

Niagara Transit Governance: Revised Strategies Reflecting Phase 1 Feedback

Public Works Committee

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

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MOVING TRANSIT FORWARD

Niagara Transit Governance

**Revised Strategies Reflecting
Phase 1 Feedback**

**Public Works Committee
August 10, 2021**

Niagara Transit Governance

Overview

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

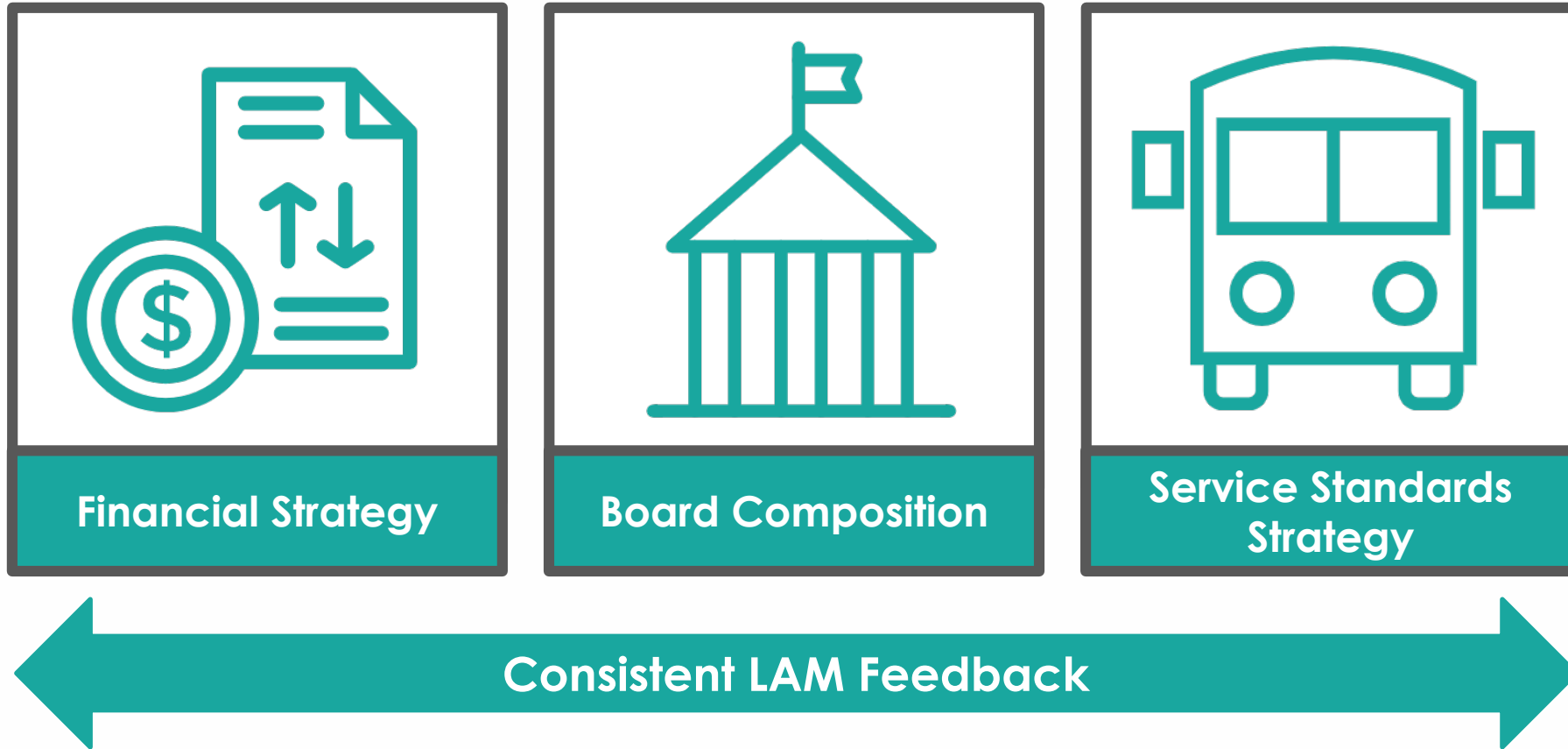
Phase 2 LAM
Consultation



Q3 2021

What We Heard

Phase 1 Themes / Focus Areas



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

**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



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

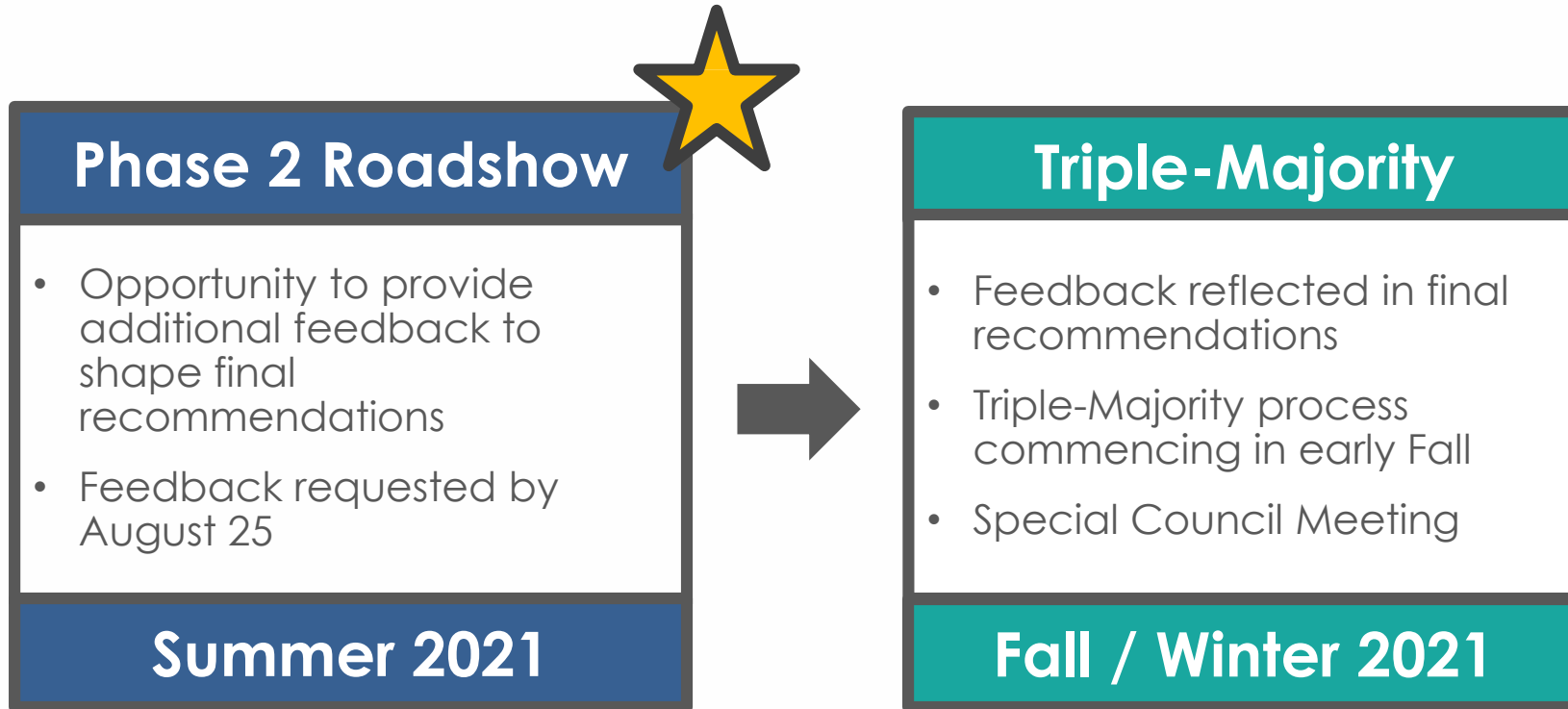


What Has Changed?

- ✓ 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



MOVING TRANSIT FORWARD

Discussion