



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Development Services

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Brian Hillman, Director Development Services

Date to Council: October 24, 2023

Report Number: DS-2023-22

Subject: Tecumseh Transit Service
Recommended Minor Route Revisions
OUR FILE: T03 TTSS

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That Report DS-2023-22 entitled “Tecumseh Transit Service - Recommended Minor Route Revisions” **be received**;

And that the changes to the Tecumseh Transit Service Route, as noted in DS-2023-22, **be authorized** for implementation effective November 1, 2023.

Background

In May of this year, Council received and approved [DS-2023-08](#), which recommended changes to the Tecumseh Transit Service (TTS) fixed route, effective June 1, 2023. The changes involved the removal, modification and addition of various bus stops. The intended impact of the revisions was to provide a fixed route with a greater potential for the bus to maintain a one-hour headway. Prior to these changes, the bus was routinely falling behind at various times throughout the day.

Since the implementation of the revised route, the TTS has continued to experience frequent and significant delays, many times resulting in it running up to 30 minutes behind schedule. The majority of these delays are as a result of general traffic

congestion along the route exacerbated by road reconstruction projects throughout the Windsor-Tecumseh-Lakeshore area. Experience has shown that the revisions to the service made in June of this year, though providing for additional travel time over the one-hour headway, were not sufficient to account for the current state of traffic congestion. This heightened level of congestion is not anticipated to improve in the foreseeable future.

These delays have resulted in numerous complaints regarding the timeliness and reliability of the TTS. Many riders rely on the TTS for transportation to their places of employment and medical appointments, which are sensitive to time delays. In addition, the delays are causing hardship for those riders transferring onto the Transit Windsor system, sometimes resulting in them missing their connecting bus ride into the City of Windsor.

In response, Administration reviewed the route with First Student staff to find efficiencies that would ensure maintenance of the one-hour headway. The focus was on identifying segments of the route and specific stops which are causing significant delays to the service.

This Report provides a summary of the results of this review and recommends changes to the fixed-route to be implemented on November 1, 2023.

Comments

The following bus stop locations, which due to traffic congestion in the vicinity of the bus stop and/or the overall travel distance and time required to arrive at the stop, consume a disproportionate share of the one-hour headway:

1. The Sobey's Plaza – Stop 5 (bus stop on the interior of the plaza located on the south side of Amy Croft Drive in Lakeshore);
2. The Brighton Road Loop Bus Stops comprising:
 - Arlington Blvd. @ Tecumseh Rd. – Stop 10
 - Tecumseh Rd. @ Peace Park – Stop 11
 - Brighton Rd. @ Old Tecumseh Rd. – Stop 12
 - Riverside Dr. @ Pentilly Rd. – Stop 13
3. The Tecumseh Towne Centre Plaza – Stop 39 (bus stop on the interior of the plaza located on the east side of Lesperance Road, south of County Road 22).

To fully evaluate the impact of removing each of the above-noted bus stop locations, Administration reviewed the daily ridership statistics for each stop over the past four months (June 1 to September 30, 2023), since the current TTS fixed route was

implemented. The following table provides a summary of the overall ridership for each bus stop for the Monday-Friday service:

Bus Stop	Total Ridership (Monday – Friday) (Jun 1 - Sept 30, 2023)	Average Monthly Ridership
Sobey’s Plaza (Stop 5) (Amy Croft Drive – Lakeshore)	268	67 riders
Brighton Loop (Stop 10) (Arlington Blvd. @ Tecumseh Rd.)	2	Less than 1 rider
Brighton Loop (Stop 11) (Tecumseh Rd. @ Peace Park)	5	1 rider
Brighton Loop (Stop 12) (Brighton Rd. @ Old Tecumseh Rd.)	9	2 riders
Brighton Loop (Stop 13) (Riverside Dr. @ Pentilly Rd.)	6	1 rider
Tecumseh Towne Centre Plaza (Stop 39) (Lesperance Road, South of Cty. Rd. 22)	23	6 riders

Only one of the stops identified (Sobey’s Plaza) is being used by riders on a daily basis (three riders on average per day). The balance of the stops only see a few riders per week or month – in other words, they have extremely low ridership levels. Based on the foregoing low ridership statistics (for other than the Sobey’s Plaza stop) and the amount of time required to access these stops, continued service to them cannot be justified. Servicing these stops in the current manner delays the bus and therefore negatively affects the reliability of the service for the balance of the route in areas of higher demand.

It is recognized that the Sobey’s Plaza bus stop offers an important destination for a segment of the TTS ridership, but as it averages only three riders per day, the amount of time required to directly access this plaza and then exit it, cannot be justified. To

offer some level of continued service to the Sobeys Plaza, it is recommended that a new bus stop be installed on the east side of Manning Road, immediately north of its intersection with Amy Croft Drive. This stop would be within a 5-minute walk of the Sobeys Plaza and is easily accessible for the bus to service after it leaves the Food Basics Plaza in Tecumseh and turns north onto Manning Road.

Based on the foregoing, and the overall goal of providing a timely and reliable transit service to the higher-demand bus stop locations, Administration recommends that the bus stops listed in the preceding table be eliminated from the Monday-Friday fixed-route TTS service (refer to Attachment 1 for further details). It should be noted that the bus stops will remain as destination options for riders on the Saturday On-Demand service. In addition, access to the Sobeys plaza and Tecumseh Town Centre Plaza are available by alternative bus stops that are within a short walk.

Consultations

First Student Canada

Financial Implications

None

Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2023-2026 Strategic Priorities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Growth: Achieve prosperity and a livable community through sustainable growth.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Health and Inclusion: Integrate community health and inclusion into our places and spaces and everything we do.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Service Experience: Enhance the experience of Team Tecumseh and our citizens through responsive and respectful service.

Communications

Not applicable

Website

Social Media

News Release

Local Newspaper

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

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Reviewed by:

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Reviewed by:

Brian Hillman, MA, MCIP, RPP
Director Development Services

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment Number	Attachment Name
1	Bus Stops to be Eliminated from Monday-Friday Service Map