

MINUTES – JUNE 25, 2026

Meeting of the St. John's Transportation Commission

Thursday, June 25, 2026 12:00 PM

In-Person at 25 Messenger Drive and via Zoom

REGULAR

In attendance:

James Greey	Chair
Derrick Hutchens	Commissioner
Josh Smee	Commissioner
Franklin Onwa	Commissioner
Ron Ellsworth	Commissioner/Deputy Mayor
Derek Coffey	City Manager
Kris Connors	Deputy City Manager, Finance & Corporate Services
Judy Powell	General Manager
Donna Power	Administrative Assistant

Regrets:

Paul Canning	Commissioner
Kate Cadigan	Commissioner/City Councillor

I. PROCEDURAL

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 PM. Chair Greey extended a warm welcome to new member, Kris Connors, on behalf of the Commission.

II. AGENDA

One addition, "CUTA Conference", was requested under the Other section of the agenda.

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended. Moved by Commissioner Onwa; seconded by Commissioner Smee. Motion carried.

III. MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the May 28, 2026 regular meeting as presented. Moved by Commissioner Hutchens; seconded by Commissioner Smee. Motion carried.

IV. BUSINESS ARISING

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Streaming of Commission Meetings

Since 2020, when live streaming of public meetings began, there have only been 12 viewings. The service costs \$2,000 annually. Management is recommending cancelling live streaming in favour of recording the meetings and making those recordings available on the Metrobus website immediately following each meeting.

MOTION: To approve the recommendation to cancel live streaming and instead post recordings of the meetings online immediately following each meeting. Moved by Commissioner Hutchens, seconded by Commissioner Smee. Motion carried.

2. Reports

Monthly reports were presented for the Commission's consideration.

i. General Manager's Report

RFP for Solar Kits: Only one bid was received which was from the current supplier. The bid total does align with previous costs. Installation of the 30 solar panels should be completed in 2026.

Stop announcements: The provider is currently onsite and installation is underway. An official launch date will be established once testing has been completed.

Tap to Pay: After some delay, Moneris is again actively working on this upgrade.

ii. Executive Summary Report

Ridership: Staff are continuing to monitor ridership levels, which have decreased approximately 5% since last year. Similar trends are being seen throughout other transit agencies, largely attributable to declining immigration levels, including international students. A promotional campaign is being prepared to accompany the service improvements coming in September.

Collective Agreement: Union and Management proposals have been exchanged, and a date has been set to begin negotiations.

iii. Financial Statements for May 2026

VI. OTHER

1. CUTA Conference

Commission and staff representatives attended CUTA's Spring Summit in Quebec City and had opportunity to learn from other transit agencies and industry experts. A couple of ideas were noted as potentially worth exploring – setting up a rider feedback panel as an engagement tool and the use of artificial intelligence (AI) for maintenance support. Usage of AI systems and tools is a growing area of interest for transit agencies.

2. The next meeting of the St. John's Transportation Commission will take place on July 30, 2026, at noon.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Business concluded at approximately 12:23 PM.

MOTION: To adjourn the June 25, 2026, regular business meeting of the St. John's Transportation Commission.

Moved by Commissioner Hutchens. Meeting adjourned.