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REVISED
July 31, 2024

Attachments A & B as per
Regional Council motion of
July 9, 2024

Item No. 15.1.3
Halifax Regional Council
July 9, 2024
August 6, 2024

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council
FROM: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer
DATE: May 23, 2024
SUBJECT: Halifax Transit Fare Update 2024

ORIGIN

April 23, 2024, Regional Council motion (Item 18.1.1)

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Deputy Mayor Deagle Gammon

THAT Halifax Regional Council:

1. Adopt the Resolution for Approval of Operating Budgets, Capital Plan and Tax Rates for Fiscal 2024/25 as set out in Schedule 1 of the staff report dated April 19, 2024...

MOTION PUT AND PASSED

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines recommended amendments to By-law U-100, the *User Charges By-law*, to reflect fare increases inline with Regional Council approval of the 2024/25 budget.

In addition, the following recommendations are proposed for consideration:

- Removal of the 2,000 participant limit for the Affordable Access Transit Pass Program to meet the growing needs of the program;
- Addition of new Regional Express fare products to offer increased options and improved convenience for Regional Express passengers;
- Proposed user charge increases and effective dates related to Halifax Transit programs; and
- Additional housekeeping amendments to ensure consistent product naming conventions.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Adopt By-law U-118, amending By-law U-100, the *User Charges By-law*, as set out in Attachment B to this report; and

Recommendation continued on page 2

2. Approve the removal of the 2,000 participant limit on the number of participants eligible for the Affordable Access Transit Pass Program to allow for an unlimited number of Affordable Access Transit Passes, subject to yearly budget availability and approval.

BACKGROUND

At the February 28, 2024 Budget Committee meeting, Halifax Transit presented the Halifax Transit 2024/25 Budget and Business Plan. Revenue changes laid out in the 2024/25 operating budget included a revenue increase, based on a 25-cent increase to the adult single ticket fare, with an average applied across other fare products. Fare increases will take effect September 1, 2024. The recommended By-Law U-100 amendments outlined in this report are required to execute Council’s direction from the budget process.

DISCUSSION

Amendments to Existing By-Law U-100 User Charges

Table 1 below provides an overview of recommended amendments to By-Law U-100 for existing fare products. Amendments to fares have been calculated based on an increase of 8.3%-12.5% across all fare products. These rates were applied to be as consistent as possible, while allowing for round numbers to streamline operations.

Table 1: Amendments to Existing User Charges

CONVENTIONAL BUS, FERRY, ACCESS-A-BUS				
	Current	New	Change	% Increase
Adult 1 Ticket/Ride	\$2.75	\$3.00	\$0.25	9.1%
Senior or Youth 1 Ticket/Ride	\$2.00	\$2.25	\$0.25	12.5%
Adult 10 Tickets/Rides	\$24.75	\$27.00	\$2.25	9.1%
Senior or Youth 10 Tickets/Rides	\$18.00	\$20.25	\$2.25	12.5%
Adult 10 Tickets/Rides Non-Profit or Charity	\$12.38	\$13.50	\$1.12	9.0%
Senior or Youth 10 Tickets/Rides Non-Profit or Charity	\$9.00	\$10.00	\$1.00	11.1%
Adult 20 Rides	\$44.00	\$48.00	\$4.00	9.1%
Senior or Youth 20 Rides	\$32.00	\$36.00	\$4.00	12.5%
Adult 1 Day Pass	\$7.00	\$7.50	\$0.50	7.1%
Senior or Youth 1 Day Pass	\$5.00	\$5.50	\$0.50	10.0%
Adult 2 Day Pass	\$12.00	\$13.50	\$1.50	12.5%
Senior or Youth 2 Day Pass	\$9.00	\$10.00	\$1.00	11.1%
Adult 7 Day Pass	\$23.00	\$25.50	\$2.50	10.9%
Senior or Youth 7 Day Pass	\$17.00	\$19.00	\$2.00	11.8%
Adult Monthly Pass	\$82.50	\$90.00	\$7.50	9.1%
Adult Monthly Affordable Access Transit Pass	\$41.25	\$45.00	\$3.75	9.1%
Senior or Youth Monthly Pass	\$60.00	\$66.00	\$6.00	10.0%
HRCE Student Monthly Pass ¹	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	0.0%
REGIONAL EXPRESS				

¹ No amendment to the Student Transit Pass user charge is recommended until the long-term future of the Student Transit Pass Pilot Program is determined.

	Current	New	Change	% Increase
Adult 1 Ticket/Ride	\$4.25	\$4.75	\$0.50	11.8%
Senior or Youth 1 Ticket/Ride	\$3.00	\$3.25	\$0.25	8.3%
Adult Monthly Pass	\$127.50	\$139.00	\$11.50	9%
Adult Monthly Affordable Access Transit Pass	\$63.75	\$69.50	\$5.75	9%
Senior or Youth Monthly Pass	\$90.00	\$99.00	\$9.00	10.0%
Adult with: Ticket, Monthly Pass, UPass or Transfer	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$0.00	0%
Senior or Youth with: Ticket, Senior or Youth Monthly Pass, Student Monthly Pass, or Transfer	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.00	0%

Recommended New Regional Express Fare Products

Currently, Regional Express fares are restricted to cash fare, single ride on the HFXGO app, monthly pass, or regular single ride ticket with a cash top up. In partnership with the Halifax International Airport Authority, there is also a plan currently in place to begin selling single trip tickets for the same value as cash fare for travellers requiring ground transportation from the airport. It is recommended that new electronic Regional Express Fare products be implemented to offer increased options and improved convenience for Regional Express passengers, consistent with other conventional fare products currently offered on the HFXGO app.

On October 25, 2022, Regional Council approved new conventional electronic HFXGO transit passes including 20 Ride, 1 Day, 2 Day, and 7 Day passes. In addition, the pre-existing 10 Ticket fare product was also made available through the app as a 10 Ride Pass.

It is now recommended that By-Law U-100 be amended to extend these new fare products to Regional Express service. These new fare products would initially be made available exclusively on HFXGO, with the potential of extending specific fare products, such as the 10 Ride Pass, to other formats such as paper tickets in the future.

Recommended user charges for these new fare products, outlined in Table 2 below, are based on the proposed new increased fares for 1 Ride Regional Express fare products. The discount applied is based on the discount model used for existing related pass products.

Table 2: Recommended User Charges for New Electronic Regional Express Products

NEW REGIONAL EXPRESS FARE PRODUCTS				
Fare Product	Discount Model	Cost Per Ride	Discounted Cost/Ride	Proposed User Charge
Adult 10 Tickets/Rides	10% discount/ride based on Adult single ride fare	\$4.75	\$4.27	\$42.70
Senior or Youth 10 Tickets/Rides	10% discount/ride based on Senior/Youth single ride fare	\$3.25	\$2.92	\$29.00

Adult 20 Rides	20% discount/ride based on Adult single ride fare	\$4.75	\$3.80	\$76.00
Senior or Youth 20 Rides	20% discount/ride based on Senior/Youth single ride fare	\$3.25	\$2.60	\$52.00
Adult 1 Day Pass	10% discount/ride based on Adult single ride fare x 2.75 rides	\$4.75	\$4.27 x 2.75	\$11.75
Senior or Youth 1 Day Pass	10% discount/ride based on Senior/Youth single ride fare x 2.75 rides	\$3.25	\$2.92 x 2.75	\$8.00
Adult 2 Day Pass	10% discount/ride based on Adult single ride fare x 5 rides	\$4.75	\$4.27 x 5	\$21.35
Senior or Youth 2 Day Pass	10% discount/ride based on Senior/Youth single ride fare x 5 rides	\$3.25	\$2.92 x 5	\$14.60
Adult 7 Day Pass	15% discount/ride based on Adult single ride fare x 10 rides	\$4.75	\$4.00 x 10	\$40.00
Senior or Youth 7 Day Pass	15% discount/ride based on Senior/Youth single ride fare x 10 rides	\$3.25	\$2.75 x 10	\$27.50

Recommendations Related to Halifax Transit Fare Programs

Halifax Transit provides various fare programs that are structured around established guidelines, discount models, and contractual renewal schedules. The following outlines proposed amendments to By-Law U-100 user charges related to these programs, along with proposed timelines for implementing increases in accordance with the approved Halifax Transit 2024/25 Budget.

Affordable Access Transit Pass Program

It is recommended that By-Law U-100 be amended to remove the existing limit of 2,000 participants allocated for the Affordable Access Transit Pass Program.

Through this program, eligible residents can apply to receive a 50% discount on the regular price of a Halifax Transit adult monthly pass. The Affordable Access Transit Pass Program is just one facet of the municipality's broader Affordable Access Program, which also encompasses the Recreation Access Program and the Property Tax Exemption and Deferral Program.

Applications for the Affordable Access Transit Pass Program are processed on a first-come, first-served basis, starting in mid-May each year. Once the cap of 2,000 passes is reached, a waiting list is established

for subsequent applications. Inactive approved applicants are removed from the program if they haven't purchased a pass in six consecutive months, making room for those on the waiting list to qualify for discounted passes.

Currently, due to existing program administrative procedures and verification protocols, applicants who have been approved for the program are required to visit one of the two municipal Customer Service Centres on a monthly basis to purchase passes. To enhance accessibility and make it easier for approved customers to purchase their passes, the Affordable Access Transit Pass will be available for approved applicants to purchase via the HFXGO app in mid-summer 2024.

The program has historically operated effectively within the 2,000 applicant threshold; however, due to increased demand, the program has outgrown this cap and the application limit was unintentionally exceeded by 148 applicants in 2023.

It is recommended that the 2,000 limit for the Affordable Access Transit Pass Program be removed. This measure would make the program more equitable and accessible while alleviating administrative pressures of managing the program cap and waiting list. Furthermore, the removal of the cap is aligned with the Recreation Access Program which currently has no limit on approved applicants.

Department of Community Services Pass Program

Employment Support & Income Assistance clients and their families residing in the Halifax Regional Municipality qualify for an annual Halifax Transit pass provided by the Department of Community Services Transit Pass Program (DCS Program). The current user charge for this program is \$25 per month and is paid through an agreement with the Department of Community Services, which was recently renewed in May 2024 and is valid until June 30, 2025.

It is recommended that the user charge for the program, outlined in By-Law U-100, be amended to \$27.50, reflecting a 10% increase in line with the fare adjustments approved in the 2024/25 budget. The current agreement establishes user charges as set out in By-Law U-100, and the Department of Community Services has been informed of the proposed user charge increase to be implemented starting July 1, 2025.

UPass Program

The September 2024 fare increases will not impact UPass Program user charges. Agreements with all UPass partners remain intact, with fees in accordance with the UPass user charge table set out in By-Law U-100.

Housekeeping Amendments

Additional general housekeeping amendments to By-Law U-100 are proposed, which are included in Attachment B. These additional amendments focus primarily on aligning fare product names with those displayed on the HFXGO app to provide consistent naming conventions across all channels.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Fare Increase (Existing Fare Products)

Based on financial models presented during the 2024/25 Operating Budget, Halifax Transit would expect to see the annual fare revenue increase approximately \$1,200,000/year for a full fiscal year (pro-rated to \$700,000/year in the current fiscal year due to implementation in September 2024). These projected increases to fare revenue have been accommodated for in the 2024/25 Operating budget.

Removal of the limit on the Affordable Access Transit Pass Program

Minimal financial impact is anticipated as a result of the removal of the application limit for the Affordable Access Transit Pass Program. Introducing the pass on the HFXGO app may stimulate greater interest and participation in the program, and population growth may result in total participants continuing to increase over time; however, no large one-year increases are anticipated, allowing for planning and budgeting of any projected annual financial risks.

New Regional Express Electronic Fare Products

It is expected that the introduction of new Regional Express pass products, as detailed in this report, could enhance ridership and revenue by providing additional options for commuters.

Marketing and Communications

Requirements for marketing and communications related to these changes will be approximately \$40,000. This is currently available within the approved 2024/25 operating budget for Halifax Transit.

RISK CONSIDERATION

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendations in this report. Risks considered rate low.

Although fare increases carry the potential for reduced ridership, Halifax Transit mitigates this impact by providing various discounted programs aimed at maintaining affordability.

As outlined in the Financial Implications section of this report, there is minimal risk associated with the removal of the program cap for the Affordable Access Transit Pass.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No directed community engagement was undertaken in the preparation of this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No environmental implications were identified.

ALTERNATIVES

Regional Council could choose to:

1. Refuse to adopt By-law U-118, amending Schedule 1 of By-law U-100; or
2. Adopt By-law U-118 subject to modifications. This may require a supplementary staff report.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, SNS 2008, c 39:

- 7A** The purposes of the Municipality are to
- (a) provide good government;

- (b) provide services, facilities and other things that, in the opinion of the Council, are necessary or desirable for all or part of the Municipality; and
 - (c) develop and maintain safe and viable communities.
- 34** (3) The Council shall provide direction on the administration, plans, policies and programs of the Municipality to the Chief Administrative Officer.
- 69** (1) The Municipality may provide a public transportation service by
- (a) the purchase of vehicles or vessels and operation of the service;
 - (b) providing financial assistance to a person who will undertake to provide the service; or
 - (c) a combination of these methods.
- 79A** (1) Subject to subsections (2) to (4), the Municipality may only spend money for municipal purposes if
- (a) the expenditure is included in the Municipality's operating budget or capital budget or is otherwise authorized by the Municipality;
 - (b) the expenditure is in respect of an emergency under the *Emergency Management Act*; or
 - (c) the expenditure is legally required to be paid.
- 102** Subject to the approval of the Board for those services that are subject to the Public Utilities Act, the Council may, by by-law, prescribe charges for the provision of services for persons who use or benefit from the service, on a basis to be set out in the by-law.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Showing Proposed Changes to By-law U-100

Attachment B – Amending By-law U-118

Report Prepared by: Cheryl Chappel, Manager, Programs & Engagement, Halifax Transit (902) 483-2023

**HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY BY-LAW NUMBER U-100
RESPECTING USER CHARGES**

BE IT ENACTED by the Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality, under the authority of Sections 102 and 104 of the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*, 1989 R.S.N.S. c. 39, as amended, as follows:

Short Title

1. This By-law shall be known as By-law U-100, the *User Charges By-law*.

Interpretation

2. In this By-law,
 - (a) “CAO” means the Chief Administrative Officer of Halifax Regional Municipality;
 - (b) “Council” means the Council of the Municipality;
 - (c) “Municipality” means the Halifax Regional Municipality; and
 - (d) “user charge” includes a charge, fare, fee, or levy for the provision of a service to be paid by a person who uses or benefits from the service.

Application of the By-law

3. Council hereby establishes user charges to be paid by the person using the service in the amount as set out in each Schedule to this By-law.
4. Any Schedule to this By-law shall form part of this By-law.
5. The user charges as listed in the Schedules are subject to Federal and Provincial taxes where applicable.

Offences

6. A person who contravenes any provision of this By-law shall be guilty of an offence.
7. A person who contravenes any provision of this By-law is liable on summary conviction to a penalty of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) and not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), in default of payment, to imprisonment for not more than ten days.

Done and passed in Council this 21st day of June, 2016.

Mayor

Municipal Clerk

I, Kevin Arjoon, Municipal Clerk of the Halifax Regional Municipality, hereby certify that the above-noted By-law was passed at a meeting of the Halifax Regional Council held on June 21, 2016.

Kevin Arjoon, Municipal Clerk

Notice of Motion: May 24, 2016
First Reading: May 31, 2016
Notice of Public Hearing Publication: June 4, 2016
Second Reading: June 21, 2016
Approval by Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations: N/A
Effective Date: June 25, 2016

Amendment # 1 – Repeal and Replace Schedule 2

Notice of Motion: March 28, 2017
First Reading: April 11, 2017
Notice of Public Hearing Publication: April 22, 2017
Second Reading: May 9, 2017
Approval by Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations: N/A
Effective Date: May 13, 2017

Amendment # 2

Notice of Motion: June 20, 2017
First Reading: July 18, 2017
Notice of Public Hearing Publication: July 29, 2017
Second Reading: August 15, 2017
Approval by Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations: N/A
Effective Date: August 26, 2017

Amendment # 3 – “Welcomed in Halifax” Program Criteria

Notice of Motion: February 27, 2018
First Reading: March 6, 2018
Notice of Second Reading Publication: March 10, 2018
Second Reading: March 27th, 2018
Approval of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations: N/A
Effective Date: April 21, 2018

Amendment # 4 – Department of Community Services Transit Pass Program

Notice of Motion: May 8, 2018
First Reading: May 22, 2018
Notice of Second Reading Publication: May 26, 2018
Second Reading: June 19, 2018
Approval of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations: N/A
Effective Date: June 23, 2018

Amendment # 5 – Halifax Transit Fare Strategy 2019

Notice of Motion: July 30, 2019
First Reading: August 13, 2019
Notice of Second Reading Publication: August 24, 2019
Second Reading: September 17, 2019

Approval by Minister of Municipal Affairs: N/A
Effective Date: September 21, 2019

Amendment #6 – Child Transit Fares (By-law U-107)
Notice of Motion: December 1, 2020
First Reading: December 15, 2020
Notice of Second Reading Publication: December 19, 2020
Second Reading: January 12, 2021
Approval by Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing: N/A
Effective Date: January 16, 2021

Amendment #7 – Student Transit Pass Pilot Program (By-law U-108)
Notice of Motion: April 6, 2021
First Reading: April 20, 2021
Notice of Second Reading Publication: April 24, 2021
Second Reading: May 18, 2021
Approval of Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing: N/A
Effective Date: May 22, 2021

Amendment #8 – Schedule 5 - Pre-Planning Application (By-law U-111)
Notice of Motion: September 28, 2021
First Reading: October 5, 2021
Notices of Public Hearing Publications: October 9 and 16, 2021
Public Hearing: October 26, 2021
Approval by Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing: N/A
Effective Date: November 27, 2021

Amendment #9 – Discounted Bulk Transit Fares (By-law U-110)
Notice of Motion: November 9, 2021
First Reading: November 23, 2021
Notice of Second Reading Publication: November 27, 2021
Second Reading: December 14, 2021
Approval by Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing: N/A
Effective Date: December 18, 2021

Amendment #10 – Recreation User Charges – Schedules 3 and 4 (By-law U-106)
Notice of Motion: June 29, 2021
First Reading: July 20, 2021
Notice of Second Reading Publication: July 24, 2021
Second Reading: August 17, 2021
Approval by Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing: N/A
Effective Date: April 1, 2022

Amendment #11 – Transit Electronic Fare Options – Schedule 1, s. 9 (By-law U-112)
Notice of Motion: October 18, 2022
First Reading: October 25, 2022
Notice of Second Reading Publication: November 5, 2022
Second Reading: November 22, 2022
Approval by Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing: N/A

Effective Date: December 3, 2022

Amendment #12 – Schedule 6 - Property Information Inquiry User Charges (By-law U-109)

Notice of Motion: April 5, 2022
First Reading: April 12, 2022
Notice of Second Reading Publication: June 11, 2022
Second Reading: June 28, 2022
Approval of Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing: N/A
Effective Date: January 30, 2023

Amendment #13 – Schedule 5 – Amending section 1, added section 2 (By-law U-115)

Notice of Motion: April 4, 2023
First Reading: April 25, 2023
Notice of Second Reading Publication: May 6, 2023
Second Reading: May 23, 2023
Approval of Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing: N/A
Effective Date: June 1, 2023

Amendment #14 – Schedule 7 – Electric Vehicle Charges (By-law U-113)

Notice of Motion: April 25, 2023
First Reading: May 9, 2023
Notice of Second Reading Publication: May 13, 2023
Second Reading: June 6, 2023
Approval of Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing: N/A
Effective Date: June 10, 2023

Amendment #15 – Schedule 1 (U-114)
Amending section 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 8A, 9, Adding section 4B, 8E, repealing and replacing section 9 U-Pass table

Notice of Motion: May 23, 2023
First Reading: June 6, 2023
Notice of Second Reading Publication: June 24, 2023
Second Reading: July 11, 2023
Approval of Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing: N/A
Effective Date: July 15, 2023

Schedule 1

Halifax Transit User Charges

Interpretation

1. In this Schedule,

(a) “Access-A-Bus” means the Halifax Transit service for persons unable to use conventional transit due to a physical or cognitive disability;

(aa) “Affordable Access Transit Pass” means a transit pass issued under the Affordable Access Transit Pass Program;

(b) “adult” means a person 18 years of age and up to and including 64 years of age;

(ba) “charity” means a registered Canadian charitable organization;

(c) “child” means a person between 0 years of age and up to and including 12 years of age;

(d) “CNIB” means The Canadian National Institute for the Blind;

(da) “Department of Community Services Pass” means a transit pass purchased by the Province of Nova Scotia and issued to an Employment Support and Income Assistance client;

(db) “Executive Director” means the position determined by the CAO to be the head of a department of the Municipality, and who is accountable to the CAO under section 36 of the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter;

(e) “Halifax Transit” means the transit facilities and services provided by the Municipality;

(f) Repealed

(fa) “non-profit” means,

(i) a society incorporated pursuant to the Societies Act, R.S.N.S 1989, c. 435, as amended;

(ii) a not-for-profit corporation incorporated pursuant to the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, S.C 2009, c.23; or

(iii) a non-profit organization otherwise incorporated pursuant to an Act of the Nova Scotia Legislature;

(g) “personal care attendant” means a person issued a Personal Care Attendant Identification Card by Access-A-Bus;

(h) “proper authority” means any employee of Halifax Transit carrying an identification card issued by Halifax Transit;

(i) “refugee” means a person identified as a refugee pursuant to the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*;

- (ia) “refugee claimant” means a person
- (i) who has been granted Protected Person status by the Immigration and Refugees Board of Canada,
 - (ii) who has been issued a Refugee Protection Claimant Document by the Government of Canada,
 - (iii) who has applied to the Government of Canada for a Pre-Removal Risk Assessment,
 - (iv) who cannot return to their home country because the Government of Canada has suspended or deferred removal to that country, or
 - (v) without temporary status, has applied to the Government of Canada to stay in Canada permanently on humanitarian and compassionate grounds;
- (j) “registered Access-A-Bus user” means a person eligible to travel on Access-A-Bus as determined through an application process;
- (k) “senior” means a person 65 years of age and over;
- (l) “SmartTrip EPass” means a transit pass issued under the SmartTrip Program;
- (m) “student monthly pass” means a monthly pass purchased and distributed by the Halifax Regional Centre for Education;
- (ma) “Student Transit Pass” means a transit pass issued under the Student Transit Pass Pilot Project;
- (n) “transfer” means proof of payment in a form prescribed by Halifax Transit that
- (i) is issued by Halifax Transit when the initial user charge is paid;
 - (ii) allows the person to continuously travel on more than one route, of the same or lesser user charge, without having to pay an additional user charge; and
 - (iii) expires ninety (90) minutes after the last timepoint on the originating route;
- (o) “UPass” means a transit pass issued to a student who attends a post-secondary institution that has signed a contract with the Municipality; and
- (p) “youth” means a person between 13 years of age and up to and including 17 years of age.

Application

2. (1) Subject to section 3, no person shall travel or attempt to travel on Halifax Transit without paying the appropriate user charge as set out in section 9 of this Schedule.

(2) Where the amount of the user charge for passage on Halifax Transit is disputed, the person disputing the amount shall pay the amount requested by a proper authority.

(3) A person who refuses to pay the user charge requested by a proper authority shall be refused passage on Halifax Transit.

(4) The non-profit or charity user charge for 10 Tickets/Rides set out in section 9 shall only apply to single purchases of fifty (50) tickets or rides or more when purchased by a non-profit or charity for the purposes of distributing free of charge.

(5) For greater certainty, nothing in this Schedule applies to chartered transit services by contract with the Municipality.

3. (1) Notwithstanding subsection 2(1), travel on Halifax Transit shall be free for the following:

(a) a child;

(aa) repealed;

(b) a senior between 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. and after 6:00 p.m. until end of service day on Tuesdays;

(c) a person with a CNIB identification card;

(d) an employee or retiree of Halifax Transit;

(e) a Halifax Regional Police officer in uniform;

(f) a personal care attendant when accompanying a registered Access-A-Bus user;

and

(g) on Remembrance Day, a person, and any accompanying family member, who is a veteran or current member of the armed forces and

(i) is in uniform, or

(ii) who presents an armed forces ID;

(h) repealed;

(i) a person using transit under the Student Transit Pass Pilot Program; and

(j) a parking compliance officer in uniform.

(2) For greater certainty, where a person travels free on Halifax Transit under clauses (a) through (g) in subsection (1), that person shall not be required to pay an additional charge to use the Regional Express Service.

4. (1) Council, by resolution, or the CAO, may waive, in whole or in part, any user charge under this Schedule:

(a) for the following days,

(i) Canada Day,

(ii) Natal Day, or

(iii) after 6 p.m. and until end of service on New Year's Eve;

(b) where, in the opinion of Council or the CAO, such a waiver would be beneficial to the Municipality;

(c) for up to one year for a refugee under the settlement support program or for a refugee claimant;

(d) for event volunteers and participants upon application by an event organizer; or

(e) for ticket holders for an event of no less than 100 participants where the Municipality and the event organizer have an agreement whereby the event organizer agrees to pay the Municipality no less than \$1.00 for every ticket sold to the event.

(2) The CAO may delegate the authority under subsection 1 of this section to the Executive Director of Halifax Transit.

4A. An agreement under this Schedule may be signed by the CAO or their designate on behalf of the Municipality.

4B. Notwithstanding section 2, where a charge has been waived under section 4, a person subject to such waiver shall not be required to pay an additional charge to travel on the Regional Express Service.

Affordable Access Transit Pass Program

5. A person who meets the eligibility requirements of the Affordable Access Transit Pass Program as adopted by Council, by resolution, may apply to the program.

6. Council may, by resolution, set the number of Affordable Access Transit Passes available under the program.

7. An Affordable Access Transit Pass shall be provided by the Municipality on a first come, first serve basis.

8. Meeting the eligibility requirements does not guarantee a person will receive an Affordable Access Transit Pass.

8A. (1) The Executive Director of Transit or the Director designate shall set the program year for the Affordable Access Transit Pass Program.

(2) If the number of qualified applicants to the Affordable Access Transit Pass Program exceeds the number of Affordable Access Transit Passes available in the program year, a waiting list shall be created and names added as they are approved.

(3) The Executive Director of Transit or the Director designate may remove a person from the Affordable Access Transit Pass Program if:

(a) the person has not purchased an Affordable Access Transit Pass for a period of six (6) consecutive months; and

(b) there is a waiting list.

(4) A person removed from the program in accordance with subsection 3, may apply to the program in the same program year and, if accepted into the program, the person shall be added to the waiting list.

Department of Community Services Pass

8B. The Province of Nova Scotia may purchase transit passes from Halifax Transit for distribution to Employment Support and Income Assistance clients.

8C. Repealed.

Student Transit Pass Pilot Program

8D. (1) A person who meets the eligibility requirements of the Student Transit Pass Pilot Program as adopted by Council, by resolution, may be placed in the program.

(2) Meeting the eligibility requirements does not guarantee a person will be placed in the Student Transit Pass Pilot Program.

(3) Subject to subsection (1), a person placed in the Student Transit Pass Pilot Program shall be provided a Student Transit Pass.

Housing and Homelessness

8E. (1) The Executive Director of Halifax Transit may provide fare products on a monthly basis for initiatives such Executive Director determines are related to housing or homelessness to a maximum monthly value equal to the user charge for one-hundred forty (140) Adult Monthly Passes.

(2) Council may, by resolution, increase or reduce the maximum monthly value under subsection (1).

(3) The passes or tickets shall not be provided to a for profit business or industry.

(4) A request for a Transit Pass or tickets does not guarantee a person will receive them.

(5) The Executive Director of Halifax Transit may, with the consent of the CAO, delegate, in whole or in part, the issuance of the Transit passes and tickets to one or more employees of the Municipality.

User Charges for Halifax Transit

9. The user charges for Halifax Transit shall be as follows:

CONVENTIONAL BUS, FERRY AND ACCESS-A-BUS	
Category	User Charge per person
Adult Cash	\$2.75
Senior or Youth Cash	\$2.00
10 Tickets Adult	\$24.75
10 Tickets Senior or Youth	\$18.00
10 Ticket Non-Profit or Charity (Adult)	\$12.38
10 Ticket Non-Profit or Charity (Senior or Youth)	\$9.00
Adult Monthly Pass	\$82.50
Adult Monthly Affordable Access Transit Pass	\$41.25
Senior or Youth Monthly Pass	\$60.00
Student Monthly Pass	\$50.00
Electronic Adult Day Pass	\$7.00
Electronic Senior or Youth Day Pass	\$5.00
Electronic Adult Two-Day Pass	\$12.00
Electronic Senior or Youth Two-Day Pass	\$9.00
Electronic Adult Weekly Pass (7-day)	\$23.00
Electronic Senior or Youth Weekly Pass (7-day)	\$17.00
Electronic Adult 20-Ride Pass	\$44.00
Electronic Senior or Youth 20-Ride Pass	\$32.00

CONVENTIONAL BUS, FERRY AND ACCESS-A-BUS

Category	User Charge per person
Adult 1 Ticket/Ride	\$3.00
Senior or Youth 1 Ticket/Ride	\$2.25
Adult 10 Tickets/Rides	\$27.00
Senior or Youth 10 Tickets/Rides	\$20.25
Adult 10 Tickets/Rides Non-Profit or Charity	\$13.50
Senior or Youth 10 Tickets/Rides Non-Profit or Charity	\$10.00
Adult 20 Rides	\$48.00
Senior or Youth 20 Rides	\$36.00
Adult 1 Day Pass	\$7.50
Senior or Youth 1 Day Pass	\$5.50
Adult 2 Day Pass	\$13.50
Senior or Youth 2 Day Pass	\$10.00
Adult 7 Day Pass	\$25.50
Senior or Youth 7 Day Pass	\$19.00
Adult Monthly Pass	\$90.00
Adult Monthly Affordable Access Transit Pass	\$45.00
Senior or Youth Monthly Pass	\$66.00
Student Monthly Pass	\$50.00

UPASS				
Category	User charge per student			
	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Fall term (September to December)	\$82.95	\$84.19	\$85.45	\$86.75
Winter term (January to April)	\$82.95	\$84.19	\$85.45	\$86.75
Extended term (September to May)	\$185.44	\$188.22	\$191.00	\$193.90
Summer term (May to August)	\$82.95	\$84.19	\$85.45	\$86.75

REGIONAL EXPRESS	
Category	User Charge per person
Adult Cash	\$4.25
Senior or Youth Cash	\$3.00
Adult Monthly Pass	\$127.50
Adult Monthly Affordable Access Transit Pass	\$63.75
Senior or Youth Monthly Pass	\$90.00
Adult with: Ticket, Monthly Pass, UPass or transfer	\$1.50
Senior or Youth with: Ticket, Youth or Senior Monthly Pass, Student Monthly Pass, Student Transit Pass, or transfer	\$1.00

REGIONAL EXPRESS	
Category	User Charge per person
Adult 1 Ticket/Ride	\$4.75
Senior or Youth 1 Ticket/Ride	\$3.25
Adult 10 Tickets/Rides	\$42.70
Senior or Youth 10 Tickets/Rides	\$29.00
Adult 20 Rides	\$76.00

Senior or Youth 20 Rides	\$52.00
Adult 1 Day Pass	\$11.75
Senior or Youth 1 Day Pass	\$8.00
Adult 2 Day Pass	\$21.35
Senior or Youth 2 Day Pass	\$14.60
Adult 7 Day Pass	\$40.00
Senior or Youth 7 Day Pass	\$27.50
Adult Monthly Pass	\$139.00
Adult Monthly Affordable Access Transit Pass	\$69.50
Senior or Youth Monthly Pass	\$99.00
Adult with: Ticket, Monthly Pass, UPass or transfer	\$1.50
Senior or Youth with: Ticket, Youth or Senior Monthly Pass, Student Monthly Pass, or transfer	\$1.00

UPASS				
Category	User charge per student			
	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Fall term (September to December)	\$84.19	\$85.45	\$86.75	\$88.05
Winter term (January to April)	\$84.19	\$85.45	\$86.75	\$88.05
Extended term (September to May)	\$188.22	\$191.00	\$193.90	\$196.80
Summer term (May to August)	\$84.19	\$85.45	\$86.75	\$88.05

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES PASS	
Category	User Charge per person
Department of Community Services Monthly Pass	\$25.00

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES PASS	
Category	User Charge per person
Department of Community Services Monthly Pass	\$27.50

SMARTTRIP EPASS	
Category	User Charge per person
EPass for Adult	87.5% of the cost of 12 adult monthly passes

Schedule 2

SmartTrip Program Membership Fees

1. The user charges for enrolment in the SmartTrip Program shall be as follows:

Workplace Size (# of Employees)	Annual Fee
1-100	\$100
100+	\$250

*** REVISED July 31, 2024 – as per Regional Council motion of July 9, 2024 ***

**Attachment B
(Amending By-law)**

**HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY BY-LAW NUMBER U-118
RESPECTING USER CHARGES**

BE IT ENACTED by the Council of the Municipality that Schedule 1 of By-law U-100, the *User Charges By-law*, shall be amended as follows:

1. Amending subsection 2(4) by adding in the backlash and word “/Rides” after the word “Tickets” and before the word “set.
2. Amending clause 3(1)(f) by striking out the word “and” after the semi-colon.
3. Repealing the table entitled “CONVENTIONAL BUS, FERRY AND ACCESS-A-BUS” in section 9 and replacing it with the following:

CONVENTIONAL BUS, FERRY AND ACCESS-A-BUS	
Category	User Charge per person
Adult 1 Ticket/Ride	\$3.00
Senior or Youth 1 Ticket/Ride	\$2.25
Adult 10 Tickets/Rides	\$27.00
Senior or Youth 10 Tickets/Rides	\$20.25
Adult 10 Tickets/Rides Non-Profit or Charity	\$13.50
Senior or Youth 10 Tickets/Rides Non-Profit or Charity	\$10.00
Adult 20 Rides	\$48.00
Senior or Youth 20 Rides	\$36.00
Adult 1 Day Pass	\$7.50
Senior or Youth 1 Day Pass	\$5.50
Adult 2 Day Pass	\$13.50
Senior or Youth 2 Day Pass	\$10.00

Adult 7 Day Pass	\$25.50
Senior or Youth 7 Day Pass	\$19.00
Adult Monthly Pass	\$90.00
Adult Monthly Affordable Access Transit Pass	\$45.00
Senior or Youth Monthly Pass	\$66.00
Student Monthly Pass	\$50.00

4. Repealing the table entitled "UPASS" in section 9.
5. Repealing the table entitled "REGIONAL EXPRESS" in section 9 and replacing it as follows:

REGIONAL EXPRESS	
Category	User Charge per person
Adult 1 Ticket/Ride	\$4.75
Senior or Youth 1 Ticket/Ride	\$3.25
Adult 10 Tickets/Rides	\$42.70
Senior or Youth 10 Tickets/Rides	\$29.00
Adult 20 Rides	\$76.00
Senior or Youth 20 Rides	\$52.00
Adult 1 Day Pass	\$11.75
Senior or Youth 1 Day Pass	\$8.00
Adult 2 Day Pass	\$21.35
Senior or Youth 2 Day Pass	\$14.60
Adult 7 Day Pass	\$40.00
Senior or Youth 7 Day Pass	\$27.50

Adult Monthly Pass	\$139.00
Adult Monthly Affordable Access Transit Pass	\$69.50
Senior or Youth Monthly Pass	\$99.00
Adult with: Ticket, Monthly Pass, UPass or transfer	\$1.50
Senior or Youth with: Ticket, Youth or Senior Monthly Pass, Student Monthly Pass, or transfer	\$1.00

6. Adding the following table immediately after the newly added table entitled "REGIONAL EXPRESS" in section 9:

UPASS				
Category	User charge per student			
	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Fall term (September to December)	\$84.19	\$85.45	\$86.75	\$88.05
Winter term (January to April)	\$84.19	\$85.45	\$86.75	\$88.05
Extended term (September to May)	\$188.22	\$191.00	\$193.90	\$196.80
Summer term (May to August)	\$84.19	\$85.45	\$86.75	\$88.05

7. Repealing the table entitled "DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES PASS" in section 9 and replacing it with the following table:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES PASS	
Category	User Charge per person
Department of Community Services Monthly Pass	\$27.50

8. Section 7 of this amending by-law shall be effective on and after July 1, 2025. The remaining sections shall be effective on and after September 1, 2024.

Done and passed this day of , 2024.

MUNICIPAL CLERK

MAYOR

I, Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk of the Halifax Regional Municipality, hereby certify that the above-noted By-law was passed at a meeting of Halifax Regional Council held on , 2024.

Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk