

November 25, 2013

City of Calgary Council  
City of Calgary  
P.O. Box 2100, Station M  
Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 2M5

Dear Mayor Nenshi & City Council,

**Re: Notice of Motion NM2013-25 (Senior Single Fare Rate For Transit Users)**

On behalf of Vibrant Communities Calgary and Poverty Talks, we are asking that City Council defer this motion until the planned transit fare review in February 2014.

We commend Councillor Demong on his efforts to create a seniors single fare rate for transit users. As the motion points out, the cost of an annual transit pass is prohibitive for those seniors who want or need to use transit service a limited number of times annually. Furthermore, some seniors find it unaffordable to cover the up front cost of the annual pass, causing them instead to purchase single fare passes at the regular rate.

While other cities have created a youth/seniors single transit fare pass, we would suggest that Calgary take a more equitable approach. Like many seniors, low-income earners also struggle to purchase monthly transit passes. Estimates suggest that fully half of those who are eligible to purchase low-income monthly transit pass fail to do so on a regular basis. This suggests that like seniors with their annual transit pass, the cost of a monthly transit pass is prohibitive for those low-income earners who want or need to use transit service a limited number of times monthly. As with seniors, low-income earners are forced to pay a regular single transit fare rate each time they take public transit.

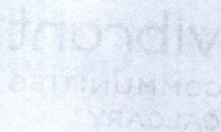
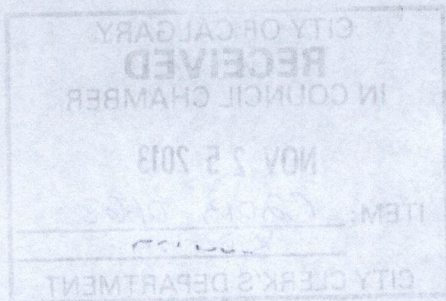
In the spirit of creating an equitable transit fare system, we urge Council to defer this motion until after the transit fare review in February 2014 so that the addition of low-income users to a discounted single fare rate can be further explored.

Sincerely,

Fred Robertson, Steering Committee  
Poverty Talks

Franco Savoia, Director  
Vibrant Communities Calgary





November 25, 2013

City of Calgary Council  
City of Calgary  
P.O. Box 3100, Station M  
Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 3M5

Dear Mayor, Council & City Council

Re: Notice of Motion MM2013-25 (Senior Single Rate for Transit Users)

On behalf of Vibrant Communities Calgary and Poverty Talk, we are asking that City Council defer this motion until the planned transit fare review in February 2014.

The Community Consultation Group on its efforts to create a senior's single rate for transit users. As the motion points out, the cost of an annual transit pass is prohibitive for those seniors who want to use transit service a limited number of times annually. Furthermore, some seniors find it unaffordable to cover the up front cost of the annual pass, causing them instead to purchase single fare passes at the regular rate.

While other cities have created a youth/seniors single transit fare pass, we would suggest that Calgary take a more equitable approach. Like many seniors, low-income earners also struggle to purchase low monthly transit passes. Estimates suggest that fully half of those who are eligible to purchase low annual transit pass, and cost of a monthly transit pass is prohibitive for those to whom seniors who want to use transit service a limited number of times annually. At Vibrant Communities, low-income seniors are forced to pay a regular single transit fare each time they take public transit.

In the spirit of creating an equitable transit fare system, we urge Council to defer this motion until after the transit fare review in February 2014 so that the addition of low-income users to a discounted single fare rate can be further explored.

Fred Robinson, Steering Committee  
Poverty Talk

Francis Smith, Director  
Vibrant Communities Calgary