

THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO HAVE PROBLEMS WITH IMPROVING TRANSIT SERVICES TO MATCH POPULATION NEEDS. THE BIGGEST TRANSIT ISSUE WE HAVE IN THE GREATER TORONTO AREA [GTA] IS INADEQUATE LOCAL TRANSIT SERVICES.



People in the GTA experience significantly longer commute times than the national average. Travel times have increased by an average of 1 minute and 12 seconds since 2011. Those living in Toronto commute for approximately 67 minutes daily, while those in Oshawa and Barrie commute for approximately 64 minutes and 59 minutes, respectively.



INEFFICIENT TRANSIT SYSTEMS

Outside of Toronto, municipalities have much lower rates of transit riders. This is because their local transit systems do not meet local residents' travel needs. Good transit options make a big difference for low-income people. For example, an efficient transit system allows

a low-income single parent with an infant to take part in a community centre program. If we want more people to move more efficiently across all municipalities in Ontario, everyone must have good transit options. The Government of Ontario could help provide better local transit services for all commuters.

RIGHT NOW, THIS IS BEING DONE

In 2018, the provincial government announced new funding for transit expansions in many Ontario municipalities. For example, the Government of Ontario is investing \$170 million to build the new London Bus Rapid Transit system. Also, the province has committed \$4.04 billion for transit expansion in Toronto.



TO BUILD THE NEW LONDON BUS RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM





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WHY IS IMPROVED LOCAL TRANSIT IMPORTANT?

Those who cannot drive or afford a vehicle rely on local transit services. Parents of young children, students, and older persons also are dependent on transit. Affordable, efficient, and accessible local transit helps all Ontarians stay connected with their communities.

Good local transit also contributes to the economy, reduces traffic, and is better for the environment. For example, transit reduces vehicle costs for Canadian households by approximately \$5 billion each year. It also reduces the costs of traffic collisions by about \$2.5 billion annually and helps cut back on annual greenhouse gas emissions by 2.4 million tonnes each year.

WHAT IS NOT FUNDED FROM THE PROVINCE'S \$4.04 BILLION COMMITMENT FOR TORONTO TRANSIT EXPANSION?

The new funding announcement from the province is for new projects only. The Toronto Transit Commission [TTC] still needs help with improving existing services. Improved budgets for operating costs to fix unreliable services, unaffordable fares, and overcrowding are all needed. The TTC requires \$2.7 billion to reach their \$9.2 billion target for maintaining the current system and completing accessibility upgrades, including new transit vehicles for persons with disabilities.

WHICH LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR TRANSIT SERVICES?

Historically, provincial funding used to be the largest source of funds for local transit services. However, between 1992 and 1999, the province's funding for transit declined. By 1999, all funding for transit became a municipal responsibility. For example, farepaying transit riders and the City of Toronto finance the operating costs for the TTC. The TTC is the leastsubsidized transit system in North America.

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CANDIDATE

+ How will your party help cover operational costs for local transit services across Ontario's municipalities?

- + What are your party's strategies for funding transit expansions in our province?
- + When will your party address the funding needs of the TTC?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

TTC Riders: <u>www.ttcriders.ca</u>



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT, VISIT APATHYISBORING.COM

ON JUNE 7TH

VOTE IN THE ONTARIO PROVINCIAL ELECTION FOR BETTER TRANSIT