

# MINUTES

MEETING	<b>Transit Advisory Committee</b>
DATE	September 17, 2020
LOCATION	Virtual
TIME	5:30 -7:00 p.m.
CHAIR PRESENT	Susan Carey Fawkes Conibear, Horeen Hassen, Amanda Stevenson, Ran Zhu, Susan Carey, Bonnie Burgess, Kathryn Hofer
REGRETS	Dominica McPherson, Justine Kraemer, Brian Adkins
MINUTES	John Mather
GUELPH TRANSIT STAFF	Robin Gerus, General Manager - Guelph Transit Jason Simmons – Operations Manager - Guelph Transit Laura Bragues – Supervisor, Planning and Scheduling – Guelph Transit John Mather, Transit Data Coordinator – Guelph Transit Andrea Mikkila – Route Review Specialist – Guelph Transit

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ITEM #	DESCRIPTION
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	<b>Call To Order</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>5:40 p.m.</li></ul>
	<b>Introductions</b>
	<b>Adoption of Previous Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Motion to move the Minutes forwarded by F. Conibear. Seconded by A. Stevenson.</li></ul>
	<b>Route Review</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Consultation with Transit Advisory Committee concerning Route Review Andrea Mikkila.</b></li></ul> <p>Route Review Specialist presented The Route Review Presentation. The slides are included here:</p>

## Guelph Transit Route Review

### Milestones



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## Guiding principles

- All stakeholders are engaged
- Minimize impacts on existing passengers
- Data-driven decision making

## Goals

- Develop a network that meets industry standards, internal budgets, and public need
- Stakeholders are and feel engaged
- Improve service utilization
- Improve service reliability
- Develop key initiatives for a strong transit network

## Route Review Vision

Developed internally based on Strategic Plan and guiding principles of Route Review

- To create a competitive, convenient and reliable transit network that is future ready for our customers

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## **What is in the scope of the route review?**

- Minor tweaks to transit network and stops as needed
- Recommendation of minor improvements to existing routes that may require additional resources as appropriate
- Recommendation of major route reconfigurations that may require additional resources as appropriate
- Recommendation of discontinuing current routes or creating new routes as appropriate
- Creation of a “family of services”
- Reconciliation of service standards for Council adoption
- Development of future objectives for what the transit system should look like in 5-10 years

## **What engagement has occurred?**

- Focus groups with internal departments
- Surveys of Route Supervisors

## **What engagement is underway?**

- Surveys of random residents
- Online “pop-ups”
- Surveys of Transit Operators
- Targeted business engagement
- TAC

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## What we need to know from you...

- The vision for the Route Review is: "To create a competitive, convenient and reliable transit network that is future ready for our customers." How do you think this can be achieved?
- Are there locations we don't currently service that we should be servicing? Are there locations currently serviced that we should not be servicing? Where and why?
- Any other specific feedback you have or have heard from your constituents.

Andrea Mikkila said she would provide the TAC Coordinator with the questions and ask that they be forwarded to the TAC Members. Staff agreed to forward them immediately after the meeting.

TAC Questions from this presentation:

Are the proposed Metrolinx changes considered in the Route Review (changes to land ownership, etc). Staff said that it was not part of the scope of the route review, but could be considered as part of the Transportation Master Plan.

Will there be any planned dedicated bus lanes as part of the Route Review. Staff said that they are pushing for whatever is best, though this is part of the scope. There is currently talk (awaiting approval) for a dedicated bus queue jump lane along Gordon. There is also consideration for dedicated Guelph Transit turn lanes.

### **Guelph Transit Update**

#### **Route Expansions for 2020 September**

Staff updated TAC that the planned service expansion for September 2020 was currently being placed on hold due to Covid. Once the network

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is reassessed to determine when it is best for these service increases, it will be implemented as planned.

**Current Service Levels**

Due to the University of Guelph limiting many of the on-campus classes, along with opting out of the U-pass, there has been a reduction in the south end routes. There are new student fares available for those that are on-campus or in Guelph utilizing Guelph Transit services.

Due to Covid, there has been a greater presence at the Guelph Central Station – working with riders to ensure they are following the mandatory mask policy when using transit. Transit is not responsible for enforcing the mandatory policy, but encouraging riders to follow the new policies.

Staff are still looking at how to address the needs and expectations of customers. There have been many transit operators, management team members and fleet partners helping keep service moving forward.

Due to the state of emergency within the city, several internal Transit committees were placed on hold. These have now started to re-commence, where they are assessing both internal and external initiatives. Planning and Scheduling have been analyzing passenger loads, feedback from operators and passengers, the effects of the reduced schedule with increasing detours and traffic on Guelph roadways, along with using these analyses to encourage adjustments in January 2021.

**Next meeting date and location**

- October 15, 2020 Location TBD

**Adjournment**

- 6:35 p.m.