

**9 DECEMBER 2020**

**LE 9 DÉCEMBRE 2020**

**EXTRACT OF DRAFT TRANSIT  
COMMISSION MINUTES 19**

**EXTRAIT DE L'ÉBAUCHE DU  
PROCÈS-VERBAL 19 DE LA  
COMMISSION DU TRANSPORT  
EN COMMUN**

**18 NOVEMBER 2020**

**LE 18 NOVEMBRE 2020**

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2021 DRAFT OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET – TRANSIT  
COMMISSION

ACS2020-FSD-FIN-0023

CITY WIDE

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*Referred from the Transit Commission Meeting of November 4, 2020.*

John Manconi, General Manager, Transportation Services Department (TSD), presented an overview of the draft 2021 budget. A copy of the slide presentation is filed with the Office of the City Clerk.

Mr. Manconi, as well as Wendy Stephanson, Chief Financial Officer, Pat Scrimgeour, Director, Transit Customer Systems and Planning, and James Greer, Director, Transit Operations answered questions from the Commission.

TSD staff undertook to provide:

- A pre-COVID breakdown of ridership based on level of income
- Copies of reports, such as the UITP (*Union Internationale des Transports Publics*) report, to Members of Commission and Council for information

Commissioners received the following submissions, and a copy of each is filed with the Office of the City Clerk:

- Huston Eubank email dated November 11
- Wanda Raymond email dated November 16
- Christine Santelé speaking notes received November 17
- Courage Ottawa and Ottawa Transit Riders comments dated November 2020

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- Ottawa Transit Riders and coalition partners comments received November 17
- Arije El-Aina, City for All Women Initiative (CAWI) speaking notes dated November 18

The following delegates spoke before the Commission and provided comments on the draft 2021 budget: Clint Crabtree (ATU Local 279), Laura Shantz of Ottawa Transit Riders (OTR), Kari Glynes Elliott (OTR), Tyler Paziuk, John Redins, Sam Boswell (OTR), Christine Santelé, Sam Hersh, Hanadi Alhamawi (CAWI), Tammy Davis (CAWI), Fatima Gimba (CAWI), Khulud Baig (CAWI), Eugenie Waters, Angela Keller-Herzog, and Raymond Leury.

The Commission considered the following motions:

**Motion No. 2020 TTC 19-01**

Moved by Councillor C. McKenney

**WHEREAS Ottawa has one of the most expensive transit passes in Canada; and**

**WHEREAS Ottawa has one of the most expensive single-ride fares in Canada; and**

**WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has brought unprecedented financial hardship to many Ottawa residents, particularly those who are unemployed or working in low wage jobs; and**

**WHEREAS retail and other front-line workers, and other minimum wage workers are mostly reliant on public transit to get to work;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that transit fares be frozen until the pandemic is declared over and the state of emergency is lifted; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Transit Commission recommend Council direct the Mayor write to the Government of Ontario to request**

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---

financial assistance to make up the shortfall that a transit freeze would create.

The Chair ruled that Motion No. 2020 TTC 19-01 was out of order.

**Motion No. 2020 TTC 19-02**

Moved by Commissioner M. Olsen

**WHEREAS** the COVID-19 pandemic has caused untold hardship for thousands of people across the City of Ottawa, in all wards; and,

**WHEREAS** this has meant that some people have not been able to receive medical treatment they needed, whether for COVID-19 or other illnesses or conditions, but especially for those related to mental health and addictions; and,

**WHEREAS** the City and OC Transpo have chosen to generate revenue by ticketing people who do not wear masks where they are supposed to; and,

**WHEREAS** revenues collected could alleviate the inability of people affected to have access to needed medical services;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that all revenues collected by the City and OC Transpo with respect to people not wearing masks be diverted or channelled to help the City's health-care system provide services on mental health and addictions that may otherwise not have a source of funding.

Following discussions, the motion was withdrawn by the mover.

**Motion No. 2020 TTC 19-03**

Moved by Councillor C. McKenney

**WHEREAS** Ottawa has one of the most expensive transit passes in Canada; and

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---

**WHEREAS Ottawa has one of the most expensive single-ride fares in Canada; and**

**WHEREAS the average processing time for an EquiPass is six weeks; and**

**WHEREAS the requirement to provide proof of annual income is a barrier to applying to the EquiPass; and**

**WHEREAS some Canadian municipalities have moved from a single-price low income pass to a sliding scale fare;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that staff examine options for sliding scale fares and passes; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff examine options for eliminating the means test when applying for any low income or special pass; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff report to Transit Commission on their findings including how other cities are managing these issues.**

The Motion was LOST, on a division of 5 'Yeas' to 6 'Nays', as follows:

**YEAS (5):** Commissioners: R. Brockington, G. Gower, T. Kavanagh, C. McKenney and S. Wright-Gilbert,

**NAYS (6):** Commissioners: A. Carricato, M. Olsen, J. Sudds, T. Tierney, Vice-Chair J. Cloutier and Chair A. Hubley

**Motion No. 2020 TTC 19-04**

Moved by Councillor R. Brockington

**9 DECEMBER 2020**

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---

**WHEREAS the Family DayPass for OC Transpo is only available on Saturdays, Sundays and statutory holidays, allowing a family group to ride all day on a single DayPass for \$10.75; and**

**WHEREAS a family can be made up of as many as six people, with a maximum of two aged 13 or older; and**

**WHEREAS providing additional opportunities for families to ride public transit promotes future ridership; and**

**WHEREAS it would be beneficial to families to have the Family DayPass also available during March Break, the months of July and August, and the two-week school board over the Christmas week and New Year's holiday period;**

**WHEREAS providing additional opportunities for families to ride public transit during peak tourist seasons will create an economic boost for Ottawa businesses; and**

**WHEREAS staff has not yet been able to fully quantify the financial impacts of this change, which could potentially be revenue positive, neutral or negative to the City, but anticipate that any one-time administrative costs and/ or modest revenue impact (if any) can be accommodated through the existing proposed Transit Services operating budget and/or Transit Reserve Fund.**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OC Transpo implement the Family DayPass during the March Break as scheduled in 2021 by the four school boards in Ottawa, beginning on the Saturday through to, and including, the following Sunday; and**

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT OC Transpo implement the Family DayPass from July 1 to September 6, 2021; and**

**9 DECEMBER 2020**

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**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT OC Transpo implement the Family DayPass from the first Saturday of the primary and secondary school Christmas week through the period ending on the Sunday before school classes begin, as scheduled in 2021-22 by the four school boards in Ottawa; and**

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT OC Transpo implement the Family DayPass on Family Day 2021; and**

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff report back in the proposed 2022 budget with any estimated changes to ridership and fare revenue that were recorded in 2021, so that Council can make a decision on whether to make this a regular change to the OC Transpo fare table.**

**CARRIED**

**Motion No. 2020 TTC 19-05**

Moved by Councillor T. Kavanagh

**WHEREAS public transit is a core service in the City of Ottawa, and**

**WHEREAS transit is considered an essential service in our city transportation infrastructure and therefore operations were not reduced during the COVID-19 pandemic, and**

**WHEREAS it is expected that pandemic-related measures implemented since the beginning of the year will remain in effect for an extended period, and**

**WHEREAS residents in lower income brackets need reliable and affordable transportation, particularly during the pandemic, and**

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**WHEREAS essential workers who provide critical services across the City need reliable transit service to get to their employment which can be hospitals, Long Term Care facilities and grocery stores, and**

**WHEREAS public transit is essential as an alternative to private vehicles in reaching our City of Ottawa's Transportation Master Plan and our greenhouse gas reduction targets,**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Transit Commission recommend that Council request the Mayor to write to the Prime Minister as well as the Federal Minister of Finance and Minister of Infrastructure to request that federal funding for transit includes operational costs along with capital investments, to ensure a healthy city and healthy economy.**

**CARRIED**

**Motion No. 2020 TTC 19-06**

Moved by Vice-Chair J. Cloutier

**That the Transit Commission recommend that Council, sitting as Committee of the Whole, approve the Transit Commission 2021 Draft Operating and Capital Budget, as follows:**

- 1. Transit Services as follows:**
  - a. User fees (pages 4-6);**
  - b. Operating Resource Requirement (page 3);**
- 2. Transit Commission Capital Budget (pages 7, individual projects listed on pages 15-33).**

The Motion was severed and the Commission voted on recommendation 1, which was CARRIED on a division of 8 'Yeas' to 3 'Nays', as follows:

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YEAS (8): Commissioners: R. Brockington, A. Carricato, G. Gower, M. Olsen, J. Sudds, T. Tierney, Vice-Chair J. Cloutier and Chair A. Hubley

NAYS (3): Commissioners: T. Kavanagh, C. McKenney and S. Wright-Gilbert

The Commission then voted on recommendation 2, which was CARRIED, on a division of 9 'Yeas' to 2 'Nays', as follows:

YEAS (9): Commissioners: R. Brockington, A. Carricato, G. Gower, T. Kavanagh, M. Olsen, J. Sudds, T. Tierney, Vice-Chair J. Cloutier and Chair A. Hubley

NAYS (2): Commissioners: C. McKenney and S. Wright-Gilbert