

# MINUTES

MEETING	<b>Transit Advisory Committee</b>
DATE	November 19, 2020
LOCATION	WebEx
TIME	5:30 -7:00 p.m.
CHAIR	Justine Kraemer
PRESENT	Kathryn Hofer, Bonnie Burgess, Ran Zhu, Fawkes Conibear, Amanda Stevenson, Sarah Steeves
REGRETS	Brian Adkins, Horeen Hassen, Susan Carey
MINUTES	John Mather
GUELPH TRANSIT STAFF	Robin Gerus, Transit General Manager Jason Simmons, Transit Operations Manager John Mather, Transit Data Coordinator

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION
1.	<b>Call To Order</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>5:35 p.m.</li></ul>
2.	<b>Introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Staff congratulated Kathryn Hofer on her recent appointment to University of Guelph Director of Student Experience.</li><li>Chair Justine Kraemer announced that she would be retiring from TAC as she is moving away from Guelph. Staff thanked Justine for her dedicated service to the TAC and wished her all the best for her future.</li></ul>
3.	<b>Adoption of Previous Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Motion to move the Minutes forward by J. Kraemer , seconded by A. Stevenson</li></ul>

4.	<p><b>General Transit Update</b></p> <p>Covid Update</p> <p>Staff reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are no known cases of Covid-19 in Guelph Transit Staff.</li> <li>• Ridership is down up to 70%. Guelph Transit continues to provide a 30 minutes service.</li> <li>• All enhanced precautions and procedures required for protection are in place.</li> <li>• Restrictions are in place as required by Corporate Policy.</li> <li>• The City mandate continues to concentrate on education and signage.</li> <li>• Transit Supervisors are wearing masks when required.</li> <li>• Transit Supervisors, and the Guelph Transit management team are distributing masks to the public as needed.</li> <li>• Masks and/or shields have been provided to all Guelph Transit employees.</li> <li>• Masks are available to all visitors to the Guelph Transit facilities.</li> <li>• Disinfectant (sanitizer) is available on all buses.</li> <li>• Additional enhanced cleaners have been hired at Guelph Transit. Their purpose is to deep clean buses and the Guelph Transit facilities.</li> <li>• The use of HEPA (High-efficiency particle air) filters are being considered for bus filtration systems.</li> <li>• Guelph Transit continues to plan for "the new normal".</li> <li>• Guelph Transit is considering new strategies by which service could be provided more efficiently. These options would include Microtransit and on-demand type services for lower utilized routes.</li> </ul>
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- Headsigns now read a more insistent message:



#### Budget Update:

- Some Capital Budget proposals are on hold for now.
- The budget is scheduled to be approved by Council in early December.
- Guelph Transit continues to support a new Transit campus and a transit service to the Hanlon Creek Business Park (HCBP).

#### Electrification of Fleet Update:

- Guelph Transit continues to move forward with the opportunities afforded by the Investment in Canada Plan (ICIP) initiatives.
- Guelph Transit continues with the plan to install 4 chargers at the Watson Road garages and introduce electric buses by 2022.

#### Electronic Farebox Management System Update:

- Staff advised that the EFMS project is progressing as planned as challenges are overcome.

#### Interregional Service:

- New proposed routes connecting Guelph Transit with Kitchener Waterloo are outlined in the City's proposed 10-year capital budget. Staff outlined the details in an interview with The Waterloo Region Record.

See: <https://www.therecord.com/news/waterloo-region/2020/11/17/guelph-transit-looking-at-adding-routes-into-waterloo-kitchener.html>

Staff said they would forward these, and links to other relevant news announcements, under separate cover.

## Questions

### Microtransit:

- TAC Members asked for more details of the nature of Microtransit. Staff answered that Microtransit is an on-demand model by which passengers can request transit from one location to another from/to specific stops along an assigned route. Microtransit service would align with major conventional routes thereby providing passenger access to all areas of the city. Passengers would be able to book such service either a) on line b) on an app or c) with personal communication with Guelph Transit staff. Staff added that Council had recently requested that Guelph Transit investigate Microtransit for routes presently served by the Community Buses and for that proposed for the Hanlon Creek Business Park. Staff felt that Microtransit offers another option by which service can be assured economically.

### Capital Budget Proposals:

- TAC Members asked how Guelph Transit projects proposed in the Capital Budget will be treated in the future. They asked specifically if they will be removed or deferred. Staff answered that many of the proposed items are integrated in to a 10 year plan. If it is decided that they can not be pursued at their proposed timeframe they can be "pushed out" for consideration at a later time. Many of the proposed items will be considered as "placeholders" for future considerations when the situation improves. Staff added that some programmes, ICIP, for example, have time frames requiring action.

	<p>Covid Precautions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TAC Members asked why some Guelph Transit Operators were not wearing masks while in service. Staff answered that Operators are required to wear masks if they are less than 2 metres from others and not separated from the public by plastic barriers. They added that some Operators are unable to wear masks citing health concerns. Their privacy is considered and respected in these cases. Staff added that all the other precautions (see: General Transit Update / Covid Update above) contribute to the safety of passengers and staff.</li> </ul> <p>Use of Tickets/OnYourWay:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TAC Members asked for some details concerning the use of single-use tickets and the OnYourWay pass. Specifically they wanted to know if single use tickets, often used by non-profit organizations, would still be available. Staff assured them that the new tickets will still be available for single uses if required. The tickets can also have a cash value or multiple ride values assigned to them. The OnYourWay pass also provides additional security because the owner can register the card on line. If the card is lost or stolen a replacement can be easily created. Response to the OnYourWay card</li> </ul> <p>Staff added that the next phase of the EFMS Programme involves testing readers on the Guelph Central Station platform so that passes can process the GO Presto co-fare savings.</p>
5.	<p><b>Next meeting date and location</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>January 21, 2021. Location TBD</b></li> </ul>
6.	<p><b>Adjournment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:35 p.m.</li> </ul>