

Overall, Halifax Transit has good practices for maintaining its bus fleet and considers value-for-money when replacing buses, Auditor General, Evangeline Colman-Sadd, said in her report released today, November 28th.

Halifax Transit has a good bus preventative maintenance program. However, steps should be taken to improve the timeliness of preventative maintenance at its Burnside facility. The audit found the facility often performed the work late.

Halifax Transit's process to identify and claim bus warranties also needs improvement. Some warranty terms were not entered into its fleet system to prompt supervisors when repairs are made. "Halifax Transit should maximize warranty dollars claimed," the auditor general said.

The audit also looked at certain key performance indicators. The auditor general recommended Halifax Transit set targets for all maintenance-related indicators. "Management should measure performance against preestablished targets to assess the effectiveness of its maintenance program," said the auditor general.

The audit found too many employees had access to fleet storerooms, and some also had inventory system access that could allow errors to go undetected or theft to take place and be concealed.

Halifax Transit has a good process to decide which buses to replace. It has a reasonable capital planning process but should develop a formal asset management strategy going forward.

Management agreed to implement all ten recommendations from the audit.

The report is available on the auditor general's website at <https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/auditor-general/published-reports>.

FOR BROADCAST USE:

In her report released today, Auditor General Evangeline Colman-Sadd said Halifax Transit has a good bus preventative maintenance program and considers value-for-money when replacing buses.

Timeliness of maintenance work could be improved at its Burnside facility.

Improvements could also be made to better identify and claim bus warranties. Key indicators have been developed for bus fleet performance, but more work is needed. There are also issues with storeroom and inventory system access that increase risk of error or fraud.

Management agreed to implement all ten recommendations from the audit.

The report is available on the auditor general's website at <https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/auditor-general/published-reports>.

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