

# City of London - Application for Appointment to a City of London Board or Commission

## Application

Please choose the Board or Commission you are interested in serving on: **London Transit Commission**

## Contact Information

Name: **Sheryl Rooth**

City: **London**

Province: **ON**

Postal Code: **N5Y 1G8**

## Experience and Qualifications

If you have experience on a London Board or Commission, please provide dates and details. (max. 3000 characters):

**For the last two terms (2014 - 2022) I have had the honour of being a Commissioner with London Transit.**

**I was elected chair twice and served this role as only the second woman chair in the 125+ year history of the Commission. I have currently serve as vice chair.**

**I also serve as the LTC representation for the Western Fair Association, which requires me to volunteer at least twice a year at WFA events and attend voting meetings and the AGM.**

**The education I have received in planning, funding, budgeting, customer service, union negotiations, networking with government agencies and other public transit operations across Canada has been invaluable.**

**I have been involved with the rapid transit plans and zero emissions bus (ZEBS) plans and promoting LTC as a service that is for everyone, trying to reduce the stigma that exists towards transit in general.**

**I have put forward successful motions for increased focus on industrial service and transit safety with a lens on women and at risk communities. I've supported the under 12 free transit at council as well as increased paratransit service.**

**Through 2 municipal elections in London I have met with over 50 candidates to discuss transit issues and share resources so that there is a better understanding of what's been done and where transit is going in the future to help build our city. I am a daily transit user and understand where the gaps are but where progress has been made.**

**I'd like to continue having a leadership role in transit because I know the value and I see the potential growing every year.**

What do you hope to contribute or learn as part of a Board or Commission? (max. 3000 characters):

**I would like to continue as a Commissioner to see through some projects that were put on hold due to COVID. This would include electrification, service enhancements through government funding (shelters, lighting - all tying in to safety) and new routing from current five year plan.**

**As we head in to a new five year plan shortly, as a transit user I would like to continue to be that voice at the table to advocate for change.**

**We need time and funding to increase our paratransit service and being able to advocate for that would be necessary.**

**The Highbury Ave facility is in serious need of upgrades and now that Council has put forward a request for funding use with the remaining rapid transit funding, there is significant opportunity to be a part of this new build that will facilitate electric fleets and serve as another state of the art facility for London.**

**With rapid transit in progress, we need people at the table who have served on the Commission who understand what BRT is, what we have in place and how we can**

continue to support the building process, especially as the Wellington leg comes up quickly on the calendar (this is the most exciting piece to me!)  
The Mobility Action Plan will play a very large role in how we move and grow in London in the future and I'd like to learn how Londoners see where public transit factors in to that. I'd like to learn how we as a city want to approach mobility but also how we approach it from what could be a delicate environmental perspective.

How will you support the work of a Board or Commission? (max. 3000 characters):

In 8 years, I have missed exactly 2 meetings. Public transit is something that I am passionate about and I take a lot of ownership in my role on the Commission. It hasn't come without its' challenges. Bus Rapid Transit was especially difficult, but we are now on the other side of the discussions and can see the efforts coming to reality. COVID has been an especially interesting time in transit and I've learned a great deal on how to provide support and be present when needed.  
I am an advocate for public transit. To do so, I've had to take the time to learn and listen. I would continue to do so. I've had the benefit of being able to sit down and talk with customers, bus operators, mechanics, directors, planners, suppliers, manufacturers, accountants, city councillors, MP's, MPP's and Ministers of Transportation across the country to learn how systems work and more so, what doesn't work.  
We need to continue to build a transit system that will benefit us 20-30 years from now and having an understanding of the processes is extremely important to support the work that the London Transit Commission and City Hall want to complete.  
Being an advocate for public transit isn't glamorous nor is it easy. In a leadership role of a very public facing board, you can be bombarded with abuse from unhappy people for a variety of reasons, often not even related to taking a bus but related indirectly. Learning how to work with the public and providing guidance to them and support to all of the LTC staff has been challenging, yet incredibly rewarding.  
I will continue to be an example of good and responsible leadership and transit advocacy as our city grows.

Please describe additional experience, training, or community involvement that will help you in your role as a Board or Commission Member. (max. 3000 characters):

**London For All - A Roadmap to End Poverty - Chair for the Transit Table**  
**Agape Foundation - Board Member**  
**Crucial Conversations Training**  
**Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Training**  
**CUTA Conferences - Halifax, Montreal, Quebec, BC, Calgary**  
**London Industrial Summit**  
**Western Fair Association Membership representing LTC**  
**Western Fair Association Volunteer**  
**London Cycle Link Volunteer**  
**Transit Talks with municipal candidates**  
**Rapid Transit Implementation Group - Chair and Vice Chair**  
**Rapid Transit Public Engagement Sessions**

Attach resume or other document here, if needed:

Attach more files here, if needed:

## Confirmations

I declare the following: **I am a resident of London. ; I am at least 18 years old.; I am not a City employee or Council member.; I understand that my application and any attachments will be included on a public agenda that is published on the City website.**

To help inform our outreach activities, please tell us how you heard about this opportunity: (optional): **Social media**

If you selected 'Other', please specify:

Submitted on: **10/10/2022 7:42:16 AM**