

CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Request for Decision

Commuter Transit Service Level Change

Motion:

That Council temporarily adjust commuter transit service levels by reducing the current service level by three hours, to be in effect June 28, 2020 until further notice.

Purpose:

The report is intended to present Council with the option to reduce commuter transit service level due to a reduction in ridership as a result of COVID-19 pandemic.

Recommendation:

Administration recommends that Council support Administration's motion to adjust transit service levels as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Background:

COVID-19 has created a need to continually monitor transit service levels in the interest of reducing costs and impact of revenue shortfall. Our commuter Transit Route 580 to Edmonton is experiencing lower ridership than normal on certain trips. This is a result of the Covid-19 pandemic as fewer people are commuting from Fort Saskatchewan to Edmonton for employment. Also it is due to changes to the post secondary institution course delivery. Students who would normally travel route 580 using the U-Pass, are no longer doing so since course delivery changed from in-person to online. This may continue until the end of 2020.

Summary Analysis:

Trips departing Clareview Station at 7:25 a.m., 7:55 a.m., and 9:00 a.m., are the proposed times to be removed from the schedule until further notice. For the months of April and May these three times fell under the top five least used trips as a result of the pandemic. From April 1 to present, these trips individually saw an average of 1 or less passengers per day.

Plans/Standards/Legislation:

2018-2022 Strategic Plan:

- *Excellence in Government* - Continuous improvement; constantly looking for ways to improve our services through planning, innovation, collaboration and consultation. Specifically, the strategic initiatives: "Implement improved use of performance measures to inform service delivery and planning", and "Ongoing program and service level reviews utilizing the approved review framework."

Financial Implications:

Service hours will be reduced from 16 hours to 13 hours per day. The commuter service reduction described could see an approximate savings of \$9,000 monthly. This figure is being finalized with the City of Edmonton.

Internal Impacts:

There are no internal impacts.

Communication Plan:

Any transit service level changes will be communicated to residents via social media, and all details posted to the City website. Transit operators would also ensure users are informed of this change.

Attachments:

N/A

File No.:

Prepared by:	Anthony Dionigi Transit Supervisor	Date: May 24, 2020
Approved by:	Richard Gagnon Director, Public Works	Date: May 25, 2020
Approved by:	Jeremy Emann Chief Financial Officer	Date: May 25, 2020
Approved by:	Janel Smith-Duguid General Manager, Infrastructure & Planning	Date: May 25, 2020
Reviewed by:	Troy Fleming City Manager	Date: May 25, 2020
Submitted to:	City Council	Date: May 26, 2020