

Executive Summary

This report provides information on the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) - Public Transit Stream program, as well as details related to funding applications submitted by staff totaling approximately \$99.4 million for transit infrastructure improvements over the next ten years.

This report also provides an update on remaining funds received through Public Transit Infrastructure Funding (PTIF), which, due to continued developments in smart card technology, are being reallocated to provide additional shelters, benches and trip planning (wayfinding) tools, in order to allow staff time to evaluate smart card options.

Background

The Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) is a cost-shared infrastructure funding program between the federal government, provinces and territories, and municipalities and other recipients. Over a ten-year period, this program will see up to \$30 billion in combined federal, provincial and other partner funding, under four priority areas; including public transit. The Public Transit stream will support the construction, expansion and improvement of public transit systems and networks across Ontario. The current ICIP funding program builds on previous funding opportunities available through the Public Transit Infrastructure Fund (PTIF) created through the 2016 Provincial budget.

On November 22, 2016, a report titled Public Transit Infrastructure Fund was presented to City Council and on November 6, 2017 a report titled Public Transit Infrastructure Fund Status Report was presented to Community Services Committee. These reports provided highlights and project updates as they relate to Phase I program contributions.

On February 12, 2019 a report titled, *Greater Sudbury Transit Action Plan – Better Routes. Better Schedules. Better Service*, was presented to City Council. Resolution CC2019-45 directed Staff to “conduct the planning required to undertake the supporting infrastructure improvements and service level changes presented in the Future Expansion Options to achieve the Long-Term Transit strategy”.

ICIP- Public Transit Stream- Program Highlights

Through ICIP, the federal government is providing \$11.8 billion in federal infrastructure funding to cost-share projects under the following four streams: 1)

Public Transit, 2) Green Infrastructure, 3) Community, Culture and Recreation and (4) Rural and Northern Communities. The Public Transit stream will fund construction, expansion and improvement of public transit networks in order to build new urban transit networks and service extensions that will transform the way that Canadians live, move and work.

On March 14, 2018, the Governments of Canada and Ontario signed an Integrated Bilateral Agreement for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. The program has an end date of March 31, 2028 and encompasses several investment streams. The Public Transit stream allocates a maximum contribution over that time period to the City of Greater Sudbury of \$39.8 million in federal funding and \$32.8 million provincial funding. Assuming a municipal contribution of 27%, this provides a potential total funding maximum of \$99.4 million towards public transit infrastructure projects over the next ten years.

The City share of the total funding can be partially supported through Provincial Gas Taxes that are forecasted to be approximately \$2.5 million annually. After transfers to Operating and funding capital costs identified within ICIP applications, there remains a forecasted gap between funding sources and the municipal share. If applications are approved, projects will require additional funding of approximately \$12 million over the term of the eight (8) year program, and will be prioritized through the annual budget process.

The overall process for ICIP funding applications is four steps as follows:

- 1) **Application-** applications are submitted through Grants Ontario
- 2) **Provincial Review/Nomination-** All projects will be evaluated. Those approved by the Province will be nominated to Infrastructure Canada for approval
- 3) **Federal Approval-** those projects submitted for federal approval will be assessed and prioritized based on set criteria and project requirements.
- 4) **Transfer Payment Agreement-** The Ministry will enter into a Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA's) with each Recipient. Terms and conditions will be set out in TPA's for submission of claims, reporting and audit

The Long Term Infrastructure Strategy section of the Transit Action Plan identifies a number of infrastructure priorities to support the immediate transition of service

and build toward elements of Bus Rapid Transit on major corridors and links to outlying communities.

Staff have submitted applications valuing \$99.4 million for projects within five (5) separate categories: Buses, Transit Signal Priority, Technology, Hubs and Bus Rapid Transit. "ICIP- Public Transit Stream Funding- Application Details" Appendix A of this report provides further information on each initiative with details on the overall project envelope and forecasted project details.

Contactless Smart Card Technology- Update

On September 25, 2018, Staff provided information to Council on the benefits of replacing the existing registering fare box equipment with contactless smart card technology. An estimate of \$600,000 for implementation was identified, with funds being supported through Public Transit Infrastructure Funding (PTIF).

While exploring the options, Staff have learned that there are many solutions and have noted continued development in this type of technology. As such, additional time is required to fully explore all options to ensure that the proper solution is chosen. With a desire to make transit more accessible, Staff want to ensure that any solution will align with the needs of the passengers and provide reliable data to support future transit service planning.

Given the pressure on resources related to transit route and schedule changes for August 2019, and the deadline to use Public Transit Infrastructure Funding (PTIF) of March 2020, Staff will allocate the remaining funds of approximately \$600,000 to provide additional shelters, benches and trip planning (wayfinding) tools. These improvements will supplement the changes in service and have been identified as priorities through the Transit Action Plan.

Identified within the "Technology" data box of Appendix B, through ICIP Transit Stream funding application, Staff will continue to pursue opportunities for technological improvement and upgrades that will positively affect riders by increasing customer experience and operational efficiencies.

Next Steps

The City of Greater Sudbury has submitted five applications to the Investing and Canada Infrastructure Program. These proposals support opportunities for efficiency and service improvement as identified in the Transit Action Plan. Staff will provide an update at future Community Services Committee meeting upon notification of the success of these applications.

Anticipating favorable results and approvals of submitted ICIP applications, projects will proceed through Capital Project Prioritization.

References

Public Infrastructure Fund, City Council, November 22, 2016

(<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&id=955&itemid=12277&lang=en>)

Public Infrastructure Funding Status Report, Community Services Committee, November 6, 2017.

(<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&id=1205&itemid=13989&lang=en>)

Phase II Public Transit Infrastructure Fund Report, Community Services Committee, June 18, 2018.

(<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&id=1263&itemid=15046&lang=en>)

Transit Contactless Smart Card Technology Report, Community Services Committee, September 25, 2018.

(<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&id=1247&itemid=14632&lang=en>)

Greater Sudbury Transit Action Plan- Better Routes. Better Schedules. Better Service. Report, City Council, February 12, 2019.

(<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&id=1312&itemid=13582&lang=en>)

Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program : Public Transit Stream

(<https://www.grants.gov.on.ca/GrantsPortal/en/OntarioGrants/GrantOpportunities/PRD/R019554>)

Appendix A

ICIP- Public Transit Stream Funding- Application Details

Project Name	Project Envelope
Bus Procurement	\$34,419,000
Details	<p>The replacement of 53 buses over an eight (8) year period. Funding will allow the reduction in the bus life cycle from approximately 18 year to 12-14 years</p> <p>This will support organization efficiencies with an eventual reduction in repair and maintenance costs of approximately 10% annually. Increased ridership will be achieved through improved customer experience and increased reliability of service.</p>

Project Name	Project Envelope
Transit Signal Priority	\$6,611,000
Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-The implementation and installation of an Advanced Transportation Management System with ITS components-Procurement and replacement of 125 traffic signal cabinets, controllers and traffic signal priority field hardware- Implementation of a fibre optic based communication network at 72 intersections- Procurement and installation of traffic signal priority vehicle hardware for 59 transit vehicles <p>* a portion of this project was included and approved in the 2019 Capital Budget, pending funding from ICIP. Overall project cost = \$5,722,000, ICIP Funding = \$4,177,060, City portion = \$1,544,940</p>

Project Name	Project Envelope
Technology	\$4,987,500
Details	<p>A comprehensive review of current technology will be completed to identify opportunities for improvement and challenges associated with implementation. An industry scan of best practices will be completed to support decisions for system upgrade/replacement/implementation. Analysis will directly support procurement of solutions that will revitalize outdated systems and provide more cost effective means to monitor performance, improve efficiency and service level delivery.</p> <p>The implementation of various technological options will positively impact riders by increasing customer experience and operational efficiencies. Technological improvements will create alternate payment options for a more accessible transit service (new electronic fare collection system) and create operational efficiencies with the collection of better data to support planning and network design. On-demand technologies would provide an increase in level of service in low demand areas.</p>

Project Name	Project Envelope
Hubs	\$27,156,250
Details	<p>Based on the Transit Action Plan, this project is to [a] confirm the optimal location, configuration and detailed design for the three Major Mobility Hubs (MMH's) and then [b] proceed with their construction/implementation.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MMH's will be located in the vicinity of New Sudbury Centre, Downtown and the South End. • They will form primary exchange and terminus points for the restructured transit system and future Frequent Transit / RapidBus lines to support increased ridership and service. <p>The capital cost of each Major Mobility Hub will vary according to local conditions and requirements, with estimates for the Downtown Mobility Hub larger due to the transit operations and passenger facilities located in a building on site that may require reconstruction.</p> <p>* a portion of this project was included and approved through "Various Related Studies for PTIF Phase 2" in the 2019 Capital Budget, pending funding from ICIP. Overall project cost = \$1,000,000, ICIP Funding = \$730,000, City portion = \$270,000</p>
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Project Name	Project Envelope
Bus Rapid Transportation	\$26,187,500
Details	<p>Introduce Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) along three corridors in Greater Sudbury to reduce bus travel times, increase transit ridership and revenues, and improve operational efficiency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be the structural backbone of Greater Sudbury Transit • #1 Mainline connecting New Sudbury Centre to the South End via Downtown Major Mobility Hub • #2 Barrydowne Rd- Laurentian U. with connections at Downtown Mobility Hub and Health Sciences North. • #3 Laurentian U. via Regent <p>Plan and design for 3 corridors, model traffic flow and analyze station locations, intersection improvements and queue jump lanes and other on street improvements. Preliminary planning would determine construction costs and phasing of</p>

construction to coordinate with the Major Mobility Hubs and other transit service improvements.

Three BRT corridors:

- Roadway allocation for bus stops
- Intersection improvements for turning movements
- Passenger waiting areas-platforms or sidewalks
- Passenger shelters
- Ticket / fare vending
- Bicycle and Pedestrian access features such as bike lanes and cross walks
- Queue jump and turn lanes for buses
- Passenger information signage
- Lighting

* a portion of this project was included and approved in the 2019 Capital Budget as part of a new bus layby at Bell Park, pending funding from ICIP. Overall project cost = \$1,265,000, ICIP Funding = \$189,000, City portion = \$1,076,000