

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM REGION TRANSIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Transit Executive Committee was held on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 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 Collier, Chair
Commissioner Barton, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Anderson
Commissioner Carter
Commissioner Drew
Commissioner Mulcahy
Commissioner Smith
Regional Chair Henry
***all members of the Committee participated electronically**

Also

Present: Commissioner Crawford
Commissioner Marimpietri

Absent: Commissioner Pickles

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
D. Beaton, Commissioner of Corporate Services
M. Binetti, Transportation Service Design, Durham Region Transit,
D. Dunn, Project Manager, Rapid Transit Implementation
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
N. Taylor, Treasurer, Durham Region Transit, and Commissioner of Finance
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Carter, Seconded by Commissioner Barton,
(1) That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Transit Executive
Committee meeting held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Delegations

There were no delegations to be heard.

5. Presentations

- 5.1 Bill Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit; Jamie Austin, Deputy General Manager, Business Services and Nancy Taylor, Treasurer of Durham Region Transit, Finance Department, re: 2022 Durham Region Transit Business Plan and Budget (2022-DRT-02)

Nancy Taylor, Bill Holmes, and Jamie Austin provided a PowerPoint presentation on the 2022 Durham Region Transit Business Plans and Budgets. A copy of the presentation was provided to Committee members prior to the meeting.

B. Holmes advised that 2021 was a good year with continued focus on ridership recovery and mobility in the Region while experiencing changing travel patterns and pursued transit and transportation innovations.

N. Pincombe advised that the budget submission supports the approved guideline of 2.5% and advanced the Region's COVID-19 Recovery Plan.

B. Holmes provided an overview of the ridership recovery and accomplishments. He advised that On Demand remains a crucial part of the transit network and continues to ensure mobility of residents in low ridership areas within urban zones and rural areas in the Region. He advised that service grew to over 3,000 weekly trips with an average wait time of less than 7 minutes.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- 2022 Business Plans and Budgets
- 2021 – Signs of Recovery
- 2021 Accomplishments
 - Service Improvements
 - Community and Customer Service

J. Austin presented an overview of the Durham Region Transit 2022 proposed expenditure and financing.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- 2022 Proposed Expenditures & Financing
 - 2022 Proposed Expenditures (millions)
 - 2022 Proposed Funding (millions)
- 2022 Strategic Highlights
- 2022 Business Plans and Budgets
 - Risks and Uncertainties
- Beyond the 2022 Business Plans and Budget
 - Forecasted Pressures and Opportunities

Moved by Commissioner Anderson, Seconded by Commissioner Barton,
(2) That the order of the Agenda be altered in order to consider Report
#2022-DRT-02 at this time.

CARRIED

7. Reports

B) 2022 Durham Region Transit Business Plan and Budget (2022-DRT-02)

Report #2022-DRT-02 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Staff responded to questions with regards to bus fleet requirements and decommissioning buses in consideration of increasing ridership; spare ratio of fleet; the transition to a zero emissions fleet; service plans for Clarington; converting two buses for public health related events; maintaining buses to send to rural fire departments to practice and deal with bus related events; maintaining vehicles to be used for cooling and heating centres; ridership and revenue projections for 2022; impact of new GO stations on Durham Region Transit; the current stage of the new maintenance and storage facility in north Oshawa; five new positions in the budget; the status of negotiations with school boards and the Durham Catholic District School Board request at the December TEC meeting for a specific program at All Saints.

Councillor Smith requested a breakdown of the cost for transit per municipality. Staff advised they would review available data and respond to him directly.

Moved by Commissioner Anderson, Seconded by Commissioner Barton,
(3) That we recommend to the Finance & Administration Committee for subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the 2022 Business Plans and Budgets for Durham Region Transit be approved.

CARRIED

This matter will be considered by the Finance and Administration Committee on February 8, 2022 and presented to Regional Council on February 23, 2022.

6. Correspondence

There were no correspondence items to be considered.

7. Reports

A) General Manager's Report – February 2, 2022 (2022-DRT-01)

Report #2022-DRT-01 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Staff responded to questions with regards to ridership on scheduled service buses versus on demand buses; the amalgamation of Specialized Services and On Demand into a single demand responsive strategy; outcome of the autonomous bus collision; reporting bus stops that require snow removal and improving communication between area municipalities and the Region regarding snow removal; ensuring adequate waiting area at bus stops; and of improving bus stop signage or illumination to help identify temporary bus stops for customers and bus operators.; and, the cost of the autonomous bus project.

J. Austin provided a verbal update on the status of the autonomous bus pilot project. He advised that further to the information in the report, the pilot project is concluding as a result of the vehicle manufacturer and owner (Local Motors) ceasing operations. The Local Motors decision to cease operations was not related to local pilot.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Commissioner Smith,
(4) That Report #2022-DRT-01 of the General Manager, Durham Region Transit, be received for information.

CARRIED

B) 2022 Durham Region Transit Business Plan and Budget (2022-DRT-02)

This item was considered earlier in the meeting. Refer to page 3 of these minutes.

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

There was no other business to be considered.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Durham Region Transit Executive Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 1:30 PM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

12. Adjournment

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Commissioner Barton,
(5) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:52 PM

Respectfully submitted,

S. Collier, Chair

K. Smith, Committee Clerk