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Presentation Overview

Objectives:

- Provide an overview of BC Transit and transit-related initiatives to provide context for the City of Victoria Douglas Street Rapid Transit Improvements Update

Overview:

- Transit Context
- BC Transit Initiatives
- RapidBus Initiatives



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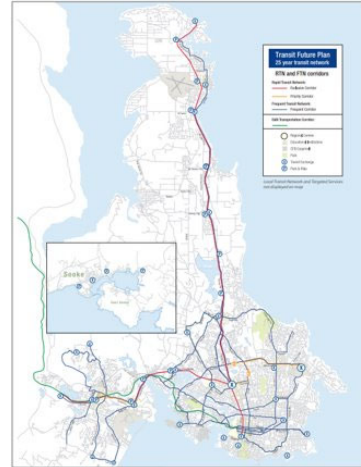
Victoria Regional Transit System Overview

Conventional Transit

- Fixed routes and schedules
 - 57 transit routes
- 30.3 million boardings in 2023/24
- Range of vehicles, services:
 - Double Deckers
 - 30' 35' 40' vehicles
 - Community shuttles

Custom Transit (handyDART)

- Door to door, demand responsive
- Eligible people with a disability
- Operated by First Canada ULC
- Supported by taxi programs

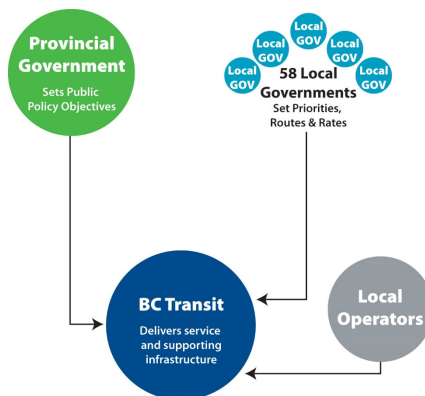


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System Operates Through Partnership: BC Transit's Model



Victoria Regional Transit Commission

- Plans community, establishes transit priorities and routes
- Sets service levels and approves budgets
- Set fares
- Provide local tax subsidy

BC Transit

- Turns VRTC priorities into transit operating and capital plans
- Works with Province to access funding
- Operates Victoria conventional service
 - Custom Transit operated via contracted service provider
- Manages capital program

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Background: Victoria Regional Transit Commission



- Established under the *British Columbia Transit Act*
 - Local government representation for transit services in the CRD
- Eight elected local government officials are appointed by the Province
- Chair is designated by the Minister responsible for BC Transit
- Appointment process, composition and term described in the *Act*
- Staff, resources and contracted services provided by BC Transit

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Local Government Collaboration

- Bus stops and shelters
- Collaboration on infrastructure for multi modal transportation (municipalities responsible for roads)
- Local planning initiatives (OCP etc.)
- Development Referrals
- Stakeholder engagement
- Collaboration with MOTI on Highways infrastructure
- Collaboration with CRD on regional growth strategies, regional parks and trails



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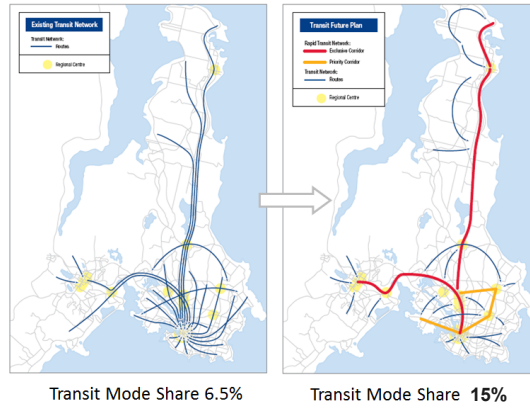
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Transit Future Plan

BC Transit developed a 25-year transit plan for the region, which included development of the Transit Future Network

The Transit Future Network uses four layers of transit service:

- Rapid Transit
- Frequent Transit
- Local Transit
- Targeted Services



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Future Service Expansion

Approved by the VRTC in 2023/24:

- 2024/25: 20,000 hours, 8 buses*
- 2025/26: 30,000 hours, 12 buses
- 2026/27: 40,000 hours, 16 buses

*Provincial Budget supports 2024/25 expansion

Key strategic service investments priorities:

- RapidBus and Frequent Transit Network service improvements
- Development of the crosstown network on the Hillside/Gorge and Admirals/McKenzie (Route 40) corridors
- Simplifying and improving transit service on the Quadra corridor
- Improvements to YYJ Airport and Peninsula service

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Electronic Fare Collection System (Umo)

- **Launched in the Victoria Regional Transit System in August 2023**
 - Replace end-of-life and costly fare tech on conventional transit services
 - Increase access to taking transit more often for more riders
- Introduced two new convenient payment methods – mobile app and reloadable card.
- Introduced new and improved fare products – Cash balance, 30-Day Pass, digital DayPASS, digital U-PASS, digital ProPASS
- **Since launch:**
 - Adoption rates continue to increase each week
 - Mobile app rider's preferred payment method
 - Expanded to 12 other transit systems, improving interregional travel.
- **Future plans:**
 - Enable credit and debit card payments



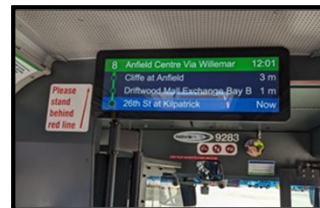
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NextRide

- Allows riders to see the real-time location of their bus and its predicted arrival time at an identified stop
- NextRide data assists with schedule reliability, managing on-road incidents more effectively and customer communications
- NextRide refresh started in January
 - help provide increased certainty, convenience and predictability for transit customers
 - new digital full-colour passenger information displays inside all heavy-duty buses & high-capacity buses



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Low Carbon Fleet Program



Provincial carbon emission reductions targets:

- 16% by 2025
- 40% by 2030
- 60% by 2040
- 80% by 2050



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Victoria Regional Transit System Electric Bus Project

- Learning and engagement with the electric demonstration bus is now complete
- During the last 16 months, we accumulated 11,000 km of experience with the bus
- Charging equipment constructed at the Victoria Transit Centre is ready to support electric buses from other suppliers



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Transit Operations Centres

A transit facility strategy was developed to support transit service expansion and a transition to battery electric buses and a future transit fleet of up to 600 conventional buses and 110 handyDART buses. Projects advancing include:

- **View Royal handyDART** – 110 transit facility. The building is under construction and will be in service in 2025.
- **Modernization of Victoria and Langford Transit Facilities** – Projects approved to enhance bus maintenance, battery electric bus deployment and modest bus expansion.
- **Saanich Transit Centre** – Developing Project for a new transit centre. Phase 1A site preparations are underway and Phase 1B business plan is being prepared with Infrastructure BC.



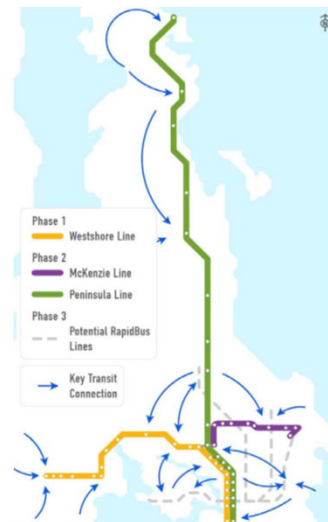
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RapidBus Implementation Strategy

- BC Transit, in collaboration with municipal, regional and provincial partners developed the Victoria Regional RapidBus Implementation Strategy in 2021
- The RapidBus network will be implemented across several corridors to create a high-capacity transit system
- Implementation strategy was divided into three different phases:
 - West Shore RapidBus Line
 - McKenzie RapidBus Line
 - Peninsula RapidBus Line



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RapidBus Implementation – West Shore Line Launch

The flagship Blink West Shore RapidBus Line was launched in April 2023.

- Introduced the new Route 95 Langford/ Downtown
- Route 95 replaced Route 50, operating along the same route, but with added service and fewer bus stops
- 7-8 minute frequency at peak periods on weekdays
- Minimum of 15 minute service from 7am-10pm Monday to Saturday and 8am-10pm Sunday



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RapidBus Implementation - Infrastructure

The RapidBus Implementation Strategy was updated and endorsed by the Victoria Regional Transit Commission in 2021. Projects completed include Douglas Street and Highway 1 bus lanes from Fisgard to Tillicum

West Shore RapidBus Line (Phase 1)

Projects in Delivery

- Island Highway Transit Priority Lanes
- 22 RapidBus Stations

Projects in Planning

- South Douglas RapidBus Stations & Transit Priority

MoTI Projects in Planning

- Highway 1 Bus On Shoulder Lanes
- 6 Mile Park & Ride
- Uptown RapidBus Stations & Transit Priority
- Uptown Mobility Hub Feasibility Plan



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RapidBus Implementation - Infrastructure

BC Transit is continuing to work with local governments and MoTI with RapidBus planning for future corridors

McKenzie RapidBus Line (Phase 2)

Projects Complete

- UVic Exchange

Projects in Planning

- Partnering with Saanich on a Corridor Study

Peninsula RapidBus Line (Phase 2)

MoTI Projects Complete

- RapidBus Stations and Transit Priority at SB Sayward and Mount Newtown

BC Transit Projects in Planning

- RapidBus Stations
- Swartz Bay Transit Terminal
- Sidney Transit Hub Study



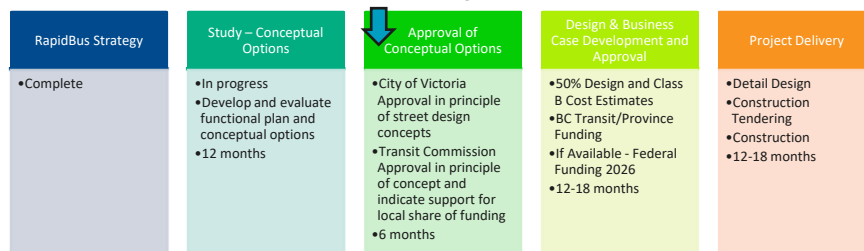
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Phase 2 Transit Improvements – Chatham to Belleville: Process & Steps

We are here:
Securing Support in Principle



- 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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Thank You



Chelsea Mossey – Senior Manager, Government Relations
CMossey@bctransit.com

James Wadsworth – Manager, Infrastructure Planning
JWadsworth@bctransit.com