
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

DATE: 2020 APRIL 28

FROM: DEPUTY CITY CLERK

FILE: 02410-20

**SUBJECT: FEDERAL FUNDING TO STABILIZE PUBLIC TRANSPORT
NEW BUSINESS, COUNCIL MEETING 2020 APRIL 27**

Under the New Business portion of the 2020 April 27 Council meeting, His Worship, Mayor Mike Hurley, advised that he received correspondence (attached) from the City of Montreal requesting the City of Burnaby consider supporting a declaration to the Government of Canada to provide urgent funding to assure the viability of public transit during the COVID-19 pandemic, and to aid transit operators rebuild ridership:

WHEREAS the situation of an unprecedented drop in public transit ridership provoked by the COVID-19 outbreak accompanied by massive revenue losses is affecting public transit agencies right across Canada putting in jeopardy their financial viability and future ability to operate:

WHEREAS the Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA), Canada's largest public transport lobby, the membership of which includes most Canadian transit agencies, has called for urgent emergency funding to address the immediate liquidity issues of transit operators while providing financial stability while ridership rebuilds;

WHEREAS CUTA estimates as many as 40% of systems may require bridge funding over the coming months requiring some \$1.2 billion to help them keep the buses and trains running;

WHEREAS CUTA is seeking \$400 million a month to keep services running as fare box and other revenue drop by up to 100%;

WHEREAS CUTA notes that it will likely take some time for transit operators to rebuilt ridership to February 2020 levels during a gradually return to more normal economic activity;

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WHEREAS without a quick infusion of funds by the Government of Canada it is impossible to assure that the gains made over the past decade in growing the modal share of all rides taken via collective transit will not be lost;

WHEREAS while transit is a provincial jurisdiction, only the Government of Canada has the budgetary capacity to stabilize public transit during the COVID-19 emergency;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Burnaby City Council endorse CUTA's request to the Government of Canada for emergency funding to provide immediate liquidity to transit operators and on-going funding to alleviate revenue loss as ridership rebuilds;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Minister of Transport of Canada and the Minister of Finance of Canada.

Arising from discussion, Council **REFERRED** the resolution to the Executive Committee of Council.



Blanka Zeinabova
Deputy City Clerk