

## **DURHAM REGION TRANSIT COMMISSION**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## Feb. 8, 2019

Transit Executive Committee updates

**WHITBY, ON –** The Durham Region Transit (DRT) Transit Executive Committee convened earlier this week to discuss 2019 transit initiatives and priorities.

The 2019 Service and Financing Study was presented and outlines the following customer focused service priorities:

- ✓ Investing in service enhancements, continuing the commitment to the five-year service strategy that launched in 2016
- ✓ Strengthening transit services with a focus on Rural North Durham
- ✓ Improving customer amenities at transit stops
- ✓ Managing fleet assets and looking to purchase new buses, replace older fleet and grow service
- Examining transit innovations to ensure DRT is at the forefront of developing technologies like electric and autonomous vehicles
- ✓ Continuing the transition to electronic fare media

"This year's Service and Financing Study mirrors our organizational objectives and the Transportation Master Plan approved by Regional Council," says Vincent Patterson, General Manager of DRT. "With ridership up last year, and preliminary January 2019 numbers indicating strong growth at around 5%, we're excited to continue building attractive transit in Durham. Rapid transit on Highway 2 and Simcoe Street and the GO Lakeshore East extension to Bowmanville are regional transit infrastructure priorities that will continue to improve seamlessness of travel for our customers."

"DRT's continued focus on improving value to customers through targeted service enhancements and technology innovations will ensure DRT provides a competitive alternative to car travel," adds Shaun Collier, Mayor of Ajax and Chair of the Transit Executive Committee.

The next Transit Executive Committee is scheduled for March 6, 2019 at Regional Headquarters, Whitby.

– 30 –

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