

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Barrie Transit looking for rider feedback on 2025 route changes

Barrie, ON – At the <u>December 4, 2024 meeting</u>, Barrie City Council approved changes to the Barrie Transit's network route adjustments for next year, and residents are invited to give feedback on the changes.

These changes, aimed at improving service reliability and efficiency, include the following:

- Route 2 will be extended to service the Pringle and Sproule neighbourhood as a replacement for the Transit ON Demand Zone G. The extended Route 2 will operate every 30 minutes (during peak hours) from Park Place to downtown via the extension to Pringle and Sproule. This change is scheduled to occur in February 2025.
- Route 8 will change to better align with the new Barrie Allandale Transit Terminal, once the <u>new Terminal building</u> is open. Additionally, small adjustments such as new routing on Lakeshore Dr., Springdale Dr., and Cundles Rd. will provide more travel options. This change is scheduled to happen in summer 2025.
- New Transit ON Demand routes will be added in the Salem and Hewitt's area to provide service to new communities in south Barrie. Additionally, a small adjustment to Transit ON Demand Zone D in the Lockhart neighbourhood will better standardize zone sizes. This is scheduled for summer 2025.

Riders are encouraged to share their thoughts on the changes through an online <u>survey</u>, which is open until January 10, 2025. City staff will also be conducting in-person outreach at the Transit Terminal (24 Maple Ave.) during the second week of January to provide more information and to encourage riders to complete the survey on site.

Feedback gathered will be shared with City Council in the new year and if required, updates will be made to ensure the 2025 route adjustments best meet the needs of Transit riders.

Background

Barrie Transit's New Network is being implemented in two phases. Phase 1 of the new network launched in June 2024 and involved existing conventional transit route adjustments, the implementation of conventional transit routes (Routes 12 and 400), and the conversion of low ridership areas to Transit ON Demand service. Phase 2 changes have been revised to align with rider feedback received over summer and fall 2024.

For more information on Barrie Transit, visit barrie.ca/transit.

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