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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM REGION TRANSIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Transit Executive Committee was held on Wednesday, October 6, 2021 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 1:30 PM. Electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Commissioner Collier, Chair
Commissioner Barton, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Anderson
Commissioner Carter attended the meeting at 1:54 PM
Commissioner Drew
Commissioner Mulcahy
Commissioner Pickles
Commissioner Smith
Regional Chair Henry

Also
Present: Commissioner Crawford

Absent: None

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
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
L. Kubilis, Assistant, Planning, Durham Region Transit
A. Naeem, Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services
C. Norris, Deputy General Manager, Operations, Durham Region Transit
J. Phelan, Assistant, Planning, Durham Region Transit
M. Simpson, Director, Risk Management, Economic Studies and Procurement
N. Prasad, Assistant Secretary to Council, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

S. Glover, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Smith, Seconded by Commissioner Barton,
(44) That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Transit Executive
Committee meeting held on Wednesday, September 8, 2021, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Delegations

There were no delegations to be heard.

5. Presentations

5.1 Christopher Norris, Deputy General Manager, Operations, DRT and Michael
Binetti, Supervisor, Service Design, DRT re: Fall 2021 Service Update

Christopher Norris, Deputy General Manager, Operations, DRT provided a
PowerPoint presentation re: Fall 2021 Service Update.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Update on September Service Performance
- Principles – The Route Ahead
- Scheduled Service Expansion
- Ridership
 - Scheduled
 - On Demand
 - Specialized
- Scheduled and On Demand Boardings
- Scheduled Service Weekday Demand
- Activity at Terminals and Stations
- Travel Markets – September 2021
- Specialized Transit Travel Market

C. Norris responded to questions from the Committee regarding complaints received from residents with respect to Route 120 in the City of Pickering being late and subsequently dropping children off late at school and what the cause of the lateness could be; and how Durham Region Transit (DRT) Planning staff leverage the data in terms of developing the service plan for bus routes and hours of service.

In response to a question from Commissioner Pickles regarding the new Route 103 in West Pickering and how the route along Valley Farm Road and Brock Road in the City of Pickering is performing, C. Norris advised that he would email Commissioner Pickles the details of the routes and bus schedules directly.

B. Holmes responded to a question from the Committee regarding the threshold required to switch from the On Demand Service to a scheduled bus route.

6. Correspondence

There were no correspondence items to be considered.

7. Reports

A) General Manager's Report – October 6, 2021 (2021-DRT-24)

Report #2021-DRT-24 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Commissioner Pickles,
(45) That Report #2021-DRT-24 of the General Manager, Durham Region Transit, be received for information.

CARRIED

B) Demand Responsive Services (2021-DRT-25)

Report #2021-DRT-25 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Staff responded to questions from the Committee regarding the amalgamation of Specialized Services and On Demand into a single Demand Responsive Service and whether the Specialized Service clients would receive the same level of services; and whether On Demand would remain at a location that wouldn't warrant a scheduled bus route (low ridership zones).

Moved by Commissioner Anderson, Seconded by Commissioner Smith,
(46) A) That Report #2021-DRT-25 of the General Manager, Durham Region Transit, and the Durham Region Transit Demand Responsive Transit Study, be received for information;

B) That the amalgamation of Specialized Services and On Demand into a single Demand Responsive Service, be approved; and

- C) That the General Manager provide regular updates to the Transit Executive Committee on the status of the transition to Demand Responsive Service.

CARRIED

C) Social Equity in Transit Planning (2021-DRT-26)

Report #2021-DRT-26 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Moved by Commissioner Barton, Seconded by Commissioner Carter,
(47) That Report #2021-DRT-26 of the General Manager, Durham Region Transit, be received for information.

CARRIED

8. Advisory Committee Resolutions

There were no advisory committee resolutions to be considered.

9. Confidential Matters

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

10. Other Business

10.1 Whitby Autonomous Vehicle Electric (WAVE) Shuttle Project

J. Austin provided a brief update regarding the Whitby Autonomous Vehicle Electric Shuttle Project. He advised that 2 shuttles arrived in late August 2021 and that on route testing has begun and being overseen through a committee of safety experts. He further advised that the timeframe to begin passenger service will be by the end of October 2021 and an invitation to the launch event will be forthcoming.

J. Austin advised that staff will be looking at holding a community event for residents to view the shuttle before the formal launch.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Durham Region Transit Executive Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 3, 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 Mulcahy,
(48) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:03 PM

Respectfully submitted,

S. Collier, Chair

S. Glover, Committee Clerk