

uLinc Moving Lincoln

Transit Update
April 3, 2019

Background

- Pilot started in November 2017
- Intention to introduce and expose residents to local public transit to:
 - » Gauge citizen & community need, desire, & readiness for transit
 - » Increase mobility across Lincoln
 - » Support Lincoln as a complete, sustainable community
 - » Facilitate economic development & support workforce development
 - » Contribute to a higher quality of life for our residents
 - » Support the introduction of the future GO train service in Lincoln



Background (CONTINUED)

- September 2018, Council approved:
 - Extending the service contract with the BTS Network Inc. for 2019
 - » In principle, transitioning from a pilot to a permanent transit service
 - » A 3-year contract for a Transit Coordinator to support the uLinc service
 - » A rider fare to come into effect in 2019 to allow the Town to qualify for Provincial Gas Tax funding

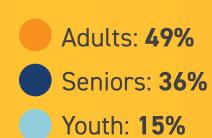




Our Riders & Where They Are Going









71% of riders are women



Most popular stops:

- » Fleming Centre
- » Foodland
- » Heritage Community
- » Go Bus



Ontario St. Bartlett is the most popular route

uLinc

Moving Lincoln

Quality Improvements

- Dedicated focus on uLinc with addition of transit coordinator continual focus on contract management, operations, ridership, routes and schedules, and customer service
- Overall friendliness & accessibility of uLinc
 - » Brochure & webpage
 - » Apps and Trip Planners
- New Flag Stops for Rural Areas
- Summer Saturday Service

- » Improved Connections to GO Bus
- » Additional Bus Stop Locations



Quality Improvements: Future Stops





uLinc Fare & Provincial Gas Tax Update

- \$1 uLinc fare effective April 1, 2019
- Ride cards valid for 11 rides, for the cost of \$10
- \$113,000 has been submitted for gas tax funding
 - » Eligible for up to 75% of total operating expenses
 - » Must demonstrate an element of some cost recovery





Intermunicipal Transit (IMT) Update

- Niagara Region approved \$13.9M in capital for Niagara Region Transit for the 2019-20 IMT service
- Improvements to new routes/expansions
- · Sept. 2019/Jan. 2020 proposed two new transit pilot services for west Niagara
 - » Priority to connect west Niagara communities to existing broader transit network
 - » Potential route to connect Grimsby, Beamsville, Vineland, and Jordan
 - » Potential to connect this west Niagara route with St. Catharines
- Staff continue to:
 - » Advocate for IMT & broader transportation connectivity
 - » Work with IMT working group on aligning transit practices & operations



The Next 6 Months

- Continued planning & linkage with IMT
 - » Common Fare Strategy by September 2020
 - » Single Transit Phone Number by September 2019
 - » Investigate/Evaluate on-demand transit options to provide enhanced service
 - » Test Remix software to streamline and simplify route planning
- Summer route implementation & monitoring
- Ongoing promotional activities
- Council report & update







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Questions