

MOVING  
FORWARD  
TOGETHER





## Moving Forward Together

January 2014

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## Background



**February 2013:** Development of Five Year Service Plan Initiated

**July 2013:** Public and Stakeholder Engagement Plan presented to Transportation Standing Committee

**August – October 2013:** Public and Stakeholder Engagement undertaken



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## Consultation Overview



- Stakeholder Focus Groups
- Public Meetings
- Interactive Media Boards
- Online Survey
- Online Promotion
- Mail-Outs
- In-Person Promotion



## Participation By the Numbers



- 2,115 Registered Site Users
  - 1,600 Online Surveys
- 64 Paper Surveys
- Stakeholder Meetings
  - 28 Stakeholder Groups
- Public Meetings
  - 135 Members of Public
- 64 Online Forum Posts
- 130 + Email Submissions



## Theme 1: The Goal

- Diverse opinions on why transit is important
- Overall support for an increased focus on high ridership services
- Recognized importance of time - coverage services (off-peak)
- Consistent support for increased length of service day



## Theme 2 : System Design

- General support for increasing the role of transfers
- This support is contingent on:
  - Frequency
  - Reliability
  - Shorter trip time
  - Comfortable waiting area



### Theme 3 : Managing the System

- Both Maintenance and Expansion important
- Emphasis on improving reliability of existing service



### Theme 4: Transit Priority Measures

- Both regular transit users and non-transit users indicated overall support for TPMs
- “The right measure, the right location”



## The Moving Forward Principles

1. Increase the proportion of resources allocated towards **high ridership services**.
2. Build a **simplified transfer based** network.
3. Invest in service **quality and reliability**.
4. Give transit **increased priority** in the transportation network.



## Existing Metro Transit Network

- Recent incremental improvements in the network:
  - Rationalization of the Portland St. Corridor
  - Improved quality, accessibility, reliability
  - Minor increases in transfers
- Existing network complicated, not always coordinated or cohesive
- To implement Principles, a comprehensive network review is required.



## Implications: Scope

- Scope expanded to include a review of the entire existing Metro Transit network to facilitate the application of principles
- Reduce redundancy, increase efficiency, improve customer experience
- Plan life will be longer than projected five year horizon
- New Title: *The Moving Forward Together Plan*



## Implications: Timeline

Stage	Previous Timeline	New Timeline
Draft Plan complete	January 2014	October 2014
Stage II Consultation	January/February 2014	October/November 2014
Final Plan Submitted	May 2014	April 2015
Plan Implementation	2015/16 – 2019/20	Fall 2016

## Implications: Budget

- Incremental Cost: \$315,000
- Included in budget presentation
- Only existing resources and those accounted for by ten year capital budget will be used



## Implications: Interim Service Changes

Only changes approved in the 2013/14 and 2014/15 Annual Service Plans will be implemented until the new system is in place:

- Woodside Ferry service increases (May 2014)
- Urban Express at peak to complement Woodside Ferry service
- Routing adjustments to accommodate the new Lacewood Terminal
- Ensuring service continuity during Macdonald Bridge re-decking
- Service maintenance (May & August 2014)





## Recommendations



It is recommended that Committee of the Whole Recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Endorse the four (4) Moving Forward principles; and
2. Endorse the change in scope of the “Moving Forward Together Plan” from a five-year plan to an overall system review, as outlined in the January 8, 2014 report to Committee of the Whole.



## Questions?

