



## **Regional Council Minutes**

**Wednesday, September 21, 2016**

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The following are the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held at 7:10 p.m. in the Regional Council Chamber, 150 Frederick Street, Kitchener, Ontario, with the following members present: Chair K. Seiling, L. Armstrong, E. Clarke, S. Foxton, T. Galloway, H. Jowett, K. Kiefer, G. Lorentz, J. Mitchell, J. Nowak, K. Redman, S. Shantz, S. Strickland, B. Vrbanovic.

Members Absent: D. Craig, D. Jaworsky

### **Closed Session**

Moved by K. Kiefer

Seconded by L. Armstrong

That a closed meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, September 21, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Waterloo County Room in accordance with Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001, for the purposes of considering the following subject matters:

- a) receiving of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege related to a contract
- b) proposed or pending litigation and receiving of legal advice that is subject to solicitor client privilege related to a contract
- c) receiving of advice subject to solicitor-client privilege and proposed or pending acquisition and disposition of land in the City of Cambridge
- d) receiving of advice subject to solicitor-client privilege related to a by-law

Carried

### **Motion to Reconvene Into Open Session**

Moved by S. Foxton

Seconded by L. Armstrong

That Council reconvene in Open Session.

Carried

**Declarations of Pecuniary Interest Under The “Municipal Conflict Of Interest Act”**

E. Clarke declared a pecuniary interest with respect to item #5 of the Community Services Committee Summary of Recommendations due to her employment with the YWCA.

**Presentations**

- a) Mina Fayez-Bahgat, Manager, Waterloo Region Housing appeared before Council with respect to the YouthForce Recognition. He introduced the YouthForce program that was held over the past summer dealing with personal and professional development. A [video](#) was shown to demonstrate what took place over the summer. M. Fayez-Bahgat introduced three students who provided their perspective. Amanda Sanichar, Stephanie DaCosta and Felix Morgado appeared before Council to highlight their experience. They spoke about the program and the groups that came together to assist and the work that was completed. Another video was shown with the results of the hard work done by the group.

Chair Seiling thanked all of the group on behalf of Regional Council for being such great ambassadors for the community.

**Delegations**

- a) Regan Brussé, Louise Walchuck and Brayden McNeil, Alliance Against Poverty appeared before Council with respect to Transit Access for All. L. Walchuck provided background information on their group and their mission to get free bus fares for specific groups in the community. R. Brusse stated that access to transportation for the poor is essential. She highlighted the trip pass program but noted the long wait list and concern with the electronic fare card. This eliminates the most effective method of fare distribution for poor, being bus tickets. She emphasized this cannot be just a monetary decision. B. McNeil spoke about affordable transportation for all. A copy of the [presentation](#) is appended to the original minutes.

Chair Seiling advised they are reviewing transit now and this will be part of the ongoing review and staff will report back.

A member of Council requested that a copy of the presentation be provided.

b) Re: PDL-CAS-16-15, Taxi By-law Review - Vehicle Identification

1. Chris Schafer, Uber Canada appeared before Council and thanked staff for their work on the reports and draft By-law and Regional Council for the thorough debate of the issues. With respect to the staff report on the issue of decals, he advised they have raised their concerns in the past. He had provided physical copies of decals to staff for distribution of what is to be used in Toronto. It is located on the passenger side of the front windshield and just one is required.
2. Prem Gururajan, RideCo appeared before Council and provided a [presentation](#), a copy of which is appended to the original minutes. He highlighted background information on their company and the areas they service. They are not supportive of the November 1<sup>st</sup> implementation date due to ridesharing insurance not being available to them until December. He proposed two options for consideration by Council.

A question was raised what happens with option 1 if insurance is not in place by December 1<sup>st</sup>. P. Gururajan stated they would cease operation but there is a high likelihood insurance will be available by that date.

3. Zoran Bobic appeared before Council and thanked Council for the opportunity to speak. He expressed concern with the amount of pollution created by idling of vehicles and the need to get more vehicles off the road, not encourage more to be used.

### Minutes Of Previous Meetings

Moved by L. Armstrong

Seconded by S. Foxton

That the following Minutes be approved:

- a) Licensing and Hearings Committee – August 17, 2016
- b) Closed Council – August 17, 2016
- c) Council – August 17, 2016
- d) Closed Committee - September 13, 2016
- e) Community Services – September 13, 2016
- f) Administration & Finance – September 13, 2016

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- g) Planning & Works – September 13, 2016
- h) Regional Development Charges Public Meeting - September 13, 2016

Carried

Moved by K. Redman

Seconded by J. Nowak

That Council go into Committee of the Whole to consider reports.

Carried

### **Finance Reports**

- a) **COR-TRY-16-93**, T2016-175 Main Street Bridge Coating, City of Cambridge

Moved by S. Strickland

Seconded by K. Redman

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo accept the tender of Jacques Daoust Coatings Management Inc. for T2016-175 Main Street Bridge Coating, City of Cambridge in the amount of \$118,135.00 plus all applicable taxes as set out in report COR-TRY-16-93 dated September 21, 2016.

Carried

- b) **COR-TRY-16-94**, P2016-23 Wellesley & Ayr Sanitary Sewer Hydraulic Cleaning, CCTV Inspection and CCTV Assessment

Moved by S. Strickland

Seconded by K. Redman

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo accept the proposal of Badger Daylighting Ltd. for P2016-23 Wellesley & Ayr Sanitary Sewer Hydraulic Cleaning, CCTV Inspection and CCTV Assessment in the Township of Wellesley and Township of North Dumfries, at an estimated amount of \$193,912.45 plus all applicable taxes as set out in report COR-TRY-16-94 dated September 21, 2016.

Carried

- c) **OR-TRY-16-95**, T2016-168 Waterloo Zone 6/5 PRV Chamber Installation and Watermain Connections, City of Waterloo

Moved by S. Strickland

Seconded by K. Redman

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo accept the tender of Xterra Construction Inc. for T2016-168 Waterloo Zone 6/5 PRV Chamber Installation and Watermain Connections, City of Waterloo in the amount of \$340,523.60 plus all applicable taxes as set out in report COR-TRY-16-95 dated September 21, 2016.

Carried

- d) **COR-TRY-16-96**, T2016-190 Water Street Watermain Replacement, City of Cambridge

Moved by S. Strickland

Seconded by K. Redman

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo accept the tender of 410754 Ontario Ltd. o/a Sousa Concrete for T2016-190 Water Street Watermain Replacement, City of Cambridge in the amount of \$655,350.00 plus all applicable taxes as set out in report COR-TRY-16-96 dated September 21, 2016.

Carried

- e) **COR-TRY-16-97**, T2016-178 Catch Basin Cleaning Program

Moved by S. Strickland

Seconded by K. Redman

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo accept the tender of Flow Kleen Technology Ltd. for T2016-178 Catch Basin Cleaning Program in the amount of \$229,162.50 plus all applicable taxes, with options to renew for two additional one year terms as set out in report COR-TRY-16-97.

Carried

- f) **COR-TRY-16-98**, P2016-14 Trade Contractors – Rotational Roster – Waterloo Regional Housing

Moved by S. Strickland

Seconded by K. Redman

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo accept the proposals of City Appliance, Express Appliance, Arcadian Projects Inc., Mader Electrical Services Inc., Motion Electrical, Mark Goldsworthy (Rent a Back), Regional Repairs, Stahle Construction Inc.,  
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ZRW Restoration, Call Someone a Division of 1033387 Ontario Limited, JRS Painting, Koenig Painting and Decorating Limited, Stevie's Painting, Eskay Floors, Joe Pace & Sons Contracting Inc., Custom Contracting Group Inc., Gordner Construction Ltd., Bradley Heating and Cooling, Hammond Plumbing and Heating Inc. and BP Plumbing Ltd. for P2016-14 Trade Contractors - Rotational Roster – Waterloo Regional Housing for a two year period from October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2018 at an estimated cost of \$5,872,400 plus all applicable taxes (estimated annual cost \$2,936,200 plus all applicable taxes) with the option to renew for three (3) additional one (1) year periods as set out in report COR-TRY-16-98 dated September 21, 2016.

Carried

g) **COR-TRY-16-99**, P2016-21 Transportation Feeder Service (bus*PLUS*)

Moved by S. Strickland

Seconded by K. Redman

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo accept the proposal of 947465 Ontario Ltd. o/a Voyageur Transportation Services for P2016-21 Transportation Feeder Service (bus*PLUS*) in the estimated amount of \$2,976,545.00 plus all applicable taxes (estimated annual cost of \$595,309.00 plus all applicable taxes) for a five (5) year period plus two, one year renewal options as set out in report COR-TRY-16-99 dated September 21, 2016.

Carried

h) **COR-TRY-16-100**, Regional Debenture Issue Dated September 26, 2016

Received for Information.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Community Services**

The Summary of Recommendations of the Community Services Committee was presented by Geoff Lorentz, Chair of the Committee. Item #5 was taken separately due to the pecuniary interest.

Moved by G. Lorentz

Seconded by K. Kiefer

That the Summary of Recommendations of the Community Services Committee dated September 13, 2016, Items 1 to 4, be adopted as follows:

1. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo endorses the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's (AMO) position opposing the proposed regulatory 2233717

changes under the Housing Services Act, 2011, regarding certain Service Manager decisions for review as requested by housing providers, as described in report CSD-HOU-16-12, dated September 13, 2016, and that a copy of this report be forwarded to AMO, the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association, and the Ministry of Housing.

2. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo as the Service System Manager, take no action at this time, neither to approve Authorized Recreation and Skill Building programs nor to enter into any service agreements with such programs as described in Report CSD-CHS-16-25, dated September 13, 2016
3. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve the addition of 1.0 full time equivalent as of January 1, 2017 for a data analyst position at an annual cost of \$107,950 to be funded by provincial grants as outlined in CSD-CHS-16-27 dated September 13, 2016.
4. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo provide pre-budget approval of Capital Project 42046 – Curatorial Centre Storage Expansion in the amount of up to \$11.15 million, in order to support the grant application made to the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund, as set out in Reports PDL-CUL-16-10, dated September 13, 2016 and PDL-CUL-16-02 dated February 24, 2016 and that the foregoing is subject to the amount of the awarded grant being satisfactory to Regional Council;

And that Canada Cultural Spaces Fund, Department of Canadian Heritage be advised of this commitment.

Carried

Moved by G. Lorentz

Seconded by K. Kiefer

That the Summary of Recommendations of the Community Services Committee dated September 13, 2016, Item 5, be adopted as follows:

5. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, effective September 22, 2016, approve the addition of Secondary Suites and eligible supportive housing providers, as outlined in CSD-HOU-16-11, dated September 13, 2016, to the Ontario Renovates Program.

Conflict:  
E. Clarke

Carried

### Administration and Finance

The Summary of Recommendation of the Administration and Finance Committee was presented by Sean Strickland, Chair of the Committee. Chair Seiling advised a suggestion was made to amend the schedule of meetings to move the June and July meetings ahead one week to have Committees on June 20<sup>th</sup> and Council on June 28<sup>th</sup>. This amendment was agreed to by councillors.

Moved by S. Strickland

Seconded by K. Redman

That the Summary of Recommendations of the Administration and Finance Committee dated September 13, 2016, Item 1 and 1 report from closed session, Item 2, be adopted as follows:

1. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo adopt the 2017 Council and Committee Meeting Schedule attached to Report PDL-CAS-16-14 dated September 13, 2016 with the change of the final budget meeting and the addition of a Special Council Meeting on January 11, 2017 for the purposes of final budget approval and moving the June 27<sup>th</sup> and July 5<sup>th</sup> meetings to June 20<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.
2. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo endorse the following Regional volunteers as proposed nominees for the 2016 Ontario Heritage Trust Recognition Awards, namely Lary Turner, Chiara Power and students from Eastwood Collegiate Institute who support the Waterloo Wellington Children's Groundwater Festival.

Carried

S. Strickland reviewed a memo that was distributed regarding Regional Development Charges. It is recommended that the policy and by-law recommendation report come to the Administration and Finance Committee meeting on November 22<sup>nd</sup> or December 6<sup>th</sup> rather than October 4<sup>th</sup>. An update will be provided at the November 1<sup>st</sup> Administration and Finance Committee meeting.

### Planning and Works

The Summary of Recommendations of the Planning and Works Committee was presented by Tom Galloway, Chair of the Committee.



Moved by T. Galloway

Seconded by K. Kiefer

That the Summary of Recommendations of the Planning and Works Committee, dated September 13, 2016, Items 1 to 6, and 2 reports from closed Council session, Items 7 and 8, be adopted as follows:

1. That the Region of Waterloo accept PDL-CPL-16-37, Monthly Report of Development Activity for July and August 2016.
2. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo take the following actions with respect to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's document "Conserving our Future: Proposed Priorities for Renewal" (EBR 012-7583):
  - a) Endorse the five identified priority areas as warranting further elaboration in draft legislation, regulation, policy and programs; and
  - b) Forward Report PDL-CPL-16-40, dated September 13, 2016 to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for consideration in the ongoing review of the Conservation Authorities Act.
3. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve the 2015 Corporate Asset Management Plan as set out in the Report TES-16-17/COR-FFM-16-11 dated September 13, 2016.
4. That The Regional Municipality of Waterloo direct and authorize the Regional Solicitor to take the following actions with respect to the expropriation of lands for the improvements on King Street (Regional Road 15) from Weber Street to Highway 85, and on Weber Street (Regional Road 8) from Forwell Creek Road to Blythwood Road, in the City of Waterloo, in the Region of Waterloo as detailed in report PDL-LEG-16-56 dated September 13, 2016:
  1. Complete application(s) to the Council of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, as may be required from time to time, for approval to expropriate land, which is required for the improvements to King Street (Regional Road 15) from Weber Street to Highway 85, and on Weber Street (Regional Road 8) from Forwell Creek Road to Blythwood Road and described as follows:

**Fee Simple Partial Taking:**

- a) Part Lots 7 and 12, German Company Tract and Part 1' Reserve E, Registered Plan 1155, being Parts 15, 16 and 17, on Reference Plan 58R-18950, part of PIN 22280-0047 (LT)(410-420 Weber Street North, City of Waterloo);

2233717

- b) Part Lot 7, German Company Tract, being Part 11, on Reference Plan 58R-18950, part of PIN 22280-0286 (LT)(421-425 King Street North, City of Waterloo);
- c) Part Lot 7, German Company Tract, being Part 3, on Reference Plan 58R-18948, part of PIN 22279-0037 (LT)(428 King Street North, City of Waterloo);
- d) Part Lot 7, German Company Tract, being Part 12, on Reference Plan 58R-18949, part of PIN 22280-0050 (LT)(435 King Street North, City of Waterloo);
- e) Part Lot 7, German Company Tract, being Part 2, on Reference Plan 58R-18948, part of PIN 22279-0038 (LT)(24 Forwell Creek Drive, City of Waterloo);

**Hydro Easement:**

- a) Part Lots 7 and 12, German Company Tract, being Parts 13, 14, 18 and 19, on Reference Plan 58R-18950, part of PIN 22280-0047 (LT)(410-420 King Street North, City of Waterloo);
- b) Part Lot 7, German Company Tract, being Part 2, on Reference Plan 58R-18949, part of PIN 22280-0048 (LT)(417 King Street North, City of Waterloo);
- c) Part Lot 7, German Company Tract, being Part 8, on Reference Plan 58R-18949 and Part 12, on Reference Plan 58R-18950, part of PIN 22280-0286 (LT)(421-425 King Street North, City of Waterloo);
- d) Part Lot 7, German Company Tract, being Parts 4 and 5, on Reference Plan 58R-18948, part of PIN 22279-0037 (LT)(428 King Street North, City of Waterloo);
- e) Part Lot 7, German Company Tract, being Part 1, on Reference Plan 58R-18948, part of PIN 22279-0038 (LT)(24 Forwell Creek Drive, City of Waterloo);
- f) Serve notices of the above application(s) required by the Expropriations Act;
- g) Forward to the Chief Inquiry Officer any requests for a hearing that may be received;
- h) Attend, with appropriate Regional staff, at any hearing that may be scheduled;
- i) Discontinue expropriation proceedings or any part thereof, in respect of the above described lands, or any part thereof, upon the registration on title of the required documentation to complete a transaction whereby the required interests in the lands are conveyed or if determined by the Commissioner of Transportation and Environmental Services that such lands, or any part or interest thereof, are not required for the subject project; and

- j) Do all things necessary and proper to be done, and report thereon to Regional Council in due course.
5. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo:
- a) declare an easement interest in the lands described as Part Lot 12, German Company Tract, part of PIN 22276-0037 (LT) as shown as Part 1, on Reference Plan 58R-18950, in the City of Waterloo surplus to the needs of the Region, as detailed in Report No. PDL-LEG-16-62 dated September 13, 2016, and provide the standard public notification as required by the Region's property disposition by-law; and
  - b) approve, enter into an Agreement for, and execute all documentation related to, the conveyance of a permanent easement to Waterloo North Hydro Inc. for the sum of \$1.00, for the installation and maintenance of hydro equipment, on, over and under the lands described Part Lot 12, German Company Tract, part of PIN 22276-0037 (LT) as shown as Part 1, on Reference Plan 58R-18950, in the City of Waterloo, as detailed in Report No. PDL-LEG-16-62 dated September 13, 2016 pursuant to the Region's property disposition by-law and the satisfaction of the Regional Solicitor.
6. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo accept the "Environmental Study Report, William Street – Strange Street Water Supply Class Environmental Assessment Study," summarized in this Report TES-WAS-16-16 dated September 13, 2016;
- And that the Regional Municipality of Waterloo publish the Notice of Completion for the Environmental Assessment and provide the Environmental Study Report for public review and comment for a 30-day period, in accordance with the Municipal Engineers Association's Class Environmental Assessment process.
7. That The Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve the settlement with AECOM Canada Ltd. in regard to Waterloo Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Contract 3 based on the sum of \$1,873,519 payable by AECOM to the Region;
8. That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo approve an amendment to the conditional Agreement of Purchase and Sale with Intermarket CAM Limited that provides for the modification of the draft plan of subdivision for the Creekside Development that will permit the development of Phase 1A with larger blocks and one point of access from Maple Grove Road (Regional Road 38) terminating in a cul-de-sac, in a form and content to the satisfaction of the Regional Solicitor as set out in report PDL-LEG-16-68/COR-FFM-16-12 dated September 21, 2016.

Carried

**Other Matters Under Committee Of The Whole**

## a) PDL-CAS-16-15, Taxi By-law Review – Vehicle Identification

J. Mitchell read the recommendation and brought forward an amendment to change the implementation date to December 1, 2016.

There was discussion on the need for decals and that the proposed sizes are appropriate. A councillor had a concern that the size is not large enough. The review after one year was noted and that will provide an opportunity for further adjustment if necessary. Regarding the placement on the vehicle, staff advised everyone will be provided with the proper placement location, ensuring no conflict with the Highway Traffic Act provisions.

With respect to the change to the implementation date, Councillors were supportive of the proposed amendment as it will allow Rideco to follow the rules and bring fairness to all parties.

A recorded vote was requested by B. Vrbanovic.

Moved by J. Mitchell

Seconded by E. Clarke

That the Regional Municipality of Waterloo direct staff to include the following provision in the final by-law for taxi and taxi type services as described in Report PDL-CAS-16-15.

**Vehicle Identification**

1. That the Region of Waterloo require Taxi-cabs to display two (2) decals in a location visible from the exterior of the Taxi-cab. The decals must display the name or trademark of the Taxi-cab Broker. Decals must be a minimum size of two hundred (200) square centimeters.

Carried

Yeas: L. Armstrong, E. Clarke, T. Galloway, H. Jowett, K. Kiefer, G. Lorentz, J. Mitchell, J. Nowak, K. Redman, K. Seiling, S. Shantz, S. Strickland

Nays: S. Foxton, B. Vrbanovic

Moved by J. Mitchell

Seconded by E. Clarke

2. That staff undertake a review of the decal size and location requirements within 12 months of the passing of the by-law and report back to Committee to determine if changes must be made.
3. That the date of implementation of the By-law be changed from November 1, 2016 to December 1, 2016

Carried, Unanimously

Chair Seiling thanked Councillor J. Mitchell for her efforts in chairing the meetings through this process. All staff involved, especially K. Fletcher, R. Brookes and A. Apfelbaum were thanked for all of their hard work and effort to bring this By-law forward.

Moved by K. Redman

Seconded by S. Strickland

That Committee of the Whole rise and Council resume.

Carried

Moved by E. Clarke

Seconded by S. Shantz

That Council adopt the proceeding of the Committee of the Whole.

Carried

### **Enactment of By-Laws – (First, Second & Third Readings)**

A request was made to take items f) and g) separately and hold a recorded vote.

Moved by J. Mitchell

Seconded by K. Redman

- a) That a By-law to authorize the borrowing upon ten year instalment debentures in the principal amount of \$7,250,000 for capital works of The Corporation of the City
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- of Cambridge be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered 16-039 signed by the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk and sealed with the Regional Seal.
- b) That a By-law to authorize the borrowing upon ten year instalment debentures in the principal amount of \$2,381,000 for capital works of The Corporation of the City of Kitchener be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered 16-040 signed by the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk and sealed with the Regional Seal.
  - c) That a By-law to authorize the borrowing upon ten year instalment debentures in the principal amount of \$700,000 for a capital work of The Corporation of the Township of Wellesley be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered 16-041 signed by the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk and sealed with the Regional Seal.
  - d) That a By-law to authorize the borrowing upon instalment debentures in the aggregate principal amount of \$94,219,000 (ten year instalment debentures in the principal amount of \$33,001,000 and twenty year instalment debentures in the principal amount of \$61,218,000) for capital works of The Regional Municipality of Waterloo be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered 16-042 signed by the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk and sealed with the Regional Seal.
  - e) That a By-law to provide for the borrowing of the aggregate of the principal amounts authorized by By-laws numbered 16-039, 16-040, 16-041 and 16-042 and for the issuing of one series of instalment debentures therefor in the aggregate principal amount of \$104,550,000 (ten year instalment debentures in the principal amount of \$43,332,000 and twenty year instalment debentures in the principal amount of \$61,218,000) be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered 16-043 signed by the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk and sealed with the Regional Seal.
  - h) That a By-law to Amend By-law 06-072, as Amended, Being the Region's Traffic and Parking By-law (Manitou Drive, Homer Watson Boulevard to Bleams Road, City of Kitchener) be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered 16-046 signed by the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk and sealed with the Regional Seal.
  - i) That a By-law to Confirm the Actions of Council of September 21, 2016 be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered 16-047 signed by the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk and sealed with the Regional Seal.

Carried

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Moved by J. Mitchell

Seconded by K. Redman

- f) That a By-law to Licence, Regulate and Govern Brokers, Owners, and Drivers of Taxi-Cabs within The Regional Municipality of Waterloo be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered 16-044 signed by the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk and sealed with the Regional Seal.
  
- g) That a By-law to Establish License Fees and Charges for The Regional Municipality of Waterloo and to Repeal By-law 13-056, as Amended be read a first, second and third time, finally passed and numbered 16-045 signed by the Regional Chair and Regional Clerk and sealed with the Regional Seal.

Carried, Unanimously

Yeas: L. Armstrong, E. Clarke, S. Foxton, T. Galloway, H. Jowett, K. Kiefer, G. Lorentz, J. Mitchell, J. Nowak, K. Redman, K. Seiling, S. Shantz, S. Strickland, B. Vrbanovic

## **Adjourn**

Moved by S. Foxton

Seconded by K. Kiefer

That the meeting adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

Carried

**Regional Chair, K. Seiling**

**Regional Clerk, K. Fletcher**

## Alliance Against Poverty Council Speech – September 21, 2016

Transportation and mobility are key in today's society. Access to transportation, especially for the poor, is essential for employment, food, and basic support services. But many people in our Region don't have enough food to cover their family beyond tomorrow or transportation to the food bank. Even if they find the money to pay the \$7.00 busfare to get there and back, they may hesitate. That \$7 could buy vegetables for tonight dinner or bread, and a few bananas for the kids' lunches tomorrow. Instead people call on their friends or neighbours to ask a ride or to borrow busfare until the end of the month. The Food Bank on Guelph Street is far away for most people, even on a bus. Then there's the "walk of shame" to and from the now distant bus stop. But when your family needs food, it's exactly what you do.

I've been that person. I have been on assistance. I've made use of our local food banks. As you can imagine, when I've been picking up food for my family of four, the hamper feels like it weighs four tons. I could NEVER walk it home. Without having access to transportation, this necessary support is inaccessible. And it's not the only one. A similar analogy could be placed on access to soup kitchens, community programs, events, job search supports, interviews... the list goes on. GRT prices don't just effect one thing; they alter peoples lives. When too costly their impact can be devastating.

As psychologist Abraham Maslow explained in his pyramid of human needs, basic physiological needs must be addressed first before individuals can begin to advance themselves and contribute to the community. I'm sad to say, our community



continues to skirt around this basic needs issue instead of recognizing its full effects on individuals and our community itself. Councillors, I urge you try to living on public assistance. Try to cover your rent, heat, hydro, food, and transportation and any incidentals. Even with your best efforts, I doubt you would succeed. If you stepped into the shoes of those who take on this challenge monthly, you wouldn't wait for the results of a very expensive study. This is a pressing issue and that seems to have been missed. We know now what should be done.

Additionally, you've already done some research. In 2013, the Region asked TRIP-pass recipients about their use of the pass and the benefits they experienced. I've printed a copy of this surveys report for your review. It is beautiful. 99% of the TRIP-pass recipients "indicated that having access to a reduced monthly bus pass... made a positive difference in their life." They felt that it "increased community inclusion and socialization" and overall access to services and employment opportunities. As for what they did with the money they saved from purchasing the pass, the funds primarily went towards food and groceries. Additional items included other bills, children, and household incidentals. Clearly, the TRIP Pass makes a difference in lives. However, it has an extremely long waitlist. Furthermore, the ability to purchase access to public transit continues to diminish every year as fares are raised by GRT and the economy produces a larger gap in income tiers. Transportation is so clearly necessary to obtain a livable income. Our public transit system must be affordable for all.

Now you might tell me about the TAPP pass. Or the tickets from assistance if you're going to school or job training. They are all woefully inadequate. I went to school while on assistance, Conestoga College, but I was denied bus-fare coverage. I was not

working on my grade 12 diploma, so I didn't qualify. I wasn't attending St Louis's school, so I didn't qualify. I was trying to advance my family to get us off assistance. That didn't qualify. My case isn't unique.

Though I understand your need to better track your service flows, I'm also worried about your recent decision to implement the Electronic fare card. I hear that you will work with social agencies to ensure those with lower incomes are not affected, however I feel certain they will be. You are eliminating the most effective method of fare distribution for the poor, tickets, and that will hurt those who rely on them. Regardless of any efforts made, the increase in cost to pass out the new fare cards, will lessen the already minimal amount of funding available for them.

I've heard concerns regarding increasing ridership based on low income passes and the potential effect to the revenue cost ratio for the GRT. I know you've heard it before but the busses are not full. Building reliability through fair access to transit services only grows your likely customer base, increasing the income you will derive over time. It's a small investment. If people like and can afford your service they will continue to ride the bus. You will make more money as the reduced pass recipients needs decrease through fair access to everything in our community. The recent additional transit funding you are receiving could also potentially benefit. With an increase in ridership, our community would be eligible to receive more funds through the Public Transit Infrastructure Fund. I would urge you to with as this additional 35 million dollars for infrastructure, find a way integrate our requests. The grant our region is receiving can most certainly help to find a way to juggle the budget to do so.

I greatly appreciate the step that you have taken by agreeing and commencing the process of studying local transit needs. But with such a high study cost, as requested at 514000 \$, I'm already concerned. As I understand it these funds will eliminate the TRIP PASS waitlist? And if the grant is not received? TRIP pass waitlist aside, how will the remainder be spent? How much will be going to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party for research costs? And administrative costs?

As you know, administrative costs can be high and in the interest of ensuring lesser administrative costs, myself and a few other members of the AAP would like to volunteer our time to assist as FREE help for your upcoming study. With the topic of reduced transit being one dear to the hearts of our members we feel that our involvement as peer researchers could be of benefit to you, while ultimately lessening your costs and helping to ensure that as much of those funds as possible are put in in the hands of those who most need it.

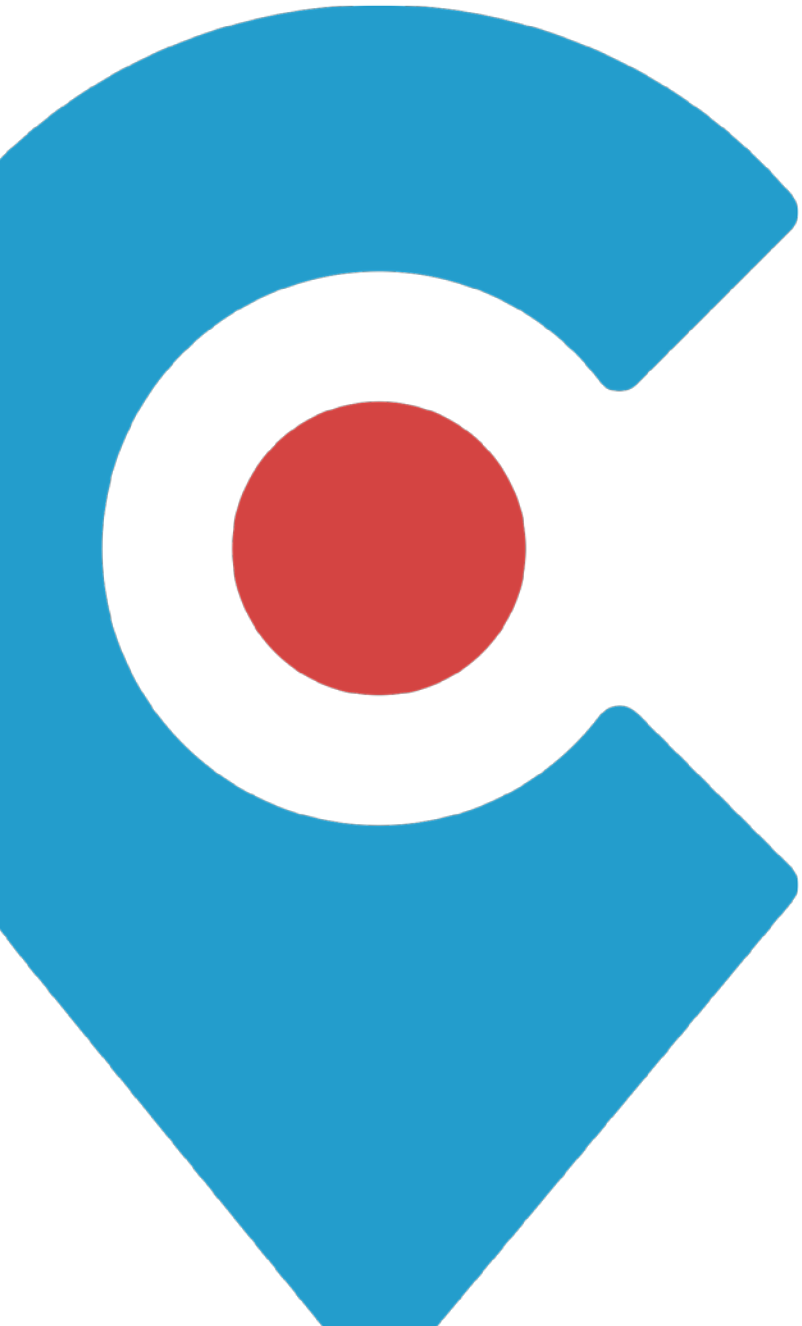
Regardless, I hope that this study is geared towards finding the money to afford this change as opposed to weighing if we can. This cant be solely a monetary based decision, there's so much more riding on it. We have spent more money than this would cost us on less important things.

The costs to immediately implement a free pass for OW and ODSP recipients would offset itself: the reduced need for social services, as people have better access to jobs and to more affordable housing; the savings in road repairs and expansions as the population grows accustomed to and makes use of this affordable alternative method of in city travel; the reduction of costs to return shopping carts to the vendors, as people have an affordable way to carry their groceries home. Besides, creating stronger access

to greener transportation is REQUIRED of you based on our nation's commitment to reducing our carbon footprint.

Previously AAP members have asked you to make transit fare free for everyone on OW or ODSP, to set half of the current TRIP pass fare for those below the low income cut off (\$21 instead of \$42), and to freeze fares for the next five years. Transit is a human right not a privilege in today's society. For example, take access to the family centre on Hanson. One of you kindly said recently that a "If we can get people to the building they can get the services" But if people can't afford the bus fare they still can't get to these services.

Councillors, no doubt you hope to leave your mark on the Region through positive change. This is your chance: Our community could join a worldwide movement towards accessible and affordable transportation for all, towards building a more egalitarian community with full access to its parks, events, and services for all. This change would do wonders in assisting many in finding a home and a job, accessing medical and mental health services, and overall building better lives. We can only truly grow our community by ensuring that everyone 'can participate in it. Thank you.



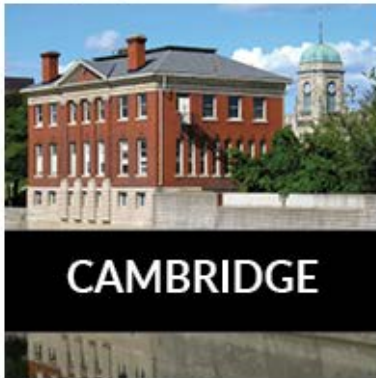
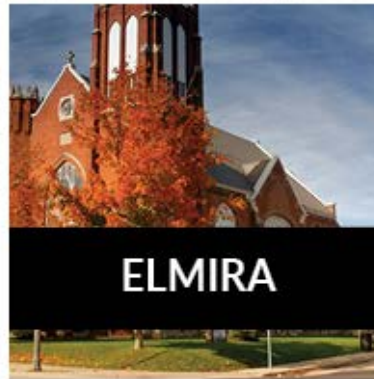
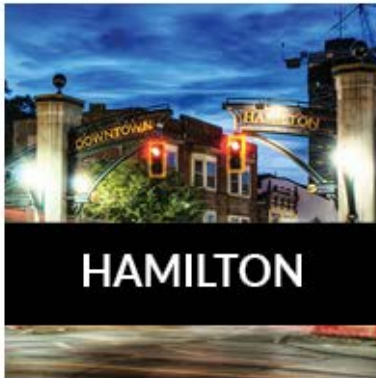
## Personalized Transit

Presented by  
Prem Gururajan

Waterloo Region  
Sep 21, 2016

- Door to door shared rides
- Save up to 50% over Uber or taxis
- RideCo fills the “gaps” in transit service
- Thousands of local residents use RideCo

# NEW: LONG DISTANCE SERVICE



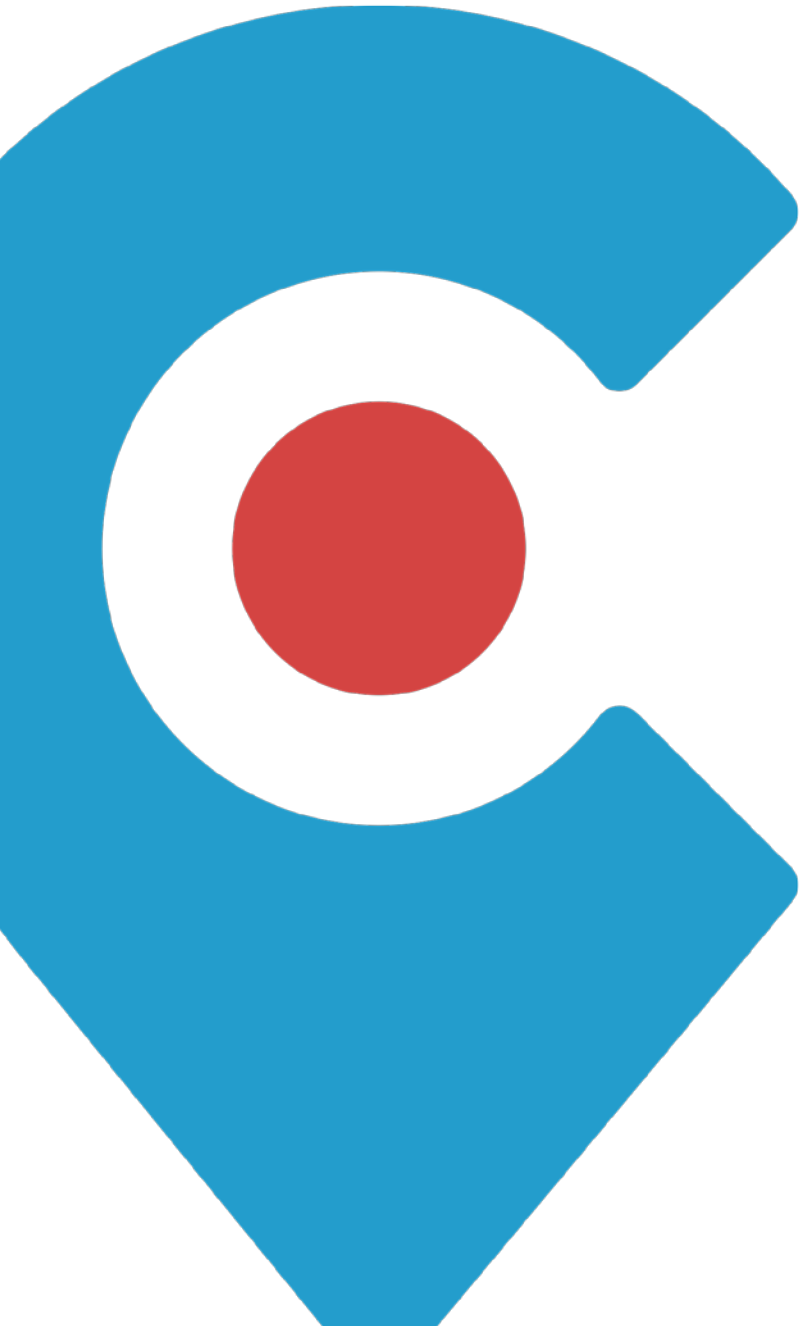
# RIDECO POSITION ON ISSUES

- **Not Supportive:**
  - Bylaw implementation date of November 1<sup>st</sup> will make Uber a temporary ridesharing monopoly in the Region
- **Details:**
  - Up until August, both Uber and RideCo operated under a \$5M contingent liability insurance policy that backed every ride
  - FSCO recently approved a ridesharing specific policy. This is currently offered only by Intact exclusive to Uber.
  - The Bylaw draft requires such a FSCO approved ridesharing policy, that Uber has exclusive access to
  - FSCO is currently reviewing another insurer's ridesharing policy. This is expected to be approved and generally available in the market by December.



# RECOMMENDATION

- Option A:
  - Bylaw implementation date of December 1st 2016
- Option B:
  - Introduce a 60 day transition period, by adding the following paragraph to Section 12
    - *12 (5) An Auxiliary Taxi-cab Service with less than 150 Auxiliary Taxi-cabs shall have a sixty-day transition period from the Bylaw commencement date to come into compliance with this Bylaw. Notwithstanding this subsection (5) an Auxiliary Taxi-cab Broker and its affiliated Auxiliary Taxi-cabs shall pay the applicable fees set out in Appendix "A" as of the Bylaw commencement date.*



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