

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM22.3	ACTION			Ward: All
---------------	---------------	--	--	-----------

GO Transit/Union Pearson Express-Toronto Transit Commission Discounted Fare Initiative - by Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Province of Ontario to continue the GO/Union Pearson Express-Toronto Transit Commission Discounted Fare Initiative agreement with the City of Toronto based on the terms reached and outlined in Item 2017.EX28.6, Advancing Fare Integration, adopted by City Council at its meeting on November 7, 8 and 9, 2017.

Summary

Fare integration between transit agencies in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area is an opportunity to increase transit ridership and improve affordability all residents.

The Provincial funding of the GO Transit/Union Pearson Express-Toronto Transit Commission Discounted Fare Initiative expired on March 31, 2020. A \$1.50 co-fare between GO Transit and the Toronto Transit Commission was introduced in 2018, funded by the Province of Ontario through Metrolinx. Demand for the program is evident from the over 4.5 million more rides than were budgeted for in 2019-20. Before the introduction of the co-fare, approximately 50,000 daily trips used a combination of GO Transit, Toronto Transit Commission and Union Pearson Express.

The co-fare between GO Transit and the Toronto Transit Commission increases access to rapid transit. Approximately half of Toronto's Neighbourhood Improvement Areas have a GO Transit station nearby or within the area. Most of these Neighbourhood Improvement Areas are not currently serviced by Toronto Transit Commission rapid transit.

Transit users in the Greater Toronto Area enjoy discounted GO Transit co-fares which are funded by the Province of Ontario through Metrolinx. Transit users in Mississauga, Brampton, and Durham (Durham Region Transit) pay an 80-cent co-fare when transferring to or from GO Transit. York Region Transit users pay one dollar for trips to and from GO Transit.

Toronto City Council voted to support a co-fare program between GO Transit and Toronto Transit Commission in 2017. City Council also voted to support accelerated plans for full and affordable fare integration, including a single fare for all transit trips within the City of Toronto.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM22.3