

**MOVING  
TRANSIT  
FORWARD**

# Niagara Transit Governance

Revised Strategies Reflecting  
Phase 1 Feedback

Public Works Committee  
August 10, 2021

# Niagara Transit Governance Overview

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## *The Focus is on Effective Consultation*

Demonstrating how Phase 1 feedback has been reflected and undertaking a second round of consultation to verify and determine any outstanding barriers, challenges or concerns to the governance model as revised.

**Revised Finance, Board  
Composition, and Service  
Strategies to support  
consolidation**

**Consensus  
recommendations of  
Governance Steering  
Committee**

**Significant updates to  
directly address feedback  
from LAMs**

# Niagara Transit Governance Overview

Niagara Transit  
Governance  
Study



Q4 2020

Phase 1 LAM  
Consultation



Q1 2021

Governance  
Steering  
Committee



Q2 2021

Workshop Series  
and Project Teams

Revised  
Strategies



Q2 2021

Phase 2 LAM  
Consultation



Q3 2021

# What We Heard

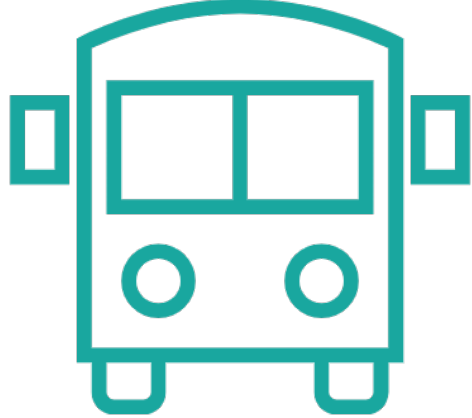
## Phase 1 Themes / Focus Areas



**Financial Strategy**



**Board Composition**



**Service Standards Strategy**



# Revised Strategies

## Theme 1: Financial Strategy

### Funding Strategy - 12 Special Levy Tax Rates

#### Existing Regional Transit Costs

*Current state remains with costs allocated based on Region wide assessment*

#### Local and Incremental Costs

*Costs allocated to municipalities based on service hours*

#### ***What Has Changed?***

- ✓ Municipalities who realize services will be allocated costs of those services
- ✓ Service Based Principle
- ✓ Incorporates service standardization costs and accounts for future growth
- ✓ Introduces a capital reserve strategy to ensure future needs of the Commission are met

# Revised Strategies

## Theme 1: Financial Strategy

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**Combination of Local +  
Regional Levies**

2020 Residential Taxpayer  
Transit Costs



**12 Special Levy Tax Rates  
with principle of net-neutral  
offsets for LAMs**

2023 Residential Taxpayer  
Transit Costs

# Revised Strategies

## Theme 1: Financial Strategy

**Current  
State**

**2020**



**\$44.2 M  
Region-wide Transit  
Operating Costs**

- ✓ \$27.8 M Local levies
- ✓ \$16.4 M Regional levy

**Opening  
Day**

**2023**



**+ \$2.2 M  
Region-wide Transit  
Operating Costs**

- ✓ Local levy costs transitioned to Regional levy (Incl. inflation costs to 2023)
- + \$2.2M Capital Reserve strategy

**Phase 1 Service  
Enhancement**

**2025**



**+ \$8.3 M  
Region-wide Transit  
Operating Costs**

- ✓ Implementation of expanded service hours, common fare strategy (incl. inflation costs to 2025)
- + \$4.3M Capital Reserve strategy

# Revised Strategies

## Theme 2: Board Composition

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### *What Has Changed?*

- ✓ Representation for all municipalities on transitional Commission Board
- ✓ Local councils recommend representatives to Commission and Advisory Board

*\* Reviewed after three (3) years by an external third-party to ensure that composition, size, and share of representation has resulted in an effective governing body that is achieving the strategic objectives of the Commission*



# Revised Strategies

## Theme 3: Service Standards Strategy

*Service Standards Strategy outlines how transit in Niagara could be enhanced, should the combination of the existing transit services take place*



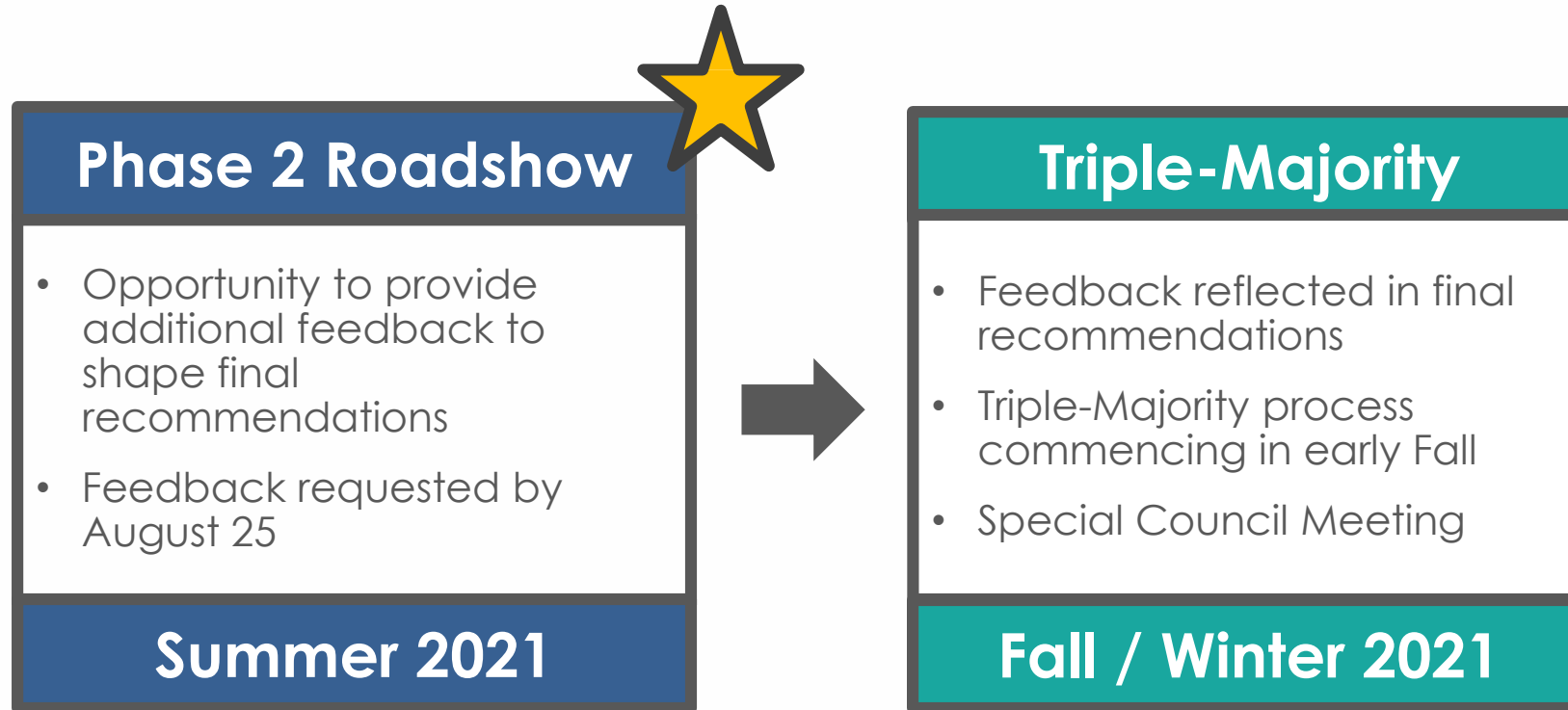
### **What Has Changed?**

- ✓ Existing levels of service maintained and improved on
- ✓ Additional detail on where changes and growth may occur
- ✓ Three phases of improvements for Niagara residents
- ✓ Linked to Financial Strategy

# Next Steps

## Phase 2 Consultation and Triple-Majority

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# MOVING TRANSIT FORWARD

## Discussion