
Subject: Comments - Jason Hanson - Saskatoon Transit Full-Fleet Zero Emission Bus Implementation Plan – CUTRIC Report

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>

Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 3:31 PM

To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>

Subject: Comments - Jason Hanson - Saskatoon Transit Full-Fleet Zero Emission Bus Implementation Plan – CUTRIC Report

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

Submitted on Monday, May 19, 2025 - 14:52

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 19, 2025

To: Her Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: He/him/his

First Name: Jason

Last Name: Hanson

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] Ave H S

Ward: Ward 2

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known): REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL Wednesday, May 21, 2025

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 8.2.5 Saskatoon Transit Full-Fleet Zero Emission Bus Implementation Plan – CUTRIC Report

Comments:

Council,

I am sympathetic to the concerns of city administration and council when it comes to making decisions that will have implications for citizens for decades to come. Who purposely wants to stick their neck out to do something new or bold or "unproven", when it's always much safer to stick with what is known?

There is an added risk when unfamiliar technology is involved. Even if you can assure people that the financial costs of "the new" will reap future rewards, how can you confidently say the day to day operations of a new service will be as good or better than "the old"?

There are no perfect answers.

I don't know enough about ZEBs or the CUTRIC Report or municipal budgeting to have any technical credibility on this issue. I can't imagine council having much expertise on the matter either. We're all just doing the best we can.

What I can offer is my perspective as a taxpayer and resident of Saskatoon; I don't mind my city investing in electric buses, and I would happily welcome paying my fair share in seeing it happen.

I acknowledge the CUTRIC report's assessment that in a province with an energy grid as dirty as Saskatchewan's, the benefit of electric vehicles is diminished. That, however, is not a good reason (morally or financially) to continue buying internal combustion engines.

I would prefer that the city proceeds with lower emission vehicles and then demands a cleaner grid from the province. Let us lead!

I acknowledge the administration's concerns that the ZEB technology is still developing, and that a fleet of electric vehicles may experience more maintenance issues than the current diesel models. Is this a good reason to refrain from investing in technology, or is this just a case of cold feet and doubt? The global trend toward electrification of transportation and public transit seems robust enough that glitches will be worked out.

I would prefer that the city be a part of figuring out a technology of the future than be stuck with "the old" for another 15 years, even if it is "safer". Let us lead!

Climate Change is real, and time is no longer on our side to avoid worst case scenarios. Elected officials SOMEWHERE have to start making decisions that move us toward a liveable future, even if those decisions AREN'T PERFECT.

If you err on the side of a cleaner future, we might end up spending more money now and having some technical kinks to work out.

If you err on the side of financial prudence, we'll all have to sleep at night knowing we passed up yet another opportunity to make another small decision to keep the global climate less unstable.

I know which consequence I'd rather live with.

Sincerely,

Jason Hanson

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