



Hamilton

**MOTION**

**Committee Date: June 19, 2013**

**MOVED BY COUNCILLOR B. McHATTIE.....**

**SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR .....**

**Implementation of Rapid Ready – Local Transit Service Improvements and Financial Strategy**

Whereas, the Rapid Ready report addresses the need for a \$45M investment in local public transit in order to serve the needs of Hamiltonians, and to serve the rapid transit routes;

And Whereas the Rapid Ready report, building on earlier recommendations in Council’s Transportation Master Plan (TMP) (2007), calls for transit ridership in Hamilton to increase to 80-100 rides per capita from its current level of 45 rides per capita;

And Whereas the TMP also calls for a doubling of public transit use over the next 15 years from a daily modal split of 6% today to 12% in the 2021 to 2031 long term time frame;

And Whereas the 2010 Operational Review of transit identifies specific priority service level improvements, emphasizing the need for more buses on Hamilton Mountain, and in the former area municipalities;

And Whereas, notwithstanding local transit service improvements made with Provincial Gas Tax funding, there has been no City investment in transit service improvements over the past decade;

And Whereas it is important to consider all sources of funding to improve local transit service levels including but not limited to parking revenues, fare increases, resolution of the transit area rating plan, City operating budget, and funding from the Provincial and Federal governments;

And Whereas the economic, environmental, health and social benefits of public transit are well-known.

Therefore Be It Resolved:

- (a) That staff come forward with recommendations for consideration during the 2014 operating and capital budget process with the first priorities for local transit service improvements to begin implementing Rapid Ready;
- (b) That staff report back in time for the 2015 budget process to the new City Council on a ten-year Hamilton local transit service level strategy, including specific route recommendations and a financial strategy, with reference to the role played by rapid transit, and with a goal of reaching 80-100 rides per capita by 2025.