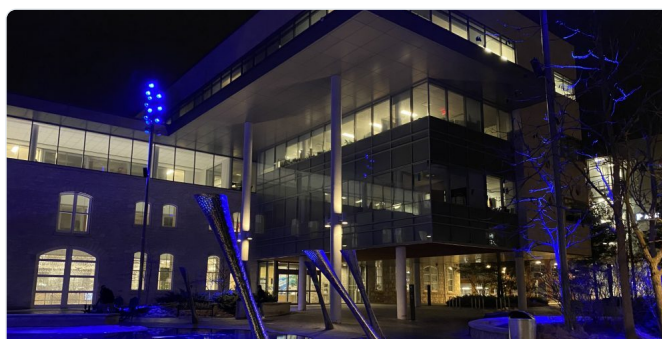




Adam A. Donaldson @adamadonaldson

Apr 25 · 65 tweets · [adamadonaldson/status/1650989670937886721](https://twitter.com/adamadonaldson/status/1650989670937886721)

Coming up in a few minutes, this month's regular council meeting.



City Council Preview – What's on the Agenda for the Regular Meeting o...

The regular council meeting for April, marks a return to regular order, at least in terms of council's usual start time. Welcome back, night owls! In terms of content, council will revisit some of ...

<https://guelphpolitico.ca/2023/04/14/city-council-preview-whats-on-the-agenda-for-the-r...>

At 6:15, council went into closes session on one topic. April 2023 Appointments to Advisory Committees, Local Boards, Agencies, Commissions and Associations. 10 out of 13 vacant positions should have been filled.

It looks like Cllr Downer will be chairing this meeting. Unclear if Mayor Guthrie will be appearing remotely like he did at the workshop a couple of hours ago.

Chair Downer notes that there will be a formal motion appointments later in the agenda.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof? None.

Minutes of the open Council meetings held March 21, 22, 28 and 29, 2023, and the open Committee of the Whole meeting held March 7, 2023 approved unanimously.

Consent agenda from CoW:

6.1 Delegation of Authority By-law Update - 2023-115

Recommendation:

1. That the revised Delegation of Authority By-law, included as Attachment-1 to the Updated Delegation of Authority and Document Execution By-laws report, dated April 4, 2023, be approved and that the Delegation of Authority By-law Number (2013)-19529 and Execution of Documents By-law Number (2013)-19635 be repealed.

6.2 Water and Wastewater Servicing Master Plan - 2023-99

Correspondence:

*Ian Panabaker

Recommendation:

1. That the Water and Wastewater Servicing Master Plan be approved, and that staff be directed to file a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Notice of Completion.
2. That the financial information from the Water and Wastewater Servicing Master Plan be referred to the City's water and wastewater rate models and long-range financial plans through the multi-year budget process.

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6.3 Stormwater Management Master Plan - 2023-98

Recommendation:

1. That the Stormwater Management Master Plan be approved and that staff be directed to file a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Notice of Completion.
2. That the financial implications from the Stormwater Management Master Plan be referred to the City's multi-year budget process.

6.4 2022 Water Services Annual Report and Summary Report - 2023-122

Recommendation:

1. That Guelph City Council approve the 2022 Water Services' Annual Report and Summary Report.

All items moved by Caron/O'Rourke. Passes unanimously.

Next, April 2023 Appointments to Advisory Committees, Local Boards, Agencies, Commissions and Associations.

1. That Richard Pyke and Russell Speers be appointed to the Committee of Adjustment for a term ending November 2026 or until such time as successors are appointed.
2. That Madeleine Krucker be appointed to the Guelph Museums Advisory Committee for a term ending April 2024 or until such time as a successor is appointed.
3. That Maria Finoro, Justin Luth, and Morgan Boyco be appointed to the Planning Advisory Committee for a term ending April 2024 or until such time as successors are appointed.
4. That Justine Garner and Naeem Mir be appointed to The Elliott Community Board of Trustees for a three-year term ending November 2025 or until such time as successors are appointed.
5. That Damien Smith and Kevin McIntosh be appointed to the Tourism Advisory Committee for a term ending April 2024 or until such time as successors are appointed.
6. That Karishma Rego be appointed to the Water Conservation and Efficiency Public Advisory Committee for a term ending April 2024 or until such time as a successor is appointed.

This is approved unanimously.

Next, Transit Fare Strategy. There are four delegates starting with Nelson Chukwuma, who is joined by Meet Upadhyay representing Conestoga Students Incorporated, the official student association of Conestoga.

They have both praise and concern for the strategy. Upadhyay says that he's a regular rider of Guelph Transit and he has a lot of praise for drivers. Notes that the 12% increase for student passes is kind of big at one time. Wants the increase to be phased in.

Chukwuma adds that if the Fare Capping Strategy needs to be implemented with a strong communications strategy.

Coming up next? Uhhhhh

8.1 Transit Fare Strategy - 2023-102

Delegation:

- *Nelson Chukwuma
- *Meet Upadhyay
- *Adam Donaldson
- *Steven Petric

First, a Q from Cllr Klassen. Asks what outreach on fare capping should look like. Chukwuma says he would leave it with CSI advocacy team, they have skills to reach Conestoga students.

Cllr Goller asks if they've been in touch with Guelph Transit. They have.

Cllr O'Rourke asks if they have any data about Conestoga students and transit use.

Chukwuma says he doesn't have that on hand, but he can get it to council. 1,500 students at Guelph campus, but 70% don't have a vehicle.

Cllr Caton asks if they have a Upass program. Chukwuma says they haven't considered a Upass, but with recently announced expansion of the college, this convos may be coming.

So after me, there's Steven Petric from TAAG. He says they're in favour of fare capping, but they also have concerns. Trips from A to B are changing, more short trips, many services are moving to unlimited transfer time. Why not two hour limit then?

Petric quotes letter from the Chamber of Commerce that notes every \$1 invested in transit comes back with \$5. <https://pub-guelph.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=36038>

Petric also argues that the 19% increase in the cost of monthly passes is a lot to swallow in one go. Also notes that any transit fare increase, no matter how small or the expansion of service, results in a loss of ridership that doesn't bounce back for 1-3 years.

Motion put on the floor:

Recommendation:

1. That the Kids Ride Free program (children aged 12 and under) outlined in Attachment 1, Section 6.3.2 to report "Transit Fare Strategy" dated April 4, 2023, be made permanent and that the budget impacts as outlined in report "Transit Fare Strategy" dated April 4, 2023, be included in the 2024-2027 Multi-year Budget.
2. That the Fare Capping Loyalty program, outlined in Attachment 1, Section 6.3.1 to report "Transit Fare Strategy" dated April 4, 2023, be approved and that the budget impacts as outlined in report "Transit Fare Strategy" dated April 4, 2023, be included in the 2024-2027 Multi-year Budget.
3. That staff be delegated the authority to proceed with the remaining initiatives recommended in Attachment 1 to report "Transit Fare Strategy" dated April 4, 2023.

Billings asks about the concerns that TAC had. Clack-Bush said that they had questions about transfer times, but did not express any concerns that they wanted to know about.

You can also check out the [@GuelphPolitico](#) review of the TAC Meeting:



RECAP: Transit Advisory Committee Looks at Fare Strategy and New ...

There's been a lot of transit news in the last couple of weeks between the Fare Review Strategy that was presented at Committee of the Whole and a list of route and schedule changes comes May...

<https://guelphpolitico.ca/2023/04/20/recap-transit-advisory-committee-looks-at-fare-str...>

What about Cllr Caton's proposed amendments? O'Rourke makes the point that Caton's motion change the plan so #3 would have to be amended. The first motion is Kids Ride Free so that should be a clean passage.

Clack-Bush says she agrees with O'Rourke on #1. Council would have to vote #2 down because it directs the motion follow Attachment #1, and Caton's motions don't do that. #3? All Caton wants to do is change transfer time so amendment to #3.

Caton says she intended her motion as amendments since they make a modification to overall plan. Goller agrees that it's a minor adjustment.

Clause #1 passes unanimously.

Recommendation:

1. That the Kids Ride Free program (children aged 12 and under) outlined in Attachment 1, Section 6.3.2 to report "Transit Fare Strategy" dated April 4, 2023, be made permanent and that the budget impacts as outlined in report "Transit Fare Strategy" dated April 4, 2023, be included in the 2024-2027 Multi-year Budget.
2. That the Fare Capping Loyalty program, outlined in Attachment 1, Section 6.3.1 to report "Transit Fare Strategy" dated April 4, 2023, be approved and that the budget impacts as outlined in report "Transit Fare Strategy" dated April 4, 2023, be included in the 2024-2027 Multi-year Budget.
3. That staff be delegated the authority to proceed with the remaining initiatives recommended in Attachment 1 to report "Transit Fare Strategy" dated April 4, 2023.

Cllr Gibson asks staff to respond to some of the delegation concerns about fare capping.

Clack-Bush says there always going to be challenges around cost with fares, but they're trying to set a threshold for passing things off to riders. No fare increase in years so some catch up.

Goller asks about what portion of riders use the monthly pass. Transit says 18% will be impacted.

Cllr Caton's proposed change to clause #2 (seconded by Goller).

2. That the Fare Capping Loyalty program be approved with a monthly fare cap set at 32 rides in 2023-2024, 33 rides in 2025 and 34 rides in 2026 and then be maintained at this monthly cap and that ticket prices continue to increase as set in Table 19 of Attachment-1 to the report entitled "Transit Fare Strategy," dated April 4, 2023, and further that staff be directed to manage the estimated financial impact of \$19,900 in 2023 related to this change through operating variance and be further directed to refer related 2024 to 2027 costs to the upcoming multi-year budgeting process and deliberations of Council.

Goller has an amendment to the amendment to reduce the increase this year, and extend it over four years.

2. That the Fare Capping Loyalty program be approved with a monthly fare cap set at 28 rides in 2023-2024, 30 rides in 2025 and 32 rides in 2026 and 34 rides in 2027 then be maintained at this monthly cap and that ticket prices continue to increase as set in Table 19 of Attachment-1 to the report entitled "Transit Fare Strategy," dated April 4, 2023, and further that staff be directed to manage the estimated financial impact in 2023 related to this change through operating variance and be further directed to refer related 2024 to 2027 costs to the upcoming multi-year budgeting process and deliberations of Council.

Clack-Bush says that they have not costed the impact so that reference may have to be removed. Caton says she doesn't want to make a decision w/o proper background info, though she appreciates the spirit.

Goller motion motion fails. 1-12.

O'Rourke asks about the original Caton motion to fund this year through the variance and then refer the rest to the budget. Stewart says be careful, because there's already 6% coming with stuff already pushed off till 2024.

Allt says that what everywhere and Guelph is dealing with is an affordability crisis, so this is a small thing that council can do in a \$500m budget. Also an enviro cost and we want to get people out of cars, so this is an opportunity to say take transit.

Caron says the delegates have been heard vis-a-vis affordability. Still, talking about passholders who are most loyal customers, and this could make or break decision to buy a bus pass. So will support.

O'Rourke says it was council's decisions not to raise the rates this whole time, but at the same time acknowledges that Transit staff have been very attentive to the business case.

Gibson asks about potential impacts of increasing fares. Clack-Bush notes again that TAC had opportunity to express concerns and they haven't. Also, there are lots of options for affordability on bus passes.

Busuttill notes that she's been working with people doing their taxes, including a custodian who doesn't qualify for an affordable bus pass. There are lots of people that need the help.

Goller proposes another amendment to limit the increase to \$85 for the first year and then increase it by \$5 the next two years. No second.

Back to the original motion, Gibson says it's important to apply value to a service, doesn't like the term "free transit", there's no free transit someone is paying for it.

Caton's original motion passes unanimously.

Motion #2 as amended passes unanimously.

2. That the Fare Capping Loyalty program be approved with a monthly fare cap set at 32 rides in 2023-2024, 33 rides in 2025 and 34 rides in 2026 and then be maintained at this monthly cap and that ticket prices continue to increase as set in Table 19 of Attachment-1 to the report entitled "Transit Fare Strategy," dated April 4, 2023, and further that staff be directed to manage the estimated financial impact of \$19,900 in 2023 related to this change through operating variance and be further directed to refer related 2024 to 2027 costs to the upcoming multi-year budgeting process and deliberations of Council.

Caton amendment to #3:

1. **And, as it relates directly to transfer times**, that the fare transfer time, as outlined in volume slider section 4.2.3 of Attachment-1 of the Transit Fare Strategy report dated April 4, 2023, be amended to extend the permitted transfer time to 90 minutes and that staff be directed to manage the estimated financial impact of \$10,000 in 2023 related to this change through the operating variance and be further directed to refer related 2024 to 2027 costs to the upcoming multi-year budgeting process and deliberations of Council.

More clear:

1. And, as it relates directly to transfer times, that the fare transfer time, as outlined in Section 4.2.3 of Attachment-1 of the Transit Fare Strategy report dated April 4, 2023, be amended to extend the permitted transfer time to 90 minutes and that staff be directed to manage the estimated financial impact of \$10,000 in 2023 related to this change through the operating variance and be further directed to refer related 2024 to 2027 costs to the upcoming multi-year budgeting process and deliberations of Council.

Gibson asks about the impact in successive years. Clack-Bush says the impact is \$33,000 after the first year.

Cllr Richardson asks if transfer times were concerns mentioned in public feedback. Clack-Bush says no, and only complaint came into the transit office in recent years.

Caron says it's a disincentive to have short travel times, and while they haven't heard a lot complaints about transfers, they did hear a lot about missed connections.

How did staff get data on transfer time? Tapping the card, they count the times a card was tapped on a continuous journey versus tapping the card to get on a different bus for the return trip.

Goller makes the point that everyone subsidises parking spaces. Maybe subsidising transit's not so bad.

Gibson asks for an update about the degree to which the City subsidizes transit, the R/C ratio. Apparently, there was a memo last month about looking at things more holistically as opposed to reducing services down to revenue vs cost.

Caton notes that everyone benefits from accessibility, and some rides on transit are very long and not the same for everyone.

Amendment passes unanimously.

Amended motion #3 passes unanimously.

Clerk O'Brien adds that the motion that Mayor Guthrie brought forward at Committee of the Whole about affordable options for teens and seniors is captured as well. Clack-Bush says they're working on that.

Downer thanks staff for the hard work on this.

Next: Municipal Code of Conduct and Support of Bill 5, Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act

Recommendation:

1. That the City of Guelph support the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's call for the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them in consultation with municipal governments, and further, support Bill 5, the Stopping Harassment and Abuse by Local Leaders Act.
2. That the legislation encompass the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's recommendations for:
 - a. Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment;
 - b. Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario;
 - c. Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province;
 - d. Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner; and,
 - e. Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office.

Orleans MPP Stephen Blais has quarterbacked this. It updates the CoC to account for workplace safety & harassment, increase training for integrity commissioners, create consistency for investigations, and to allow municipalities to apply to the judiciary to remove a member.

Last one if it's recommended by the integrity commissioner. AMO and OBCM support this measure too.

If passed, Guelph would be the 58th municipality to endorse the changes.

Allt asks about definition for "egregious." O'Rourke says this motion asks for the support of the principles of this, those definitions will be left up to integrity commissioner and worked out in the legislation.

Staff comment? DCAO Lee says that right there's a distinct treatment of staff versus council and this bill closes the gap.

Motion passed unanimously.

Bylaws of the week pass unanimously.

***9.1**

By-law Number (2023)-20794

A by-law to delegate certain administrative powers and duties to City staff, to govern the execution of documents, and to repeal By-laws (2013)-19529; (2013)-19559; (2013)-19586; (2013)-19596; (2013)-19618; (2014)-19749; (2014)-19792; (2015)-19879; (2016)-20022; (2017)-20150; (2018)-20258; (2019)-20375; (2019)-20391; (2019)-20412; (2019)-20439; and (2022)-20711.

***9.2**

By-law Number (2023)-20795

A by-law to confirm the proceedings of meetings of Guelph City Council held March 29, and April 25, 2023.

***9.3**

By-law Number (2023)-20796

A by-law to repeal By-law (2023) – 20785 and amend By-law (2022) – 20698 – Traffic By-law, as amended, being a By-law to regulate the use of Highways within the City of Guelph and the Traffic and Parking thereon

The meeting is adjourned.



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