

## MINUTES – OCTOBER 30, 2025

Meeting of the St. John's Transportation Commission  
Thursday, October 30, 2025 12:00 PM  
In-Person at 25 Messenger Drive and via Zoom

### REGULAR

#### In attendance:

James Greey	Chair
Tolulope Akerele	Commissioner
Paul Canning	Commissioner
Derrick Hutchens	Commissioner
Josh Smee	Commissioner
Derek Coffey	Deputy City Manager, Finance & Corporate Services
Judy Powell	General Manager
Donna Power	Administrative Assistant

#### Regrets:

Ron Ellsworth	Commissioner/City Councillor
Kevin Breen	City Manager

### I. PROCEDURAL

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 PM.

### II. AGENDA

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda with an amendment to add *2025 Goals Update* to the New Business section.

Moved by Commissioner Coffey; seconded by Commissioner Canning. Motion carried.

### III. MINUTES

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the September 25, 2025 regular meeting as presented.

Moved by Commissioner Smee; seconded by Commissioner Canning. Motion carried.

### IV. BUSINESS ARISING

#### 1. Transit Planning - Presentation

Since new commissioners are expected in the coming weeks, the presentation has been deferred until January 2026 to ensure all members can participate.

## **2. Terms of Commissioners**

At present, the Commission has a vacant Council Representative position. As of the end of December, Commissioners Smee and Hutchens will have completed their first term and Commissioner Akerele will have reached her maximum years of service.

A request will be sent to the City Clerk with the following actions which will return the Commission to a full complement:

- Councillor to replace Maggie Burton;
- Decision by Council on Ron Ellsworth's position;
- Renew Josh Smee and Derrick Hutchens, who have both indicated their interest in continuing to serve on the commission, for a second two-year term; and
- Advertise for a new public member to replace Tolulope Akerele.

A subcommittee will be convened after the submission deadline to review applications for the new public member position.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. 2025 Goals Update**

An update was provided on the status of Metrobus' operational goals for 2025. These goals are included as part of the City's strategic plan.

Completed projects include:

- Addition of two new wheelchair accessible routes
- purchase of 8 new hybrid buses
- Installation of 37 solar panels on bus shelters
- Implementation of planned service improvements in June and September
- Upgrade of fare collection and smart card systems

Other projects, such as depot upgrades to support the transition to zero emissions buses, introducing new accounting and HR software, and adding new bus shelters are progressing, while a few others, including the stop announcements system are experiencing delays.

The Commission expressed interest in doing a news release or advertising campaign to publicly highlight Metrobus' achievements on a regular basis. This will be taken back to staff for development.

## **2. Reports**

### **i. General Manager's Report**

The Commission acknowledged the General Manager's appointment to the Board of Directors for CUTRIC (Canadian Urban Transit Research and Innovation Consortium). CUTRIC is a non-profit organization that creates technology and other projects and initiatives that advance decarbonized and autonomous public transit systems. CUTRIC has supported many public transit agencies, including Metrobus, in preparing for electrification.

### **ii. Executive Summary Report**

CUTA published a documentary about the challenges faced by front-line transit employees in dealing with issues like addiction and homelessness, and the approaches used to help address the issues. The documentary was shared among managers and supervisors. It was helpful to know that staff in other transit agencies and cities are facing the same issues as we are and to hear the strategies, such as security and community partnerships, they are implementing.

### **iii. Financial Statements for September 2025**

The RC ratio was noted as remaining stable even with the service improvements that were made in September.

## **VI. OTHER**

The next meeting of the St. John's Transportation Commission will take place on November 27, 2025, at noon.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Business concluded at approximately 12:36 PM.

**MOTION:** To adjourn the October 30, 2025, regular business meeting of the St. John's Transportation Commission.

Moved by Commissioner Akerele. Meeting adjourned.