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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM REGION TRANSIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Transit Executive Committee was held on Wednesday, September 6, 2023 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
Commissioner Roy
Commissioner Wotten
Regional Chair Henry
***denotes Commissioners participating electronically**

Also

Present: Commissioner Jubb*
Commissioner Kerr*

Absent: None

Present: M. Barta, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
A. Chung, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
S. Ciani, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
W. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit
K. Hornburg, Deputy General Manager, Business Services
L. Huinink*, Director, Rapid Transit and Transit Oriented Development
D. Margiotta*, Manager of Operations, Conventional East
A. McKinley, Deputy General Manager, Maintenance
A. Naeem*, Solicitor, Legal Services
C. Norris, Deputy General Manager, Operations, Durham Region Transit
Z. Osime-Fakolade, Program Manager, Community Engagement and Change Management, Durham Region Transit
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
N. Taylor*, Treasurer, Durham Region Transit, and Commissioner of Finance

V. Walker, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
* **denotes staff participating electronically**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Commissioner Roy, Seconded by Commissioner Anderson,
(31) That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Transit Executive
Committee meeting held on Wednesday, June 7, 2023, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. **Presentations**

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

Bill Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit (DRT) provided a verbal update to the Committee.

B. Holmes welcomed Kris Hornburg, Deputy General Manager, Business Services who joins Durham Region Transit (DRT) from the City of Toronto. He advised that K. Hornburg will lead a number of key initiatives including plans for the electric infrastructure and equipment as part of the fleet electrification plan, negotiation of a multi-year U-Pass agreement with post-secondary institution partners, and other innovative programs that support the growth and development of Durham DRT services.

Z. Osime-Fakolade provided an update on some of the summer engagement activities that occurred with customers and residents and the promotion of DRT to current and future generations of public transit riders.

B. Holmes advised that several service enhancements were implemented September 5, 2023, in consideration of DRT's social equity guidelines, increasing post-secondary travel, and new conventional service as part of the ridership recovery plan. He advised that waste management across all DRT bus stops was standardized resulting in a reduction in operating expenses and generating additional advertising revenue.

B. Holmes provided an overview of the significant fire event at DRT's facility at 710 Raleigh Avenue in the City of Oshawa that destroyed three bus bays, 19 12-meter buses, and significantly damaged the adjacent facilities. B. Holmes thanked DRT staff for their resiliency and commitment to continuing to deliver public transit for Durham residents during the facility clean-up and restoration of services.

B. Holmes responded to questions from the Committee regarding collaboration that occurs between Durham's Accessibility Advisory Committee and DRT staff with respect to specialized services; the replacement plan for buses destroyed in the fire, and options available once the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) buses are returned after the allotted 30 day loan, and whether an extension by TTC is possible; the costs incurred from the fire at the Raleigh DRT site, how much would be covered by insurance, and how much would need to be found in the budget to cover the remaining costs; the new metrics available through the recently launched new On Demand platform; the response to the new 507 route that runs from Orono to Newcastle and into Bowmanville; the lack of notice/communication from Metrolinx when they implemented the GO Transit schedule changes on September 2, 2023 and that affects shared DRT customers; and whether the bulk youth bus pass program is available to all schools boards in Durham Region.

5. Delegations

There were no delegations heard.

6. Correspondence

There were no communication items considered.

7. Reports

A) General Manager's Report – September 2023 (2023-DRT-16)

Report #2023-DRT-16 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

In response to a question from the Committee regarding the pilot outreach program to support homeless and vulnerable individuals interacting specifically with DRT, B. Holmes provided a brief overview of how the pilot program will work, and when the anticipated start of the pilot program would be.

Moved by Commissioner Garrod, Seconded by Commissioner Anderson,
(32) That Report #2023-DRT-16 of the General Manager, Durham Region Transit, be received for information.

CARRIED

B) Charter Policy (2023-DRT-17)

Report #2023-DRT-17 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Moved by Commissioner Garrod, Seconded by Commissioner Anderson,

- (33) A) That the DRT Charter Policy (Attachment #1 to Report #2023-DRT-17 of the General Manager, Durham Region Transit) be approved; and
- B) That the General Manager of Durham Region Transit be authorized to make such revisions and updates to the Charter Policy as necessary.

CARRIED

C) Specialized Transit Update (2023-DRT-18)

Report #2023-DRT-18 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Moved by Commissioner Garrod, Seconded by Commissioner Anderson,

- (34) That Report #2023-DRT-18 of the General Manager, Durham Region Transit, be received for information.

CARRIED

D) Appointment of Members to the Durham Region Transit Advisory Committee (2023-DRT-19)

Report #2023-DRT-19 from B. Holmes, General Manager, Durham Region Transit, was received.

Moved by Commissioner Garrod, Seconded by Commissioner Anderson,

- (35) A) That the Durham Region Transit Executive Committee (TEC) appoint Rosemary Smith, representing the Durham Association for Family Resources to the Transit Advisory Committee as a member from a community group representing persons with disabilities in Durham Region; and
- B) That the Durham Region Transit Executive Committee (TEC) appoint Ian Giffin to the Transit Advisory Committee representing the Township of Uxbridge.

CARRIED

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, October 4, 2023 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 Garrod,
(36) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:24 PM

Respectfully submitted,

M. Crawford, Chair

S. Ciani, Committee Clerk