

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

The Fair Calgary Policy

1. On 2006 November 13, Council approved CPS2006-63 – Fair Calgary Policy, which is designed to “support and strengthen The City’s contribution to the social infrastructure of Calgary by an overarching policy and framework for the “social” of the Triple Bottom Line”.
2. On 2008 November 24, Council approved CPS2008-93 – Fair Calgary Policy- Common Eligibility For Low-Income Subsidies Project, which included an amendment to the Fair Calgary Policy to contain definitions of “user fee”, “differential pricing/market segmentation pricing”, “subsidy” and “individually targeted subsidy/individual tax support”. This report also contained recommendations pertaining to residence, and provided a measure of sensitivity to the autonomy of individual business units with the amendment that “Due to the diverse nature of The City’s low-income subsidies, the responsibility for the development and management of all secondary eligibility criteria is the responsibility of the individual Business Unit that provides the subsidy”.

Administration was directed to conduct a review of all age-based differential fees to ensure alignment with The Policy and the User Fees and Subsidies Policy. A report was requested for no later than 2010 January; however, with the approval of CPS2010-03 – Fair Calgary Policy – Update Report on Review of Age-based Differential Fees, the request was deferred to 2011 March.

3. On 2011 March 21, Council approved SPC on Community and Protective Services’ Recommendation 1 contained in CPS2011-14, referring the report back to Administration for further information related to a proposed addendum to the Fair Calgary Policy (Policies for the Design and Implementation of Tax Supported Age-based Differential Programs). The addendum was intended to address inconsistencies between business units in terms of both the definitions of age and the actual percentage of discounts from the regular adult fee/fare. Administration was directed to provide further information on:
 - a. How the age-based differential fits with income and ability;
 - b. More analysis on a graduated seniors discount for transit recognizing changing demographics and differing abilities; and
 - c. More clarity on the grand parenting clause;

Administration was further directed to report back to the SPC on Community and Protective Services no later than 2011 September.

4. On 2011 September 19, Council accepted CPS2011-41 – Fair Calgary Policy –deferral report.

5. On 2012 January 23, Council approved CPS2012-01–Standards for the Design and Implementation of Tax Supported Age-based Differential Fee Programs and Low-Income Subsidy Programs.
6. On 2012 September 24, Council approved CPS2012-0596 – Fair Calgary Policy - Deferral Report.
7. On 2012 December 17 Council approved CPS2012-0852, directing Administration to:
 - a. Initiate a pilot program for the development and implementation of a low income transit pass option for youth (6-17 years), no later than 2013 March, and report back on the budget impact during the 2014 Budget Adjustment process; and
 - b. Report to the SPC on Community and Protective Services regarding the progress of all elements of the Fair Calgary Policy no later than 2013 November.

Transit

1. On 2011 July 20, The SPC on Land Use, Planning and Transportation approved *Overview of Calgary Transit Fares and Transit Funding* (LPT2011-77), directing Administration to address several items in the creation of the 2012 – 2014 business plan and budgets for Calgary Transit. In addition to points relating to increasing service levels, the implementation of a new electronic fare system and plans to move to a lower revenue/cost ratio, recommendations included the reduction of discounts for some fares without creating a barrier to those with lesser abilities to pay (essentially looking at income-based as opposed to age-based reductions) and exploring alternatives for funding and administration of low-income transit fares. Administration was directed to work with Fair Fares and Fair Calgary to investigate a sliding scale transit pass for low-income Calgarians.
2. On 2011 September 12, Council approved the deferral of LPT2011-77, and directed that the four options outlined, be referred to Administration for a report to the 2011 September 14 Regular Meeting of the SPC on Finance and Corporate Services to develop recommendations to Council on all fares for the 2012 budget year, to return to the 2011 September 19 Regular Meeting of Council.
3. On 2011 September 19, Council adopted FCS2011-24 – Overview of Calgary Transit Fares and Transit Funding Strategy, and directed Calgary Transit to create annual operating budgets for 2012-2014 based on Option 4 (as outlined on page 4 of 5), under section investigation: Alternatives and Analysis Report FCS2011-24, within Council revenue/cost guidelines. A further amendment was made by Alderman Pincott to, “reduce the approved transit fare discounts offered on adult and youth transit fares in relation to the adult cash fare. “

4. On 2011 November 20, Council adopted Recommendation 4 contained in C2011-73, Attachment 2R Proposed Fair Structure, 2012-2014 Operating Budget as amended, subject to further adopted amendments proposed by Council which included an increase to the Senior's Annual Pass (Regular) from \$35 in 2011 to \$55 in 2012 and no increase to the Seniors Annual Pass (Low Income) currently set at \$15.
5. On 2013 September 9 (NM2013-25), Council directed Administration to investigate creating a single fare for seniors potentially adapting the existing youth single fare pass and return to Council as part of budget deliberations in 2013 November.
6. On 2013 September 16 (PFC2013-0655) Council directed Administration to incorporate 100 per cent LICO eligibility criteria at the 2014 Business Plan and Budget process in 2013 November. Further, Administration was directed to review the parameters of regular and low-income senior transit passes in conjunction with the Calgary Transit Fare Review report due back to the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation and Transit no later than 2014 February and align the Fare Structure Review report with the Fair Calgary Policy update report due back to SPC on Community and Protective Services in 2013 December.