

Appendix A

Motion with Regard to Rapid Transit Implementation
Mayor Helps
City of Victoria

Recommendation:

That the Transit Commission direct staff to create and report back to the Commission with a detailed business case, project plan and stakeholder action plan required to drive transformational change through the implementation of rapid transit in the region.

Rationale:

The status quo approach is not working. The region needs a transit system NOW that out-competes the conventional, single-passenger vehicle.

The 2011 Transit Futures plan laid out a bold, ambitious and practical approach to rapid transit in the region. Six years later we have seen only few gains and a patchwork approach to the creation of bus rapid transit. The recommendation requests that staff takes a systemic rather than piecemeal approach to the implementation of rapid transit, supported by an agreed action plan across each municipality. This means developing a business case, budget and implementation plan for the entire rapid transit system, not attacking the problem one segment of 'rapid' bus lane at a time as we have been.

It's important that the Commission endorse a refreshed approach and that staff report back as soon as practical with the required work, drawing on regional and international experts, where required. Population growth continues in the Westshore and employment growth continues in the downtown core. We have a responsibility to develop a world-class public transit system that will get people to and from work in an sustainable, cost effective and rapid way. Doing so will increase affordability, decrease congestion, decrease greenhouse gas emissions and give people more time with their families and less time in their cars.

In addition, both the federal and provincial governments have made substantial funding commitments to public transit. Having a detailed business case, budget and implementation for rapid transit in the region will put Greater Victoria in good standing the help the senior levels of government deliver on their priorities.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Z. Helps', written in a cursive style.

Mayor Helps