



SUBJECT: Integrated Transit Mobility Plan

TO: Committee of the Whole - Workshop

FROM: Transit Department

Report Number: TR-05-17

Wards Affected: All

File Numbers: 770-09

Date to Committee: September 7, 2017

Date to Council: September 11, 2017

Recommendation:

Receive and file transit department report TR-05-17 regarding the Integrated Transit Mobility Plan.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council on the status of the Integrated Transit Mobility Plan. The Existing System Evaluation and Choices Report prepared by Jarrett Walker and Associates (distributed to Council in July 2017) will be the focus of the workshop, following a presentation by Jarrett Walker.

The development of the Integrated Transit Mobility Plan (ITMP) contributes directly to the following strategic goals:

A City that Grows

A City that Moves

A Healthy and Greener City

Background and Discussion:

Jarrett Walker and Associates were retained to provide expertise in the analysis of existing service and to guide the development of a new service plan (ITMP) that will support the current and future transit needs of the city. This work includes:

- A comprehensive analysis of the existing transit system

- Development of service concepts
- Conducting key workshops with stakeholders, staff and Council
- Supporting staff with public engagement initiatives
- Service plan development (ITMP) and revised service standards
- Final Service Plan Report

Strategy/process

In order to support and align with the strategic goals of the city, a useable, attractive and reliable public transit system is necessary. To achieve these goals, it is fundamental that there is an understanding of the trade-offs associated with making transit choices. Therefore, we need to consider the following:

- The goal or purpose of transit
- Social and economic impacts
- Needs of many versus few
- Ridership (frequency) versus coverage
- Span of service (hours per day transit operates)
- Cost

Next Steps

Following the public engagement launch in Spring/Summer 2018, a staff report summarizing the public input will be provided to Council at a later date.

Options considered

Three service concepts have been created to stimulate broader thinking and discussion as we consider transit choices. These concepts were created to illustrate a spectrum of what transit could look like utilizing existing resources and also addressing current reliability deficiencies (travel and recovery time), albeit with a reduced span of service. It should be emphasized that there is no staff preference or recommendation associated with these three concepts.

Connections:

The Integrated Transit Mobility Plan has a strong and supporting relationship with the Strategic Plan, Official Plan, Transportation Plan and Cycling Plan. These plans come together to better serve the community through increased mobility and enhanced livability.

Public Engagement Matters:

On July 24, 2017, a stakeholder workshop was held and attended by 40 representatives of key community groups, as identified in Appendix A. Highlights from this workshop included a transit network planning exercise to demonstrate the complexities, choices and trade-offs associated with transit planning. Additionally, the workshop presented an overview of the Existing System Evaluation and Choices Report that was distributed to the attendees at the end of the session.

A comprehensive public engagement plan is being created to inform and prompt public thinking, discussion and opinion on what type of transit system best suits the needs of Burlington. A series of daytime and evening sessions as well as a web-based survey are being planned and scheduled to occur Spring/Summer 2018. Further updates on the planned public engagement sessions will be provided to Council when the details are finalized.

Conclusion:

Public transit is an important aspect of a livable community and is clearly identified in the city's Strategic Plan. Therefore, it is imperative that any transit choices made are done so with clear understanding of trade-offs and align with the future goals of the city.

Respectfully submitted,

John Duncan

Transit Manager

905-335-7869 Ext 7763

Appendices:

A. Stakeholder Workshop Attendees

Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, Director of Finance and Director of Legal. Final approval is by the City Manager.