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Media Release

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All aboard! Subways, buses and improved service are the focus for 2018

Transit initiatives include aligning service with the Toronto-York Spadina Subway into York Region, regional transit agencies and enhancing the customer experience

Newmarket – The Regional Municipality of York today outlined five new transit initiatives to be implemented in 2018. They are:

- Aligning transit services with the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension
- Increasing capacity on select, high-ridership routes with 60-foot articulated buses
- Aligning transit services at the Cornell Terminal
- Expanding Dial-a-Ride service
- Harmonizing Mobility Plus policies and practices with neighbouring services

"These new transit initiatives are the result of the commitment made during this term by Regional Council, to ensure transit service continues to meet the needs of everyone across the Region," said York Region

Chairman and CEO Wayne Emmerson. "As Council continues to invest in moving people effectively, our transit system will continue to attract even more residents, businesses and visitors to York Region."

The 2018 transit initiatives support the Council-approved YRT/Viva 2016 to 2020 Strategic Plan. The plan was developed to help guide YRT/Viva to ensure, as transit service evolves and grows, the focus remains on service efficiency, planning and construction and improving accessibility of all services.

"Each of our transit initiatives on their own is impressive, but combined they serve as significant advancements in the development and deployment of our transit network in York Region," said Town of Richmond Hill Regional Councillor Vito Spatafora, Chair of the Region's Transportation Services. "We listen to our residents and customers, and are enhancing service at no additional cost. It's something we all can be proud of."

To help define 2018 transit initiatives, YRT/Viva staff engaged with customers, stakeholders and residents. This engagement included consultation meetings with other transit agencies, meetings with municipal staff, public information centres, route specific surveys and stakeholder workshops. This is in addition to the approximately 200 community outreach events YRT/Viva participates in annually.

For planned service changes, major service alerts, news, travel tips and other relevant transit information, call 1-866-MOVE-YRT (668-3978), visit yrt.ca or follow YRT/Viva on social media. You can also check out talk2yrt.ca, a website you can view questions and answers about YRT/Viva or submit your own questions.

The Regional Municipality of York consists of nine local cities and towns, and provides a variety of programs and services to 1.2 million residents, 50,000 businesses and 580,000 employees. More information about the Region's key service areas is available at york.ca/regionalservices

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