

07/11/2011

RE: PUBLIC TRANSIT COMMISSION GOVERNANCE OPTIONS

Alderman Diane Colley-Urquhart

WHEREAS Calgary Transit is the City of Calgary's largest business unit with over 2700 employees, 222 regular buses, 534 low floor buses, 37 articulated buses, 85 community shuttle buses, and 157 light rail vehicles with an annual operating and capital budget of \$345 million;

AND WHEREAS public transit is a high priority service for City Council and Calgarians, with citizens identifying transit as one of the most important and pressing issues facing the City;

AND WHEREAS the Calgary Transportation Plan expects transit to play a pivotal role in achieving long-term mobility needs, with Calgary Transit having to grow, evolve, and innovate to meet the needs of more customers with potential future growth extending beyond city limits to surrounding jurisdictions;

AND WHEREAS effective governance structures exist both within the Transit Industry and in other customer focused industries, which have a variety of options for Council to consider; these structures provide for a combination of organizational flexibility, accountability, citizen responsiveness, outcome measurements, to ultimately improve alignment with customers and citizens expectations;

AND WHEREAS other large Canadian municipalities have established transit commissions, including the "Toronto Transit Commission" and Montreal's "STM (Société de transport de Montréal) Board of Directors", that provide governance oversight and establish new services as required for their transit systems;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Administration be directed to:

- a) Explore various best practice governance models and skill set requirements;
- b) Provide options and recommendations on the merits of implementing a Calgary Transit Commission governance model;
- c) Assess the financial implications;
- d) Report back to Council no later than 2012, May.