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From: Emma Post

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 11:52 PM

To: Council Agenda <councilagenda@london.ca>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Attn: Urgent for inclusion in the discussion tomorrow re subsidized transit.

Hi

My name is Emma Susan Post and i am an Ontarian with disabilities.

These written comments can be submitted under the Subsidized Transit Update under the Community and Protective Services Committee.

You have my permission to please add my comments on why i believe making public transit in London (and everywhere) more affordable for the disabled is so vital for literally our survival.

People with disabilities, hereby referred to as PWD, are already at a massive disadvantage financially, many of us using up to 100% of our odsp cheque just to manage housing.

But being disabled, many of us are also ill with a few drs appointments- or, our only pleasure is to get out once in a while. Public transit allows that- but it will be cut off from us should accommodation not be made for PWD, especially those who are low income.

I will be frank. My income in a month is \$1,423.00 and that is supposed to cover market rent, all bills and food. I havent had a stress free moment over how i will survive as the meaning of equity and equality seems to be imperilled- and as my money lost value, things became bleak.

We **need** to get out of our homes to live longer lives. This is proven. Connection with community, engagement, etc is so important- especially as we are verbally maligned by the premier in power at ever chance he gets.

I had friends turn on me. I ended up bullied. Poverty. I couldnt do what they can. Couldnt buy the things/ go anywhere- but, getting out pf the house and away from those 4 walls that can feel like a prison... it can be literally life saving.

There is a food security crisis. A homelessness crisis. A new way to sort garbage... alcohol on convenience store shelves early- but still no tangible help for the most vulnerable.

Having an equitable, accessible bus pass that is affordable- it would be a gift and such a relief to a good number of people.

We are Canadian too. We are human too, we have the right to not be gradually forced into the dark of our homes through 'no way to leave'.

Your help would be invaluable and appreciated beyond words.

Thanks for your time and your attention to this important issue in our community.

Be well

Emma Post