

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

27 August 2021

ATU LOCAL 107 Statement on Mandatory Vaccinations

HAMILTON – We will start by declaring that the ATU Local 107 executive team fully supports and recommends that all our members, passengers and the public should get the vaccinations and wear masks while taking all safety precautions.

In response to Hamilton City Council’s decision to mandate vaccinations, we are concerned that this policy may be too far-reaching.

Open dialogue and consultation with our members before this public announcement, adoption and implementation would have been responsible and respectful.

To site health and safety concerns while failing to implement functional and sanitary washroom facilities as negotiated or enforcing mandatory masks on workers while not enforcing them on passengers only further fosters our skepticism.

Proactive policies such as on-site vaccination clinics, promotional and educational efforts to address misinformation and alleviate false fears would have gone a long way to foster trust and encourage higher voluntary vaccinations.

Our Union will carefully review the policy that we have seen for the first time a few hours ago. We won’t comment further before seeking membership input and legal advice before determining our next steps.

Eric Tuck President of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 107 representing approximately 1000 HSR transit professionals will file a grievance for the obvious violation of failing to inform and allow prior input.