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## The Regional Municipality of Durham

### MINUTES

#### DURHAM REGION TRANSIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 2, 2021

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Transit Executive Committee was held on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 1:31 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

#### 1. Roll Call

Present: Commissioner Collier, Chair  
Commissioner Barton, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Anderson  
Commissioner Carter attended at the meeting at 1:40 PM  
Commissioner Drew  
Commissioner Mulcahy  
Commissioner Pickles  
Commissioner Smith  
Regional Chair Henry

Also  
Present: Commissioner Crawford  
Commissioner Grant

#### Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer  
W. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit  
J. Austin, Deputy General Manager, Business Services, Durham Region Transit  
J. Bastarache, Communications – DRT, Corporate Communications, Office of the Chief Administration Officer  
D. Beaton, Commissioner of Corporate Services  
M. Binetti, Transportation Service Design, Durham Region Transit  
J. Demanuele, Director of Business Services, Works Department  
D. Dunn, Project Manager, Rapid Transit Implementation  
S. Glover, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services  
L. Huinink, Director, Rapid Transportation & Transit Oriented Development, Office of the Chief Administration Officer  
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
A. McKinley, Deputy General Manager, Maintenance, Durham Region Transit  
A. Naeem, Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services  
C. Norris, Deputy General Manager, Operations, Durham Region Transit

C. Tennesco, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

## 2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no delegations to be heard.

Chair Collier, on behalf of the Committee and the Durham Region Transit Commission; and Bill Holmes, on behalf of the DRT staff, congratulated Cheryl Tennesco, Committee Clerk, on her upcoming retirement and thanked her for her hard work and professionalism during her time as the Committee Clerk for the Transit Executive Committee

## 3. **Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Commissioner Pickles, Seconded by Commissioner Barton,  
(31) That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Transit Executive  
Committee meeting held on Wednesday, May 5, 2021, be adopted.  
CARRIED

## 4. **Delegations**

There were no delegations to be heard.

## 5. **Presentations**

### 5.1 Lorraine Huinink, Director, Rapid Transit Implementation and Transit Oriented Development; and David Dunn, Project Manager, Rapid Transit Implementation; re: Bus Rapid Transit Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) Project Schedule Update

L. Huinink and D. Dunn provided a PowerPoint presentation update on the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) projects and the phasing for the Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit (DSBRT) projects including Simcoe Street in Oshawa. A copy of the presentation was provided in the Agenda.

D. Dunn provided an overview of the project schedule for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program and Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit (DSBRT) projects. He advised that the three ICIP project submissions for DSBRT have been approved; the Province has invested approximately \$70 million into the DSBRT program, through the Quick-Win funding; and, that the approved ICIP funding will advance the BRT corridor along Highway 2 following the Transit Project Assessment Process (TPAP) scheduled for completion by the end of 2021.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) project submissions
  1. Simcoe Street Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment (ICIP funding approved)

2. Oshawa, Whitby & Ajax Rapid Transit Road Works (ICIP funding approved)
  3. Pickering Median Transit, Road Works (ICIP funding approved)
- Durham-Scarborough BRT Transit Project Assessment Process (TPAP)
  - Simcoe Street Rapid Transit Environmental Assessment (EA)
  - ICIP project list Ajax, Whitby & Oshawa rapid transit
    - ICIP Scope of Work – Oshawa
    - ICIP Scope of Work – Whitby
    - ICIP Scope of Work – Ajax
    - ICIP Scope of Work – Pickering
  - Converting existing curbside to median Pickering and Ajax segments
  - BRT implementation progress

D. Dunn provided an overview of the approved Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) projects that account for over \$180 million of the Durham-Scarborough Bus Rapid Transit (DSBRT) construction costs; and, the \$5 million allocated for the EA and Visioning Study for the Simcoe Street corridor commencing in 2021.

D. Dunn advised that the DSBRT implementation process includes registries for establishing the prequalified consultants and contractors to help mitigate project delays; the issuance of the Request For Proposals (RFP) for the detailed design for the four project segments covering 7.3 km of the proposed BRT lanes; the completion of the R-Plans for the first phase of property acquisition; and, that the acquisition letters to affected property owners are planned to go out starting in the summer.

D. Dunn noted that a Metrolinx presentation, along with a staff report, will be coming forward at the June 9, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting to update Regional Council on the DSBRT study.

D. Dunn responded to questions with respect to the City of Pickering construction timelines from Dixie Road to Bainbridge Road; the opportunity for the signalized traffic lights to be installed in conjunction with the construction of the median located at the intersection of Guild Road and Denmark Road; and, whether the negotiations are underway for the property acquisitions for the new CN Rail tunnel and if any additional Federal application approvals are required for the tunnel.

Discussion ensued regarding the timelines for the scope of work in the Town of Ajax for the median queue lanes; and, the proposed design for 5 lanes in Pickering Village.

Commissioner Mulcahy expressed a concern regarding the potential use of up to three metres of land, off the front of Celebration Square, at the Whitby Central Public Library in the downtown area in the Town of Whitby. D. Dunn advised that section is outside of the scope of the current ICIP projects and suggested that this

question be brought forward to Metrolinx at the June 9, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Further discussion ensued with respect to a concern regarding the lack of communication with the businesses located along Dundas Street that will be losing property frontage in the Town of Whitby. D. Dunn advised that the businesses within the ICIP segments located between Lake Ridge Road to Des Newman Boulevard will be sent letters; and, that all businesses within the DSBRT Study corridor were provided written notices prior each of the three Public Information Centres. D. Dunn noted that Metrolinx also communicated with the businesses via the Business Improvement Association and the Chamber of Commerce.

Commissioner Mulcahy requested that staff from Durham Region Transit and Economic Development reach out to the businesses located along the BRT corridor regarding the BRT segment projects.

L. Huinink advised that the project team will be working with the Community Liaison Committees, to further communicate with these businesses, and plans are to establish a construction ambassador role within the Rapid Transit Office to also reach out to these businesses as requested.

L. Huinink and D. Dunn responded to additional questions regarding opportunities to ensure residents are provided advanced notice of any upcoming construction; the start date for the construction of the DSBRT median project segments; and, the plans for public outreach on how to safely make a legal U- turns at the controlled intersections. Discussion followed on the plans for a one-way cycle track, with a separate sidewalk, along Highway 2 through the Town of Ajax and being diverted through Pickering Village.

## 5.2 Michael Binetti, Supervisor, Service Design, and Christopher Norris, Deputy General Manager, Operations re: Upcoming Service Enhancements

Michael Binetti and Christopher Norris provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Upcoming Service Enhancements to the DRT network.

M. Binetti provided an overview of the summer and fall highlights. Highlights of his presentation included:

- Major travel Market review
- Ridership Recovery - Principles
- Summer Highlights: June 21. 2021
  - Route 110: Pickering Parkway – Sunbird Loop
  - Route 120: Pickering Station – Sunbird Loop
  - Route 224: Ajax Station – Taunton
  - Route 917: Toronto – Oshawa
  - On Demand

- Fall Highlights: September 7, 2021
  - Route 392: Oshawa Centre – Ontario Shores
  - Route 407: Harmony Terminal – South Oshawa
  - Route 411: Oshawa Centre – South Courtice
  - Route 901: North Campus – Oshawa Centre - Lakeview
  - Route 905: Whitby – Harmony Terminal – Uxbridge
  - Route 920: Toronto – Amazon – North Campus
  - Overnight Mobility
- Service Change Summary – June 2021
- Service Change Summary – September 2021

C. Norris advised that the service updates in June 2021 will provide residents and visitors greater mobility and help to develop new transit markets and services to the waterfront parks, access to conservation areas in the trailheads in Durham Region; and, to the Rouge National Park in Toronto as the Province reopens.

C. Norris also advised that this September is full of opportunity for DRT as the employment and post secondary travel markets come back. He noted that the changes will provide a new 24 hour service for greater mobility; develop the high school, post secondary and employment markets; provide additional travel options for essential workers; and, new service integrations as DRT connects to the McCowan Station near the Scarborough Town Centre and to the Toronto Transit Commission's Blue Night Network (Route 920).

Chair Collier asked how the Fall return to school will affect the travel markets for the schools. C. Norris advised that discussions are on-going with the school boards and the Durham Student Transportation Services in regards to DRT's role in how students travel to and from school and fare incentives.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for an aggressive plan to be in place to communicate the upcoming service enhancements, out to the public. C. Norris noted that DRT is working with Corporate Communication to highlight the service enhancements; and, also with employers to support information being provided to their employees.

## **6. Correspondence**

There were no correspondence items to be considered

## **7. Reports**

### **A) General Manager's Report – June 2, 2021 (2021-DRT-15)**

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Report #2021-DRT-15 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Moved by Commissioner Smith, Seconded by Commissioner Pickles,  
(32) That Report #2021-DRT-15 of the General Manager, Durham Region  
Transit, be received for information.

CARRIED

B) Durham Region Transit customer policies update (2021-DRT-16)

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Report #2021-DRT-16 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region  
Transit, was received.

Moved by Commissioner Barton, Seconded by Commissioner Carter,  
(33) That Report #2021-DRT-16 of the General Manager, Durham Region  
Transit, be received for information.

CARRIED

C) 100,000 On Demand passenger promotion (2021-DRT-17)

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Report #2021-DRT-17 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region  
Transit, was received.

Moved by Commissioner Drew, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,

(34) A) That in recognition of the success of Durham Region Transit (DRT)  
On Demand launched on September 21, 2020 as part of the  
Ridership Recovery network, that DRT staff be authorized to issue  
a PRESTO card pre-loaded with a \$500 value to the On Demand  
passenger completing trip 100,000 as recorded in the On Demand  
technology platform scheduling system;

B) That should the 100,000-passenger be a Durham Region Transit  
or Region of Durham employee or a member of an employee's  
family, the next registered passenger who is not a Durham Region  
Transit or Region of Durham employee or member of an  
employee's family shall be recognized as the 100,000-passenger  
and issued the \$500 PRESTO card; and

C) That the \$500 PRESTO card be funded from the approved 2021  
Durham Region Transit Operating Business Plans and Budget.

CARRIED

D) Transit Advisory Committee member appointment from Accessibility Advisory  
Committee (2021-DRT-18)

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Report #2021-DRT-18 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region  
Transit, was received.

Moved by Commissioner Barton, Seconded by Commissioner Drew,  
(35) That Report #2021-DRT-18 of the General Manager, Durham Region  
Transit, be received for information.

CARRIED

**8. Advisory Committees**

There were no advisory committee items to be considered.

CARRIED

**9. Confidential Matters**

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

**10. Other Business**

A) Amendment and Extension of Lease Agreement for Premises Occupied by  
Durham Region Transit Located at 419 King Street West, in the City of Oshawa  
(2021-W-22)

B. Holmes advised the Committee that Report #2021-W-22: Amendment and  
Extension of Lease Agreement for Premises Occupied by Durham Region Transit  
Located at 419 King Street West, in the City of Oshawa was adopted earlier  
today by the Works Committee and will be considered at the June 26, 2021  
Regional Council meeting.

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled Durham Region Transit Executive Committee  
meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 1:30 PM in the Council  
Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**12. Adjournment**

Moved by Commissioner Anderson, Seconded by Commissioner Pickles,  
(363) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

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S. Collier, Chair

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Committee Clerk