



## RapidBus Implementation: Douglas Street

PRESENTED TO: CITY OF VICTORIA COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2022



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## Presentation Objective

To provide an update on RapidBus and introduce the next phases of delivery across the region and in the City of Victoria



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## BC Transit 10 Year Vision

*To be a leader of integrated transportation solutions connecting people and communities to a more sustainable future*

- **Delivery of the Victoria Region Transit Future Plan**
  - Establish Critical Transit Facilities
  - Implement RapidBus and Frequent Transit Network
- **To meet emission reduction objectives of the Clean BC Strategy**



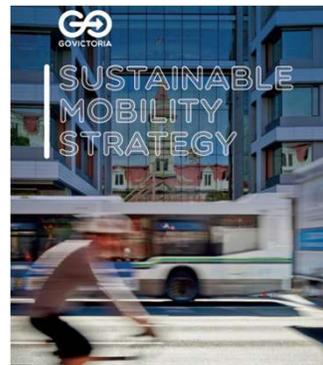
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## GoVictoria Alignment

### Values

- Safety
- Liveability and Well-Being
- Equity and Affordability
- Climate Action
- Accessibility and Connectivity



### Relevant Targets and Indicators

- By 2030, double transit ridership to, from, and within Victoria
- 95% of household transportation needs are fulfilled with less than 15% of their monthly income

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## RapidBus Implementation Strategy

- RapidBus is transit service that outperforms the personal automobile in speed, comfort and reliability.
- Offers a strategic value proposition to manage demand, support mode shift and achieve GHG targets.
- RapidBus is connected, frequent, fast and reliable – and coming to the Capital Region.



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## RapidBus Implementation Strategy

The RapidBus Implementation Strategy identifies three top priority RapidBus lines separated into two phases:

- **West Shore RapidBus Line (Phase 1)**
- McKenzie RapidBus Line (Phase 2)
- Peninsula RapidBus Line (Phase 2)

Phase 3 identifies other RapidBus candidates including Hillside, Quadra and Esquimalt.

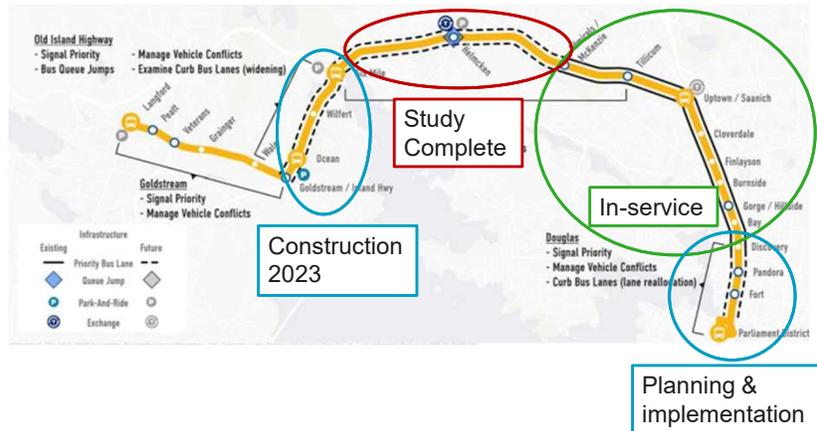


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## RapidBus Implementation – West Shore Line

### Initial implementation planned for early 2023

- Unique branding
- Improved service levels
- Bus stop spacing changes
- Station improvements
- Island Highway bus lane construction in 2023



## RapidBus Implementation – Other activities

- **McKenzie RapidBus Line**
  - UVic Transit Exchange Refresh
  - McKenzie RapidBus Corridor Study underway
- **Peninsula RapidBus Line**
  - Further coordination with MOTI and Sidney required
  - Significant service and infrastructure required
  - MoTI Hwy 17 @ Mt Newton Queue-jump and RapidBus Station project
- **Uptown Mobility Hub & TOD**



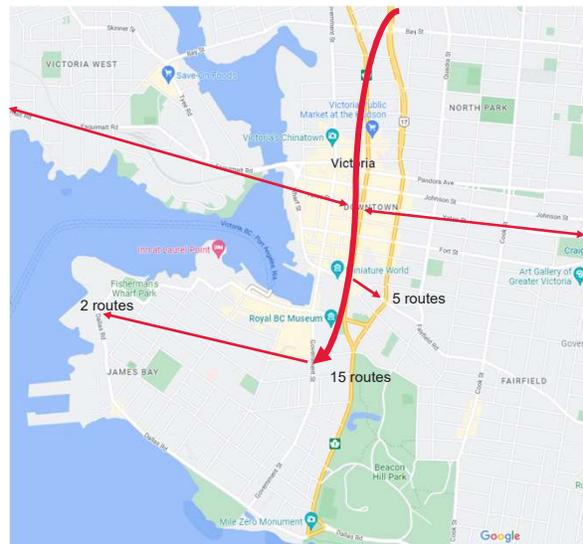
## THE IMPORTANCE OF TRANSIT IN DOWNTOWN VICTORIA

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### Impact of Transit

- Each day, nearly 40,000 commuter trips are made into Victoria.
- 41% of employment within the Greater Victoria area is located in the City of Victoria
- Almost all routes designed to flow through Downtown Victoria – 27 of 32
- 5 routes terminate downtown
- 15 routes take layover and recovery



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## Existing Service

- 32 regional & inter-community routes
- 1,900 buses/day
- Up to 140 buses/hour
- The 7 Douglas Street stops (Discovery to Belleville) serve over 15,000 passengers/day



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## DOUGLAS STREET EXISTING CONDITIONS & CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

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## Existing Bus Stops



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## Existing Street Infrastructure



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## City Infrastructure Renewal Planning

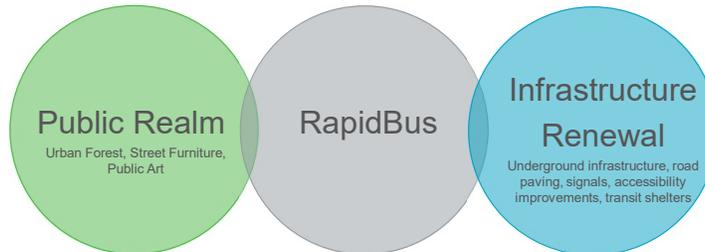


## DOUGLAS STREET DOWNTOWN VISION



## RapidBus Downtown Vision

*Douglas Street will be the central downtown transit street serving Victoria and the Capital Region*



**BC Transit and City Staff are ready to plan for transformational investments that achieve multiple objectives for Douglas Street and deliver on this vision**

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## How do we make RapidBus a Reality?

Working in partnership to plan, design and deliver:

- Accessible, modern transit stations
- Generous barrier free sidewalks
- High-quality public realm treatments
- Coordinated infrastructure renewal



3 distinct projects:

- Finlayson to Discovery: station improvements
- Discovery to Belleville: analysis, design and delivery
- Legislative Terminus: planning, design and delivery

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## RapidBus Elements & Strategies

Local Transit	Frequent Transit	Rapid Transit	
<p><b>Low Volume</b> Ex <u>Carey</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic stops</li> <li>• Use of general purpose traffic lane</li> </ul>	<p><b>Moderate Volume</b> Ex <u>Gorge</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced stops</li> <li>• Passenger Information</li> <li>• In-lane stops</li> <li>• Active transit signal priority</li> <li>• Transit approach lanes and queue jumps</li> </ul>	<p><b>High Volume</b> Ex <u>Downtown Couplets</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dedicated transit lanes, peak only</li> <li>• In-lane stops</li> <li>• Boarding islands/bulbs</li> <li>• Low-speed signal progression</li> <li>• Active transit signal priority</li> <li>• Premium stops or stations and passenger information</li> <li>• All door Boarding</li> </ul>	<p><b>Very High Volume</b> Ex <u>Douglas</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transit ways or dedicated transit lanes with turn management</li> <li>• Dual transit or dedicated lanes with pull out stops</li> <li>• On-street terminals</li> <li>• Boarding islands/bulbs</li> <li>• Premium stops or stations and passenger information</li> <li>• Transit signal progression</li> <li>• All door boarding</li> </ul>

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## Discovery St. to Belleville St: Process & Steps

**We are here:**  
Identify and assess options

RapidBus Strategy

Study – Conceptual Options

Approval of Conceptual Options

Business Case Development and Approval

Project Delivery

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In progress</li> <li>• Develop and evaluate conceptual options</li> <li>• 12 months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Victoria Approval in principle of street design concepts</li> <li>• Transit Commission Approval in principle of concept and local share of funding</li> <li>• 6 months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BC Transit/Province Funding</li> <li>• Federal Funding</li> <li>• 6-9 months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detail Design</li> <li>• Construction Tendering</li> <li>• Construction</li> <li>• 18-24 months</li> </ul>
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- Major infrastructure improvements typically take 2-5 years to plan and implement
- Public engagement
- Project approval by City Council, Victoria Regional Transit Commission and BC Transit Board

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**Victoria  
Regional RapidBus  
Implementation Strategy**



**Thank You  
Questions?**

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**EXTRA INSPIRATION**

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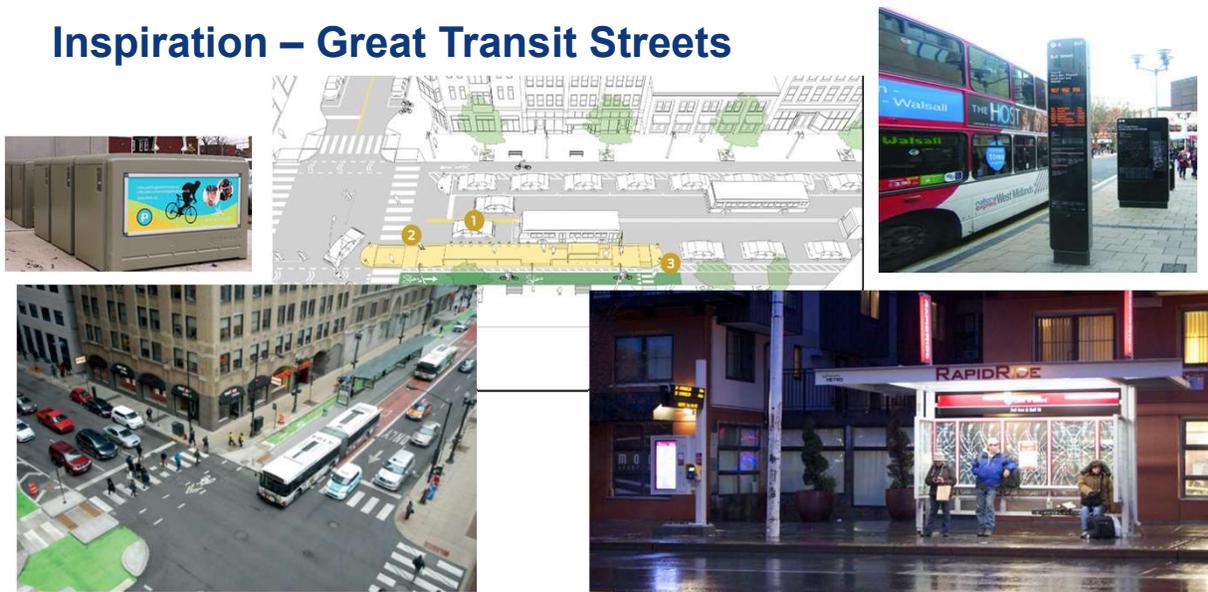
## Inspiration – Great Transit Streets



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## Inspiration – Great Transit Streets



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## Inspiration – Transit Malls



Third Avenue (Seattle, Washington)



Nicollet Mall (Minneapolis, Minnesota) and 16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall (Denver, Colorado)



New York City Department of Transportation image

