Council: August 21, 2020

CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR C. COLLINS	
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR	

Amendment to Item 6.2 of the Council Minutes 20-013 respecting the Financial Impact of Declining Transit Revenues

That Item 6.2 of the Council Minutes 20-013, respecting the Financial Impact of Declining Transit Revenues, be amended by deleting the words "Public Works Committee" and replacing them with the words "General Issues Committee", to read as follows:

6.2 Financial Impact of Declining Transit Revenues

WHEREAS, it is estimated that transit ridership is currently down 70%;

WHEREAS, transit ridership fell 4% after the 2008 recession and 2019 ridership is relatively unchanged from 2008 ridership numbers;

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that recovery and post recovery transit ridership will be well below average annual pre-COVID levels for the foreseeable future;

WHEREAS, the decline in ridership will result in a significant loss in farebox and transit ridership revenue in 2020 and 2021;

WHEREAS, the *Municipal Act* requires municipalities to pass balanced budgets, thereby offsetting lost transit ridership revenues through the potential of an increase in tax levy;

WHEREAS, the City's Transit Area Rating formula is largely weighted to the former City of Hamilton; and,

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the cost of declining transit revenues will be shifted primarily to the former City of Hamilton;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That staff be directed to provide a report to the Public Works Committee General Issues Committee that summarizes the financial impact of declining transit revenues, and a list of options available to Council to temporarily offset the loss in 2021.