



TRANSIT AND PARKING STRATEGY MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR J. LEHMAN AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: B. FORSYTH, DIRECTOR OF TRANSIT AND PARKING STRATEGY

NOTED: R. JAMES-REID, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ACCESS BARRIE

RE: FACE COVERING REQUIREMENT FOR PASSENGERS ON BARRIE TRANSIT

DATE: JUNE 29, 2020

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide an update to members of Council that staff will be recommending passengers wear face coverings while on Barrie Transit.

At the beginning and throughout the COVID pandemic, transit agencies around the country put various precautionary measures in place to maintain service for essential travel. In recent weeks, some transit agencies have moved towards making face coverings mandatory for passengers while on board.

With guidance from Ministry of Health in late May, where they recommended to encourage the use of face coverings for patrons, particularly when physical distancing is not feasible, the City of Barrie undertook an educational campaign to encourage passengers to use face coverings on transit (**Appendix A**). As of the date of this memo, staff estimate that approximately 30% of the passengers have begun to wear masks.

As staff work towards returning to front door boarding and paid service by the middle of July, and to further protect passengers and operators, as well as to build consumer confidence in the service, Barrie Transit is planning to make face coverings mandatory.

Under the guidance of the Ministry of Health, any one under the age of 2 or anyone who has trouble breathing will not be asked to wear face coverings.

Staff will begin an educational campaign to communicate the face covering requirement to its passengers.

Appendix A:

Protect Yourself. Protect Others.


To assist in protecting transit staff and riders, the Ministry of Health is recommending the use of face coverings, particularly when physical distancing is not feasible.



For everyone's safety, please wear a mask while riding Barrie Transit.



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Protect Yourself. Protect Others.

To assist in protecting transit staff and riders, the Ministry of Health is recommending the following measures be put in place:



Skip a seat



Wear a mask



Avoid touching surfaces.



Wash your hands with soap and water thoroughly and often.

Please remember to stay home when you are sick.


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