



# MINUTES

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## BUDGET COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2012 –  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING GENERAL COMMITTEE**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER  
SECOND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE  
300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO, L5B 3C1  
[www.mississauga.ca](http://www.mississauga.ca)**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Hazel McCallion	(CHAIR)
Councillor Jim Tovey	Ward 1 (arrival at 10:17 a.m.)
Councillor Pat Mullin	Ward 2
Councillor Frank Dale	Ward 4
Councillor Bonnie Crombie	Ward 5
Councillor Ron Starr	Ward 6
Councillor Nando Iannicca	Ward 7
Councillor Katie Mahoney	Ward 8
Councillor Pat Saito	Ward 9
Councillor Sue McFadden	Ward 10
Councillor George Carlson	Ward 11

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councillor Chris Fonseca	Ward 3
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STAFF PRESENT:

Janice Baker, City Manager and Chief Administrative Officer  
Mary Ellen Bench, City Solicitor  
Brenda Breault, Commissioner, Corporate Services and Treasurer  
Paul Mitcham, Commissioner, Community Services  
Martin Powell, Commissioner, Transportation and Works  
Patti Elliott-Spencer, Director, Finance  
Crystal Greer, Director of Legislative Services and City Clerk  
Heather A. MacDonald, Director, Strategic Housing Initiatives and Business Services  
Geoff Marinoff, Director, Transit  
Diana Rusnov, Manager of Legislative Services and Deputy Clerk

CONTACT PERSON: Julie Lavertu, Legislative Coordinator  
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[Julie.Lavertu@mississauga.ca](mailto:Julie.Lavertu@mississauga.ca)

**NOTE: The Committee changed the order of the Agenda during the meeting. These Minutes reflect the order of the meeting.**

CALL TO ORDER – 10:06 a.m.

DECLARATIONS OF (DIRECT OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST – Nil

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved (N. Iannicca)

DEPUTATIONS

- A. Items 1 and 2 David Fisher, Mississauga Resident, with respect to MiWay Service Rationalization Proposal – 2012, MiWay 2013 Fare Strategy, and general MiWay-related matters.

Mr. Fisher discussed the proposed cancellation of Saturday/Sunday/Holiday MiWay service on Route 49-McDowell and Route 91-Hillcrest, the lack of ridership on some routes, the possibility of realigning certain routes so that transit operates more effectively and efficiently, the possibility of revising the fare and transfer system, best practices from transit systems in Europe, how to encourage more residents to use transit, the importance of regularly reviewing ridership in newer subdivisions, and ways to ensure that the overall transit system is high quality and meets the needs of its users.

Councillors McFadden and Saito thanked Mr. Fisher for his deputation and insights and raised various issues including:

- The proposed cancellation of Saturday/Sunday/Holiday MiWay service on Route 49;
- The realignment of Route 41-Thomas to accommodate Route 49 Saturday/Sunday/Holiday users;
- The importance of providing transit options in new subdivisions such as Churchill Meadows, prior to the widespread use of transit in these areas, as a way of encouraging transit use and fostering long-term ridership.

The Committee dealt with Item 1 at this time.

1. MiWay Service Rationalization Proposal – 2012 (Wards 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, and 11)

Corporate Report dated August 8, 2012 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to the MiWay service rationalization proposal – 2012.

Committee members raised various issues including:

- The consequences of cancelling Saturday/Sunday/Holiday MiWay service on Route 49, Route 91, and other routes in the future;
- Developing new incentives for residents to use transit, instead of their cars, such as scheduling direct and time-efficient routes and making travel comfortable;
- The City's Strategic Plan vis-à-vis transit;
- The possibility of increasing Saturday/Sunday/Holiday ridership on Routes 49 and 91 in the near and long-term future;
- The possibility of holding a public meeting regarding the proposed cancellation of Saturday/Sunday/Holiday MiWay service on Route 49; and
- The importance of consulting with residents prior to cancelling MiWay services.

Councillor Tovey arrived at 10:17 a.m.

Mr. Marinoff and Mr. Powell responded to the Committee's comments and questions and discussed the following:

- Routes 49 and 91 with respect to weekday/weekend/holiday ridership, the reasons for low ridership on weekends/holidays, the challenges of expanding weekend/holiday ridership, and the costs of providing weekend/holiday services; and.
- The feasibility of holding a public meeting regarding the proposed cancellation of Saturday/Sunday/Holiday MiWay service on Route 49.

Approved/Direction (S. McFadden)  
Recommendation BC-0016-2012

## MATTERS CONSIDERED

### 2. MiWay 2013 Fare Strategy

Corporate Report dated August 27, 2012 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to the MiWay 2013 fare strategy.

Committee members raised various issues including:

- The City's declining revenue to cost ratio (R/C ratio) and whether surrounding municipalities are also dealing with declining R/C ratios;
- The high cost of student monthly passes (especially for low-income families with children who live outside of school bussing catchment areas), proposed student fares vis-à-vis other transit systems in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) as noted in Appendix 3, and the number of student passes purchased each month and year;
- The U-Pass for eligible University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM) students;
- The proposed increases to seniors monthly and annual passes;
- The possibility of monitoring and measuring transit use by students;

- The possibility of working with the Region of Peel to develop a fare subsidization program, the need to develop specific criteria based on need for the latter, and the advantages and disadvantages of implementing such a program;
- The value of the City's subsidized recreation programs for low-income residents;
- The importance of increasing ridership and keeping fares affordable;
- The need to equitably distribute transit fare increases between user categories;
- The challenges of adequately funding transit in the City and beyond;
- The reduction of bussing services by school boards in recent years and the consequences of this policy decision on municipalities and other stakeholders;
- The impact of rising gas prices on transit costs; and
- The need to balance any fare subsidization program with the City's R/C ratio.

Mr. Powell, Mr. Marinoff, and Ms. Baker responded to the Committee's comments and questions and discussed the following:

- The reasons for the City's declining R/C ratio and the City's R/C ratio vis-à-vis other transit systems in the GTA as noted in Appendix 1;
- Increased transit costs due to the implementation of accessible buses, the use of additional technology (e.g., cameras, fare collection systems, etc), expanded service improvements in recent years, rising labour costs, and higher gas prices;
- Background information regarding MiWay's 2013 fares and fare strategy vis-à-vis other transit systems in the GTA as noted in Appendix 3;
- Background information regarding student fares vis-à-vis other transit systems in the GTA, the difficulty of monitoring and measuring transit use by secondary school and post-secondary students, and student ridership overall;
- Background information regarding Council's past decision to implement a U-Pass for eligible UTM students;
- The importance of balancing fare increases with overall tax base impacts; and
- The feasibility of subsidizing fares or implementing a two-tier fare system and working with the Region of Peel on this matter.

During discussion of Item 2, Mr. Powell advised that staff would do the following:

- Undertake benchmarking research on subsidy programs and/or assistance offered to users by other transit systems in the GTA.

Approved/Direction (P. Mullin)  
Recommendation BC-0017-2012

CLOSED SESSION – Nil

ADJOURNMENT – 11:12 a.m.

REPORT 3-2012

TO: MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

The Budget Committee presents its third report for 2012 and recommends:

**BC-0016-2012**

1. That the Corporate Report dated August 8, 2012 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, entitled "MiWay Service Rationalization Proposal – 2012," be received;
2. That Saturday and Sunday/Holiday MiWay service on Route 91-Hillcrest be cancelled, as outlined in the Corporate Report dated August 8, 2012 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works entitled "MiWay Service Rationalization Proposal – 2012"; and
3. That the cancellation of Saturday and Sunday/Holiday MiWay service on Route 49-McDowell, as outlined in the Corporate Report dated August 8, 2012 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works entitled "MiWay Service Rationalization Proposal – 2012," be deferred until after the City of Mississauga holds a public meeting with local residents and Pat Saito, Ward 9 Councillor, and Sue McFadden, Ward 10 Councillor.

Wards 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, and 11

**BC-0017-2012**

1. That the proposed 2013 transit fare changes outlined in the Corporate Report dated August 27, 2012 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, entitled "MiWay 2013 Fare Strategy," be implemented effective January 28, 2013;
2. That a by-law be enacted to establish the proposed 2013 Mississauga Transit fares and related charges as set out in Appendix 2 of the Corporate Report dated August 27, 2012 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works entitled "MiWay 2013 Fare Strategy" and that the Mississauga Transit Fares By-law 284-11 be repealed; and
3. That staff meet with Region of Peel staff to discuss the possibility of implementing an annual transit subsidy program for the Region's residents based on socio-economic need and criteria.