

Choosing Our Future

Getting the Most Value for Money

As we attempt to meet our obligations to reduce greenhouse gases and increase the *proportion*, not just the number, of people using transit in the growing Capital Region, we are faced with the following three primary options:



1. Business as usual: Abandon the concept of rapid transit, just adding conventional bus capacity,
2. Bus Rapid Transit: Implement a rapid transit system with road-based technology, or
3. Tram/Streetcar: Introduce a rapid transit system using rail-based technology

There is no no-cost option. Even “business as usual” comes with a significant price tag for purchase, construction and operations, over and above the current cost of operating the transit system. And there’s much more to consider. During the next several weeks, the project team will undertake a detailed analysis and prepare a recommendation for implementation. The examination will include the refinement of realistic estimates and the review of literally dozens of key factors, such as those listed below.

Financial	Customer Service	Environmental	Economic Development	Socio-Community & Urban Development	Deliverability
♦ Capital Cost	♦ Ridership	♦ GHG reduction	♦ Business Environment	♦ Health	♦ Constructability
♦ Operating Cost	♦ Mode Share Capture	♦ Noise/vibration	♦ Goods movement	♦ Safety	♦ Municipal support
♦ Life-cycle cost	♦ Travel Time Savings	♦ Energy use	♦ Employment & Income	♦ Community Cohesion	♦ Public/community support
♦ Cost/savings related to car infrastructure	♦ Expansion Potential	♦ Land requirements	♦ Tourism support	♦ Accessibility	♦ Funding agency support
♦ Vehicle operating costs/savings	♦ Impact on Car Traffic		♦ Access to employment & commercial centres	♦ Support land use plans including transit-oriented development	♦ Funding availability
♦ Financing Strategies	♦ System Access			♦ Property Values	
♦ Impact on fares	♦ Reliability			♦ Urban design	
♦ Impact on taxes	♦ Comfort				
	♦ Integration with other modes				