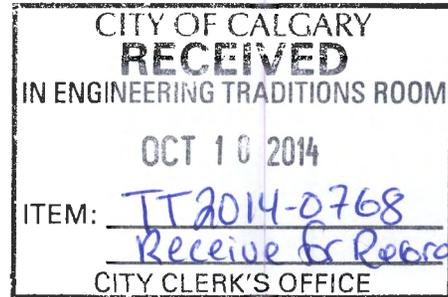




September 25, 2014

Dear Councillor Keating:



Re: Support Calgary Transit's recommendation to adopt a sliding fee scale for all low-income Calgarians

Vibrant Communities Calgary (VCC) supports Calgary Transit's recommendation to adopt a sliding fee scale for all low-income Calgarians as part of the overall Transit Fee Strategy. We ask that all members of Standing Committee on Transportation and Transit also support Calgary Transit's recommendation to adopt a sliding fee scale.

VCC supports starting the sliding fee scale at \$54.00 per year for people at or below 100% of Statistics Canada's 2014 low-income cut off (LICO), and increasing it incrementally up to 125% of LICO. This fee structure recognizes that many people with incomes slightly above LICO still live in poverty and struggle to afford City services.

We believe that a sliding scale treats all people living on low-income equitably, regardless of age. VCC recommends that the City combine the Low-Income Transit pass and the Seniors' Low-Income Transit pass into one program using a sliding scale. A sliding scale will assist more people living in poverty and could prevent individuals from falling deeper into poverty.

Finally, a sliding scale creates a fairer way to provide City subsidies and ensures that all Calgarians are able to use public transit. With this in mind, we urge you to support Calgary Transit's recommendation to adopt a sliding fee scale.

Sincerely,

Joe Ceci, Board Chair
Vibrant Communities Calgary

Franco Savoia, Director
Vibrant Communities Calgary

Cc: G.C. Carra, S. Chu, P. Demong, R. Jones, B. Pincott, E. Woolley