

## **TRANSIT WINDSOR WORKING GROUP**

Meeting held Wednesday, March 4, 2026

A meeting of the Transit Windsor Working Group is held this day commencing at 2:00 o'clock p.m. in Room 203, 350 City Hall Square West, there being present the following members:

Bernard Drouillard  
Trevor Ramieri  
Katie Stokes  
Souravdeep Singh

### ***Absent:***

Jaykumar Patel  
Iain Sutcliffe

### ***Also present are the following resource personnel:***

James Chacko, Chair, Executive Director, Transit Windsor  
Stephan Habrun, Director, Operations & Planning  
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

### **1. Call to Order**

James Chacko, Chair, Executive Director, Transit Windsor calls the meeting to order at 2:05 o'clock p.m. and the Transit Windsor Working Group considers the Agenda being Schedule A, attached hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

### **2. Declaration of Conflict**

None disclosed.

### **3. Minutes**

Moved by Trevor Ramieri, seconded by Katie Stokes,  
That the minutes of the Transit Windsor Working Group of its meeting held September 24, 2025, **BE ADOPTED** as presented.  
Carried.

## **4. Business Items**

### **4.1 Review 2026 Meeting Schedule**

It is generally agreed that the following 2026 meeting dates be approved:

May 27, 2026, August 26, 2026, and November 25, 2026 (subject to change).

### **4.2 Round Table**

Stephen Habrun, Director, Operations & Planning provides the following updates:

- The east and west end terminals are coming along well. At both sites the buildings have been erected (operator buildings).
- Waiting on updates on when the terminals will be open. The west end terminal will be open much sooner than the east end terminal. The east end terminal will be open by summer 2026 dependent upon if the road network east end terminal is also open.
- In terms of the garage renovation updates, are getting closer to tendering for this month.
- From an operational standpoint, all is working well.
- Ridership is still trending down primarily due to the loss of international students and the weather.
- In terms of the fare system update, validators have been installed. The soft launch will primarily be students' passes for the university and college. The goal is to have this in place and running fully in the summer.

Trevor Ramieri reports in terms of communication, that students are expecting that their bus pass will be validated but will not be due to the transition to this new system. He asks what kind of communication strategy will be in place. The Chair responds that the strategy is being developed, however there will be a multiple phase that includes reaching out to all of their partners along with a broad campaign that includes social media. He adds there will be additional posters on the buses.

Trevor Ramieri adds that students are concerned that they will not have a physical card to ride the bus. The Chair responds that the option to get a physical card or Smart Card is still available.

Stephen Habrun remarks in terms of those who pay with cash, the existing fare boxes will remain on the buses. During the soft launch, the old passes will work for the rest of the categories; and the student passes will be transitioned. Once there is a hard launch the old passes will be cut off.

## **5. Other Business**

The Chair opens the floor and asks the Working Group to provide topics of interest to discuss in 2026.

In terms of the issue in 2025 regarding Route 1000, Trevor Ramieri questions if more open houses will be held and asks if high school or post secondary schools are interested in more deliberation along with a strategy.

The Chair advises that much of the success was from the rollout in August and September to initially educate at the four high schools that had lost their school extras, in particular Holy Names and Vincent Massey High Schools. He adds there was a great deal of communication with a campaign and notes they will continue to adopt this strategy when there are big changes at the school level with Grade 8 or Grade 9 orientation. He indicates that City Council agreed to reinstate Route 1000 until December 31, 2026.

The Chair suggests that a discussion regarding the "Post Secondary Update" be added to the May 27, 2026, Transit Windsor Working Group Agenda.

In response to a question asked by Trevor Ramieri regarding Earth Day, the Chair remarks that the City always has a table at Malden Park.

It is generally agreed that the May 27, 2026, meeting will be held via Zoom video conference.

Souravdeep Singh indicates that students are disappointed with the cost of the passes and asks if the cost can be reduced. The Chair responds that a signed agreement that stipulates the cost is in place until 2029.

## **6. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom video conference.

## **7. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 2:30 p.m.