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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM REGION TRANSIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Transit Executive Committee was held on Wednesday, November 6, 2024 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 1:30 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Commissioner Crawford, Chair
Commissioner Schummer*, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Anderson
Commissioner Brenner*
Commissioner Carter*
Commissioner Garrod, left the meeting at 3:01 PM
Commissioner Wotten
Regional Chair Henry
***denotes Commissioners participating electronically**

Absent: Commissioner Roy

Also

Present: Commissioner Jubb*
Commissioner Kerr
***denotes visiting Commissioners participating electronically**

Present: S. Austin, Executive Director, Strategic Initiatives
S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
D. Daniels, Program Manager, Community Engagement and Change Management, Durham Region Transit
S. Dessureault, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
N. Harkness, Program Manager, Technology Solutions, Durham Region Transit
W. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit
K. Hornburg, Deputy General Manager, Business Services, Durham Region Transit
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
D. Kaushal, Outreach Worker, Social Services
J. Kilgour, Acting Deputy General Manager, Maintenance, Durham Region Transit
A. Mak, Supervisor, Financial, Durham Region Transit

D. Margiotta*, Manager, Operations Conventional East, Durham Region Transit
A. Naeem*, Solicitor, Legal Services
A. Pezzetti, Deputy General Manager, Operations, Durham Region Transit
J. Phalen, Manager, Policy and Planning, Durham Region Transit
N. Pincombe, Director, Business Planning and Budgeting, Finance Department
D. Quesada-Rebolledo, Outreach Worker, Social Services
C. Rochon, Manager, Corporate Initiatives
N. Taylor, Treasurer, Durham Region Transit, and Commissioner of Finance
P. Uthayakumar, Manager, Infrastructure, Safety and Technology, Durham Region Transit
V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
*** denotes staff participating electronically**

2. **Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

3. **Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Commissioner Garrod, Seconded by Commissioner Anderson,
(42) That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Transit Executive
Committee meeting held on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. **Presentations**

4.1 Bill Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, re: General Manager's Verbal Update

B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit (DRT) provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the General Manager's Verbal Update.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- General Manager (GM) Information Highlights
- Canada Public Transit Fund (CPTF)
 - Metro Region Agreement (MRA) Stream
 - Baseline Stream
 - Targeted Funding Stream
- Updates
 - Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA) Federal Lobby Day (September 26)
 - DRT Student Ambassador Video

B. Holmes responded to questions from the Committee regarding eligibility criteria for the CPTF, specifically the implementation of high-density housing within 800 metres of a high-frequency transit corridor in the Region of Durham; the Ontario Transit Investment Fund and program criteria which excludes DRT from being eligible; service enhancements in communities within the Municipality of Clarington; and the rollout of additional service capacity improvements for On Demand transit services.

4.2 Daniel Quesada-Rebolledo, Outreach Worker, Social Services, and David Kaushal, Outreach Worker, Social Services, re: Durham Region Transit Social Services Street Outreach Joint Initiative

K. Hornburg, Deputy General Manager, Business Services, DRT introduced D. Quesada-Rebolledo, Outreach Worker, Social Services, and D. Kaushal, Outreach Worker, Social Services to present a PowerPoint presentation regarding Durham Region Transit and Social Services Street Outreach Joint Initiative.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Unsheltered Homelessness in Durham Region
- Regional Street Outreach Program
- DRT and Street Outreach Pilot
- Key Performance Indicators
- Benefits
- Hours of Operation and Staffing
- Outreach Example: Matthew*

D. Quesada-Rebolledo and D. Kaushal responded to questions from the Committee regarding the key takeaways from the Region of Durham's Street Outreach Program; whether communication is occurring with other transit services providing similar outreach services; the outreach services available to the northern municipalities within the Region of Durham; whether the Region of Durham's Street Outreach Program provides transportation to individuals seeking shelter in the winter months; whether the "Hot Spots" in the Region of Durham are proactively patrolled or monitored; and the distinction between an individual who is homeless and an individual who is homeless and listed on the By-Name List in the Region of Durham.

4.3 Caitlin Rochon, Manager, Corporate Initiatives, re: Durham Region Transit Public Art Pilot Project

S. Austin, Executive Director, Strategic Initiatives introduced C. Rochon, Manager, Corporate Initiatives to present a PowerPoint presentation regarding Durham Region Transit Public Art Pilot Project.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Five Benefits of Public Art and Placemaking
- A Framework to Enable and Promote Creative and Engaging uses of Regional Property
- Preferred Locations
- Transit Shelter Public Art Project
- Selection Process
- Art Displays Located in the Region of Durham
- 2024 Public Art and Placemaking Pilot Projects

C. Rochon responded to questions from the Committee regarding the measures that are in place to reduce the risk and impact of vandalism to transit shelter art displays; and the process for selecting art displays for the communities within the Region of Durham.

4.4 Bill Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, re: Capital Project Budget Reallocations and 2024 Durham Region Transit Bus Order (2024-DRT-17) [Item 7.2]

B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Capital Project Budget Reallocations and 2024 Durham Region Transit Bus Order.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Background
- Considerations
 - Projected Ridership
 - Operational – September 2026
 - Financial
 - Climate Change
 - Option 1: 14 Battery Electric Buses
 - Option 2: 18 Diesel Buses
 - Option 3: 8 Battery Electric and 8 Diesel Buses
 - DRT Transit Service and Financing Strategy (2023-2032)
 - Administrative Building Rebuild at Raleigh Depot
 - ICIP Project for Bus Stop Infrastructure
- Recommendations
 - Option 2: Diesel Buses

B. Holmes responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether consultations have been conducted to assess if Option 2 is the best choice for the bus order; the life expectancy of a diesel bus; how additional funding from other levels of government impacts the electrification of DRT's bus fleet; and the reasons DRT's application to the Zero Emission Transit Fund did not receive funding.

5. Delegations

There were no delegations heard.

6. Correspondence

There were no communication items considered.

7. Reports

A) General Manager's Report – November 2024 (2024-DRT-16)

Report #2024-DRT-16 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Discussion ensued with respect to the metrics for the unaccommodated rate of On Demand services.

Moved by Commissioner Schummer, Seconded by Commissioner Wotten,
(43) That Report #2024-DRT-16 of the General Manager, Durham Region Transit, be received for information.

CARRIED

B) Capital Project Budget Re-allocations and 2024 Durham Region Transit Bus Order (2024-DRT-17)

Report #2024-DRT-17 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Commissioner Anderson,
(44) A) That in consideration of the requirement to revise the 2024 bus order within the available financing approved in the 2024 budget, that Option 2 – 18 Diesel Buses be approved;

B) To the Finance and Administration Committee:

- i. That the project gross costs and financing shown in Section B of Attachment #1 to Report #2024-DRT-17 of the General Manager, Durham Region Transit, be approved, replacing the previously approved bus stop infrastructure, vehicles, vehicle outfitting, facility, charging infrastructure and other project costs and financing shown in Section A of the Attachment #1 to Report #2024-DRT-;
- ii. That staff be granted authority to request the necessary federal and provincial approvals to re-allocate Investment in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) grant funding among

bus stop infrastructure and the administrative building re-build projects, as shown in the Attachment #1 to Report #2024-DRT-17, and potentially further re-allocations as necessary, to mitigate risk that federal and provincial ICIP funding is left un-spent and to align ICIP funding with current priorities; and

- iii. That the Commissioner of Finance be authorized to adjust financing for the projects in Section B of Attachment #1 to Report #2024-DRT-17, in the unlikely event that the Region's request to reallocate ICIP funding is not approved by the federal or provincial governments.

CARRIED

C) 2024 Transit Network Status Update (2024-DRT-18)

Report #2024-DRT-18 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Commissioner Anderson,
(45) That Report #2024-DRT-18 of the General Manager, Durham Region Transit, be received for information.

CARRIED

D) 2025 Transit Fares (2024-DRT-19)

Report #2024-DRT-19 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Chair Crawford vacated the Chair at 3:17 PM to put forward an amendment to the recommendations in Report #2024-DRT-19. Commissioner Schummer, Vice-Chair, chaired the meeting during this time. Chair Crawford resumed the Chair at 3:25 PM.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Commissioner Anderson,
(46) That the Transit Executive Committee recommends to Regional Council that the proposed transit fares as contained in Attachment #1 to Report #2024-DRT-19 of the General Manager, Durham Region Transit, be approved and implemented effective July 1, 2025.

CARRIED AS AMENDED ON A
RECORDED VOTE LATER IN THE
MEETING

(See following Motion)

Discussion ensued regarding how the reduced fare increase to the adult single ride base fare would impact the subsequent 2025 proposed fares.

Moved by Commissioner Crawford, Seconded by Commissioner Wotten,

- (47) That the 2025 Proposed Fare Table as contained in Attachment #1 to Report #2024-DRT-19 be amended by reducing the adult single ride base fare increase from 5% down to 3.5%, and that all subsequent fares set out in Attachment #1 to Report #2024-DRT-19 be adjusted down accordingly.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY ON THE
FOLLOWING RECORDED VOTE:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Commissioner Anderson	None
Commissioner Brenner	
Commissioner Carter	
Commissioner Crawford	
Commissioner Garrod	
Commissioner Schummer	
Commissioner Wotten	
Regional Chair Henry	

Members Absent: Commissioner Roy

Declarations of Interest: None

The main motion (46) of Regional Chair Henry and Commissioner Anderson was then put to a vote and CARRIED AS AMENDED.

8. **Advisory Committee Resolutions**

There were no advisory committee resolutions considered.

9. **Confidential Matters**

There were no confidential matters considered.

10. **Other Business**

There was no other business considered.

11. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled Durham Region Transit Executive Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4, 2024 at 1:30 PM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

12. **Adjournment**

Moved by Commissioner Wotten, Seconded by Commissioner Anderson,
(48) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

M. Crawford, Chair

S. Dessureault, Committee Clerk