

Greater Toronto Services Board - Transportation Workshop

(City Council on December 14, 15 and 16, 1999, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)

The Planning and Transportation Committee recommends that, in response to the Greater Toronto Services Board's (GTSB) request for comments from municipalities on a transportation plan for the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), that Council advise the GTSB that:

- (1) it regards regional amalgamation of local transit services as a pre-requisite to regional integration of public transit;**
- (2) any transit plans for the GTA must recognize the relationship between land use planning and transit services;**
- (3) any provincial infrastructure program must be heavily directed to support public transit;**
- (4) the GTSB be requested to include in the capital costs, significant landscaping, especially tree plantings, along any new or improved transportation routes.**

The Planning and Transportation Committee reports, for the information of Council, having:

- (1) referred the report (October 11, 1999) from the Executive Director, Greater Toronto Services Board to the Acting Commissioner, Urban Planning and Development Services and to the Official Plan Reference Group for consideration of incorporating the transportation component therein into the City of Toronto's new Official Plan;
- (2) requested representatives from the Toronto Transit Commission to give a presentation to the Planning and Transportation Committee, in early 2000, on seamless transit; and
- (3) requested the Acting Commissioner, Urban Planning and Development Services to report to the Planning and Transportation Committee on extending the subway in a westerly direction.

The Planning and Transportation Committee submits the following communication (October 11, 1999) from Lynn Morrow, Executive Director, Greater Toronto Services Board (GTSB):

The Board at its meeting October 1st, 1999 adopted Clause 2 in Transportation Committee Report No. 5 as amended. Included in the Clause was a recommendation from the Transportation Committee that the Proceedings from the Board's August 10th Transportation Workshop be sent to GTSB member municipalities and transit authorities for comment within 60 days. A copy of the Board report and the workshop Proceedings is enclosed.

Recognizing municipal councils meeting schedules your early attention to this matter would be appreciated. Responses should be forward to Lynn Morrow at the address below.

GTSB
Greater Toronto Services Board

The Board at its meeting October 1st, 1999 adopted the following report of the Transportation Committee.

Clause 2 of Transportation Committee Report No. 5 GTSB Transportation Workshop Proceedings – August 10, 1999.

The Committee had before it a report from the Executive Director dated September 9, 1999, setting out the Proceedings of the GTSB Transportation Workshop held on August 10, 1999.

The Committee recommends that the Board adopt the recommendations contained in the report of the Executive Director (September 9, 1999) amended to read as follows:

- (1) the GTSB Transportation Workshop Proceedings be forwarded to the Board for information;
- (2) the Transportation Planning Staff Team refine the transportation information developed at the Workshop and utilizing the other reports that are available report back to the Transportation Committee with a recommended GTA/Hamilton-Wentworth transportation vision framework as soon as possible;
- (3) the Transportation Planning Staff Team consider the Workshop Proceedings in preparing a transportation plan for the GTA and Hamilton-Wentworth for consideration by the Transportation Committee, and all municipalities and transportation agencies be requested to provide their comments on the Workshop proceedings within 60 days; and
- (4) the appropriate officials take the necessary action to give effect hereto.

The Committee submits the following report from the Executive Director (September 9, 1999):

It is therefore recommended that:

1. the GTSB Transportation Workshop Proceedings be forwarded to the Board for information;
2. the Transportation Planning Staff Team refine the transportation vision developed at the Workshop and report back to the Transportation Committee with a recommended GTA/Hamilton-Wentworth transportation vision as soon as possible;

3. the Transportation Planning Staff Team consider the Workshop Proceedings in preparing a strategic transportation plan for the GTA and Hamilton-Wentworth for consideration by the Transportation Committee; and
4. the appropriate officials take the necessary action to give effect hereto.

Introduction

The first GTSB Transportation Workshop was held on August 10, 1999. Workshop participation was significant and contributions to the day were generously given by a variety of organizations and individuals committed to addressing the transportation challenges faced in the GTA and Hamilton-Wentworth. The attached Workshop Proceedings give a flavour of the breadth and scope of the event.

Background

The Board at its meeting April 23, 1999, directed that a Transportation Workshop be arranged which would both enhance understanding of GTA transportation challenges and opportunities, and initiate priority elements of the Transportation Working Group's work program.

GTA/Hamilton-Wentworth Transportation Plan

The workshop was a starting point. Its purpose was to move forward on a commitment to an integrated transportation system in the GTA and Hamilton-Wentworth. This was achieved by building a better understanding of the GTA transit network, existing inter-municipal arrangements and efforts to improve transit's share of travel, and the challenges we face; and by demonstrating a willingness to work together and the need to move forward quickly.

The Transportation Planning Staff Team has been established and work has begun on preparing a strategic GTA/Hamilton-Wentworth Transportation Plan. The next steps include preparing a region-wide vision for transportation, gleaning the key findings from the considerable amount of work that has already been completed, and developing a consultation process for involving the various organizations who have a contribution to make in fitting together the various pieces of an integrated transportation plan.

Conclusion

The Transportation Planning Staff Team is working to refine the transportation vision developed at the Workshop and will report back to the Transportation Committee with a recommended GTA/Hamilton-Wentworth transportation vision as soon as possible. Insights from the Workshop will be useful input to the preparation of the strategic transportation plan.

As indicated at the workshop a copy of the proceedings will be sent to all participants. In addition, the proceedings will be publicly available on the new GTSB web site (www.gtsb.on.ca), including a video summary program being developed by Toronto's Cyber TV.

The Planning and Transportation Committee also had before it the information package titled, "GTSB Transportation Workshop – August 10, 1999", appended to the foregoing communication, which was forwarded to all Members of Council with the agenda of the Planning and Transportation Committee for its meeting of November 29, 1999, and a copy thereof is on file in the office of the City Clerk.