

# **MAYORS' COUNCIL ON REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION**

## **PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

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Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation (Mayors' Council) held on **Thursday, January 26, 2017** at 9:01 a.m. in Rooms 427/428, TransLink Offices, 287 Nelson's Court, New Westminster, BC.

### **PRESENT:**

Mayor Gregor Robertson, Vancouver, Chair	Councillor Linda MacPhail, Richmond (alternate)
Mayor Linda Hepner, Surrey, Vice-Chair	Mayor John McEwen, Anmore
Mayor John Becker, Pitt Meadows	Councillor Alison Morse, Bowen Island (alternate)
Mayor Karl Buhr, Lions Bay	Mayor Ted Schaffer, Langley City
Mayor Mike Clay, Port Moody	Mayor Michael Smith, West Vancouver
Mayor Derek Corrigan, Burnaby	Mayor Richard Stewart, Coquitlam
Mayor Jonathan Coté, New Westminster	Mayor Richard Walton, North Vancouver District
Councillor Bruce Drake, Belcarra (alternate)	Chief Bryce Williams, Tsawwassen First Nation
Mayor Jack Froese, Langley Township	
Maria Harris, Electoral Area A	
Mayor Lois Jackson, Delta	
Councillor Craig Keating, North Vancouver City (alternate)	

### **REGRETS:**

Mayor Wayne Baldwin, White Rock  
Mayor Greg Moore, Port Coquitlam  
Mayor Nicole Read, Maple Ridge

### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Michael Buda, Executive Director, Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation Secretariat

### **PREPARATION OF MINUTES:**

Carol Lee, Recording Secretary, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

## **1. Preliminary Matters**

### **1.1 Call to Order**

The Recording Secretary called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Due notice having been given and a quorum being present, the meeting was properly constituted.

### **1.2 Adoption of Agenda**

*Draft Agenda for the January 26, 2017 Public Meeting of the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation was provided with the agenda material.*

### **It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation adopts the agenda for its Public meeting scheduled January 26, 2017, as circulated.

**CARRIED**

- 1.3 Approval of Minutes – October 12, 2016**  
*Draft Minutes of the October 12, 2016 Public Meeting of the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation was provided with the agenda material.*

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation adopts the minutes of its Public meeting held October 12, 2016, as circulated.

**CARRIED**

- 1.4 Approval of Minutes – November 23, 2016**  
*Draft Minutes of the November 23, 2016 Public Meeting of the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation was provided with the agenda material.*

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation adopts the minutes of its Public meeting held November 23, 2016, as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**2. Election of 2016 Mayors' Council Chair and Vice Chair**

The Recording Secretary reviewed the process for the election of Chair and Vice Chair.

**2.1 Election of the Chair**

The Recording Secretary called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation for 2017.

Mayor Robertson was nominated for the position of Chair and consented to the nomination. The Recording Secretary made a second and third call for nominations. There were no further nominations.

The Recording Secretary declared Mayor Robertson acclaimed as Chair.

Mayor Robertson assumed the Chair.

**2.2 Election of Vice Chair**

Chair Robertson called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation for 2017.

Mayor Hepner was nominated for the position of Vice Chair and consented to the nomination. The Chair made a second and third call for nominations. There were no further nominations.

Chair Robertson declared Mayor Hepner acclaimed as Vice Chair.

**3. Report of the Funding Strategy Committee**

*Presentation titled "Report of the Funding Strategy Committee" was provided with the agenda material.*

Mayor Jonathan Coté, Chair, Mayors' Council Funding Strategy Committee, provided an overview of the Committee's activities to develop the investment plan for Phase Two of

the 10-Year Vision. The Federal Government will confirm the amount of funding to be provided from the Public Transit Infrastructure Fund (PTIF) for Phase Two, following the release of the Federal Budget. TransLink will be required to enter into negotiations with Province during 2017 to secure the provincial contribution for Phase Two.

Mike Buda, Executive Director, Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation Secretariat, and Geoff Cross, Vice President, Vice-President, Transportation Planning and Policy, TransLink, jointly led the review of the presentation titled "Report of the Funding Strategy Committee" and provided commentary on:

- Committee composition and mandate
- 10-Year Vision investment dashboard:
  - 10-Year Vision investments
  - Status of the commitments included in Phase One of the 10-Year Vision (Phase One)
  - Investments being considered for the Phase Two of the 10-Year Vision (Phase Two)
- Working assumptions for development of the investment plan for Phase Two
- Pathways to develop Phase Two
- Next steps.

The following comments were provided:

- Request for a map showing the locations of investments in regional cycling infrastructure and the Major Road Network (MRN)
  - TransLink is working with municipal staff to develop priorities for the investments in the cycling infrastructure and the MRN
  - Maps will be developed and provided to the Mayors' Council when the investment decisions have been made
- Suggestion to include technological initiatives, such as transit priority upgrades and global positioning systems (GPS), in the list of candidate projects for Phase Two
- Recognition that the absence of the Provincial Government commitment to Phase Two funding is delaying the development of the Phase Two investment plan
- Suggestion to post the 10-Year Vision investment dashboard in a prominent place on the TransLink or Mayors' Council website
- Suggestion to include information on the funding requirements in the 10-Year Vision investment dashboard.

#### **It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation receives the report.

**CARRIED**

#### **4. TransLink Update**

Kevin Desmond, Chief Executive Officer, TransLink, and Mr. Cross jointly provided status reports on:

- Access transit:
  - Review of custom transit service delivery
  - Objective of the review is to provide a better product for HandyDART users
  - Challenge of balancing the needs for quantity and quality of service
  - Key findings of the review

- Transit Fare Review:
  - Options being considered: variation of fares by distance, time of travel, and type of service
  - Phase 2 consultation will commence in late January 2017
  - Broad public consultation will be undertaken during Phase 3
  - Expectation that a new transit fare policy will be implemented in 2018
- Commencement of operation of the Evergreen Line extension and associated bus changes:
  - The initial ridership data will be available in a few weeks and will be shared with the Mayors' Council and the public
  - Changes to bus routes are being monitored and further adjustments will be made, if necessary
- West Coast Express service schedule has returned to normal since the Mayors communicated their concern to CP Rail:
  - Need to balance the passenger and freight needs in the corridor
- An Accountability Centre has been posted on the TransLink website
- Transit ridership growth of 4.5% in 2016.

Discussion ensued on:

- Confirmation that the access transit review will compare Vancouver with other Canadian cities with respect to availability of services, cost, eligibility processes, etc.
- Request for information on Phase 1 of the Transit Fare Review
- Request for information on the number of seniors using custom transit services, by municipality
- Need for TransLink and municipalities to make investments (e.g. accessible bus stops, benches, elevators and escalators in transit stations, etc.) to improve the accessibility and attractiveness of the transit system to the seniors population in order to reduce the demand for custom transit
- Concerns from residents regarding the poor connectivity of the TrainBus to the Evergreen Line
- Whether the Accountability Centre includes information regarding bus pass-ups and delays
- Need for mechanisms to allow the public and bus drivers to provide data on the status of the system to enable real time information to be conveyed to passengers
- Suggestion that a graphical representation of the past performance of bus routes be provided, by municipality
- Whether a graphic representation of the location of traffic bottlenecks is available and an indication of solutions that could be implemented, with municipal cooperation, to address the bottlenecks.

**Action Item:** *TransLink to provide a report regarding actions being taken to improve internal cost efficiencies to a future Mayors' Council meeting.*

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation receives the report.

**CARRIED**

## 5. Report of the Executive Director

### 5.1 Revision to Mayors' Council Rules and Procedures

*Report dated January 19, 2017 from Michael Buda, Executive Director regarding "Revising the Mayors' Council Rules of Procedure" was provided with the agenda material.*

Mr. Buda reviewed the report distributed with the agenda material.

It was requested that proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure be clearly indicated in the report to be provided at the February 16, 2017 meeting.

#### **It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation receives the report.

**CARRIED**

### 5.2 2017 Mayors' Council Budget and Work Plan

*Report dated January 20, 2017 from Michael Buda, Executive Director regarding "2017 Mayors' Council Annual Budget" was provided with the agenda material.*

Mr. Buda reviewed the report provided with the agenda material.

Discussion ensued on:

- Concern regarding the escalation in the 2017 budget for Mayors' Council per diem fees and the amount expended in 2016
  - Suggestion to consider placing caps on per diems to be paid to Mayors' Council members or eliminating the per diem fee for attending committee meetings
  - Suggestion that consultant services retained by the Mayors' Council, TransLink and the Provincial Government be coordinated in order to avoid duplication
- Suggestion to reduce the 2017 budget for consulting services to \$200,000
- The increase in the total per diem fees paid to Mayors' Council members is attributable to the change in the working relationship between the Mayors' Council and the TransLink Board:
  - Need to recognize the value of the funds expended
  - Need to recognize that the TransLink governance structure is complex and expensive

**Action Item:** *Request details of consulting fees during 2016 & proposed in 2017.*

#### **It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation:

1. Approves the 2017 budget of \$686,100;
2. Directs the Chair and Vice Chair to oversee the 2017 Mayors' Council budget, and report back on plans and results as needed to the Mayors' Council; and
3. Ensures that all costs and expenses approved by the Mayors' Council Executive Director, Chair or Vice Chair are necessary for the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation to perform its duties under the *South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority Act*.

**CARRIED**

**5.3 2017 Mayors' Council Meeting Calendar**

*Report dated January 17, 2017 from Michael Buda, Executive Director regarding "2017 Mayors' Council Annual Budget" was provided with the agenda material.*

Mr. Buda reviewed the report provided with the agenda material.

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation:

1. Adopts the 2017 calendar of Mayors' Council meetings; and
2. Approves the publication of the 2017 calendar on the Mayors' Council webpage of the TransLink website.

**CARRIED**

**6. Public Delegations**

The Chair advised that no applications were received from eligible public delegations.

**6.1 Written Submissions Received**

*Report dated November 18, 2016 from regarding "Written Submission to the Mayors' Council" was provided with the agenda material.*

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation receives the written submission.

**CARRIED**

**7. Termination**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation on Regional Transportation Public Meeting held January 26, 2017, be now terminated.

**CARRIED**

(Time: 10:46 a.m.)

Certified Correct:

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Mayor Gregor Robertson, Chair  
Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

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Carol Lee, Recording Secretary