



Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 13th, 2024
(time sensitive)

To: Committee of the Whole **Date:** May 27th, 2024
From: Councillor Gardiner
Subject: Province of BC Bill 47 and Transit Oriented Area (TOA) and/or Transit-Oriented Development Area (TOD) in Victoria

BACKGROUND

The Province of BC has created new legislation, Bill 47, which will require Victoria to designate Transit-Oriented Development Areas (TOD Areas) near transit hubs. The transit hub being a major transit area and/or bus exchange. TOD areas are to be designated by June 30, 2024.

In early 2016, BC Transit had extensive discussions about the desirability of a transit hub on "lower Douglas". That had been BC Transit's preferred location due to fuel consumption, scheduling, and time-savings for staff. Rather than place the hub on lower Douglas, for political reasons it was placed in the Legislative Precinct with a statement that it would be relocated as BC Transit developed a property near Mayfair/Uptown.

While Government Street between Bellville and Superior has served, on an interim basis, as a BC Transit lay-over location, *it is not a bus exchange*.

On May 16, BC Transit staff and City of Victoria staff presented an update of the Douglas Street Bus Lane project at Committee of the Whole. Douglas between the Conference Centre and Crystal Gardens was identified as the preferred site for the Transit Hub for South Douglas, and not Government Street.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council requests the Mayor to write to the BC Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, the BC Minister of Housing, and BC Minister of Transportation:

- advising them of the City and BC Transit's intention to create the downtown Transit Hub on Douglas, and
- requesting that Bill 47 identify the Victoria TOD under Bill 47 as the block of Douglas Street between Belleville and Humboldt streets.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "C. Gardiner", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Councillor Gardiner