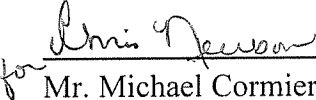




PO.Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

North West Community Council
November 25 2009

TO: Councillor Robert P. Harvey, Chair, and members of the North West Community Council

SUBMITTED BY:  _____
for Mr. Michael Cormier, Chair, North West Transit Advisory Committee

DATE: November 2, 2009

SUBJECT: Request for Metro Transit Service - Old Sackville Road, Sackville

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

An e-mail dated August 28, 2009 from the North West Community Council.

BACKGROUND

The North West Transit Advisory Committee was requested to review and provide comment on the concerns raised by Mr. Singh in regard to the lack of Metro Transit service along the Old Sackville Road, Sackville.

DISCUSSION

The North West Transit Advisory Committee considered the request for transit service along the Old Sackville Road or extension of service from existing routes. Although the North West Transit Advisory Committee supports the request, they concur with Metro Transit that due to other priorities, this matter would not be recommended for consideration at this time. The Committee encourages Metro Transit to consider the request during all future budget discussions.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

This report was for information purposes only, no alternatives.

ATTACHMENTS

1. E-mail dated August 28, 2009 and attached e-mail dated August 13, 2009 from Mr. Singh.

A copy of this report can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report prepared by: _____
Chris Newson, Legislative Assistant, 490-6732

From: Melody Campbell
To: Chris Newson
Date: 8/28/2009 12:11 pm
Subject: Item for North West Transit Advisory Committee

CC: Bob Harvey; Brad Johns
Hi Chris,

This is an item referred from North West Community Council on Thursday, August 27, 2009 for the next North West Transit Advisory Committee.

10.2.3 Issue Referral - North West Transit Advisory Committee

MOVED BY Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Johns that North West Community Council refer a request for bus services from the Old Sackville Road to the Cobequid Bus Terminal to the North West Transit Advisory Committee. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

This item was sent to Metro Transit, they advised that they would not re-direct an existing route to provide service to the Old Sackville Road that would result in removing service from another area. They are reviewing the idea of extending route 66 or route 89 to the Sackville Terminal.

I have attached the correspondence regarding the issue.

Thanks Chris.

Melody Campbell
Legislative Assistant

From: Amy Power
To: Bob Harvey;
Date: 19/08/2009 3:05 pm
Subject: Re: Transit Services

CC: Eddie Robar
Hello Councillor,

Just to clarify Metro Transit would not re-direct an existing route to provide service to Old Sackville Rd. that would result in removing service from another area. We are reviewing the idea of extending route 66 or route 89 to the Sackville Terminal, both of these route currently stop at Cobequid Terminal. However extending either of these routes will be require additional budget approval and of course would be implemented based on priority.

Thank you
Amy

Amy Power
Supervisor, Scheduling & Service Planning
Metro Transit, Halifax Regional Municipality
(902)490-4636 fax(902)490-6688
powera@halifax.ca

>>> Bob Harvey 18/08/2009 6:50 pm >>>

I support and encourage the idea of including such a service along the Old Sackville Road by redirecting an existing route. Perhaps the whole idea could be sent to the NWCC Transit Advisory Comm.

>>> Amy Power 18/08/2009 3:15 pm >>>

Good afternoon,

At this time Metro Transit does not have any immediate plans to implement service on Old Sackville Rd. At present there has been very little to no demand for transit service along Old Sackville Rd. However, transit has been reviewing the idea of extending with an existing route to Old Sackville Dr. and to the Sackville Terminal such as route 89 or route 66.

These proposed changes are pending budget approval and council direction. With limited budgets and competing demands for public funds, all service adjustments and increases must be prioritized based on ridership demands and service standards. Metro Transit's priority is to address passenger capacity, frequency issues and service standards all of which are pending budget approval.

Thank you for your suggestion. Metro Transit continuously reviews all service suggestions for future consideration.

Thank you
Regards,
Amy

Amy Power
Supervisor, Scheduling & Service Planning
Metro Transit, Halifax Regional Municipality
(902)490-4636 fax(902)490-6688
powera@halifax.ca

t> 13/08/2009 7:47 pm >>>

Dear Councillor, Harvey,

We do not have any Metro Transit Bus Service on the old Sackville. I live at (off of Hallmark Ave). It takes 18.5 minutes to walk to the nearest bus stop on Sackville Dr / Sackville Cross Rd (in front of the Swiss Chalet). It takes 24 minutes to walk to bus stop by Cobequid Rd / Sackville Dr (across from Petro Canada). It takes 25 minutes to walk to the bus terminal on Walker Ave (by the RCMP office on Old Sackville Rd). It takes me 30 minutes to drive to work in downtown Halifax. I use to take the Metro link from the Walker Ave bus terminal. I've stopped taking the Metro Link because of lack of parking spaces and vandalism when I parked on the street.

With all of the future initiative and talks of increased service levels by Metro Transit, I would like to request bus service on the Old Sackville Rd with at least 30 minutes of service during peaks hours. I've spoken to several people in our subdivision and they agree that there should be bus service on the Old Sackville Rd.

If you require further information, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Thank you
Gursharan Singh