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**Subject:** Comments - Curt McCoshen - Saskatoon Transit Full-Fleet Zero Emission Bus Implementation Plan – CUTRIC Report

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**From:** Web NoReply <[web-noreply@saskatoon.ca](mailto:web-noreply@saskatoon.ca)>

**Sent:** Monday, May 19, 2025 1:02 PM

**To:** City Council <[City.Council@saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@saskatoon.ca)>

**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 19, 2025 - 12:59

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

**First Name:** Curt

**Last Name:** McCoshen

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** [REDACTED] Beechmont Terrace

**Ward:** Ward 8

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

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

## What agenda item do you wish to comment on?: 8.2.5

### Comments:

May 21, 2025

Re: Saskatoon Transit Full-Fleet Zero Emission Bus Implementation Plan – CUTRIC Report

To Saskatoon City Council,

Again, I write to you to ask you to completely reject the recommendations in the recent CUTRIC report on the Saskatoon Transit Full-Fleet Zero Emission Bus Implementation Plan. When I taught children, we often discussed how the only way our culture seems to value anything is financially. We can finally see now that, when all that matters is money, it leads to disaster: lost property from wildfires, impaired health from smoke, drought on our prairies. We see that climate change impacts the most vulnerable people, and yet our newly-elected Council is making a decision to buy only diesel buses. Even worse, the movement on Council is to buy only diesel for the foreseeable future. How can we be so short-sighted?

The SRC report from early 2022 concluded that battery electric buses (BEBs) can perform effectively in Saskatoon. Their range is lessened during some months, but they can be deployed on split routes so that this impact is negligible. The City purchased two BEBs more recently. Since March 2025, their performance is much the same as that of diesel buses. We are told that maintenance issues with electric buses are one reason why diesel buses are better, but do we intend to simply strand these two buses and not develop the infrastructure they require? Clearly, Saskatoon is going to move to electric bussing eventually; the planet needs us to do that now. We need to accept that global warming is going to cost us money, and investment now will have benefits later. City government needs to lead us.

The future is upon us, and moving to electric bussing will be one more reason for us to move to green energy and away from lethal fossil fuels. This is inevitable, and City Council cannot avoid it. The CUTRIC report tries to do just that.

The cost of global warming is also inevitable, and we need to do our share and not tell ourselves how this is someone else's problem to solve. We will bear the burden of increased insurance costs, of costs related to drought or forest fires, of damage from severe weather events. Buying electric vehicles is a way for City Hall to lead us, for Saskatoon to be a leader to other communities, and to be proactive in terms of meeting the certainty of harm from climate change. We, as a city, have an 'action' plan for the changing climate. How on earth can we justify buying only diesel buses for the next five years? We know that technology around renewable energy will make it less expensive while the cost of fossil fuels has never consistently dropped. The purchase of electric vehicles makes financial sense as well.

The CUTRIC report allows City Council to slide back half a century when it comes to how we look at the environment. I beg you to look at the future (the not-too-distant future now). The federal government is going to be eager to work with cities to move forward, and simply buying diesel and asking them to give us a special exemption is completely irresponsible.

Pretending that this huge problem is not at our doorstep is wrong, and it will have consequences on the people who look to you for leadership. Money is not the only way to measure quality of life, but electric buses win this argument too: the CUTRIC report's calculations do not bear up under scrutiny. Please, your people need you to consider the long-term ramifications as well as the immediate ones. Buying diesel buses that will still be emitting CO2 in 2040 cannot be the correct action.

Sincerely,

Curt McCoshen, Ward 8

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