



Office of the Commissioner
Public Works Department

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of Committee of the Whole

From: Erin Mahoney, M. Eng.
Commissioner of Public Works

Date: April 14, 2023

Re: York Region Transit 2022 Enforcement and Security Annual Report

This memorandum provides a summary of the York Region Transit 2022 Enforcement and Security Annual Report, included as Attachment 1.

Special Constable activities are reported to York Regional Police Services Board, as required under the Joint Services Agreement

Each year, a copy of the York Region Transit (YRT) Enforcement and Security Annual Report is provided to the York Regional Police Services Board (Attachment 1), as required under the Joint Services Agreement.

YRT Special Constables have Peace Officer authority, as set out in the Criminal Code of Canada. These include enforcement of offences related to Obstructing or Resisting a Peace Officer, Obstructing Justice, False Pretences, Forgery, Uttering a Threat, Forged Document, Fraud Under \$5,000 and Fraud relating to fares.

The YRT 2022 Enforcement and Security Annual Report follows the format adopted in 2021, aligning with policing partner reporting. This report outlines staffing levels, affiliations and associations, job functions and reporting requirements, statistics related to complaints, occurrences and fines, professional development and training, and significant accomplishments.

In 2022, York Region Transit continued to support public safety across the York Region Transit system through a uniformed security presence and passenger assistance

During 2022, staff worked diligently to ensure a safe and secure environment for travellers, while protecting transit fare revenue despite the unique and unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff worked closely with York Regional Police in joint projects that promoted officer presence and education in schools and onboard services.

Compliance and enforcement of face coverings and other public health measures were prioritized in the first quarter of 2022 to promote a safe environment on transit buses. Over 13,000 non-enforcement interactions with travellers were documented, including more than 430 incidents in which staff provided aid to passengers, including displaced and vulnerable persons; this represents an increase of 15% in interactions and a 7% increase in assistance when compared to 2021.

York Region Transit continued to address challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic

In 2022, the pandemic continued to present challenges within the YRT system, including increased property and security-related incidents of disorderly conduct throughout the system at transit facilities and on buses (1,098 in 2022, 824 in 2021). Despite public health restrictions and increased overall occurrences, staff successfully continued fare revenue protection through inspection while providing traveller assistance, safety, and security.

Staff continued to actively respond to displaced individuals at YRT terminals and across the system, offering direct support and connecting individuals to Regional programs. Continued enforcement and security through Special Constable and Fare Inspector presence and response support a safe and comfortable environment for travellers.

York Region Transit Enforcement and Security responded to incidents supporting safety and security throughout the system

Transit Enforcement and Security provide a range of services, including traveller assistance, fare inspections, closed-circuit television video requests and requests relating to property. In 2022, staff responded to numerous incidents on the YRT system, supporting the safety of the public and transit staff as identified on page 8 in the Annual Report Attachment 1. The top three types of incidents are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1
Top Three Incidents 2021-2022

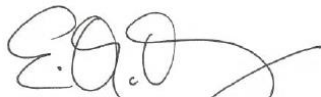
Incident Type	Total in 2021	Total in 2022
Trespassing	210	256
Crimes against property (including mischief and fare fraud)	168	223
Disorderly Conduct (includes Crime categories, Provincial Offenses and Security-related occurrences)	824	1,098

YRT Enforcement and Security staff managed an increase in transient and displaced individuals who are not travellers at terminals. YRT Enforcement and Security retrieved and reviewed closed-circuit television footage throughout the transit system in response to requests regarding motor vehicle accidents, legal claims, safety and security concerns, and police purposes. In 2022, staff provided the Region’s Risk Management unit and York Regional Police with over 1,800 video responses.

Conclusion

In 2022, YRT Enforcement and Security continued to provide services to travellers in support of a safe and comfortable experience on the YRT system and to protect Regional assets.

As required under the Joint Services Agreement, a copy of the 2022 York Region Transit Enforcement and Security Annual Report will be forwarded to the York Regional Police Services Board.



Erin Mahoney, M. Eng.
Commissioner of Public Works



Bruce Macgregor
Chief Administrative Officer

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Attachment 1 - York Region Transit 2022 Enforcement and Security Annual Report