

## Transit System Design Highlights

### RATIONALE FOR CHANGE

- Current system is outdated, under-utilized and costly.
- Transit users and the public have expressed a desire to see changes in services provided.
- City is facing a \$23 million operating budget shortfall due to decreased commodity prices. Service level adjustments are required to help make up the shortfall.
- Transit Services are highly subsidized at 78%, with approximately 1.3M passenger trips each year producing revenue of \$1.6M and net cost of \$6.3M.
- Improved services for riders delivered in a cost effective manner will benefit customers and taxpayers and serve to attract new Transit users.

### TIMELINE

- June 2016: Public ranks Transit Services as one of the highest preferences for service adjustments to offset property tax increases as part of the Financially Fit survey
- Dec. 2016: Council approves formation of a detailed design to implement a revised Transit Services Delivery model
- Jan.-July 2017: Research, data review, consultation (City Advisory Boards and Committees, focus groups and staff) and design of improved Transit system
- Aug. 2017: Public education and marketing of new Transit system
- Sept. 5, 2017: New Transit system launches

### KEY FEATURES OF NEW TRANSIT SYSTEM

- Designed to serve current riders while also attracting more people to choose public transit
- Improved direct travel routes with two-way service
- Improved on-street transfer connection options between routes (no need for downtown terminal as a connection point)
- Shorter ride times and more direct routes to major destinations, including hospital, college, malls and Family Leisure Centre
- Scalable system that can be readily adjusted to meet changing demands
- Utilizes 2 'core' routes for primary service and 'feeder' routes during peak use times
- Each route given three identifiers: number, colour, shape
- Increased hours of service on core routes Monday to Friday
- Removes service during historically low-use periods (stat holidays and evenings)

- Special Transit services not impacted by route and schedule changes
- Reduces annual operating costs by \$650,000, helping reduce the City's \$23 million operating budget shortfall

## **ROUTES AND HOURS OF SERVICE**

### Core Routes

- 1 Blue Route, 2 Red Route
- 6:00 am to 11:30 pm, Monday through Friday
- 7:30 am to 6:30 pm, Saturday and Sunday
- No holiday service

### Feeder Routes

- 3 Green Route, 4 Purple Route, 5 Orange Route
- 6:00 am to 6:30 pm, Monday through Friday
- No weekend or holiday service

## **ROUTE INFORMATION**

Website and Ride Guide: [www.mhtransit.ca](http://www.mhtransit.ca)

Helpline: 403-525-8900, available Aug. 14 to Sept. 15, 2017