

TO IMPROVE TRANSIT AND INTERNET ACCESS

VOTE ON October 24

Everyone deserves to get around easily and be connected.

When transit and internet services are affordable, reliable, and accessible, we can get to work and school on time, access critical online services without having to leave home, and keep in touch with friends and family. **Toronto's municipal election is a chance for you to vote to improve transit and internet access across the city.**

What's the Problem?

Transit Is Too Expensive and Takes Up Too Much Income



The cost of a monthly transit pass has been rising well beyond the rate of inflation. A family of four with two parents making minimum wage can spend 20%–35% of their disposable monthly income on transit. The City's Fare Pass Transit Discount Program has brought transit costs down for some low-income people, but not enough, and not for enough people.

The Transit System Has Too Many Barriers for Too Many People

The move to PRESTO has created barriers — fewer locations to pay with cash, minimum required balances, tickets that expire — that impact low-income residents the most. While the City has made some progress on making the transit system accessible for people with disabilities, about a quarter of subway stations are still not accessible. And now the TTC is proposing to cut

wheel-Trans service, restricting some riders from booking door-to-door service.

Transit Service Is Unreliable and Frustrating

All too often, transit riders experience delays, long waits, unreliable service, and overcrowding. These problems are even worse for people with lower incomes, women, and shift workers who rely heavily on transit, and for people with disabilities.



Internet Access Is a Necessity, but It's Too Expensive

The pandemic has made internet access necessary to work, study, connect with others, access information, and access medical and other critical services. Some advocates

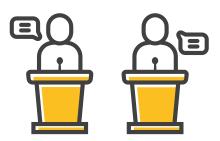
think internet access should even be guaranteed and seen as a human right. Yet many residents struggle to afford reliable, high-speed internet. In fact, internet prices in Ontario and Canada have been rising for the past two years.

In 2021 Toronto residents paid about \$105 a month for high-speed internet plans (101–250 Mbps).

Take Action!

1. Ask Your City Council Candidates If They Will Commit to The Following Actions:

- Invest in TTC operating funding to protect and increase transit service levels.
- Create a truly affordable transit system for all, starting with free passes for low-income residents and seniors.
- Provide discounted/free transfers for travel between the TTC and other transit systems.
- Bring back/increase frequency of transit service on underserved/highly used routes.
- Implement 10 bus and streetcar priority corridors during the next term of Council (as planned in RapidTO).
- Commit to establishing a municipal broadband network.
- Provide \$10/month internet to all low- and moderate-income people.
- Provide free public WiFi in all City-owned buildings and facilities, including public transit.
- Champion more funding from the provincial government to expand Wheel-Trans service and protect door-to-door Wheel-Trans service for those who need it.
- Ensure continued access to transit for people marginalized by poverty by ensuring that the drop-ins and community organizations that serve them can bulk order TTC tickets and by expanding locations to buy and reload PRESTO cards.



2. Learn More About the Candidates

Attend an event such as an All Candidates Debate to learn more about the election issues and where candidates stand.



3. Pledge to Vote

Election day is on October 24. Advance polls are from October 7–14. Apply to vote by mail from September 1–23.

