

TORONTO TRANSIT COMMISSION REPORT NO.

MEETING DATE: February 27, 2008

SUBJECT: SAFETY CRITICAL PROGRAM
ORION V REAR AXLE BOLT REPLACEMENT

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission approve:

- a) The unbudgeted addition of ten (10) temporary coach technicians, one (1) temporary welder and one (1) temporary machinist for the period March 2, 2008 to November 30, 2008, for the implementation of a rear axle bolt replacement program for the Orion V 96 and Orion V 97 bus series; and
- b) The unbudgeted amount of \$1,104,973 (for labour and material) to complete this project.

FUNDING

No funds were included in the approved 2008 TTC Operating Budget to cover these expenditures.

BACKGROUND

Bolts that attach rear axle walking beams to the Orion V bus structure are severely corroded which can result in the separation of the axle assembly from the bus. There is also corrosion causing de-lamination of the mounting plate spacer that must be repaired to obtain a secure joint and correct wheel alignment.

DISCUSSION

There are 182 Orion V buses that have corroded rear axle mounting bolts. Removal of the axle assemblies and welding will be required to repair this problem. Buses are currently being taken out of service when inspections identify bolt failures. It is anticipated that over the next eight (8) months the problem will become severe enough that all 182 buses would be out of service for this problem. Corroded bolts can not be detected until bolt failure occurs. The implementation of the axle bolt replacement program will ensure that the buses are repaired prior to failure. There is no other repair option that can keep the buses in service.

JUSTIFICATION

The Orion V series of buses are required to meet the current service levels and planned service improvements. If an axle bolt replacement program is not initiated the buses will not be fit for service.

February 13, 2008
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