



DURHAM REGION TRANSIT COMMISSION

November 25, 2010

Mr. Mike Finnegan
Chair, Durham Deaf Accessibility Committee
13-575 Thornton Road North,
Oshawa, ON L1J 8J5

Dear Mr. Finnegan:

In response to your inquiry dated October 26, 2010, Durham Region Transit will be shortly initiating procurement for automatic stop annunciators for fleet wide installation on our conventional and community buses. We have two buses equipped with this feature; each from a different vendor on trial in order that we can evaluate performance, and compose our detailed procurement specifications. The systems included both an LED visual display attached to the bus ceiling and voice annunciation, both activate shortly before the actual stop is reached. Funding has been approved and earmarked in our capital budget.

Automatic bus stop annunciation is a feature associated with "smart bus" technology, also known as "intelligent transportation systems" (ITS). This also includes AVL (Automatic Vehicle Location), automatic passenger counting, engine condition monitoring etc. These features will be collectively introduced on our upcoming Bus Rapid Transit service on Kingston Rd (Hwy 2). It is therefore important to ensure the stop annunciation products we are to procure will have the ability to include and integrate these added enhanced features in the future. A consultant has been retained with respect to the ITS system and we will include the necessary language and features in our stop annunciation system specifications. We are targeting release of our procurement request within the next 60 days with installation across the fleet to commence in the first half of next year.

Thank you for your inquiry. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Chatoff".

Peter Chatoff
Deputy General Manager
Maintenance and Equipment

copy to: Ted Galinis, General Manager, Durham Region Transit
Ben Chartier, Deputy General Manager, Durham Region Transit Specialized Services
Tracey Tyner Cavanagh, Co-Accessibility Coordinator, Durham Region