



**Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 5, 2017**

Date: October 3, 2017

From: Councillor Ben Isitt

Subject: Maintaining and Improving Inter-City Bus Service

Background:

Greyhound Canada has applied to the BC Passenger Transportation Board to eliminate bus routes connecting a number of British Columbia communities, including the Victoria-Nanaimo route, the Victoria-Vancouver route, and the route along the "Highway of Tears" in north-western British Columbia (see attached notice). Public comment on these proposed route eliminations is being received until Friday October 13, 2017.

It is therefore recommended that Council provide input to the Board and the Government of British Columbia, requesting that these inter-city bus routes be maintained, and that a feasibility study be completed on transitioning these inter-city routes into a public transportation service.

Recommendation:

That Council adopt the following resolution and direct staff to forward copies to the BC Passenger Transportation Board, the BC Minister of Transportation, Members of the Legislative Assembly, and local governments in British Columbia, requesting favourable consideration:

Resolution: Maintaining and Improving Inter-City Bus Service

WHEREAS inter-city bus service provides a vital transportation link for many British Columbians, including people with low incomes, youth, senior citizens, people with disabilities and indigenous people;

AND WHEREAS there is a strong public interest in the maintenance and improvement of inter-city bus service, as reflected in public oversight provisions in the BC Passenger Transportation Act and Regulations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria calls on the BC Passenger Transportation Board to decline the application from Greyhound Canada to eliminate inter-city bus routes, including Victoria-Nanaimo, Victoria-Vancouver and the route along the "Highway of Tears";

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria calls on the BC Passenger Transportation Board, the Government of British Columbia and BC Transit to explore the provision of inter-city bus service as a public transportation service, in order to ensure long-term viability, safety, affordability and connectivity between BC communities.

Respectfully submitted,



Councillor Ben Isitt

Attachment:

Public Notice of Application for Route Elimination