

NO: R202

COUNCIL DATE: October 17, 2011

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **October 14, 2011**

FROM: **General Manager, Engineering**

FILE: **0500-01**

SUBJECT: **TransLink's 2012 "Moving Forward" Supplemental Plan**

RECOMMENDATION

The Engineering Department recommends that Council receive this report as information.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to provide information about TransLink's 2012 Supplemental Plan and Outlook, entitled: *Moving Forward: Improving Metro Vancouver's Transportation Network* ("the Plan") and to highlight elements of the Plan that will improve transit service within the City of Surrey and in the South of the Fraser area. It also provides information about work on TransLink funding and governance.

BACKGROUND

The Mayors Council on Regional Transportation at a meeting on October 7, 2011 approved TransLink's 2012 "Moving Forward" Supplemental Plan that allows for the addition of new transit and transportation projects and services that are not funded under the approved 2011 TransLink budget. Many of these projects and services are focused on Surrey and the South of the Fraser area. These projects and services will build on transit improvements that have been implemented over the past few years in the City of Surrey and the South of Fraser area.

DISCUSSION

The following table summarizes what has been implemented in Surrey over the past 6 years and what will be implemented in Surrey and the South of the Fraser area by virtue of the 2012 Supplement:

	<u>Located in Surrey</u>	<u>Direct Impact to South of Fraser Residents</u>
2012 “Moving Forward” Plan Proposed Investments		
New King George Blvd. / 104 th Ave. B-Line bus service	✓	✓
New Hwy. 1 Rapid Bus service, Langley to Lougheed Station		✓
New Hwy. 1 Rapid Bus service, Langley to Surrey Central via Guildford	✓	✓
New White Rock to Langley Bus service via Campbell Heights	✓	✓
Increased bus service on Fraser Hwy.	✓	✓
Surrey Central SkyTrain Station Upgrades	✓	✓
Increased bus service to accommodate growth, U-Pass BC program	✓	✓
Historical Transit Investments, 2005-2011		
New bus route connecting Scottsdale Exch. & Langley Centre via 64 th Ave	✓	✓
New bus route connecting South Surrey/White Rock with North Surrey via 152 nd St	✓	✓
New bus route connecting Walnut Grove & 22nd St Station via 88 th Ave	✓	✓
Extension of Cloverdale bus service to Langley Centre	✓	✓
New bus route connecting Langley to Aldergrove, with Central Fraser Valley Transit service to Abbotsford		✓
New Clayton Heights community shuttle service	✓	✓
Extension of Scott Road bus service to Newton Exchange	✓	✓
Integration of South Surrey/White Rock bus routes with Canada Line, including increased service	✓	✓
Increased Bus service on the following Routes:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> King George Boulevard from Surrey Central to White Rock Centre 	✓	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fraser Highway from Surrey Central to Langley Centre 	✓	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scott Road and 72nd Ave between Scott Road Station and Newton Exch. 	✓	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 104th Ave and 152nd St. between Surrey Central, Guildford and Fleetwood 	✓	✓
Three new community shuttle routes in Tsawwassen & Ladner		✓
Elevator & Accessibility Improvements at Scott Road	✓	✓
Added 48 new SkyTrain cars to serve Expo & Millennium Lines	✓	✓
Development of 202 nd St. Transit Exch. and Park & Ride		✓
Jointly creating the Surrey Rapid Transit Study with the City of Surrey	✓	✓
Jointly created the Surrey Central Transit Village Plan with the City of Surrey	✓	✓
Jointly created the Newton Town Centre Plan with the City of Surrey	✓	✓

Historical Road & Cycling Investments, 2005-2011		
Construction of the Golden Ears Bridge		✓
Re-Paving of the Pattullo Bridge	✓	✓
Construction of 204 th St. Overpass		✓
Funding provided for Fraser Hwy. widening	✓	✓
TransLink contributions to municipal investments in the Major Road Network	✓	✓
TransLink contributions to regional investments towards Cycling infrastructure	✓	✓

Approximately 180,000 new bus service hours or 45% of the 415,000 new bus service hours that are being delivered under the 2012 Supplement Plan will be assigned to service improvements in the South of the Fraser area.

The projects that are contained within the 2012 Supplemental Plan will be rolled out commencing in 2012.

Funding Sources for TransLink as Legislated by the Provincial Government

The Province has agreed to work with the Mayors Council in developing a sustainable funding model for TransLink to allow for the continued roll out of transit and transportation improvements in the Region. The work on developing a sustainable funding model for TransLink will take place over the next few months. In this regard the current legislated funding options for TransLink include:

- Transit fares;
- Fuel taxes;
- Property taxes;
- Hydro levy;
- Parking sales tax;
- Replacement tax;
- Transportation improvement fees (vehicle levy);
- Road/bridge tolls; and
- Benefitting area taxes.

Some of these options are not practical or feasible to implement without the assistance of the Province. There is also a significant interest in the Region for some of the carbon tax revenues that are collected by the Province to be used for funding transit services; particularly, in view of the impact that automobiles have on total Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHGs) in the Region. Transit is much less impactful on a per rider basis on GHG emissions than automobile trips. Under this approach the carbon tax would be used directly for reductions in GHG emissions.

TransLink Governance

The current governance model for TransLink has been a significant issue for the Mayors Council since it was introduced in 2007. In this regard the Mayors Council and the Province have agreed to work together on improving the governance of TransLink. This work is expected to take place over the next few months. A further report on this matter will be forwarded to Council as information becomes available over time.

CONCLUSION

The program of projects and bus service improvements contained within the TransLink 2012 “*Moving Forward*” Supplemental Plan will benefit Surrey and the South of the Fraser area and will assist in moving the City of Surrey toward its transportation targets and sustainable development objectives as defined in the Master Transportation Strategy, Sustainability Charter and Official Community Plan. The Mayors Council and the Province are working together on developing a sustainable funding model and governance improvements for TransLink. Further reports will be provided to Council as information becomes available from this continuing work.

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