



## REGULAR BUSINESS

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

A meeting of the St. John's Transportation Commission was held on Thursday, March 29, 2018 commencing at 12:00 PM at the Metrobus Transit Centre, 25 Messenger Drive.

Present at the meeting:

Wally Collins	Chair/Councillor
Colleen Galgay-Johnston	Commissioner
Shawn Skinner	Commissioner
Dave Lane	Commissioner/City Councillor
Ian Froude	Commissioner/City Councillor
Kirsten Morry	Commissioner
Paul Walsh	Commissioner
Kevin Breen	City Manager
Derek Coffey	Deputy City Manager, Financial Management
Judy Powell	General Manager
Linda Ryan	Administrative Assistant

#### I. PROCEDURAL

- The Chair called the meeting to order. L. Ryan recorded the minutes of the meeting.

#### II. AGENDA/MINUTES

- The Vice Chair moved that the Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of the Commission on February 22, 2018 be approved as distributed; Commissioner Morry seconded the motion.
- Commissioner Morry moved that the agenda for this meeting date be approved as circulated; The Vice Chair seconded the motion.

#### III. BUSINESS ARISING

##### 1. 30-Foot Vicinity Buses – Media Event

- Three (3) new low-floor, medium duty 30-foot Vicinity buses have been introduced into regular service.
- The media were invited to the transit facility for a photo opportunity.
- The new buses are equipped with a boarding ramp making them fully wheelchair accessible. The bus can also be "kneeled" to the curb making the low-floor entry even lower.
- The smaller, lighter design improves fuel economy, averaging as low as 38 litres per 100 kms, resulting in close to 30% fuel savings.
- The Vicinity Bus is one of the quietest on the market, both inside and out. The "close and seal" door design reduces noise on board and reduces air draft preserving heat within the bus during the colder months and keeps the cool air in during the summer months.
- Independent front suspension and 22.5" tires standard on every Vicinity bus provide a superior ride and comfort.
- The Vicinity buses seat 24 passengers and will be used on some less-busy feeder routes in the St. John's area. These three (3) new 30-foot buses will replace three (3) 40-foot models that are being retired at the end of March.
- Transit systems across the country are endorsing the quality and value of the Vicinity product, which has proven itself as a solution to optimize fleet performance. Having the appropriate bus size aligned with ridership levels and service design flexibility is one of the best solutions for Canadian transit systems.



**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Financial Statements – February, 2018**

- The financial statements for February, 2018 were tabled and discussed.
- The average price of diesel fuel was \$1.09562 per litre in February compared to the budgeted price of \$1.04.
- Ridership of 226,887 was up 6.6% from the same month in 2017 (212,883) and was 6.6% ahead of budget. February 2018 had one (1) day of 15 plus centimeters of snow versus two (2) days in 2017. Both days in 2017 saw suspended service and no ridership generated on those days.
- This item is a monthly review. Management continually monitors and assesses potential factors that affect revenues and expenses.

**2. Tender Results – Armored Car Pick-up Services**

- A memo from Finance Manager J. Hussey dated March 7, 2018 was tabled in reference to a previous email poll of members respecting the City of St. John's recent tender for an armored car pick-up services for the next three (3) years.
- Metrobus is listed on this tender separately and the contract piece is awarded separately from the City.
- The City received three (3) bids for the tender. The current provider, Garda World, was disqualified for failure to submit required documentation. However, they were not the low bidder. The remaining two (2) qualified quotes were received:

ARMORED CAR PICK-UP SERVICES TENDER BIDS, 2019-2021		Metrobus		
COMPANY	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	TOTAL
Brinks Canada Limited	\$6,170	\$6,170	\$6,170	\$18,510
Independent Armored Transport Atlantic Inc.	\$7,740	\$7,740	\$7,740	\$23,220

- The lower bid from Brinks Canada Limited is lower than the current tendered price.
- As both companies offer the same service, it was recommended that the quote from Brinks Canada Limited be accepted for armored car services for Metrobus for the next three (3) years.

**ACTION:**

- Commissioner Walsh moved, the Vice Chair seconded and it was carried unanimously that the tender be awarded to Brinks Canada as noted above and recommended by the Finance Manager.

**3. Executive Summary– February, 2018**

- The Executive Summary for the month of February was tabled and reviewed.
- It was noted that replacement seats for the new Vicinity buses arrived and have been installed in time for their introduction into service.
- It was additionally noted that modifications to the Geothermal Heating System and Building Monitoring System have been re-scheduled to May due to warmer climate conditions. A system shutdown is required in order to complete modifications and programming changes.
- This report is a monthly overview of all departmental activities.

**4. Transit Priority Signal Lights**

- The City has tentatively approved Metrobus' request for priority signal lights.
- The technology reduces dwell time at traffic signals for transit vehicles by holding green lights longer or shortening red lights, and gives priority to buses at some of the busier intersections.
- The technology, already in place at many transit systems throughout the country, will make it easier for buses to stay on schedule, improve on-time performance and ease the commute for riders.

**V. OTHER (Information/Community)**

**1. Presentation – 2017 Annual Review**

- Departmental managers presented an overview of the activities of their respective departments for the previous year (2017).
- Commission members thanked staff and found it to be an informative presentation that gave a comprehensive view of the organization's operations. It was a beneficial exercise for both staff and particularly members who are new to the Commission in 2018.
- This review is performed regularly on an annual basis.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

- There being no further regular business to discuss at this time, the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00 PM.
- The next regular business meeting of the Commission will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at Noon in the Board Room of the Metrobus Transit Centre.

Respectfully submitted,

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Wally Collins  
Chair

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Judy Powell  
General Manager