

January 15, 2007

Mr Bob Lapham
Capital Regional District
625 Fisgard Street
Victoria BC V8W 1R7

Dear Mr Lapham:

RE: Douglas Street Transit Priority Project

In 1998, the City of Victoria designated Douglas Street as the preferred rapid transit corridor in the City. The recent Regional Growth Study by the CRD has emphasized the importance of this corridor to regional development and transportation.

BC Transit has recently gained funding approval for the construction of a busway on this corridor. This project will be the first steps towards implementing an efficient and modern rapid transit system for the region.

Preliminary concept plans for the facility have been prepared and detailed planning is now scheduled to start. This planning stage will provide answers to the many questions raised regarding this project. These questions include the precise location of stations, impact on local traffic, parking, pedestrian facilities, safety, lighting and roadway management.

Public consultation is an important key to developing this project in harmony with the land use around it. The work plan that has been prepared for the project includes on-going consultation with local stakeholders and block by block meetings with local property owners and business managers as the study progresses.

In order to assist us in this project, a Project Advisory Committee is proposed. This committee would ensure that BC Transit and its partners (the City of Victoria, District of Saanich and the Ministry of Transportation) are made aware of issues with regards to the project. The Committee would preview project results and status prior to more general consultation events.

A proposed committee membership has been authorized by the Victoria Regional Transit Commission and is attached. We request that your organization appoint a representative to the Advisory Committee.

The representative would need to be available to attend a 2 hour meeting every 4 to 6 weeks during the planning process.

It is expected that the project will be formally commenced by the end of February and that the first meeting of the Project Advisory Committee would be held in mid-March. Please provide us with the contact information for your representative by February 16th so that background information and notices of meetings can be provided in a timely manner.

If you have questions regarding the process or the project, please contact BC Transit's project manager, Mike Davis. His contact information is also included on the attached sheet.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Drolet". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "R".

Ron Drolet
Senior Vice President
Customer Service and Corporate Secretary

Attachment

Douglas Street Transit Priority Project Project Advisory Committee

Municipalities and Agencies

Capital Regional District

City of Victoria - two representatives from Council or Advisory Committees

Saanich - two representatives from Council or Advisory Committees

Ministry of Transportation

Victoria Regional Transit Commission

Community Groups

Burnside Gorge Community Association

Gorge Tillicum Community Association

Downtown Residents Association

Accessible Transportation Advisory Committee

Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition

Business

Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce – 2 representatives, one from north Douglas

Downtown Business Improvement association

BC Transit Contact

Mike Davis

Manager, Planning and Scheduling,

BC Transit

Phone: 995-5617

Fax: 995-5639

Email: Mike_Davis@bctransit.com