Niagara Transit Governance

Revised Strategies Reflecting Phase 1 Feedback

Niagara-on-the-Lake Council July 26, 2021



Our focus: Demonstrate what we heard during the first round of consultation, what has changed to address that feedback, and what the path forward is

Phase 1 Consultation



Revised Strategies



Phase 2
Consultation





What We Heard

Phase 1 Municipal Themes / Focus Areas





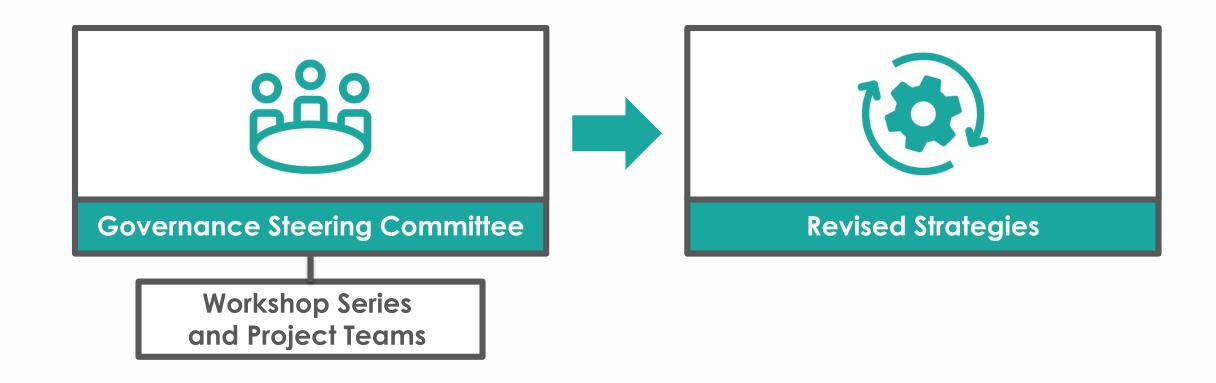


Consistent LAM Feedback



What We Heard

Leadership of CAO Governance Steering Committee





Revised Strategies Theme 1: Financial Strategy

Funding Strategy - 12 Special Levy Tax Rates

Existing Regional Transit Costs

Current state remains with costs allocated based on Region wide assessment

Local and Incremental Costs

Costs allocated to municipalities based on service hours

- Municipalities who realize services will be allocated costs of those services
- ✓ Service Based Principle
- ✓ Incorporates service standardization costs and accounts for future growth
- ✓ Introduces a capital reserve strategy to ensure future needs of the Commission are met

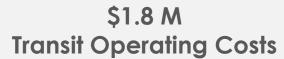


Revised Strategies

Theme 1: Financial Strategy – Niagara-on-the-Lake

Current State 2020 Opening
Day
2023

Phase 1 Service Enhancement 2025



- ✓ \$0.4 M Local levy
- √ \$1.4 M Regional levy

+ \$0.2 M Transit Operating Costs

- Access to a Niagara-wide integrated transit system
- ✓ All costs to Regional levy
- ✓ Includes inflation costs to 2023
- + \$0.04M Capital Reserve strategy

+ \$0.7 M Transit Operating Costs

- Implementation of expanded service hours:
 - + 6 Hours weekdays/Saturday
 - + Sunday/Holiday Service
- ✓ Includes inflation costs to 2025
- + \$0.2M Capital Reserve strategy





Revised Strategies Theme 2: Board Composition



- Representation for all municipalities on transitional Commission Board
- ✓ Local councils recommend representatives to Commission and Advisory Board

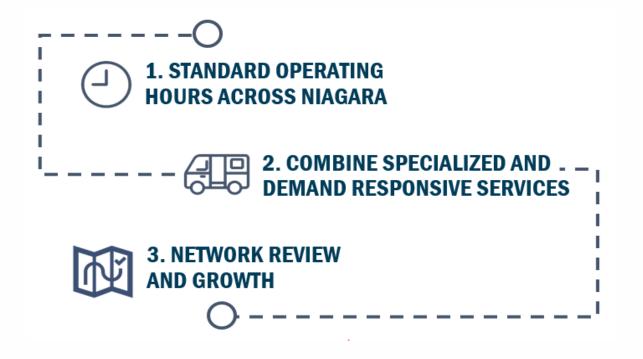
^{*} Reviewed after three (3) years by an external third-party to ensure that composition, size, and share of representation has resulted in an effective governing body that is achieving the strategic objectives of the Commission



Revised Strategies

Theme 3: Service Standards Strategy

Service Standards Strategy outlines how transit in Niagara could be enhanced, should the combination of the existing transit services take place

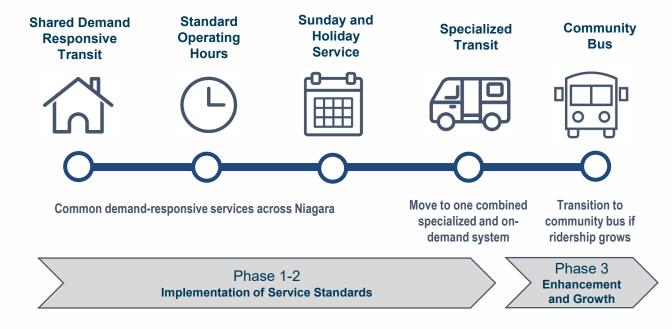


- ✓ Existing levels of service maintained and improved on
- ✓ Additional detail on where changes and growth may occur
- ✓ Three phases of improvements for Niagara residents
- ✓ Linked to Financial Strategy



Revised Strategies Theme 3: Service Standards Strategy – Niagara-on-the-Lake

Niagara-on-the Lake Enhancements



- ✓ Increased service hours: adding 6 a.m. - 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. midnight, and include Sundays and Holidays
- ✓ Combine specialized and demand-responsive service
- ✓ Transition to community bus or conventional service in future should ridership grow
- ✓ WEGO will continue to operate separate from the Commission, with future direction to be provided as existing contracts are renegotiated.



Next Steps

Phase 2 Consultation and Triple-Majority



Phase 2 Roadshow

- LAMs provided opportunity to provide additional feedback to shape final recommendations
- Feedback requested by August 25

Summer 2021



- Feedback reflected in final recommendations
- Triple-Majority process commencing in early Fall

Fall / Winter 2021



FIRWARI

Discussion