

The STM introduces a new service: the public taxi

We are very pleased to announce that the STM is proposing to introduce a new public taxi ("taxi collectif") service in Baie-D'Urfé. The proposal still has to be approved by the STM's governing board, but we hope to have the service in place by late August or early September.

The service will be available from Monday to Friday. It is not a door-to-door service, but will operate from designated stops located throughout the town. There will be approximately 22 stops at intersections around the town, including the Plaza, Town Hall and other municipal buildings, as well as the Maxwell Residence and the Apple Hill seniors' residence. The taxi will bring people from the designated stops to the Baie-D'Urfé train station during the morning rush hour, and back during the evening rush hour. Between rush hours, it will bring people from any designated stop to any other.

To use the taxi, you must call at least an hour ahead of time and specify from which stop to which stop you wish to go. If you plan on making a return trip later in the day, you can reserve both trips at the same time. As this is a public transit service, the taxi could pick up several passengers from different stops.

During the morning rush hour service, you must specify which train you wish to take. During the evening rush hour service, you need only specify which train you will be on and which stop you wish to go to. The taxi will provide service to meet all morning trains from the 6:57 a.m. to 8:27 a.m., and all evening trains from the 3:59 p.m. to 6:21 p.m.

To use this service, you will be required to show a valid STM fare card to the driver (this could be either an Opus card or a single-journey or 6-journey Solo card). There is no direct cost to the Town for this service.

The STM is also willing to extend the service to operate one evening a week, preferably on Thursday evenings when we have the summer concerts (starting in summer 2011).

The above is an outline of the service as currently proposed by the STM with whom we are still ironing out some details. There may consequently be some changes either before or after the service is introduced.

We are very pleased by the STM's interest in providing this service. We expect that it will be extremely useful, especially to seniors who have difficulty driving, and to train commuters whose family members now routinely drive them to and from the station. For further information, you can contact me at 514-457-0302 or e-mail me at jryan@baie-durfe.qc.ca.

Janet Ryan
Councillor