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NOV 18/09

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS BOARD OF CONTROL MEETING ON NOVEMBER 18, 2009
FROM:	V.A COTE GENERAL MANAGER FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES AND ACTING CITY TREASURER
SUBJECT:	ADVISORY COMMITTEE REQUEST FOR COMPENSATION FOR ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AS A RESULT OF THE LONDON TRANSIT COMMISSION STRIKE

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the City Clerk, this report **BE RECEIVED** for information for the purpose of assisting the Municipal Council in determining what action, if any, it wishes to take with respect to the provision of alternative transportation for Advisory Committee members during the London Transit Commission work stoppage.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER
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None.

BACKGROUND

A recent enquiry has been received requesting that consideration be given to reimbursing Advisory Committee members their costs to attend Advisory Committee meetings (including Working Group meetings, Sub-Committee meetings and attendance at Standing Committee meetings) by means of taxis during the London Transit Commission (LTC) work stoppage. The rationale behind the request is that those Advisory Committee members that would normally use conventional (LTC) or specialized (Paratransit) transit services may have difficulty attending meetings during the strike and therefore taxi usage should be made available to them at the City of London's expense.


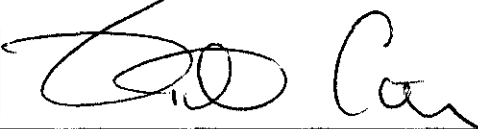
The current Council policy pertaining to Advisory Committee members states:

"Advisory committee members shall be provided with either free parking in the Civic Square parking garage or with two free L.T.C. bus tickets when attending committee meetings or when conducting committee-related work at City Hall."

In making its decision with respect to alternative transportation for Advisory Committee members, the Municipal Council should consider:

- (a) Specialized transit services are not directly impacted by the LTC strike.
- (b) What are the legal implications of providing alternative transportation services?
- (c) Under what circumstances should alternative transportation be made available to Advisory Committee Members?
- (c) If alternative transportation can be provided by the City, who should be eligible for use of the alternative transportation? There are approximately 17 Advisory Committees populated by private citizens, with varying numbers of members on each Advisory Committee, some of which hold various Working Group or Sub-Committee meetings, in addition to their regular meetings. It is estimated that approximately 17 Advisory Committee members normally request bus tickets for meetings.
- (d) Where would funding come from should alternative transportation be provided since there is no contingency for these costs? Present cost to the City for those using free parking in the City's parking garage or two free LTC bus tickets is estimated at approximately \$5.50 (maximum) per person per meeting.

The Civic Administration is seeking direction regarding what steps, if any, the Municipal Council wishes to take in response to the request for alternative transportation for Advisory committee members during the LTC work stoppage.

PREPARED BY:	RECOMMENDED BY:
	
CATHY SAUNDERS CITY CLERK	V. A. COTÉ GENERAL MANAGER OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES AND ACTING CITY TREASURER