



**MEETING OF THE
ST. JOHN'S TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

REGULAR BUSINESS

A meeting of the St. John's Transportation Commission was held on Thursday, March 25th, 2021 at Noon. The meeting was streamed live via Webex.

Present at the meeting were:

Paul Walsh	Chair
Debbie Hanlon	Vice Chair/City Councillor
Jamie Korab	Commissioner/City Councillor
Kirsten Morry	Commissioner
Lynn Zurel	Commissioner
Tolulope Akerele	Commissioner
Derek Coffey	Deputy City Manager, Financial Management
Kevin Breen	City Manager
Judy Powell	Metrobus General Manager
Joan Mahon	Administrative Assistant

Absent: Maggie Burton Commissioner/City Councillor

I. PROCEDURAL

- The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm.
- J. Mahon recorded the minutes of the meeting of this date.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

➤ **AGENDA**

It was moved by K. Breen and seconded by Commissioner Korab that the agenda for this meeting date be approved.

➤ **MINUTES**

It was moved by Commissioner Morry and seconded by Vice Chair Hanlon that the minutes of the February 25th, 2021 regular business meeting of the Commission be approved as distributed.

III. BUSINESS ARISING

1. COVID-19—Update

➤ Ridership is beginning to rise from the 20% - 25% that was seen during Alert Level 5 with nine (9) passengers on board which began on February 12th. On March 13th the passenger limit increased to 19 and retail reopened - ridership increased to approximately 45%. Once we move back to Alert Level 2 - March 27th we are expecting to return to the 60% levels which were evident before the most recent outbreak.

2. Transit Priority System

➤ Following the February 25th commission meeting, the General Manager had a discussion with Garrett Donaher, Manager of Transportation Engineering with the City of St. John's, in which he recommended to City Council that they consider turning on the pedestrian activated features at the intersections in question. It was discussed at the executive level and they are considering making changes towards the middle of April.

3. Committees of the Commission

- Chair Walsh informed that the commission committees with vacancies will be filled as follows:
 - Pension Committee (1 vacancy) – Commissioner Zurel
 - Marketing Committee (2 vacancies) – Vice Chair Hanlon and Commissioner Korab
 - Finance – traditionally this committee has two members which are filled
- It was suggested by Commissioner Burton that a Sub-Committee of Marketing – Young Rider's Committee, with the aim to target riders 25 years of age and under, should be established. If there is interest in this Sub-Committee – members should notify the Chair.

ACTION:

The General Manager will discuss with Mark Chancey, Manager, Marketing and Information Services with regards to the terms of reference of the Marketing Committee.

4. RFP – On Demand Technology

- The General Manager advised that the original closing date to receive bids was March 26th but has been extended to April 5th.

Chair Walsh and Commissioner Morry have been working for the past year on the GoBus RFP for a service provider when the current contract expires. The General Manager requested that both of them participate in the evaluation of the proposals.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Financial Statements — February, 2021

- The financial statements for the month of February, 2021 were tabled and reviewed.
- K. Breen questioned the surplus for GoBus of \$146,003 in February while January was \$22,938. The General Manager stated that the Alert Levels would be the reason for the surplus.
- Commissioner Zurel questioned the high usage of taxis versus GoBuses with the General Manager responding that GoBus was operating at reduced capacity – taxis could be used for peak demand.

2. Executive Summary (Regular) — February, 2021

- The Executive Summary for the month of February, 2021 was tabled for members' information.
- The General Manager noted that service was reduced when we moved to Alert Level 5 due to Covid-19. We are due to move into a Summer schedule on March 29th until September 5th because of the reduced demand. The biggest difference in the Fall/Winter schedule versus the Summer schedule is the peak service time.
- Prior to Covid, the usual peak service demand time would be from 6:30 am – 9:00 am and 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm. Currently, the demand is high in mid-afternoon.
- Chair Walsh requested that demand should be monitored.

V. OTHER (Information/Community)

St. John's Transportation Commission

March 25, 2021

REGULAR BUSINESS

Page 3



VI. ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further regular business to discuss at this time, the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30 PM.
- Live streaming of the public meeting ended immediately followed by an in-camera business meeting of the Commission.
- The next regular business meeting of the Commission will be held via Webex on April 29th, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Walsh
Chair

Joan Mahon
Recording Secretary