

**PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE
TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT MASTER PLAN STUDY
APRIL 28, 2004**

Council Members Present: Councillor Grant Gibson (Chair)

Staff Present:

Planning, Design and Development Department

Adrian Smith, Manager of Growth Management and Special Policy
Henrik Zbogar, Policy Planner
Sue Bass, Director of Brampton Transit
Brad Hale, Manager of Transportation Planning
Rick Bino, Director of Engineering & Development Services
Tao Ye, Transportation Planner

Works and Transportation Department

A.D. MacMillan, Commissioner of Works and Transportation
Mike Parks, Manager of Traffic Engineering Services
Peter Anderson, Manager of Engineering Services

Others Present:

Mr. Jim Gough, Consultant Team Project Manager, Marshall Macklin Monaghan
Serdar Oncel, Marshall Macklin Monaghan
Angela Iannuzziello, ENTRA Consultants

The meeting commenced at 7:10 p.m.

Councillor G. Gibson welcomed and thanked everyone for attending. He indicated that traffic congestion has been identified by the residents of Brampton as being the number one issue of concern, and that the TTMP process was initiated by Brampton Council to develop a Master Plan that will provide a comprehensive long term strategy to accommodate Brampton's transportation needs as the City expands to over 650,000 people by 2030, as well as a short-term action plan to address current deficiencies and begin work towards a balanced road and transportation system.

Jim Gough and Angela Iannuzziello gave a slide presentation which included discussion of the following:

- Planning process
- Demographics
- Facts about current transportation systems: Road and Transit
- Future Challenges for road and transit networks
- Brampton's Vision: Balanced Roads and Transit
- Strategic Frameworks: Short and long-term
- Recommended future road network: 2011, 2021, and 2031
- Transit system objectives; overview of options
- Bus Rapid Transit
- Strategic transit frameworks: 2011 and 2021
- Preliminary costs: Road and transit improvements
- Short-Term Action Plan
 - Roads and transit
 - AcceleRide: Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) initiative
 - Evolution of Downtown Brampton
- Recommended Actions for Key Issues
- Policies and Programs

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Following the presentation, Mr. G.Gibson invited members of the public to present their views. The following questions/comments were presented. Relevant responses were provided by the members of project team.

Q1: (Mr. Luigi Gandolfo)

- TTMP is good, but limited resources to implement recommendations, compounded by Provincial downloading;
- Jurisdictional restrictions: the City works within the Region of Peel, which has to deal with the influence of a Mississauga that is threatening secession;
- The three levels of government should be pushed more politically. City of Brampton has been too polite; the City needs to get more help from the Region;
- GO Transit needs to provide multi-level parking instead of buying more land for parking in downtown;
- Absence of Brampton representative on the GO Board puts the City at a disadvantageous position;
- The City needs to lobby more aggressively.

A1: (Councillor G. Gibson)

- We are working aggressively; we have begun implementation of AcceleRide BRT on Queen Street, in cooperation with the Region of Peel.

Q2 (Mr. Bob Hooshley)

- How will the City implement the transit recommendations? Have to overcome the “car-culture” obstacle;
- Convenience is the most important factor affecting mode choice;
- Parking is an important issue; people don’t want to walk;
- Gridlock is a way of life in any large North American city;
- How about a taxi system for community services?
- Doubts that the TTMP will work.

A2 (Ms. A. Iannuzziello)

- The TTMP implementation strategy is realistic;
- Transit service has to be attractive; one that people will choose to use;
- Neighbourhood services are designed to be flexible; small shuttle-bus system will deliver riders to the nearest transit node (e.g., GO Station), not more than 15 minutes (same as Meadowvale shuttles in Mississauga);
- As designers of new communities; developers need to accommodate this shuttle service as homes are occupied;
- The idea is to start and build more shuttle services over time. Marketing and promotion are also important.

Q3

- Non-polluting and/or less-polluting technologies should be emphasized;
- More focus on the already-urbanized areas should be provided in terms of transit services;
- Ottawa light rail system (the “O” Train) is a transit success story;
- Environmental issues need to be taken seriously.

A3 (Mr. A. MacMillan)

- City has initiated a major focus on less-polluting transit vehicles;
- Emphasis on transit has increased this year – 35 new buses represent the largest order in Brampton’s history.

Q4 (Ms. M. Bartlett, Ward 6 Ratepayers)

- There is no transit service in Churchville and Huttonville;
- Teens and the elderly have no access to public transportation;
- Shuttle-bus system would be perfectly suited to this area;
- Ward 6 area residents have been told there is insufficient ridership to warrant service in this area (western part of the city). GO Bus also ceased Mississauga Road service four years ago.

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A4 (Ms. S. Bass)

- Expect service to this area in the 2005 budget.

Q5

- Amsterdam is an example of a major city without congestion – cars prohibited!
- How does the recommended framework fit into the Bram West development area? Only “Secondary” transit service in 2011;
- Transit should be included into the land development proposals. There is a great need; Council needs to ask for it.

A5 (Ms. S. Bass)

- Will check the status of transit issues in the Bram West development area.

Q6

- How does the City plan to attract more people to comment on this project?

A6 (Councillor G. Gibson)

- This is a big problem; the City is doing its best to communicate with its residents;
- A monthly newsletter could be a good way, but it needs effort and budget.

(Mr. H. Zbogar)

- The City has made every reasonable effort to communicate this event to the public. In addition to regular notices in the Brampton Guardian that have preceded every Public Information Centres and Mayor’s Town Hall meeting over the course of the TTMP Study, approximately 100 notices for today’s PIC were mailed to individuals and agencies who had registered at previous meetings or otherwise requested to be on the TTMP mailing list;
- The City’s web site is up to date, announcements have been posted in a timely manner, and a TTMP e-mail address has been available for submitting questions and comments.

Councillor Gibson thanked everyone for their attendance and participation.

The meeting ended at 9:15 p.m.