation of the Specialized Services two-year eligibility review. Commissioner Mulcahy inquired whether DRT would present to the Accessibility Advisory Committees on the two-year eligibility review process. B. Holmes advised yes.

## **5. Correspondence**

- A) Resolution from the Municipality of Clarington adopted at their Council meeting held on February 4, 2019, regarding: Inadequate Public Transportation in Ward 4

Moved by Commissioner Carter, Seconded by Commissioner Drew,  
(21) That Correspondence Item TC-02 from J. Gallagher, Deputy Clerk, Municipality of Clarington, regarding a resolution adopted by their Council regarding Inadequate Public Transportation in Ward 4, be referred to staff for consideration.

CARRIED

- B) Alexander Harras, Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk, Town of Ajax, writing to Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of Durham, advising that at their meeting held on January 28, 2019, the Council of the Town of Ajax endorsed Caryn Antram as the Town of Ajax's representative on the Durham Region Transit Advisory Committee for the 2018-2022 term of Council.  
(T-3)
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Moved by Commissioner Barton, Seconded by Commissioner Carter,  
(22) That Correspondence Item TC-3 from A. Harras, Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk, Town of Ajax, regarding the appointment of Ajax's representative on the Durham Region Transit Advisory Committee, be referred to consideration of Report #2019-DRT-5.

CARRIED

## 6. Reports

- A) Appointment of members to the Durham Region Transit Advisory Committee  
(2019-DRT-5)
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Report #2019-DRT-5 from V. Patterson, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Commissioner Pickles,  
(23) A) That the following nominees be appointed to the Transit Advisory Committee (TAC) for the term of this Council:

i) Nominated by local municipal Councils:

- |                               |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a) Town of Ajax               | Caryn Antram             |
| b) Township of Brock          | Jean Martin              |
| c) Municipality of Clarington | Richard Claxton-Oldfield |
| d) City of Oshawa             | Greg Gormick             |
| e) City of Pickering          | Abdul Macci              |
| f) Town of Whitby             | Jeffrey Beaton;          |

ii) One member of the Transit Executive Committee (the Chair or his/her designate) as the Chair of TAC:

- Commissioner Barton;

iii) Durham Region Transit General Manager's designate, as a non-voting member:

- DRT Manager, Customer Experience; and

- B) That TAC at its March 19, 2016 meeting be requested to recommend the two members at large for consideration by the Transit Executive Committee (TEC) at its next meeting.

CARRIED

- B) 2019 Durham Region Transit Business Plan and Budget (2019-DRT-6)

Report #2019-DRT-6 from V. Patterson, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Commissioner Carter,

- (24) That we recommend to the Finance and Administration Committee for subsequent recommendation to Regional Council that the 2019 Business Plan and Budget of Durham Region Transit be approved, including the following authorizations:

- A) That DRT's transit service level be approved at up to 529,911 revenue hours of service (a 0.6 per cent increase from 526,627 hours in 2018), including annualization of the 2018 service enhancements and based on service enhancements and efficiencies to be implemented in 2019;
- B) That effective May 1, 2019, the following transit fare increases be implemented, estimated to generate approximately \$128,000 in new fare revenue in 2019 based on DRT's 2019 ridership forecast of 10.7 million riders:
- i) The Adult single-ride PRESTO and Ticket fares to increase by \$0.05 from \$3.15 to \$3.20; and
  - ii) The Youth single-ride PRESTO and Ticket fares to increase by \$0.05 from \$2.80 to \$2.85; and
- C) That the Treasurer and General Manager of Durham Region Transit be authorized to execute a one-year extension to the existing U-Pass agreement with Durham College, the University of Ontario Institute of Technology and Trent University (Durham Campus), including an increase in the fee per eligible student from \$135.00 per semester to \$139.00 per semester for the period of September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020.

CARRIED LATER IN THE MEETING

(See Following Motions)

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Commissioner Carter,  
(25) That the main motion (24) of Regional Chair Henry and  
Commissioner Carter be divided in order to allow voting on Part B)  
separately from the remainder.

CARRIED

Part B) was then put to a vote and CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING  
RECORDED VOTE:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Commissioner Barton	None
Commissioner Carter	
Commissioner Drew	
Regional Chair Henry	
Commissioner Mulcahy	
Commissioner Pickles	

Members Absent: Commissioner Anderson  
Commissioner Bath-Hadden

Declarations of Interest: Commissioner Collier

Parts A) and C) were then put to a vote and CARRIED.

This matter will be considered by the Finance & Administration Committee on  
March 19 and 20, 2019 and presented to Regional Council on March 27, 2019.

## 7. **Advisory Committee Resolutions**

There were no advisory committee resolutions to be considered.

### 7.1 Durham Region Transit Advisory Committee

There were no advisory committee minutes to be considered.

## 8. **Confidential Matters**

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

## 9. **Other Business**

### 9.1 Vincent Patterson, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, provided a Verbal Update regarding a Traffic Collision on January 15, 2019 in the Town of Ajax

At the request of the Chair, V. Patterson an update on DRT's reaction to a  
vehicular accident on January 15, 2019 at the intersection of Westney Road and  
Millington Crescent, in the Town of Ajax; and the review of the bus location there.

**10. Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled Durham Region Transit Executive Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 1:30 PM in the Lower Level Boardroom (LL-C), Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**11. Adjournment**

Moved by Commissioner Carter, Seconded by Commissioner Barton,  
(26) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,

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S. Collier, Chair

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C. Tennisco, Committee Clerk