

My name is Reuben, and I'm a registered member with the CNIB and legally blind. I'm writing regarding city council's proposal to change the bus pass subsidy program.

Taking away the bus pass for people with vision loss will be detrimental as we depend on public transit. We can't drive, and cab fare is too expensive. Public transit is our main mode of transportation.

The new proposal is also riddle with contradictions. Council wants to broaden the program so more people can take advantage, but they also want to impose a cap on the program. They want to impose a cap so the program doesn't go over budget, but they want to hire a third party to handle the wait list that will inevitably be created by imposing a cap.

The proposal is also unaffordable. Right now CNIB members pay \$10 for our bus pass. Under this new proposal we will be asked to pay \$40.50 per month, or \$486 for the year. It's also unaffordable for low income people who already have to deal with rising utility and food costs (most food prices are expected to rise between 2%-5% in 2017).

This proposal will disenfranchise people with vision loss and provide a plan that still isn't affordable for people with low income.

Thank you for your time,

Reuben Laframboise