

COM09A

For **IMMEDIATE** release

Salaberry-de-Valleyfield removed from the Exo transport service A decision against our regional mobility needs

Châteauguay, March 5, 2021 – Ville de Châteauguay is joining its voice to that of Beauharnois and deplores the removal of the municipality of Salaberry-de-Valleyfield from the Exo transport service, which is causing a fair share of inconvenience for many residents.

By removing this service, Ville de Salaberry-de-Valleyfield has chosen not to renew the services agreement with the Autorité régionale de transport métropolitain (ARTM), which means that Châteauguay residents no longer have direct access to this municipality since January 24, 2021 (Exo lines 1 and 28).

Châteauguay public transport users now need to take a connection at Beauharnois to go to Valleyfield. This situation is the same for the return journey from Valleyfield.

In addition to making the journey time longer, this connection also results in an increase in tariffs by around 10% for Châteauguay residents. Châteauguay Mayor Pierre-Paul Routhier deplores this situation that mainly impacts students travelling to Collège de Valleyfield. Moreover, Mayor Routhier has asked the Collège to put pressure on Ville de Salaberry-de-Valleyfield so that the direct service is resumed as soon as possible.

Given these negative impacts, Mayor Routhier has shared the disappointment and concerns of his counterpart, Beauharnois Mayor Bruno Tremblay: “I find this decision goes against the efforts to harmonize and facilitate mobility for all residents in the greater region, mobility that we also want to achieve sustainable development goals by promoting respect for the environment. Losing our direct link with Valleyfield lacks coherence from the viewpoint of residents,” stated Mayor Routhier.

He concluded by saying “We would like Valleyfield to be open to holding discussions with its neighbouring cities and towns to secure the services and facilitate transfers”.

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