

Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board

2012 Activity Report

Recommendation:

That the March 13, 2013, Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board report 2013DDB001, be received for information.

Report Summary

Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board reports the Board activities to Transportation Committee on an annual basis.

Report

Background

Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board was established in 1994 to advise City Council and City Administration on matters relating to public transit. Bylaw 12454, as amended in August 2005, states the Board's functions are:

- 1) To provide fiscally responsible advice and comments to Council and the City on issues relating to public transit.
- 2) To conduct research, report on findings and make recommendations to Council on issues relating to public transit.

Year in Summary

The Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board began its 2012 year with an all-day planning retreat at City Hall on January 14, 2012. This was followed by 12 regular monthly Board meetings in 2012, and a year end gathering inviting

members of City Council and Edmonton Transit management.

Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board Chair and Deputy Chair

At the first regular Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board meeting of the year, held on January 30, 2012, V. Hoy was elected, for a first term, as Chair, and J. Hayes, for a first term, as Deputy Chair of the Board.

Membership Changes in 2012

1. One member from the Board retired after six years of service: B. Marcotte.
2. One member resigned after two years of service: R. Orchard.
3. Two members resigned from the Board after one year of service: M. Lin and J. Reay.

Contact with Transportation Committee

Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board has regular contact with Transportation Committee members to ensure that City Council is aware of their work and that the Board is cognizant of the Transportation Committee's perspective on transit issues. The practice of updates on the Board's key discussions at their regular meetings was continued (the full list of the 'Topics of the Night' as outlined in Attachment 4). Members also continued their requests for informal meetings with Transportation Committee members, and met with the Committee on Monday, February 13, 2012.

Appearances at Transportation Committee and City Council

1. V. Hoy presented the Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board 2011 Annual Report on April 10, 2012.
2. J. Hayes presented the Edmonton Transit System Advisory Bylaw

12454 Review Report and 2013 Proposed Work Plan to Transportation Committee on October 24, 2012.

3. A letter was drafted and sent to the Transportation Committee to support the 2013 ETS Budget.

2012 Sub-Committees

At the planning retreat on January 14, 2012, members discussed priorities for the year. They heard about Edmonton Transit System's and Transportation Planning's priorities, and then formed four task groups and/or sub-committees:

1. **Transit Planning Sub-Committee:** C. Dulaba (Chair), M. Lin, I. Roux, L. Landry, B. Marcotte, B. Robertson, V. Hoy and J. Reay. This sub-committee was established to review the Capital Region Board plans (See Attachment 1).
2. **Marketing Standing Sub-Committee:** J. Vandenberg (Chair), G. Smith and J. Hayes. Transit to the Airport. The purpose for the airport review was to see firsthand how the new service was being marketed and how the trip felt from a user perspective (See Attachment 1).
3. **Transit Centres and Amenities Sub-Committee:** J. Hayes (Chair), C. Dulaba, I. Roux, and V. Hoy. The purpose of this sub-committee was first, to present Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board with a review of the current state of LRT stations, and the amenities therein, including public art; and secondly, to present recommendations for improvements and, where appropriate, to discuss the costs and benefits of those improvements to ETS's facilities.

4. **Low Income Transit Pass Sub-Committee:** J. Vandenberg (Chair), J. Hayes, B. Robertson, and L. Landry. The sub-committee was formed and its purpose was firstly, to present Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board with a specific, fully-costed proposal regarding introducing a low income transit pass in Edmonton; and secondly, to persuade administration and Council to introduce a low income transit pass as part of the 2013 City Budget (See Attachment 1).
5. **Budget Sub-Committee:** J. Hayes (Chair), L. Landry, B. Marcotte, J. Reay, B. Robertson, and J. Vandenberg. This group reviewed the proposed 2013 Budget for Edmonton Transit, and coordinated input into the public consultation process.

Status of Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board's 2013 Work Plan

City Council reviewed the Advisory Board Review report at their April 18, 2012, meeting and directed Administration to assist the advisory committees with preparation of a recommended work plan for 2013 and suggested changes to their establishing bylaws. The Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board presented their proposed 2013 work plan to the Transportation Committee on October 24, 2012. In the first few months of 2013, Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board has taken action on a number of the work plan initiatives. A status update is presented in Attachment 2.

Attachments

1. Projects and Initiatives for 2012
2. 2013 ETSAB Work Plan Update
3. Presentations to Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board in 2012
4. 2012 Topics of the Night to Transportation Committee