
MEMORANDUM

CL-C 115-2022

Subject: Fees and Charges By-law Amendment – Transit Fees

Date: August 25, 2022

To: Regional Council

From: Erin Amirault, Associate Director, Finance Operations and Systems

The purpose of this memo is to accompany the by-law amendment on the Council agenda for August 25, 2022, related to the schedule of fees and charges.

At its meeting held on July 19, 2022, Niagara Transit Commission (NTC) passed report NTC 7-2022 Harmonization of Transit Fares, which recommended:

1. That the Niagara Transit Commission **APPROVE** the harmonized fare structure and associated fare policies outlined in this report.
2. That Report NTC 7-2022 **BE FORWARDED** to Niagara Region with the request that the transit fare structure identified in this report be included in the Regional Fees & Charges by-law to be effective January 1, 2023.

Typically such a request would be included in the Region's yearly updates to its Fees and Charges By-law as part of the regular annual operating budget process. However, due to this being an election year, the Region's by-law is not scheduled to come before Council until February 2023 with an effective date of March 1, 2023, which does not align with the commencement of amalgamated transit operations under NTC. As such, staff have proceeded with submitting an amendment to the existing by-law with an effective date of January 1, 2023 (Bill No. 2022-63, Agenda Item 18.1).

A summary of changes made by the by-law amendment is as follows:

- All transit fees were moved from the Public Works section to a section under Niagara Transit Commission and the fees renumbered from a "PW-" to an "NTC-" sequence;
- References to "high school students" in the youth fee descriptions were replaced by "or secondary school ID";
- New fees for "day pass" and "monthly pass – low income" were added;

- The standalone section for Niagara Specialized Transit fares was deleted and consolidated to align with inter-municipal transit fares, as required under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, Ontario Regulation 191/11, section 66(1) which states “the specialized transportation service provider shall not charge more than the highest fare charged for conventional transportation services in the same jurisdiction”; and
- Several fee amounts increased or decreased as per table 1 of the NTC report.

The referenced NTC report and its appendix are as follows:

- [NTC 7-2022](#) Harmonization of Transit Fares

<https://pub-niagararegion.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=27472>

- [NTC 7-2022](#) Appendix 1

<https://pub-niagararegion.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=27473>

Respectfully submitted and signed by

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Associate Director, Finance Operations and Systems