

Update on Bill 98, Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026 and Canada-Ontario Partnership to Build - 0202-2026



Presented to the Transit Advisory Committee
May 5, 2026



Bill 98, Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026

Introduced March 30, 2026, Bill 98 proposes major changes to provincial oversight of transit projects, funding, and transportation networks.

These changes will affect:

- **Priority transit projects in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA)**
- **Fare Harmonization (OneFare 2.0)**
- **Fare Collection and Data Reporting**
- **Priority Routes, Service Integration and Zone Based Travel**
- **Specialized Transit (TransHelp)**

Bill 98 gives the province authority to **establish transit fares and geographic fare zones** resulting in mandatory revenue-sharing amongst transit agencies within the zones.

Our Recommendations to Council:

- Be actively involved in consultations on all fare discussions.
- Be consulted on the creation of geographic zones and any cost-sharing formulas given the impact to operating and capital costs.
- Be compensated for any transit revenue losses caused by provincial changes.

Fare Collection and Data Reporting and Compliance Powers Harmonization

Bill 98 requires specific transit agencies to adopt a unified fare system (PRESTO) along with stricter reporting on trips, fares, and services.

Our Recommendation to Council:

- Continued participation in PRESTO consultation tables with Metrolinx.
- Any new system upgrade costs required by the Province should be paid for by the Province.

Bill 98 allows the Province to determine **priority transit routes across municipal boundaries**, requiring cities to operate beyond their usual areas. This may affect costs, revenue-sharing, fleet usage, and workforce/service planning.

Our Recommendation to Council:

- Support service integration while being involved in planning decisions and establishing cost-sharing agreements for expanded services.
- Ensure the Province covers any financial losses or funding impacts arising from these changes.

Bill 98 gives the Province authority to require municipalities to **join a unified trip-booking system to provide seamless cross-boundary specialized transit trips.**

While TransHelp is delivered by the Region of Peel, program changes may have impacts to overall costs.

Our Recommendation to Council:

- Staff be involved in consultations on any changes to be implemented.

April 6, 2026 Corporate Report

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Further information can be found in the corporate report tabled at the April 6, 2026 Council meeting:

<https://pub-mississauga.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=84090>