

Office of the Commissioner Transportation Services Department

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of Committee of the Whole

From: Paul Jankowski

Commissioner of Transportation Services

Date: February 8, 2021

Re: Fare and Service Integration Provincial-Municipal Table

This memorandum advises Council that the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario is establishing a Fare and Service Integration Provincial-Municipal Table (Table), comprised of senior representatives from transit systems within the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) and the broader GO service area (see Attachment 1). The Associate Minister of Transportation, Kinga Surma, will chair the Table.

In 2019, Metrolinx formed a governance structure to advance transit fare and service integration in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area

In <u>September 2020</u>, Council was advised of the Metrolinx and GTHA governance structure formed to advance fare and service integration. This structure consists of a Region Roundtable, Fare Integration Forum and Fare and Service Integration Working Group.

Each group has specific mandates, focusing on aligning key transit fare integration priorities, generating solutions, enhancing collaboration, and establishing direction to advance fare and service integration in the GTHA.

Through the September 2020 report, Council also approved staff-recommended changes to York Region Transit fare age categories to align with the other GTHA transit agencies. These changes create uniformity and reduce transit traveller confusion when purchasing fares across multiple transit systems. The changes will come into effect July 1, 2021, resulting in fare age category uniformity across the GTHA.

On February 3, 2021, the Region received a letter from the Associate Minister of Transportation advising of a new Fare and Service Integration Provincial-Municipal Table

The Table will serve as an objectives-based, problem-solving body comprised of transit and transportation experts to foster collaboration between the Ministry of Transportation Ontario, Metrolinx and GTHA transit agencies.

This new Table will build on work already undertaken by Metrolinx's Fare Integration Forum and working group. Note that the Associate Minister's letter indicates the Metrolinx Fare Integration Forum and working group have been placed on hold while the new Table gets underway.

In addition, York Region Transit and the Toronto Transit Commission are leading a comprehensive review focused on the development of a broad fare policy and fare collection strategy to allow GTHA transit agencies to better integrate services. This initiative will continue and supports the new Table's mandate. Staff will provide Council with additional information on the York Region Transit/Toronto Transit Commission initiative in spring 2021.

Paul Jankowski

Commissioner of Transportation Services

Bruce Macgregor

Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment (1) 12541658