

Grand River Transit

GRT launches Older Adult Day Pass pilot program

- Jun 17, 2026

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Starting July 1, older adults can ride Grand River Transit for free one day each week using the GRT Pay app. The Older Adult Day Pass pilot helps residents stay connected while making it easier to explore transit as a convenient travel option.

The pilot is for adults turning 65 this year and older. The day pass can be used any one day within the week for unlimited rides on conventional GRT buses, ION trains, MobilityPLUS vehicles and Kiwanis Transit.

“This pilot is an exciting opportunity to support older adults who already use transit, while also encouraging new riders to try GRT,” said Karen Redman, Chair of the Region of Waterloo. “It can help older adults stay independent and connected by supporting access to appointments, shopping, recreation and community activities. The pilot will also provide valuable insight to help inform future decisions about concession programs for older adults.”

Each Wednesday, participants will receive a new day pass in the GRT Pay app. Passes are valid until the end of service on the following Tuesday. The pilot runs from July 1, 2026, until Jan. 5, 2027.

Older adults can get started in just three steps: download the GRT Pay app; verify their age; and activate the day pass before boarding. Age verification can be completed online (<https://webapps.regionofwaterloo.ca/grt-older-adult-day-pass/Applications/Create>) or in person at a GRT customer service location (</about-grt/contact-us/>).

New users can download GRT Pay from Google Play (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.justride.griver>) or the Apple App Store (<https://apps.apple.com/ca/app/grt-pay/id6737541612>).

GRT staff will host a number of engagement sessions across the community. Interested residents are invited to bring their mobile devices for pilot program support.

Data from the pilot will help shape Grand River Transit’s multi-year fare strategy and ensure fare programs continue to meet the needs of older adults and the broader community.

Older adults are also eligible for the Ontario Seniors’ Public Transit Tax Credit program (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontario-seniors-public-transit-tax-credit>), and older adults living with low income are eligible for GRT’s Affordable Transit Program (</fares-and-payment/affordable-transit-program/>), which offers discounted fare products.

For more information, visit <grt.ca/OlderAdult> (</fares-and-payment/older-adult-day-pass/>).

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