

THE SECOND MEETING OF THE TRANSIT COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY

Transit Garage
1800 Frobisher Street
Sudbury, Ontario

Wednesday, May 24, 2006
Commencement: 9:05 a.m.

Chair

COUNCILLOR CALLAGHAN, IN THE CHAIR

Councillors

Councillor Berthiaume; Dupuis

Staff

D. Nadorozny, General Manager of Growth & Development; R. Sauve, Director of Transit Services; R. Gauthier, Supervisor of Transit; D. Martel, Mechanical Foreperson; G. Lamothe, Manager of Communications & French Language Service; E. Labelle, Clerk Designate; CJ Caporale, Council Secretary

Declarations of
Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

Item 2
Transit Service
Standards

Mr. Sauve advised that a base level of service must be established first and then a customer generated level of service. He stated that most areas of the City of Greater Sudbury are covered by a bus route.

A map of the transit service areas was displayed.

Mr. Sauve indicated that the second level of service would be based on the ridership numbers and if Council wished to respond to ridership growth, staff would have to determine how to expand the level of service and what methods would be used. The Committee may want to address what an appropriate level of service is. He informed the Committee that all areas within the City of Greater Sudbury are either serviced by transit or transcab.

Mr. Sauve stated that in order to provide a level of service, the Committee would be required to look at the hours of service, areas of service, current Sunday service, number of trips, cost, etc. He also indicated that the new fare system will give us more data to make informed route changes. Mr. Sauve advised that the current level of service does not require any changes as it is operating efficiently.

Councillor Dupuis stated that Transit should be assessing proposed subdivisions to verify if a bus route would be feasible. Mr. Sauve advised the Committee that Transit reviews the proposed subdivision applications and forwards their comments to Planning. He also stated that most subdivisions cannot accommodate Transit buses.

Item 2
Transit Service
Standards
(continued)

Councillor Callaghan stated that residents are interested in community service such as hours of operation, coverage, and frequency. He asked Mr. Sauve if there was a formula to determine the impact associated with costs regarding route changes.

Mr. Sauve advised that currently staff can determine how many passengers are on a particular route by the hour. He indicated that in order to develop new routes, a one year period would be required to determine the ridership for that area and the cost associated.

Mr. Nadorozny indicated that until the U-Pass and new fare boxes are implemented, an accurate ridership count and costs associated with a route change would not be available.

A chart indicating the population within 400 metres (1/4 mile) of Greater Sudbury Transit service routes was distributed.

Item 4
Draft Outline of
Presentation

Mr. Sauve reviewed the draft copy of the presentation to be made to Council on June 28, 2006.

It was noted that the improvements made to the Transit Centre be included in the presentation, along with capital costs, possible changes to the Ontario Transit Vehicle Program (OTVP) funding, Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL), stat sheet indicating the population within 400 metres of service routes, fare costs since amalgamation, and the intention of the Transit Committee to report to Council twice a year.

Item 3
Communication
Campaign

Mr. Lamothe indicated that they are currently working on a communications strategy that would be flexible to use for the next two to three years. He indicated that the target areas are students, shoppers, commuters, seniors, low income residents, etc. He stated that they are looking at advertising on the radio, billboards, posters, bus shelters, newsletters, malls, etc. depending on available funds.

Presentation to
Council

Councillor Callaghan asked that Mr. Lamothe include a slide in the presentation briefly outlining the communication strategy.

Councillor Dupuis asked Mr. Lamothe to consider showcasing the suburban buses in the outlying areas and include bus routes, schedules and have the Ward Councillors present.

Item 5
Other Business

Councillor Dupuis presented the following recommendation for information:

Federal Investment in
Public Transit

WHEREAS public transit provides essential and universal mobility to residents within Canada's urban areas;

Item 5
Other Business

AND WHEREAS public transit increases roadway capacity by offering people a transportation choice other than the automobile;

Federal Investment in
Public Transit
(continued)

AND WHEREAS public transit reduces greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution;

AND WHEREAS transit infrastructure investment needs for Canadian transit systems in the period 2006-2010 stand at \$20.7-billion, with over \$5-billion of this amount not fundable under current programs;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have inadequate revenue tools to finance the full cost of transit infrastructure;

THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT this Council calls on the Federal government to:

- make permanent the Federal investment in public transit provided under the public transit capital trust announced in Budget 2006;
- ensure that this investment is distributed equitably to all transit systems across Canada;
- ensure that this investment is over and above any existing Federal or Provincial funding already in place.

The following recommendation was presented:

2006-4 Callaghan-Berthiaume: THAT the foregoing motion be brought forward to the Council meeting of June 14, 2006 for consideration.

CARRIED

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 22, 2006 at 10:00 a.m., at the Transit Garage, 1800 Frobisher Street, Sudbury.

The agenda will include an update on the new fare box system and the final draft of the presentation to Council.

Adjournment

2006-5 Berthiaume-Callaghan: THAT this meeting does now adjourn. Time: 10:22 p.m.

CARRIED

Councillor Ted Callaghan, Chair

Eric Labelle, Clerk Designate

