

Results of Transit Survey for Amherstview, Bath and Odessa.

Summer, 2009

In July and August, surveys regarding new bus service for Bath and Odessa and expanded service for Amherstview were circulated to residents. The surveys were to be completed either on line or on paper and returned to the Township. The results of the surveys have now been tabulated. A total of **1300** Bath/Odessa surveys were circulated in mid-July with a return deadline of mid-August . Similarly, **2750** Amherstview surveys were circulated in mid-August with a deadline for return in mid-September. A total of 91 paper surveys and 193 electronic surveys (**total 284**) were returned from Bath/Odessa residents, which represents a 21.8 % return. A total of 122 paper surveys and 74 electronic surveys (**total 196**) were received from Amherstview residents. This represents a 7.1% return.

The Bath/Odessa survey results showed that a greater number of respondents were **not** in favour of a new bus service to their communities than those who were (160 vs. 124). Of the 124 who indicated they were in favour of a new bus service, only 102 indicated a willingness to pay the costs of providing the service through an increase in area rated taxes.

Of those responding to the Amherstview survey, 112 indicated they **are** current bus users and 82 respondents are not. The availability of a vehicle was the reason cited most often for why respondents are currently not bus users. A total of 132 respondents indicated that extended bus hours of operation in the evenings (6:30 to 9:00 pm) would be an improvement to the present service. The same number of respondents (91) expressed an interest in longer Saturday service (7:00 am to 7:00 pm) and in an hourly Sunday service (9:00 am to 4:00 pm).

Council has reviewed the results of the survey but has deferred any decision, pending the consideration of additional ridership information in late November.