

November 27, 2018

Budget Standing Committee  
City of St. Catharines

**Re: St. Catharines Transit Commission 2019 Operating Budget**

On November 22, 2018, the Budget Standing Committee requested that the St. Catharines Transit Commission reallocate \$250,000, for the purchase of a paratransit vehicle, to the Capital Budget. The purchase would be debentured over a five-year period. This reduces the budget increase to 14.2%. A revised budget summary page is attached.

Also attached are budget reduction options that would see the budget reduced to below the requested 2.1%. The associated ridership and full-time equivalent job (FTE) implications are also indicated on the document. As the Commission is contractually committed to the current service level in January 2019, the budget reductions would not start until May 2019. As a result, we only realize two thirds of the savings in 2019 so the reductions are larger to meet the budget guidance. In determining the reductions, the more recent service improvements were considered along with our lowest ridership route, 314/414. The changes combined would reduce the overall increase to 1.8%.

Respectfully Submitted,

Graham Morrison  
General Manager