Present: Councillors B. McHattie (Chair), B. Bratina, and T. Whitehead
T. Nolan, (Vice Chair), D. Bender, K.L. De la Cruz, H. Donison, M. Duncan, R. Letourneau, D. McLean, D. Rodrigues, R. Smithson, and K. Wiens

Absent with regrets: Councillor M. Ferguson, illness
Councillor P. Bruckler, City business
J. Dawson, alternate
L. McMillan, work commitment
A. Pazaratz, work commitment
L. Heywood, transportation break down
P. Shaker and B. Simons

Also present: D. Hull, J. Dahms, L. Embleton, and A. McLaughlin, Transit Division
T. Horzelenberg Capital Planning and Implementation Division
T. Tollis, Budgets and Finance Division
I. Bediou, Clerk’s Office

THE PROVINCIAL GAS TAX TRANSIT MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE PRESENTS REPORT 06-005 TO THE PUBLIC WORKS, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND RECOMMENDS:

1. Taxi Scrip Program Service Enhancement (City Wide) (Item 5.2)
   (a) That the use of gas tax funds for a fixed period from July 1, 2006 through December 31, 2008, to permit an increase in the maximum monthly purchase of Taxi Scrip coupons from $80 to $120 at a budgeted annual cost of $60,000, be approved.

PWIE– June 19, 2006
(b) That staff report to Council on the continuance or deletion of the Taxi Scrip program in 2008, in light of the conventional transit fleet becoming 100% fully accessible and with expected changes to eligibility for ATS services.

(c) That the recommendation from the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities to increase the City’s subsidy on Taxi Scrip purchases from 40% to 60% be included for consideration in the Transit Master Plan Steering Committee’s pending submission of 2007 recommended Transit service enhancements to the Public Works Infrastructure and Environment Committee.

Tim Nolan and Marsha Duncan indicated that they wished to be recorded as OPPOSED to this Item.

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) Declarations of Interest

None declared.

(b) Minutes

The Minutes of the May 3, 2006 Provincial Gas Tax Transit Master Plan Steering Committee were approved as amended.

(c) Information Only Items

(i) Information Items

The Chair advised the Committee members that Items 4.1 to 4.6 were for their information.

(d) STAFF PRESENTATIONS

(i) 2007 Service Enhancement Work Shop – June 19, 2006 (Item 5.1a)

Andy McLaughlin provided a hand-out entitled “2007 Transit Service Enhancement”. He explained the hand-out features templates of 16 service enhancement requests supported by staff. The template includes a description and other details which the Committee would need in order to consider each request – i.e. how it would fit into existing City policies and the related costs.

The templates will be distributed at the June 19, 2006 meeting for consideration.

PWIE– June 19, 2006
Councillor Whitehead requested that staff provide the Steering Committee members with a bulleted list of all the service requests received so that they would have the opportunity to ask staff to prepare a template regarding other requests for consideration at the June 19 meeting.

(ii) **Visioning Session – September, 2006 (Item 5.1b)**

The Committee was advised that the purpose of the Visioning Session which will be held in September will be to consider transit enhancements for 2008 and on.

(e) **"Automated Transit Information System" (ATIS) (Item 5.3)**

Don Hull and Jim Dahms made a PowerPoint presentation which outlined the features of the City’s new Automated Transit Information System (ATIS). The presentation included a demonstration of how the system works and how it is interactive with transit customers. Staff answered questions posed by the Steering Committee.

(f) **Status of Federal (One time) Gas Tax (Tony Tollis) (Item 5.4)**

Tony Tollis provided a hand-out entitled *One Time Federal Capital Grants Summary*. He indicated the amount of the Federal Gas Tax grant that the City will receive for the 2005/2006 year and the estimated amounts it will receive in 2007, 2008 and 2009. He advised that the City will be informed of the guidelines once it receives the funds.

(g) **Discussion Items**

(i) **Discount Bus Pass Sub-Committee Update (Daryl Bender) (Item 6.1)**

Daryl Bender indicated that the Sub-Committee name has been changed to the *Value Added Bus Pass Sub-Committee* in order to make it broader in scope. He advised that the members have already met once and hope to meet again prior to the June 19 meeting in order to formulate ideas for that meeting. He invited the other Committee members to submit their ideas.

(ii) **"2006/2007 Capital HSR Fleet Replacement" (Item 6.2)**

Don Hull made a PowerPoint presentation which illustrated the spectrum of the low bids received from the compliant bidder with respect to the fleet replacement proposal.

He outlined what could be purchased using the existing budget and what could be purchased if gas tax funds were added. The Committee supported the use of gas tax funds to purchase hybrid buses. At the request of staff, Daniel Rodrigues and Councillors Bob Bratina and Bryan
McHattie volunteered to meet with staff to review the various purchasing options and to help them formulate recommendations to the Transit Steering Committee.

(h) **New Business**

The Committee requested an update respecting the Area Rating Committee.

(i) **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor B. McHattie, Chair  
Provincial Gas Tax Transit Master Plan  
Steering Committee

Ida Bedioui,  
Legislative Assistant  
June 7, 2006