

## Members of Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

Dear colleagues:

Electrifying the London Transit Commission's fleet of buses has the potential to lower the operating costs of transit and to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Last week, the LTC initiated a study on electrifying its transit fleet that will model the energy cost savings and emissions reductions. This study will provide LTC with a roadmap for electrification.

We know that electrification lowers operating costs but also requires significant upfront capital investment. Electric buses cost more than diesel buses and they require charging infrastructure, either on-road at key locations along transit routes or off-road at a transit facility. LTC has a long-term capital plan for both expansion buses and replacement buses, but the difference between the capital cost of diesel buses and electric buses is not included in that long-term plan.

We are eager to see electric buses on the road in London as quickly as possible. Recognizing the significant amount of work involved in modelling and transitioning LTC's whole fleet of buses, we are seeking Municipal Council's support for undertaking a pilot program as soon as possible, while also engaging with senior levels of government to secure funding for same. This would be a practical way of putting electric buses into service quickly and in a responsible manner.

We recognize that LTC is responsible for transit and must lead this work.

Specifically, we are seeking Municipal Council's support of the following resolution:

1. The London Transit Commission BE THANKED for initiating a study of electrifying its fleet of buses.
2. Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to work with the London Transit Commission, the provincial government and the federal government to identify funding streams to be used for the purchase of electric buses and related charging infrastructure, starting as soon as possible; it being noted that this funding not come at the expense of the LTC's current five-year service plan, and that these funds not come at the expense of prospective transit improvements in the West and North.
3. Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to work with the London Transit Commission, London Hydro and other key partners in support of the transit electrification study.
4. Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to find an appropriate one-time source of financing, such as the Economy, Efficiency and Effectiveness Reserve Fund, to cover 100% of the cost of LTC's electrification study.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Holder, Mayor, City of London  
Phil Squire, Ward 6 Councillor, LTC Chair  
Jesse Helmer, Ward 4 Councillor, Deputy Mayor