Request for Decision

2018-2019 Universal Bus Pass Agreement

Resolution

THAT the City of Greater Sudbury authorizes the General Manager of Community Development to exercise the option to extend the Universal Bus Pass (U-Pass) agreement for the 2018-2019 academic year beginning September 2018 through to April 2019, as outlined in the report entitled "2018-2019 Universal Bus Pass Agreement", from the General Manager of Community Development, presented at the City Council meeting on April 10, 2018.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan / Health Impact Assessment

This report relates to operational matters.

Report Summary

This report provides information on the current Universal Bus Pass program and requests authorization to extend the U-Pass agreement with Laurentian University Student Associations into the 2018-2019 academic year.

Financial Implications

The U-Pass program is an existing revenue source in the Transit Operating Budget, with anticipated revenues in 2018 of approximately $1.29 million.

Signed By

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Recommended by the Department
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Recommended by the C.A.O.
Ed Archer
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Background

The Universal Bus Pass (U-Pass) program has provided eligible Laurentian University students with unlimited access to transit services during the standard eight-month academic year (September through to April) since September 2006. The U-Pass offers students an option to lower their transportation costs while promoting transit ridership.

The U-Pass program requires mandatory participation by all full-time students belonging to the University's three (3) student bodies; Laurentian University Students' General Association/ Association général des étudiants Université Laurentienne (SGA/AGE), Association des étudiantes et étudiants francophones de l'Université Laurentienne (AEF) and the Laurentian University Graduate Students' Association/Association des étudiantes et étudiants aux etudes supérieures (GSA/AÉÉS). The number of U-Passes distributed each year is based on student enrollment. The student associations have collectively purchased approximately 6,600 U-Passes under the current agreement at an annual unit cost of $190.00. Payments to the City of Greater Sudbury (City) are made in three installments over the course of the academic year. If approved, the extension agreement would be subject to the same terms and conditions as the original agreement dated April 9, 2014 and extension agreement dated April 19, 2017. The annual unit cost for the 2018-2019 academic year would be $196.00 per student as per the 2018 Miscellaneous User Fee By-Law.

The U-Pass program has been successful for both Laurentian University students and Greater Sudbury Transit Services. Over the past twelve years the program has provided significant benefits to students, transit and the community as a whole by promoting environmental responsibility, increasing transportation capacity and providing value added transportation alternatives to a large population group in the Greater Sudbury community.

Next Steps

Over the next year the representatives of SGA/AGE, AEF and GSA/AÉÉS students and Greater Sudbury Transit will review the agreement terms and conditions, and discuss the details of a longer term agreement.

References

Miscellaneous user Fees 2018, (https://www.greatersudbury.ca/city-hall/budget-and-finance/2018-budget/)