



TRANSLINK BOARD-IN-BRIEF
Feb. 16, 2005

Here are the highlights of the Feb. 16 meeting of the TransLink Board of Directors, including specific actions taken on agenda items.

The complete agenda and supporting reports for every board meeting are posted on TransLink's website (www.translink.bc.ca). The Board-in-Brief is also available on the website.

Please note: Board-in-Brief is not the official minutes of the TransLink board meeting and should not be interpreted as such. The minutes for this meeting will be adopted at the next TransLink board meeting.

REPORTS

1. Bylaw for Assessing Tolls on the Golden Ears Bridge

The report recommended that the board approve in principle a bylaw for assessing tolls on the Golden Ears Bridge. Once enacted, the bylaw would provide TransLink with an appropriate framework for governing the key aspects of setting, administering and collecting tolls.

The board took the following action:

The board approved in principle the bylaw for assessing tolls on the Golden Ears Bridge.

2. Richmond-Airport-Vancouver (RAV) Rapid Transit Project: Priced Options

The report reviewed a number of optional infrastructure improvements that are not essential elements of the RAV Project. TransLink would have the responsibility for determining the source of funding for any options that are approved.

The board took the following action:

- A. Included 2nd Avenue Station in the Richmond-Airport-Vancouver Rapid Transit Project either prior to Commercial Close or as a project change (depending on the timing of the City of Vancouver's decision), and

committed to the annual operating and maintenance costs for the station subject to:

1. City of Vancouver Council approval of at least \$29 million (nominal dollars) to fully fund the capital cost of the station;
2. Completion of a funding agreement with the City of Vancouver for the capital cost of the station and
3. Approval of adjustments required to the Contributing Agencies Essential Elements for the changes to travel times to YVR.

And approved an adjustment to the maximum train travel time from Waterfront to YVR as set out in the Contributing Agencies Essential Elements to allow for the additional travel time as a result of the 2nd Avenue Station.

And approved the deferral of the additional train set requirement under the conditions outlined in the report.

- B. Included the Fraser River Bicycle and Pedestrian Lane in the Richmond-Airport-Vancouver Rapid Transit Project and directed staff to explore a phased construction schedule to minimize the cost of the bicycle/pedestrian lane.

3. **Canada, British Columbia and Greater Vancouver Transportation Accord**

The report recommended that the board adopt the Canada, British Columbia and Greater Vancouver Transportation Accord as the policy framework for the allocation of gasoline tax revenue that will be made available through the federal government's New Deal for Cities and Communities. The accord would see federal gas tax revenue allocated to the GVRD used to support TransLink's Ten Year Outlook, an approach that has been endorsed by the GVRD Board.

The board took the following action:

- A. Adopted the Canada, British Columbia and Greater Vancouver Transportation Accord as the policy framework for the allocation of gasoline tax revenue that will be available to the Greater Vancouver region through the federal government's *New Deal for Cities and Communities*;
- B. Requested the provincial government use the Canada, British Columbia and Greater Vancouver Transportation Accord as part of its negotiations with the federal government as per the *New Deal for Cities and Communities*;
- C. Authorized the CEO to negotiate with the provincial and federal governments procedures for the implementation of the Canada, British Columbia and Greater Vancouver Transportation Accord;

- D. Communicated to the Union of B.C. Municipalities the Greater Vancouver proposal for allocation of the federal gasoline tax;
- E. Communicated to Premier Gordon Campbell, Minister of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services Murray Coell and Minister of Transportation Kevin Falcon the Greater Vancouver proposal for allocation of federal gasoline tax revenues; and
- F. Communicated to Prime Minister Paul Martin; Minister of State Infrastructure and Communities John Godfrey and Chair, External Advisory Committee on Cities and Communities; Minister of Industry David Emerson; and, Senator Jack Austin the Greater Vancouver proposal for allocation of federal gasoline tax revenues; and
- G. Referred the report to the GVRD for their information.

4. Review and Expansion of U-Pass and Development of Community Pass

The report summarized the results of a review of the student U-Pass program and updated the board on plans to expand the program.

The board took the following action:

- A. The board received the report and
- B. Subject to resources in the Three Year (2005-2007) Implementation and Financial Strategy, directed staff to continue to:
 1. work with the other publicly funded post secondary schools to expand the U-Pass program in stages in the fall of 2006 and the fall of 2007;
 2. work with SFU and UBC to develop and launch Community Transit Pass programs in the fall of 2005 and spring of 2006, respectively.
- C. Directed staff to bring back the details of agreements for implementing an expanded U-Pass program and the Community Pass programs for the board's approval prior to implementation.

5. 2005 Appointments to the Finance and Audit Committee

The board took the following action:

The board appointed the following directors as members of the GVTA Finance and Audit Committee for 2005:

- David Cadman, chairman
- Malcolm Brodie
- Raymond Louie
- Jon Kingsbury
- Barbara Sharp

6. 2005 Appointments to Board Communications Committee

The board took the following action:

- A. Appointed directors Raymond Louie (chairman) and Malcolm Brodie as members of the RAV Board Communications Committee for 2005 and
- B. Appointed directors Jon Kingsbury (chairman) and Joe Trasolini as members of the Coquitlam Line Communications Committee for 2005.

7. 2005 Capital Program Projects – Specific Project Approval

The board took the following action:

The board provided specific-project approval for the following capital projects and programs:

- \$360,000 for two replacement Community Shuttle vehicles
- \$4,360,000 for 42 Custom Transit replacement vehicles
- \$755,000 for RAV Project Support and Resources – Phase 2

8. 2005 Capital Program Projects – Approval-in-Principle: Pattullo Bridge Centreline Barrier

The report recommended that the board approve \$5 million for the installation of a barrier on the centreline of the Pattullo Bridge. This would constitute Step 1 approval-in-principle for the project. Staff will report back to the board with the results of the preliminary design work on a barrier and a cost estimate. In the interim, TransLink will continue to work with New Westminster and Surrey municipal engineering staff and police services to coordinate safety improvements and enforcement efforts in the vicinity of the bridge.

The board took the following action:

The board approved the addition of the following capital project to the 2005 Capital Program as outlined in the report:

- \$5 million for the Pattullo Bridge Centreline Barrier

INFORMATION REPORTS

The board received the following information reports:

1. Golden Ears Bridge – Fairness Monitor's Report
2. Three-Year Plan Proposed Major Capital Road Program – Status of Projects
3. Request from Anmore to Modify Major Road Network (MRN) Designation
4. Vancouver and UBC Area Transit Plan Update and Public Consultation Schedule

5. BCAA and GVTA Marketing Research

NOTICE OF MOTION

1. Property Tax Notice of Motion and Options

In January 2005, TransLink received preliminary assessment information indicating that property values were \$13.4 million higher than the values used to establish the 2005 budget. Director Barb Sharp issued a notice of motion to reduce property taxes to achieve the revenue anticipated in the 2005 budget. Staff prepared a report that suggested an option to retain the additional revenue that would see an acceleration of planned safety, security and transit service improvements.

The board took the following action:

The board voted to retain the currently approved property tax rates and to accelerate the implementation of planned safety, security and transit service improvement initiatives.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Letter dated Jan. 18, 2005, from the District of West Vancouver
2. Letter dated Jan. 19, 2005, from the City of Burnaby
3. Letter dated Jan. 20, 2005, from the B.C. Trucking Association
4. Letter dated Jan. 24, 2005, from the District of Pitt Meadows
5. Letter dated Jan. 27, 2005, from the District of Maple Ridge
6. Letter dated Jan. 31, 2005, from the City of New Westminster
7. Letter dated Feb. 7, 2005, from the City of Vancouver

The next TransLink Board meeting will take place at 9 a.m. on Friday, March 11, at Surrey Municipal Hall.