
From: Web NoReply
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 4:17 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Comments - Curt McCoshen - Saskatoon Transit Full-Fleet Zero Emission Bus Implementation Plan – CUTRIC Report

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Monday, May 5, 2025 - 16:16

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

I have read and understand the above statements.: Yes

I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.: No

I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.: No

Date: Monday, May 05, 2025

To: Her Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Curt

Last Name: McCoshen

Phone Number : 306 [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] Beechmont Terr

Ward: Ward 8

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Climate Hub of Saskatoon

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known): CUTRIC report

Comments:

Dear Standing Policy Committee,

I'm a member of several advocacy groups and while I understand that the cost of electric buses is prohibitive, the

cost is nothing compared to the cost of unmitigated climate change. Therefore, I urge City Council to reaffirm its commitment to sustainable transportation as a key component of the City's Climate Action Plan: that can't mean we buy diesel buses that will still be running in 2040! We're doing just that, continuing on in a vein that is in accordance with last century's values.

The two electric buses the City purchased last year did not both run throughout the winter because one of them had a warranty-related problem. However, the two BEBs have, according to reports, been operating successfully since this March, operating comparably with diesel buses. Even if the BEBs couldn't run full shifts like diesel (the common argument), their ability isn't, at this point, a concern. Why not? Because the City has split shifts which the BEBs can cover. We can argue that this isn't good enough, but as technology gets better, BEBs will become more efficient and dependable and they will easily do the work we need from them.

Saskatoon continues to drag its heels with regards to being progressive; imagine what would have happened if no one had invested in personal computers because they were too under-powered and too large to be useful!

Technology gets better and better if we embrace it. This is the technology that can save our planet.

Saskatoon is a vibrant, growing community which continues to attract a larger and larger population, so we should be leaders in every way. We should be proud of our city's progress, and not hesitant to make the necessary changes that we all know are coming.

In addition to the prestige of being a leader, we need to accept the responsibility of adapting to the climate. We all treasure our city's pristine beauty, including the Valley and swales, the parks and green spaces, but we seem to believe Nature will sustain itself. The environment and the culture of our City will both benefit from a Green fleet, but so will many people's health and everyone's quality of life. This is all to say nothing of lessened fuel costs to BEBs, something that will offset the financial gains of buying diesel buses.

The City needs to expand our use of electric vehicles. We realize that an entirely electric transit system isn't feasible now because of finances, but the CUTRIC report stalls the progress that we all know has to be made. We cannot simply keep doing what we've done; it's just not possible. Please, we need you to lead us.

Curt McCoshen
Ward 8

Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?: No