



## CITY OF ST. ALBERT ADMINISTRATIVE BACKGROUNDER

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### TITLE: FREE ALL ABOARD PROGRAM

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#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present a motion for which Councillor Joly gave notice on February 18, 2020.

#### PROPOSED MOTION(S):

That the free All Aboard Program for low-income residents be extended to local Handibus service for a trial period of one year. At the end of the one-year period the trial should be assessed based on items such as cost to the municipality, ridership numbers etc. Furthermore, that up to \$30,870.00 be funded from the stabilization fund to support this initiative.

#### ALIGNMENT TO PRIORITIES IN COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PLAN

N/A

#### ALIGNMENT TO LEVELS OF SERVICE DELIVERY

N/A

#### ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL DIRECTION OR MANDATORY STATUTORY PROVISION

N/A

#### BACKGROUND:

If free local transit on the St. Albert Transit Handibus was extended to all qualifying low-income residents 16 years of age and older, the estimated impact on StAT revenues based on current Handibus clients would be as follows:

The most recent data derived from Statistics Canada (2015) shows that low income individuals (18 years and over) account for 7.4% of the population of St. Albert.

- There are currently 574 registered clients of the Handibus.
- 7.4% of registered Handibus clients equals 42 individuals.

- On average one Handibus client travels 3 roundtrips locally per week, this would equate to 6 tickets used per week.
- If 42 Handibus clients were taking 3 roundtrips per week this would account for 252 local tickets used per week.

One booklet is comprised of 10 local tickets. Each local ticket booklet is purchased for \$24.50.

If the average Handibus client uses 6 local tickets per week, this would equate to 2.5 ticket booklets per month (24 tickets in total).

For 42 Handibus clients this would equate to 105 ticket booklets per month.

- $105 \text{ ticket booklets} \times \$24.50 = \$2,572.50/\text{month}$
- $12 \times \$2,572.50 = \$30,870/\text{year}$

77% of the Handibus clientele is aged 65 years and older.

23% of the Handibus clientele is aged 16 to 64 years.

Total Revenue Impact:	Individuals aged 16 to 64 years	\$7,100.10
	Individuals aged 65 years and over	<u>\$23,769.90</u>
	Total	\$30,870.00

Report Date: March 30, 2020

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Deputy Chief Administrative Officer: Kerry Hilts

Chief Administrative Officer: Kevin Scoble