

Date: March 10, 2022

To: Chair and Members of General Committee

From: Geoff Wright, P.Eng, MBA, Commissioner of
Transportation and Works

Originator's files:

Meeting date:
March 30, 2022

Subject

Amendments to 2022 MiWay Fees and Charges

Recommendation

That a by-law be enacted to amend Schedule "B-3" (Transportation and Works – MiWay Fares) of the User Fees and Charges By-law 0247-2021 as outlined in the corporate report dated March 10, 2022 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works entitled "Amendments to 2022 MiWay Fees and Charges By-Law", as follows:

1. That effective March 14, 2022, the "PRESTO e-purse GO Transit Fare Integration" fee amount be changed from \$0.80 to Free as a result of an amendment to the Fare Integration Agreement between the City of Mississauga and Metrolinx;
2. That the fee name "Freedom Pass" be changed to "Sauga Summer Pass";
3. That "Warriors Day and Remembrance Day" be added to clarify eligible days for free fares for Canadian Armed Forces Veterans and companion;
4. That the "PRESTO Fare Card – new and replacement" fee excluding HST be reduced from \$6.00 to \$5.31 to align the pricing required by Metrolinx for all 905 transit agencies.

Background

This report outlines required amendments to Schedule "B-3" (Transportation and Works – MiWay Fares) of the User Fees & Charges By-law 0247-2021 (the "By-law") as a result of changes to several elements of the MiWay fare program, as outlined in this report.

Comments

PRESTO e-purse-GO Transit Fare Integration

In 1996, a Fare Integration Agreement (the “Agreement”) was established between the City of Mississauga and GO Transit that provided customers with a discount on their municipal transit trip when directly transferring onto a GO Train service. The Agreement was later amended to include GO Bus services. Customers would pay 25% of the cost of the adult ticket price and GO Transit would reimburse Mississauga the remaining 75% of the adult ticket price keeping the revenue at 100% of full adult ticket value.

To improve on the fare integration program in the GTHA, Metrolinx and GTHA transit providers agreed to a further change to the Agreement, which would allow customers to ride free on MiWay when transferring to/from a GO Transit service. As a result of an amendment to the Agreement (authorized by By-law 0011-2022), MiWay will no longer be required to charge customers \$0.80, as the full cost of the customer trip when using a PRESTO card is paid for by Metrolinx. This necessitates an amendment to the By-law.

Metrolinx will provide 100% subsidy on the PRESTO e-purse GO Transit Fare Integration fee and there will be no impact on MiWay revenues. GO Transit will pay to the City of Mississauga an amount per customer equivalent to 100% of the regular adult fare when the customer is using PRESTO and transferring between MiWay and GO Transit services.

The program was officially announced on March 01, 2022 and customers will see these changes in effect March 14, 2022.

This free travel between MiWay and GO transit services will make transit more affordable and easier for passengers to leave their cars at home when commuting to and from work, heading to a sporting event or concert, or visiting family and friends.

Freedom Pass

In 2014 the Youth Freedom Pass program was introduced that allows youth 12 to 14 years old to swim for free in City pools, and ride MiWay for free, between July 1 to August 31. The program has been successful over the years and continued to grow each year. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic the program was suspended for 2020 and 2021.

As programs and facilities are re-opening, the program will be available to youth again beginning in July 2022. As a part of the re-introduction, the name of the “Freedom Pass” will be changed to “Sauga Summer Pass” in the By-law.

Canadian Armed Forces Veterans and Companion on Special Events

The By-law is being amended to include a clarification that special events are Warriors Day and Remembrance Day. On these two special event days Canadian Armed Forces Veterans and their companion can ride MiWay for Free.

PRESTO Fare Card – new and replacement

As part of the PRESTO agreement, Metrolinx requires that transit agencies must sell the PRESTO card to the customer for a maximum price of \$6.00. Therefore an adjustment is required in the By-law to reflect the fee excluding HST from \$6.00 to \$5.31 such that with HST, the customer pays \$6.00. There is no financial impact to MiWay revenues as this is to update the price in the By-law to \$5.31 excluding HST.

Strategic Plan

These fees and charges amendments contribute to the strategic pillar of *Move - Developing a Transit Oriented City* and the strategic goals of:

- Ensuring Youth, Older Adults and New Immigrants Thrive
- Ensuring Affordability and Accessibility

Financial Impact

There are no financial impact as a result of these amendments to MiWay fees and charges.

Conclusion

These changes continue to support a transit oriented city by providing incentives to ride transit in Mississauga. There will be no financial impact to the City from these changes. Staff recommends making the amendments to MiWay fees and charges as outlined in the Appendix 1.

Attachments

Appendix 1: Schedule B-3 - Transportation and Works - MiWay Fares



for

Geoff Wright, P.Eng, MBA, Commissioner of Transportation and Works

Prepared by: Fritz Youaleu, CMA, MBA, Supervisor, Transit Revenue, MiWay